

After passing the library return to Oak Street. The earliest library known in Somerset West was a room in a private home at the corner of Main and Lourens Streets where the librarian was a Mrs Fielding.

In the 1920's a library was housed in the present police station. On the completion of the new town hall, it moved to a room there. When the town hall burnt down it moved to building where the Alan Martin Pharmacy is now. When the town hall was rebuilt, the library moved back. It was later moved to the deconsecrated Anglican Church (complete with graveyard) in Oak Street and has remained in this area ever since.

Bicycle Shop

Ahead in oak street is Oak Centre. This was originally a coach house and stable for the use of travellers. It later became a blacksmith.

Proceed to Main Street and turn right. On the left is Sheet Street?? This was the Half Price Stores and prior to that Levensons Stores. It was here that Angus William Mcleod first started up in business with a bicycle shop. He later moved to the corner of Victoria and Main Street.

Turn left into Drama Street, cross Caledon Street and enter left into new Street. Continue up and turn right into St Georges Street.

Chelsea Cottages

The modernised "Chelsea Cottages" along the lower side of this street date back to the early 1900's when they were built to house the De Beers factory artisans. Continue along St Georges Street and turn left in Oatlands Street. This street is named after Oatlands farm, which was the name given to Cloetenberg in 1903.

This name did not last long for in 1912 Frank Spooner, a New Zealander, purchased the homestead and 23 morgen and changed the name to Oaklands, The old Cloetenburg homestead and surrounds is now Somerset House Preparatory School. Cloetenburg dates back to 1709 and was originally owned by Catharina Cloete who gave it its name. It passed through various numerous owners, one of which was Daniel Wynand Malan who is thought to have built the nucleus of the present house.

Son-in-law Douw Gerhardt Steyn added the front gable in 1785. In 1817 a large part of the land was sold to the founders of the Village of Somerset West - MW Theunissen of Vergelegen; Willem Morkel of Voorbrug; PH Morkel of Morgenster and JK Morkel of Onverwacht. At the turn of the century the larger farm was sold off in lots by its then owner PGJ Morkel.

After Frank Spooner purchased the property it eventually became a guest farm with numerous owners until 1951 when it was purchased by Dr and Mrs DH Haydock and Somerset House Preparatory School was established there.

The ruins of the Cloetenburg wine cellars were discovered in Helderzicht Street this year. Continue up Oatlands Road and turn right into Lourensford Road. This road leads to the farms Lourensford, Vergelegen, Morgenster, Erinvale and Fleur du Cap.

H.H. Hospital

Continuing along Lourensford Road, on the left at Nr 43 are the homes that housed the 1926 nursing block of Hillrise Nursing Home run by two nursing sisters from England, Sisters EM Parkinson and A Threlfell. This fully equipped nursing home had an operating theatre and 10 beds and served the community until the opening of the Hottentots Holland Hospital, which is further down Lourensford Road also on the left.

After crossing Mountain Road, further down on the right are the halls of the Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides. The Boy Scout movement was established in Somerset West in 1909 with John Farrell as scoutmaster and the Girl Guides was established in 1922 by Miss Florence Withers.

The Alexandra Hotel

The then owner, Israel Perel who, together with W Miller were founder members of the Hebrew Congregation in Somerset West, built the hotel in 1933.