to speak about his iconic work as it lay in that Province\textsuperscript{16}. He placed Welkom-Wes in the company of not only Wright's Unity Temple but also San Vitale in Ravenna, San Lorenzo in Milan and Santa Maria di Carceri in Prato. All of these buildings are similar in that they have centralised plans in which the main space is 'wrapped' in several layers and top-lit to create an inwardly-focussed and tranquil space. Furthermore, he spoke at length about the continuities of architectural principles across time and space and placed Welkom-Wes in what for him the realm of 'timelessness in architecture', the title given to his lecture, and consistent with the position he took throughout his career in architectural and urban issues.

Whether Minnaar ever returned to pastoral work, let alone to construction, could not be established, but Uytenbogaardt's work continued to court controversy, none more so than over the Werdmuller Centre in Claremont, Cape Town, 1973.

While architects and students of Architecture might form the largest contingent of admirers of the extremely bold step of Minnaar and Uytenbogaardt in realising a monumental design situated on the border between architecture and sculpture for a conservative congregation in a mining town, Welkom-Wes is one of only three surviving NGK congregations of the ten once there. Of course this could be associated with the difficulty of disposing of a building without obvious church symbolism, but it was also interesting to learn that fifty years after its design, given the many points of access and entry including descending steps, this building has been discovered as a venue of choice for weddings and, perhaps, the beginning of a new practice which could be associated with the difficulty of disciplining one's congregation and the architectural profession's long-standing fascination and interest in Welkom-Wes.

\section*{BIBLIOGRAPHY}


Roelof Uytenbogaardt Papers, University of Cape Town Libraries, BCL64.


\section*{ENDNOTES}

\begin{enumerate}
  \item Tenders varied from R67 784 to R81 000 (Gedenkblad [ix]).
  \item W De W Hartman, Kroonstad; Leon Roodt, Welkom; and Uytenbogaardt & Pelsier, Cape Town (Gedenkblad [ix]).
  \item Tenders varied from R67 784 to R81 000 (Gedenkblad [ix]).
  \item With a significant increase of members after its design, given the many points of access and entry including descending steps, this building has been discovered as a venue of choice for conducting wedding ceremonies and, with that, perhaps, the beginning of a new appreciation entirely.
  \item Uytenbogaardt recalled that he was aware during the design and construction of Welkom-Wes that he could during his career be involved with either a single church or with many\textsuperscript{16}. As it turned out, this was his only church, making it even more remarkable in his substantial œuvre. He also said that for truly exceptional creations, “time took willing detours” (allegedly adapted from Walt Whitman).
\end{enumerate}