

OPENING OF FRESHFORD HOUSE MUSEUM BLOEMFONTEIN

Freshford, first dwelling of the architect J.E. Harrison, situated at 31 Kellner Street, Bloemfontein, was restored by the National Museum and was opened as a satellite house museum on 26 November 1986 at a well-attended public function. The house was built in 1897.



Dr. C.M. Engelbrecht, Director of the National Museum, received the guests.



The house was unlocked for viewing by Mrs B. Bladen, youngest daughter of the late Mr J.E. Harrison.



The guests of honour arrived in a procession of veteran cars from Oliewenhuis.



A brass ensemble led by a staff member of the Museum, Mr Burkhard von Schlichting, entertained the guests.



A typical High Tea was served in the garden by ladies from the staff of the National Museum who were dressed in servants' garb from the period.



Prof. R. van Pletzen, Chairman of the Council of the Museum, in his welcoming address thanked the staff members of the Museum who, under the leadership of Miss Elsabé du Toit, were involved with the restoration.



The opening address was delivered by Prof. J.C. Moll, Dean of the faculty of Literature and Philosophy at the UOFS. He also gave a short back-ground history of the house, the period and the restoration-process.

FRESHFORD HOUSE MUSEUM IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR VIEWING ON WEEKDAYS FROM 10h15 TO 15h00, ON SATURAYS FROM 08h30 TO 17h00 AND ON SUNDAYS FROM 14h00 TO 17h00. ALL VISITORS ARE CONDUCTED ON TOURS.