

Owen Noome

Suid Afrikaanse Geskiedenis

South African History

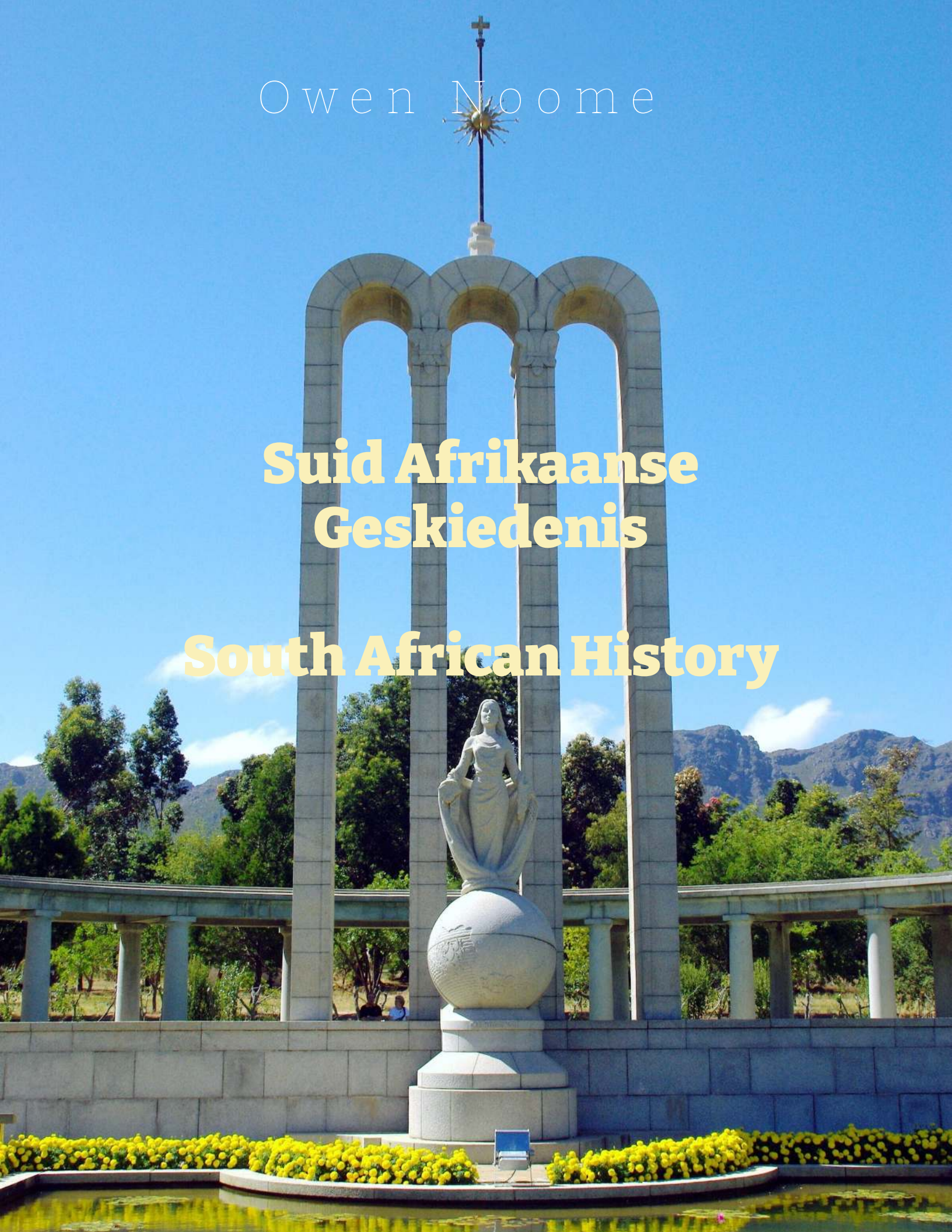


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Unieke en geskiedkundige gegewens met betrekking tot Pretoria en die Uniegebou

Die Uniegebou geleë op Meintjieskop, Pretoria, is die amptelike setel van die Suid-Afrikaanse regering en huisves ook die kantoor van die President van Suid-Afrika.



Foto 1. Die Uniegebou op Meintjies Kop in Pretoria en 'n ruitersandbeeld van Genl. Louis Botha in die voorgrond.

Die Uniegebou

Die Uniegebou is teen die suidehang van Meintjieskop gebou. Meintjieskop is vernoem na Stephanus Jacobus Meintjes wat van Graaff-Reinet na Pretoria gekom het. Meintjes het 'n gedeelte van die ou plaas Elandsfontein, wat oorspronklik aan Marthinus Wessel Pretorius behoort het, op 7 April 1865 vir £2 400 van Andries du Toit gekoop. Du Toit het die grond waar die Uniegebou vandag staan uit die boedel van Gerrit Bronkhorst gekoop.

Oorspronklik is daar na "Meintjes se kop" verwys, maar reeds in 1870 het dit as Meintjieskop bekend gestaan.

Die hoeksteen is in November 1910 gelê deur die Hertog van Connaught. Die geboue is in 1913 voltooi. Hierdie geboue, gebou van ligte sandsteen en ontwerp deur die argitek Sir Herbert Baker in die Engelse monumentstyl en ou Nederlandse argitektoniese motiewe, is 285 m lank.

Die halfmaan gebou het 2 vleuels - hierdie twee vleuels verteenwoordig die unie van die Afrikaners en die Britte. Saam het hulle die Unie van Suid-Afrika gevorm. Die Uniegebou met sy wonderlike amfiteater, kan meer as 1500 amptenare huisves.

Met die bou daarvan is 465 ambagsmanne en 800 algemene arbeiders gebruik. Dan moet bygereken word 40 000 sakkies sement, 14 miljoen stene, 74 000 kubieke meter beton en 20 000 kubieke voet graniet. In die proses is 88 hyskrane gebruik.

Foto 2. Generaal Louis Botha. Hy is van 1910 tot 1919 die eerste eerste minister van die Unie van Suid-Afrika. Botha het as leier van die Het Volk-party in 1907 eerste minister geword en met Uniewording in 1910 is hy tot leier van die pasgestigte Suid-Afrikaanse Party (1911 tot 1934) verkies, wat hom ook eerste minister van die land gemaak het.

Ou Pretoria

*Die sement wat gebruik was om President Paul Kruger se huis in Kerk straat te bou was gemeng met melk. Die rede; melk, so was geglo, was n beter bindingsmiddel as water.

*Dr Paul Greyling, inwoner van Wonderboom en geskiedkundige, vertel dat een van sy eggenoot se voorsate gedurende die laat 1890's geskryf het dat die mense hier met verskillende volksdrag uit Europa in Pretoria se strate rondloop.

Izaak Wust, n Hollandse onderwyser, het op 29 April 1897 aan sy familie in Nederland geskryf:

"Pretoria is een mooie plaats, sommigen noemen het een dorp en anderen een stad; ze teld 20 000 inwoners uit alle landen en volken, zoodat de meest onderscheiden kleederdrachten gezien worden."

*Die eerste biskop van Pretoria was hoogerwaard H Bousfield, wat in 1879 aangekom het.

*n Nuwe kerkgebou vervang die ou kerk op Kerkplein en word op 23 Januarie 1885 ingewy.

*n Week nadat die Britse magte Pretoria beset het, is prysbeheer ingestel. n Proklamasie waarin die pryse van voedsel, drank, brandstof en voer beheer is, is ingestel.

Die skedule tot die proklamasie dui nie net die prysbeheer aan nie maar ook die verskillende produkte wat beskikbaar was.

Die waarde van ou inwoners van die stad se staaltjies is telkens bewys deur een van dié optekenare van Pretoria se geskiedenis, wyle Tom Andrews.

In die Pretoriana van Desember 1970 verskyn 'n onderhoud wat Andrews gehad het met Charles John Beans, toe reeds 93 jaar oud. Beans het in 1900 as lid van die Britse Poskantoor korps na Suid-Afrika gekom, en hom die daaropvolgende jaar in Pretoria gevestig.

Hy het onder meer aan Andrews vertel van die militêre kamp wat eens net oos van Hillstraat in Hatfield geleë was. Dié gedeelte van die stad was nog onbewoon, en Kirknessstraat (genoem na bouaannemer J.J. Kirkness) was die oostelike grens van Clydesdale. Hier is hospitale vir die Britse magte ingerig.

Voorts vertel hy van die Britse militêre ruskamp op die terrein waar Pretoria Boys' High vandag is, en van die Imperial Yeomanry-hospitaal op die hoek van Kerk- en Beckettstraat van waar die uitsig oor die sowat 20 huise oos van Hamiltonstraat was!

Volgens Beans het Johann Rissik (oor wie ons ook al gesels het) Hillcrest op die sogenaamde uitvalgrond van die hand gesit. In Heroldstraat, wat skynbaar na 'n regter van die destydse hooggeregshof genoem is, was daar 'n Britse blokhuis. Dus was die straat se naam eens Blockhousestraat.

Met dié dat min van die huidige strate reeds uitgemeet was, kon 'n mens nie van Hatfield na Hillcrest of Brooklyn gaan nie tensy jy Roperstraat gebruik het. Ander deurgange was daar nie. "Dinge het verander," aldus Beans, "toe die stadsraad Hillcrest uitgemeet en Duncanstraat aangelê het." Dié straat het die ou Jamesstraat ingesluit, so genoem na James Brooks aan wie Brooklyn sy naam te danke het.

Brooks was 'n landmeter wat gehelp het met die opmeet van die Lourenço Marques-spoorlyn, en ook Brooksstraat en Brooks House gedenk sy verblyf in Brooklyn.

Hatfield, soos die aangrensende woonbuurt Colbyn, is opgemeet deur die Wesleyaanse (Metodiste) kerkvereniging wat dieselfde seggenskap gehad het in Queenswood en Kilnerpark. En, eienaardig soos dit vir hedendaagse inwoners klink, het transportaktes die beperking gedra dat geen drank in een van dié vier woonbuurte verkoop mog word nie!

Oor die herkoms van die naam Colbyn het Beans vertel dat dit genoem is na die dorp Colby op die eiland Man waar J.B. Kneen, ontwikkelaar van Colbyn, gebore is. Douglasstraat verwys na 'n plek naby Colby, sowel as na die oudste seun van Kneen. Amosstraat is genoem na Amos Burnet, Wesleyaanse sendingprinsipaal van die Transvaal. Burnettstraat in Hatfield dra ook sy naam, maar dáár het egter 'n tweede "t" na sy van ingesluip.

Kneen wou homself ook graag vernoem, maar op die end afgesien daarvan omdat hy bang was dat dit moeilikheid met die posowerheid sou veroorsaak omdat hulle "nie sou weet hoe om dié uitheemse van te spel nie"!



Image 1: The Union Buildings on Meintjies Kop in Pretoria.

The Union Buildings

The Union Building that was built on Meintjieskop, Arcadia, named after Stephanus Jacobus Meintjies. Arcadia was farmland, originally belonging to Andries Francois du Toit, who then sold it. The cornerstone was laid in November 1910 by the Duke of Connaught. The buildings were completed in 1913. These buildings, built from light sandstone, designed by the architect Sir Herbert Baker in the English monumental style and many old Dutch architectural motifs, are 285 m long.

The semicircular building has 2 wings - these 2 wings represent the union of the Afrikaners and the British. Together they formed the Union of South Africa. Dominating the summit of Meintjies Kop, the building, with its great amphitheatre, can house over 1500 officials.

Image 2: General Louis Botha. He was the first South African presidential leader, the then Premier of the Union of South Africa, to take office in the Union Buildings, known as the official seat of the South African Government. The Voortrekker Monument is the second great building and can be seen from almost any location in Pretoria.

The Union of South Africa

Former member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. It came into existence on May 31, 1910. On May 31, 1961, after a referendum, it became the Republic of South Africa.

The Peace of Vereeniging was signed on May 31, 1902. Two Republics, Transvaal and the Orange Free State, became crown colonies of the British. After peace had been signed there were four principal governments in South Africa, in the Cape and Natal, governments responsible to electorates, in the Transvaal and Orange River Sovereignty, governments responsible only to the British High Commissioner. Lord Selborne in 1907 brought the question of South African Union on to the plane of practical politics.

In May 1908 a conference of South African Governments invited the legislatures of all the Colonies to nominate delegates to a National Convention for drafting a constitution for South Africa.

The Union of South Africa established

Between 1908 and 1909, 33 delegates - 12 from the Cape Colony, 8 from Transvaal, 5 from the Orange River Colony, 5 from Natal and 3 from Rhodesia met in National Convention (Convention on the Closer Union of South Africa or the Closer Union Convention) in Durban (12 October to 5 November 1908), Cape Town (23 November to 18 December 1908, 11 January to 3 February 1909) and Bloemfontein (3 May to 11 May 1909).

By the end of the convention they produced a draft constitution that was substantially accepted by all the South African Colonies. The draft which took the form of an imperial Bill presented to the British Parliament was a skilful and practical plan for transforming the four Colonies of South Africa into a united nation.

In London, 53 amendments were made to the Bill, most of which were procedural and not substantive, and Parliament passed the constitution in essentially the same form it had been submitted by the National Convention. It received royal assent on 20 September 1909. It became the South Africa Act, South Africa's constitution between 1910 and 1961.

Indigenous black African, Coloured, and Asian representatives were excluded from the process.

In response to the constitutional convention, blacks held their own South African Native Convention in Bloemfontein. This led to the formation of the South African Native National Congress founded on January 8, 1912.

It aimed to bring all Africans together as one people to defend their rights and freedoms. The organisation was renamed the ANC in 1923.

The Union of South Africa was established on May 31, 1910, with Louis Botha as the first prime minister and Jan Smuts as his deputy. In a few years it enabled him to join hands with his old opponent General Smuts and establish a National Government in South Africa, which at last brought the more moderate elements of British and Dutch into one party.



Flag of the Cape Colony 1875-1910. Flag of Natal 1843-1910. Flag of Transvaal. Flag of the Orange Free State 1854-1902

Pretoria became the administrative capital, Cape Town the legislative, and Bloemfontein the judicial.

The first Union cabinet



The first cabinet of the Union of South Africa in 1910 under the leadership of Prime Minister Louis Botha Back: J. B. M. Hertzog, Henry Burton, F. R. Moor, C. O'Grady Gubbins, Jan Smuts, H. C. Hull, F. S. Malan, David Graaff Front: J. W. Sauer, Louis Botha, Abraham Fischer.

Union Defence Force (UDF)

The Union Defence Force (UDF) was the military of South Africa from 1 July 1912, when the Defence Act (No 13 of 1912) took effect, two years after the creation of the Union of South Africa, until 1957 when it was reorganised and renamed the South African Defence Force.

The Voortrekker Monument, symbol of Afrikaner Freedom and Political Ideal

The Voortrekker Monument stands just outside Pretoria on the summit of a hill known as Monument Koppie. It was built in honour of the Voortrekkers. Gerard Moerdijk was appointed as architect. The idea to honour the Voortrekkers with a monument was first voiced by General Piet Joubert on 16 December 1895.



Images. 1) *The Voortrekker Monument outside Pretoria was completed in 1949. Inside is a marble frieze containing 27 panels commemorating events of the Great Trek in which settlers of Dutch origin emigrated from Cape Colony to the Transvaal between 1835 and 1854. At the centre of the monument is the cenotaph which bears the inscription "We for thee, South Africa". An opening in the dome atop the monument is positioned so that every year at noon on the 16th of December a beam of sunlight illuminates the cenotaph. Prior to the 1994 elections which brought Nelson Mandela to power, December 16th was celebrated as the "Day of the Vow", commemorating the massacre of the Zulus in the Battle of Blood River; it remains a holiday but is now called "Reconciliation Day". Surrounding the monument is a circular wall with reliefs representing the wagons of voortrekkers pulled into a circle.*

2) *Woman and Children by Anton van Wouw at the base of the Voortrekker Monument in Pretoria.* 3) *The Cenotaph*

South Africa) during what became known as the Great Trek (1835-1843). The word Voortrekker means "pioneer" in the Afrikaans language. The migration of the Voortrekkers marked the birth of Afrikaner nationalism and the determination of Afrikaner, settlers of Dutch and French Huguenot descent, to shake off British control. In the course of the Great Trek, the Voortrekkers fought the British, Zulu and other Bantu-speaking peoples for their land. The Voortrekkers then established the Afrikaner republics of the Orange Free State and the South African Republic (in the Transvaal region).

Leaders of the Voortrekkers, such as Hendrik Potgieter, Andries Pretorius, Pieter Retief, and Dirk Uys, are among the most revered names in Afrikaner history. The Voortrekker Monument in Pretoria, inaugurated in 1949, was built as a symbol of Afrikaner nationalism, and as a celebration of the Great Trek.

Six motifs determined the architect's design:

- 1) A religious motif based on Genesis 12. In particular verses 1 and 7.
- 2) An Egyptian motif, derived from the symmetry, stability and infinite durability of the pyramid through the ages.
- 3) An Africa motif. To incorporate the vastness of Africa, large granite blocks were used at the bottom of the construction.

Other Africa elements include the buffalo head, symbol of protection, above the main entrance; the blue wildebeest, symbol of Dingane's impis who murdered Piet Retief; and the assegais on the entrance gates to the Monument.

4) The Zimbabwe ruins motif. It represents the timelessness of Africa. The zig-zag patterns, symbolical of water and fertility, on the top edge of the Monument derive from this structure.

5) The European motif. Reference was made to the monumental tradition of Europe, in particular the Völkerschlachtdenkmal in Leipzig and the Hotel des Invalides in Paris. The interior frieze which depicts scenes from the Trek is in the style of the Renaissance Italian sculptors Verrocchio and Donatello.

6) The Voortrekker motif.....the main motif. It is represented by the 64 wagon laager, symbolic of the Battle of Blood River, which surrounds the Monument. An important place was given to the Voortrekker woman: a statue of a mother with two children stands at the entrance. Statues on the four corners depict three Trek leaders - Piet Retief, Andries Pretorius, Hendrik Potgieter and the "Unknown Voortrekker".

Construction started on the 13th of July 1937. The monument was inaugurated on 16 December 1949 and stands 40 metres high with a base of 40 m by 40 m.

An amphitheatre which seats 20 000 was built to the north west of the monument in 1949. The focal point on the lower level of the monument is the cenotaph (symbolical grave of Piet Retief) engraved with the words "Ons vir jou Suid Afrika" (We for thee, South Africa). A cupola (dome) admits sunlight and a ray illuminates this inscription on 16 December at exactly 12 o'clock.

The 16th of December was the Day of the Vow. On that day in the year 1838, on the banks of the Ncome river 470 Voortrekkers took a public vow (or covenant) together before the battle between them and about 10 000. In return for God's help in obtaining victory, they promised to build a church. Participants also vowed that they and their descendants would keep the day as a holy Sabbath.

It was a decisive Voortrekker victory, casualties amounted to three thousand Zulu deaths and three wounded Voortrekkers. A monument was erected on the site of the battle in 1947, consisting of an ox wagon executed in granite by the sculptor Coert Steynberg. In 1971 a laager of 64 ox wagons cast in bronze was erected, and unveiled on 16 December 1998.

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Battle of Blood River. An estimated 10 000 Zulus defeated by 470 Afrikaners

In Natal (today's KwaZulu-Natal), at the close of the 18th century, Dingiswayo, founder of the Zulu state introduced a ruthless military system. It was further developed by his successor, Chaka (Shaka), during whose reign the Zulu power and state was firmly established in 1816, and the Zulu name became a terror to all the surrounding peoples. They became most feared warriors in Africa. "Zulus" are so named from a legendary chief Zulu, ancestor of Dingiswayo.

Dingane (Dingaan) kaSenzangakhona Zulu became king of the Zulu dynasty in 1828 after assassinating his half-brother Shaka with the help of another brother, Umhlangana, as well as Shaka's advisor Mbopa.

Then came the Voortrekker (Boer, Afrikaner) - Zulu chapter of treachery, murder, victory and death of the Zulu king Dingane.

Voortrekker, name given to Afrikaners (or Boers) who migrated north from the British Cape Colony (modern southwestern South Africa) during what became known as the Great Trek (1835-1843). The word Voortrekker means "pioneer" in the Afrikaans language. The migration of the Voortrekkers marked the birth of Afrikaner nationalism and the determination of Afrikaner, settlers of Dutch and French Huguenot descent, to shake off British control. In the course of the Great Trek, the Voortrekkers fought the British, Zulu and other Bantu-speaking peoples for their land. The Voortrekkers then established the Afrikaner republics of the Orange Free State and the South African Republic (in the Transvaal region). Leaders of the Voortrekkers, such as Hendrik Potgieter, Andries Pretorius, Pieter Retief, and Dirk Uys, are among the most revered names in Afrikaner history.

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The murder of Piet Retief

It all started in November 1837 when Piet Retief and his delegation of about 100 men met face to face with Dingaan in his Zulu capital (kraal) Umgungundlovu to peacefully negotiate land for the Voortekkers from the Zulus. The land lays beyond the southern border (Tugela and its principal tributary the Buffalo) of the then Zulu kingdom. Dingaan agreed to make a land grant on the condition that Retief return his cattle that had been stolen by Chief Sekonyela.

In a short space of time Retief recovered the cattle which Chief Sekonyela of the Tlokwa had stolen and returned them to Dingaan. By then the Voortrekkers with their wagons and cattle were already streaming into the territory south of the Zulu kingdom. Dingaan who was deeply suspicious of Piet Retief and his followers was fully aware of the Boers military power.

He learned that they had defeated the Ndebele or amaNdebele also known as the Matabele (originally a branch of the Zulu people) and their leader Mzilikazi (Mosilikatze) in 1836/1837. This is what happened:

On 16 October, 1836, at Vegkop, near the present-day town of Heilbron, 5000 Matabele warriors led by Mzilikazi attacked Potgieter's laager. Thirty-three Afrikaner men and seven boys had defeated the 5000 Matabele's. The latter withdrew and made off with all the trekker stock. Only two Trekkers had been killed, one of them Nicholas Potgieter, brother of Hendrik Potgieter.

Punitive raids

On 16 January 1837 Potgieter and Maritz with a small force attacked Matabele kraals at Mosega killing scores of Matabele's. A second and final attack by Potgieter and Piet Uys on Mzilikazi and the Matabele's followed in October/ November 1837. An estimated 3000 Matabele's lost their lives while the remainder and their leader Mzilikazi fled north across the Limpopo.

A treaty between Dingaan and Retief was signed on the 4th of February 1838. By this treaty Dingaan ceded to them (the Voortrekkers) "the place called Port Natal (Durban) together with all the land from the Tugela to the Umzimvubu River westward and from the sea to the north as far as may be usefull" - this includes almost the entire colony of Natal.

Two days later, on 6 February 1838, the Zulu king overwhelmed by his brutal inconsistent nature and evil mind had Retief and his delegation executed on the hill of execution, called KwaMatiwane. Dingaan believed that they were wizards.

Zulu attacks and the massacre

After the murder of Retief and his delegation, Dingaan sent out thousands of Zulu impis to find and destroy the remainder of Retief's followers. The trekker encampments were spread over a vast area. From Colenso, on the south bank of the Tugela to Willowgrange, south of Estcourt. On 17 February 1838, early in the morning, Zulu impis attacked the Trekker families located in the area of the Little and Great Murder Spruits between the Blaauwekrans (Bloukrans) River and Bushmans River.

A great number of innocent men, women and children were killed and entire families wiped out at the Blaauwekrans camps. During the vicious onslaught the Zulus plundered and destroyed the camps and retired back across the Tugela River with about 25 000 cattle and sheep.

Some of the families unable to escape the massacre: Roussouw, Engelbrecht, De Beer, Bezuidenhout, Botha, Liebenberg, Smit,

The massacre that night became known as "the Great Murder", nowadays known as "The Bloukrans Massacre".

The town of Weenen (Dutch word for "weeping") was founded in 1838 at the site in memory of the massacre. The town was founded by the Voortrekkers after avenging the Bloukrans/Moordspuit massacre at the Battle of Blood River.



Images. 1) Bloukrans. 2) Dingaane (Dingane). *The Zulu king stood up and shouted Babulaleni abathakathi!(kill the wizards!)*

Series of attacks followed that same day. The Zulu impi turned towards Saailaer, south of Estcourt, site of Gerrit Maritz's laager overlooking a meander in the Bushmans River. However, the river being in flood at the time foiled the impi advance.

By forming a human chain, they attempted to cross the flooded river but the chain was broken repeatedly by shooting down impis in the centre.

In another attempt the Zulu impis moved up the Rensburg Spruit running between Willow Grange and the Bushman's river.

They attacked the van Rensburg family and other families there. The families fled to a nearby hill (Rensburg Koppie between Estcourt and Mooi River), where Martinus Oosthuizen came to their rescue.

The camps (family camps) west of Bloukrans River, escaped the Zulu onslaught: The Retief, Greyling and Erasmus Smit families at Doornkop, west of Chieveley, and many other camps nearby; camp of Sarel Naude (near Frere); Soolaer (near Loskop)....

Pursuit and revenge

The Trekkers Maritz, Sarel Cilliers, Greyling and others came to the assistance of the survivors and beleaguered families and in the process made an assault on the already retreating Zulu impis. The Zulus were pursued as far as the Tugela.

Many of them were driven into the fastness of the mountains and many others drowned in the Tugela River.

Battle of Ithaleri, southwest of Umgungundlovu

April 6, 1838, a counter attack on Zulu impis led by Piet Uys and Andries Potgieter turned into a disaster when Uys and his men were surrounded by Zulu impis. The battle that followed became known as the Battle of Ithaleri. The sad part of this battle was the shameful retreat of Potgieter and his commando. They deserted Uys and his men in their hour of despair.

A British expedition from Port Natal came to their assistance but it was too late. Uys and his son were amongst those who were killed. Potgieter's commando became known as the Vlugcommando (the fleeing commando). Back at the foot of the Drakensberg the Trekkers accused him of cowardice. Tired of being labelled a coward and traitor he and his followers left Natal and moved to Transorangia, the land between the Vet and Orange rivers. He then crossed the Vaal River and founded Potchefstroom (1838), original capital of the Transvaal. A couple of years later he moved from Potchefstroom to Andries- Ohrigstad, a town he founded in 1845. From here he moved to the Zoutpansberg where he founded the town Zoutpansberg- dorp (1848).

Battle of Veglaer 13 - 15 August

Afrikaner victory at Veglaer (The site situated near Estcourt is now covered by the Wagendrift Dam).

On August 13, 1838 families at this laer were attacked by more than 10 000 Zulu impis led by Ndlela. After three days and nights the Trekkers managed to defeat the enemy.

September 23, 1838, Gert Maritz dies after a long illness.

Battle of Blood River

When Andries Pretorius and 470 Voortrekkers (the wiencommando) with 64 wagons set out - in search of vengeance for the murder of Piet Retief, his men and for the massacre of men, women and children at Bloukrans - the Zulu general Ndlela was ordered to stop them as they crossed the Buffalo. To the Zulus the Tugela and its tributaries always marked the southern boundary of their land. Any person crossing the Tugela or its principal tributary the Buffalo was expected to have the permission of the Zulu king or face the penalty of death. The Trekkers crossed the Buffalo on the 15th of December. The Zulu impi found the Trekkers encamped between the Buffalo River and the Ncome River.

Pretorius aware of a large Zulu force approaching chose an area next to the Ncome River, which provided a rear protection.

The area provided no cover for an attacking force, and a deep dry riverbed protected one of the Trekker flanks. The ox wagons were drawn into a protective circle or laager. Movable wooden barriers that could be opened quickly were fastened between each wagon to prevent intruders, and two cannons were positioned.

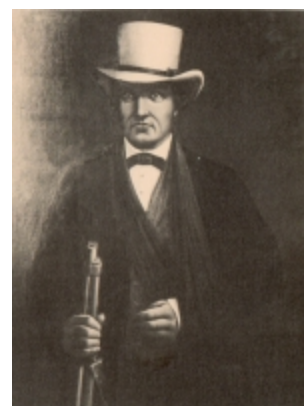
The 16th of December was the Day of the Vow. On that day in the year 1838, on the banks of the Ncome river 470 Voortrekkers took a public vow (or covenant) together before the battle between them and about 10 000 Zulu impi. In return for God's help in obtaining victory, they promised to build a church. Participants also vowed that they and their descendants would keep the day as a holy Sabbath. It was a decisive Voortrekker victory.

A monument was erected on the site of the battle in 1947, consisting of an ox wagon executed in granite by the sculptor Coert Steynberg. In 1971 a laager of 64 ox wagons cast in bronze was erected, and unveiled on 16 December 1998.

16 December 1838. The Battle of Blood River was fought between 470 Voortrekkers, led by Andries Pretorius, and an estimated 10,000 + Zulu attackers led by Dinganes generals Dambuza (Nzobo) and Ndlela kaSompisi. In the decisive Voortrekker victory, casualties amounted to three thousand Zulu deaths and three wounded Voortrekkers. The Ncome River became red with the blood of the slain and was from that day known as Blood River.

On that day the entire Zulu system was shaken by collision with the Voortrekkers. The Zulus lost not only the battle, but also the traditional home of their fathers. Their capital Umgungundlovu was captured and destroyed by invading whites and their king Dingaan became a fugitive and was finally driven into Swaziland, where he was assassinated by Zulu Nyawo, Sambane and Nondawana in 1843.

Dingaan was succeeded in 1840 by his brother Mpande following the former's overthrow in the same year by Mpanda with the help of 400 Trekkers led by Andries Pretorius.



Images. 1) Battle of Blood River. 2) Andries Pretorius

Republic of Natalia

After the Battle of Blood River the Voortrekkers (Boers) took possession of the land and established the Republic of Natalia in 1839.

During its existence (1839 - 1843) the Volksraad met in Pietermaritzburg, capital of the Republic. The name of the city commemorates Pieter Retief and Gert Maritz.

In this period, on 24 May 1842, Andries Pretorius defeated the British forces at Congella.

The Republic was annexed by the British imperialists in 1843 and proclaimed it a British colony on May 4, 1843.

Pietermaritzburg became the administrative centre. In the same year (1843) Dingaan was assassinated. In 1879 the British forces defeated the Zulus, and annexed Zululand to Natal.

Many of the Voortrekkers (Boers) who rejected British rule moved once more into new territory where they joined other Afrikaners who had settled north of the Orange and Vaal rivers. There they eventually established two republics, the South African Republic and the Orange Free State.

In 1848 Andries Pretorius fought the British forces but was defeated by Sir Harry Smith at Boomplaats, 29 August 1848. He then moved to the Transvaal.

Story of the Kaalvoet Vrou (Barefoot woman)

Susanna Smit, sister of Gert Maritz, was among those who rejected British rule. She would rather trek barefoot back over the mountain than live in Natal under British rule. A monument of a woman walking away from Natal was erected at Voortrekker Pass near Bergville in memory of her. Hendrik Potgieter dies on 16th December 1852. Andries Pretorius dies on 23rd July 1853.



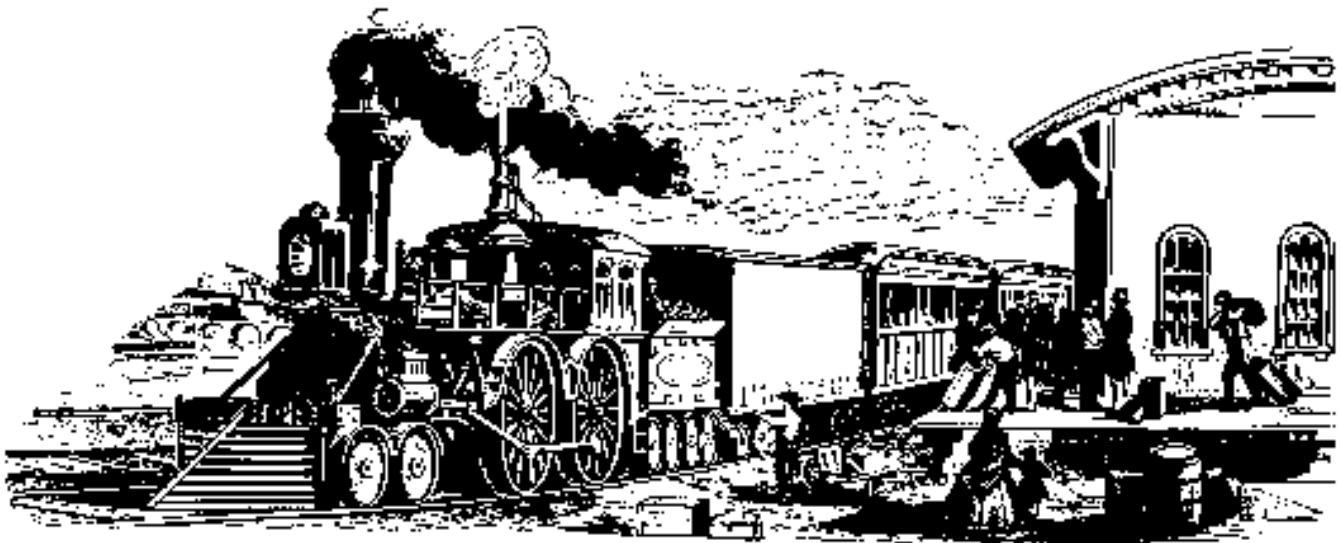
Kaalvoetvrou-monument. Foto: Erfenisstigting

Die Kruger Miljoene

Die verwydering van goud uit die S.A. Munt voor die val van Pretoria - 4 Junie 1900

Om mee te begin, goudmyne onder beheer van die destydse ZAR het op 'n beperkte skaal goud ontgin. Vandaar is die goud na die munt in Pretoria geneem.

Met die besetting van Pretoria op 5 Junie 1900 deur Britse soldate vind Lord Alfred Milner (1852 - 1925) dat goud, sommige van dit in half gemunte vorm ter waarde van duisende Ponde uit die S.A. Munt en die Nasionale Bank verwyder is. Die hoeveelheid goud en die waarde daarvan....wel, daaroor bestaan verskeie menings, soos die van Eli Levine, outeur van *The Coinage and Counterfeits of the Zuid Afrikaanshe Republiek*.



Wat het van die goud geword?

Vele verhale rondom hierdie goud doen die rondte.

Eli Levine het geglo dat Pres. Kruger dit of die meeste daarvan saam met hom op die skip Gelderland geneem het. Dit is egter hoogs onwaarskynlik.

Dan is daar ook sprake van goud wat in 'n spesifieke stadium (waarskynlik in Julie 1900) direk na Europa versend was, want word gesê, die Duitse stoomskip Bundersrath het 30 kiste goud van Lourenco Marques na Hamburg vervoer. Twee maande later is 'n verdere 100 kiste op 'n ander Duitse skip gelaai.

Some of the largest gold mines in the world were held within Boer territory and during the Second Boer war much of this gold was sent by rail through the neutral Portuguese harbor of Lourenco Marques (now Maputo), Mozambique to pay for arms and munitions. In the closing months of the war, some of this gold was shipped to Holland for Boer exiles fleeing the Transvaal, including President Paul Kruger.

Verhale rondom goud uit die ZAR myne word selfs verder teruggevoer. Die jaar 1898

Daar word ook gepraat van 'n eerste helfde van die staatsskat wat reeds in 1898 na die hawestad Lourenco Marques (vandag Maputo), die Portugese Kolonie Mocambique gebring en op drie skepe gelaai is, kiste vol goud en rou diamante - geeneen van die skepe bereik hul bestemming nie, aldus die volgende Duitse uittreksel.

Die erste Hälfte des Staatsschatzes wurde schon 1898 in die Hafenstadt Lourenco Marques (heute Maputo), der portugiesischen Kolonie Mocambique, gebracht und auf drei Schiffe geladen, welche die Kisten voll Gold und Rohdiamanten außer Landes bringen sollten - keines erreichte seinen Bestimmungsort.

Die volgende gedeelte sê dat die eerste skip tydens 'n warrelwind op see gesink het. Die tweede skip se manskappe het oorgegaan tot muitery, vermoor die kaptein en verdwyn. Die derde skip Dorothea vergaan by Kaap St.Lucia in 'n storm. Die skip breek in twee dele en sink byna dadelik. Die meeste matrose ontkom in reddingsbote. Die Dorothea lê in dieper waters. Die see is so stormagtig, dat die vele pogings om dit te "berg" gefaal het.

Eines kam in einen Wirbelsturm und sank - man weiß nicht einmal genau wo. Die wenigen Überlebenden der Katastrophe vermochten keine genauen Angaben zu machen. Auf dem zweiten Schiff meuterte die Mann- schaft, tötete den Kapitän und verschwand.

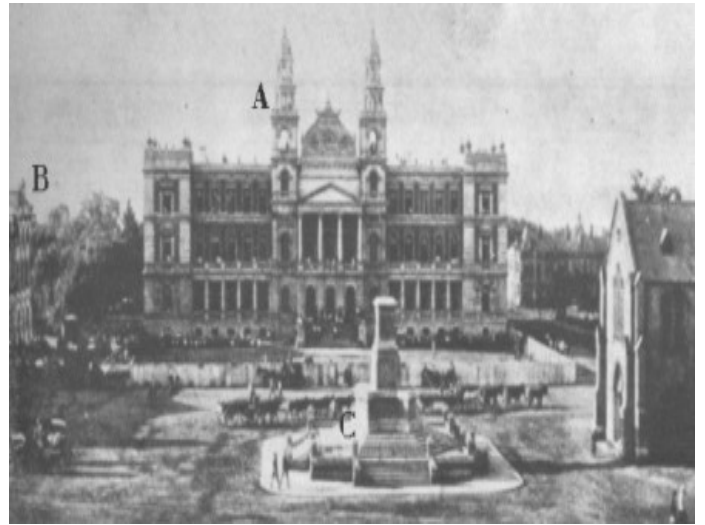
Das dritte Schiff, die "Dorothea", wurde vor Kap St. Lucia ebenfalls Opfer eines Sturmes. Es brach in zwei Teile und sank fast augenblicklich. Dennoch gelang es den meisten Matrosen, in den Rettungsbooten zu entkommen. Die "Dorothea" liegt in großer Tiefe. Die See ist vor dem Kap ständig so schwer, daß die wenigen Versuche zu ihrer Bergung gescheitert sind.

Oor hoeveel waarheid en juisheid hierdie verhale of wat ons dit ookal wil noem beskik kan ek nie bepaal nie. Feit is egter dat daar wel 'n groot hoeveelheid goud op 4 Junie 1900 verwyder was en uiteindelik in Lourenco Marques gearriveer het

Dr. Gustav Preller, wie in die tyd van die Anglo Boere oorlog, 'n klerk in die Departement van Myne was, laat geen twyfel dat 'n groot aantal goud wel Pretoria verlaat het nie. Dit was net 'n dag voor die Britte Pretoria op 5 Junie 1900 binnegeval het. Om 'n lang storie kort te maak vertel Preller hoe die proses verloop het om die goud te verwyder voor die Britte opdaag in Pretoria. Op 28 Mei ontvang hy opdrag om vervoer te reël omdat "baie belangrike goed uit Pretoria geneem moet word." Na 'n gesukkel vind hy in Sunnyside 'n ligte wa wat deur twee esels getrek word.

Net voor middernag arriveer hy daarmee op Kerkplein. Die wa word toe in 'n smal gang tussen die Nasionale Bank geboue, die Paleis van Justisie en die ou munt getrek. Daar in die teenswoordigheid van Genl. Jan Smuts is die goud gelaai. Preller was toe beveel om die wa na die ouditeur generaal by Pretoria stasie te neem. "Ek het op die goud gestaan net agter die drywer," het Preller gesê. Nog drie keer daardie nag het Preller goud na die stasie geneem waar dit op die presidensieële trein gelaai is.

Volgens Preller was hy nie seker of dit wel op 28 Mei was nie. Dit kon net sowel 4 Junie gewees het want dit is 'n historiese feit dat die goud op 4 Junie 1900 verwyder was. Volgens Ernest Meyer was dit wel op 4 Junie, die dag toe die eerste skote begin klap het by Sesmyl Spruit net buite Pretoria. Meyer was die meester van die Munt in 1900.



Fotos. Links. Genl. Jan Smuts. Regs. A) Die Paleis van Justisie op Kerkplein, Pretoria, net voor voltooiing.

Links (B) van die Paleis is die poskantoor en die staatsbank. In die voorgrond (C) is die vroeë voetstuk van die Kruger standbeeld. Na die Britse besetting van Pretoria op 5 Junie 1900 word die Paleis van Justisie gebruik as hospitaal (Die "Irish" hospitaal). Vanaf 1901 word die Paleis weer gebruik vir sy oorspronklike funksie.

Van Pretoria na Machadodorp

Vroeg oggend verlaat die trein Pretoria stasie en bereik Machadodorp in die namiddag. Hier het Meyer gehelp met uitbetalings in goud.

Van Machadodorp na Lourenco Marques

Met die vetrek van Meyer op 17 Julie 1900 word die goud "Kruger miljoene" onder toesig van Kommandant Meindert Noome, hoofklerk in die Kantoor van die Ouditeur Generaal, geplaas wanneer dit Machadodorp in Augustus verlaat. Op 31 Augustus 1900 is 62 kiste goud oorhandig aan 'n Duitse firma Wilken en Ackerman, in Lourenco Marques, Mosambiek. Die ZAR het krediet gekry vir die waarde van die goud. Daarmee kon Kommandant Noome groot hoeveelhede voedsel - 44 000 sak meelblom byvoorbeeld en ander voorrade aankoop, stoomskepe huur, en geïnterneerde boere versorg in Portugees-Oos-Afrika en Portugal. Groot bedrae is ook in Europa beskikbaar gestel vir die onderhoud van Boere vlugtelingen.

Meindert het ontken dat goud ooit na die laeveld geneem was - Dit nadat die vermoede ontstaan het dat die goud "Kruger Miljoene" verwyder en begrawe is en soektogte na die begraaft skat begin het. Die saak staan so:

Van Pretoria stasie sou die roete van die trein (gelaai met goud) na Lourenco Marques deur die laeveld gaan: na Middelburg, vandaar na Belfast, Machadodorp, Waterval Boven, Nelspruit - voor hul vertrek uit Nelspruit word 'n groot hoeveelheid van die goud na bewering op drie verskillende plekke begrawe. vinnige opmars van die Britse soldate en om te sorg dat die goud nie in hul hande beland nie, het die Boere genoodsaak om die goud te begrawe.



Tekening. Sunday Times Lifestyle.

Volgens Schwartz was twee waens gelaai met goud na Spitzkop, 'n mynkamp in die Oos Transvaal drakensberg tussen Belfast en Pelgrimsrus, geneem....daar in die berge en valleie is die eerste klomp goud begrawe.

'n Paar dae later word Swaziland deur Bremersdorp en die Komati Rivier binnegegaan. Hulle bereik 'n plek tussen Swart Pelosse en Witte Pelosse. Hier het Genl. Lucas Meyer 'n plek uitgewys waar 'n volgende hoeveelheid goud begrawe moes word. Na bewering word 'n derde hoeveelheid goud by Devil's Knuckles, naby Pelgrimsrus begrawe. 'n Wyle daarna glip Pres. Kruger oor die Transvaal grens na Mosambiek.

Ondertussen het die Boere by Lydenburg 'n wakende oog oor die laaste klein hoeveelheid goud gehou. Met die nuus dat die Britte die dorp gaan inneem vetrek die Boere na Roos Senekal. Van die goud het toe na die kommando's gegaan. Dit wat oorgebly het, het in die finale stadium van die oorlog verdwyn.

Der Staatsschatz der Buren wurde vermutlich im Bereich der Eisenbahnstrecke von der Hauptstadt zum Indischen Ozean in einzelnen Etappen versteckt. Der Weg des Sonderzuges führte zunächst von Pretoria in Richtung Matchadodorp am Elands River. In diesem Bergland lebte damals zuverlässige Burenkämpfer, die den Staatsschatz auf keinen Fall an das britische Militär ausgeliefert hätten. In einem Eisenbahntunnel, der heute nicht mehr in Betrieb ist, war der Sonderzug später für einige Zeit abgestellt gewesen, um über das Schicksal der Tonnen von Gold zu beraten. Ohm Krüger sollte nach den Beschlüssen der Beratungen zunächst in Europa Hilfe holen und dann durch den Verkauf des Goldes eine neue Verteidigung finanzieren.

Das Bergland von Waterval Boven ist noch in unserer Zeit eine Wildnis mit zahlreichen Schluchten und Höhlen und bot sicherlich während der Burenkriege vielfältige Verstecksmöglichkeiten. Von der Eisenbahnstation Matchadodorp aus soll die Mehrheit des Goldes mit Ochsenkarren zu Verstecken in die Wildnis gebracht worden sein.

Soektog na die Kruger Miljoene

Wat ookal geskiedkundige gegewens te sê het, mense glo onwrikbaar in die bestaan van hope goud wat êrens begrawe lê. Met 'n bietjie geduld en wysheid....wie weet? So onlangs het iemand die Kruger Miljoene in die berge van Barberton gaan soek. En min of meer in dieselfde tyd is 'n plaas in Ermelo omgekeer. Nie juis dat die eienaar omgee het nie, want sien, het hy gereken, ten minste word sy grond nou omgekeer en dit sonder om vir die arbeid te betaal. Nou ja, geen goud is gevind nie, nie eens 'n goue Kruger muntstuk nie.

Die Anglo Boere Oorlog - Die Beleg van Ladysmith



Die oorlog begin op 11 Oktober 1899 en word op vele fronte in die land gevoer.

Uitbreek van die oorlog - Aan die Natalse Front

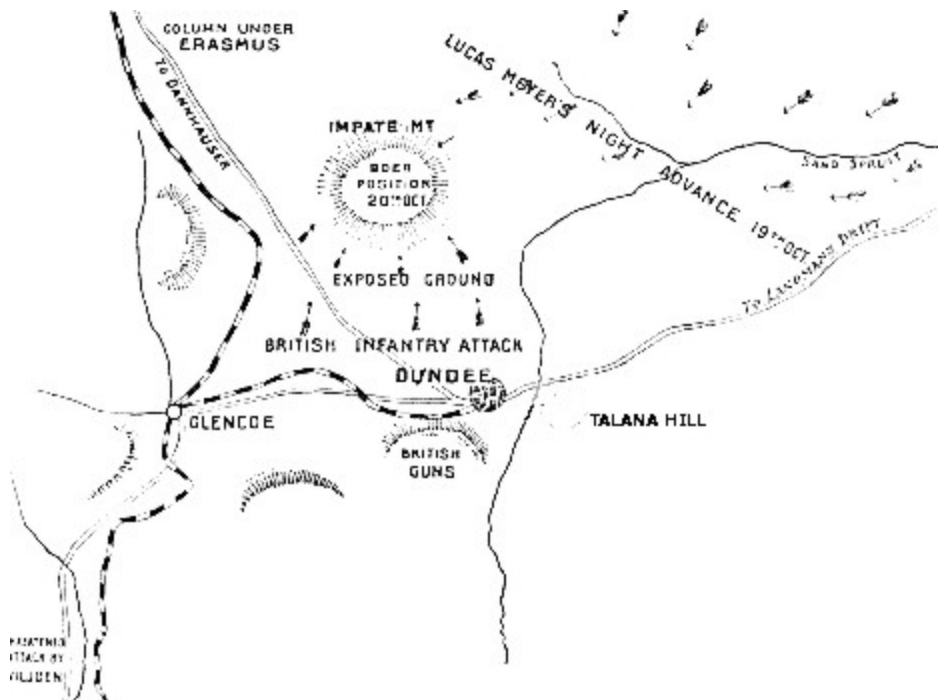
Met die uitbreek van die oorlog was die Britse magte saamgetrek by Dundee. 4000 soldate het onder aanvoering van Genl. Penn Symons gestaan en by Ladysmith 8000 soldate onder aanvoering van Genl. Sir George White.

Desondanks het duisende gewapende boere van die Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek (Transvaal) en Oranje Vrystaat die Britse kolonie van Natal binnegeval.

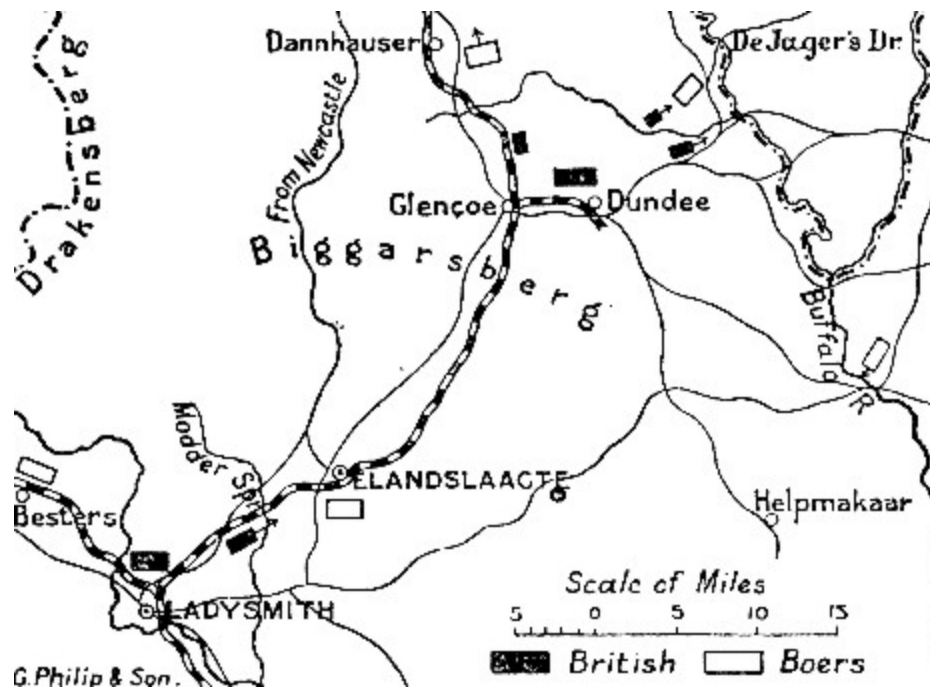
Beleg van Ladysmith

Onder aanvoering van Generaals P. Joubert, C.J. Meyer, O.J.E. Erasmus en J.H.M. Kock lei die Republikeinse magte twee nederlae teen die Britse magte - Die Slag van Dundee by die Talana en Lennoxheuwels op 20 Oktober 1899 en met die Slag van Elandslaagte op 21 Oktober 1899 - hier word Genl Kock ernstig gewond. Hy sterf kort daarna.

Kaart: Engelse en Boere posisies by die slag van Glencoe (Slag van Talana)



Kaart: Engelse en Boere posisies by die Slag van Elandslaagte

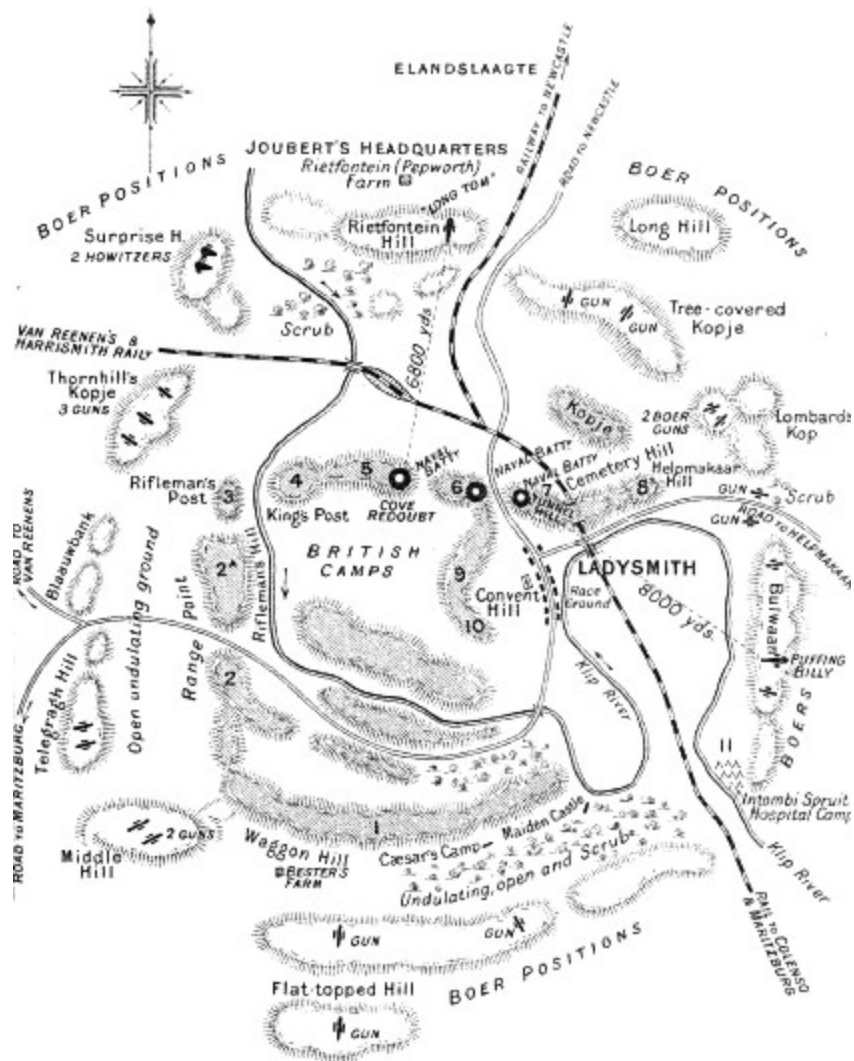


Ongeag die terugslae slaag die Vrystaatse Kommando's daarin om die Britse magte by Rietfontein te weerstaan.

Die datum, 24 Oktober 1899. Die oorwinning bring mee dat die Transvaalse en Vrystaatse magte verenig.

Hierdie verenigde magte bestaande uit verskillende kommando's onder bevel van Genl. Joubert het om Ladysmith begin saamtrek en word heuwels Nicholsonsnek, Pepworth Hill, Umbulwana en Long Hill in die proses beset.

Kaart: Posisies om Ladysmith. Nov.1899



Vir die Britse magte in Ladysmith het hierdie saamtrek van Boere kommando's niks goed ingehou nie. In 'n poging om die Boere terug te dryf loods Genl. White 'n teenoffensief. Dié was fataal - Genl. Carleton word deur kommandant Christiaan de Wet in die heuwels verslaan en Kol. Grimwood lei 'n groot nederlaag met die Slag van Modderspruit. (29/30 Oktober). Vir French en Hamilton het sake ook nie goed verloop nie. Verdere nederlae vanaf Nicholsonsnek tot by Umbulwana bring mee dat duisende Britse soldate terugval na Ladysmith. Hier sou Genl.

George White, sy 527 offisiere, 12 924 soldate en 700 vlugtinge tesame met die inwoners vir die volgende 118 dae vasgekeer sit, want op 2 November 1899 word die dorp beleër - die beleg het voortgeduur tot 28 Februarie 1900.



Foto: Ladysmith

Memories of the Boer War.

Summary of my active service as! Oudstryder at the age of 16 with the South African Republic Forces.

I certify that this is a true statement of my service with the South African Republican.

As a civil servant of the Republic, was called up for active service the middle of September 1899. Before the declaration of war we were camped at Landspruit near Volksrust, from where i was assigned to do duty with "Long Tom." Staats Artillery under Corp. Ted Rodgers, "platform emplacement section."

Soon after the declaration of war we loaded Long Tom at Charlestown for Dannhauser and from there by team of mules overland to a hill north of Dundee facing town and military camp. Thursday, friday, saturday, fixed Long Tom into position. Monday morning white flags over camp and town. British troops fled sunday night.

We were then ordered to dismantle our gun and proceed to Ladysmith. (Bad weather). On the way we heard the roar of battle at Elandslaagte E. of Ladysmith. Eventually arrived and camped N. of Pepworth's Kop where we made the platform for Long Tom to face Ladysmith.

Here the biggest gun battle of the war was fought with the enemy. 30th October, many of our artillerymen as well as their doctor Holts was killed near me. Our superior French 15lb soon put the Armstrongs out of action.

Beginning December we again moved the gun to a higher position facing E. of Ladysmith overlooking the town from Mount M'Bulwan. Middle of December was given a mount and transferred to Pretoria Dorp Commando.

Then near to Nicolson's Neck and Kop; under Genl. Erasmus, Field Cornet Leadeberg and Asst. F.C. de Jaager who was killed in the battle 6th January, 1900. The British were concentrating troops near Spion Kop.

I with 49 others were sent off to strengthen the position the day of the big battle there, a day after the British retreated back to Colenso. We returned to base camp "Volmoed" only to be ordered a week later with 50 others to go with Com. Erasmus and Corp. Nel to Colenso. From where after treachery and "British Cavalry breakthrough to Ladysmith", we were ordered back to Nicolson Nek camp.

Soon after all our forces were retreating and what a retreat! Rain and more rain and mud. Thank goodness President Kruger was rushed from Pretoria by train and stopped us at the Biggarsberg Pass, "near Dundee junction." Here we halted and reformed our men. Just then a bigger threat; Roberts with 1/4 million men advancing through O.V.S. joined up Land River south of Kroonstad; from where it was delayed actions and then retreat. Was under Max Theunissen F.C. Was captured with some men south of Silverton, taken to Pretoria and after two days let out on parole.

Die ontsetting van Ladysmith – 28 Februarie 1900



Terwyl die grootste aantal soldate van die Republikeinse magte om Ladysmith saamgetrek was, het Genl. Joubert met 'n klein mag in die rigting van Colenso beweeg. Die dorpie word op 8 November 1899 beset. Met die besetting val die Britse soldate terug na die sterker mag in Estcourt.

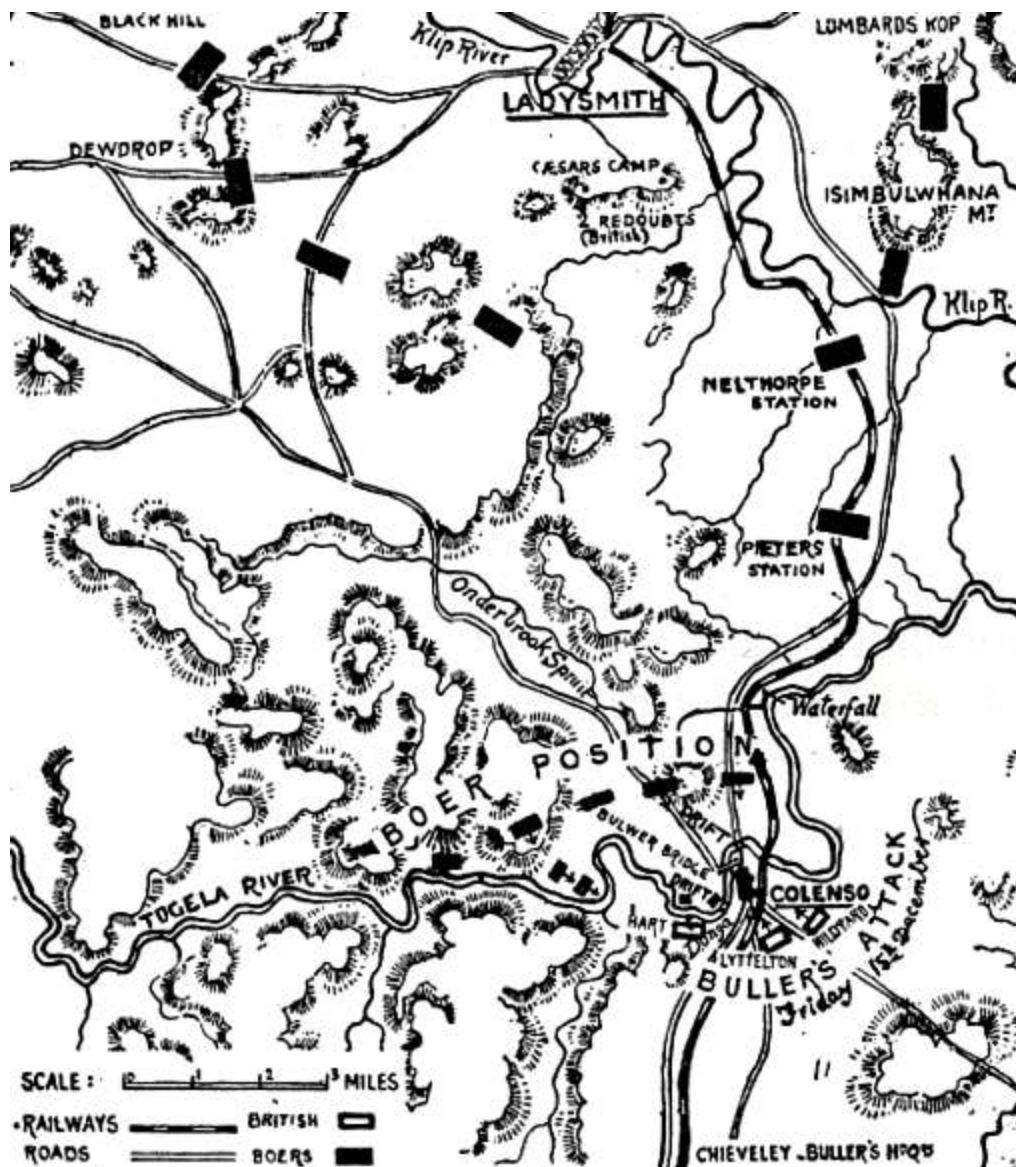
Op die dag van 13 November beweeg Joubert in die rigting van Estcourt maar teen die tyd het die Britse magte reeds stelling ingeneem in die Estcourt en Mooirivier omgewing. Botsings met Britse soldate het gevolg: naby Frere (15 Nov), Willow Grange (23 Nov) en Mooirivier. In die tyd word die Britse garnisoen by Frere versterk deur meer Britse soldate wat opdaag in Durban. Uit vrees vir 'n Britse oormag draai Genl. Joubert om en keer terug na Colenso.

Genl. Louis Botha word aangestel as bevelhebber van die Republikeinse magte in die plek van Genl. Joubert, nadat laasgenoemde beseer is by Frere. Onder Botha se bevel het die boere stelling ingeneem ten noorde van die Tugela by Colenso. Dit gebeur op 22 November 1899.

Die Republikeinse magte se ondergang het gekom met Genl. Buller. Op 14 Oktober vertrek hy van Brittanje. Op 31 Oktober arriveer hy in Kaapstad en op 28 November 1899 in Pietermaritzburg en op 6 Desember in Frere.

Maar eers het Buller en sy mede hoë offisiere soos onder andere Katache en Woodgate die Boere kommando's onderskat - die Britse magte het aan die suide van Colenso stelling ingeneem. Die mees aangewese roete om aan te val en uiteindelik deur te beweeg na Ladysmith was via Colenso, so het die Britte gereken.

Kaart. Posisies by die Slag van Colenso



Die eerste aanslag wat volg stuur op 'n groot ramp af want op 15 Desember 1899 lei Buller en die Britse magte 'n groot nederlaag met die Slag van Colenso. Die tweede aanslag word gefnuik met die Slag van Spioenkop (23/24 Jan 1900). Die derde aanval stuur ook op 'n algehele ramp af met die Slag van Vaalkrans (5 - 8 Feb 1900).

Buller se aansien het 'n laagtepunt bereik. Sy vierde offensief begin op 17 Feb 1900 met 'n aanval op die boere magte wat oos van Hlangwane stelling ingeneem het. Die keer behaal die Britse magte 'n oorwinning.

Hlangwane, Cingola en Monte Cristo val in hul hande op 18 Feb 1900. Hierna beweeg die Britse magte op 23 Feb oor die Tugela. Gevegte breek uit by Wynne's Hill en Harts Hill. Daarna volg die finale bastion Pietershoogte. Die boere gee uiteindelik in onder die aanslae. Die pad na Ladysmith het nou oopgelê. Op 28 Feb kom die eerste Britse troepe in Ladysmith aan. Daarna volg Buller op 1 Maart 1900.

Die boere, verslaan en verslae, het nou begin terugval. Die grootste terugslag het gekom met die val van Pretoria op 5 Junie 1900.

'n Vader skryf aan 'n familie lid in Purmer, Gemeente Edam, Holland. 31 Maart 1900:

Mijn oudste zoon en ik vertrokken op den 22ste Januari 1900 naar het Pretoria Lager te Ladysmith, wij zijn er gebleven tot den 27ste Feb. tot het terugtocht naar Glencoe, het geschiedde zoo plotseling dat wij bijna alles achterlieten n.l. tenten, kleederen en provisie. De Engelschen arriveerden omtrent zeven ure des s'avonds in Ladysmith, toen werd een Hoozee door ons burgers gehoord uit Ladysmith, met eens barsten de kanonen op ons brandwacht los die orders kregen om te retireeren. Wij hadden dien nacht een vreeselijke onweder, het was erg donker en regende en donderde zoo als wij het nog nooit te voren hebben ondervonden, onze burgers moesten in die weder omtrent acht uur te voet door modder heen wandelen naar Elandslaagte; alle Laagers zijn nu nabij Glencoe statie in de Biggars bergen geconcentreerd. Ik ben erg ziek geweest, en was in den Nederlandsche Roode kruis hospitaal te Modderspruit, en werd zeer goed door hen verpleegd, van daar werd ik door hen naar Pretoria gezonden. Ik gevoel mij nu veel beter, en ben weer op kantoor, mijn zoon is achtergebleven.



Boere krygsgevangenes – Boere-geïnterneerdes in Portugal

Boere krygsgevangenes

Uit vrees vir plaaslike simpatiseerdes wat die Boere krygsgevangenes kon bevry besluit Brittanje om van hierdie Boere oorsee te stuur. Sowat 6000 van hulle is uiteindelik na kampe te Deadwood en Broadbottom in St.Helena en sowat 5000 na Ceylon. Ongeveer 4600 na Bermuda en ander is geneem na Indië.

Portugal het sowat 1443, waarvan die meeste krygsgevangenes was.

Boere-geïnterneerdes in Portugal. 1901 – 1902

Namate die Britse opmars tydens die oorlog gevorder het, het daar by vreemdelinge wat aan die Boerekant geveg het, maar ook by die Boeregesinne uit die Kaapkolonie, Natal, die Vrystaat en Transvaal 'n begeerte ontstaan om elders 'n tydelike heenkome te probeer vind. Om die naderende oorlogsgevaar te ontkom, het hulle na Mosambiek uitgewyk. Om gevangeneming vry te spring, het meer as 700 burgers die Mosambiekse grens oorgesteek en hul wapens op 18 September 1900 neergelê – 'n voorbeeld wat later deur nog burgers nagevolg is. Onder die Boere wat die grens oorgesteek het, was leidende figure soos Genl. F.J. Pienaar en kommandante H.P. Mostert, N.J. Grobler en W.J. Geerling.

Weens onvoeldoende huisvestingfasaliteite in Lourenco Marques, maar ook onder druk van die Engelse, het die Portugese owerheid besluit om die Boere-geïnterneerdes na Portugal te stuur. Met uitsondering van buitelandse vrywilligers, wat met die Oostenrykse skip Styria na Triëst verskeep is, en geïnterneerde burgers wat hulle aan die Engelse owerheid in Lourenco Marques oorgegee het, is die ander Boere en hul gesinne aanboord van die transportskepe Benguella en Zaire na Portugal gestuur.

Genl. Pienaar en enkele ander geïnterneerdes is met die Portugese oorlogskip Afonso de Albuquerque na Portugal gebring. Hierdie meer as duisend geïnterneerdes is in begin Maart 1901 in groepe kort na mekaar na Portugal verskeep. Direk na hul aankoms in Lissabon is die Boere-geïnterneerdes per trein na 'n sestal dorpe in sentraal-Portugal vervoer, waar hulle vir ongeveer twee jaar sou vertoef. Hierdie dorpe was: Tomar, 143 km noordoos van Lissabon; Abrantes 'n pragtige stadje in die middel van Portugal; Alcobaco, 108 km noord van Lissabon; Caldas da Rainha, 100 km noord van Lissabon; Penice, 'n belangrike vissershawe, 96 km van Lissabon en Oeiras, ongeveer 19 km wes van Lissabon. Net buite die dorp langs die see is Fort de Sao Juliao de Barra geleë. Wederstrewige boere was hier aangehou.

In 1902 het die Boere na Suid Afrika teruggekeer. Enkeles, soos onder ander die wat met Portugese in die huwelik getree het, het in Portugal aangebly.

Die geïnterneerdes wat met die Zaire op 25 April 1901 in Portugal aangekom het, keer terug na Suid Afrika op 18 Julie 1902.

Meer omtrent Caldas da Rainha en die geïnterneerdes daar

351 Boere-geïnterneerde mans, vroue en kinders het daar gewoon. Hulle kon later in huise in die dorp gaan woon. Baie het dit dan ook gedoen. Caldas da Rainha beteken Die Koningin se Warmwaterbad en het sy ontstaan te danke aan koningin Leonor.

Op 'n dag reis koningin Leonor, vrou van koning Joao II, vanaf Bidos (6km suid van Caldas da Rainha) na Batalha. Onderweg na die dorp sien sy hoe mense in modderige water met 'n onaangename reuk bad om van hul kwale genees te word. Die mense vertel haar toe dat die water goed is vir rumatiek. Sy self bad toe in die water en word genees. Uit dankbaarheid het sy in 1485 'n hospitaal laat bou. Die hospitaal is in 1892 vervang deur 'n nuwe gebou (Thermal Hospital Queen Leonor) en in die sale Santa Isabel, Santa Antonia en San José is geïnterneerde Boere-offisiere gehuisves.



Foto 1: Pavilhões do Parque in Parque D. Carlos I (Parque D. Carlos I is 'n groot park). Pavilhões do Parque, was eens militêre barakke waarin Boere op Caldas da Rainha geïnterneer was. Foto 2.mal Hospital Queen Leonor (Hospital Termal Rainha D.Leonor)

They built South Africa. The European influence.



Table Mountain, Cape Town



Images. Jan van Riebeeck, first commander of the Cape of Good Hope arrives in Table Bay on 6 April 1652 with 90 men.

Introduction

South Africa is to a large extent Eurocentric, known as the First World. Its infrastructure, first world economy, modern facilities, roads, highways, cities, towns, etc compare favourably with that found in any Western European country and the USA. Early settlers from Western Europe laid the foundations of this First World component.

The Portuguese were the first Europeans to reach the Cape of Good Hope, arriving in 1488. However, settlement did not begin until 1652 when the Dutch East India Company established a refreshment station on the shores of Table Bay. The establishment of these settlements would have far-reaching effects on the South African region.

The directors of the company were known as the Heren XVII (The Lords Seventeen) and they chose Jan van Riebeeck as the first commander because he had spent almost a year in Table Bay after a shipwreck and knew the conditions of the place. Van Riebeeck remained at the Cape until 1662, when he was succeeded as commander by Zacharias Wagenaer. Later the rank of the man in charge at the Cape was raised to governor.

In 1657 the company released some of its employees from its service and set them up as independent farmers and free burghers; they could sell the produce of their farms to the company at fixed prices. By 1679 the free burghers, who were of Dutch and German stock, had settled at Stellenbosch. They reached Drakenstein a decade later, and then their numbers were augmented by the French Huguenots. By 1700 the settlement had reached the Tulbach district, but what was known as the Land of the Waveren was not open to settlement, ownership remaining vested and strictly vested, in the company, for here were its most important cattle posts.

These early settlers were the nucleus of what was to become the white population of South Africa. From 1717 onwards the free burghers, especially the pastoralists among them, began to move inland, and by the end of the century there were farmers and settlements stretching from the neighbourhood of the Orange River in the north to the Great Fish River in the east. Areas occupied included the Kango, Outeniqualand, Langkloof, Tsitsikama, Camdeboo (Graaff- Reinet), Zwartkops, Bruintjes Hoogte, Zwagershoek and the Zuurveld, while the population of white men, women, and children was about 11 000. The first frontier war began in 1779, signalling the confrontation between the white settlers and the Xhosa-speaking tribes in the east.

In September 1795 the British captured the Cape of Good Hope ending about a century and a half of the company's rule.

When the French overran the Netherlands in 1795 the House of Orange asked Britain to occupy the Cape in order to keep the French out.

From 1795 to 1806 the Cape changed hands three times: the British captured it in 1795; the British handed it over to the Batavian Republic in 1803; then the British took it from the Batavian Republic in the first days of 1806 after the battle of Blaauwberg. In 1814 the Dutch ceded to Britain what had in fact been a British possession since 1806.



Images. 1) Stellenbosch 1779. 2) Oud(old) Burgerwachthuis Cape Town 1764

They came and they built - the Dutch, the French, the English, the Germans, the Afrikaners,...) contributed enormously to the development of the South African region and the opening up of its interior and the coming of Western civilization to this part of the world. Today we witness the evidences of these wonderful achievements on African soil.

They improved agriculture, created industries, established economic and social systems, established banks (the first bank was the Lombard Bank in Cape Town, 1793), started businesses, established church denominations (Dutch Reformed, Anglican, Methodist, Presbyterian,...), erected churches in most towns, conducted Christian Missions,.....



Images. Winelands and a wine estate in our modern age

They built bridges roads and open the passes

Sir Lowry Cole (1772 - 1842) realized the importance of decent roads and passes. Under the design and ability of men such as John Montagu, Andrew Geddes Bain and Bain's son Thomas the construction of bridges, making of passes and building of roads were undertaken - Bain's built van Ryneveld Pass in 1832, Michell's Pass, Bain's Kloof or Pass as well as the Queen's Road between Grahamstown and Fort Beaufort. Montagu created an excellent network of roads and passes. Thomas built the road from George to Knysna as well as the Tzitzikamma road and passes: Grey, Tulbach, Kloof, Prince Alfred, Robinson, Tradouw, Garcia, Cogman's Kloof, Swartberg and Seven Weeks Poort.



Images. 1) Prince Alfred Pass. 2) Swartberg Pass



Seweweekspoort

Seweweekspoort (Seven Weeks Poort)

It's possibly one of the most magnificent and spectacular of all the mountain ravines in South Africa. The Seweweekspoort is one of three major gateways linking the Central Karoo with the Little Karoo in the Cape Province. It winds for 17km through the mountains at a level of 600-1000m above sea-level. The scenic gravel road that meanders through Seweweekspoort is known as the Smugglers Route. This was the way brandy smugglers travelled. The area itself with its vast plains and blue mountains once sheltered runaway slaves, smugglers and outlaws.

They established education

Prior to 1838 education in Cape Town was in a poor state as it was in most of the colony. The first school was opened in the time of Jan van Riebeeck in 1658, and was followed by a number of others run in conjunction with the Dutch Reformed Church. After the coming of the British similar schools were opened by English churches. James Rose Innes (1799 - 1873), a Scot, became the first superintendent-general of education in the Cape Colony. A government education department was also established. The South African College (the present University of Cape Town) was founded in 1829. By the 1840's the Cape Colony was operating a system of centrally controlled Public Schools. Under this system, Stellenbosch was recognized as a divisional centre for education. In 1866 under the new Education Act the local Public School was reorganized as a First Class Public School, also to be known as the Stellenbosch Gymnasium. The latter set up by the Dutch Reformed Church became the Stellenbosch College in 1881 and in 1887 was renamed Victoria College of Stellenbosch. In 1918 it became the University of Stellenbosch. The St. Andrew's College in Grahamstown was founded in 1855.

They established libraries

It can be tentatively assumed that the original building of the Graaff-Reinet library is today the oldest library building in South Africa which still serves as a library. The library dates from the early 1830's. In 1830 there were approx. 800 volumes with 51 subscribers. On the 4th of August 1847, the central section of the present library building, as well as quarters for the librarian, built on an adjacent plot were erected at a cost of 1200 Pounds. In 1853 the government donated this ground, and by 1854 all debt had been paid off. Proof of the progress and development of the public library is expressed in an article written in 1870, by the correspondent "Fairplay". He considered that the Graaf-Reinet library is one of the noblest institutions in our colony. Inferior only to the Cape Town library in the number of its books, not in the selection, and certainly superior to all other Colonial libraries in South Africa.

In 1818 Lord Charles Somerset founded the South African Public Library and it is still in existence.

More libraries started in other colonial towns; Grahamstown, Port Elizabeth, Kimberley, etc.

Libraries were also started in the Orange Free State and the Transvaal.

They introduced science and technology

Astronomy led to the British establishing an observatory at the Cape. Zoologists, botanists and geologists studied the animals, plants and the land of the region. Technological developments centred mainly around the mining industry.

They built South Africa. The European influence.

They built railways and introduced transport

Importance of Railways in those early days: "Petitioners are deeply convinced of the importance to the colony, both commercially and sociall, of opening up communications between the Inland Districts and the different ports of the colony, and that nothing would tend so much to the rapid advancement of this country as a line of Railway connecting the most important agricultural districts with the large towns and ports of shipment in either province."

Natal had the first railway in South Africa, the line from the Point to Durban's market square being opened in June 1860. Years later lines were planned up the North Coast, down to the South Coast. And inland over the Drakensberg. In 1880 the South Coast line reached Isipingo and in the same year Camperdown and on 1 December Pietermaritzburg. In December 1885 the line reached Estcourt and in June Ladysmith. Glencoe was reached in 1889 and New Castle in 1890, in 1891 Transvaal and in the same year the border of the Free State. The first railway line at the Cape was opened in 1862. By 1890 the main line from Cape Town, running through De Aar and Kimberley had reached Vryburg. The Railway line to Johannesburg from Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London completed in 1892. It reached Pretoria in 1893. The Railway line between Lourenco Marques (now Maputo in Mosambique) and Johannesburg opened in 1894. The first locomotive was brought to South Africa in 1859.



Images. 1) Graaff-Reinet Railway Station. The railway line from Port Elizabeth was opened in Graaff-Reinet in 1879. The first train arrived on Monday afternoon, 25 August 1879, at 17:00 with 200 passengers 2) The Railway line to Middelburg.

They put up buildings



Images. East London Town Hall. Pietermaritzburg Town Hall. Church Square in Pretoria.

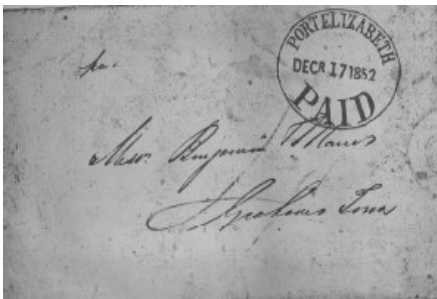


The Union Buildings, National Monument of Reconciliation and Union between the Afrikaners and the British.... [The Union of South Africa](#)

They introduced a postal service

The first dated handstamp to be used in the Cape was in 1816. Distinctive post office letter stamps, with a crown in the middle of a single line circle, with "POST OFFICE" in the upper half and the name of the town below, were issued in 1817 to Cape Town, Simonstown, Stellenbosch and Uitenhage. In 1818 Paarl, Tulbagh, Caledon, Swellendam, George and Graaff-Reinet received similar issues. By 1824, with the opening of further post offices at Cradock, Somerset, Port Elizabeth, Worcester, Clanwilliam, Grahamstown, Beaufort, Kowie and Bathurst, 19 of these handstamps were in use.

By 1849 the postal service from Cape Town to Grahamstown was running three times a week.



Images. A letter dating back to 1852. Transvaal stamp 1885. Orange Free State stamp 1868.

They introduced fashion

A Century of Women's Fashion (1800's - 1900's)

Johannesburg grew rapidly after the discovery of gold; it was a dramatic and continual growth which is still going on. In 1886 houses were built of wood and corrugated iron, often transported in sections by ox-wagon all the way from Pietermaritzburg. Many of these easily assembled homes soon covered the flat plain on which the city arose. [Women's Fashion in early Johannesburg \(1800's - 1900's\)](#)

Fashion in the early 1900's



They introduced sports

The first tennis court, built about 1889 in Harrison street, Johannesburg.



They introduced the car

On 4 January 1887 in the august presence of President Paul Kruger, his perky State Secretary, Dr W.J. Leyds and the public who had paid half-a-crown each to be there, a Pretoria merchant John Percy Hess introduced the invention of the age, the horseless carriage, and nothing was the same thereafter. South Africa's first car, a Benz Velo, manufactured by Karl Benz of Mannheim, Germany, looked like a one-horse-gig minus shafts, with a dashboard, candle lights and wire-spoked wheels. It was fuelled by imported benzine.

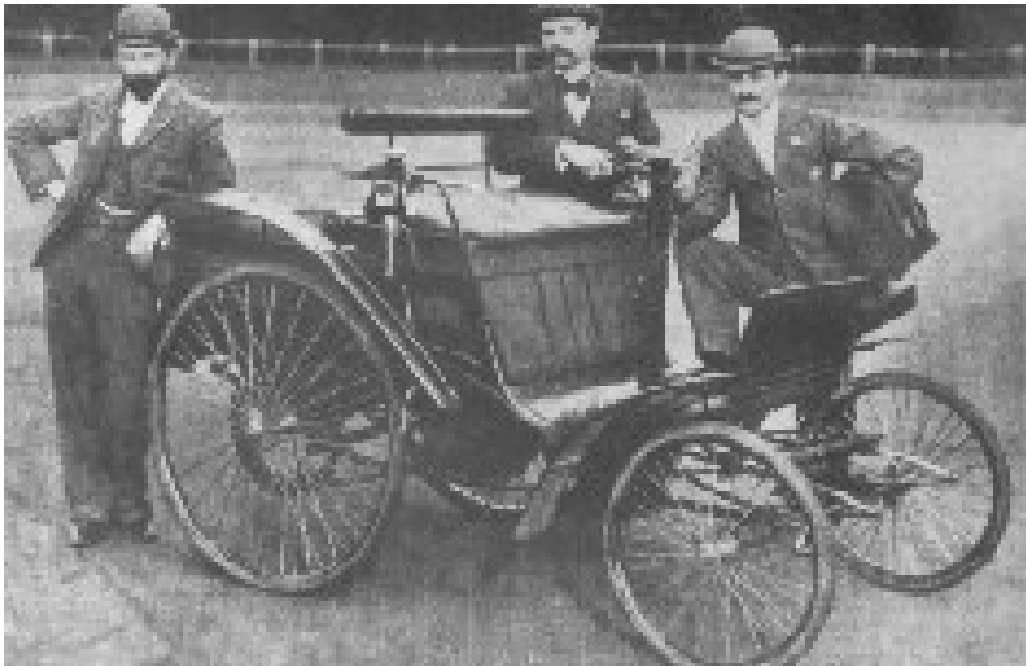


Image. The Benz Velo. The owner was Mr J.P.Hess (right) and the driver at the first showing in 1887 at Berea Park, Pretoria, was Mr A.E. Reno (left), co-owner of the Pretoria News.

They created infrastructure, founded and developed towns and cities.



Images: Johannesburg City (left) and Pretoria City (right) in the 1890's The infrastructure of those towns, buildings, houses, churches, etc express their spirit, interests and ideals and reflect their ways of living and building.



Adderley Street. Cape Town. 1897

Towns and cities founded and developed in South Africa 1600 - 1900.

These are only a small number of the many towns founded by the British and Boers across the country.

Towns and cities founded and developed in the Western Cape and Eastern Cape

Western Cape

Cape Town

It's the oldest city in South Africa and very much Eurocentric. It's the legislative capital and second largest city in the country and was founded by Jan van Riebeeck on April 6, 1652, when he set up a fort for the Dutch East India Company (VOC).



VOC fort at the foot of Table Mountain

Stellenbosch

It's the second oldest town in South Africa. Was founded in 1679 by Governor Simon van der Stel. The town has been a leading educational centre.

Swellendam

The town was founded in 1745 and named after Governor Hendrik Swellengrebel and his wife Engela ten Damme whom he married in 1728.

Simonstown

A naval base. It's name is derived from Governor Simon van der Stel.

Tulbagh

The town was named after Governor Ryk Tulbagh. A church was built in 1743 and the village laid out in 1795 in an area previously known as Het Land van Waveren.



Eastern Cape

Graaff-Reinet

Gem of the Karoo. Founded in 1786 and named after Governor van de Graaff and his wife Reinet van de Graaff.

Grahamstown

Founded in 1812 by Colonel John Graham.

Cradock

The town was founded in 1814 and named after Governor Sir John Cradock.

Port Elizabeth

Seaport and manufacturing city founded in 1820 and named after Lady Elizabeth Donkin, wife of Sir Rufane Shaw Donkin.



Port Elizabeth-Monument erected in honour of Elizabeth Donkin

Towns and cities founded and developed in South Africa 1600 - 1900.

Towns and cities founded and developed in the Northern Cape, KwaZulu Natal, Gauteng and the Free State

Northern Cape

Upington

The town was originally called Olyvenhoutdrift but renamed in 1885 after Sir Thomas Upington.

Kimberley

Diamond city named after the Earl of Kimberley. It was founded in 1871.

Kuruman

The town was founded in 1821.

Barkly West

A town in Griqualand West was founded in 1870 under the name of Klipdrift.

Britstown

The town about 48km west of De Aar was founded in 1877.

Port Nolloth

A town on the north-western coast named after Commander M.S. Nolloth was founded in 1855.

KwaZulu Natal

Ladysmith

The town originally named Windsor was founded in 1851 and named after the wife of Governor Sir Harry Smith, Lady Juana Smith.

Durban

A wellknown city, harbour, largest seaport and seaside resort of South Africa was founded in 1824. Named after Governor Sir Benjamin D'Urban.

Mooi River (Beautiful River)

Known for farming and trout-fishing.

Stanger

A town named after Dr. William Stanger was founded in 1850.

Vryheid

A town setup by a group of Boers in 1884. It's a farming centre.

Weenen

One of the oldest villages in the province founded in 1839 by the Voortrekkers.

Gauteng

Johannesburg

City of gold, largest city in Southern Africa and third largest city in Africa. It came into existence in 1886. The city was called after Field Cornet Johannes Petrus Meyer. The city has a very rich history and as from its early days accommodated people of all races.



Johannesburg as tent town ... Ferreira's Camp, 1886, set up by Colonel Ignatius Phillip Ferreira

Pretoria

Administrative capital of South Africa. Founded in 1855 as Pretoria Philadelphia and named after President A.W.J. Pretorius.

An Afrikaner bastion accommodating the Union Buildings, Church Square with its statue of President Paul Kruger surrounded by historical buildings such as the Volksraad building, SA Reserve Bank and the General Post Office. Outside the city stands the enormous Afrikaner Voortrekker Monument.



Centurion

Formerly Lyttelton named after Alfred Lyttelton. It was renamed Verwoerdburg and then Centurion. It was founded in 1906.

Free State

Bloemfontein

Capital of the Free State (formerly Orange Free State). The town (city) dates from 1846. After the withdrawal of the British from the Orange River Sovereignty in 1854 Bloemfontein became the capital of the (Orange) Free State.

Bethlehem

Founded in 1860 and named after the Biblical Bethlehem.

Clarens

A village near Bethlehem.

Ladybrand

The town was founded in 1867 and named after the wife of Sir Christoffel Brand. Prominent town during the Anglo Boer War.

Kroonstad

The town was founded in 1855.



Towns and cities founded and developed in the Northern Province/Limpopo, Eastern Transvaal/Mpumalanga and the North West

Northern Province/Limpopo

Pietersburg.....Indigenous name:Polokwane

This town was founded in 1886 and named after General Piet Joubert.

Potgietersrus....Indigenous name:Mokopane

Founded in 1854 and named after the Voortrekker leader Commandant Piet Potgieter.

Louis Trichardt...Indigenous name:Makhado

The town was founded in 1898 and named after the Voortrekker Louis Trichardt.

Naboomspruit

The town was established in 1923.



Leydsdorp was founded in 1890

Eastern Transvaal/Mpumalanga

Nelspruit

The town was founded in 1889.

Middelburg

Town on the railway to the former Lourenco Marques, founded in 1866 under the name of Nazareth and later renamed Middelburg in 1874.

Witbank

The town was founded in 1890.

Barberton

This famous town known for gold diggings was founded in 1884 and named after the brothers Barber.

Lydenburg

This town was founded in 1847 by the Voortrekkers who set up an independent republic.

North West

Potchefstroom

Original capital of the Transvaal and one of the oldest towns. The town was founded in 1838.

Rustenburg

The town was founded in 1851.

Klerksdorp

The oldest town in the Transvaal. Was founded on the Schoonspruit by the Voortrekkers in 1837 and named after J. de Clerq.

Lichtenburg

Founded in 1873 by H. G. Greef. It was home of the famous "seer" Nicholaas van Rensburg.

Christiana

The town was founded in 1870 on the banks of Vaal River. Known for diamond diggings in its early days.

Women's Fashion in early Johannesburg (1800's - 1900's)



Johannesburg grew rapidly after the discovery of gold; it was a dramatic and continual growth which is still going on. In 1886 houses were built of wood and corrugated iron, often transported in sections by ox-wagon all the way from Pietermaritzburg. Many of these easily assembled homes soon covered the flat plain on which the city arose.

The wagoners who transported the goods from Volksrust, the nearest staging post to the railway terminus at Charlestown on the Natal/Transvaal border, were mainly Afrikaans-speaking. They became a settled and integral part of the Johannesburg community and built for themselves neat little cottages in Braamfontein, Newlands, and Vrededorp.

The thousands of new arrivals who were drawn to the gold diggings came here from five different continents and spoke a host of different languages, but the overwhelming majority had one thing in common - they were nearly all young bachelors. Consequently it is not easy to determine what sort of clothes women in Johannesburg wore for women were so rare in 1886.

Contemporary photographs are unanimous in bearing witness to the fact that a female in the mining camp was so rare as to inspire comment. Photographs in the possession of members of pioneer Afrikaans-speaking families on the Witwatersrand do, however, give a very clear indication of what the average Republican Miss wore in the year that the gold town was first proclaimed.

As in any other year of the 19th century the young lady of 1886 was covered from top to toe. A fitted, boned bodice always made separately from the skirt and worn over the tightly-laced corset was often made by the Afrikaans-speaking housewife who had been trained to sew and make her own clothes from her earliest years.



Images. Fashion in the late 1800's. Right: Adornments on women's head-dress often included one or two stuffed birds or a few ostrich plumes.

The bustle, really a crinoline, returned to fashion after a short hibernation during the year 1884 when gold was first discovered in payable quantities in the South African Republic. The bustle consisted of one, two or three wire-braided pads worn at the back and suspended by a belt worn around the waist. This was covered by a foundation skirt which was superimposed by a shorter overskirt or draperies caught up in the back. Jersey-cloth was the material most often used for the bodice as well as the foundation skirt.

As the years marched on and the wood-and-iron houses gave way to concrete structures the presence of more women in the Uitlander population became evident. Single men who had journeyed by wagon to Rand later brought wives from the coastal cities to Johannesburg, and these women more often than not wore what was the latest trend in England - namely the tailored suit comprising coat, skirt, and shirt-blouse. Tightly-fitted jackets were known as paletots.

Afrikaans-speaking women usually wore a hat when visiting town or attending a family function. This was in accordance with the strictures of St Paul that a head covering was necessary whenever a woman was about to pray or prophesy or who could find herself in a situation where she might need to pray or prophesy.

A favourite shape of hat was the bonnet or kappie which not only concealed the wearer's hair but protected her face from the hot African sun. English-speaking women, as well as the more emancipated Afrikaans girls, usually sported the postillion or Rembrandt hat which was ornamented with ostrich plumes at the brim and usually turned up at one side. Stuffed birds were often added to the millinery trimmings.

Hair was drawn back off the ears or dressed high in a bun. The front hair was often combed low on the forehead. Apart from the compulsory hat no well-bred woman ventured out of doors without her gloves and parasol.

As the decade which saw the founding of Johannesburg came to an end the bustle disappeared from European dress, but not so in South Africa, where it continued to be worn until the mid-nineties.

By 1894 the general design in costume had become less complicated. Skirts fitted snugly over the hips, flowing to the floor in a bell shape. While strolling along the dusty streets of the town the well-bred Republican Miss held up her skirt to the one side, the correct handling of which became an art characteristic of the period.

Skirts were cut in many gores and interlined with stiffening. The sleek hourglass silhouette eliminated the wearing of numerous petticoats; only one was necessary and that fitted tightly over the hips.

The leg-of-mutton sleeve stiffened with buckram grew to outsize proportions, reaching its most voluminous by the end of 1895, after which it slowly shrank in size like a deflated balloon. The soft, overhanging blouse was always finished with a belt. It was fashioned of sheer fabric and ornamented with lace or braid. The collar of the blouse was high and often chafed the wearer's neck and ear lobes.



Images. Left: The itinerant smous supplied the village dressmaker with materials so that she could make the latest models from the patterns that she regularly received. The drawing shows an outfit of the century's first decade. Both blouse and headdress contributed to completing the women's S shape. Right: Layers of lace which cascaded gently down the entire length of the wearer's blouse helped conceal the exaggeratedly unnatural shape of her body.

Black tailored suits with jacket, skirt, and white shirtwaist took a firm hold during the decade known as the 'roarin nineties'. Afrikaans women favoured black as much as their English counterparts, and so the nineties can be remembered as a decade when both language groups dressed alike. The Princess style which fitted like a glove, gored from neck to hem, dates from 1899, by which time the wide skirt as well as the balloon sleeve had disappeared.

During the three-year long war which impoverished the Transvaal, most of the population fled to the coast if English-speaking, or farther into the heart of the Transvaal if Afrikaans-speaking. Life came to a standstill in the mining town as its female inhabitants deserted the place.

When peace returned there came a wave of newcomers, mostly from England but also from the Continent, who brought with them the new Edwardian styles of fashion.

Fashion moved fast in a fast-developing Transvaal. Britain's King Edward VII set a style by always wearing a Homburg hat, which women of the new century often wore in place of the straw boater. Queen Alexandra was said to have worn a pearl choker in the evenings to conceal the scar of a throat operation. This style won great favour with her subjects at home and abroad. The heavily starched collar which the queen was never without during the day became a conventional article of women's clothing, worn with every blouse.

Woman's body was encased in a corset which pushed the bust forward and the hips behind. The invention of the flared skirt gave woman a concave look. Frilled silk petticoats gave a woman's rear additional width, thus creating the illusion of the wearer carrying a miniature bustle. Hair was now combed towards the crown and gathered in a large curl on the forehead. Tilted-forward hats which sat on the hair helped create the S-shape which characterized the decade. Blouses were trimmed with a profusion of layers of lace which helped conceal the unnaturally shaped curve of the body.



Images. Left: An elegantly dressed woman displaying a cartwheel hat of 1911 adorned with ostrich plumes. Right: Short dresses or, rather, dresses with a hem only 5 to 10 cm from the floor.

Women who sported men's hats, such as the Homburg or boater, soon discarded these for more feminine styles of head-dress which were often adorned with plumes of various birds, including our own ostrich.

The S-shape remained in vogue without appreciable change until 1908, when less elaborately ornate blouses actually showed the shape of the wearer's body. The trailing skirt lost its train and tightened enough to show the shape of the wearer's torso.

South Africa's future opposition leader, James Barry Munnik Hertzog, condemned cartwheel hats as being 'improper', but improper or not they created a boom in the export of ostrich feathers.

Hair, instead of being piled up high on the forehead, began to be worn bunched up against the temples. Hats deepened and widened to accommodate the new masses of hair. By the year of Unions hats trimmed with stuffed birds, ostrich feathers, or other enormous plumes reached cartwheel proportions.

In the year that saw the swearing in of General Louis Botha as the Union's first prime minister, woman's shape changed from the S to the T. This line was achieved with the aid of a longer corset which narrowed the hips. The enormous picture hat completed the T as did the masses of hair parted in the centre and rolled up in enormous curls on the cheek sides.

Skirts, instead of sweeping the floor, actually left it. The waistline climbed to a position slightly below the bust and the narrow skirt tapered tightly down to the hem. Opposition leader Hertzog condemned the tight-fitting hobble skirt as immoral. These skirts often had to be slashed at the side to give the wearer more freedom of movement.

Cartwheel hats, which had been a repository for every type of adornment, suddenly shrank in size on the eve of World War I. The demise of the cartwheel spelled ruin for the country's ostrich farmers.

The year 1914 marked a turning point in the history of fashion. Until that year the fashionable female had worn whatever convention had dictated. From that year on woman was increasingly to decide for herself what to wear or what not to wear. Though skirts had left the floor in 1910, female ankles were only exposed after the start of World War I and only then commenced an upward climb.

In the first few months of the war women discarded the heavily starched collar, which had for so long frayed and chafed their necks, in favour of the V-shaped neckline which clergymen denounced as immoral, while doctors warned the wearers of pneumonia.

As women's attitude to themselves changed during the war they were encouraged by government to economize. Many replaced morning tea-gown, household smock, and evening dress with an all-purpose overall with a hem some 10 centimeters from the ground.

The ever-upward creeping hem meant that women had to pay more attention to shoes and stockings, the colours of which were usually chosen to match the practical colours of which were usually chosen to match the practical colours of khaki or brown.

When in mid-1915 some 7 000 women gathered in Church Square, Pretoria, to commence a dusty march to the prime ministers's office in the Union Buildings several kilometers away, to protest at the continued imprisonment of their husbands, fathers, or brothers since the spring rebellion of the previous year, they were almost all without exception clad in the new wartime-length short skirts with hems which ranged from 10 to 20 centimeters from the ground. Only elderly marchers were seen donning the pre-war ground-length styles. If any victory was won that day it was by the new-fangled fashion!

When peace returned in 1918 skirts lengthened and narrowed again. The post-war woman had acquired a freedom of movement undreamed of only a decade earlier.

Though worn in its natural place, the waist was undefined. Post-war blouses were rectangular in shape and all clothes were colourless. The hemline rose briefly in 1920 and 1921, only to drop again the following year. Having experienced the feel of material touching their calves during the war women took to the new long skirts of 1922 to 1924 with great reluctance.



Images. Left: Long-skirted styles made a brief return from 1922 to 1924. Thereafter hems commenced their fast upward climb, reaching the greatest distance from the floor in 1927. Middle: A smart fur coat, worked from dyed black Karakul kid skins in a becoming shape - an exact copy of a French model - with collar, cuffs and flounce of dyed skunk, lined with black and white chiffon velvet. Right: These two models indicate clearly that fashions for late 1929 give a hint of a drooping hemline, a returning waistline, and cloche hats which do not obscure the wearer's vision.

The pre-war T or I shape had given way to the wartime A shape with a shorter and wider skirt. As skirts lengthened in the early twenties woman's shape had become decidedly square. Marocain, a favourite dress material, was cut on the straight and was almost always beige in colour. From 1922 onwards the bust was completely flattened, while women bobbed or shingled their hair.

The silent cinema around the corner introduced women to the latest American styles, and as the hemline commenced its swift upward climb again in 1925 women once again snipped off centimeters from their hems and cut their hair shorter than ever. Hair, instead of being bobbed, was shingled or Eton-cropped.

The ubiquitous cloche hat, which originated during World War I was now designed to frame the face rather than to cover all the wearer's hair, though it did both at the same time. During the last five years of the decade women had acquired a uniformity of appearance unparalleled in history.

The 20th century had caught up with fashion. Twenty-four years in gestation, the new century had arrived - as far as fashion was concerned. By 1927 flesh-coloured stockings had replaced black and white varieties, and the hemline had climbed up to the knees and could be worn even higher. The flattened bodice ended with a belt at the hips which at the end of the decade left very little material between the waistline and the hemline only a few centimeters lower.

The slump of 1929 was accompanied by a backward plunge in the hemline. So, too, did the short hairstyles lengthen with a bun at the nape of the neck, and the tight fitting cloche which had for so long characterized the decade developed a broader brim.

Then followed the very long skirts which many women trailed through the streets in daytime. Silk stockings hastily replaced those made of lisle, while artificial silk became the favourite fabric material. By 1932 the novelty of the long skirt had worn off and it resumed its proper place for evening wear.

Women who vacationed along the Natal coast included in their travel trunks several evening gowns into which they changed at twilight, to wear at dinner or at the cinema or while listening to the still new-fangled wireless, which held pride of place in every hotel lounge. The female holidaymaker also took with her several pillboxes for the wide variety of hats that she was expected to wear.

The young flapper had become submerged by the post-flapper with reedy physique and narrow hips. It was the era of slimming salon, and those women who took their PT seriously set their alarms for the early morning exercise program when they could do physical jerks to the strains of 'Keep young and beautiful'. Different types of sports gear were available for the numerous varieties of sport which women could for the first time participate. There were even spectator sports styles.

Woollen bathing suits, though backless, came in either one of two pieces and covered substantially more of the wearer's bodies than is the case today. Sun-tanning for health's sake had by 1930 become an acceptable activity.

Coats were fitted at the waist, and strips of fur known as gimbals could be temporarily pinned around the neck or along the cuffs. Winter coats were incomplete without fox stoles. Never before had women been confronted by the wide variety of hats as she was in the thirties.

Hats were made to match every outfit and these varied in shape and size with every year of the decade. The influence of the twenties took some two to three years to eradicate itself, and by 1933 the cloche had vanished completely.

During this era hats were nifty, hats were pert, hats were cheeky, and more often than not were tilted over the wearer's left eye. Women remained slim and straight. Evening gowns, though the neckline stood high in front, left the back completely bare. Gradually a more masculine note crept in. Mannish suits were worn for daytime.

When in September 1936 visitors from all over the world visited the Empire Exhibition at Milner Park they were able to view a wide variety of items of clothing which were being manufactured in South Africa.

During the abnormal period of World War II fashion trends, like most others phases of life, were sharply influenced by the cataclysm of war. Manufactureres of tailored costumes were limited to 50 different designs annually, each with a prescribed amount of material which no outfit could exceed. Tailored suits which seemed set to become a permanent wartime uniform were berefit of lapels, pockets, and multiple pleats.

Material shortages kept the hem just below the knee, and fortunate indeed was the woman who acquired for herself nylon seamless stockings which were guaranteed not to ladder. It became common practice for women to turn up to work without stockings or with legs painted in the colour of stockings, when paint was available.

Clothing factories, which in pre-war days battled to survive against competition from imported clothes, were now able to supply all South Africa's civilians as well as military needs. (The black-out warden who patrolled the dimmed-out streets of Durban usually wore a uniform made in the same Reef city where the uniform worn by the women in the auxiliary services were also manufactured.)

Though fashion stood still from the day South Africa declared war on 6 September 1939 until VJ day six years later, there were inconspicuous changes taking place all the time. The hemline, some 40cm from the floor in 1939, crept to 45cm during the following year and stayed there until war's end.

Neckerchiefs, which formed such an indispensable part of woman's wardrobe in 1939, were consigned to mothballs the following year and have remained there ever since. Even high-heeled shoes gave way to platform or low-heeled shoes in 1941.

Wartime hairstyles such as the page-boy bob or the Edwardian sweep remained in vogue until 1947. Many women replaced hats with a turban which they wore in the style of Mediterranean peasants. The only concession to fashion during those hard years was the padded shoulder.

The jackets of all service women's jackets were padded, as were those of civilian tailored jackets and coats. For the duration of the war shoulders remained much wider than hips.

After the war skirts lengthened slightly, but it took a Paris designer, Christian Dior, to design a revolutionary New Look with a hemline only 20cm from the floor. While day dresses lengthened, evening dresses shortened. Every curve of the female body was accentuated.

Miss 1948's was totally unrelated to the 1946 -7 form. In a few post-war months Dame Fashion had undergone a complete metamorphosis, which in pre-war days would have taken at least five years.



Images. Left: Wartime outfit of the 1940's were devoid of any trimmings and the padded, broadshouldered jackets favoured the woman with the more athletic figure. Right: Three years after the war hems dropped sharply; padding disappeared from women's shoulders and every curve of the female body was accentuated.

With the New Look came new habits. Women ceased to don evening wear at twilight. The same hat became adequate for any and every occasion. It ceased to be a compulsive habit to dress for every occasion.

In 1948 wide skirt and skin-hugging blouse became the norm, though skirt lengths slowly shortened during the 1950's. The A and H lines were short-lived phases, but the sack line of 1957 determined women's shape for many years.

By 1965 the hemline once again reached the 1927 kneehigh length, but instead of retrating continued its upward climb. The invention of the mini-skirt altered women's own ideas about feminine modesty as nurses, metermaids, and air hostesses vied with one another to display the most chic mini-uniform.

In its heyday during the early 1970's it seemed as though every female from 16 to 60 favoured the miniskirt, with a hem some 50cm from the floor. Long after their European parents and American cousins had discarded the mini, South African women clung to it as though it had become the national uniform, ideally suited to a climate as hot and dry as ours.

In 1973 hems once again plunged floorwards and reached their lowest in 60 years, but a female more rebellious than her grandmother of 1914 had evolved. Her attitude to fashion had so altered that she no longer bowed to the designer's dictates. Instead of wearing skirts the woman of the 1970's had an array of shorts, slacks, pyjama suits, and trousers from which to choose.

Hats which formed such an indispensable part of every woman's pre-war wardrobe have all but ceased to function as a fashion accessory.

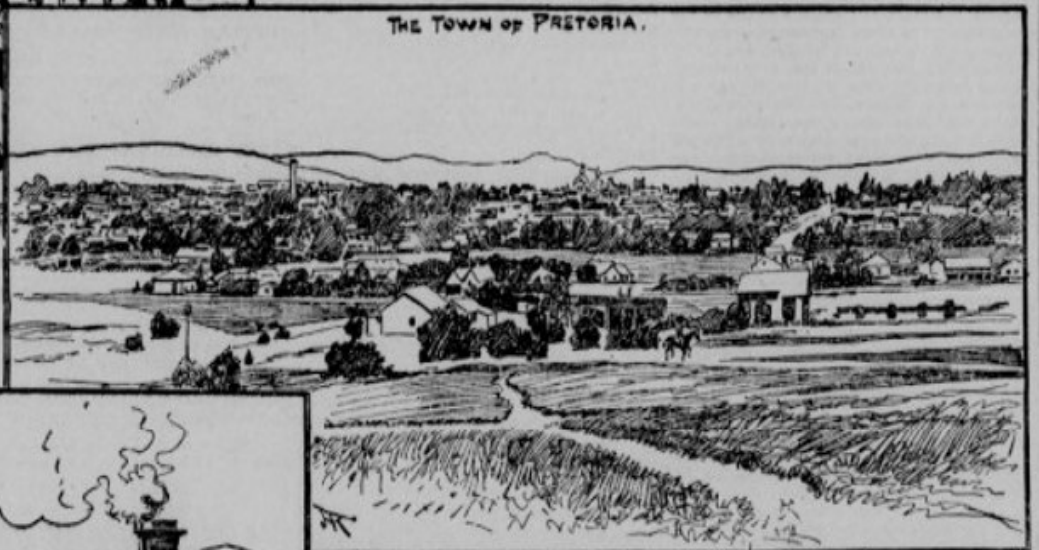
Some say that fashion designers have exhausted the gamut of possible shapes into which the female form can be encased. Others maintain that the high price of manufactured clothes has turned woman away from fashion to such an extent that she can today be fashionable by dressing unfashionably.

Fashion historians often claim that the modern woman emerged with World War I; others claim that she arrived with the 1929 depression; while others insist that she is a product of World War II, but all will agree that the fashionably dressed female vanished before the start of the 1980's

Life in the Boer Capital Pretoria(1899)



Convict Gang at work in Pretoria
The town of Pretoria
Pretoria Station
An execution at Pretoria



Life in the Boer Capital

THOUGH Pretoria, the capital of the South African Republic, is a town of less than 10,000 inhabitants, it is at present one of the most important places on the map of Africa.

The town was named in honour of the first president of the Transvaal, Pretorius, who led the migrating Dutchmen in their great trek from Cape Colony 60 years ago.

In 1889 the parliament house of the republic at Pretoria was a little thatched barn, but on the site of that barn now stands one of the handsomest and costliest buildings in South Africa. In this connection there seems to be a general idea that Pretoria is a raw and unpleasing frontier town, with all the objectionable features of the Boer embodied in its buildings and general layout.

Such is very far from the truth, thanks to the energetic and progressive uitlanders who have settled here and done much to beautify the place. As one approaches Pretoria across the low and flat and monotonous veldt welcome trees change the character of the scenery, and in a pleasant valley, kept green by springs of clear water which ripple in little runnels down the sides of every roadway, nestles the capital of the South African Republic. It is a town of trees and hedges and flowers.

It has wide avenues and good buildings and can boast of the modernity of electric lights.

A common sight in the streets of Pretoria is a gang of convicts engaged in roadmaking. The prisoners are always guarded by a white warder, armed with a revolver, and a black constable bearing a rifle. Some of these prisoners are white, but most of them are obstreperous blacks undergoing punishment for their sins of the past.

The white prisoners are well clothed, wearing good felt hats and flannel shirts. They are not forced, like the black prisoners, to wear convict dress marked with a conspicuous number, nor are their heads shaved close like the blacks.

Public executions are a very common occurrence In Pretoria and do not seem to arouse the slightest excitement among the citizens. Since It is a crime punishable by death for a black to deal in illicit liquor, many a poor black is strung up for getting mixed up in the making of native "moonshine whisky." The public gallows stand in the garden of the city jail and the state artillery attends all executions. There is no official executioner, the execution ceremony being performed by prisoners of good behavior, who thus earn their liberty and are put across the border.

There is a custom at these Pretoria executions for the officiating black to wear a pair of white gloves, and, after the fatal drop, these gloves are thrown into the pit below, to signify that, the hands of the person superintending the affair are clean of all blood.

The greatest drawback about Pretoria, as is the case with the rest of the Transvaal, is its railway connection. South African railways are the slowest in the world. The Boer is not a fast traveling man, and he will not allow others to travel fast while within his gates. To travel 220 miles in two days is ,not a very remarkable record from the American standpoint. Yet such a run is a thing to wonder at when it occurs in the Transvaal. But it is only the mail trains that travel at such a reckless rate of speed, since the freight trains going the same distance do the trip in five days.

Most Boers, one is not surprised to find, make their wills before going on a railway journey, for the ordinary Transvaal engine leaves the track about once an hour. In fact, among railway men on the notorious Beira railway there is a tradition that in the early days the best driver on that line performed the remarkable feat of traveling the whole length of the line and ran his train off the metals only 23 times. Los Angeles Herald, 30 October 1899

Life at Johannesburg (1895)



Johannesburg City Centre.1896

The output is 179,000 ounces a Month and Blacks Must Walk in the Street."Its the greatest gold-mining region in the world," said John E. Owens, a wellknown newspaper man who has just returned from his travels. He was talking about Johannesburg, and he ought to be an authority on that corner of the world, for his ramblings in the Transvaal have been extensive.

"Yes," he said, "the greatest gold mines in the world are now at Johannesburg, which, is in the Transvaal, South Africa. It is situated on a high plateau at an altitude of 5600 feet and 1014 miles from Capetown. Its population of about 60 000 (including the African Blacks) is decidedly cosmopolitan. Men from all parts of the world have flocked there in their wild rush for gold." He continued :

The mines of Johannesburg (Witwatersrandt, or more commonly known as the "Rand") are now yielding more gold each month than all the other mines of the world combined. The average monthly output at present is placed at 179,000 ounces. This is continually increasing, and it is beyond the conception of any person to estimate the possibilities of these mines. To the visitor standing on the small hill back of Doornfontien, a fashionable suburb of Johannesburg, the sight is a grand one. As far as the eye can reach in a direct line east and west, the huge chimneys of the gold stamping: mills may be seen blazing forth their fire and smoke. The gold reef is forty-five miles in length.

The first row of deep levels is now in active operation, and before another five years shall have passed by the second, and third rows of deep level mines will be in active operation. The greater the depth the richer the ore. Some of the mines are now down to a depth of over 1000 feet. The supply of gold seems to be inexhaustible. It has been estimated by experts that there is a surety of 2,000,000,000 of gold in the Johannesburg mines. The success of these mines is due solely to Americans. The Australian miners first visited the "Rand," but they were unsuccessful. After many attempts, they finally left, stating that no gold could be found in "those fields. English miners from Cornwall undertook the responsibility. Though they made a better showing than the Australians", yet they were far from giving satisfaction.

The Rothschilds became interested in these fields. They sent out Hamilton Smith, a Californian, to look over the ground and see whether there was sufficient gold on the reef to warrant an expenditure. His report was a favourable one. From that time experienced American miners made their appearance at Johannesburg. The place began to assume life from the moment they took charge.

The result is that today, under the management of Americans, mostly Californians, Johannesburg has become the greatest gold center of the world, and one may find there the very latest improved mining machinery. There is at present over 3500 stamps at work in the mills.

These mills are run at their fullest capacity, night and day, from one week's end to the other. Everything is on a gigantic scale, so far as mining is concerned. From early morning till late in the afternoon the stock exchange on Commissioner street is a scene of excitement.

If stocks are high then business is good in the town, but if there should be a drop in the market money is scarce. The population seems to live by gambling. The hope of South Africa is centered in Johannesburg. Capetown, Port Elizabeth, East London and Natal are all dependent on the Johannesburg trade. The financial houses of Europe have their representatives at the "Rand." Notwithstanding this great wealth of gold, South Africa is not the place for a poor man to go for work.

All the labour in the mine's is performed by the African natives. There are no factories nor any opportunity for agricultural work. Living there is extremely expensive, it being next to an impossibility to get along with less than \$100 a month. The influx of population to Johannesburg has been very great.

The result is that at least 5000 men are out of work and starving. A large number are arriving weekly swelling up the list of unemployed and adding to the general confusion.

Among the most notable Americans who have been the means of building up Johannesburg may be mentioned: Charles Butters, the introducer of the cyanide process there; J.H.Hammond, who receives the fabulous salary of \$125,000 per annum; Captain Mein of the Robinson miner; Hamilton Smith, representing the Rothschilds; Mr. Webber of the Crown Reef; Mr. Wiltse of the Glendenhuis estate, and J. C. Manion, representing American firms.

Johannesburg may be considered as one of the wonders of the mining world. Its growth has been phenomenal nine years ago the site of the "Rand" had but one habitation.

Today the town has magnificent office buildings and palatial residences. The feeling here between the English and the Boers is very bitter.

How long the Transvaal Government will last, is very hard to guess. One thing is certain, that the population of Johannesburg (excepting the Americans) are ready to revolt whenever an opportunity occurs. The police force of Johannesburg may be considered as one of the most incompetent in existence.

Africans, Indians, Chinamen, and all who have black or Asiatic blood in their veins, must walk in the middle of the road. The sidewalks are for the use of the whites in Boerland.

Any of these above persons caught walking on the sidewalks are arrested and fined \$10 or one month. It is a peculiar country with a peculiar people.

San Francisco Call, 29 June 1895



Die Einde....The End