Historical and Architectural Impact Assessment Report for the Umhlatuze Valley Sugar Company model village site on the Farm UVS 16362, Umhlatuze, Uthungulu District Municipality

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1. Background to the report

This investigation is in response to an application for demolition submitted to Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali as part of a bid to buy the farm land described to be used for mining purposes by Exxaro KZN Sands, Hillendale mine. The Umhlatuze Valley Sugar (UVS) farmlands in general contain a few groups of structures that were erected to house workers of all races on the farms, which at the time were reasonably distant from Empangeni, the closest main centre. Also, according to Russell Addison, descendant of the founder and a present day Board Member, they were constructed in the 1950’s and 1960’s and were intended as a draw-card in the attraction of people to work on the sugar farms. This is corroborated by the date on the school building. Aerial photographs from this period (1937) do not show the villages in the shape or form that they take today. The intention of Exxaro KZN Sands mining company is to extract the minerals needed, then reconstruct the dune and sell the land to a purchaser intending to grow sugarcane.

1 A conglomerate of sugar farms based in Umhlatuze and Komatipoort
2. Methodology and statement of expertise

I, Debbie Whelan of Archaic Consulting, am a trained researcher dealing mainly in the architectural conservation and anthropological/ethnographic fields. (Abridged CV is Appendix I)

As per this report, I carried out a site inspection on Monday 30 July. This involved a visit to all three sites, both under threat and not, as well as conversations with staff members of UVS and people affected by the potential demolition. It was reported that a Ms Desiree Terblanche has been contracted with the writing up of a history of the site, and contact was made, but at the time of printing, no specific date for the erection of the buildings was established from her. In addition, Dr Jaycee Van Der Walt was contacted, but he had no specific knowledge of these sites, as well as a number of officials in the Richards Bay and Empangeni Town Planning offices regarding any submitted material. Again, in this regard, nothing was forthcoming. The Empangeni Museum was also visited with enquiries into this site. The Killie Campbell Archives at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, their libraries, the Deeds Office and the Provincial Archives Repository in Pietermaritzburg were also visited. Some investigation into the availability of asbestos sheeting in KwaZulu-Natal also became necessary to try to establish a base line for construction. It must be noted that the buildings are today inhabited in a different context from the past, and the farm workers that lived in them have long moved off, so resorting oral histories is also problematic. At the time of writing this report an aerial photograph in the 1940’s is on order from the Department of Land Affairs at Mowbray.

3. Brief history of the site

In November 1905, the first allotment of Zululand Crown Land was assigned to 50 White sugar farmers on small coastal farms, each of approximately 500 acres. Mr CB Addison was the first pioneer farmer north of the Umhlatuze River. (Empangeni Museum) The land was awarded to Charles Brabazon Addison by the Natal Government as soon as the delimitation commission report had been submitted releasing land to European farmers in Zululand. The Umhlatuze Valley Sugar Company was started in 1910, as a holding company for a variety of sugar farms in the Umhlatuze Valley area. Addison, an initiator of the company, died shortly afterwards in a hospital in Dar-es-Salaam after contracting Blackwater Fever whilst elephant hunting. He was unmarried, aged 52 and left a number of shares and holdings to his brothers.

The original farms were assimilated into the UVS association and were leasehold until the 1960’s. With this larger collection of land, the need to find more people to work on the land arose, and due to its comparative remoteness, was not necessarily a tempting offer for both labourers and farm managers. Thus, the villages comprising of the main village in question, the African married quarters (‘Schoom’) and the single quarters, the latter on adjoining farms, were constructed for labour. Facilities included in the three complexes comprised clubs, sports facilities, and a ‘bioscope’. The distance from the main town of Empangeni meant that the farms were self-sufficient and had cattle, horses, provided their own vegetables and milk.

At the peak of the estates’ labour-based functioning, there were 1000 people living in these complexes. This was because many people were needed to carry out weeding of the sugar cane. When the development of herbicides became more sophisticated, the numbers of labour dropped, as the need for all the weeding had diminished. Thus, today many of the buildings are occupied, but not necessarily by people working on the farms. Currently, the manager’s houses are occupied by farm managers, but the Indian Village and the ‘Schoom’ have priority given to iNduanas working the lands, and then the rest are let out to other workers. Apparently there is no problem finding tenants.

2 Oral sources came from a local farmer, workers at UVS and Mr Russell Addison.
4. The history of the Cane-Workers villages

The concept of ‘village estates’ based on an apartheid model catering for sugar cane workers has precedence in the Tongaat ‘experience’, with the construction of an Apartheid village. They are also evocative of the garden cities of Ebenezer Howard at the turn of the twentieth century, perhaps prompting the name ‘company towns’ as suggested by Van den Bergh (Van den Bergh; 1960).

Although the estate of CB Addison notes that there was a ‘wood and iron house’ on the site, (which was placed at the site of the current farm manager’s house, and is long demolished) he also notes that there were ‘stables and outbuildings, ‘labourer’s barracks’. (see appendix II) The likelihood of these barracks being the ones on site today is remote, given that the farm owner lived in a wood and iron house! The material nature of these barracks is not described.

Issues regarding the state of labourers’ accommodation were low on the list of the Union Government, although Dr GA Park-Ross presented a paper at the South African Sugar Congress in 1924, where he put forward what must have been seminal ideas at the time. ‘You have got to give him a self contained house, with a hard floor, adequate window space, and if you possibly can electric light. …you can build in ash concrete and thatch a two roomed house for less than £30.’ (Park-Ross;1924:59) This is followed by recommendations regarding housing, following the Government notice 659 of 16 June 1915.

Although Van den Bergh’s work ‘Cane-Ville’ is an encoded script protecting the subject of his social study, it is reasonably clear from most of his descriptions that sugar farms in the Tongaat area were studied, and the facts of history are not changed. He notes that in 1930 there was a severe malaria epidemic that affected workers living in slums, which many on the farms did. The malaria was attributed to lack of sanitation, and this was one of the prompters for the farmers to create model housing.(Van Den Bergh;1960:22) (Watson;1960:152)
In the case of the Tongaat village, self-acknowledged as an ‘experiment’, the first of its kind, Watson notes the following:

‘At first the habitations of Indian workers were grass huts. Later, due to large numbers of hut fires which caused many deaths...........huts were replaced with wood and iron barracks. Progressive estate owners sometimes built in brick; but in both cases the basic family home was the same, a single room, 10 feet by 12 feet, with an open cooking hearth in one corner. It remained the standard accommodation for more than sixty years. During the period 1920-1940 one attempt was made to improve labourer’s conditions. Cottage housing for Africans had not yet received serious consideration, but with some exceptions Indian cottages built from about 1920 consisted of detached units of two rooms, kitchen, and verandah. A small bathroom – by which is meant simply a cubicle in which to perform ablutions-was added later but latrines remained communal.’

The practical ramifications of this rhetoric followed from the 1930 malaria epidemic, but due to a variety of reasons, planning for the development of a model ‘Native’ Village was only instituted in 1937. The 1955 evaluation of the building of this, the Hambanati ‘African’ Village, which was opened in 1939 prompted the following comment: ‘Essentially the job was to build enough box-like dwellings of minimum capacity to house the human jetsam and use reasonably durable material.’

This brief investigation notes the slow awareness of the need for properly accommodating workers on farms- Park-Ross’s paper appears to have been premature, given that it took the Tongaat Estates a further 13 years to institute these recommendations, and this was eventually prompted by a malaria outbreak and its subsequent investigation. The first village of its kind, Hambanati, was completed on the Tongaat Estates in 1939, and formed the germ of the company town that grew around it, housing Africans, Indians and Whites in segregated housing, and providing the appropriate social and sporting facilities for each group. The Umhlatuze Valley Sugar estate would appear to be a construct of this precedent.
5. The buildings affected in the application:

The site discussed lies at the crest of a shallow hill in the middle of sugar cane fields. (see fig 4) There is a main road leading up to this crest, which culminates in a triumphal arch, celebrating the Umhlatuze Valley Sugar Company, which was established in 1910. To the west side of this road lies a complex consisting of what was known as the Indian Village, the main UVS office block storage sheds and manager’s houses. To the east side of the road there lies two large shed-like buildings- one, the Workshop, is contemporary with the development, and the other is of recent construction. Behind this lie a myriad of other structures such as the ‘clubhouse’, and other manager’s houses. Below this on the slope lies the ‘Schoom’3, which is the erstwhile African Married workers quarters. Please note that as far as the author is aware, none of the structures to the east of the road are going to be affected in the case of a demolition application.

Fig 4: Sketch showing formation of village and location of buildings discussed.

It is important to reiterate at the outset that most of the buildings on the site appear to have been built at the same time, or else followed the genre in the manner of the Tongaat Estates. Most of the buildings are in a similar style, following on the ‘pattern-book’ approach with a simple Art Deco ‘shopkeeper’ style, compared with the development of the Tongaat Estates ‘apartheid’ village with their nostalgic Cape Dutch gables. The buildings are all constructed from a locally-made block4, bag-wash plastered5 and painted, with corrugated asbestos sheeting roofs, and a

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3 Perhaps derived from the word ‘Schoomplaats’ or mining ‘squats’- Wheelwright,1924:75)
4 The local nature of this block is conjecture, but its proportions are certainly more square than that of a standard brick, whether Imperial or metric.
mixture of steel and timber windows and doors. The truss and beam construction within the
buildings supporting the roofs is simple and practical.

A predominance of corrugated asbestos roof sheeting in an environment with extraordinarily high
rust levels is also beguiling—corrugated asbestos sheeting was available in 1918\textsuperscript{6}, and certainly
was available to the Zululand farmers as early as 1923. In addition, the mixed bonding of the
large bricks used to construct the foundation levels, where visible through the paint and bag-
wash, could date the buildings to pre-World War II. Also, challenging points, such as the
commemorative stone on the schoolhouse point development to the 1950's. Thus, the
diagnostically mixed structures mean that dating and analyzing the site has been problematic.
This is in addition to the legally documented evidence such as formally submitted plans, which
can support the age of the site, are practically non-existent due to its position on farmland,
previously exempt from planning permission.

The most important feature of this development is its architectural coherence, and in this regard,
it's siting on the brow of a hill with an extremely verdant surrounding, creates a nostalgic
topophilia.

In this report, rather than deal with each building singly in terms of importance, I shall deal with
them as a group. It is clear that the value of the site rests more in the group of buildings, and the
retention of one or two out of these is meaningless.

\textbf{5.1 Overall Site Design}

Elements of the built landscape are also important factors in the assessment of the site. The
manner in which simple buildings with inherently simple and modest functions were treated in a
decorative and considered manner follows through with the overall detail of how the site was
handled/designed. Items of street architecture add a suburban feel to the sense of place, added
to which other details such as the management of the grey water system points to a coherent
designed approach creating a pleasant environment.

\textbf{Central 'street'}

This runs up the hill culminating in the triumphal arch at the apex. This is the main thoroughfare
along which the agricultural, social and official functions happen, and the
point from which the narrow lane leading
through the Indian Village departs.

\textit{Fig 5: Showing the arch at the apex of the site}

\textsuperscript{5} with the exception of the 'Spanish' style plasters which proliferate on later and, perhaps,
replastered buildings, with an especially heavy application.

\textsuperscript{6} The Durban Asbestos section of the Iron, Concrete and Asbestos Manufacturing Company was
taken over by the Asbestos Cement Manufacturing Company, Ltd, a subsidiary of Messers JS
Hancock and Co, Johannesburg, in 1918. (Hall:1930:270). Also, Bells United Asbestos produced
'Gladiator' Asbestos and cement corrugated roofing sheets in 1923. (South African Sugar
Journal, Congress and Exhibition Number 1923)
Public architecture

Fig 6: View up the street ending in the ‘arch’

Fig 7: Entrance to lower portion of Indian Village from main street- notice flanking walls sans decorative balls which have disappeared over time.

Drainage Furrow

Fig 8: Posts, rails and bollards

Fig 9: Posts rails and bollards

This structure is particularly evident in the Indian Village, where it carried all the grey water from the houses into the sugar cane at the bottom of the slope.

Fig 10: Furrow in village
5.2 The Indian Village

Fig 11: Showing entrance to the village

Fig 12: view of typical house

Fig 13: Showing one of the altered houses

Fig 14: Showing mixed windows

Fig 15: Showing the land between houses

Fig 16: an outside/inside lavatory
The houses in the Indian village are all much the same. There is one which still has an intact chimney and is relatively unchanged, whereas the first three along the lane behind the stores have been much altered. The asbestos roof sheeting was replaced when the chimneys were removed, covering the aperture at the roof line. The windows are mixed timber casement, and steel casement. There is a characteristic bay which has the timber window at the bottom and a higher ventilation opening which is covered with gauze netting for mosquitoes. Most of the houses have outside toilets which in some cases are attached to the main house. Each house has a small garden and these are richly planted with mangoes and litchi trees.

The road running down the slope is dirt topped and reasonably narrow.
5.3 The Church

The church is a modest building set at an angle to the lane, creating an alternative sense of space compared with the houses which lie parallel to the lane. Construction is the same as the others, except for the canted gable and lack of green painted dado.

Fig 21: Showing the church- Full Gospel Church of God

5.4 The School and School teacher’s house

The schoolteacher’s house and the school form a small complex at the bottom of the site. The plaque on the wall notes the donation of the school to the Indian community in 1956. It is strongly suspected that this gives a general date as to the period of construction of the entire complex. The building is much the same as all the others on site, with timber doors and timber casement windows, and the Art Deco verticality that marks the rest of the buildings. The schoolteacher’s house is a modest little veranda building with an uncomfortable roof. Behind this is an outbuilding which has, like a few other buildings in the complex, been plastered in a heavy handed ‘Spanish’ Style, possibly dating to the period of the construction of the Manager’s house.
5.5 The Main office building

This main building and associated complex is much altered, and is situated at the crest of the hill built in front of the old fertilizer store. The gable on the east proclaims 1910, which notes the date of the formation of the Umhlatuze Valley Sugar Company.

Again, the form of the buildings in this complex is Art Deco, with strong verticals and defined bays. The buildings behind this form a courtyard, with a row of buildings with the characteristic window bay facing the storage sheds.

As a group, the old fertilizer store and associated storerooms, and the main office complex are discussed as they are virtually physically and visually connected.
5.6 The Old Shed

This structure sits on the edge of the main road through the complex. It is characteristic of the scale, form and detail of all the other main structures. The construction of the trusses has been handled in a much more rough-and-ready fashion compared with the main workshop building, possibly because of its directly serviceable function.

5.7 House 2

According to Russell Addison, these buildings were built in the 1960’s and 1970’s. Certainly, as solid domestic structures they can be commended but there is little of architectural or historical value to redeem them.
5.8 House 3

According to Russell Addison, these buildings were built in the 1960’s and 1970’s. Certainly, as solid domestic structures they can be commended but there is little of architectural or historical value to redeem them.

This is the only structure on site with a corrugated sheeting roof that is not of asbestos.

Fig 35: House 3

5.9 Machinery store

This is a simple structure that has as its redeeming factor, columns made out of water pipe, which are constructed in a classical manner!

Fig 36: Machinery Store
5.10 The Estate Managers House (Spanish House)

It must be noted that the estate managers house was perhaps the most unexpected find, yet again a pattern but this time based on the Spanish house fashion of the 1960’s as immortalized in Hein Wicht’s book, *Spanish Houses of South Africa*. This house which is not subject to the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act, is extraordinary in its own way, perhaps fashioned out of the standard example for sugar farm houses as in the figure above.

However, the elevation of the site leads to more questions. The fact that this site did have a much older dwelling on it was corroborated by Russell Addison of Umhlatuze Valley Sugar who notes that there is a photograph of a wood and iron building on the site which must have been demolished and its platform used for the new structure.
5.11  Greenery and established vegetation

This site has a wonderful collection of established trees and vegetation, the presence of which forms part of the architectural landscape and also adds much to the sense of place, on the crest of a hill in Zululand in mid-summer, escaping the heat. Examples here are avenues, as well as trees placed such as in the entrance to the main office complex. The trees in many cases predated the construction of the buildings seen on the site today.

6.  Other villages- / areas to the east not affected:

6.1  The Workshop

Possibly the most elegant building on the site, the Workshop building has a barrel vaulted asbestos roof with careful detailing and landscaping. Again, in this complex, evidence shows a pre-War bonding, but the bricks appear to have been made locally, being much larger than normal (see fig 41)
6.2 The new shed

The new shed is recently constructed, of no architectural, historical or social value and is not subject to the 60 year clause as stipulated in the KwaZulu-Natal Heritage Act.

6.3 Married Quarters (Schoom)

This complex is just below the old and new sheds on the approach up the hill. It has a ceremonial entrance in the fashion of the lower road to the Indian Village (see fig 7).

Associated with this is the sports field as shown in fig 47 below.

Fig 44: Showing the curved timber trusses of the building used as the workshop

Fig 45: Showing new shed from the Workshop

Fig 46: entrance to the African married quarters
6.4 Singles Quarters

This complex comprises a large double loaded piazza with a central recreation building which was also the 'bioscope' for the workers. There are individual rooms in a barracks formation on each side of the piazza leading onto the public space. This complex is much further down the hill and closer to the river.
7. Conclusions:

The complex under threat, comprising the Indian Village, the three manager’s houses, the main office complex and associated stores, and the old shed form a coherent architectural whole.

NOTE:
If this complex falls at all within the 60 year clause as determined by the Amapha Heritage Resources Act, then it must have been built speedily after the precedent of Hambanati Village at Tongaat, which was completed in 1939. My conviction is that, with the oral histories of Russell Addison, who says they were built in the 1950’s, the muddled toolkit of material and resource which is characteristic of a farm economy, and also the factor of the date of the opening of the school in 1956, puts this complex as being a construction of the late 1940’s and early 1950’s

Summary of value of the complex:

The architectural value is in the creation of an unconscious sense of place within the sugarcane fields, together with a carefully detailed set of inherently modest buildings, in a format that has precedence only at the end of the 1930’s. Of specific mention is the manner in which the Workshop building is detailed with the eaves detailing, and the framed window bays with the ventilator above. The complex forms a town with a centre and an identity.

Architectural Value of the complex of buildings

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The social value of this complex is a double edged one. The creation of a purpose-made village, in the framework of apartheid Company towns such as those at Tongaat, has both a good connotation and a bad connotation. Celebrating the lot of the worker and the complexes within which they lived in pre-democratic times is very much in vogue in some circles, and absolutely not-negotiable for demolition as far as others are concerned.

Social Value of the complex of buildings

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The technical value of the complex is not outstanding, and no new technologies have come to light. Perhaps, the most valuable aspect is that the designs are site specific, much of the components possibly made on site, and then combined in an architectural and sensitive manner.

Technical value of the complex of buildings

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The historical value of the development of the farm is embedded in the progress towards the taming of the landscape of Zululand and forms an important part in the history of the sugar
industry in the Empangeni area. The complex history of the Addison family, their connections with Addington Hospital and the sugar farming industry is not necessarily embedded in the buildings. However, the complex of buildings is important in local histories of apartheid and social justice, and part of the process towards a democratic South Africa.

The historical value of the complex of buildings

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Assessment in terms of the Heritage Act, no 10 of 1997.

- That this complex of buildings forming the company town of Umhlatuzi Valley Sugar is not demonstrably over the age of 60 years means that it more than likely does not fall within the aegis of Amafa.

- It is highly suspected that these buildings were constructed from the late 1940’s through the 1950’s as a model village on the Tongaat model.

- The complex is not visible in today’s form on the 1937 aerial photographs. (see appendix III) Although there appears to be a large complex in the position of the African Married quarters, (note 2) this is suspected as being the labourer’s barracks as mentioned in Appendix II, which would have been demolished to make way for the new developments. In addition, the site of the wood and iron house (note 1) is also visible, but nothing in the way of the Indian Village which would be in the position of site 3 on the photograph.

- Should the buildings be empirically proven to be over the age of 60 years, then assessment in terms of the Act is necessary. This report forms the required documentation.

As individuals, the structures are not particularly important but as a coherent group creating a village-scape, they are. Demolition, should it be granted, must be all, as part is meaningless. Assessment would usually take into consideration the context and the building’s relationship to others, but in this case, the complex creates its own context. The context of the complex, however, is remote, and dissociated from other peri-urban settlement. Reuse, apart from sugar farming activities, is tenuous (see note)

The buildings and complexes on the eastern side of the road are exempt, and perhaps the most architectural building in the hilltop complex, the Workshop, is part of this group. Also, the singles quarters, also not part of the application, and another beautiful urban space, has more to recommend it as a usable, functioning space than the dispersed central complex. These building are all to be retained.

THAT: should demolition be allowed, then another piece of social and architectural history is lost to the province. However, given the dearth of information that exists with regards to this complex, the perceived social, historical and architectural loss is minimal. The site has changed in its operational character, has limited options for reuse, forms its own architectural context and has a mixture of apartheid baggage combined with the celebration of the worker.

NOTE: the practicality of this complex being retained for a tourism venue is tenuous, given the dilapidated state of ‘Harbour Lights’, an adjoining plot which has had children and tourist related activities and camping- none of which have been recently viable, and the small museum at Empangeni which has two small halls of local interest and a central art gallery space.
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Manuscript MS ADD- Addison Family Papers  
The Family of Dr. WH Addison, man of Kent - 929 ADD  
The South African Sugar Journal, Congress and Exhibition number 1923, 1924  

Oral Sources:  

Russell Addison  
Employee at main office  
Farmer on adjoining land
Appendixes:

Appendix I

Curriculum Vitae  Deborah Whelan of ARCHAIC Consulting

Academic Qualifications:
B. Architecture (Natal) 1990
PG Dip Architecture (Natal) 1996
Architectural Conservation Course (Natal) 1997
M. Architecture, Research (dissertation on indigenous buildings) (Natal) 2000
B.A (UNISA) Anthropology, Archaeology, English 2002

Current:  PhD candidate in Anthropology SOAS (University of London);
TRADING PLACES: THE SOCIAL ROLE OF THE TRADING STORE IN KWAZULU-NATAL
This topic also involves anthropology and buildings. The research question is:
To what extent did the role of the trading store as both a physical and a conceptual entity
influence transitional societies in KwaZulu-Natal; (ie: first telephones, postal services, movement
between barter and monetary trade etc) Supervisor. Dr Trevor Marchand
The value of these buildings as type buildings in the landscape, as well as providing architectural
idioms conveyed in colloquial language such as trading store style, indicating a parapet wall, or
scotch roof, indicating a hipped roof. The anthropological slant is the importance of these
institutions to people moving between rural and urban societies.

Full time Work Experience:
June 2006-present: ARCHAIC CONSULTING
Whilst engaged in fieldwork for my PhD, I am currently working under the name of ARCHAIC
Consulting, carrying out research and investigations in the architectural, cultural, historical and
anthropological fields. Much of my work is carried out together with eThembeni Cultural Heritage.

February 2007- Labour tenant interviews and report for Cathkin Estate
January 2007- Richmond Agricultural Showgrounds HIA
October 2006- HIA for the National Botanical Gardens, Pietermaritzburg (with eThembeni)
September 2006- Historical Report for the Central Drakensberg Ratepayers Association IRO
pending land claims (with eThembeni)
September 2006-December 2006: research towards display for Natal Museum on Freedom Sites
in the Midlands
October 2005- HIA for Bulwer Park Mountain Hotel (through Natal Museum)
October 2005- HIA for the Salisbury Island Naval Base (through Natal Museum)
December 2005- March 2006: HIA for the Johannesburg and Tshwane portions of the
GAUTRAIN (with eThembeni)

Tertiary Educational Lecturing: Current
Damelin College- Historical and Contextual Referencing – Diploma in Interior Design
University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, School of Visual Arts-
History of Architecture- 5 week module year 1
Postmodernism in Architecture- 5 Week Module year 3
University of KwaZulu-Natal Durban, Department of Architecture History of Architecture I and II
Guest lecturer April and May 2007

Jan 2002-June 2006: Durban Institute of Technology
Lecturer in Architectural Technology. In 2002 taught first year construction and 4th year Urban
Design, lecture load 20 periods per week. 2003 taught first year history of architecture, to 100
mainly Zulu-speaking students, as well as post-graduate Urban Design and Housing and third
year landscape and survey. 2004 and 2005 taught studiowork and landscape to first and third
year students, and 2006 taught first year history of Architecture (160 students) and design at third
year level together with landscape.
Itinerant Projects:
House Norwood - consultant to repairs of historic structure
House Dube - consultant to repairs of historic structure

May 2000-August 2000: ICOMOS Intern, New Mexico
Selected to work on the Socorro mission in El Paso, Texas as part of the ICOMOS exchange programme. Work on assessment, planning and practical repair to 19th century adobe church, working with at risk institutionalised children doing a form of community service.

Jan 1997- September 2001: Heritage KwaZulu Natali
Working with provincial heritage and 'Monuments Council' structures around the province across the gamut of possibilities from rural development projects implementing monuments to Zulu nationals, to advice on repairs to Victorian and Edwardian buildings in cities to interpretive centres at stone-age cave sites.

September 1994-September 1996: Built Environment Support Group
Transitional development after demise of Apartheid, with new political structures in township (Luganda) and informal (Inanda) settlements. Delivery of blockyards with communities, crèches, clinics and community halls. Housing implementation (Richmond Farm) through access of provincial housing board funding. Variety of ad hoc and policy making experience.

September 1995 –April 2000; contract work: BESG
Running levels 1 and 2 of the Housing Training Programme aimed at assisting people in informal settlements to upgrade their housing in the most effective manner in the absence of government assistance. Teaching second language speakers without Matric.

January 1992- September 1994; Self Employed:
Architectural work, interior design, pubs and restaurants, shops, additions and alterations, submissions to local authorities.

Current Voluntary Work: Historic Preservation and Development
2000-present: The Georgetown Project, Convenor
Repair of historic politically, socially and culturally important 19th century mud brick mission village in Edendale, South of Pietermaritzburg using members of the community to do the work, accessing funding from a variety of sources to pay the workers on the project. The notion, besides instilling a local respect for the validity of history and the possibility that mud buildings do last, is that a sustainable work project be created, which has developmental and housing implications, as well as setting up viable projects in formerly marginalized areas bringing in income and lessening community reliance on the idea of tourism as a panacea. The project has hosted 2 ICOMOS interns in the last two years, assisted by the Local Authority.

Publications as of Feb 2006-02-14

- Rhodes Reassessed; towards the conservation of an unique South African Town (University of Natal School of Architecture 1998) Infill Architecture and Restoration, The Context of Landscape and Nature
- KZNIA Journal3/2001: Potolozi- the resurrection of an old gem; relevant conservation in action
- KZNIA Journal, 1/2002; The emergence of a decorated vernacular architecture amongst the Mthembu and Mchunu people of Msinga p14,15
- IASTE Working Papers Series: The possibilities or impossibilities of the indigenous vernacular heritage Dec 2004 Vol: 171
- Guest editor: KZNIA Journal no 1 2005
9.2 Appendix - Property evaluation of Charles Brabazon Addison
August 1911

APPRAISAL of the undermentioned property in
Zululand in the Testate Estate of CHARLES BRABAZON
ADDISON Esq: Deceased, made by HERBERT CURTIS
SMITH of Stanger, Government Valuer, at the request
of the Executors of the said Estate.

Stanger 1st August 1911.

Having visited and inspected the property for the purpose
of this Valuation I find:-

1. The leasehold interest in a
certain piece of land in extent 408
acres 3 roods 510 perches situate and
being Lot 122 in the Division of Um-
folosi (the said land lying on the bank
of the River Umhlatsuzi near Empangeni)
held from the Government under lease
for 99 years from 1st November 1905
dated the 25th April and 6th May 1907
at the annual rent of £46 : 16 : 0:
together with the improvements on the
said land consisting of wood and iron
house, stable and outbuildings, Over-
searer’s Cottage, Labourers’ barracks,
wood and iron engine shed, windmill
and piping, trees fencing etc etc . . . £2,185 :

2. The leasehold interest in a cer-
tain piece of land in extent 304 acres
1 rood 9.24 perches situate abutting
the River Umhlatsuzi on the opposite
bank and lying opposite to the before
mentioned piece of land and held under

Forward

£2,185 : 0
Position of Harbour Lights

Position of house on 1937 photo