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Parkview and its Heritage

Part of the charm of Parkview and Greenside East is their history which is reflected in some of the older homes and shops. We believe that people that buy into the suburb appreciate this aspect of the suburb.

We believe it is very important that this heritage is preserved. Buildings older than 60 years are protected by the National Heritage Resources Act, 25 of 1999 which states –

34. (1) No person may alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

In Gauteng, this authority is the Provincial Heritage Resources Authority – Gauteng. (PHRAG) and PHRAG require all heritage submissions from Parkview and Greenside East be directed through the Parkview Residents Association (PRA).

Parkview is part of the Joint Plans Committee (JPC) which is an association of Westcliff, Parktown and Forest Town Residents' Associations as well as the Johannesburg Heritage Foundation (formerly known as the Parktown & Westcliff Heritage Trust). The committee meets fortnightly and building plans for the Westcliff, Parktown, Forest Town and Parkview areas are tabled and reviewed at these meetings. Heritage specialists such as Flo Bird, town planners and architects sit on the JPC. The JPC applies heritage criteria as expressed in the Burra Charter when assessing these plans. It also looks at town planning issues like number of dwellings, coverage on the property, floor area ratios etc.

In attempting to protect the areas they represent, the JPC should be seen as a vehicle to assist owners. Often architects approach the JPC with concept sketches to discuss what they are thinking of doing before spending a lot of time on their drawings.

Accordingly, to avoid encountering any problems we request that should you intend altering or demolishing any structure older than 60 years, that you submit your plans to the JPC before submitting them to PHRAG or the City of Joburg. The JPC is contactable through the Parkview Residents' Association on info@parkview.org.za.

Failure to obtain the relevant permission from PHRAG could result in unnecessary costs and delays and is a criminal offence.

More detail of the process is provided in the Building guidelines.