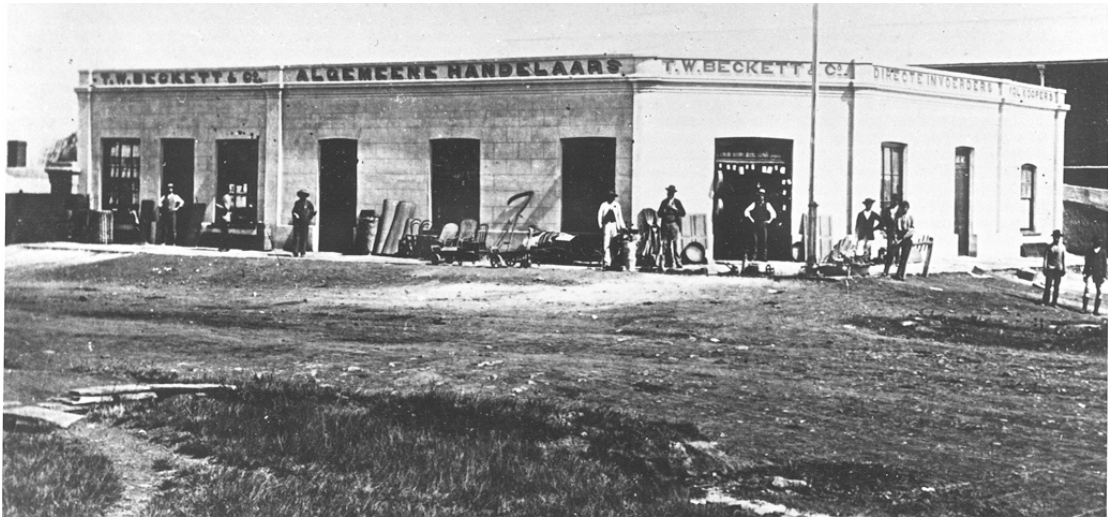


Ten Walking Tours Through Pretoria's Historical Past



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WALKING TOURS THROUGH PRETORIA'S HISTORICAL PAST

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A Walking Tour Through Pretoria's Historical Past CHURCH SQUARE



BOOK ONE

CHURCH SQUARE

The Square was originally called Market/Kerkplein and indeed was a market and Church Square. The two streets radiating from the centre of the Square were called Kerk/Church Street and Markt/Market Street, the latter changed to Paul Kruger Street to honour president Paul Kruger (1825 - 1904) during the Voortrekker centenary celebrations in 1938.

The first church of the Square, was consecrated in 1857, two years after the founding of Pretoria and after it was rebuilt and enlarged it was burned down in 1882.

A new church was erected on the same site and General Piet Joubert laid the foundation stone in October 1883 and it was inaugurated on 23rd January 1885. The church served the community until 1904.

President Pretorius granted the Square to the Church authorities in 1867 and in 1899 the Government purchased the Square for R8 000.00 and donated erven elsewhere in the town for the erection of new churches for the two Afrikaans denominations.

Dr Engelenburg, editor of the Volksstem newspaper and Mr W.J. de Zwaan, architect, laid out the square architecturally.

The design of the present Square was selected by competition, the winning design was submitted by Poole & Barbour and the contractor was M.G. van R Mostert.

The design was based on two of the best known squares over-seas, the south side styled after Trafalgar Square, London, and the north side like the Palace de la Concorde, in Paris, France.

The two pylons at the southern end of the square are carved with the Coats of Arms of the Union of South Africa and Pretoria.

Two ornaments classed as architectural gems, are the fountains, one on each side of the central steps recessed in the retaining wall, a semi-domed fountain with a projecting carved head emitting a stream of water into a pool below.

The square was not only the centre of Old Pretoria, but, the centre of and for all activities and festivities of the town.

The balcony of the Raadsaal and the steps of the Palace of Justice, saw Paul Kruger sworn in as President for the first time in 1883 and the inauguration of Mr C.R. Swart, as the first President of the 'New' Republic of South Africa in 1961.

Church Square has seen religious parades, festival parades, military parades, political parades and sombre funeral parades.

A popular festival gathering in early days of Pretoria was the large gathering of Pretorians of all ages to welcome in the new year; from 22h00 onwards, the Square was packed and quoting Charles Beans, an old Pretorian, "as the old year drew to its end, they formed a huge circle and as the clock struck midnight, hands were crossed

and joined and Auld Lange Zyne would be sung with deep feeling, it was a huge family gathering."

KRUGER STATUE

The Kruger Statue was a present to the capital from Mr Samuel (Sammy) Marks, a pioneer industrialist who in 1895, donated £10 000 for a statue of President Paul Kruger, and selected a young emigrant, Anton van Wouw, to execute the work that was cast in Rome by Francisco Bruno.

A pedestal was erected on Church Square, but owing to the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899 - 1902), the completed statue with Boer statuettes and side panels were left in storage at Lourenco Marques (Maputo).

Lord Kitchener, Commander-in-Chief of British forces saw photographs of the statue on a visit to Mr Marks at his homestead Swartkoppies Hall east of Pretoria and persuaded Marks to give him the four small Boer statuettes which he sent to England where two were erected at Chapham Military College and the remaining two adorned the gardens of his residence.

In 1913, permission was granted by the government to bring the statue of the President to Pretoria and was erected in Prince's Park opposite the cemetery in Church Street West, where it was unveiled on the 24th May by Schalk Burger, who was Acting-President when President Kruger went into exile.

Due to the efforts of Gen. Louis Botha and Gen. Jan Smuts who appealed to King George V of England, the four small statuettes and panels were returned to South African in 1921, and in 1925, the centenary of the President's birth, the completed statue on the Station Square was unveiled by the then prime Minister, General J.B.M. Hertzog.

The foundation stone of the Church Square site was unveiled by the then Prime Minister, Dr. D.F. Malan, on 10 October 1953 and the statue was transferred for the third time and unveiled on 11 October 1954.

The four side panels represent:

1. Kruger rescuing the body of Piet Potgieter at Makapan's caves (in the Northern Province).
2. Kruger addressing the Boers at Paardekraal in December 1880 (two days before the outbreak of the First Anglo Boer War 1880-1881).
3. Kruger signing the Peace Treaty in O'Neill's Cottage after the Battle of Majuba in 1881.
4. Kruger being sworn in as president in 1883.

RAADSAAL

(Council Chamber - Government Building); was designed by Sytze Wierda, government head of the Public Works Department and erected by J.J. Kirkness on the site

of the original simple single-storeyed structure built by William Skinner and his cousins, the Devereau brothers.

It is said that the original plans for the Raadsaal called for a two-storeyed building when pres. Kruger laid the foundation stone on 6 May 1889, but because the hotel (The President, later Grand) on the opposite corner of the road was a three storey building, the government decided (1890) that their prestige building had to be the highest building in town, so an extra floor was added to the design and the clock tower be surmounted by a statue representing liberty, to give it the required height.

The inhabitants of the town however, were very upset about the figure of liberty and wanted it removed; they claimed that it was a copy of Britannica the emblem of Great Britain, Wierda solved the problem by having a helmet designed to fit her head - so it is today.

The building was completed in 1891 and the clock installed in 1893. This clock, the only clock in the country that strikes in Afrikaans; the half hour chimes first followed by the number i.e. half twee (two) means it is 1.30, the next chime will be for two o' clock.

From the balcony, President Kruger addressed the people at election times; Lord Roberts addressed the crowds when he accepted the surrender of Pretoria on the 5th June 1900 when the British Union Jack flag was hoisted.

The Raadsaal Council chamber was used until the administration moved to the Provincial building on the corner of Pretorius Street and Parliament Lane.

Relics still visible on the exterior side of the buildings are - the horse hitching-hooks on the Church Square side of the building. With the designing of the Square in 1910, the road section was raised considerably, leaving the hooks a few centimetres above ground.

At the Paul Kruger Street corner of the building is a most unusual benchmark. Bench-marks indicated the height of sea-level and were usually fixed to railway stations along the inland from the sea. Pretoria is the only exception, the Pretoria sea-level bench mark was placed on the Raadsaal building instead of the Pretoria Railway Station.

In earlier times, the western part of the Raadsaal block was occupied by the European Hotel, the first hotel in the town. It's two storeyed building was acquired by the government for the erection of the Raadsaal.

The Raadsaal was declared a National Monument in 1968.

PARLIAMENT LANE

Was originally called Church Lane and then later as Theatre Lane; it was officially named Parliament Lane in 1907.

CAPITOL THEATRE

The site on which the theatre was built was associated with the entertainment since C. Reck erected the Alhambra Hall there in 1888. In 1889, it became the President Theatre that changed its name to the Empress Theatre.

In 1903, the hall became the Capital skating rink, then followed another name change to His Majesty's Theatre.

The (JW) Schlesger organisation, African Theatres, acquired the property and commissioned P. Rogers-Cooke, to design the Capital Theatre. The theatre was built in the Italian Renaissance style with its atmospheric interior, where the audience appear to be sitting in a cool amphitheatre under stars shining softly whilst on either side the dimly-lighted windows of the houses, forming a setting to the scene. Sando Konya, Hungarian born artist designed the interior.

The theatre seated 2 500 people; it was opened by General J.B.M. Hertzog, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa on 5 September 1931.

NETHERLANDS BANK BUILDING

The Netherlands Bank began operations in Pretoria as the 'Nederlandsche Bank en Crediet Vereniging, on the corner of Church and Andries Streets in 1888, and transferred their business to their new Church Square building designed by Willem de Zwaan in December 1897.

In 1939, Netherlands Bank acquired a number of stands on the north-western corner of Church and Andries Streets for the erection of new premises for its head office and main Pretoria branch that was designed by Norman Eaton and completed in 1953.

LAW CHAMBERS

Adjoining the Netherlands Bank Building was designed by the architectural firm of William Philip for the Transvaal Mortgage and Loan Finance Company on the site of the former African Board of Executors building; the foundation stone of the present building was laid by General Piet Joubert in 1893.

RESERVE INVESTMENT BUILDING

On the corner of Church Square and Church Street was at times also called Commerce Building because of the figure of mercury and word Commerce on the corner gable; the building was also referred to as Van Boeschoten Building soon after completion in 1905/06.

The Café Riche Lounge Bar occupied the ground floor for many years, that led the town inhabitants to refer it to the Café Riche Building.

The building was designed by Francois Soff; it is not known for certain who executed the owl perched above the gable, some maintain it was the work of Anton van Wouw or an artist visiting Pretoria at the time when the building was erected.

All the buildings from the Capitol Theatre to Church street and the building along the southern side of Church Street from the Square were purchased by the then Transvaal Provincial Administration on which they planned to extend their building that occupies three quarters of the block.

CHURCH STREET

Is the principal business street of Pretoria. With the expansion of the town, Church Street from the "Doll's House" in the east to past Atteridgeville township in the west is 7 1/2 miles (11 km) long, the longest, straightest street in the Republic, if not in the southern hemisphere.

People erroneously refer to Church Street from this point as Church Street West, however, the numbering of erven begins from the south east corner of Prince's Park Avenue, No 1 Church Street West, therefore is the first erf covered by the transport department.

POST OFFICE

The early postage service used runners with cleft-sticks bearing messages from one town to another, later came the stage coach, but still no postman.

In the 1870's, Postmaster-general Jan de Vogel devised a plan of postal delivery.

He had a tall mast erected on the summit of the hill overlooking the valley, (beyond the later railway station) from which he used signals to inform the people that mail had arrived. A ball and a cone indicated that mail from the Cape was awaiting delivery; two balls and a cone represented overseas mail had been received.

From that time onwards, that hill has been known as Time Ball Hill.

The present post office building replaced the simple single storeyed building erected in the 1890's; it was designed by William Hawke, a Herbert Baker student (who designed the Johannesburg Town hall).

The foundation stone was laid by the Governor-general, Lord Selborne, in 1910.

NATIONAL BANK AND GOVERNMENT MINT

Erected on ground that originally was owned by (Capt) Johann Struben, after whom Struben Street in Pretoria Central was named.

The building was designed by Frank Emley and Scott who won a competition in 1891. President Paul Kruger laid the foundation stone on 6 July 1892 and John J Kirkness was the building contractor.

The minting presses were imported from Germany and Frederick Gustav Munschied was appointed Mint Master.

It was on one of those presses that Pres. Kruger in 1898 allowed Samuel (Sammy) Marks to strike 215 golden tickies (three pence pieces) for sponsoring his statue.

The National Bank later amalgamated with Barclays Bank which in modern times changed its name back to the First National Bank.

BANK OF AFRICA BUILDING

Also at one time referred to as Kirkness Building because John J Kirkness, the building contractor used the building as a town office.

The architects were the Sladdin brothers, who etched their names on the stone on the south-east corner of the building; the building was completed in 1906. The initials of the bank was worked into the wrought-iron balcony above the front door.

The lower windows bear the frosted design of the S.A. Mutual Company who occupied the building when vacated by the bank.

PALACE LANE

The street was made on request of the tenants occupying the business stands in 1885; the street crosses erf 275 that formerly held the first government school established in Pretoria and the mining engineers office and was called Court Street; the name changed to Palace Street by the municipality in 1907 because it borders the Palace of Justice.

KOMMISSARIAATPLEIN

(Commissariat Square - the provisioning branch of an army). Before Palace Lane was created, the open ground adjoining the Bank of Africa Building facing Vermeulen Street was the parade ground of 'Batterij Dingaans', the first artillery corps established by President Thomas Burgers in 1875.

Why the name 'Dingaans Battery' named after a Zulu King, who succeeded Shaka, founder of the Zulu nation was used, is unknown.

The corps was commanded by Otto Riedl, a Prussian officer who arrived in Pretoria in 1874; the barracks and the magazine occupied the western end and the square was used as a parade ground.

The artillery corps was never used in any warfare and was disbanded when the Republic was annexed to Great Britain in April 1877.

A Mitrailleuse cannon used in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-1871 donated to the corp can be seen in the Cultural Museum.

PALACE OF JUSTICE

Occupies the north-western corner of Church Square, that originally held the official residence built for President M.W. Pretorius, but never used by him, because he preferred to stay in Potchefstroom, his home town; the house became the parsonage of Rev Begemann, the first minister to serve the Ned. Hervormde congregation from the Church on the Square.

Next to the house was a small building used as the first school in 1889, with 26 children and Mr Hendrik Stiemens as principal.

Adjoining the school was the mining commissioner, Christiaan Joubert's office.

The Palace of Justice (Supreme Court) was designed by Sytze Wierda, government architect, in the Italian Renaissance style; the foundation stone was laid by Pres. Paul Kruger on 8 June 1897.

Stone for the building was quarried from the hill opposite the Pretoria Zoological Gardens where today the Langenhoven School stands. The quality was sub-standard and was one of the causes of the Belgian and French company going bankrupt. The new contractor, J. Munro, used stone quarried at Pyramids, north of Pretoria.

The building was completed in 1899 when the Second Anglo-Boer War broke out; the unoccupied building was converted into a hospital after the occupation of Pretoria in June 1900.

On the north-east corner of Paul Kruger (Markt/Market) Street, is the old building of the South African Reserve Bank, established in 1921.

The Church Square building was erected on the site of the first Pretoria Club, that later became the Club boarding house.

The building was designed by (Sir) Herbert Baker, who designed the Union Buildings and the Pretoria Railway Station building and built in 1930/31.

The bank moved to their new building on the corner of Church and Van der Walt Street.

OLD MUTUAL BUILDING

The South African Mutual Building adjoining the Reserve Bank was designed by Fred McIntosh Glennie in 1929/30. The Reserve Bank purchased the building in the 1970's to expand their operations.

MUTUAL LANE

Received its name when the Old Mutual Building was erected in 1930.

The VACANT CORNER of Mutual and Vermeulen Streets was once the property of the Lewis and Marks company and remained vacant since Pretoria was laid out in 1856.

The plot was used as a parking space for Mr Samuel (Sammy) Marks' horse and carriage when he was in town from his Swartkoppie Hall Estate on the Pienaars River (now the Sammy Marks Museum) east of Pretoria.

ONS EERSTE VOLKSBANK BUILDING

(Our First People's Bank). Established by the League of Poor Whites in 1917 for small investors and savers, one of the founders was Johannes Postmas (1877 - 1947), who became Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank in 1927 and Governor in 1945.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

On the corner of Church Street and Church Square, the architect was Gordon Leith (1886 - 1965) and was built in 1939 on the former site of Mortgage Building erected about 1890, that was later renamed Alexandra Building honouring the Queen of England.

Mortgage Building erected for the Transvaal Mortgage and Loan Company was the first high-rise building in Pretoria with Tudor Building coming second.

Albert Brodrick, one of Pretoria's first commercial undertakings was established on this corner (No1 Church Square) in 1959/60; he was related to Robert Lys and the Struben families and was instrumental in founding the Anglican community in Pretoria.

Brodrick, a colourful personality, was a friend and respected by his customers and the people in general. His wife died in 1871 and he returned to England in 1879 and died there in 1908.

Brodrick street in Groenkloof was named to honour him.

TUDOR BUILDING

Opposite the First national Bank Building was designed by John Ellis (1874 - 1929) for George Heys and built in 1904.

George Jesse Heys came to Pretoria in 1872 and opened a general dealers' business later operating a stage coach service serving various parts of the Transvaal; his coaching company held the government postal contract.

His palatial home Melrose House in Jacob Mare Street was taken over by the military during the occupation of Pretoria (1900-1902) and used as a residence for Lord Roberts, Commander-in-Chief of British forces and used as their headquarters. The Peace Treaty of Vereeniging was signed in Melrose House on the 31st May 1902.

BUREAU LANE

Connects Church Square with Andries Street and in earlier times was referred to as 'Aasvoel-laan' - vulture lane, having referring to the attorneys and advocates that occupied offices adjoining the law court on the north-east corner of the lane and Andries Street.

The name Bureau Lane was registered as a thoroughfare in 1910.

CENTENARY BUILDING

On the south-eastern corner of Bureau lane was so called because it was erected during Pretoria's centenary year 1955.

BANK LANE

Connects Church Square with Pretorius Street and was so called because it led to the Standard Bank on the south-west corner of the lane and the Square (now housing Saambou Building Society) and the Natal Bank on the north-east corner of the Square and Bureau Lane.

STANDARD BANK

On the south-east corner of Church square and Paul Kruger Street opposite the Raadsaal. The architect was William Stucke and was built by W. Patterson in 1931/32 on the site of the Grand Hotel.

Sir Theophilus Shepstone proclaimed the British annexation of the Transvaal on 12 April 1877 and the Standard Bank opened for business in Pretoria on the 16th May 1877 in premises on the south-west corner of the same block.

In 1913, the banks administration office moved from Cape Town to Pretoria and in 1959 was transferred to Johannesburg.

The site was originally owned by Robert Lys, one of the first English speaking people to settle in Pretoria; he came to South African in 1850 and after working in Cape Town and trying his hand at farming at Harrismith in the Free State, he settled in Pretoria in 1855 until his death in 1880.

Lys's home was used for weekly Anglican church services and with Albert Brodrick and Rous, they collected funds for the erection of the first St Alban's Cathedral that stood in Church Street opposite Poynton's Centre.

Lys Street in Rietondale was named after him.

A
Walking Tour Through
Pretoria's Historical Past
CHURCH STREET WEST
FROM CHURCH SQUARE



BOOK TWO

CHURCH STREET WEST FROM CHURCH SQUARE

Leaving historic Church Square, we walk westwards down Church Street. Adjoining Commerce Building on the south-western corner is 'Old' Poynton Building erected shortly after the Second World War. All the smaller premises that extended to Bosman Street were demolished to make way for the Transvaal Provincial Administration Building.

James C Poynton was a son of a Byrne Settler who arrived in Natal in 1849. Poynton was on the Witwatersrand in 1887, a year later he went to Barber-ton, finally settling in Pretoria in 1889.

After his marriage to Miss Simpson, he took up residence in Natal Villa on the southern end of Andries Street near Visagie street, first occupied by George Heys, who built Melrose House.

Poynton established a business dealing in agricultural equipment in 1890 between Queen and Van der Walt Streets, opposite Beckett's Building the premises later taken over by Haaroff.

His business was later transferred to bigger premises and the present structure was erected on that property in the 1950's. It was purchased in 1964 for future extensions to the Transvaal Provincial Administration Building.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration Building was designed by a team of architects under the direction of Prof. A.L. Meiring and it took eight years to complete, being officially opened on 27 November 1963.

The building houses many works of art by earlier and contemporary artists including the busts of Pres. Paul Kruger and the first six Prime Ministers of the Union of South Africa. In the 'Old Pretoria' Room on the 11th floor, are relics of Hollard House that was demolished in 1955 (See Andries Street).

On the north-eastern corner of Bosman Street is the Central Government Building which was erected on the former site of E.F.Bourke's general business building later taken over by John Jack. On the western corner is Empire Building erected after the turn of the century.

Bosman Street was originally called Kock Street, thought to have been named after a relation of Pres. M.W. Pretorius.

Ds. Hermanus Stephanus Bosman, born on the farm Nobelsfontein, Victoria West, C.P. in 1848. He was first a clerk in a business concern and was encouraged to the ministry by Rev. Andrew Murray.

Bosman was called to the Pretoria Congregation of the Nederduitsch Hervormde Church in 1876 which he served until his retirement in 1926. He died in 1933.

The erection of the 'Grootte Kerk' and his parsonage in the same street was financed from funds received from the Government when they purchased the Old Church and the Square it stood on.

Ds. Bosman founded Prospect Seminary Girls' School (the name perpetuated in the name of a building in Schoeman Street just off Van der Walt Street) in 1877 and encouraged two American women teachers to run the establishment.

Bosman married Aletta Hendrina, granddaughter of Rev. D.A. Faure, of Cape Town; she took an active part in the relief work for the inmates of the Irene Concentration Camp.

The first two Jacaranda trees to decorate Pretoria's streets were planted by the mayor, Mr JJ Kirkness on the corner of Bosman and Boom Streets, opposite the residence of Mr James Clark, the florist who propagated them and donated them to the city.

The horse-drawn bus service operated by A.J. Gough had their stables where Maritime Building in Bosman Street now is.

Deviating slightly northwards in Bosman Street, we come to the Nederduitsch Gereformeerde (Grootkerk) Church. The Apies River Valley Congregation first worshipped in a church on Church Square which was taken over by the government. The three religious denominations using the church erected new ones elsewhere in the town.

The Grootkerk (Big Church), was designed by architects Klaas van Rijse, Kraan and Weijers and constructed by G.J. Dorlas, after whom a street in Pretoria Central was named.

The foundation stone was laid by General Louis Botha in May 1903 and the church was inaugurated by the Rev. Andrew Murray on 30 September 1904.

Returning to Church Street, we recall that Giovanetti had a hardware and paint shop close to Empire Building. He was one of the contractors for supplies for the erection of the Union Buildings and the 'left-overs' after construction was completed, he used in the building of his house in Johnston Street, Sunnyside.

Giovanetti owned a portion of 'New' Arcadia and Harcourt Street there commemorates his son who died in action as a Royal Air Force pilot during the First World War. He served Pretoria as Mayor and a street bearing his name is found in Nieuw Muckleneuk.

Poynton Centre was also named after J.C. Poynton, a big land owner. This modern centre was constructed on his property.

Opposite the Centre is an open piece of ground on which stood the Langham Hotel which at one time was the site of the first St. Alban's Church.

The first Anglican Services were held in the living room of John Robert Lys, one of the first English-speaking settlers in Pretoria in 1865.

The Rev. Sharley arrived in Pretoria in 1873 as the town's first Rector. The congregation managed to erect a tiny church in Church Street with mud floors, a thatched roof and calico windows; two small lean-to rooms adjoining the building at the back were used as living quarters for the Rector.

The church served the community until a new site in Schoeman Street was obtained in 1879.

The area north of Church Street from this point to Boom Street and from there to Potgieter Street bears the name 'Goedehoop' - Goodhope. In 1897, 186 erven were laid out by surveyor F.S. Waterson on which less privileged inhabitants could erect economic housing units. The name was suggested by the Rev. H.S. Bosman.

Schubart Street recalls A.F. Schubart, Government Secretary in the days of Pres. M.W. Pretorius.

Booth Street, the short street connecting Church with Vermeulen Street was first known as West Street, and now honours William Booth (1842 – 1912) founder of the Salvation Army movement. The 'General' began his labours among the poor in the slums of the East End of London.

The Movement started in Pretoria about 1888 and first met in a hall in Schubart Street, their social institute and discharged prisoner's home was in Church Street now covered by Poynton's Centre.

The area between Booth and Potgieter Streets with the exception of the original Bantu Commissioner's building and Paul Kruger House Museum was to have been cleared for a park to be called Kruger Square.

The Bantu Commissioner's Building, now housing a Police department was possibly erected in the 1930's. It was designed by the Public Works Department. The 'Lapa' – courtyard was surrounded by a wall bearing murals depicting the life-style of the Black peoples of the Transvaal.

Adjoining the Commissioner's building is the Kruger House Museum. The erf on which the residence was build was originally owned by James Kelly, and purchased by the President in 1881.

Building of the house commenced when pres. Paul Kruger took up presidential reign in 1883. The contractor was Charles Clark, and the occupation of the house was celebrated with a dinner in August 1884.

The President lived there until he went into exile in may 1900; his wife stayed on in the house until her death in July 1901.

The house was later used as a military police depot, and as a boarding house later becoming the property of the President's son-in-law, F.C. Eloff.

It then became a maternity home under the control of the Moedersbond – until 1934. This institution has since become the largest maternity institution in Pretoria.

The government purchased the property in 1925 and transferred it to the Transvaal Museum, who opened it as the Kruger Museum on the President's birthday anniversary in 1934. The residence has been declared a National Monument.

The lions reposing on the verandah steps were presented to the President by Barney Barnato, a Johannesburg mining magnate, for the favour, it is said, of the release of Solly Joel, a relation and member of the Reform Committee arrested and charged with treason during the ill-fated Jameson Raid of 1896.

Of interest to mention is, that Cecil Rhodes of Kimberley fame presented the President with a lioness in 1899 known as Beauty, but the President never cared for Rhodes' politics and returned the present. The lioness was sent to the London Zoological Gardens and was returned to Pretoria as a present to our zoological gardens after the Second Anglo-Boer War, and she lived to a ripe old age.

Directly opposite the Kruger House Museum is the Gereformeerde Church, 'Oom Paul's Church' as it is still today referred to. The original church on the property was a small building just south of the present structure which was designed by architect Klaas van Rijsse. The foundation stone was laid by the president on his birthday, 10 October 1896 and was inaugurated on Christmas Day 1897.

The clock in the steeple has no time indicators. For that matter it has no 'inner-works' either. A favourite story circulated by old-timers was that the invading British troops of 1900 stole the gold hands of the clock, but the truth was that the war delayed the order to the overseas manufacturers and the community after the war were in dire financial straits and could not afford the expense of such a luxury.

The chairs used by the President and his wife stand in front of the pulpit as they did when they attended services. The church and the chairs were declared National Monuments.

The next street is Potgieter Street, the boundary of Old Pretoria. The name recalls the restless Voortrekker leader, Andries Hendrik Potgieter who established Mooiriviersdorp in the then Western Transvaal which was later moved to healthier ground higher up the river and was renamed Potchefstroom after him.

His way of politics and thinking were never in line with other Voortrekker groups and when things became too much for him, he trekked further away from them.

He established (Andries) Ohrigstad and Lydenburg in Mpumalanga before trekking further northwards and founded Zoutpansbergdorp which was also called Oudedorp and later renamed Schoemansdal.

When the Church Street Cemetery was established, General Piet Joubert had a section set aside as Heroes Acre, intended for the war heroes of the Old Transvaal. General Andries Pretorius was the first to be reinterred there, but the family of Gen. Potgieter refused to have their father's remains disturbed. His grave and that of Van Warmelo are the only two graves recognizable in the Voortrekker Cemetery at Schoemansdal and the government erected a memorial stone similar to Gen. Pretorius' one in Church Street Cemetery.

We continue our walk to the next intersection. Prince's Park Avenue begins its short southward route from here and at the river is Cowie Street branching off northwards.

Of interest to note is that whilst Potgieter Street is the boundary of the original town, Prince's Park Avenue is the beginning of Church Street house and building numbering. No. 1 Church Street is on the south side and No. 2 on the north side. From the Bus sheds (Prince's Park) and the cemetery on the north begins No 1 and 2 Church Street West.

The Municipal Transport Department occupies portion of Prince's Park which before the turn of the century was called Volkspark – the People's Park. It received its present name when Princess Christian came to Pretoria in 1904 to visit the grave of her eldest son, Prince Christian Victor, grandson of Queen Victoria. To commemorate her visit she planted an oak sapling in the open ground opposite the cemetery where her son was buried. The oak died some years ago, and the then Director of Parks, Mr Bruins-Lich had it replaced with a more hardier species that is still to be seen in an enclosure behind the bus sheds.

During the Princess's visit to Pretoria, she also laid the foundation stone of the old age home that was named after her. The institution was transferred to Nieuw Muckleneuk and the foundation stone incorporated into the new building.

Prince Christian Victor died of typhoid fever prevalent throughout the Orange Free State and Transvaal during the Second Anglo-Boer War. He died at the Yeomanry Hospital established in Mr Tom Beckett's residence Merton Keep in Arcadia, which now houses the French Embassy.

The Prince was born on 14 April 1867; after completing his studies, he entered the Royal Military College and later saw service in India, Ashanti and the Sudan. He joined General Hilyard's staff in 1899 and was a pall-bearer

at the funeral of Fred Roberts (V.C.), son of Lord Roberts, Commander-in-Chief of British forces in South Africa, who died saving the guns at the Battle of Colenso.

Prince Christian was appointed to Lord Robert's staff in Pretoria in August 1900 and a few weeks later was stricken with fever; he died after a relapse on the 29 October 1900.

Military headquarters made arrangements to have his body sent back to England, but his wish was that if he were to die, that he be buried amongst his comrades. His last wish was honoured. The street adjoining the park bears his name.

Cowi Street recalls John S. Cowie, who was born in the Cape Province and came to Pretoria when 17 years of age. He was on the Kimberley Diamond fields in 1871 and mayor of that town for four years. He returned to Pretoria in the 1890's and served on the Pretoria Town Council.

The Steenovenspruit – brick-oven rivulet flowing along Cowie Street has its source on the hillock above the abattoirs in Mitchell Street; in earlier times it flowed through the brick-fields situated there. The bed of the stream was straightened and canalised in the 1920's.

Every town and village has its God's Acre. The Church Street Cemetery was established in 1867, some 12 years after the founding of Pretoria. It was the custom of earlier inhabitants to be buried on their farms; the first burial site in Pretoria was near the railway bridge on the Fountains Road on the property of Du Preez, who left his name, Du Preezhoek to that area. Persons buried there were reinterred in Church Street Cemetery when the railway line to Lourenco Marques (Maputo) was constructed in 1893.

The cemetery had three divisions, the English Episcopalian and Wesleyan, the Dutch Reformed and Hervormde and the Roman Catholic. An open area behind towards Von Wielligh Street was for Coloureds and still further west a section for victims of the law which does not appear to have been used. The Jewish section was only opened in the late 1880's.

This cemetery like others in our city with its park-like atmosphere is always a pleasure to visit, far from the cry of a writer in 1881 who wrote "a desolate, dirty-looking locality, surrounded by water-courses". During the investment of 1880/81 it was found necessary to enlarge the military portion which was surrounded by a substantial stone wall and left in good order when the troops withdrew.

Plots allotted for burial were controlled by the churches, who, in turn were responsible to the Cemetery Committee under the chairmanship of Rev. Be-gemann.

The centre portion of the cemetery on Church Street is referred to as Heroes Acre in which rest the remains of many of our former presidents. The first to

be buried there was Andries Pretorius who died on his farm Groot plaats (Rus-den-Ouden) which is now under the waters of the Hartbeespoort Dam where he was first buried. He was reinterred here with full military honours in May 1891.

Pretoria pioneers and others who left their mark on the history of the Transvaal, found their last resting place here.

John Jack, founder of the Simmer and Jack Gold mine in Germiston lies buried here with his wife and only son. Eileen O'Neill, wife of Richard O'Neill, in whose house the peace treaty was signed after the Battle of Majuba in the First Anglo-Boer War of 1880-81 and the wife of McCorkindale, who established the New Scotland area around Lake Chrissie in the Eastern Transvaal (Mpumalanga) was also buried here.

Presidents Paul Kruger, Van Rensburg and Burgers, the Rissiks, the Lyses of Pretoria and Johannesburg gold-fame, soldiers of the 1877-81 period, the British and Boer dead of the Second Anglo-Boer War, Sister Clary who came from America to start a school, the Meintjes who left their name to Meintjeskop on which the Union Buildings was erected, Edwin Bray, discoverer of the rich Bray's Golden Reef and the Great Sheba Gold Mine near Barberton, all lie here.

Other pioneers buried here are:

H.A.D. Blaaw, Volksraad member representing Lydenburg who died whilst attending a sitting. He was awarded a State funeral.

Cornelius Bodenstien, Fieldcornet, then Commandant of the Potchefstroom district, member of the Transvaal Volksraad for 14 years, serving as Chairman and Vice-President. He was in command of the Transvaal contingent against Chiefs Malap and Moshesh in the Orange Free State. He died in 1885.

James Brooks, government surveyor who left his name to Brook House, Brooks Street, Brooklyn, an eastern suburb of Pretoria.

Marinus Franken who designed the second church on the Square, and Rev N.J. Goddefroy one of the early ministers to that church.

De Vogel, Pretoria's Postmaster General who, with his son, and a friend were drowned when their coach was washed away while crossing a drift at Mulderspruit.

Gunning, first Director of the Zoological Gardens and Museum, Capt. Elliott shot while crossing the Vaal river during the First Anglo-Boer War. Advocate E.G. Jansen, South Africa's first Governor-General, a cultural leader and chairman of the organising committee responsible for the Voortrekker celebrations when the monument foundation stone was laid. Alois Nellmapius,

the great concessionaire, who laid out the township of Irene, in Centurion, which he named after his daughter.

Prime Minister Verwoerd who was assassinated in parliament in 1966 and Dr Veale, the first practitioner in Pretoria to use X-rays.

Four victims of the law are buried here. Hans Cordua, a German who served in the State Artillery was involved in a conspiracy to seize Lord Roberts, Officer Commanding British Forces and hand him over to the commandos; he was court-martialled and executed by firing squad. The two Australians, Handcock and Morant, of the Volunteer Bush Carbineers found guilty for the murder of Boer war prisoners in the then Northern Transvaal also ended their lives facing a firing squad. Jopie Fourie, who went into rebellion without resigning his commission in 1914 also found his last resting place here.

Bordering the cemetery on the west is D F Malan Drive, originally Von Wielligh Street which recalled Gideon Retief von Wielligh Surveyor-General of the Transvaal who was responsible for laying out parts of Sunnyside, the West End Burgerrecht (Burger-right) erven and the surveying of the Transvaal-Lourenco Marques (Maputo) boundary.

DF Malan recalls Daniel Francois Malan (1874-1959) clergyman and statesman. After leaving the teaching profession he entered the ministry of the N.G. Kerk and served at Heidelberg, Montague and Graaff-Reinet; he founded the political National Party and was a delegate to the Versailles Peace Conference in 1919; he became Prime Minister in the Union Government 1927-1933; he retired from politics in 1940.

The entire block on the southern side of Church Street west from Von Wielligh Street where Iscor Club and the Showgrounds now are, was used as a race course, originally laid out by C.K. White. Farmers of the district were the chief patrons, their wagons usually lining the course. Fixtures were held on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Public Holidays. The course closed down in the 1920's due to lack of support.

Pilditch Sports Stadium occupies the western portion of the ground. The stadium was established by the Pretoria City Council and named to honour a former mayor, Gerald 'Shirt' Pilditch, M.C., founder of the Harlequin Sports Club, who was one of Pretoria's greatest sports administrators.

He joined the municipality in 1912 and was a Councilor from 1951 until his death in 1956.

A
Walking Tour Through
Pretoria's Historical Past
PAUL KRUGER & BOOM STREETS
NORTH FROM CHURCH SQUARE



BOOK THREE

PAUL KRUGER & BOOM STREETS NORTH FROM CHURCH SQUARE

Walking northwards along Paul Kuger Street, the first cross road is Vermeulen Street recalling Jacob (Kootjie) Vermeulen, pioneer settler in Pretoria, in whose house (situated approximately where the Pretoria News Building now is, the first Volksraad meeting took place.

His brother, Hendrik, had a home on Church Square.

On the north-eastern corner stood the Pretoria Club founded in 1884 in a house on Church Square where the S.A. Reserve Bank is now situated. They moved to their "new" building in Vermeulen street in 1891, and used it until they again moved to a modern Club building in Paul Kruger street, that they later sold; they are now (1997) erecting new premises on Muckleneuk Hill.

Adjoining the eastern side of the Pretoria News is Eureka Building also known as the Old Agricultural Publication Building, because that department was housed there for many years; in 1981 it became the property of the Old Mutual Assurance Company.

The ground originally was owned by Capt. J.H.M. Struben (after whom Struben Street was named); in 1903 it became the property of Edwin P Guest who erected the present building to house his General Merchant business on the ground floor, using the upper floor as dwelling quarters.

In 1920 the premises were purchased by L de Groen, a pioneer of 1899 who established a factory in Kock (Bosman) Street and had a retail outlet adjoining the Fountain Hotel in Pretorius Street. He later transferred his 'Eureka' cigarette factory to this building.

Commissariat Plein was the name given to a piece of open ground on the south side of Vermeulen from Paul Kruger Street to the front of Somerset House, before Palace Street was created. This was used as a parade ground by Batterij Dingaen, the first State Artillery Corps established by President T F Burgers in 1874.

The battery consisted of 'Grietjie' used at the Battle of Blood River, one Mitrailleuse taken from the French by the Germans and presented to the President, and four Krupp cannons.

The Corps was commanded by Otto Riedl, a Prussian officer, 1 Lieutenant, 2 Sergeants and 4 artillerists. Lys was appointed Commandant.

This Corps was the forerunner of the later Staats Artillery founded by H.P.N. Pretorius (See Potgieter street route).

The red-bricked Somerset House on the northern side of Palace Street was the business headquarters of Charles Maggs, who owned the vast Somerset Estate in the Potgietersrus district, which was called after the residence in England of the Duke of Somerset.

Mr Maggs had vast interests in farming, afforestation in Mpumalanga, the Rooiberg Tin Mines and in cement production.
(See also Greystoke, Church Street East route).

We continue westwards along Vermeulen Street. Close to Somerset House stood the Albert residence named after a son of A.H. Nellmapius.

Alois Hugo Nellmapius was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1847. He came to the Transvaal when he was 25 years of age and spent some time on the Barberton Goldfields; he opened up the first safe route through the tsetse-fly area to Delagoa Bay (Maputo) which is still shown on present day maps as 'Nellmapius Road'.

An engineer, he used dynamite to blow up the caves in which the Pedi sheltered during the Sekhukhuni campaign in 1882. His concession for the manufacture of dynamite was sold to Lippert.

The Count, as he was called by the Diggers, then obtained a concession for the manufacture of jam, fruit canning and distilling of liquor. With financial backing from Mr Samuel Marks, they established the Hatherley Distillery east of Pretoria which when opened by President Kruger was called 'Eerste-fabrieken'.

Nellmapius established The Press newspaper. In 1889 he purchased portion of the farm Doornkloof from Daniel Erasmus and built up the area into the finest farm in the Transvaal, calling it Irene, pronounced 'ireenee', after his daughter who died in a tragic motorcar accident at Moorddrif near Potgietersrus in 1961.

Nellmapius died on his Irene Estate in July 1893 and Pres. Paul Kruger attended his funeral; he is buried with his wife in the Church Street Cemetery.

During the Second Anglo-Boer War a concentration camp was established at Irene and the cemetery there bears witness to those sad days.

On the north-eastern corner of Vermeulen and Kock (Bosman) Streets, opposite the original Government Printing Building, stood the Free Dispensary, a free medical service to underprivileged inhabitants. The building was later taken over by the Telephone Accounts Department (1945) and demolished together with the State Gymnasium for the erection of the present Post Office complex.

On the opposite corner is the old Government Printing Works Building, today housing their publications section.

The first government printing works in Pretoria was established in 1887. After being housed in premises in Church Street it was transferred to this site in 1895/96, its first director was P.W.T. Bell, who lived on the corner of Church and Du Toit Streets, where the Technical College now is.

The printing works moved to a new building adjoining the old one in 1926.

The State Gymnasium occupied the eastern block of Bosman Street between Vermeulen and Proes Streets; it was founded under Prof. Mansveld's administration and completed in 1895. The first headmaster was Dr H Reinink who started off with a staff of seven assistants.

The Gymnasium closed during the War of 1899-1902 and reopened as a primary school in 1903; it finally closed as the Gymnasium Junior and Senior School in 1941.

The building after that was used for some time by the Provincial Administration until it was taken over by the Post Office. It was demolished in 1970 for the building of the present headquarters.

Eendracht School stands on the north-western corner of Vermeulen and Proes Streets; it was founded in a church parsonage in 1904; the foundation stone of the school was laid in the same year, and its first principal was Dr N.M. Hoogenhout, who later became Director of Education.

Another well-known personality who became head of the school was Mr George Brummer, who left his name to Georgeville and Brummeria suburbs, east of Pretoria.

The original school building was demolished in 1938.

We make our way back to Paul Kruger Street along Proes Street, named after Bernard Cornelius Ernest Proes, born in Holland in 1831; he studied law and came to Pretoria in 1859 when he was appointed the First State Attorney of the Old Republic. During the Civil War he acted as Volksraad Secretary and was released from his duty by Pres. Kruger in 1862. In 1866, he practised as an advocate in Potchefstroom.

Proes represented Wakkerstroom and the Utrecht districts in the Volksraad from 1864-1868. In 1869 he was Government Secretary, resigning two years later because of ill-health.

Proes took part in revising the Constitution in 1858 and assisted in matters of the Educational Act of 1866.

Proes and President M.W. Pretorius both resigned because of the Keate Award - the boundary question with the Cape Province in 1871; Proes died on the 29th June 1872 and lies buried next to Capt. Struben in the Du Preezhoek section of Church Street Cemetery.

On the northern side of the street off Bosman Street the Greek Orthodox Church and parsonage stood; the property was sold when they occupied their new Church opposite the Pretoria University in Lynnwood Road.

We are now back at the Paul Kruger Street intersection. No 115 Market Street (Paul Kruger) on the south-western corner was the home of Dr. S. Radford Savage.

He was born at Rondebosch, Cape in 1863; and married Mary Bousfield, daughter of the first Bishop of Pretoria. Savage was a medical officer to the Cape Government Railways and spent some time in Lesotho and the Orange Free State before settling in Pretoria in 1902.

He was mayor of Pretoria in 1907/1908 and the street fronting the Pretoria Academic Hospital previously called H.F. Verwoerd Hospital (originally known as Pretoria General Hospital) bears his name.

Directly opposite is the German Club that was established in Vermeulen street in 1888; the first club house was sold soon after the First World War to the British League Club; the present building was erected in 1933 on the site which once held the home of Dr. Jorrison, and the adjoining house was that of Jonkheer Sandeman, General Louis Botha's secretary in the field during the War of 1899-1902.

The two sites mentioned also once formed Bishopscote, the first home of Bishop Bousfield.

Bishop Tweels of Bloemfontein in the Quarterly Bulletin of 1864 wrote "if we are to listen to the cry from the Transvaal 'come over and help us', we need more Priests and funds." In 1863 Mr Albert Brodrick collected funds whilst on holiday in England for the establishment of an Anglican Congregation. During that same year, the Bishop again visited his Pretoria flock and recorded, "In this pretty little town in the far interior, staying with the Lys family, I held Sunday services in the Council chamber kindly lent by the Government."

In 1870 the Rev. J. Sharley Wills came to Pretoria and conducted services regularly in the Government schoolroom. He was appointed first Rector in 1874.

The first Anglican Church was built in 1872 on a site that later became the Langham Hotel in Church Street opposite the present Poynton Centre. The congregation moved to St. Albans in Schoeman Street in 1879.

Bishop Bousfield, first Anglican Bishop of Pretoria, arrived in 1878 and immediately founded two schools in his new home here off the corner. The second Bishopscote became the home of General N.J. Smit on the south-eastern corner of Andries and Visagie Streets, which now is the site of Wesley Methodist Church.

Bousfield left Pretoria on the outbreak of the Second Anglo Boer War and ministered to the troops in the field. He died in Cape Town whilst attending a meeting in 1902 and was buried at Rondebosch.

Members of his family are buried in Church Street Cemetery where a memorial tablet to the Bishop was erected.

On the north-eastern corner stood the stately homestead 'Carlsruhe' of Carl A.F. Ueckermann, a solicitor in the days of the Transvaal Republic; he purchased the erf for R40; during the British occupation (1900-1902) the residence was used as an officers' mess.

Castle Carey, an institution for alcoholics was founded on the premises.

Halfway down Paul Kruger Street to the next intersection is the original Jewish Synagogue. The first Jews in Pretoria came in 1881 and worshipped in a private hall, then they used the Market Hall building. This ground was acquired in 1896, and the foundation stone of the Synagogue was laid by Alderman Harry Solomon on 1 December 1897, and was in use until their new Synagogue was built in Schoeman Street, Arcadia.

The government purchased the Paul Kruger Street site and used it as a court room for some time.

Panagos' Corner on the south-western corner of Struben Street was the site of businesses run by three well-known Pretoria families. Haaks of Haaks Garage opened his first business, a cycle repair shop, there; H. de Bruyn opened his first boot and shoe shop and Mr Zagt was also to be found there.

Struben Street recalls Captain Johan Herman Marinus Struben, of German origin born on the 30th March 1806 in Groot Rysterveldt, a manor house at Oirschot near Oosterwijk. He joined the Dutch navy and as a lieutenant won a medal for valour during the Siege of Antwerp, 1830/1831,

Capt. Johann met his future wife on one of his trips to Portsmouth, and married Frances (Fannie) Beattie in 1838. Because of her health, they decided to emigrate and made their home in the Cape Constantia Valley, later going to Natal where he became Chief magistrate of the Northern District.

He was a friend of the Boers who in 1854 asked him to stand as a candidate for the Orange Free State presidency, but he declined.

His wife died and was buried at Ladysmith where he was stationed. Johann came to the Transvaal in 1855, and took up a teaching appointment in the government school; he then became a businessman and later was appointed Government Secretary. He spent some years in the Cape but returned again in 1867 to become State Attorney; he later represented Lydenburg in the Volksraad.

Harry Struben, and his brother, sons of the Captain, discovered gold at Wilgespruit, Krugersdorp.

A slight deviation eastwards along Struben Street brings us to an old Victorian styled house that was acquired by the museum authorities to display the Africana collection of Mrs Mabel Jansen, wife of a former Governor-General (1951-1959), Dr Ernest George Jansen. This museum closed down in the 1990's.

Dr Jansen was born in the Dundee District in 1881; after practising as an attorney in Pietermaritzburg, he entered politics and became a Member of Parliament for Vryheid which he represented for 22 years.

He was South Africa's first Afrikaans-speaking Governor-General and the first to die in Office.

A cultural leader, he was chairman of the organising committee responsible for the Voortrekker Monument celebrations when the foundation stone was laid in 1938 and it was through his efforts that the Church of the Vow, commemorating the Victory at Blood River in Pietermaritzburg, was restored and preserved.

His wife, Mabel (Martha) was a granddaughter of Jean Pellisier, a French Missionary who founded Bethulie in the Orange Free State.

The next crossroad is Bloed Street. Conflicting stories are told regarding the origin of this street name. It is said that during the Civil War of 1862/1863, Klein Schoemansdal, the home of Stephanus Schoeman (where the Boom Street museum now stands), was surrounded by government forces to stop reports getting through to the rebel general.

Jacobus (Koos) du Toit, son of the surveyor of Pretoria went visiting the Schoeman household one stormy night and failed to hear an order to 'halt-who-goes-there'. Shots were fired, some saying that young Koos was wounded whilst others record that his horse was killed.

Boom Street was the northern boundary of old Pretoria and it wound its way between the farms Elandsfontein and Daspoort through a patch of Willow trees. Early records reveal that the rough road first had the name Schutte Road.

The present tree avenue was planted by Walton Jameson (Jacaranda Jim) in 1909.

On the south-western corner stood a house from where the Boer Red Cross operated during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). The house was demolished for the present slip-road into Boom Street.

The northern continuation of Paul Kruger Street was in earlier times only a rough track leading through Zoo Poort also known as Eloff's Cutting, recall-

ing Frederik Christoffel Eloff who married Elsie Francina, President Kruger's daughter. Eloff settled on a portion of the farm Daspoort which he purchased from Marais (Les Marais) in 1896. He called it Eloff Estate, which in turn gave us the name of Eloffsdal suburb established in 1918, on which the township of Capital Park was established, so called because of its park-like atmosphere amongst the Bluegum plantations.

Francina gave her name to a street there and Eloff Street is named after the owner.

F.C. Eloff Jnr, was Paul Kruger's private secretary and accompanied him to Europe. Another member of the family who played an important part in the War of 1899 –1902 was Sarel remembered for leading an attack and capturing a section of the Mafikeng defences and for his unsuccessful attempt to escape from a prisoner-of-war camp on St. Helena Island in February 1901. Sarel left his name to a township and railway station 'Eloff' on the East Rand where he settled.

S.J.P. Eloff (Fanie), the well-known sculptor, named after his grandfather, executed the 'Discus Thrower' statue that stood at the Eastern Sports-grounds and later transferred to Pilditch stadium; he also sculpted the relief on his parents' tombstone in Church Street Cemetery.

A short walk westwards takes us to the Marabastad area of Pretoria.

On the south-eastern corner of Bosman Street was Clark's Nursery where the first Jacaranda trees planted along the streets of Pretoria were grown.

Marabastad was originally the area north of the Apies River towards the hill and catered for Black servants after the founding of the town. Their ranks swelled with servants that deserted families attending the quarterly Nagtmaal (Communion) services held on Church Square.

The area was proclaimed a location in the 1890's and the overflow of squatters moved across the railway line on to Hove's property.

The name is derived from Maraba (Marappa), an elderly person serving as an interpreter at the court.

The southern end was called 'Tin Town' and was set aside for Asiatics.

Still keeping to the southern side of Boom Street, we walk west on to 6th Street, and turn left to view the Marriammen Temple. This structure replaced an earlier wood and iron temple that served the Tamil section of the Indian community, the oldest Tamil organisation in the Transvaal which applies itself to cultural, religious and educational advancement amongst its members.

In 1928 the Tamil Council had the old temple replaced by a Sanctuary designed by Mr P. Govender, a hall was added shortly afterwards and the im-

posing 'Gopuram' - gateway, designed by Mr G. Krishman, an active and honoured member of the community was erected in 1939.

Mr Krishman's design is in accordance with centuries old principles and crowned by the symbolic Flames of Life.

The Temple is dedicated to a Hindu goddess who controlled infectious diseases; ceremonies in her honour are conducted regularly in the Temple, which was proclaimed a National Monument in 1982.

The area west of D.F. Malan Street and the railway line is known as Hove's ground. Once owned by Van den Hoven, who had a mill on the banks of the Apies River (see also Hove's Drift).

As mentioned the area was occupied by the overflow of squatters from Marabastad and the position worsened after the First World War.

In the early 1920's, the municipal authorities redesigned the area and erected sub-economic housing units with water and sanitation. The inhabitants were transferred in the 1950's and 60's to the then newly established townships of Atteridgeville on the western boundary of Pretoria and Mamelodi in the east.

The name was coined by a former Town Clerk, Mr M.G. Nicolson who thought it sounded good. Others have it as 'ba Ntule' : ba = people and n'tule = pushed, therefore, the people who were compelled to live there.

We now wind our way eastwards along the northern side of Boom Street and recall the Old Schoolplaats Mission Station established along the banks of the Apies River by the German Lutheran Mission Society and the adjoining piece of ground also obtained from the government in 1866 by Rev. Knuthe who named the new portion Sans-Souci after the Potsdam palace of King Frederik Willem IV, a great friend of General von Gerlack, a beneficiary of the Mission, after whom Gerlack's Mission was named. Sans-Souci = free and easy, a place of amusement or relaxation.

The Belle Ombre Estate extended from the Mission grounds to Paul Kruger Street and northwards to the summit of the hill and was owned by T.N. de Villiers.

Tielman Niewoud de Villiers started life as a transport rider on the Diamond Fields. He settled in Pretoria in 1869 as one of the town's pioneer lawyers; he represented Bloemhof in the Volksraad and was a founder member of the Pretoria Club in 1885.

De Villiers was a founder of the first Pretoria Agricultural Society and Chairman of the Temporary Town Council established in 1897. A director of companies, he owned much property throughout the Transvaal and was also a sports pioneer in the town.

He is buried in Church Street Cemetery; the family plot also bears the remains of his son killed during the Second Anglo-Boer War.

The Zoological Gardens started in a small way in a yard at the back of the Old Market Hall in Church Street before being transferred to the Rus-en-Urbe property adjoining the museum, under its first director, Dr J.W.B. Gunning.

Gunning arrived in South Africa in 1884 and practised in the Cape Province and in the Orange Free State. On taking up residence in Pretoria in 1891, he no longer practised his profession and became Acting-director of the Transvaal Museum which was started in a schoolroom in 1874.

Gunning first lived in Andries Street, then in Zoo House until his death in 1913. A memorial plaque will be found embedded in a seat in the main avenue of the zoo.

The Zoological Gardens and the Museum are situated on the property of Stephanus Schoeman, the zoo portion was later owned by J.F. Celliers who named it Rus-en-Urbe.

Johannes Francois Celliers, born at Wellington, Cape Province in 1839, was invited by President T.F. Burgers to start a pro-government newspaper in Pretoria, which he did; the first edition of De Volksstem was printed in 1873. After the War of 1880-1881 he represented Bloemhof in the Volksraad and from 1888 represented De Kaap and Barberton. He died from a stroke in Johannesburg during an election campaign in March 1895 and was buried with his wife in Church Street Cemetery.

During the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) a large prisoner-of-war camp was established on the northern banks of the Apies River towards the hill. After the escape of Winston Churchill (later Prime Minister of England) from the Staats Model School in Van der Walt Street, the officers were transferred to this camp.

The prisoners were released on the occupation of the town on 5 June 1900 and in turn it became a 'Bird-Cage' for captured Boer troops.

The Transvaal Museum (now the National Cultural History & Open Air Museum) also referred to as The Boom Street Museum was on the Klein Schoemansdal Estate of General Schoeman; the prefix to the name differentiates it from the Voortrekker settlement Schoemansdal, in the Zoutpansdorp and Oudedorp in the Northern Province.

Schoeman sold one portion of the property to J.F. Celliers and another portion to T.N. de Villiers and then retired to his farm Rietfontein, today a suburb of Pretoria.

The Museum was founded in 1892, its collection first being housed on the top floor of the Raadsaal on Church Square, then transferred to the Small

Market-Hall on what is now known as Strijdom Square and officially opened to the public by President Kruger in May 1894.

The museum started under the curatorship of Dr H.G. Breyer. Dr Gunning was appointed Director in 1897. A new museum was erected on the zoo property and the foundation stone laid by Dr Mansveldt in July 1899 and only completed after the Anglo-Boer War in 1902. The State Museum was officially opened in December 1904. The museum was later transferred to the vacated Mint building in Visagie Street.

The museum in Paul Kruger Street was started in 1910 and housed the natural history material; the Boom Street museum retained the ethnographical, archaeological and history collections.

De Waal street recalls E.H. de Waal, Customs Official of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek; he lived in Boom street, owning the property northwards towards the Apies River; he emigrated to Kenya in 1906.

Going down Lewis Street we call at No 9, the one time residence of Henk Pierneef's parents, now incorporated into the zoological grounds.

Jacob Hendrik (Henk) Pierneef, artist and painter, loved his Pretoria and left treasures of the past in woodcuts and sketches of houses and scenes of Pretoria.

He received art lessons whilst at the old Gymnasium and studied further in Rotterdam. On the family's return to South African in 1902, he first worked as a shop attendant and later joined the library staff which allowed him time to continue his art.

His first exhibition was held in Pretoria in 1913; he took up a post as art lecturer at the Normal College and from 1924 painted full-time.

Pierneef was commissioned to paint the thirty-two panels for the then 'new' Johannesburg railway station as well as the panels that adorn South Africa House in London.

This fine painter was honoured with a medal from the S.A. Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns and the University of Pretoria conferred on him an honorary doctorate.

His home at Brummeria, east of Pretoria, he called 'Elangeni' - from the Zulu, meaning, "Where the sun shines in" - dawn.

Our tour nears the end as we make our way to Prinsloo Street which was named after the person owning and living on Prinshof Estate along the Apies River at the northern end of 'his' street.

This area is also associated with Hove who had a second mill on the river at this point which was known as Hove's Drift, his other mill being situated at Marabastad.

Hove's identity has not been cleared up. In records found, they give the name Von Dem Howe/Hoven, Hovey and Hove. The family plot in the Church Street Cemetery, however, bears the name Hove.

The area between the Apies River where it flows through Hove's Drift towards the hospital extending eastwards across the present Beatrix Street to the foothills of Meintjeskop was called Donkey Camp.

It received that name because many of the poor-whites living in the slum tin-shanty town owned a donkey to pull a cart to transport firewood sold for a living. The slum was cleared in 1910.

A
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PAUL KRUGER STREET
SOUTH FROM CHURCH SQUARE



BOOK FOUR

PAUL KRUGER STREET SOUTH FROM CHURCH SQUARE

Paul Kruger street in Pretoria was originally called Markt (Market) Street. It now commemorates President Paul Kruger who held office from May 1883 until going into exile in 1900.

Kruger was born at Bulhoek in the Cradock district (others say Vaalbank in the Colesberg district) on the 10th October 1825. As a twelve-year youth he accompanied his father on the Potgieter Trek and settled in Old Schoemansdal in the then Northern Transvaal. Casper's Nek in the mountains behind Lydenburg in the Eastern Transvaal was called after his father who pioneered the route.

Under Republican law, Paul Kruger was allowed two farms. His selection was Waterkloof and Boekenhoutkloof in the Rustenburg district. The latter has been restored and is a museum open to visitors.

Kruger married twice. His first wife died whilst giving birth to twins. His second wife, Gezina (after whom a suburb was named), was a cousin of his first wife.

Paul Kruger was a Veldcornet at 21 years of age and a Commandant 12 years later; he was a member of the triumvirate during the First Anglo-Boer War (1880/1881) and served for four presidential terms.

The President died at Clarens (now also a place-name in the (Orange) Free State), Switzerland on the 14th July 1904 and buried in a tomb at Eik en Duinen, Den Haag. His body was later returned to South Africa and accorded a State funeral. He was buried next to his wife in Church Street Cemetery on the 16th December 1904.

The Standard Bank occupies the site of the old Grand Hotel established by the Lys family as the President Hotel in 1890, and after changing hands it assumed the name of Grand Hotel.

John Robert Lys of Huguenot stock who settled in England, was one of the first English-speaking people to settle in Pretoria. He came to South Africa in 1850, first working in Cape Town, then went farming near Harrismith and in the year of Pretoria's founding, purchased property and lived in the town for the rest of his life.

He established a trading business and built his home on the present site of the Standard Bank, later erecting the first iron-roof business building on the site of the present Tudor building.

Robert, the "Squire" never cut his 'home' ties. On Queen Victoria's birthday, the British flag was hoisted and a small ship's cannon fired a salute. Whilst a member of the Volksraad, and if it be in session, the meeting would be adjourned, members crossing the street to his residence and toasted the Queen.

Lys can lay claim to being one of the founders of the Anglican community in Pretoria. His home was used for weekly services and assisted by Albert Brodrick and Rous, collected funds for the erection of the first St Albans Church in Church Street where later the Langham Hotel stood opposite Poynton Centre.

Lys became magistrate after the annexation, a post he held until his death in 1880.

Lys Street in Rietondale commemorates his name.

Pretoria's first gaol stood on the corner of Pretorius and Paul Kruger Streets in 1865. It was built by Alexander Anderson, an Englishman, who was sentenced to 12 months hard labour for an unstated crime, but the 'dorp' had no gaol to hold him. On a promise of good behaviour, and release, the prisoner, a builder, constructed Pretoria's first permanent gaol on a site just behind the Raadsaal.

The Town's second gaol was erected in 1875, west of the intersection of Koch (now Bosman) and Visagie Streets. Older inhabitants still recall stories told by their parents of hangings in the prison courtyard being visible from the houses opposite the prison.

The present gaol in Potgieter street was erected in 1907. The temporary cells facing on Potgieter Street were demolished and replaced by the present modern structure some years back. Situated behind this building is the main prison, also modernised with the exception of the original 'castle-like' imposing entrance.

Taking a short stroll eastwards along Pretorius Street, we come across Van Erkoms Building. Mr van Erkom established a cigar, cigarette & snuff factory here in 1890 in what was formerly Government Building which he purchased and built a large factory behind it. The front shops were burned down shortly before the War of 1899 and after cessation of hostilities Van Erkom erected a substantial block of shops with a modern factory at the back. His tobacco was exported all over the world, winning a gold medal at the Brussels Exhibition.

On the opposite side of the street across Bank Lane is the facade of the Old Opera House, designed by Mackintosh and Moffat and built by William Day, the contractor for the owners B & F Wheeler. It was officially opened by the Mayor, Mr E.F. Bourke, on the 29th February 1904, when Mr Wheeler presented the celebrated English comedian, George Gaddows. The building was acquired by the Johannesburg-based Schlesinger organisation which owned the Plaza Theatre complex in the adjoining street. Both buildings, except for the Opera House facade, were demolished for the creation of the new Opera Arcade.

Returning to Paul Kruger Street intersection, but continuing eastwards along Pretorius Street to Volkstem Avenue, the Fountain Hotel adjoining Compol

Building. The old Fountain Hotel, a double-storeyed building was in existence in 1888. The beautiful trellised building burned down and was rebuilt in 1905.

Compol Building was originally the 'New' Government Building designed by Sytze Wierda of the Public Works Department and erected in the 1890's. After Union (1910) it was taken over by the South African Police and housed the staff of the Commissioner, hence its abbreviated name COM(missioner) of POL(ice). It now houses the Police Museum.

Contrary to the date on the gable of the building across the avenue, it was only completed in 1898.

The Volksstem (originally with two s's) newspaper was founded in 1873 by J.F.E. Celliers. (See Boom street route).

Schoeman Street commemorates Commandant-General Stephanus Schoeman, the Voortrekker who gave his name to Schoemansdal in the Northern Transvaal and to his Pretoria property in Boom Street, Klein Schoemansdal. This estate today is the site of the old Museum and the Zoological Gardens.

Frans du Toit Building on the south-western corner was erected by the Iscor Pension Fund Society and the name honours a former General Manager of Iscor.

The Paul Kruger Street side of the building in earlier times housed De Bruyn's shoe store and some semi-detached houses in one of which lived William Skinner before he moved out west to his new home Skinner's Court. His home was taken over for a while by Judge Kotze.

Before Laboria building was erected on the opposite corner, a small single-storeyed building there housed the Department of Defence.

Our next point of call is the n/e corner of Skinner Street where once stood the pioneer home of Bras Piedada de Pereira, a trader who ventured to Lydenburg and to Oudedorp (Schoemansdal) in the far north to do business with the settlers there. He is thought to have settled in Pretoria shortly after 1867 when Schoemansdal was evacuated and destroyed by the Venda tribe.

Pereira's homestead 'Fountain Lodge' (so called because of a stream that originated on the property), was fenced in, so it is said, with criss-crossed elephant tusks.

The Old Pretoria Society went to great lengths to have the old sun-baked brick home preserved. The late Mr Normal Eaton had detailed plans of the houses drawn up for re-erection in the intended open air museum, but the idea never worked out.

William Skinner, who gave his name to Skinner Street, was born in Canterbury, England, in 1828; he came to Natal in 1840 with his cousins, the Devereaux brothers, where they plied their trade as building contractors.

Andries Pretorius encouraged them to come to Pretoria, offering them their first job of building him a house on his farm Grootplaats at the Hartbeespoort Dam. They also built the first church on the square and the Raadsaal.

He also assisted with the first plans of laying out the town; Skinner's second wife was the grand daughter of Piet Retief, the Voortrekker. He was landdrost (magistrate) from 1869 to 1878. He died in 1885 and was buried in the Church Street Cemetery.

We move on to the Visagie Street intersection. It is worth while stopping here for a few minutes and take in the history around us. The General Joubert Building slightly east off Paul Kruger Street in Visagie Street honours a man loved by both friend and foe, who lived on that site for most of his life.

The General's old homestead was purchased by an Afrikaans Church Organisation who erected this modern complex and paid respect to his memory by naming it after the general and placing a bust of him at the entrance.

General Piet Joubert was in command of the Boer forces that invaded Natal when the Second Anglo-Boer War broke out in 1899. An old soldier that fought in all Republican battles fell ill whilst on a visit to Pretoria and died on the 27th March 1900, age 69 and young Louis Botha was promoted to take his place as Commandant-General. After a funeral service in the church on the Square, his cortege was escorted to the railway station where a special train was made available to carry his body to his farm Rustfontein near Volksrust for interment.

The 'new' Land Bank Building adorns the north-western corner. The Land Bank was established in 1912 and the original building was designed by De Zwaan and completed in 1914. The corner part was demolished in 1964 to make way for the present structure which was designed by Johan de Ridder and constructed by Engel & Ruyter. It was officially opened by the then Minister of Finance, Dr T.E. Donges, on 3 June 1966.

The statue of the Sower and the Reaper is the work of Mr Hennie Potgieter.

Jelallabad Villa once occupied the site adjoining the Land Bank and was owned by Dr Kay. The homestead was taken over by the British Annexation forces for their headquarters and gave it the name recalling a fortification of that name in the Indian wars in which they served. A fort erected on the Spekboom River in the Eastern Transvaal during the Sekhukhuni wars was also given this name.

Dr James Alexander Kay, born at Plymouth, England in 1849. He served on a whaling boat and then joined the Royal Army Medical Corp in 1879 when the Zulu War broke out.

He was stationed in Pretoria during the British occupation of 1880/81 then returned to England; after his marriage there, he returned to Pretoria and opened a private practice.

In 1899 when war clouds were gathering over the capital, Kay left hurriedly, being suspected of being a British spy; he joined the medical team at the beleaguered Ladysmith, returning once again to Pretoria, where for a time, he acted as war correspondent for overseas newspapers.

Dr Kay kept a daily journal of events from 1895, much of the material therein was used in H.J. May's publication "Music of the Guns".

Adjoining his grave in the Church Street Cemetery is that of his father-in-law, Major-General William Ashburner.

From this vantage point at Visagie Street intersection one looks to the hillock behind the railway station. A hill used by Jan de Vogel, the postmaster, to signal the arrival of mail. From a high flagpole, a ball was suspended to announce the arrival of the Kimberley post; a ball and a drum signified the Kimberley and British mail was at hand; a cone was hoisted for the Natal post, from this was derived the name Time Ball Hill, because of a signal hoisted there at midday.

After the occupation of Pretoria in 1900, the area around the koppie fell under military authority and was called Salvokop (as is the township below it's height). It was from this hill that 25 pounder artillery pieces fired salutes to visiting and departing dignitaries.

The name of Visagie commemorates Johannes Hendrik Visage (Visagie), born in the Malmesbury district, Cape Province, in 1815.

Johannes and his teenage brother joined the Retief Trek to Natal where the younger Visagie met the same fate as Retief and his followers on Dingaan's Matiwane – the hill of execution.

Johannes took his place with others in the 64 wagon laager at Blood River where General Andries Pretorius led them to victory against Dingaan's impis on the 16th December 1838.

With the British annexation of Natal in 1842, he, and others, trekked across the Vaal River, first settling in the Heidelberg district where he became Landdrost (Magistrate).

He was General Andries Pretorius' secretary and present at the Sand River Convention in January 1852 and was with the old Voortrekker leader during his last days at Grootplaats (Rust-den-Ouden) farm where the Hartbeespoort dam is now sited.

Visagie was a herbal doctor and later assisted Skinner and the Devereau brothers with the original plan of Pretoria; he was elected to the Volksraad

and became Government Secretary. In 1863 he gave up all civic matters and farmed at Swavelpoort until his death in 1884.

The site of the Transvaal Museum in the days of the Old Republic, held the government stores which was looted by the local inhabitants with the permission of the retreating Boer government officials in 1900 who did not want the contents to fall into British hands.

The erection of the 'new' museum as it was referred to in 1910, came from the surplus funds of the Transvaal Treasury at the time of Union; it was completed in 1914. The original plan of a wing at either end was interrupted by the outbreak of the First World War, and was never completed, until commenced in 1997.

Opposite the museum, is the magnificent City Hall standing on the site known to earlier inhabitants as Rooibult or Klipbult – red or stone height – that usually had connotations with poverty. Not so, the Pretoria name; the area south of Visagie Street was given because of the nature of the ground.

The City Hall was erected on a site known as Pretorius Square. Records of the Old Pretoria (Historical) Society reveal that Maria Mundt, daughter of the family that lived at Mundtsoelen, where the Pioneer Museum at Silverton now stands, married N.J. Pretorius, Segelmeester (Admin Officer), of the Staatsartillerie, and lived on Pretorius Square.

Later maps of the area show it as 'Friscoe Square'.

The City hall was designed by J. Lockwood-Hall; the contractor was Clark and Downie; the building was completed in 1935.

The Deagon Carillon designed and built in Chicago, was a donation to the public of Pretoria by Mr George Heys of Melrose House; the pediment above the entrance was sculptured by Coert Steynberg.

The organ, one of the largest of its kind when installed, was built by the firm W.W. Kimball, also of Chicago, U.S.A.

The statues of Pretoria's founder, M.W. Pretorius and his illustrious father was unveiled during the City's centenary year in 1955 by Col. Izak Meyer, of Potchefstroom, who married Christina, the President's daughter, who gave her name to Christiana in the Western Transvaal and to Lake Chrissie in the New Scotland area in the Eastern Transvaal (Mpumalanga).

The Pretorius Coat of Arms forms the centre of the Pretoria Crest. It illustrates a man seated in a chair of authority with a wreath halo, holding a staff crowned by another wreath. This motif gives the origin of the name. The Pretorius' ancestor was called "Schout" – a title for a Law Officer, the Latin term being – Praetor = Pretorius.

Let us however, go back before the City Hall was erected and after the Pretorius family connection with the square, to the time when it was church owned.

When Pretoria was established, the state only recognised one church, but after some time, the religious group broke up into three congregations sharing the same church on the Square. The N.H. Congregation erected a 'help-along-church' for their congregation on the corner of Paul Kruger and Minnaar Streets and was in use until their new church in Du Toit Street was inaugurated in 1905.

The Rev. Goddefroy, the resident minister, had his parsonage on the northern corner of the square opposite the Land Bank Building. The church building was later used as the Tivoli Bioscope, one of the town's earliest amusement houses.

The whole western block between Minnaar and Jacob Mare Streets was owned by the N.Z.A.S.M. – Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg Maatskappy, a Dutch company that build and operated the railway line between Pretoria and Lourenco Marques (Maputo), until the British military took control in 1900.

The NZASM company was established in June 1887; the construction of the line began from two sides, from Pretoria and from the Portuguese Border and was completed on 2 November 1894 when president S.J.P. Kruger placed the final bolt linking up the sections at Wilgerivier.

The first train to the East left Pretoria station on the 18th November 1894. The order of the building on the block were: the administration building on Minnaar Street corner then came the traffic department, adjoining that was the directorate and on Jacob Mare Street corner stood the imposing residence of the director, Mr G.A.A. Middelberg.

The complex became the property of the later S.A. Railways and the house became the residence of the Hon. H.C. Hull, who laid the foundation stone of the 'new' railway station building.

Jacob Mare Street was originally known as Mare Street and received its prefix in the late 1920's. Jacob Mare was a Volksraad member in 1888; he died on his farm in Heidelberg in 1900. It is said that the famous South African song 'Sarie Marais' was about his daughter, wife of Daniel Toeren, who composed it during their engagement.

On the south-western corner of Jacob Mare Street, now occupied by a furniture company was the site of Fort Royal.

The four Republican forts are well known to all. Schanskop and Klapperkop guarded the southern entrance to the valley, Fort Daspoortrand (Westfort) protected the western area and Fort Wonderboom stood on the hill above the wonder tree in the north.

The only British fortification of the 1900-02 period still existing within the city limits is Johnston's Redoubt in the grounds of Libertas (Mahlabandlovu), the President's residence at the top of Eastwood Street where Tom Jenkins' cement road begins. It was called after Andrew Johnston, owner of Lisdogan Estate.

The first forts in Pretoria were those hastily erected by the besieged British troops in 1880. Fort Royal on this corner, Fort Tullichewan, better known as Fort Tully was erected on Timeball Hill above the railway station (named after the commanding officer's wife's ancestral home in Scotland. Fort Commeline, named after the officer in charge of its erection and who commanded it, was situated on Green Magazine hill above the Potgieter Street gaol. The hill is now called Keevykop named after a former Police Commissioner.

A slight detour eastwards along Jacob Mare Street brings us to Barton keep, the one-time mansion of Eddie Bourke, a prominent businessman. The property was purchased by an Afrikaans church organisation who maintain the house as it originally was.

The Bourke family covered many a field in the history of Pretoria and the Transvaal.

Eddie Bourke had a general dealer store later taken over by John Jack, who established the Simmer and Jack Gold Mine in Germiston. Bourke Trust Building in Andries Street was the base from which he controlled his interests. The building came down to make way for the Old Mutual Centre.

Bourke's Potholes on the Panorama route in the Eastern Transvaal (Mpumalanga) was called after his prospecting brother who had a store in Pilgrimsrest.

The name of his residence, Barton Keep derives from Old English – bereton – barley, or cornfield (farm). The Irish "keep" represents a tower as found in castles.

The adjoining Dirk van der Hof building was erected on Bourke's property and houses the conservatoire hall of music and the S.P. Engelbrecht Church Museum.

The name of the building commemorates the Rev. Van der Hof, Pretoria's first preacher to serve the community from Potchefstroom. The Rev and his brother designed the Vierkleur flag and had the honour of unfurling it for the first time in Pretoria on Church Square.

A street in Hercules previously called Rustenburg Road, was renamed to his memory.

Returning to Paul Kruger Street we make our way to Scheiding Street which will end this tour.

Scheiding Street – dividing street – was the boundary of Pretoria, dividing it from the town's grazing fields. (Commonage).

The Victoria Hotel is the oldest hotel in Pretoria. The first hotel on the site was erected by Mr Hambourg who called it the Station Hotel which only managed to stay in business a short while.

Jacob Joffe, lessee of the corner site had a Hollander architect plan this present building which was completed in 1896 and called the Hollandia Hotel. It received its present name Victoria (after the Queen of England) when the British occupied the town in June 1900.

A Walking Tour Through Pretoria's Historical Past STATION SQUARE TO FOUNTAINS



BOOK FIVE

STATION SQUARE TO FOUNTAINS

Crossing Scheiding – the dividing, separating street, the boundary of the town and the townlands used for grazing, we stroll through the station square garden that was laid out around the Kruger monument that stood here when the Royal visit took place in 1947.

The Kruger statue was first erected in Prince's Park in 1913 and on the centenary of his birth in 1925 the statue was transferred to this square where it stood until again moved to its intended position on Church Square in 1954.

The station building was designed by Sir Herbert Baker who designed the Union Buildings; the foundation stone was laid by Mr Hull, the then Minister of Finance on 21 May 1910.

The Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg Maatschappij (NZASM), a Dutch company, built and operated the railway line between Pretoria and Lourenço Marques (Maputo) which was completed in 1894.

It is recorded that the first engine in the Transvaal was No.1283 which was made in Germany and assembled in the Elandsfontein (Germiston) workshops; it weighed 14 tons and cost 1715 £ and was in service from 1894 to 1903.

The National Monuments Plaque on the ZASM engine exhibited on one of the platforms informs us that it was manufactured in the Netherlands and was in service from 1897 to 1913.

The coach attached to the engine was the personal coach of Mr Middelberg, director of the NZASM company.

The first engine used in the Transvaal was one that ran between Boksburg and Johannesburg transporting coal for the gold mines. It was called the Rand Tram because people were against the establishment of a railway which would have deprived transport drivers of their living.

At a ceremony in July 1970, a plaque was unveiled by Engineer F.A.S. Seixas, Director-General of the Caminhos de Ferro de Mocimboa do Castelo in honour of General Joaquim José Machado, General of the Engineering Corps, that pioneered the Eastern route in 1882-84.

Machado gave his name to a railway depot established along the line which is now a flourishing town bearing the General's name.

Down the short road leading to Railway Street on the left hand side, is the only remaining building of the NZASM period that was declared a national monument.

Berea is the name of the area south of Scheiding Street through which we are now walking, the name Berea is associated with places that are situated on a height (overlooking a town).

The Berea in Durban, Kwazulu Natal was established by Capt. Allen Gardiner, ex-naval officer who became a missionary after the death of his wife. His request to start a mission amongst the Zulus was refused by Chief Dingaan so he returned to the Bay and founded a mission overlooking Durban giving it the Biblical name Berea found in the Acts of the Apostles, XVII: 10/11 having reference to Paul and Silas who were repulsed by the Thessalonians and their welcome and the acceptance of The Word by the people of Berea.

We do not know who christened the Pretoria property but in the 1880's it was owned by that great sportsman, Henry Nourse, later mining magnate, who established Nourse's Horse Regiment during the Siege of Pretoria during the First Anglo-Boer War 1880-81 and the war of 1899-1902.

It appears he was in partnership with the (E.F.) Bourke Company, pioneer merchant, who later established Bourke Trust Company.

The first motor car in Pretoria, a Benz, was demonstrated to President Kruger here with J.P. Hess at the wheel and Dr Leyds as passenger on the 4 January 1897.

In 1892, '96 and '97 a cricket team from England visited Pretoria and played against the locals on this site.

The ground was bought by the government in 1903 for use as a railway workers' recreation ground; the club house was erected in 1907 and opened by General J.C. Smuts. The club hall was erected in 1926.

Continuing down Railway Street we arrive at the premises now occupied by Robor Steel Company that originally housed the DeeVee Coffee Works founded by two Hollanders, Messrs. Diepeveen and Voorhoeve from whose initials the company's name was formed.

After expanding their enterprise they moved to a more modernized factory at Industrial Sites west of the town. In 1952 they advertised as being the largest coffee factory in South Africa. The concern was later taken over by Brooke Bond.

A short way further down the street was No. 94 Railway Street known as Jess Cottage or the Palatial, the home of (Sir)(Henry) Rider Haggard (1856-1925); English novelist, born at Brandenhall, England. At the age of 19 years he came to Natal as secretary to Sir Henry Bulwer, the Governor.

In 1877 he was appointed a member of Sir Theophilus Shepstone's staff when the Transvaal was annexed by Great Britain. Haggard was given the post as Master and Registrar of the Supreme Court in 1879.

Haggard became well known for his romantic stories of South Africa under the titles of She, Jess, King Solomon's Mines, Allan Quartermain and others. He was knighted in 1912 in recognition of his service to agriculture in Britain.

The open ground on the west side of the street, stretching towards the railway bridge is known as Du Preezhoek (corner) called after Jan du Preez, one of Pretoria's early inhabitants who lived on and farmed this portion of ground. 'Diknek' du Preez married Maria, a daughter of another pioneer Andries van der Walt, who left his name to a street in the city centre.

At the robot controlled intersection we turn right walking parallel with Harmony Street which recalls the large Harmony Estate owned by John C Preller, a leading advocate in Old Pretoria who was the first elected mayor of the town but did not take up office because of the outbreak of the First Anglo-Boer War (1880-81).

The name of the property was associated with Preller's investment in the Harmony (Gold) Block near Ofcolaco in Northern Province.

Harmony later became the property of the Van Warmelo family whose daughter, Johanna Brand-van Warmelo, author of 'Het Concentratie-Kamp van Irene' (1904) conducted a spy-ring from there during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902).

Preller Street in close vicinity was the eastern boundary of the estate.

We pass the beautiful main building of the University of South Africa (UNISA) perched on Muckleneuk Ridge. The University is the largest correspondence university in the world. It was established in Cape Town in 1873 later making their headquarters in Pretoria.

They moved from their town offices to this building called the Samuel Pauw Building, named after a former principal (1956-72) in their centenary year.

We then arrive at the two railway bridges, the modern and the remains of the old. On the western extreme one sees the metal railings that enclosed the Du Preezhoek cemetery.

This cemetery was one of the first burial places in Pretoria. Dr G.H. Rissik, progenitor of the Rissik family in the Republic, Capt. Struben, ex-State Secretary B.C.E. Proes and J.R. Lys, all who have left their names to streets in the city were originally buried here.

With the building of the eastern railway line in 1893, it was found necessary to exhume persons buried there and reinterred in the Church Street Cemetery in a special section laid out near its western boundary which was also called Du Preezhoek.

Passing through the new bridge we see the remains of the old ZASM Bridge on the western bank of the Apies River.

The railway line to the Eastern Bay was started from both ends and finally completed in 1894 when Pres Kruger placed the final bolt linking the two sections at Wilge Rivier station in Mapumalanga.

A feature of the bridge was that it was slightly curved, the only such one in the Republic. One of the many Hollanders who worked on the line was Mr Mante, who had the contract to build the bridge; he later settled on a portion of the farm Garsfontein where a street was named after him. The clogs he wore on arrival in this country was donated to the Emagameni Collection.

The next point of interest is the ground on the eastern side of the road extending to George Storrar Drive. This was the site of the Groenkloof (Kirkness) Brickfields.

John Johnston Kirkness, born at Sandwick, Orkney in 1857; came to South Africa in 1879/80 plying his trade as carpenter/builder, first in Natal then the Orange Free State and then Barberton where he built the Gereformeerde Church.

In 1885 he settled in Pretoria and took over an Italian company's brickfields at Groenkloof in 1888 and built up the business into the largest of its kind in Pretoria.

Kirkness built the Raadsaal on Church Square and at Bloemfontein; the Old Arts Block at the University of Pretoria, the original red-brick Land Bank Building, Marks Building in Church Street, the Lion Bridge in Church Street and the Wierda Bridge across the Six Mile Spruit (Hennops River); he was mayor of Pretoria for the period 1906/07.

The J.J. Kirkness Hall at the Sunnyside School and Kirkness Street and the suburb of Deerness was named after him; the industrial township of Kirkney north-west of the city was coined from KIRKness and his birthplace OrkNEY.

A plaque commemorating his endeavours was unveiled in the post office complex on Church Square by the Post Master General during September 1985. Similar plaques were erected at the Teachers' Training College complex on his old brickfields and at Kirkney industrial township where he operated a second brickfield.

Still strolling along the road one sees the dome-shaped building of the National Parks Board on top of the heights eastwards of the road.

The building was designed by Richardson and Morris and the contractor was Nabkor (Pty) Ltd.; it was officially opened by the then Minister of Agriculture D.C.H. Uys in September 1970.

The Kruger National Park was proclaimed in 1898 as the Sabie Game Reserve and was named after President Kruger in 1926 when the affairs of the reserve was placed under a Board of Trustees.

We now reach Fountains Circle, constructed to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Union (1910). Originally there were two fountain-jets that symbolized the springs that gave the early settlers the reason for settling in the valley.

The idea originated from Mr Henri Bruins-Lich, Director of Parks and Recreation. It was officially turned on by the then Mayor, Dr Otto on 20 May 1960.

To commemorate the occasion further, Dr Otto placed 50 fish in the pond and the Mayoress released 50 white ducklings, one for each year of the Union.

The road leading off eastwards from the circle is George Storrar Drive. Born at Fifeshire, Scotland in 1883. Storrar joined the municipality in 1909 and was city engineer from 1920 until his retirement in 1943. The street was named a year before his retirement, honouring his service.

From this vantage point at the circle you see Klapperkop Hill on which the old Republican fort of the same name stands. Klapperkop fort one of four forts erected to protect the capital against further uprising of the 'outlander' element on the Witwatersrand Gold Fields after the failure of the Jameson Raid in January 1896 to overthrow the government by force of arms.

The fort was designed by H.C. Werner and O.A. De Witz, German engineers. Construction commenced in 1896 with Italian labour and was completed in 1898.

No shots were ever fired from the Pretoria forts. On the outbreak of war in 1899 the members of the State Artillery that manned them, took their armaments and joined the forces on the borders.

Bearing to the right we cross Haddon Bridge over the Apies River, built in 1966 and named to honour a former city engineer, Mr G.H. Haddon, who retired in 1963 after 33 years service with the city council.

We are now in Fountains proper. The oldest nature reserve in the Transvaal that was proclaimed in 1895.

The area in earlier times was referred to as Bronkhorstfontein after the Voortrekker family who settled here and named it "De Groenekloof", from where the suburb of Groenkloof got its name.

De Fonteiene – the fountains, because of two fountains that originate in the valley. Lukas Bronkhorst (after whom Lukasrand township was named) built his wattle and daub homestead across the southern stream east of the swimming bath, the ruins of the old home are to be seen behind a protective fence.

Bronkhorst Street in Groenkloof township recalls Lukas and his brother Gert who settled north of Elandspoort near the original Teachers' Training College sports fields.

The one fountain rises south of the then Girl Guides camp behind the manager's house, the other is situated off the entrance road protected by a circu-

lar cell and is the strongest of the two, having 20 or more 'eyes' bubbling out the life-giving water from the depths.

In 1929 Ina Verdoorn wrote: "The train passes to Ashbury (now Fountains halt), from Pretoria Station from where you get a good view of Fountains. The change in geology from Ashbury is obvious, for following on the high undulating ground marked with koppies of massed dark coloured rock, to dolomite formation, come long parallel ranges of hills running east and west with shallow depressions between them, the Pretoria series of shales and quartzite. The impermeable dolomite, carrying the water, comes up against the shales, slates and quartzite's at a fault and this gives rise to several fountains from which the valley gets its name. These fountains are the source not only of the entire water supply of the town and Roberts Heights (Voortrekkerhoogte – now Thaba Tshwane), but also of the stream which becomes the Apies River."

The water has a free-flow to the collection chamber building outside the enclosure from where it is pumped into one of the city's reservoirs.

The old pump-house stands on the opposite side of the street, this one replaced the original small pumping station, the foundation of which can still be seen on the adjoining open ground.

Regarding the flora of Fountains, Dr L.E. Codd wrote: "When the early pioneers arrived at the site which was to be Pretoria they found a beautifully wooded fountain from which a clear stream meandered through a series of valleys. The stream-bank was no doubt lined with reeds and with trees of such species as *Combretum erythrophyllum* (Vaderlandswilg or Bush-Willow), *Celtis africana* (White stinkwood) and *Rhus pyriodes* (taaibos). The hills were much as they are now, covered with a great variety of shrubs and trees, such as *Combretum gueinzii* (Baster-rooibos), *Rhus amerina* (Mountinkaree), *Pouteria magalismsontana* (Stamvrug), *Acacia caffra* (Kaffer-wag-'n-bietjie), *Protea caffra*, *Vangueria infausta* (Wilde mispel), *Ficus* spp (Wild Figs) and many more. The lower slopes and flat areas were densely clothed in tall grass with scattered thorn trees and bush groups.

As previously mentioned the two springs in the valley were the source of the Apies River, so called by the early Trekkers because of the large number of Vervet monkeys frolicking in the bushes and trees along the river banks.

Of interest to mention, however, is that in Dr N.J. Van Warmelo's Ethnological publication – "The Bahwaduba Tribe", he states that a Nguni tribe settled along the river in the valley which was called 'Tshwane' – little monkey, after Chief Musi's son and successor.

When Mzilikatzi's Matebele settled in the valley, they named the river 'Enzwabuklunga' = painful to the touch, having reference to the sharp stones that cut one's feet when crossing it.

The plantation that extends from the Lyttelton road, over Klapperkop to near Waterkloof township is said to have been planted by the same person who came from the Black Forest in Germany to plant trees in Johannesburg's Saxonwold, which was named after that part of Germany.

A
Walking Tour Through
Pretoria's Historical Past
POTGIETER STREET
VIA SCHUBART STREET



BOOK SIX

POTGIETER STREET VIA SCHUBART STREET

With slight deviations southwards along Schubart Street we will join up with Potgieter Street via Visagie Street.

On the south-eastern corner of Pretorius and Schubart Streets is the Magistrates Court. The first High Court of the Old Transvaal Republic was situated on the corner of (St) Andries Street and Bureau Lane; after the turn of the century the courthouse was transferred to a building vacated by Wolff's hardware business on the corner of Pretorius and Bosman Streets, which was demolished when the new Transvaal Provincial Administration Building was erected.

The present magistrates court was extended to Schoeman Street in the early 80's.

Schubart Street was named after Anton Frederik Schubart, State Secretary to Pres. M.W. Pretorius.

The next street crossing Schubart is Schoeman Street, named after General Stephanus Schoeman who lived on his estate Klein Schoemansdal q.v. in Boom Street.

Just off the southwest corner is the old Gen. Andries Pretorius Primary School that closed its doors many years ago because of the shift of population. The original school and prefabs is now the Central Technical High School developed out of the old Trade School established in 1908 in a building in Church Street near the present Technical College.

Our next stop is Skinner Street. William Skinner came to Pretoria at A.W.J. Pretorius' request. Skinner assisted with the laying out of the town, and with the help of his cousins build the first church on the Square and the first Raadsaal. (see *Paul Kruger Street Route*).

The south-western side of Skinner Street, once held the magnificent double-storeyed residence of Judge Gregorowski which stood empty for many years and was mysteriously burned down one night, most probably by vagrants.

Reinhold Gregorowski (1856-1922) was a son of a missionary; he became Attorney-General of the Orange Free State in 1892 and in 1896 took up the position as Judge in the Transvaal Republic and presided at the high treason trial of the Reform Committee and the ill-fated Jameson Raiders.

He later became Attorney-General of the Transvaal Republic and was Chief Justice until the fall of Pretoria in 1900. In 1907 he became a member of the Transvaal House of Assembly.

Deviating slightly eastwards along Skinner Street we come to Loreto Convent, and the Catholic Cathedral.

In 1870 the Catholic Community were given an erf in Blood Street by President M.W. Pretorius for the erection of a Church. That property was exchanged for the ground where the Cathedral and Convent now stand.

Bishop Jolivet (a street in Groenkloof bears his name), from Natal, said the first Mass in Pretoria in 1877 and he invited his sister, a nun, to come to the country and start a convent.

Celine Jolivet, known as Mother Margaret Mary Celine, arrived in 1878 and by 1880 substantial buildings had already been erected.

On the outbreak of the First Anglo-Boer War (1880) the school closed and the buildings and ground were taken over by the British military authorities and converted into a laager.

Mother Margaret Mary died of typhoid fever during the siege and was buried in the convent grounds. Her funeral was attended by the camp Commander-in-Chief and other town dignitaries.

With later extensions to the school, her remains were exhumed and reinterred in the Catholic Circle in Church Street Cemetery.

A small church built on the corner was replaced by a larger one in 1887 and was used until 1933 when the present Cathedral was started.

Winding our way further up Schubart Street we come to Visagie Street (see *Paul Kruger Route*) and again deviate eastwards to the entrance to the Mint Building.

The first Mint of the Old Republic stood on Church Square, and in the 1920's the Royal Mint started production on this site which housed Pretoria's second gaol that played a prominent part in the Siege of Pretoria during the first Anglo-Boer War (1880-81) when the buildings were fortified as were the Convent buildings opposite it.

The Gaol Laager was responsible for the protection of the Civil Laager in close proximity.

The Mint transferred its operations to new premises in Centurion and the old buildings converted to house the National Cultural History Museum. The red-bricked buildings extending to Potgieter Street were used as an ammunition factory during the Second World War (1939-1945) and where the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) were founded.

On the original map of Pretoria, Potgieter Street was not named. It honours Andries Hendrik Potgieter, Voortrekker leader who passed through the Pretoria Valley en route to the Zoutpansberg in the Northern Transvaal to make

contact with the other Voortrekker leader, Louis Trichardt. Daspoort is the oldest name in Pretoria and it is thought to have been christened by his party.

The railway marshalling yard at the turn of the century was an open piece of ground that extended to Mitchell Street in the west. On the occupation of Pretoria in 1900, the military created a vast army camp here. Relics of the war-years are still found when excavations for buildings are made.

The railway bridge spanning Potgieter Street is a reminder of the Transvaal Republic's second railway company. NZASM built and ran the service to Lourenco Marques (Maputo) after which a private company under the chairmanship of General Piet Joubert established the Pretoria-Pietersburg line which came into operation in 1898.

The present Pretoria West Railway Station was the terminal of that route, and the bridge was built to have traffic connect with Pretoria station.

The terminus first bore the name of Pietersburg Road Junction and only adopted the name Pretoria West after the war in 1902-03.

The road parallel to the railway line is Artillery Row in which one finds fifteen houses erected for officers of the Staats Artillery designed by Klaas Rijsse and built by John J. Kirkness.

A significant feature of the houses are the different gables. The house on the corner (No. 1) was occupied by the officer commanding the corps, Comdt. S.P.E. Trichardt. The adjoining two houses were for captains, No's 4 to 9 housed lieutenants and the other six occupied by N.C.O.'s.

The railway siding towards the end of the road bears the name Barracks. The complex was declared a National Monument in 1975.

Defence head quarters stands on the Old State Artillery grounds.

President T.F. Burgers established the Transvaal's first artillery unit, the 'Battery Dingaan' in 1874. The unit was enlarged in 1894 and after the Jameson Raid in 1896 provision was made for a more modern permanent force artillery corps.

The headquarters of the corps was established on this ground which was first used in 1877 by the Annexation forces and was a defensive position during the Siege of Pretoria (1880/81).

The few buildings on the site were demolished to make way for an artillery complex consisting of office accommodation, stables, cannon sheds, a magazine and telegraphic section. The original headquarters building stands behind the structure facing the street and was designed by Klaas van Rijsse, of the Public Works Department.

The monument adorning the lawn honours Lt.Col Henning P.N. Pretorius, nephew of General Pretorius. H.P.N. arrived in Pretoria as a youth with the

earliest settlers; he was a Fieldcornet during the Sekhukhuni War and Commandant of the forces at Elandsfontein, west of Pretoria during the Siege (1800/81) being wounded twice whilst repulsing British attacks on his position.

Pretorius was appointed Comdt. of the Transvaal Artillery Corps and later promoted to Lt. Col.; he had his officers trained overseas and founded the first permanent force of the Republic. The 'father' of the modern State Artillery died on a visit to the Cape in 1897, his body was brought back to Pretoria and buried with full military honours in the Church Street Cemetery.

On the open piece of ground adjoining D.H.Q., stood the old Volks Hospital, the first in Pretoria. In 1887, Tom Beckett, the merchant, set about having a hospital built for the fast growing town. Money was collected by a group of Pretoria ladies and a house close by was converted into a hospital of fifteen beds. This was in use until 1890 when President Kruger laid the foundation stone of the enlarged unit which served the community until the Pretoria General Hospital (renamed H.F. Verwoerd Hospital and now called the Pretoria Academic Hospital), was ready to receive patients in 1932.

The building was then taken over by the Railway Administration and reopened as the C.W. Malan (Railway) Hostel. The building was demolished to make way for a new intended Defence Headquarters Building.

The Pretoria Central Prison is the third to be built in the City. The first one stood behind the Raadsaal, the second, where the Mint building now is and this one (modernized only a few years ago) was built in 1907. The main gaol complex situated behind the Potgieter Street façade designed like a castle in appearance, and retained when the new gaol was erected.

Higher up the hillside is military property on which stands the Groen (Green) Magazine built at the same time as the four Republican forts (1897/98). The Magazine, derelict for ninety years was cleaned up to be transformed into an officers' club, but by August 1997 it was restored to its former glory, and with relics from the closed Schanskop and Klapperkop Military museums it opened as a museum dedicated to the State Artillery, who manned the forts when built.

Still higher up the hill are the ruins of one of four forts erected by the British during the First Anglo-Boer War (1880-81), when Pretoria was besieged.

Fort Commeline as it was called was named after the Lieutenant in charge of the detachment who built and operated from there.

The name of the Ben Schoeman Highway which branches off near here was suggested by the Pretoria City Council to honour the then Minister of Transport. The first 11 miles extending from Potgieter Street were officially opened in April 1968 when Mrs Schoeman, wife of the Minister, cut the tape and unveiled a plaque commemorating the occasion.

The summit of the hill on which the ruins of Fort Commeline lie, is Keevykop now housing a radio centre. The hill takes its name from Maj. Gen. Keevy of the South African Police.

From here is seen the majestic Voortrekker Monument erected on a hill visible from all approaches to the city. Designed by Gerard Moerdijk it commemorates those who took part in the Great Trek and the Victory over heathendom at the Battle of Blood River in 1838.

The impressive national shrine embodies the events of a heroic period of pioneering. To the Afrikaner people it symbolizes their identity in a cosmopolitan community.

The monument stands 40 m high, whilst the base measures 40 X 40 m. There are 260 steps inside and 70 outside. It took eleven years (1938-39 and 1940-49) to build and the cost was over R7 000,000.

In a lower hall, a cenotaph of granite bearing the inscription "Ons vir Jou, Suid Afrika" – We for Thee, South Africa. It is so positioned that a ray of sunlight strikes the inscription each year exactly at noon on the 16th December, the date of the Battle of Blood River.

The flame in the niche brought from Jan van Riebeeck's statue in Cape Town is the symbol of the light of civilisation and is kept burning continuously. The Hall of Heroes with its domed ceiling of 30 m bears a frieze of 27 panels depicting the main events of the Great Trek.

The monument is ringed by a wall of 64 ox-wagons symbolising the laager of wagons in which they defended themselves at Blood River.

The foundation stone was laid on the 16th December 1938 and was unveiled on the 16th December 1949 by the then Prime Minister, DR D.F. Malan. Attached to the monument is a museum of Voortrekker relics.

On the hill east of the Voortrekker Monument is Fort Schanskop, one of four forts erected to protect the capital against any further uprising of the 'out-lander' element on the Witwatersrand Gold Fields after the failure of the Jameson Raid (January 1896) to overthrow the government by force of arms.

Fort Schanskop, Klapperkop and Wonderboom were designed by H.C. Werner and O.A.A. von De Witz, German engineers. Fort Daspoortrand better known as Westfort, above the leper institution, was designed by L. Grunberg and S. Leon.

Construction of Fort Schanskop commenced in 1896 with Italian labour and was completed and handed over to the government in January 1897. The other forts were completed in 1898.

No shots were ever fired from the Pretoria forts. On the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War, the members of the State Artillery that manned them took their armaments and joined the commandos on the borders.

The modernization of our road system necessitated the removal of Wagon Wheel Circle below the Iscor Building. The wagon wheel effect of the circle was created at the time of the laying of the foundation stone of the Voortrekker Monument. The axle pivot and the spokes of the wheel were planted with aloes.

In much earlier times the site was called Welcome Hill or Reception Koppie. All important visitors to the capital were welcomed here by cavalcades and corteges and again escorted here and bade farewell.

Iscor is an abbreviation of 'The South African Iron and Steel Industrial Corporation' and the site was selected by Mr Hendrik Johannes van der Bijl, first Chairman of the company (after whom the township of Vanderbijlpark and steelworks near Vereeniging was named).

The building of Iscor started in June 1928; the first sod on the present works site west of the headquarters building was turned in May 1930 and the buildings thereon completed in 1934; the first ingot passed through the 'Henry Mill' on the 4th April 1934, and the works were officially opened by the Earl of Clarendon in August 1934.

The early history of the steel works began with Cornelius Delfos, a Hollander, who came to Pretoria in the 1890's and founded the first engineering firm in the town, producing the first South African manufactured generators for the power station during the War of 1900-02.

Delfos Bros. Later formed the Pretoria Iron Mines Ltd. to promote a concession obtained in 1916 to establish an iron industry. Prof. G.H. Stanley of the Witwatersrand School of Mines designed the first blast furnace which was started up in 1918.

Delfos formed a new company under the title of S.A. Iron and Steel Industry Corporation. A bill placed before Parliament by Mr F.W. Beyers in 1927 was passed in the following year establishing the company as it is known today.

The military cantonments was established by the British military authorities soon after the Second Anglo-Boer War (1902) and named Roberts Heights after Lord Sir Roberts, Commander-in-Chief of British forces in South Africa. During the Voortrekker centenary celebrations in December 1938 the name was changed to Voortrekkerhoogte and in May 1998 the Minister of Defence changed the name again to Thaba Tshwane – the mountain – the heights (High place) of Tshwane, a Nguni chief who lived in the Pretoria valley before the White settlers arrived and who left his name (Tshwane – monkey) to the Apies River.

Continuing along Voortrekker Road we cross the railway line into Van Riebeeck Road and pass what is now known as the Military College. In 1902 funds were collected for a club for the garrison forces; the building was paid for from a surcharge of two pence (2 cents) on a bottle of beer sold at canteens in town. Lord Kitchener laid the foundation stone on the 12 June 1902 and was called the Garrison Institute.

In 1920, the South African Military College was founded in Bloemfontein, Free State and later transferred to Potchefstroom in the North West Province then again to Roberts heights operating from this building.

This military garrison township has many interesting sites to visit.

Bordered by Andries Pretorius Road is the former Headquarters building of Northern Transvaal Command constructed of corrugated iron and probably erected there in 1903-04 when the garrison troops occupied the cantonments.

The complex is an excellent example of prefabricated offices. It was used as administrative headquarters until about 1913. The SA Airforce also occupied the buildings in 1930.

Stephanus Schoeman Street is the southern boundary of Thaba Tshwane (Voortrekkerhoogte), walking westwards we find the Anglican Church of Christ the King on the corner of Piet Retief Street.

The first religious congregation at Roberts heights was founded in 1902 by Rev E Day, who conducted services in the Garrison Institute Building. (SA Army College).

JC Kerr, a student of Sir Herbert Baker (architect of the Union Buildings), designed this church. The foundation stone was laid by Maj-Gen HS Wakefield CB, OBE on 15 February 1942.

The turret, bell and entrance porch of the church were donated in 1946 by British soldiers who had been stationed in South Africa during World War II. A plaque in the porch carries the message:- "This bell and turret were given by British troops in South Africa to commemorate the comradeship between South Africa and British soldiers. May this mutual appreciation and understanding continue in time of peace."

Two stained glass windows in the building were designed by Arthur Watson of Johannesburg. The windows are titled 'The resurrection' and 'The Ascension' respectively. They were installed by Maj AE Lorch DSO, MC on 25 July 1943, in memory of his son who had died of wounds received in Libya.

The interior of the atmospheric little church contains many valuable gifts received over many years. The biggest single gift of fittings and furniture came from the Garrison Church in Wynberg, Cape Town which closed down in 1936.

Many items were bought with funds collected in England by Lady Methuen to commemorate her husband's term of office in South Africa. There are also valuable wooden and silver works of art, including a Christ figure in solid silver by the famed silversmith, Omar Ramsden.

The National Monuments Council erected a descriptive plaque to the building in 19984.

Further westwards is the old No 1 Military Hospital, and some time can be spent examining the memorials abounding in the complex.

Continuing along the road and leaving the built-up area of Thaba Tshwane you arrive at the old cemetery bearing the remains of troopers of the Queen's Bay Regiment that arrived in Pretoria in 1904 and members of the Royal Artillery.

Sapper Barnett drowned in the Six Mile Spruit (1909), Lt Gregorowski killed in the Rand Revolt (1922), Members of the visiting RAF football team killed in a flying accident, General Dan Pienaar and his crew who died in a plane crash at Kisumu – every tombstone has a story to tell.

Retrace your steps to Frederik Erns Street bordering the Gen Andries Brink School, turn right into Henry Williams Street, cross Danie Theron Street, the next crossroad is Jacobus Naude Street and at No 4 is a row of three identical Victorian houses constructed of corrugated iron dating to the beginning of Roberts heights.

At the junction with Andries Pretorius Road you turn right and right again into Van Riebeeck Street and left into Ben Viljoen Road. At no 17 is another Victorian house and outbuildings constructed of corrugated iron and wood established in 1903/04. In 1921 the building was described as being the ASC Officers Mess Block and Quarters; it was later converted into a house for officers. It was enlarged when Lt Col FR Hoare took occupation and again when Brig HB Klopper, Chief of the Army and the first Comdt-Gen of the South African Defence Force lived there.

At the 'T' junction with Johannes Kock Road is 'Die Vesting' – The Fortress. The house was erected as a senior officer's residence and occupied by the local commanding officer and known as 'District House'. The name was changed to 'Vesting' in 1960 by Comdt-Gen PH Grobbelaar.

Sir Pierre van Ryneveld of the SA Airforce and later Chief of the General Staff occupied the house from 1925 – 1949, then by Lt-Gen L Beyers, Brig de Waal, Adm Bierman, Comdt-Gen Engelbrecht, Comdt-Gen PH Grobbelaar and Lt-Gen CA Fraser, and it is still being occupied by generals.

On the same site is an unusual wood-and-iron blockhouse from the Anglo-Boer period. The blockhouse is octagonal with walls consisting of a wooden frame work with corrugated iron sheets on both sides, the cavity between the sheets was originally filled with earth and gravel.

The buildings were declared a National Monument in 1983.

Continuing along the road leads into an area called Gen Kemp Hill and the grounds of the SA Air Force Officer's Club.

The name commemorates Jan C.G. Kemp (1872-1946) Boer General and politician. He was a member of the commando that defeated the Jameson Raiders at Doornkop in January 1896.

Kemp went to the Natal Front on the outbreak of war in 1899 and was promoted to Combat-General serving under Gen. De la Rey; his was one of the six votes against the peace terms of Vereeniging.

In 1912 Kemp joined the Union Defence Force but resigned in 1914 protesting against the government's decision to declare war on Germany and joined the rebellion. He became Member of Parliament in 1920 and served as Minister of Agriculture then Minister of Lands.

In July 1902, a piece of ground between the Roberts heights cantonments and the farm Groenkloof was granted for the construction of the 'General's House'. Herbert Baker was appointed architect and according to him, Lady Lyttelton took a lively interest in the design of the house.

The house was completed towards the end of 1903 and occupied by Gen (Later Sir) Neville Lyttelton, then Commander-in-Chief of British forces until he left South Africa in February 1904 and then occupied by his successor Sir Henry Hildyard. In 1908 the house was occupied by Lord Methuen and at that time was referred to as Headquarter House.

Little is known about the house for the period 1912 – 1920. In 1921 it was used by nuns as a school or creche.

The South African Air Force was founded as the first Commonwealth Air Force on 1 February 1920, with Sir Pierre van Ryneveld as Director General of Air Services at its head and by 1921 the Air Force used the building as its headquarters. The ground floor was used as an officer's club and in the first floor section was the headquarter staff and its various departments. The building and garden and the fine gate were declared a National Monument in 1981.

Make your way to Paul Kruger Street and walk eastwards to the robot-controlled intersection on the Old Johannesburg Road and the South African Air Force memorial on the road to Centurion.

The Air Force Memorial is situated on Bay's Hill, a name which recalls the Queen's Bay Regiment that camped out here whilst the cavalry barracks were being completed for them at the new military cantonments of Roberts Heights (now called Voortrekkerhoogte) in 1904-07.

The site on the summit on the northern perimeter of Swartkop Air Station was chosen because the greater portion of the South African Air Force personnel flew over this koppie on all northern missions, many never to return.

Taylor and Taylor of Johannesburg were the architects and Messrs. More and Bell of Pretoria, the quantity surveyors. It was officially opened by the then President, MR C.R. Swart in September 1963.

The father of the South African Air Force was Sir Pierre van Ryneveld and was established soon after his epic flight from England in 1920. Swartkop Aerodrome was the original military aerodrome in the Republic, many of the buildings on the property date from its founding years.

Adjoining the military area is the township of Valhalla, appropriately named. Valhalla, in Norse mythology, the Great Hall of Odin – the resting place of battle worn heroes.

Many streets in the original township bear names from the same source. Wodin or Odin – ruler of heaven, earth and the underworld who lived in a golden palace called Valhalla where battle heroes found internal rest. In Roman mythology he is called Jupiter, in Greek he is Zeus. Wodin gave his name to Wednesday.

Freya, another street name found here recalls Odin's wife, and Thor after the god of thunder and Baldur the sun-god.

A delightful township was established along the banks of the Six Mile Spruit and bears the name Glen Lauriston. It was owned by the Law family since 1938 and recalls the family seat at Lauriston Castle on the outskirts of Edinburgh.

The Six Mile Spruit had three names along its course in earlier times. It was called Six Mile Spruit (Zesmijspruit – Sesmyl-spruit) from its source at the Rietvlei Dam to the Swartkop where it became Erasmus River after the owner of that farm. It became the Hennops River near its confluence with the Crocodile River near the Hartbeespoort Dam, named by the Farm Commissioners of the 1840's who started their survey from the west and called the first farm inspected 'Hennops River Farm'. For administrative purposes, the Centurion City Council has accepted the name Hennops River for its full length.

It was called Six Mile Spruit by early inhabitants, because on both routes from Krugersdorp/Potchefstroom and the Elandsfontein (Germiston) road, this stream is situated six mile from Pretoria.

The Spruit like the farm Rooihuiskraal is enshrined in gallant episodes of military endeavours during two Anglo-Boer Wars.

In earlier times travelers to the capital used to camp out here for the night before making the last 'skof' into town. Traffic by the turn of the century was heavy enough to warrant an hotel that was erected here.

Wierda Bridge spans the Six Mile Spruit and was opened to traffic in October 1891. It was designed by Sytze Wierda, head of the Public Works Department of the Old Republic, who was also responsible for designing Lion Bridge, the Raadsaal, Palace of Justice on Church Square, the old museum in Boom Street, the Paardekraal Monument in Krugersdorp and the Rissik Street Post Office in Johannesburg.

J.J.Kirkness was the contractor and the Wierda Park township took its name from the bridge.

We end our walk at the Zwartkop Country Club established in 1933 on the farm of the same name owned by D.J. Erasmus (snr) in August 1841. The name of the farm was derived from a hillock west of the Johannesburg road covered with dark green vegetation, which appears black from a distance. A memorial to Erasmus and his wife on the driving green was unveiled on 9 October 1982.

A Walking Tour Through Pretoria's Historical Past

CHURCH STREET EAST FROM CHURCH SQUARE



BOOK SEVEN

CHURCH STREET EAST FROM CHURCH SQUARE

The first known White people in the Pretoria Valley were Robert Schoon and McLuckie, traders from Grahamstown who crossed the area now known as Pretoria, whilst on their return trip to Mosega in 1825.

Cornwallis-Harris, hunted in the Hartbeespoort Dam area in 1836 and Missionaries Archbell and Moffat visited Chief Mzilikatze at his kraal near Pretoria North to request permission to establish a mission amongst his tribe.

Hendrik Potgieter, the Voortrekker, with a party of twelve men which included Bronkhorst passed through the area in 1836 en route to the North to establish contact with Voortrekker Louis Trichardt who had gone on before him.

The Bronkhorst family returned to the area and settled at the fountain-head of the Apies River, the ruins of his wattle and daub home is still to be seen in the Fountains Valley.

The earliest settlers in Pretoria were the families of Schoeman, Prinsloo, Vermeulen and Van der Walt, all of whom have left their names to streets in the city centre.

Seventy farms within a radius of 25 km were occupied by 1860; the town consisted of approximately 80 houses and 500 people.

The establishment of Pretoria was provided for in Article No. 70 of the Volksraad Resolution passed at Potchefstroom on the 16th November 1855, and read as follows:-

“Notice of motion by Commandant-General M.W. Pretorius (son of Gen. A.W.J. Pretorius) that two farms purchased by him from messrs Prinsloo and Van der Walt be accepted for a township.”

“The Honourable Raad approves of the proposition and accepts the two farms for a town to be called Pretoria.”

Before that event took place, the Rev. Dirk van der Hoff, of Potchefstroom established a ‘Church-place’ here that he called ‘De Gemeente Gelegen aan de Aaprivier’, - the congregation at the Apies River. He suggested that the town be called Pretoria Philadelphia – the Pretorius-brotherhood, it was also referred to as Pretorium and Pretoriusdorp; its final name was decided by the Volksraad and called Pretoria.

Church Square was also the Markt Plein (Market Square). When President M.W. Pretorius had the town laid out, he requested that a square, for church and market purposes be sited in the centre of the intended town and had Jan Visagie (after whom Visagie Street was called) and Louis Deverieux lay out a square. Andries du Toit then laid out the Pretoria village with streets radiating from the square; the original town was bordered by Visagie, Potgieter, Boom and Prinsloo Streets.

The transfer of the Square to the Church authorities was signed by Pres. Pretorius on the 9th May 1867. The first church was consecrated in 1857, was rebuilt in the early 1860's and enlarged by 1867; it was burned down in 1882 and a new church was erected on the same site. General Piet Joubert laid the foundation stone of the new church in October 1883 and it was inaugurated on 23 January 1885. It was demolished by the British military authorities in 1904.

The Square was later purchased by the Government. It measured 2.57 ha in extent and besides the amount of R8 000.00 paid in cash, the Church was granted other erven in the town.

The design of the present Square was selected by competition, the winning design was submitted by Poole and Barboure. The estimated cost was R72 000.00 and the contractor was M.G. van R Mostert.

The design was based on two of the best known squares overseas. The south side styled after Trafalgar Square, London, and the north side, like the famous Palace de la Concorde, in Paris. The circular granite balustrade was added in 1913. A fountain to replace the Kruger Statue was donated by Mr Samuel Marks in 1907 and transferred to the Zoological gardens in 1910.

Barclays Bank on the north-eastern entrance to Church Square occupies Brodrick's Corner, No 1 Church Square.

Albert Brodrick was encouraged to come to Pretoria by the Struben family and opened a general-dealers business on the site in 1859/60, he also owned one of Pretoria's first pubs – The Hole in the Wall – which adjoined the shop on the Church Street front.

Brodrick was known as the business-poet, advertising his merchandise in light vein poetry; he invested in mining ventures and farms, one of which was 'Gedult' on the East Rand that he sold to president Paul Kruger and on which gold was later discovered.

The Anglican Society of Pretoria was founded by the families of Brodrick, Rous, Froude, Lys and Struben. After the death of his infant son and wife, he returned to England in 1879 where he died in 1908.

A street in the suburb of Groenkloof bears his name.

Tudor Building on the opposite corner was designed by John Ellis from Scotland for Mr George Heys.

Heys, a businessman, conducted a coaching company plying between Kimberley and the Eastern Transvaal Goldfields. His imposing residence 'Melrose House' in Jacob Mare street housed the British Headquarter staff during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1900/02) and in which the Peace Treaty of Vereeniging was signed on the 31st May 1902.

Wm. Millar's double-gabled building close by was erected in 1904/5. Millar, from Durban, opened a branch in Pretoria before the turn of the century specialising in drapery.

The business was taken over by Garlick's and used by them until new premises on the corner of Church and Van der Walt Streets was completed in the 1960's, which they occupied until vacated for the building of Sammy Marks Square.

The next building of unique design is Burlington House on the same side of the street, presumably erected after 1910. On the Andries Street corner once stood Durban House, the business premises of Robert Hamilton. (*See Dumbarton Road*).

Andries Street is one of the original street names and recalls Gen. Andries (W.J.) Pretorius, Voortrekker leader, Victor of the Battle of Blood River in Natal in December 1838 and father of M.W. Pretorius, the founder of the town.

Of interest to record is that this street from very early times in the previous century was known as St. Andries Street. Some people maintain that the "St." was derived from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Schoeman Street, which, however, was only erected many years later. Another version is that it received its name from the old Voortrekker flag which was similar to that of St. Andrew—a red cross on a blue background, which flew from a masthead in front of General Schoeman's residence where the museum in Boom Street is situated, at the northern end of Andries Street.

St. Andrew, one of the Twelve Apostles, is believed to have preached the Gospel in Constantinople in the year 60 A.D. and was crucified on the 'X' shaped cross—the St. Andrew's Cross. His body was later transferred to the Cathedral in the southern town of Amalfi.

Along the north-eastern corner of Andries Street to where Libri building now is, was originally owned by the Wesleyan (Methodist) Society. The first shop buildings on the site were erected by the Society and rented out to businessmen. Being good landlords, they subsidised the lessees by reducing rentals during the years of depression experienced in the 1890's.

On the southern side of the street was Johnston's Store which ceased operations after the Second World War (1945) – (*See Lisdogan Street*).

Turning left into Queen Street, a Muslim Mosque will be found tucked away in a quadrangle approached through an arcade in the modern De Bruyn complex.

The ground was acquired by the Muslim Community in 1896 and the present Mosque was erected in 1927 and is still in use.

Returning to Church Street, we continue eastwards to Van der Walt Street which was named after Andries Petrus van der Walt, one of the first settlers in Pretoria who owned the farm Elandspoort which he sold to Pres. Pretorius for the establishment of the town.

Van der Walt's wattle and daub house, one of the first built in the Pretoria valley, stood on the southern end of the street named after him near the present Berea Park sports grounds. His son-in-law, Jan du Preez, settled close by along the Apies River and left his name to the area near Fountains referred to as Du Preezhoek.

Van der Walt was a member of the Farm Commission and was Pretoria's first Field-Cornet. He later settled on the farm Knoppiesfontein where he died at the age of 77 years. The Pretoria City Council saw it fit to have the remains of Van der Walt and his wife reinterred in the Du Preezhoek section of the Old Church Street Cemetery.

Waltloo Industrial township near Silverton east of Pretoria was called after him and Prinsloo, owner of the farm Daspoort.

On the south-east corner of Central Street stood the business of Henwood, Souter & Sons. Paul Henwood of Cornwall, England, arrived in Natal in 1849 and started a commercial career by trading with the farmers. His first store in Durban was opened in 1856 and after opening branches in Pietermaritzburg, Orange Free State and the Barberton Goldfields he established a branch in Pretoria in 1877.

Henwood returned to England and his son continued the business in partnership with Wallace Soutter, his son-in-law.

The original property extended to Pretorius Street; a portion was acquired by the authorities to create a roadway (Central Street) to shorten the length of the block.

The corner stand was later owned by the De Bruyn family, who traded in the boot and shoe business for 80 years. This building and Henwood's was demolished to make way for the present Standard Bank Centre.

Near to Henwood was Haaroff's Farming concern. Izaak Jacob Haaroff arrived in Pretoria in 1887 and established a general dealers business specialising in agricultural implements; he retired in 1909.

Haaroff Street near his residence in Gezina township was named after him.

On the south-western corner of Van der Walt Street stood Gros Photographic Studio. H.F. Gros was the first photographer in Pretoria, arriving in 1870. His photographs, still in existence of Pretoria and the Transvaal are invaluable to students of history, especially those taken during the Siege of Pretoria and Rustenburg during 1880-81.

Gros was Secretary of the Aurora Lodge, the first Freemason organisation established in Pretoria (1864); he left Pretoria before the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War.

The O.K. Bazaar's branch on the corner of Van der Walt Street occupies the third building erected by T.W. Beckett's company. Thomas William Beckett was born near Merton Abbey in Kent, England in 1851. The family emigrated to Australia and in 1864 Beckett senior and Tom came to South Africa and settled in Port Elizabeth.

Tom worked for the firm Savage & Hill and in 1871 tried his luck on the Kimberley Diamond fields; he married Ann Harriet Osmond in 1874 and came to Pretoria a year

later and founded the firm of T.W. Beckett & Co, a business name still in existence today.

Beckett purchased a block of erven in town from president M.W. Pretorius for 800 Ryks Daalers (approx. R1 200) or about R25 per erf on which he erected a home and planted the property with trees and called it Blackwood Villa, thought to recall a tree specie in Australia. When he later moved to his Eastwood Estate on Church Street East, he named one of the streets there Blackwood. His old homestead later became Blackwood Villa Hotel then a boardinghouse.

In 1936 his residential site was offered to the City Council for R80 000 who turned the offer down, they did buy the property in 1945 and paid R190 000. The City Council's headquarter building, Munitoria was erected thereon.

The north-east corner of Sammy Marks Square originally housed a general-dealer business started by E.F. Bourke, later taken over by John Jack. (*See John Jack, Church Street East*), and still much later became Garlick's corner that was demolished to make way for Sammy Marks Square.

Strijdom Square is situated on the portion of the old Market Square that was transferred from Church Square to the town's 'outspan-place' bordered by Van der Walt, Pretorius, Prinsloo and Church Streets in 1890 when J.D. Celliers was granted a 99 year lease to operate a market and erected a market hall to conduct interior business.

After a preliminary court hearing in the Raadsaal, the case against the Johannesburg Reform Committee for their part in the unsuccessful Jameson Raid in 1896 was continued in the Market Hall. Judge Gregorowski presided at the hearing which led to the ring leaders being deported and others goaled.

The Market Hall was again used when the town celebrated the opening of the Lour-enco Marques (Maputo) railway line in 1893. Anton van Wouw, sculptor of the Kruger Statue, provided the paintings that decorated the walls.

The hall, stalls and shops on the Square facing Church and Van der Walt Streets were demolished for the creation of Strijdom Square and the State Theatre.

Strijdom Square honours Johannes Gerhardus Strijdom, Prime Minister 1954-58. The 'Lion of the Waterberg' was a practicing attorney at Nylstroom in the then Northern Transvaal; he took an immensely active interest in politics and was elected to parliament in 1929.

In 1948 he became Minister of Lands and succeeded Dr Malan as Prime Minister.

The sculptors of the monument were Coert Steynberg and Danie de Jager, the architects were Hans Botha and Roelf Botha.

The design consists of two elements forming a unity. The one, a bust of Strijdom and the other a symbolic expression of Republican Freedom in the form of four free-running fiery horses.

The State Theatre was also designed by the architects of the adjoining Strijdom Square. The complex holds five theatres and was completed in 1981. The bronze sculpture of the two hands “applauding” is the work of Danie de Jager.

The imposing red-structure opposite the State Opera has through the years been called the Royal Cycle House or Gundelfinger’s building because those concerns operated from there for many years. It’s correct name, however, is Samuel Marks Building.

‘Sammy’ Marks, Senator, Philanthropist, Industrialist and pioneer in scientific agriculture came to South Africa in 1868 when he was 25 years of age. His first job was “smousing” - selling from a suitcase —later trading from a wooden store on the Kimberley Diamond fields. In 1881 he purchased ground along the Vaal River where later the town of Vereeniging was established, and where the Peace Treaty ending the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) was agreed on.

His home in Pretoria, ‘Swartkoppies Hall’ on the Pienaars River, east of the town, was built in 1882 and as his finances grew so did the size of his palatial house.

The Kruger Statue on Church Square was financed by him as was the beautiful cast-iron fountain which once adorned Church Square then transferred to the Zoological Gardens in 1910 when the Square was being constructed.

Senator Marks died at his Parktown, Johannesburg home in 1929, but was buried beside his wife in Pretoria’s Rebecca Street Cemetery.

The small double-storeyed building adjoining the eastern wall of Samuel Marks building is the oldest existing building in Pretoria thought to have been built in the 1870’s for Kynock’s, manufacturers of ammunition and explosives.

Prinsloo Street recalls an early Voortrekker family in Pretoria. He owned the farm Daspoort, portion of which was sold to Pres. Pretorius on which he established Pretoria. His homestead stood at the later Hove’s Drift across the Apies River at the northern end of the street.

This street was considered the outer limit of the early town and president Kruger allowed the Asian community to erect their business premises there on a 99 year lease, the concession was bought out some years ago and the Indian community moved to a new market complex in Marabastad.

The south-east corner of Prinsloo and Church Streets was the site of President Thomas Francois Burger’s home.

T.F. Burgers (1834-1881) Clergyman and President of the Transvaal Republic. When President Pretorius resigned as a result of the Keate Award on the dispute over the Transvaal’s border, Burgers was recommended as a candidate for the presidency and was elected by a majority vote of more than 2 900 votes and was sworn in on 1 July 1872.

Political intrigue forced him to resign when the British annexed the Transvaal in April 1877 and returned to the Cape where he died in poverty.

His one ideal in life was to establish a railway link with Delagoa Bay (Maputo) and after the opening of that line, the government had his remains re-interred in the Old Church Street Cemetery in November 1895. His wife died in 1929 and was buried in his grave.

President Burgers' home was also the later site of Meester Louis Wessel's 'Opleidingschool', a training school for boys and girls.

Louis Wessel started a school on the site of the later State Model School in Van der Walt Street in 1882; later a new school was erected adjoining the old one and opened its doors under the new name of Oost-Eind (East End) School under the principalship of Mr W Klooster.

The Chairman of the first School committee was Jan (P. la Grange) Lombard, whose name is perpetuated in the Jan Lombard Voortrekker youth movement operating from the school. Lombard was co-founder of the Hollander Corps that saw action at Elandslaagter during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) in which he was killed.

In 1904 the school was transferred to new premises in Trevenna Street, Sunnyside, and will again be transferred when the Lake project is completed.

We pass along to Du Toit Street, the eastern boundary of the original town. The street commemorates Andries Francois Du Toit, a friend of President Pretorius who invited him to Pretoria. Arriving in 1857 he filled the post of Landrost and was given the task of laying out the town.

Pretoria at that time was bordered by Boom Street (then called Schutte Street), Potgieter Street (then unnamed), Scheiding and Du Toit Streets, named after him - because the street was also the boundary of the town and his farm which he obtained from the President in exchange for a Basuto pony.

Du Toit named his acquisition Arcadia after a picturesque district of Greece celebrated as being the abode of pastoral people dwelling in rural happiness. A name he recalled from his early theological studies.

When referring to Arcadia today, it is interpreted as being the area below the Union Buildings. The original Arcadia township of 650 erven was laid out in the 1890's between Du Toit Street and the Apies River - this section is shown on present maps as 'Old Arcadia'.

Du Toit sold his farm to Stephanus Meintjes after whom Meintjeskop was named and left Pretoria to go farming in the Middelburg (Tvl) district where he died and was buried.

Tilsim Hotel on the south-western corner was once the site of the homestead of Carl Jeppe.

Left into Du Toit Street, off the corner is the Nederduitsch Hervormde Church designed by Kraan and Weijers and built by G.J. Dorlas, who also designed the pulpit;

the carving on the pulpit was executed by Anton van Wouw, who created the Paul Kruger Statue,

General Louis Botha laid the foundation stone in July 1904 and the inaugural ceremony took place in February 1905.

A memorial, one of two identical memorials, commemorating members of the Hollander Corps who laid down their lives for their foster-country during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) is in the portal. The name of C.V. von Gogh, a brother of the famous artist, who died of fever is also inscribed on the tablet. The second memorial was placed in a church in Bloemfontein, Free State.

The building was declared a National Monument in 1980.

The Pretoria Technicon occupies the north-east corner. The Pretoria Technical College, as it was first called, was born during the dark days of the concentration camp period of the War of 1900-1902.

Sydney Wood gave boys woodwork classes in Pretoria camps to keep them active and teach them a job that may benefit them after the war.

When peace came, he started a workshop close to the present complex this developed into the institution it is today.

Gordon Leith was the architect and the foundation stone was laid by Dr D.F. Malan, the then Minister of Education on 27 October 1928.

Our next point of call is Lion Bridge that spans the drift at the confluence of the Walker Spruit and the Apies River, at a spot known in earlier times as Leeuwdrif – lion ford, because marauding lions often attacked grazing cattle in the surrounding vlei. Hunts were organised by the inhabitants to clear the area of the troublesome animals; one of the last lions shot in the Pretoria area was on the slopes of Meintjeskop on which the Union Buildings was erected.

Sytze Wierda, Government architect, who designed the Raadsaal and Palace of Justice on Church Square designed Lion Bridge as well as the bridge across Six Mile Spruit on the Old Johannesburg Road, south of the town; the building contractor was J.J. Kirkness. The lions were cast at the Sun Foundry in Scotland and placed in position when the bridge was completed in 1898.

The area here was also known as Meintjes or Mill Drift because Stephanus Meintjes' mill operated on the site near the Leopont building and his homestead opposite the mill where a motor firm now does business.

The Apies River has its source in the Fountains Valley, south of the town and was so called, it is said, by the Trekkers because of the large number of vervet monkeys frolicking in the bushes and trees on the river banks.

Of interest to mention, however, that in Dr N.J. van Warmelo's Ethnological Publication – 'The Bahwaduba Tribe', he states that a Nguni tribe settled along the river in

the valley which was called 'Tshwane' – little monkey, after Chief Musi's son and successor.

The Matebele name for the river was 'Enzwabuklunga – painful to the touch, having reference to the sharp stones that cut ones feet when crossing it.

The Apies River was the main water supply of Old Pretoria. Water was led from the main stream by furrows that radiated through the town.

Walker Spruit that joins the Apies at the bridge was named after the family owning the property higher up on which the stream rises.

Pretoria had a succession of very heavy rains, which culminated in a disastrous flood in January 1909, resulting in the Apies River overflowing its banks causing loss of life and considerable damage to property.

Assisted by a Government grant, the river's course was straightened, deepened and canalised with a concrete lining.

This upper part of Church Street was referred to as Beckett's Hoogte (Heights) because the road climbs upwards from where Beckett's shop was on the corner of Van der Walt Street to his Eastwood property in Arcadia.

The Holiday Inn situated on the corner of Church and Beatrix Streets was erected on the site of the Hellenic Hotel, an old Pretoria establishment, on the adjoining site in Beatrix Street, the Baptist Church, their second place of Worship after leaving Andries Street.

Beatrix Street honours the name of Mrs Van Hees, daughter of E.P.A. (Eddie) Meintjes and his first wife (nee Ayton).

In 1898 the Meintjes family lived at No 237 Beatrix Street, between Church and Pretorius Streets. The homestead stood on the right-hand side travelling north to south, in 1912 the only house in the block.

Beatrix van Hees later lived with her son-in-law in Welcome, Free State, and died in her daughter's home in Natal at the age of 88 years.

The next street crossing Church Street is Hamilton Street, the name commemorates Hamilton Relly, a surveyor, who came to Pretoria in 1887 and surveyed firstly Old Arcadia west of Beatrix Street and the later extensions to the Union Buildings.

The Union Hotel was erected shortly after the erection of the Union Buildings from where it lent its name. The complex was taken over by the S.A. Navy and serves them as an Officers Mess.

Zeederberg Street replaced the well-known Nel Street which was named after an attorney living there at one time. Its present name recalls the Zeederberg Stage Coach service that used the Church Street route to the Lydenburg Goldfields.

Turning left up Zeederberg Street to the junction of Vermeulen Street, is No 590 Vermeulen Street, the last house in that street that bears the name 'Vrede', was built for E.P.A. (Eddie) Meintjes who inherited the vast Arcadia property from his father, Stephanus. Eddie was a member of the Z.A.R. Volksraad under President Kruger.

Eddie Meintjes was a speculator and on occasions scorched his fingers. Whilst at the top, he commissioned the erection of this homestead as a present for his wife who died before it was completed.

He later rented out the property to Paul Nel and still later it became the property of Ziervogel, after whom a street on the northern border was called. After the Second Anglo-Boer War (1889-1902) Eddie Meintjes repurchased a small section on which the house stands.

General J.B.M. Hertzog lived at Vrede when he became Minister of Justice after Union in 1910.

The old house has been used by the Government for many years.

Mr Carl Ziervogel arrived in Pretoria in 1873. After selling his farm in Boksburg on the East Rand on which gold was discovered, he purchased a portion of Meintjeskop.

Ziervogel Estate bordered Vrede above Vermeulen Street and extended eastwards to Craigelea; his estate was purchased for the establishment of the Union Buildings park. He lived in his house until his death in 1897.

Leyds Street begins at Church Street and runs through the southern suburbs. Dr Willem J Leyds (1859 —1940) came from the Netherlands at the invitation of President Kruger to take up the post of State Attorney in 1884. Four years later he became State Secretary.

In 1898 he was appointed Ambassador-Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Transvaal Republic in Europe controlling all the Republican consulates during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902).

A bronze bust of Leyds is found in the Merensky Library at the University of Pretoria.

East of Leyds Street is Hacienda Flats erected on a site where architect Kraan had his home. Kraan sometimes in association with Weijers designed two of the early churches in the town and many homesteads. His daughter lived in the building ever since it was erected, and where she died.

General Louis Botha's statue adorns the lawn of the Union Buildings. This statue was to have been erected in the City Hall Gardens in Paul Kruger Street.

The statue is the creation of sculptor, Coert Steynberg and was cast in Pretoria, the first largest casting work in the Republic, using four tons of brass.

The memorial was unveiled by his eldest daughter, Mrs Helena de Waal in August 1946.

Louis Botha (1862-1919), first Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa. A prosperous farmer, was elected Field Cornet for the Vryheid district and later represented that district in the Volksraad.

When war broke out in 1899 he joined as an ordinary Burger and went to the Natal front. He later took command of Boer forces on the Upper Tugela and Biggersberg.

At the age of thirty-seven he succeeded General Joubert who died in March 1900. Botha's last stand against Lord Roberts' forces in the Pretoria area took place on the ridges of Donkerhoek east of the town where the Battle of Diamond Hill took place.

He is remembered for telling the defeated Boers that "Our task of building a South African Nation begins tomorrow".

In 1907 Botha became Prime Minister of the Transvaal and first Prime Minister of Union (1910). On the outbreak of the First World War, he commanded the successful invasion of German South West Africa.

Assisted by General Jan Smuts, they were delegates to the Peace Treaty of Versailles. He died of a heart attack in 1919 and was laid to rest in Rebecca Street Cemetery.

The magnificent Union Buildings was erected from surplus treasury funds at the time of amalgamation of the separate provinces of South Africa forming the Union of South Africa in 1910.

Mr Hull, then Minister of Finance, is given credit for selecting the site on Meintjeskop for the erection of the buildings. The hill was named after the Stephanus Meintjes owner of the property.

Carela Meischke, a Hollander, who erected the Johannesburg City Hall and the present Pretoria post office built the two wings of the main building. Messrs. Prentice and Mackie were responsible for laying out the amphitheater.

The stone used in the construction came from Balmoral in the Eastern Transvaal (Mpumalanga), Steenpan and Platpan. The wood was Rhodesian and Indian Kiaat, Mahogany and Stinkwood from the Cape Province. The bronze pottery-work was done by Fanie Eloff, the statue of Atlas adorning one of the domes was the work of Broadbent and that of Mercury on the opposite dome by Ness.

The wings of the building are 91,46 m each. The length from end to end is 274,39m and the amphitheater is 91,46 m. The height from street level to the top of Atlas is 54,88 m above Church Street and 1493,90 m above sea-level.

14 Million bricks and 14160,29 m³ of stone, 566,41 m³ of granite and 40 000 bags of cement was used. It took 1265 workers to complete the job.

Building operations took four years to complete at a cost of R2 621 280,00 and an extra R700 000,00 for the laying out of the grounds. The Duke of Connaught laid the foundation stone on the 26th November 1910.

The garden was also laid out by (Sir) Herbert Baker, architect of the Buildings, who designed South Africa House in London and restored Groote Schuur residence in the Cape Province. Many of the early Anglican 'stone' churches and residences in the Republic came from his drawing board.

Johann Street was named to honour Johann Rissik, Government Surveyor associated with the naming of Johannesburg, later Administrator of the Transvaal who established the suburb of Hillcrest.

The narrow roadway opposite Johann Street leading up the hill to 'Tiny Town' established on Craigelea Estate once owned by (The Hon.) Hugh Crawford from Ayrshire, Scotland. He was manager of the Standard Bank in Kimberley and opened their first branch in Pretoria in 1877. He then joined the firm of Lewis and Marks as financial adviser and director.

Crawford was the first President of the Upper-house of the Transvaal Legislative Council 1907/09; a foundation member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and on the Board of the first Transvaal University College (University of Pretoria). He died in Pretoria in 1930.

Arcadia is a blanket name covering the area below Meintjes Kop. Old maps reveal that several residential suburbs were laid out and proclaimed with separate identities: Eastwood, Eastclyffe and Fairview.

Fairview Estate comprises of two streets, Blackwood and Pine, situated between Craigelea Estate on the west and Beckett Street on the east.

The Estate of 20,24 ha was owned by Ewald Esselen and was cut up into 95 erven as far back as 1905.

Eastwood Estate is commemorated in a street name there. It was owned by T.W. (Thomas) Beckett, pioneer businessman, founder of a company still operating under his name.

Turning left into East Street and right at the second cross-road which is Merton Avenue it leads to Merton Keep, one time residence of T.W. Beckett on the north-western corner of Eastwood Street.

Beckett purchased portion of the Arcadia Estate from E.P.A. Meintjes in 1899 on which he erected his 'country' mansion.

The name recalls Merton Abbey in Kent, England, where he was born in 1851 and is the ancestral home of the Beckett's. Thomas A 'Beckett, Archbishop of Canterbury and Chancellor of England lived there in the 12th Century.

During the military occupation of Pretoria in 1900. The British authorities commandeered large houses in which hospitals were established and Beckett's residence became the Eastwood Base Military Hospital, a branch of the Imperial Yeomanry Hos-

pital that also occupied the yet unfinished Palace of Justice on Church Square for the same purpose.

Merton Keep catered for over 5 000 patients in the year that it existed. It was here that Prince Christian Victor, grandson of Queen Victoria of England, serving on Lord Roberts' staff died like many hundreds of other soldiers of enteric fever in 1900. He lies buried amongst his comrades in the Old Church Street Cemetery. (*See Prince's Park & Princess Christian Home*)

The building underwent structural changes and now houses the French Embassy.

Streets in Eastwood township are named after sons of T.W. Beckett.

Returning to Church Street we pass on to Lisdogan Street, commemorating the name of the estate of Andrew Johnston, another pioneer of commerce and one-time Mayor of Pretoria.

The original estate extended like others, northwards from Church Street to the summit of Meintjeskop, it was bordered by Eastwood Street on the west and Orient Street in the east.

Lisdogan is a place name in Ballymote, Sligo, Ireland, where Johnston's father farmed and where he was born. On his arrival in the Republic, he worked in Queens-town for some years before settling in Pretoria.

The first part of the name 'lis- or Les' means a fort, and in their old home country, the prefix was usually followed by a personal name which led to the owner of the property – therefore – Doogan's Fort.

The next street eastwards is Balmoral up which most of the material used for the construction of the Union Buildings was transported.

As one walks along Church Street East, it will have been noticed that many houses are built with dressed stone from the foundation level to window height. The stone was quarried on a site on Meintjeskop which, by 1910 ceased to operate and the hole, waterlogged, was used by the local children as a swimming pool.

When the Union Buildings was erected, the quarry was de-watered and included in Sir Herbert Baker's design and became part of the National Archives in the basement,

From Dumbarton Road to the Presidency lies the 'Government Village' as it was once called – the area extends to the top of the hill and the houses are occupied by Members of Parliament when in session in Pretoria. This area is Brynterion, a name which dates back to 1889. Bryn Terion was established on ground sold by Meintjes to John Robert Pritchard. It then became the property of Andrew Johnston.

Pritchard was employed by T.W. Beckett and it is thought that he was responsible for the name which commemorated his birthplace in Carnavonshire, Wales.

'Bryn – a hill, tirion = a fine or beautiful view, that one can picture the site being at that time.

In front of House No. 950 Church Street, is a relic of the occupation forces during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). A milestone set in the pavement reading "Pretoria 2 ½ miles" first thought to have been connected with the early stage coach days.

This signpost was erected by the military authorities on the occupation of Pretoria in 1900 to control the movement of inhabitants and traffic. The town from this point was cut off from the outer world, entry and exit allowed only to military personnel and permit holders, and was closed from sundown to sunup.

The town was barricaded with barbwire between the mile-stones erected around Pretoria; on the Old Johannesburg Road below the Voortrekker Monument, the road through Fountains Valley, one stood opposite Skinner's Court in Church Street West, off Court street and yet another on the Rustenburg Road at the old Daspoort Hotel, north of the Daspoort Cutting.

House No. 949 on the opposite south-western corner was the residence of Mr John Jack who established a business in the town that still exists bearing his name.

A slight deviation down Hill Street takes you to Greystoke residence and grounds that extends along Hill Street between Pretorius and Schoeman Streets.

This beautiful residence was the property of Mr Charles Maggs, and is now the property of the United Kingdom High Commissioner.

Charles Maggs came to South Africa from London in 1880 and was in Pretoria in 1884; he went farming on the vast Somerset Estate in the Potgietersrus district. In 1908 he was instrumental in establishing the Zaaiplaats Tin Mine at Rooiberg. The family returned to Pretoria in 1910 controlling his many interests from his own building, Somerset House in Vermeulen Street.

His wife, Agnes, was the first Mayoress of Potgietersrus and she donated Greystoke to the British Government as a mark of appreciation of their birthright.

Greystoke is an Old English name deriving from Creistock(stoke) on the River Cray. Stoke = a monastery, a cell or place of secondary settlement.

Returning to Church Street we see the imposing entrance to Overvaal that was the official residence of the Administrator of the Transvaal and since 1994, is the home of the Vice-President of the Republic. Overvaal – Transvaal. The name was selected by competition in 1959 open to all school children. The winning entry was submitted by Elizabeth Kock and accepted because it was bilingual and was the name used by the early Trekkers to indicate the territory north of the Vaal river. In 1998 the name of the residence was changed to Oliver Tambo recalling an active member of the African National Congress (ANC).

The Presidency, formerly used by the Presidents of the Republic was also earlier referred to as the Governor-Generals Residence or Government House.

Andrew Johnston purchased this portion of the farm Elandspoort called Brynterion from Pritchard and sold it to the government in 1903.

First mention of the erection of the residence was made in a minute dated 26 July 1902 from the Governor-in-Council which approved an allotment of R50 000 for its construction.

In 1904 (Sir) Herbert Baker, architect of the later Union Buildings prepared final drawings and the construction was undertaken by the firm of Edmanson and Thomas.

The foundation stone reads: 'On the 25th day of September in the year 1905 this stone was laid by Arthur Lawley, who was the first Lieutenant-Governor of the Transvaal.

The building was completed in 1906, and together with other auxiliary buildings, furniture, land etc., cost R188 000.

Our Governors-General were: Gladstone, Buxton, Connaught, Athlone, Clarendon, Duncan, Van Zyl and C.R. Swart, who was the last Governor-General of the Union of South Africa and became the first President of the New Republic in 1961.

The estate is registered as Blackmoor, a name recalling the London address of Lord Selborne. The English placename dates back to before the year 1205 and had its origin in the sense that it (the place) was situated in a forest. Moor, from mor meaning large, therefore illustrates it being situated in a large (big) black forest.

The short street southwards from near the entrance to the presidency bears the name Athlone, one-time Governor-General of the Union.

Our walk ends at Duncan Street. Church Street at this point separates the suburbs of Hatfield on the south and Colbyn on the north.

Duncan Street originally had four separate names along its length. From Church Street to the swimming bath, it was Duncan, the short curved section was Nixon Street after an attorney; it then again became Duncan Street as far as Lunnon (also an attorney) from where it was called James Street after James Brooks who lent his name to the township of Brooklyn, and his home, Brookhouse in Brooks Street.

Sir Patrick Duncan was the first South African to become Governor-General. Born in 1870, he was Secretary to Lord Milner and a member of the famous 'kindergarten', as well as being Treasurer of the Crown Colony of the Transvaal. He died in 1943 and his ashes interred in the granite block forming part of the Duncan Docks in Cape Town also named after him.

The name Hatfield is derived from a placename in England. Originally spelt 'Haddefield, then Hadfield or Hatfield and means 'barleyfield'.

The township was established on the farm Koedoespoort in 1905 by the Wesleyan (Methodist) Society and named after Hatfield House and town in Hertfordshire, Eng-

land, to commemorate the arrival of Lord Selborne, whose London address was Hatfield House, London, erected in 1610.

Colbyn township was established on a portion of the farm Koedoespoort and erven was first sold in 1929. The vendors of the township wanted to call it Colby, recalling a placename near Douglas on the Isle of Man, the birthplace of the promoter. The postal authorities rejected the name because of duplication, so an 'n' was added to the end of the name to disguise its origin.

The second element 'by' is derived from Old Scandinavian denoting – home-stead/farm or village as does the 'ton' found in many modern names. The prefix probably derives from the owner's name – 'Koli' , thus Colby means Koli's home-stead or village. Koli was a common personal name on the Isle of Man in earlier times.

Church Street is approximately 11.29 km long and considered the longest, straightest street in the Republic. It will be noticed that the streets in the centre of Old Pretoria are wider than some other towns. Surveyor Du Toit was instructed to plan them so to allow an oxwagon with a full span of 16 oxen to make a "U" turn if necessary.

A Walking Tour Through Pretoria's Historical Past

UNION BUILDINGS PANORAMA



BOOK EIGHT

UNION BUILDINGS PANORAMA

We start the tour from the corner of Church and Zeederberg Street, the latter named after a family that conducted a stage coach service between Johannesburg and Pietersburg in the Northern Transvaal and between Johannesburg and the Eastern Goldfields of Lydenburg and Barberton in the 1870's.

Meintjeskop, on which the Union Buildings was erected is situated on a portion of the farm Elandspoort purchased by Andries du Toit, surveyor of the original lay-out of Pretoria in 1856, calling it Arcadia.

Arcadia, then became the property of Stephanus J. Meintjes, who erected the first mill in the town on the banks of the Apies River at Lion Drift (Bridge) in Church Street and lived in Du Toit's house opposite the mill.

In 1887, this hill was described as being an isolated hill about 3 miles east of the town and was a conspicuous object on the landscape. Lord Selborne in turn described its position as "one of the finest in the world."

The ground around Meintjeskop was purchased by the Government in 1909 for R65 000,00 and the Town Council donated a further portion of ground valued at R50 000,00.

On the south-eastern corner of Vermeulen and Zeederberg Street is a cannon - The Gunners memorial - commemorating members of the South African Artillery Regiments who made the extreme sacrifices for their country during World War I.

The monument was unveiled by Mrs Isie Smuts, wife of General J.C. Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa on 9th February 1922.

The inscription reads:

*"To the glorious men of all ranks of
the S.A. Heavy Artillery who gave
their lives during the Great War 1914 - 1918.
Their lives they gave their country,
For themselves they won honour that
Shall not fade. Theirs is the most
Splendid movement, not what the lie
Buried but in the hearts of all those
Who recalling what they did keeps
Their glory unforgotten."*

On the corner opposite is the entrance to a Government department situated in the old Vredenhuis homestead.

The residence was erected for Mr E.P.A. (Eddy) Meintjes, son of Stephanus, who left his name to Meintjeskop; Eddy was a member of the Old Transvaal Volksraad (Parliament) under Pres. Paul Kruger. He commissioned the erection of the homestead as

a present for his wife who died before it was completed. The origin of the name 'Peace' is not known.

Eddy later leased the property to Paul Nel, and still later part of the property was owned by Ziervogel, after whom Ziervogel Street on the northern border of the property was named.

Ziervogel Estate was purchased and included into the Union Buildings Complex.

General J.B.M. Hertzog lived at Vrede when he became Minister of Justice after Union in 1910.

On the north-western corner of Vermeulen Street the remains of an old tram-track that wound its way up the side of the hill is still visible; the tram ran from Church Street to the Union Buildings transporting employees and visitors to the Union Buildings.

Pretoria boasts having a botanical garden near the Christian Brothers College east of Pretoria, but from the corner of Vermeulen Street, the road winds its way through Pretoria's first botanical garden established in Pretoria.

It owes its existence to General J.C. Smuts, a great botanist, who had Mr Frith, a nurseryman, travel throughout the country with authority to bring back flora pertaining to South Africa.

From above the junction with Edmund Street, fine views of Pretoria can be seen.

Belvedere Street below the hill recalls the name of a small township of that name established soon after the turn of the century, which also gave its name to an hotel in that street which was destroyed by fire during the construction of the Union Buildings.

The vast complex of the Pretoria Academic hospital (previously H.F. Verwoerd Hospital) designed by Mr Clelceland, of the Public Works Department can be seen from this vantage point.

The hospital was completed in the 1920's and was first known as the Pretoria General Hospital, it was renamed to honour a former Prime Minister of the Republic.

Far to the west on the slopes of the Daspoortrand, are the buildings of the Technicon Educational Institution.

Set on the lawn, facing westwards, is the bust of General J.C. Smuts, Statesman and Soldier. He was an advocate in Cape Town in 1895, in 1897 he was in practice in Johannesburg and in 1898 was appointed Government Attorney of the Transvaal.

Gen. Smuts was present at the Battle of Diamond Hill (Donkerpoort) east of Pretoria in June 1900, where he learned much on military tactics which he put into practice in the Gatsrand engagements in the Western Transvaal. He was in command of a Burger force that invaded the Cape Colony during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899 -1902).

At the Peace Talks at Vereeniging, he was legal advisor to the Government.

In the self-governing State created in 1907, Gen. Smuts became Colonial Secretary and Minister of Education and was one of the architects of the Union of South Africa.

On the outbreak of World War I (1914 - 1918), German South West Africa was invaded by Union forces under command of Generals Botha and Smuts; Smuts later commanded the forces against the Germans in East Africa.

Smuts represented the Union at the Imperial Conference in 1917 and was associated with the establishment of the League of Nations.

On the death of Louis Botha in 1919, Smuts became Prime Minister and was Minister of Justice in the coalition Government of 1933, becoming head of state again in 1939 and served throughout World War II (1939 - 1945).

He died at his Doornkloof home near Irene on 11 September 1950 at the age of 80 years. His home was declared a National Monument and is now a museum.

The architect of the Smuts memorial was Mr Hans Botha, and the sculptor was Danie de Jager. The memorial was unveiled by Mrs Mc LLDowie, daughter of the late General, on 27 September 1975.

The road now leads us to the front of the Union Buildings.

The magnificent Union Buildings was designed by Herbert (Later Sir) Baker, and was erected from surplus treasury funds at the time of amalgamation of the provinces of South Africa, when forming the Union of South Africa in 1910.

Mr Hull, then Minister of Finance, is given credit for selecting the site on Meintjeskop for the erection of the buildings. The hill was named after Stephanus Meintjes, owner of the property.

Carela Meischke, a Hollander, who erected the Johannesburg City Hall and the present post office building on Pretoria's Church Square; built the two wings of the main building. Messrs. Prentice and Mackie, were responsible for laying out the amphitheatre.

The stone used in the construction of the building came from Balmoral in the Eastern Transvaal, Steenpan and Platpan. The wood used was Rhodesian and Indian Kiaat; Mahogany and Stinkwood came from the Cape Province. The bronze pottery-work was done by Fanie Eloff; the statue of Atlas adorning one of the domes was the work of Broadbent and that of Mercury on the opposite dome by Ness.

The wings of the buildings are 91.46m, and the amphitheatre is 91.46m, the length from end to end is 274.39m.

The height from street level to the top of Atlas is 54.88m above Church Street and 1493.90m above sea-level.

Building operations took four years to complete at a cost of R2 621 280.00 and an extra R700 000.00 for the laying out of the grounds which were only completed in the 1920's. The Duke of Connaught laid the foundation stone of the Union Buildings on the 26th November 1910.

The garden was laid out by Sir Herbert Baker, who was also responsible for the restoration of Groote Schuur in the Cape Province and he designed South Africa House in London. Many of the Anglican stone churches and residences in the Republic came from his drawing board.

A beautiful panorama of Pretoria unfolds from the upper terrace in front of the amphitheatre; an uninterrupted view extending from Waterkloof in the south-east to past Iscor Steel Works in the west.

Landmarks seen from here are, Elandspoort through which the railway leaves the valley south-wards, the University of South Africa, a building erected on a single beam, the Voortrekker Monument, the two Republican forts, Klapperkop and Schanskop; the hills of Muckleneuk, the suburbs of Sunnyside, Arcadia and Hatfield. Directly below in the gardens are the statues of Generals Hertzog and Louis Botha.

At this middle point is found the base of the original position of a flagpole with historical links.

The plaque facing the street reads:

"Mrs. M.S. Vorster, wife of the Prime Minister hoisted the National Flag here on 31 May 1978 in commemoration of the hoisting of the flag for the first time fifty years ago."

Set in bronze lettering in the paving stone below the base is the following inscription:

"H.R.H. The Prince Alice unfurled the Flags of Union from this spot on Union Day 31st March 1928."

The Delville Wood Memorial immediately below, commemorates a military epic of World War I.

On 15 July 1916, Maj.-Gen H.T. Lukin, led the South African Brigade into battle to clear the d'Elville Forest in France of German troops that they stormed without digging in and were driven back.

On receiving an order 'to take the position at all costs', the brigade held its ground. The forest was bombarded for 48 hours, positions were gained and lost - but the South Africans maintained their position.

The brigade of 34 000 men entered the battle, five days later, 3 officers and 140 wounded and weary men marched out with a hatless General taking the salute.

Adjoining the wood near Longueval, the Delville Wood Memorial was erected.

The memorial is described as being of columns standing on a pedestal and supporting a cupola on top of which two life-sized figures clasping hands across the back of a

fiery steed. These figures are symbolic of the two main White South African races, who fought side by side on the battlefields of France. Plaques mark the spots where the S.A. Brigade entered the wood and where its headquarters were situated. The inscription covers not only the fallen at Delville Wood but all South African soldiers who fell in the First World War, later broadened to include World War II casualties. The inscription reads:

*"To the immortal dead from South Africa who
at the call of duty made the great sacrifice
on the battlefields of Africa, Asia and Europe
and on the sea, this memorial is dedicated in
proud and grateful recognition to their countrymen".*

In 1920, Sir Percy FitzPatrick, who initiated the two minutes silence world wide at military ceremonies, purchased the wood and presented it to the South African Government. The monument was designed by Sir Herbert Baker and erected by public subscription in South Africa. It was unveiled by the widow of General Louis Botha on 10 October 1926, after an address by the Prime Minister of the Union, General J.B.M. Hertzog.

The French Government, in accordance with general policy bought back the land for one Frank and granted South Africa its use as memorial ground in perpetuity, the S.A. Government remains responsible for the upkeep.

Two Delville Wood memorial replicas were erected in the Republic; one at the Union Buildings which was unveiled by Sir Percy FitzPatrick on 21 July 1929, and the other and a statue of General Lukin in Cape Town. The Pretoria Memorial has a small recess set in the base in which the Roll of Honour was placed.

Lower in the gardens, is a Memorial dedicated to Pretoria soldiers who fell in World War I, World War II and the Korean War. The memorial was designed by Gordon Leith.

The design, a Cross-wall with a symbolic "pill-box" at each end; the roof in the shape of a military "tin-hat" of the period. Lower down is the sarcophagus. The Rolls of Honour of World War I are on bronze plaques inside the 'pill-boxes', whilst those of the other wars are on the connecting wall, which bears an inscription in Latin:

*"In memory of the citizens of this town
who were happy to give their lives in
preserving the liberty of posterity."*

Further down in the garden is the statue of James Barry Munnik Hertzog (1866 - 1942), Advocate, Boer War General and Prime Minister. Schooled in Kimberley, he completed his studies in law in Amsterdam, Holland. In 1893 he was appointed a Judge in the Free State.

On the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899), he became legal adviser to the Free State Council of War and Prosecutor at Court Martials.

He was appointed Combat-General in June 1900, operating under General de Wet. Hertzog's forces invaded the Cape Colony reaching as far down as Lambert's Bay; he

was present at the Peace Talks at Vereeniging and a signatory to the Treaty signed in Melrose House, Pretoria on 31 May 1902.

Hertzog became Prime Minister of the Union in 1924, a position he held until the outbreak of World War II in 1939; after resigning his seat in Parliament, he withdrew from politics and retired to his farm Waterval near Witbank, where he died and was buried.

On the lawn overlooking Church Street, is a statue of General Louis Botha (1862 - 1919), Soldier and Statesman. Soon after the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899), he took over command of the Boer forces in Natal when Gen. Lucas Meyer became ill, later becoming Commandant-General of forces on the death of General Piet Joubert in March 1900

In 1907 when Responsible Government was obtained from the British Government, he became Prime Minister and later became the first Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa formed in 1910.

Botha commanded the S.A. forces that invaded German South West Africa during World War I and represented South Africa at the Peace Treaty of Versailles.

The statue is the creation of sculptor Coert Steynberg, and was cast in Pretoria, the first largest casting work undertaken in the Republic, using four tons of brass. The memorial was unveiled by his eldest daughter, Mrs Helena de Waal, in August 1946.

Further eastwards along the upper terrace is the Police memorial nestling below the roadway. It was unveiled in May 1983 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the South African Police.

The monument consists of three main elements, a two metre high solid wall representing the task of protection performed by the South African Police; a second higher wall, enclosing a curved row of pillars represents the various branches of services. The growth out of history is accentuated by the visual link with the Voortrekker Monument through the break in the protective wall.

An unusual feature of Blackwood Street connecting the Union Buildings complex with Church Street, is that the upper-reaches of the street is paved with red bricks.

It has been suggested, that the work was carried out during the depression years experienced in the 1920's giving work to many unemployed people. It was during this period that the city's unemployed were also used to the canalisation of watercourses flowing through the town.

Blackwood and Pine Streets comprise the township of Fairwood (as are others here, the township falls under the umbrella name of Arcadia) established by Ewald Esselen in 1905. Fairwood Street became Government Avenue and leads to Brynerton Estate, where the official houses of parliamentarians are found.

Three short streets branch off northwards bearing the names Percy, Walter and Herbert, named after sons of Thomas W. Beckett, owner of the Eastwood Estate in which the names are found.

Northwards along Percy Street is the junction with Mr McIntosh's Kilberry Estate, vacant for many years. The name Kilberry and Meath Street serving the property recalls names from Scotland, their ancestral country.

Southwards down East Street turning left in Merton Street, is Merton Keep, the one-time residence of Tom Beckett, pioneer businessman, founder of a company still operating under his name.

Beckett's first house in Pretoria was Blackwood Villa which occupied the block on which Munitoria, the City Council's headquarter building now occupies.

His Arcadia Estate was purchased from E.P.A. Meintjes on which he built his country residence, the furthest from town at that time.

The name Merton Keep recalls Merton Abbey, in Kent, England, where he was born in 1851, and is the ancestral home of the Beckett clan.

After World War II (1939 - 1945), the house stood vacant for some time and was used by tramps and vagrants who caused much damage to the house, so much so, that it acquired the name 'ghost house'. The property was acquired by the French Government and after structural changes, now houses their Embassy.

At Eastwood Street turn left and wind your way up the hill again still with Merton Keep in view.

Eastwood Street recalls the name of T.W. (Tom) Beckett's Estate, probably so called because of its situation from town and the nature of the flora that existed there at that time.

The name Eastwood also recalls a period during the occupation of Pretoria by the British during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899- 1902), when the Imperial Yeomanry hospital took over Beckett's property.

Eastwood Base Military Hospital proper was in the homestead with accommodation for officers; a hospital tent accommodation for other ranks was laid out in the grounds and extended down to Church Street.

The hospital existed for just over a year. It had 564 beds, and catered for 5227 patients. It was in this house-hospital that Prince Christian Victor, of Schleswic Holstein, Queen Victoria's grandson serving on Lord Roberts' Headquarter Staff, died as did many others, of enteric fever; he was buried in Church Street cemetery, Pretoria.

His mother, Princess Christian, came to Pretoria after the war to visit her son's grave and before returning overseas, planted an oak tree in the open ground opposite the cemetery, which has since then been called Prince's Park. The foundation stone of the Princess Christian Old Age Home was laid by her at that time.

As in 1900, T.W. Beckett's Merton Keep residence was again placed at the disposal of the military, it was run by the Red Cross as a recuperation centre for soldiers during World War II (1939 - 1945).

Continuing along Eastwood Street, crossing Government Avenue, will take you to the neck in the Meintjeskop range where Tom Jenkins' cement road begins and from where a magnificent view of the Moot (valley) stretches northwards to the Magaliesberg.

On the right hand side of the summit is the S.A. Police wireless sub-station behind which is Johnston's Redoubt, a British blockhouse erected during the occupation of Pretoria (1900).

Johnston's Redoubt was so called because it was built on Andrew Johnston's Lisdogan Estate which was later acquired by the government and incorporated into the Libertas Estate on which is the residence of the President.

The north extension of Eastwood Street joining Arcadia with Rietondale is known as Tom Jenkins Drive, named after a former Town Councillor and Mayor.

Tom Jenkins was born at Paarl, Cape province in 1863 and came to Pretoria with his parents in 1889, and stayed in Pretoria for nearly 60 years.

Jenkins was Secretary of the Transvaal Museum for the period 1907 - 1913 and then worked for the Department of Inland Revenue. He was Chairman of the Rietondale Ratepayers' Association and later elected to the City Council as representative for Arcadia, Riviera and Rietondale. He was Mayor in 1914.

Jenkins owned ground on the northern slope of Meintjeskop that he sold to the government for incorporation into Libertas Estate, a condition of sale was that the old 'bridle-path' connecting Rietondale and Arcadia be made a proper roadway. It was constructed by convict labour.

Tom Jenkins went to Margate on the Natal South Coast where he became Mayor in 1946; he retired to Durban in 1953 where he died in 1965, age 81 years.

Returning to the main road, we pass Lisdogan Street, the name commemorates the estate of Andrew Johnston, another pioneer of commerce and one-time mayor of Pretoria.

The original Lisdogan Estate extended northwards from Church Street to the summit of Meintjeskop it was bordered by Eastwood Street on the west and Orient Street in the east.

Lisdogan is a place name in Ballymote, Sligo, Ireland, where Johnston's father farmed and where he was born. On his arrival in South Africa, he worked in Queenstown for some time before settling in Pretoria.

The first element of the name 'Lis' or 'Les' means a fort, and in Johnston's old home country, the prefix usually followed by a personal name, which gives us 'Doogan's Fort'.

Crossing Balmoral Street, we pass Dumbarton Street, the western boundary of the now restricted area of Brynterion.

Dumbarton Estate was owned by another pioneer of commerce in old Pretoria, Mr Robert Hamilton, and as the other adjoining properties, recalls Scottish history associated with the property owner.

The overseas name is a corruption of 'Dun-Breton' - the hill of the Bretons - or the fortress of the Britons.

The name Brynterion is first found on the title deed dated 1889, when shown as Bryn Terion; the township was established on ground that E.P.A. Meintjes sold to John Robert Pritchard, who is thought to have named it.

The sale however, was cancelled and the property sold to Andrew Johnston, who owned Dumbarton.

Bryn - means 'a hill' and 'tirion' refers to a fine or fair view.

The most important building on Brynterion Estate, is Libertas, first the residence of Prime Ministers of the Union of South Africa, now the official residence of the President of the Republic.

The house was designed by Gerard Moerdijk, who designed the Voortrekker Monument and many Afrikaans churches throughout the country. Libertas was completed in 1940 at a cost of r136 000.00.

The name is indirectly associated with a famous Cape Estate owned by the Freedom-fighter, Adam Tas; it was selected by Mrs Isie Smuts, wife of the then Prime Minister, General J.C. Smuts, and not only does it recall the place of her birth, Klein Libertas in the Stellenbosch district of the Cape Province, but because the name seemed appropriate at that time when World War II was raging, and being in Latin, was acceptable by the two language groups of the country.

President Nelson Mandela (Madiba) took up residence after his inauguration in 1994 and renamed the estate "Mahlabandlovu", a Shangaan word signifying "the dawn of a new era".

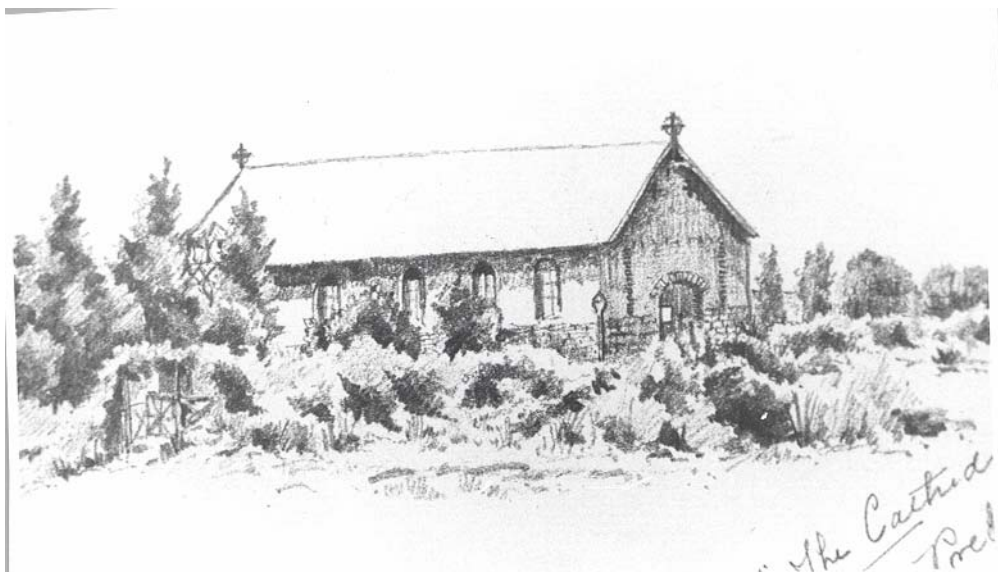
Winding our way down Nassau Road admiring the architecture, we arrive in Church Street ending the tour in front of the Presidency, formerly known as the Governor-General's residence or Government House.

In 1904 Sir Herbert Baker, architect of the later Union Buildings, prepared the final drawings and the construction was undertaken by messrs. Edmanson and Thomas.

The foundation stone reads: "*On the 25th Day of September in the year 1905, this stone was laid by Arthur Lawley*", who was the first Lieutenant-Governor.

A Walking Tour Through Pretoria's Historical Past

ANDRIES STREET NORTH TO SOUTH



BOOK NINE

ANDRIES STREET, NORTH TO SOUTH

We start our tour of Andries Street from the south-western corner of Bloed Street which once held the residence of Dr J.W.B. Gunning, first director of the Old Museum in Boom Street, the foundation stone of which was laid by Dr Mansfield in July 1899.

Gunning occupied the house here until his new residence in the zoological gardens was completed. (*See Boom Street route*).

On the western side of Andries Street between Proes and Vermeulen Streets was an hotel run by Mrs Odé, wife of Gabriel Adolf Odé.

Odé came to the Transvaal in 1890 taking up the post as acting Secretary of Education, later becoming the Republic's first historian. His greatest contribution to the preservation of our past was his recorded interviews with the few remaining original Voortrekkers in the Transvaal which was later published by Gustav Preller under the title 'Voortrekkermense'.

Gabriel Odé died in 1897 and was buried in the Church Street Cemetery. A street in Villieria bears his name.

On the eastern side (old no's 120/121) between Proes and Vermeulen Streets was Delfos Bros., Engineering Works.

The better known brother of the company was Cornelius who arrived in 1890 and established his business here, and also when time permitted, experimented with a small smelting works. During the Second Anglo-Boer War he assisted in the manufacture of shells for the State Artillery.

After the fall of Pretoria in June 1900 he was deported to the Netherlands and on his return founded the Pretoria Iron Syndicate. In 1920 he was associated with the establishment of Iscor (S.A. Iron & Steel Industrial Corporation q.v.)

Cor Delfos Street in Industria honours his endeavours.

The Central Hotel stood on the north-eastern corner of Vermeulen Street in the 1890's; after the war it became a police station and barracks. The building was demolished before 1910 and the new double-storeyed building that arose there was called Dominion Building which in turn came down some years ago for the present structure.

On the opposite corner where De Bruyns Centre now stands was Wallach's printing Company, publishers of 'Die Volksstem Newspaper and 'Die Brandwag' magazine.

The Volksstem was the first Dutch newspaper to appear in the Transvaal Republic in 1873, under the editorship of J.F. Celliers. The company later erected a building on

the corner of Fountain (now Volkstem) Lane and Pretorius Street. The gable of this building bears the date of its founding in Pretoria.

On the south-western corner of Vermeulen Street where the Library is now situated was the Transvalia Masonic Hall which later became the Vaudette Cinema, which used the hall for many years after Union (1910).

Adjoining the Masonic Hall was the Baptist Church on property purchased from the Masonic Order.

Mr R.H. Brotherton commenced services in Pretoria in 1889; the foundation stone of their first church was laid by President Paul Kruger in 1891. The first settled minister (1895) was Rev. H.J. Batts, author of "Within Pretoria", an account of activities and events in the town during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899 - 1902).

The Rev. George Cross ministered to the flock for a period of ten years (1903 - 1913) and when their new church was erected in Beatrix Street, Arcadia, it was called the Cross memorial Church. The original foundation stone was built into the wall of that church.

The Arcadia church was demolished in the early 1980's to make way for the present Holiday Inn complex.

The Andries Street property was sold to a private company and was acquired by the government in 1921 to form part of the library's book binding department.

The Andries Street façade of De Bruyn's Centre stands on three old sites. Wallach's as mentioned occupied the corner stand, Wesley Building adjoined it and the Wesley Methodist Church stood next to that building.

The Rev. George Weavind, a well-known old Pretoria Wesleyan (Methodist) Missionary, was born in England on the 13th April 1850; he trained at Richmond College in Surrey, England and was appointed to the South African vacancy on the Vaal River.

He first served the Pretoria parish in 1873 and because he mastered the second language, he was respected by all inhabitants. Rev. Weavind erected the first Methodist Church in Pretoria on a site now covered by the Pretoria News Building.

His wife was Jeanette Wilhelmina, daughter of Henricus and Anna van Boeschoten, who came to South Africa in 1860, first settling in the Zoutpansberg area; after the death of her father, the family settled in Pretoria.

George Weavind was the founder of Kilnerton, an institution created for the uplifting of the Black people. Kilnerton is commemorated in the name Kilner Park, an eastern suburb and Weavind Park where the institution was situated was named to honour George Weavind.

In 1880 Weavind purchased the ground in Andries Street extending from Church to Vermeulen Streets on which a small barn-type church was erected in 1880, that was

replaced by a larger church which took two years to complete. The foundation stone was laid in September 1892 and it opened for worship in 1894 with the Rev Amos Burnet as minister. The site was sold in 1968 and the new Wesley Church designed by Gordon Ellis was constructed on the corner of Andries and Visagie Streets.

The hall adjoining the church was called the Hartley Hall after the Rev. Marshall Hartley, Missionary Secretary who assisted in re-organising the Society after the War of 1899 - 1902. Hartley Street in Queenswood was named after him and the Amos Burnet memorial Church in Kilner Park, Amos Street in Colbyn and Burnett in Hatfield, commemorate Rev. Burnet.

Bourke Trust Building stood opposite the Methodist Church; it was from that building that E.F. Bourke controlled his many business interest (see Barton Keep, Paul Kruger Street route). The building came down, as did others, to make way for the Old Mutual complex.

On the south-western corner of Church Street stood Durban House, where Robert Hamilton conducted business as ladies and gents outfitters.

Hamilton, born at Penzance, Cornwall in 1853, came to South Africa in 1874 and opened his first business venture in a building also called Durban house on the south-eastern corner of Church and Koch (Bosman) Streets. He was a member of the first elected council.

Hamilton Primary School (originally the Staats Meisjes (Girls) School) was named after him for donating ground for the expansion of the school. (See also Church Street East route).

Bureau Lane connects Andries Street with Church Square. It was known in earlier times as 'Aasvogel Laan' - Vulture Lane, having jocular reference to the advocates and attorneys having offices there adjoining the High Court of the Old Republic that stood on the north-western corner at the Andries Street entrance. The Lane was registered as a thoroughfare in 1910.

On the southern corner of the Lane once stood Marais Building associated with 'Lang' Piet Marais, a businessman of the town who founded the Nigel Gold Mine on the East Rand; his Pretoria homestead stood on the south-western corner of Pretorius and Prinsloo Streets, where the later New Grand Hotel was erected, he also called Nigel House.

Salisbury House was erected for Dave Levy, pharmacist, proprietor of the Standard Pharmacy operating in the building. The name recalled a town in Zimbabwe, where his wife was born and where he married.

The first occupant of the corner site where Trust Bank has an office was J.J. Meintjes, first Registrar of Deeds of the Old Republic. The building thereon went under different names through the years; first as Paramount Building, then Bettermans and finally Amies Corner.

A slight deviation westwards, takes us to Wachthuis, housing the S.A. Police departments. Originally, the Transvaal Hotel stood there since the days before annexation (1877); it was replaced by a larger structure in 1899 which was taken over by Mr Polley in 1922 who named it Polley's Hotel. It was demolished to make way for the present building. The arcade from Pretorius to Schoeman Street still bears Mr. Polley's name.

Still in Pretorius Street, we now cross Andries and make our way towards the arcade where De Meent Building is.

Here stood the old Town Hall that was erected on the former site of the Pretoria Water Company. Forty-two designs were submitted in a competition for the 'new' town hall and the winning design was submitted by Mr Ralson of Johannesburg, whose prize was R300.00. Mr W.R. Dey was the building contractor.

The foundation stone was laid by Mrs Andrew Johnston, the Mayoress, in April 1905, the 40th anniversary year of the founding of Pretoria. The building was in use until the completion of the new city hall in (Market Street) Paul Kruger Street in 1935 and thereafter used as a 'rates hall' until it was sold and demolished in 1973.

The Andries Street corner of Sanlam once held the Grand Theatre which was built on the old Olympia Skating Rink in 1912. Sanlam purchased the theatre and erected the first Sanlam building thereon, which, with other buildings were demolished for its modern complex.

Of interest to mention is that the South African Broadcasting Company installed Pretoria's first radio-transmitter in one of the rooms in 1927 and started broadcasting from there a year later.

Another well-known Pretoria hotel stood on the site of the now United Building Society. In 1892 it was the site of the Leighton Hotel which became the Poplar Hotel in 1898. After the Second Anglo-Boer War it became the British Imperial Hotel, then the Imperial when it was rebuilt in 1906. It was demolished for the construction of the United Building Society.

Midway on the eastern side of Andries between Pretorius and Schoeman Streets, was the showroom of Steyn's Garage which led to their vast workshops behind in Schoeman Street. The company operated from here until they moved to their present premises in Van der Walt Street north.

Adjoining Steyn's was Hochstetter House, a seven-storeyed building offering both office and flat space, named after E.C. Hans Hochstetter (1870 - 1956).

Hochstetter came to Pretoria in 1895 and after working for Mosenthal Bros., started his own business in 1902 as estate and insurance agent in offices in Pretorius Street opposite Wachthuis (Polley's Arcade).

Hochstetter House was erected in 1945/1946 and after his death it was sold and demolished; its position now forms part of the Sanlam complex.

Constantia Building stands on an historic site of old Pretoria. Ulundi House - 'The High Place' - having reference to the Royal kraal of Cetewayo, King of the Zulus. It was British headquarters at the time of annexation (1877) and was so named by the garrison personnel after the British victory at the Battle of Ulundi in 1879.

The building was demolished in 1958 for the erection of the present building.

White House stood on the south-eastern corner of Andries Street where the S.A.A.U. Building now stands.

White House was a double-storeyed inverted 'U' designed structure and may have, at one time been a room-letting concern, but after the Second World War (1939 - 1945) was hired out as office space. White House and the erf were owned by the (P.A.J.) Kirsten family since earliest times.

Kirsten came to Pretoria in the 1860's and conducted a general dealers business; besides that, he was an examiner and teacher of English in the first school on Church Square.

When the recession of the Transvaal was being signed at Ulundi House (1881) the English inhabitants lowered the British flag, placed it in a coffin and after a solemn procession through the streets of the town, it was placed in a grave opposite British headquarters and buried after a funeral oration was made.

The flag however, was dug up that night and sent to England.

It found its way back into the Transvaal with the troops during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899 - 1902) and was raised when Potchefstroom fell into British hands.

The last record having reference to the flag was in 1920 when it was stated that the flag was again returned to England and placed in the Mess Room of the Royal Scots Fusiliers. Amanda Mansions now occupies the site of the burial.

Slightly westwards off Andries Street in Schoeman Street is St Albans Cathedral.

The first St Alban's church stood in Church Street opposite Poynton's Centre (see Church Street, West of Church Square route). When Bishop Bousfield arrived in 1879 the congregation received its present site on which a corrugated iron shed was erected and used for worship.

A cathedral was designed by Sir Herbert Baker, and a nave built in 1909. With slight modifications to the original plan the cathedral was completed in 1959.

St Alban, the Martyr, was condemned to death for his faith. When he was brought to the place of execution, he prayed for water, and immediately a spring gushed forth at his feet, whereupon the executioner threw down his sword and refused to perform his office. Another soldier was called forward, and the Saint and the executioner were both slain.

The St. Alban's congregation was named by Bishop Bousfield recalling an institution in England. (Bousfield's background will be found in the Paul Kruger Street North route).

We now take the route along Schoeman Street eastwards later again joining up with Andries Street.

Adjoining the Agricultural Building stood Kya-Lami (My home), the second residence on the property of Leo Weinthal, the other house Kya-Rosa in Skinner Street was where the Transvaal University College (now the University of Pretoria) was established; the Schoeman Street property at that time was used as a Women's Hostel for that College.

No. 279 Schoeman Street, a property close to Kya-Lami was the residence of Richard Kelsey Loveday (1845 - 1910). He first worked in the office of the Registrar of Deeds, then succeeded Rider Haggard as Master of the High Court after annexation (1877); was a Member of the First Volksraad representing Barberton and was a Member of the Pretoria Municipality in 1906. He later became M.L.C. and M.L.A. for Barberton.

Loveday Street in Sunnyside and in Johannesburg are called after him.

The Church of St. Andrew dedicated to the patron saint of Scotland is across the street.

In early Pretoria, the Scots gathered in members' homes for divine service until the arrival of Rev James Gray in 1889, under whose driving personality sufficient funds were collected for the erection of a Chapel a year later. The foundation stone was laid by President Paul Kruger on 12 April 1890. The stone was transferred to the new hall complex in 1963.

The foundation stone of the present church was laid by H.E. the Earl of Selborne on 8th August 1906 and opened for worship in December 1907.

James Gray came to South Africa for health reasons in 1883, first settling in Harris-mith, Orange Free State, from where he moved to Johannesburg and established St. George's Presbyterian Church; he then came to Pretoria and served the congregation for 20 years.

During the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899 - 1902) he was a chaplain to the military hospitals. He died in Johannesburg in November 1938, aged 86 years and was buried in Church Street Cemetery.

Pretoria's old Power Station stood on the north-eastern corner of Schoeman and Van der Walt Streets. The site was later taken over to house the horse-buses and still later the electric trams.

Pretoria already had electricity before the turn of the century, the Raadsaal being the first building in which it was installed.

The Pretoria Lighting company, a private undertaking, started in 1902 and contracted with the government to supply electricity. The concession was taken over by the municipality in 1904. The plant on direct current system at 250 and 500 volts pressure, was sold to consumers at 6d (5 cents) a unit.

The electrical tramways supplanted the horse-car line. Lines radiated from Church Square to the Railway Station, the Zoo, Sunnyside, West End and the Hospital.

Single-deck cars were used throughout, the first electric tram ran on the Sunnyside route in 1892, and the system ended in 1938 when diesel buses were introduced. The site today is the Tramsheds business centre.

On the opposite side of the street is Prospect House recalling the name of a school that once stood there.

Rev. H.S. Bosman's ideal was to open a private school as did the Anglican and Catholic institutions. Susan Clary of Mount Holyoak Seminary in America was invited to come out and take charge of the school.

She arrived in November 1877 and had the honour of proposing the name Prospect Seminary for the school yet to be built, at the same time she called the hill behind (Muckleneuk) Prospect Hill.

He foundation stone of the school was laid by Sir Theophilus Shepstone in April 1878 and as fate would have it, Miss Susan Clary died before the building was completed.

The idea of a girls' school was discontinued and by 1888 had more than 100 students of both sexes. The school later became the Ebenhaezer School under the control of the N.H. of G. Church.

In 1894 the school closed down and became a hostel for Staatsmodel students. During the war, it was used as a hospital.

The Staatsmodel School on the corner of Skinner Street was designed by Sytze Wierda, head of the Public Works Department, the contractor was Te Groen and it was opened in 1896 with Mr Wagner as Principal.

As with other schools in Pretoria, this one closed during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899 - 1902) and was used by the Republican authorities as a prisoner-of-war camp for British officers. Winston Churchill (later Sir Winston, Prime Minister of England) who was captured at Chieveley in Natal in November 1899 was quartered here.

On the night of 12 December 1899 he escaped by jumping over the wall and made his way to Lourenco Marques (Maputo) where he transhipped to Natal.

The house directly opposite the school (no. 301 Skinner Street) was where Mr C Cullingworth lived and from where news was signalled to the prisoners walking in the camp grounds.

The Rev F. Grunberger lived in the second house in Van der Walt Street just south of Skinner Street, his home abutted on the German Church of St. Peters. A few doors away from him lived the German Consul. Friedrich C.A. Grunberger, German Minister and medical practitioner (1838 - 1918). As Lutheran Missionary he served in Natal for some time, then took charge of the Wallmannsthal Mission Station north of Pretoria for a year, afterwards coming to Pretoria. He established St. Peter's Lutheran Church, the first German church in Pretoria which was replaced with the modern designed church now found on the old site in Skinner Street.

While in Pretoria he assisted at the Schoolplaats Mission in Boom Street (q.v.) and was instrumental in founding the German School in Pretoria, which stood on the corner of Schubart and Minnaar Streets, later owned by the Pretoria United Dairy company who demolished the building to make way for a parking area for their vehicles.

St Etheldreda's School for Girls was founded in January 1879 in Bishop Bousfield's home in Proes Street (q.v.); after occupying two other sites they moved to Skinner Street in 1889 and served the community there until St Mary's D.S.G. was built at Hillcrest in 1922. The old school grounds were sold and is now occupied by the Little Theatre and another portion was sold to the University of South Africa.

Back we are at the junction with Andries Street, and Alphen Buildings on the south-western corner recalls Isaac N. van Alphen (1854 - 1925). He came to South Africa in 1862 as a youth and plied a trade in the printing industry. While in Potchefstroom he became Market-master and Postmaster (1881). In 1885 he was appointed Postmaster-General of the Transvaal.

Van Alphen founded the Transvaal postal system and reorganised, modernised and expanded the service; he set up a network during the Second Anglo-Boer War that served the cause very well.

After the war he declined to serve the British authorities and retired for a while in Durban, Natal, later returning to Pretoria where he assisted in doing valuable voluntary social welfare work.

In Lochhead's Directoria of 1913, he is listed as being a General and Estate Agent, operating from Bureau Lane and his address is given as 449 (St) Andries Street, at the corner bordering Minnaar Street.

Deviating slightly along Skinner Street east from Andries Street we reach the southern side of St. Alban's Church property which in the previous century was the Diocesan School for Boys originally called St. Birinus, the school closed in 1908.

Back to Andries Street and on to Visagie Street where on the south-eastern corner we find the new Wesley Methodist Church erected on property once owned by General Nicolaas Smit, Vice-President of the Transvaal Republic. The Smit family trekked to Natal and in 1864 were farming in the Western Transvaal. At the age of 16 years, Smit took part in various punitive expeditions against rebellious tribes.

He took part in all the Natal battles during the First Anglo-Boer War (1880 - 1881). He was chairman of the Volksraad and elected Vice-president in 1887, a position he occupied until his death.

When Bishop Bousfield came to Pretoria his home was in Proes Street, after that Bishopscoote was situated in the General's house until Bousfield died in 1902.

Crossing Andries Street towards the east, not far from the corner, was the Voortrekker Gedenksaal (Memorial Hall) erected by the Church authorities for the purpose of providing headquarters offices and conference facilities for the Synod of the N.H. of G. Church, who formerly used the Bosman Street hall.

The architect was Gordon Leith and it was built by W. Stretton's Construction Company. The building was first used in April 1931, the conference hall seating 600 delegates comfortably.

The same church organisation bought up all the erven in the block, had the buildings demolished, and erected the General Piet Joubert Building thereon.

Further south along Andries Street we come across no. 469 between Minnaar and Jacob Mare Streets, the residence of Robert Baikie, an accountant and auditor; he came from Kirkwell, Orkney Isles, Scotland, and founded the Pretoria Caledonian Society, the Pretoria Bowling Club where one of their Greens bears his name, and founded the Thistle Society in the town.

Natal Villa stood on the north-western corner of Minnaar Street which was first occupied by George Heys (of Melrose House) and later by another well-known business personality, J.C. Poynton (see Church Street, West from Church Square route), also from Natal.

Burgers Park occupies practically the entire eastern section of the block. The park was established on the recommendation of President Thomas F. Burgers (after whom it was named), in 1874 when 18 erven were set aside for a botanical garden.

Many attempts were made to develop the area into a commercial venture without success. It was in 1889 that a determined effort was made to lay the area out as a park and this was carried out by the Public Works Department.

The orchestral pavilion, manufactured in Scotland, was erected in 1895 and the present kiosk in 1911-1913.

The park in former times was regularly used for civic occasions, receptions and fund-raising functions.

Many commemorative trees were planted in the garden, the well known Queen Wilhelmina tree planted in 1898 to commemorate the birthday of the regent of Holland, the Martha Washington Friendship Tree and others.

A statue of President Burgers by Moses Kottler adorns one of the lawns, as does the memorial of the Transvaal Scottish Regiment by P. Eagle on another site, unveiled on the 7th November 1920.

The main entrance gate in Jacob Mare Street came from Park Zicht, the private residence of Advocate Kleyn (Kleijn), adjoining Melrose House, in which the Boer delegates to the signing of the Peace Treaty of Vereeniging were housed.

Facing Burgers Park in Jacob Mare Street is Melrose House, the home of George Jesse Heys, born in Durban in 1852. He went into business in Kimberley in 1872 and came to Pretoria in 1879, settling in a home in Andries Street which he called Natal Villa. He opened a general dealer business in Church Street and established the Hey's Coach service.

His later home, the palatial Melrose House, opposite Burgers Park was used by Lord Roberts as British headquarters during the war of 1900 - 1902, and this was where the Treaty of Vereeniging was signed on the night of 31st May 1902.

The house and its contents was purchased by the Pretoria City Council. On the day it was declared a National Monument, it was officially opened as a museum to the public by the State President, Mr C.R. (Blackie) Swart.

The Sunnyside Methodist Church hall is known as the Hey's Memorial Hall and was erected with funds donated by him to commemorate the memory of his wife, Janey. The seldom-heard city hall carillon was donated to the city by him in 1934.

Whilst on a visit to his daughter in England in 1939, he took ill and died. His body was returned to Pretoria and laid to rest beside his wife who died in 1929.

Hollard House stood on the south-western corner of Andries and Jacob Mare Streets and was erected for William Emil Hollard, born in Danzig, Germany in 1836; he died in 1906.

Hollard appears not to be his real name. It is recorded that he was Emil Musik or Musiek, a painter and glazier, who came to South Africa with the German Legion which he deserted and assumed the name Emil Lemondowsky.

He had a trading store in Lesotho, then moved to Natal where he ran an hotel in Ladysmith or district, ultimately settling in Pretoria as a law agent and afterwards as attorney, still later being admitted as an advocate.

Hollard was a personal friend of President Kruger and he owned much ground in and around Johannesburg. With Sam Fox (Fox Street, Johannesburg), they laid out Marshall's Town, from where Hollard Street there received its name. He started the Empire Music Hall in Johannesburg, on ground belonging to him and built Johannesburg's first hotel, the Height's Hotel, the first modern hotel in the Golden City.

The house was demolished in 1955 and the Transvaal Provincial Administration purchased many valuable relics in the building which were later incorporated into the New Transvaal Provincial Administration Building, off Church Square.

Our walking tour ends on the south-western corner at the Scheiding Street intersection, where once stood the home of Ds N.J.R. Swart, former minister, later secretary to President Thomas F. Burgers, de-frocked and later condemned in history books for his attitude against the president.

A Walking Tour Through Pretoria's Historical Past

APIES RIVER & WALKER SPRUIT TRAILS



Vroeë foto van die Leeubrug, voordat die Apiesrivier gekanaliseer is.

BOOK TEN

APIES RIVER AND WALKER SPRUIT TRAILS

In 1929 Ina Verdoorn wrote: “The train passes to Ashbury (now Fountains Halt), 4 km from Pretoria station from where you get a good view of Fountains. The change in geology from Ashbury is obvious, for following on the high undulating ground marked with koppies of massed dark coloured rock, to dolomite formation, com parallel ranges of hills running east and west with shallow depressions between them, the Pretoria series of shale and quartzite. The impermeable dolomite, carrying the water, comes up against the shale’s, slates and quartzite’s at a fault and this gives rise to several fountains from which the valley gets its name. These fountains are the source not only of the entire water supply of the town and Roberts Heights (Voortrekkerhoogte now Thaba Tshwane), but also of the stream which becomes the Apies River.”

The area in earlier times was referred to as Bronkhorstfontein after the Voortrekker family that settled here and named it De Groenekloof, from where the suburb of Groenkloof got its name.

De Fonteine – the fountains, because of two fountains that originate in the valley. Lukas Bronkhorst (after whom Lukasrand township was named) built his wattle and daub homestead across the southern stream east of the swimming bath, the ruin of the old home, is still to be seen behind a protective fence.

Bronkhorst Street recalls Lukas and his brother Gert who settled north of Elandspoor near the old Teachers’ Training College sports fields bordering the Apies River.

One fountain in the valley rises south of the Girl Guides’ camp-ground behind the manager’s house, the other, the strongest of the two is situated just off the entrance road, protected by a cell, it has 20 or more ‘eyes’ bubbling out the life-giving water from the depths.

The original pump-house was on the opposite side of the fountains, the remains of the foundation can still be seen.

The two springs in the valley are the source of the Apies River, so called, it was said, by the early Trekkers because of the large number of Vervet monkeys frolicking in the bushes and trees along the river banks.

However, in Dr N.J. van Warmelo’s Ethnological Publication ‘ “The Bahwaduba Tribe”, he states that a Nguni tribe settled along the river in the valley which was called ‘Tshwane’ – little monkey, after Chief Musi’s son and successor. Tshwane’s River was translated as “Apies River”.

When Mzilikatzi’s Matebele tribe settled in the valley, they named the river, ‘Enzwabuklunga’ = painful to the touch, having reference to the sharp stones that cut one’s feet when crossing it.

Regarding the flora of the Fountains, Dr L.E. Codd wrote: “ When the early pioneers arrived at the site which was to be Pretoria they found a beautifully wooded fountain

from which a clear stream meandered through a series of valleys. The stream bank was no doubt lined with reeds and with trees of such species as *Combretum erythrophyllum* (Vaderlandswilg or Bush willow), *Celtis africana* (White Stinkwood) and *Rhus pryooides* (Taaibos). The hills were much as they are now, covered with a great variety of shrubs and trees, such as *Combretum gueinzii* (Baster-rooibos), *Rhus americana* (Mountinkaree), *Pouteria magalismsontana* (Stamvrug), *Acacia caffra* (Kaffervag-‘n-biejtie), *Protea caffra*, *Vangueria infausta* (Wilde mispel), *Ficus* spp (Wild figs) and many more. The lower slopes and flat areas were densely clothed in tall grass with scattered thorn trees and bush groups.

The plantation that extends from the Lyttelton Road, over Klapperkop to near Waterloof township is said to have been planted by the same person who came from the Black Forest in Germany to plant trees in Johannesburg’s Saxonwold, which was named after that part of Germany.

We leave the valley via the main entrance at Eeufees Road which was a small unnamed sand-track connecting Fountains with the Wagon Wheel Circle below Iscor Headquarter Building, that made way for the modern traffic. The side road was enlarged and tarred during the centenary (Afrikaans Eeufees) year of Pretoria in 1955.

Deviating from Eeufees Road, we take the turn-off leading to the Voortrekker Monument and Fort Schanskop.

The majestic Voortrekker Monument erected on a hill visible from all approaches to Pretoria. Designed by Gerard Moerdijk it commemorates those who took part in the Great Trek and the Victory over heathendom at the Battle of Blood River in 1838.

The impressive national shrine embodies the events of a heroic period of pioneering. To the Afrikaner people it symbolizes their identity in a cosmopolitan community.

The main monument stands 40 m high, whilst the base measures 40 X 40 m. There are 260 steps inside and 70 outside. It took eleven years (1938-39 and 1940-49) to build and the cost was over R7 000,000.

In the center of the lower hall is a cenotaph of granite bearing the inscription “Ons vir Jou, Suid Afrika” – We for Thee, South Africa, so positioned that a ray of sunlight strikes the inscription each year exactly at noon on the 16th December, the date of the Battle of Blood River in Kwazulu Natal.

The flame in a niche was brought from Jan van Riebeeck’s statue in Cape Town is the symbol of the light of civilisation and is kept burning continuously. The Hall of Heroes with its domed ceiling of 30 m bears a frieze of 27 panels depicting the main events of the Great Trek.

The monument is ringed by a wall of 64 ox-wagons symbolising the laager of wagons in which they defended themselves at Blood River.

The foundation stone was laid on the 16th December 1938 and was unveiled on the 16th December 1949 by the then Prime Minister, DR D.F. Malan. Attached to the monument is a museum of Voortrekker relics.

On the hill east of the Voortrekker Monument is Fort Schanskop, one of four forts erected to protect the capital against any further uprising of the 'outlander' element on the Witwatersrand Gold Fields after the failure of the Jameson Raid to overthrow the government by force of arms in January 1896.

Fort Schanskop, Klapperkop and Wonderboom were designed by H.C. Werner and O.A.A. von De Witz, German engineers. Fort Daspoortrand better known as Westfort, above the leper colony, was designed by L. Grunberg and S. Leon.

Construction of Fort Schanskop commenced in 1896 with Italian labour and was completed and handed over to the government in January 1897. The other forts were completed in 1898.

No shots were ever fired from the Pretoria forts. On the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War, the members of the State Artillery that manned them took their armaments and joined the commandos on the borders.

In the 1960's the South African Defence Force restored forts Schanskop and Klapperkop and created museums depicting military activities since the founding of the Transvaal. Due to lack of finance, the museums closed down in 1994.

Returning to the junction at the Fountains entrance, we continue our walk along Christina De Wit Street (named after Gen. Andries Pretorius' wife) towards town, we cross Haddon Bridge spanning the Apies River that was completed in 1966 and named to honour a former city engineer, Mr G.H. Haddon, who retired in 1963 after 33 years service with the city council.

We now reach Fountains Circle, constructed to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Union (1910). The water jets symbolizes the springs that gave the early settlers the reason for settling in the valley.

The idea originated from Mr Henri Bruins-lich, Director of Parks and Recreation and was officially turned on by the then Mayor, Dr Otto on 20 May 1960.

To commemorate the occasion further, Dr Otto placed 50 fish in the pond and the Mayoress released 50 white ducklings, one for each year of Union.

The road southwards around the koppie to Jan Smuts Airport at Kempton Park was Maria van Riebeeck Road; it was started in 1959 and completed in 1961. On recommendation of the Old Pretoria (Historical) Society, it was named to commemorate Maria de-la-Quellerie, wife of Jan van Riebeeck; she died at Malakka in the Middle East; the road was renamed Jan Smuts Road and in 1997 again renamed Pres. Mandela Drive.

A kilometer or two from the circle, we deviate along Johann Rissik Drive which was first a rough-sand scenic roadway cut out on the heights of Groenkloof hill. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Union (1910) the road was tarred and opened to traffic by the then Mayor, Dr Otto and Dr Goldin, Chairman of the Waterkloof Local Areas

Committee and named after J. Rissik, former Administrator of the Transvaal for his active interest and support in having this beautiful drive completed in 1916.

Rissik's name is also commemorated in part of Johannesburg's name and Rissik Street/Station and Johann Street in Pretoria.

Taking the right hand fork in the road higher up, leads you to Fort Klapperkop; the left hand fork continues past the old Radcliffe Observatory recalling the original Radcliffe Observatory established in Oxford, England, next to the Radcliffe Infirmary, of which Lord Nuffield was president (a street in Rietondale was called after him).

He purchased the land and the buildings, and, with the proceeds of the sale, the trustees set up a new observatory in Pretoria with the co-operation of the City Council.

'Radcliffe' – from a cliff of red-rock near the town of Lancashire."

The observatory was closed down in the 1970's because of smog and transferred to the Cape Province. The area below the southern slopes of the hill was laid out by the City Council as a township called 'Sterrewag' (observatory).

Continuing along the drive will bring you to Waterkloof township.

Returning to the circle again; the road leading off eastwards is George Storrar Drive. Storrar was born at Fifeshire, Scotland in 1883; he joined the municipality in 1909 and was city engineer from 1920 until his retirement in 1943. The Drive was named a year before his retirement, honouring his service.

The ground on the eastern side of the road extending northwards to where the Teachers' Training College is situated, was the brickfields of J.J. Kirkness.

John Johnston Kirkness, born at Sandwick, Orkney in 1857; he came to South African in 1879/80 plying his trade as carpenter/builder, first in Natal then the Free State and then Barberton where he built the Gereformeerde Church.

In 1885 he settled in Pretoria and took over an Italian company's brickfields at Groenkloof in 1888 and built up the business into the largest of its kind in Pretoria.

Kirkness built the Raadsaal on Church Square and at Bloemfontein, Free State: the Old Arts Block at the University of Pretoria, the original red-bricked Land Bank building, Marks Building in Church Street, the Lion Bridge and Wierda Bridge across the Six Mile Spruit on the old Johannesburg Road. He was mayor of Pretoria for the period 1906/07.

The J.J. Kirkness Hall at the Sunnyside Primary School, Kirkness Street and the suburb of Deerness is associated with his name as is the industrial township of Kirkney, north-west of the city, which is derived from KIRKness and his birthplace OrkNEY.

A Plaque commemorating his endeavours was unveiled in the new post office complex on Church Square by the Postmaster General during September 1985. Similar

plaques were erected at the Teachers' Training College and at the site of his second brickfield at Kirkney industrial township.

The ridge overlooking the old brickfields is the Bronberg, the foothills of the Witwatersberg range also referred to as Muckleneuk Ridge.

An inspection report of 1841 records the range with the names Bronsberg, Berenberg and later included the names Elliot and Glastonbury on portions thereof; the origin of the name has not been traced.

On the ridge is the imposing building of the University of South Africa, one of the largest correspondence universities in the world. It was established in Cape Town in 1873, later making their headquarters in Pretoria.

They moved from their town offices to this building known as the Samuel Pauw Building, named after a former principal (1956-72) in their centenary year.

In the background, still higher on the ridge is the dome shaped building of the National Parks Board. It was designed by Richardson and Morris and the contractor was Nabkor (Pty) Ltd, it was officially opened by the then Hon. D.C.H. Uys, Minister of Agriculture in September 1970.

The Kruger National Park in the Eastern Transvaal was proclaimed in 1898 as the Sabie Game Reserve and named after President Kruger in 1926 when the affairs of the reserve was placed under the control of a Board of Trustees.

Looking towards the west, we see the hillock behind the railway station known as Timeball Hill, Salvokop and Station Hill.

This hill was used by De vogel, the postmaster, to signal the arrival of mail. From a high flagpole, a ball was suspended to announce the arrival of the Kimberley post; a ball and drum signified the Kimberley and British mail was at hand; a cone was hoisted for the Natal post, and from this was derived the name Timeball Hill.

After the occupation of Pretoria in 1900, the area around the koppie fell under military authority and was called Salvokop (as is the township below it's height). It was from there that 25-pounder artillery pieces fired salutes to visiting and departing dignitaries.

The next historical link of Old Pretoria is the remains of the old (N)ZASM Bridge. The railway line to the Eastern Bay (Maputo) was started from both ends simultaneously and completed in 1894 when President Kruger placed the final bolt linking the two sections at Wilge Rivier Station.

A feature of this bridge was that it had a slight curve, the only such one in the Republic. One of the Hollanders who worked on the line was Mr Mante, the contractor; he later settled on a portion of the farm Garsfontein which now bears the name De Beers, where a street was named after him. The clogs he wore on arrival in this country can be seen in the Emagameni Collection.

Adjoining the northern side of the new railway bridge is the remains of what can be considered one of the first burial places in Pretoria, some of the railings that enclosed Du Preezhoek family cemetery are still to be seen on the banks of the Apies River.

This cemetery was used by families living in the 'small dorp', i.e. Capt. Struben; ex-State Secretary B.C.E. Proes; J.R. Lys and it is thought that Dr G.H. Rissik, progenitor of the Rissik family in the Republic, all persons who left their names to streets in the city were originally buried here.

With the construction of the eastern railway line, it was found necessary to exhume those buried there and re-interred in the Church Street Cemetery in a special section laid out near its western boundary that was also called Du Preezhoek.

Du Preezhoek farm stretched from the present street front towards the west bordered by the railways. Jan du Preez, one of Pretoria's earliest inhabitants lived here. 'Diknek', as he was called, married Maria, a daughter of his neighbour, Andries van der Walt, who left his name to a street in the city centre.

The street on the eastern side running parallel with our walk is Harmony Street which recalls the large Harmony Estate owned by John C Preller, a leading advocate in Old Pretoria who was the first elected mayor of the town but did not take up office because of the outbreak of the First Anglo-Boer War (1880).

The name of the property was associated with Preller's investment in the Harmony (Gold) Block near Ofcolaco in the then Northern Transvaal.

Harmony later became the property of the Van Warmelo family whose daughter, Johanna Brand-Van Warmelo, author of 'Het Concentratie-Kamp van Irene' (1904) conducted a spy-ring from there during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902).

Preller Street in close vicinity was the eastern boundary of the estate.

We follow the Apies River as it flows along Van Boeschoten Avenue (now Pres. Nelson Madiba Drive) named after (Sir) Johannes Gerard (Tompie) van Boeschoten, son of one of the earliest settlers in the valley. Johannes was born in Pretoria in 1862; an attorney and businessman. He settled in Johannesburg in 1887 but returned to Pretoria in 1897. In association with H. Lorentz, they established Lorentzville township in Johannesburg in 1892. The Café Riche Building (Commerce Building) on Church Square was also at one stage called Van Boeschoten Building.

Van Boeschoten was a Councilor for many years and served as mayor for the periods 1905-06 and from 1908 to 1911; he received his title in the Honours List of 1910 (Union).

He lived in Joubert Street above Rissik Street: died at the age of 75 years in 1937.

The once tree-lined pathway along Van Boeschoten Avenue towards Fountains was referred to as Lovers Walk, very aptly described as a quasi-generic for any secluded road or path supposedly (and usually in reality) frequented by amorous couples, especially under cover of darkness.

On the western banks of the Apies River is the Berea Park Sportfields and a suburb of the same name.

In 1892, again in 1996 and 1997, a cricket team from England visited Pretoria and played against the locals on this site.

The ground was purchased by the government in 1903 for use as a railway workers' recreation ground; the club house was erected in 1907 and opened by General J.C. Smuts. The club hall was erected in 1926.

The club took its name from the suburb extending to Scheiding Street, and is one of four or five Berea's found in the Republic and surrounding territories. The first such name, a Biblical one, was The Berea in Durban, Kwazulu Natal, established by Allen Gardiner, an ex-naval officer who became a missionary after the death of his wife.

His request to start a mission amongst the Zulus was refused by Chief Dingaan so he returned to the Bay and founded a mission overlooking Durban giving it the Biblical name Berea found in the Acts of the Apostles, XVII: 10/11 having reference to Paul and Silas who were repulsed by the Thessalonians and their welcome and the acceptance of The Word by the people of Berea.

The Chapter actually read 'the people On Berea' which signified a 'height', as do all other Berea's overlooking towns.

It is not known who christened the Pretoria property but in the 1880's it was owned by that great sportsman, Henry Nourse, later mining magnate who established Nourse's Horse regiment during the Siege of Pretoria in the First Anglo-Boer War 1880-81 and the war of 1899-1902.

It appears that he was in partnership with the (E.F.) Bourke, onetime mayor of Pretoria who lived at Barton Keep in Jacob Mare Street.

The first motor car in Pretoria, a Benz, was demonstrated to President Kruger with J.P. Hess at the wheel and Dr Leyds as passenger at Berea on the 4th January 1897.

You now come to Piet Uys Street, an area also having links with Pretoria's past. It is not clear which one of the Uys's are commemorated in this street name. Father and son's history ran parallel through history.

Petrus Lafras (Piet) Uys Snr, a Voortrekker leader joined Retief's party at Sand River and helped Potgieter and Maritz in the campaign against Mzilikatzi after the attack on the Trekker camp on Vegkop near Heilbron in the Free State.

After Retief's murder at Dingaan's kraal, he again accompanied Potgieter to aid the Natal Trekkers. He died with his son Dirkie and eight others when the commando was led into an ambush by the Zulus at Italeni.

His son ‘Piet Hlobane’ assisted the British in their struggle against the Zulu in 1879 to avenge the death of his father. He in turn with his teenage son died in an ambush at Hlobane Mountain.

It was in this vicinity on the farm Elandsport that Lukas Bronkhorst’s (Fountains) brother farmed along the banks of the Apies.

In close vicinity was also the homestead of C.J. Joubert, Mining Commissioner known as Joubert’s Farm. Along with Johann Rissik, Joubert’s name is coupled with the name of Johannesburg.

He was a fairly rich man at one time owning farms around Pretoria and at Lydenburg. His first Pretoria residence was on the corner of Paul Kruger and Boom Streets; he then lived on this property that was later occupied by a Portuguese gardener and still later incorporated into the Teachers’ Training College grounds.

In 1900 Joubert was staying on the government farm Bavianspoort; he died at his son’s house at Hatherley (Eerstefabrieke) in 1911 and was buried beside his wife at Bavianspoort.

Victoria Bridge spans the Apies River at the point where Jacob Mare Street loses its identity and becomes Rissik Street running eastwards.

On the occupation of Pretoria (1900) the British military headquarters was stationed in the British Agents residence opposite the Teachers’ Training College in Rissik Street.

From town, Jacob Mare Street, as now, was a main arterial serving the area so the army erected a bridge across the river and named it after Queen Victoria.

In 1911 a new wrought-iron bridge replaced the original which in turn was replaced by the present structure.

Jacob Mare Street was originally known as Mare Street and received its present prefix in the late 1920’s. Jacob Mare was a Volksraad member in 1888; he died on his farm at Heidelberg in 1900. It is said that the famous South African song ‘Sarie Marais’, was about his daughter, the wife of Daniel Toeren, who composed it during their engagement.

Rissik Street commemorates Johann Rissik, Surveyor-general of the Transvaal at the time of establishing this part of Sunnyside. He later became the first Administrator of the Transvaal after Union (1910).

Diverting a block or two to the east, we make our way to Melrose House and Burgers park.

Melrose House was the home of George Jesse Heys, born in Durban in 1852. He went into business in Kimberley in 1872 and came to Pretoria in 1879 settling in a home in Andries Street which he called Natal Villa. He opened a general dealers business in Church Street West and established the Hey’s Stage Coach service.

His later home, the palatial Melrose House, opposite Burgers Park was used by Lord Roberts as British headquarters during the war of 1900/02, and where the Treaty of Vereeniging was signed on the night of 31st May 1902.

The house and its contents was purchased by the Pretoria City Council. On the day it was declared a National Monument, it was officially opened as a museum to the public by the then State President, Mr C.R. (Blackie) Swart.

The Sunnyside Methodist Church hall is known as the Hey's Memorial Hall, erected from funds donated by him to commemorate the memory of his wife, Janey. The seldom heard city hall carillon was donated to the city by him in 1934.

Whilst on a visit to his daughter in England in 1939, he took ill and died. His body was returned to Pretoria and laid to rest beside his wife who died in 1929.

Burgers Park was established on the recommendation of President Thomas F Burgers in 1874 when 18 erven was set aside for a botanical garden.

Many attempts were made to develop the area into a commercial venture without success. It was in 1889 that a determined effort was made to lay the area out in a park and was carried out by the Public Works Department.

The orchestral pavilion, manufactured in Scotland, was erected in 1895 and the present kiosk in 1911-13.

The park in former times was regularly used for civic occasions, receptions and fund raising functions.

Many commemorative trees were planted in the garden, the well known Queen Wilhelmina tree planted in 1898 to commemorate the birthday of the Regent of Holland; the Martha Washington Friendship Tree and others.

A statue of President Burgers by Moses Kottler adorns one of the lawns; the statue of the Transvaal Scottish Regiment by P. Eagle was unveiled on the 7th November 1920.

The main entrance gate in Jacob Mare Street came from Park Zicht, the private residence of Advocate Kleyn (Kleijn), adjoining Melrose House on the corner of Van der Walt Street in which the Boer delegates to the signing of the Peace Treaty of Vereeniging were housed.

Returning to Victoria Bridge and diverting this time eastwards for a short length, we come to the Teachers' Training College formerly the Normal College founded in 1903 on eight erven bought from Mr E.F. Bourke and later extended onto the Harmony Estate in 1921.

The first student was Maria Bosman and its first principal was (Sir) John E Adamson.

The emblem of the college is 3 white arum lilies designed by a student, Johanna du Toit. It symbolizes the period of the Second Anglo-Boer War and the concentration

camp at Middelburg (Mpumalanga). The lilies grew wild in the veld and picked to place on the graves of the children who died therein.

The motto, Courage, Gaiety and a Quiet Mind was taken from Robert Louis Stevenson.

The name Normal College comes from the French *e'cole normale* – a teachers training establishment started by de-la-salle in the 17th century; the name was first used in 1833.

The college was later transferred to Groenkloof. A house opposite the College, No. 126 Rissik Street was the British Agent's Residence, where the ultimatum which started the Boer war was handed over.

Van Lennop Street starting on the western bank of the Apies River was created by L.G. van den Hoogen, dividing his property, he named it after Jhr. Van Lennop, Netherlands Agent during the Second Anglo-Boer War who lived at Oranjehof, the Dutch Embassy directly opposite.

Near Tram Bridge was a municipal electrical transformer that was called the "Winston Transformer", because it was approximately at that spot where (Sir) Winston Churchill, later Prime Minister of England, was purported to have crossed the Apies when he escaped from the State Model School prisoner-of-war-camp for officers during the Second Anglo-Boer War.

Visagie Street terminates on the western bank of the river. The name commemorates Johannes Visagie who with his teenage brother joined the Retief Trek to Natal where the younger Visagie met the same fate as Retief and his followers on Dingaan's Matiwane – the hill of execution.

Johannes Visagie took his place with other Voortrekkers in the 64 wagon lager at Blood River where General Andries Pretorius led them to victory on the 16th December 1838.

With the British occupation of Natal in 1842, he, and others, trekked across the Vaal river, first settling in the Heidelberg district where he became Landrost (Magistrate).

He was General Andries Pretorius' secretary and present at the Sand River Convention in January 1852 and was with the old Voortrekker leader during his last days at Grootplaats (Rust-den-Ouden) farm where the Hartbeespoort Dam is now sited.

Visagie was a herbal doctor and later assisted Skinner and the Devereau brothers with the original plan of Pretoria; he was elected to the Volksraad and became Government Secretary. In 1863 he gave up all civic matters and farmed at Swavelpoort until his death in 1884.

Kotze Street branches off to the right just before the Esselen Street bridge. It is thought to be named after Justice John Gilbert Kotze (1849 – 1940); born at Leeuwenhof, Cape Province. In May 1877 he was appointed Sole Judge of the High Court of the Transvaal at the age of 27 years; he was Chief Justice from 1881 – 1898. In

1896 His Majesty the King of Portugal conferred on him the honour of Knight Grand Cross of the order of the Conception, in recognition of his services in the Transvaal.

This street from Van Boeschoten to Jeppe was the southern boundary of Trevenna township and was first called Klein Scheiding Street.

Tram Bridge spanning the Apies at Esselen Street still bears the name given when a narrow iron-trestle bridge spanned the river in 1897, wide enough only to carry a horse-tram that served Sunnyside.

The bridge was later enlarged to take other traffic. Electric trams were first used on this route in 1910 until replaced by motorised transport in 1939.

Esselen Street, thought to commemorate Ewald Auguste Esselen, born at Worcester, C.P. in 1858; he was a barrister in the Cape; in 1855 he took up an appointment as Judge in the Transvaal.

During the Second Anglo-Boer War (188-1902) he served as legal adviser on General Piet Joubert's staff; on being taken prisoner-of-war he went to Europe on parole and still later played a leading part in Transvaal politics.

He died at Sea Point in the Cape and was buried in Pretoria's Church Street Cemetery.

Crossing Esselen Street we come across a beautiful cement footbridge across the Apies River at Skinner Street.

William Skinner, born at Canterbury, England in 1828, went to Natal with his brothers-in-law, Lionel and Lewis Devereux plying their trade as builders, where they made friends with General Andries Pretorius who later invited them to build him a house at Grootplaats near the present day Hartbeespoort Dam in 1852.

The trio assisted Jan Visagie with the original rough-layout plan of Pretoria. His home, the Bungalow, stood in Paul Kruger Street where the Frans Du Toit Building now stands. Skinner and the Devereux brothers erected the first church and the first Raadsaal on Church Square; he was Landrost (magistrate) from 1869-1878.

His second wife was Debora Landman, grand-daughter of the Voortrekker Piet Retief. Skinner died in June 1885 and is buried in Church Street Cemetery. His wife died on the family farm near Volksrust and was buried there.

Edward Street commences of the right bank of the river and recalls E.P.A. (Eddie) Meintjes, son of S.J. Meintjes, owner of Arcadia farm and after whom Meintjeskop was named.

The next crossroad we come to is Schoeman Street commemorates Commandant-General Stephanus Schoeman, a Voortrekker leader who gave his name to Schoemansdal in the Northern Province and Klein Schoemansdal, an estate in Boom Street which is today the site of the old museum building and the zoological gardens.

The Apies River flows past the Caledonian Sports Grounds that was established on the ground belonging to Eddie Meintjes, who, with Ewald Esselen used their influence with President Kruger to have the road (Pretorius Street) closed at the town boundary to accommodate the area required for the playing fields, thus causing the 'kink' in the street when the town extended eastwards.

We cross Pretorius Street commemorates General Andries (W.J.) Pretorius hero of the Battle of Blood River (1838) after whom Pretoria was named.

After the Battle of Boomplaats (29 August 1848) he returned to his farm Grootplaats (Rus-den-Ouden) and took no further interest in politics. He died and was buried on his farm later re-interred with full military honours in the Church Street Cemetery.

His son, President Marthinus Wessel Pretorius who established Pretoria, for a time lent his name to Marthinuswesselstroom which later reverted to its original name Wakkerstroom which is the Afrikaans translation of the Bantu name "Utaga" – meaning the wild or awake stream.

M.W. Pretorius lived at Potchefstroom only coming to Pretoria for Volksraad sittings. He died in 1901 and was buried at Potchefstroom.

Our next point of call is Lion Bridge which spans the drift at the confluence which the Walker Spruit at a spot known in earlier times as Leeuwdrif – lions ford, because of marauding lions that often attacked cattle grazing in the surrounding vlei. Hunts were organised by the inhabitants to clear the area of the troublesome animals, one of the last lions shot was on the slopes of Meintjeskop on which the Union Building was later erected.

Sytze Wierda, Government architect, who designed the Raadsaal and Palace of Justice on Church Square, also designed this bridge and the one which bears his name over Six Mile Spruit on the old Johannesburg Road south of the city. The building contractor of both bridges was J.J. Kirkness. The lions were cast at the Sun Foundry in Scotland and placed in position when the bridge was completed in 1898.

This area was also known as Meintjes and Mill Drift because Stephanus Meintjes operated a mill on the western banks of the stream; his homestead stood where a motor firm today does business.

Church Street, the main street of the city is the longest straightest street in the Republic, being some 11.3 km (7 miles) long. Of interest to records is the fact that erven numbering does not start from Church Square, but from Prince's Park Avenue west of the Square.

As we continue through town we pass Vermeulen Street recalling Jacob (Kootjie) Vermeulen, pioneer settler in Pretoria in whose house situated approximately where the Pretoria News Building now is, and was where the first Volksraad meeting took place.

The next crossing is Proes Street named after Bernand Cornelius Ernest Proes, born in Holland in 1831; he studied law and came to Pretoria in 1859 and appointed First

State Attorney of the Old Republic. During the Civil War (1863 – 64) he acted as Volksraad Secretary and was released from duty by Pres. Kruger in 1862. In 1866 he practiced as an advocate in Potchefstroom.

Proes represented Wakkerstroom and the Utrecht districts in the Volksraad from 1864 – 1868. In 1869 he was Government Secretary, resigning two years later because of ill-health.

Proes took part in revising the constitution in 1858 and assisted in matters of the Educational Act of 1866.

Proes and President M.W. Pretorius both resigned because of the Keate Award – the boundary dispute with the Cape Province in 1871; he died on the 29th June 1872 and lies buried next to Capt. Struben in the Du Preezhoek section of Church Street Cemetery.

We cross Edmund Street, the origin of which is unknown and come to Belvedere Street named after a suburb laid out here in 1909 that only consisted of two street blocks which in 1912 was owned by the Pretoria Township Company.

Belvedere is a name found in England for a public-house and is derived from Latin, meaning a pavilion built on a hill commanding a fine view.

An hotel of the same name was erected to cater for the locals and used by those employed on the erection of the Union Building; it was destroyed by fire before the completion of the Building.

On the right hand side we pass the Moedersbond Maternity Hospital.

The original Moedersbond hospital started in President Paul Kruger's house in Church Street.

In 1918 Gustav Preller wrote an article in his newspaper De Volksstem regarding the problem of a country mother-to-be, and was supported by Issie Smuts, wife of the then Prime Minister, General Jan Smuts. The government granted 2 morgan (1 ¾ ha) for the erection of a new hospital; the foundation stone was laid by Dr D.F. Malan in 1931.

That hospital is the one facing on Beatrix Street which was taken over by the Provincial Administration in 1960 when the new complex was completed.

The Apies River winds its way passed Pretoria College of Education which was originally Hillview High School and flows under Dr Savage Road.

S. Radford Savage, born at Rondebosch in 1863, married Mary Bousfield, daughter of the first Bishop of Pretoria. He was Medical Officer to the Cape Government Railways in 1889; he spend some time in the (Orange) Free State, finally opening a practice in Pretoria in 1902. He was Mayor for the period 1907 - 1908.

In 1929 when Brooks Street near Berea Park was changed to avoid confusion with the Brooklyn name, it was changed to Savage Road, then later it was renamed Jakaranda Street which again later became Rhodes Street which it is today.

The northern extension of Prinsloo Street across Hove's Drift was the main outlet to Riviera township and bore the name Riviera Road. After the erection of a home for war orphans opposite the hospital, it received the name Louis Botha, this section was again changed to commemorate Dr. Savage.

He lies buried in the Bousfield family plot in Church Street Cemetery.

The area we are now walking through is known as Prinshof named after J.J. Prinsloo, Pretoria pioneer who owned the area north of Du Toit Street; he left his name to Prinsloo Street.

This area is also associated with Hove who left his name to Hoves Drift across which two streets now run. Hove obtained the Prinsloo property and erected a mill on the banks of the Apies River at this point.

Hove's identity has not been cleared up. In records found they have his name as Von dem Howe/Hoven, Hovey and Hove. The family plot in the Church Street Cemetery, however, bears the name Hove.

The area between the Apies River here and the hospital, extending eastwards across the present Beatrix Street to the foothills of Meintjeskop was called Donkey Camp, so called because of the many poor-whites living in the slum tin-shanty town created here and owned a donkey and cart used to transport firewood sold for a living. The slum was cleared in 1910.

From Hove's Drift bridge, the street was originally called South Street, it then adopted the Dutch spelt name Zoutpansberg, because in the previous century it was the main wagon route to the Zoutpansberg region in the Northern Province.

Laden wagons left Pretoria via Prinsloo Street crossing Hove's Drift along a track leading to Derdepoort, then onwards to De Piramide (Pyramids) then on to the Waterberg and further north.

One gets a fine view of the Union Building from this area.

The Union Buildings and the gardens were designed by (Sir) Herbert Baker, who also designed South Africa House in London and many of the earlier Anglican stone-churches and residences throughout the Republic.

The Union Building was erected from surplus treasury funds at the time of amalgamation of the separate provinces of South Africa when forming the Union of South Africa in 1910.

Mr Hull, the Minister of Finance, is given the credit for selecting the site on Meintjeskop for the erection of the buildings. The hill was named after Stephanus Meintjes, owner of the farm Arcadia.

Carela Meischke, the contractor also built the Johannesburg City Hall and the present Pretoria post office. Messrs. Prentice and Mackie were responsible for laying out the amphitheater.

The stone used in the construction came from Balmoral in Mpumalanga, Steenpan and Platpan. The wood was Rhodesian and Indian Kiaat, Mahogany and Stinkwood from the Cape Province. The bronze pottery-work was done by Fanie Eloff; the statue of Atlas adorning one of the domes was the work of Broadbent and that of Mercury on the opposite dome by Ness.

Building operations took four years to complete; the Duke of Connaught laid the foundation stone on the 26th November 1910.

Between this point and Prinshof Street to the right is the Phyllis Robertson Cerebral Palsy School/House. A home for adult cripples, designed by architect Eric Todd and named to honour the Chairman of the Cripple Care Association who rendered unselfish work since 1948.

The foundation stone was laid by a former President Mr C.R. (Blackie) Swart in October 1961 and the building was opened by the then Minister of Social Services, Mr J.J. Serfontein.

A road leading off Dr Savage Road passes the home also named to her honour and memory in 1976.

Westwards in Boom Street we reach the Old Museum building and Zoological Gardens fronting on Boom street.

The Transvaal Museum (the National Cultural History and Open-Air Museum) also referred to as the Boom Street Museum stands on the Klein Schoemansdal Estate; the prefix to the name differentiates it from the Voortrekker settlement Schoemansdal in the Zoutpansberg near Louis Trichardt which was originally called Oudedorp.

Schoeman sold one portion of his Boom Street property to J.F. Celliers and another to T.N. De Villiers then retired to his farm Rietfontein, today a suburb of Pretoria.

The museum was founded in 1892, its collection was first housed on the top floor of the Raadsaal on Church Square, then transferred to the Small Market Hall on what is now known as Strijdom Square in Church Street and officially opened to the public by President Kruger in 1894.

The museum started under the curatorship of Dr H.G. Breyer. Dr Gunning was appointed director in 1897. A new museum was erected on the zoo property, the foundation stone was laid by Dr Mansveldt in July 1899 but was only completed after the Second Anglo-Boer War in 1902. The state Museum was officially opened in December 1904. Due to the deterioration of the building and fixtures, the museum closed while the vacated Mint building in Visagie Street was converted to house the new, that opened to the public in 1997.

The Zoological Gardens started in a small way in a yard at the back of the Old Market Hall in Church Street before being transferred to the Rus-en-Urbe property adjoining the museum, under its first director, Dr J.W.B. Gunning.

Dr Jan Willem Bowdewyn Gunning, born at Hilversum, Holland in September 1860. He arrived in South Africa in 1884 and practiced in the Cape Province and in the (Orange) Free State. On taking up residence in Pretoria in 1891, he no longer practiced his profession and became Acting-Director of the Transvaal Museum which started in a school room in 1874.

The Zoological Gardens and the Museum are situated on the property of General Stephanus Schoeman called Klein Schoemansdal; it later became the property of J.F. Celliers who named it Rus-en-Urbe.

During the Second Anglo-Boer War a large prisoner-of-war camp was established on the northern banks of the Apies River towards the hill. After the escape of Winston Churchill (later Prime Minister of England) from the State Model School in Van der Walt Street, the officers were transferred to this camp.

The prisoners were released on the occupation of the town on 5 June 1900 and in turn became a 'bird-cage' for captured Boer burgers.

Paul Kruger Street originally called Markt Street ended at General Schoeman's property. When the property was divided a sandy track lead through a narrow cutting in the hill later known as Eloff's Cutting having reference to Frikkie C. Eloff, President Kruger's son-in-law, who owned the property on the northern side of the Daspoort range on which Capital Park and Eloffsdal suburbs were established.

Besides its present name it was also called Eloffspoort and during the British occupation (1900-02) it adopted the names Gospoort and Zoo Poort.

Nearing the poort is The Boys Naval Brigade headquarters which for many years after the Second World War had Mr Willie West as chairman. Next is Langenhoven School that commemorates Cornelis Jacob L. Langenhoven (1873-1932); Afrikaans poet, born near Ladysmith, Cape; his most famous work was the national anthem, "Die Stem van Suid-Afrika" which as set to music by M.L. de Villiers.

He was elected to Parliament in 1920 and became a Senator in 1932.

The property northwards from Boom Street was T.N. de Villiers' Belle Ombre Estate. Tielman Niewoud De Villiers settled in Pretoria in 1869 as one of the town's pioneer lawyers; he represented Bloemhof in the Volksraad and was a founder member of the Pretoria Club in 1885.

De Villiers was one of the founders of the first Pretoria Agriculture Society and Chairman of the Temporary Town Council established in 1897.

He is buried in Church Street Cemetery, the family plot also bears the remains of his son killed during the Second Anglo-Boer War.

The adjoining property on which the bus-sheds now stands was Sans-Souci which was bordered on the west by Schoolplaats both owned by the German Lutheran mission.

The Rev. Knuthe purchased the ground from the government in 1866 and named it after the Potsdam palace of King Frederik Willem IV, a great friend of General von Gerlack, a beneficiary of the Society.

Marabastad was originally the area north of the Apies River towards the hill and catered for Black servants since the founding of the town. Their ranks swelled with servants that deserted the families from outlying districts that attended the quarterly Nagtmaal (Communion) services held on Church Square.

The area was proclaimed a location in the 1890's. The name is derived from Marappa (Maraba), an elderly person living here who served as an interpreter at the court.

The portion south of Apies River was set aside for Asians and in earlier times was referred to as Tin Town.

The brick-oven (Kiln) rivulet – The Steenovenspruit flows into the Apies River at this point. The stream has its source on the hillock above the abattoirs in Mitchell Street; in earlier times it flowed through the brickfields situated there, hence its name.

Lorentz Street recalls a colleague of Surveyor-General Gideon Von Wielligh, A.C.H. Lorentz, First Clerk in the Registrar of Deed's Office, who was Secretary of the Burger-Right Commission.

The Lorentz family were pioneers of Pretoria, one of their members left his name to Lorentzville in Johannesburg.

The next street we come to is Von Wielligh Street which honours Gideon Retief Von Wielligh, Surveyor-General (1859-1932); born at Paarl, Cape Province, was surveyor-general in 1884 and responsible for surveying and laying out the Burgerrecht Erwe (Burger-Right Erven) in Pretoria West and surrounding areas, parts of Sunnyside, Muckleneuk and was associated with the Lourenco Marques (Maputo)/Transvaal boundary.

He established Villieria township and named it after his wife, Elizabeth de Villiers and Retief Street in Pretoria West also bears his name.

West of Von Wielligh Street and the railway line was Bantule, a black township established on Hove's Ground once owned by the same Hove family who ran a mill at the drift on the way to the hospital; their second mill stood on the banks of the Apies River near Marabastad.

The area was first occupied by the over-flow of squatters from Marabastad and the position worsened after the First World War.

Early in the 1920's, the municipal authorities redesigned the area and erected sub-economical housing units with water and sanitation. The inhabitants were transferred

in the 1950's and 1960's to the then newly established townships of Atteridgeville on the western boundary of Pretoria and Mamelodi in the east.

The name Bantule, was coined by a former Town Clerk, Mr M.G. Nicolson, who thought it sounded good. Others have it as 'ba Ntule', ba=people and n'tule = pushed, therefore, the people who were compelled to live there.

The world famous Onderstepoort Veterinary Institution had its beginning here in a small laboratory on the southern banks of the Skinner Spruit near its confluence with the Apies River, it was bordered by Von Wielligh and Border Streets;

It was founded by Dr Theiler who arrived in the Transvaal (Gauteng) in 1891; his first position was on Nellmapius's farm Irene.

A statue of Sir Arnold Theiler stands in front of the main building at Onderstepoort which he founded in 1908.

Skinner Spruit was so named because the rivulet that rises further to the west flows past Skinners Court which stood on the now open ground to the right of Church Street as one leaves the built-up area of Pretoria West. Court Street in the area recalls the home of William Skinner whose background will be found under Skinner Street.

We wind our way to our ending point in the Wonderboompoort, also referred to by some as the Daspoort.

Wonderboompoort was the exit from the valley for traffic en-route to Rustenburg and took its name from the 'Wonder Tree' in the reserve which in 1910 was described as the Ficus Cordata variety. It forms a large hemispherical mass covered with ever-green leaves and figs. The space of the ground it covers is in extent 163 feet (51.32m) by 142 (44.71) and its height to the top of the green half circle which it forms is 67 feet (21.3m). The tree spreads in a somewhat peculiar manner. From the centre mass of stems, some of the branches spread out almost at right angles in a radial direction, and gradually droop towards the ground; at a distance of some 30 feet (9.45m) from the parent stem, they come into contact with the earth and send out roots which new groups of stems arise; from these again other branches are given off, still in the same direction, and these coming into contact with the ground become rooted in time and send up a third group of stems. The tree as it stands has an inner ring of nine groups of stems surrounding the main central mass, three of them connected to it by their drooping branches. The circumference of the central mass of stems is 81 feet (24.689 m) and the second group forms approximately a circle at an average distance of about 25 feet (7.62 m) from which they originated.

It received its name from the Trekkers on their way to meet up with Louis Trichard in the Zoutpansberg in 1836.

The Apies River breaks through the valley at this point and flows on to join the Pi-enaars River which very much later becomes the Crocodile and Limpopo River.

Daspoort was named after the many rock-rabbits seen there by the same Trekkers who named the Wonderboom and are the oldest names in the Pretoria Valley.

Daspoort farm was owned by one Du Plessis and in 1900 was cut up and had 19 registered owners. The township of this name on the northern side was surveyed by P.S. Krige in 1904.

WALKER SPRUIT

The Walker Spruit flows northwards for about 5km from Bruins-Lich Park off Main Street in Waterkloof through the Austin Roberts Bird Sanctuary, the Nieuw Muckleneuk Trim Park (the first of its kind in the Republic), beautiful Magnolia Dell, through the densely populated Sunnyside and Arcadia then joins the Apies River north of the Caledonian Sports Ground.

A few indigenous trees, especially Soetdoring (*Acacia karroo*), are still to be found along the banks of the spruit, but since the canalising of the rivulet through Sunnyside many years ago, much of the indigenous flora was lost.

The walk can be very interesting if one takes in the history of Pretoria as found in the landmarks along its length.

In 1900 the farm Waterkloof was owned by Carel Erasmus, Albert Brodrick, G.R. Roets and his son.

The ground was acquired by (Sir) Julius Jeppe's company, S.A. Townships and Mining that was managed by Charles Bramley, his Pretoria agent. The company had the Waterkloof township laid out by surveyor, H.L.M. Leibrant in 1903 and erven were sold the following year.

By 1913 there were 41 families living in the township, no mention of street addresses were made.

So remote was the area, that the promoting company installed their own power generating plant for electricity and provided a bus service to town.

Sir Julius was instrumental in having the country club established.

Walker Spruit originates below Bruins-Lich Park which commemorates a former Director of the City Council's Parks and Recreation department and was named in 1966.

Henri Bruins-Lich, Pretoria born, entered the parks department at the age of 13; five years later he went to study in Holland and Belgium and other countries. He was at Kew Royal Botanical Gardens in 1926, then he went to Italy.

He was Horticulturist at St. Helena Island 1928-32; then appointed to a similar position at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Port of Spain, Trinidad. He returned to Pretoria in 1935 and was appointed Assistant Parks-Superintendent later became Superintendent, then Director in 1942.

We quote Walton Jameson "What a gift to Pretoria this Pretoria boy has been! Henri Bruins-Lich has saturated Pretoria with joys of the spirit in beauty of our parks, recreation grounds, street islands, Fountains Valley and elsewhere."

Nieuw (Nu/Nieu/New) Muckleneuk township extended from the undeveloped Waterkloof to the Sunnyside Commonage on the north, the present day site of the Pretoria Boys' High School, bordered again what later became Plantation Road (Now

Queen Wilhelmina Street) and from the farm Uitval (now Brooklyn) to today's Fe-hrsen Street.

The outlay of the township underwent changes when the portion above Mackie Street (earlier called Tram Street) was purchased by the Witwatersrand Mining and Township Company of (Sir) Abe Bailey and after incorporation into the Pretoria Municipality was taken over by them and developed into one of the first economic-unit suburbs of Pretoria.

The street patterns were also altered and names changed. In 1913 they were: Moddel (Middel), Lange, McKenzie, Muckleneuk, Brook, Plantation, Bronkhorst, Tram, Joubert Farm, Walker Farm, Milk, Factory and the area had 43 families living there at that time.

Its prefix was to differentiate it from the already established Muckleneuk on the western side of Queen Wilhelmina Street.

Buite the Outer – Street of the township is crossed and we come to Giovanetti Street named after a well-known old Pretorian businessman, Constantine William Giovanetti, C.B.E., M.P., born at Guldford, Victoria, Australia in 1868; he came to South Africa in 1896; was mayor for three terms and Member of Parliament for Pretoria East 1920/24; he died at the age of 72 years in 1940.

This Street was previously called Augusta Street after the wife of Mr. Walker.

We cross Lange Street, which is the longest street in the original township and come to Bronkhorst Street which commemorates Lukas Bronkhorst, first owner of the farm Groenkloof on which the Fountains Valley is situated.

Middel Street is appropriately named because it was the street in the middle of the township.

The Walker Spruit at this point enters the Austin Roberts Bird Sanctuary covering 41 erven, 30 acres (12ha) bordered by Boshoff, Dey, Middel and Melk Streets. The reserve was named to honour Dr Austin Roberts, Zoologist, Curator of the bird and mammal collections in the Transvaal Museum and author of "The Birds of South Africa".

His father, the Rev. Alfred Roberts came to Pretoria with the first Anglican Bishop, Henry Bousfield in 1879 and was associated with the first Anglican Church school, St. Birinus.

Austin was born at Fountain Lodge which stood on the corner of Paul Kruger and Skinner Streets in 1883. In 1913 he married Dora, daughter of Councilor H.C. Barrett; he died in a motor car accident in Pondoland in 1948.

The sanctuary in earlier times was a brickfield pit later filled by the Walker Spruit; it was fenced in 1956 when the memorial arch was unveiled, and opened to the public in 1961 in the presence of his wife and son.

The Waterkloof Spruit which has its source on the heights near Bootes Street, flows across Argo, Queen Wilhelmina, Lawley, Albert, Milner, Main, Lange, Bronkhorst and Middel Streets to join the Walker Spruit in the Sanctuary.

Being an historical walk it would be appropriate to trace the origins of the names mentioned above. We start off with Bootes Street named after a Northern Constellation. Boötes or Arctophylax – the Herdsman or the Bearwarden of the heavens.

Argo another constellation in our night sky, “The Ship” bearing a name from Greek legend recalling the ship Argo used by Jason and his band of adventurers. The Argonauts sailed on their errand to bring back the golden fleece which hung in the grove at Colchis, guarded by a dragon; Argo means ‘swift’.

Lawley Street commemorates Sir Arthur Lawley, Lt. Governor of the Transvaal 1902-1906; born in England in 1860, died in Germany in 1932. He was also Governor of Madras, Administrator of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) and Governor of Western Australia. He also left his name to Wenlock Street in Brynerton recalling his peerage as Lord Wenlock.

Albert Street is found in close vicinity to Victoria Avenue named after the Queen of England at the turn of the century. Albert honours the Prince Consort, her husband.

Milner Street recalls that Lord Alfred Milner, British Statesman, Governor and High Commissioner in S.A. In 1902 he became Governor of the Transvaal and assisted by a group of young men nicknamed ‘Milner’s Kindergarten’, promoted self-governing municipalities which cleared away slums, created a forestry department and did much to improve agriculture. Technical Colleges were established and free schools established.

He left South Africa in 1905 and took part in the meetings which led to the founding of the Round Table Organisation.

Reverting to the area around Austin Roberts Bird Sanctuary; a slight deviation westwards will bring you to the Princess Christian Old Age Home. The foundation stone of the first home on the corner of Church and Cowie Streets near the cemetery was laid by Princess Christian on her visit to Pretoria in September 1904 to see the grave of her son Prince Christian Victor von Schleswick Holstein (Queen Victoria’s grandson), he was a member of Lord Roberts’ staff and died of typhoid fever in Merton Keep Military hospital in Arcadia during the occupation of Pretoria during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1900-1902).

The old home was purchased by the city council to house the Traffic Department; the buildings were demolished in 1977.

The original foundation stone was built into a wall of the new home erected in Nieuw Muckleneuk.

Walker Spruit meanders through the Trim Park, as previously mentioned was the first such a park in the Republic.

The area to the right of us as we continue our walk is Bailey's Muckleneuk. It was originally portion of Nieuw Muckleneuk, owned by the Walker family who sold this portion to John Preller of Harmony, it then became the property of the Witwatersrand Mining and Township Company under the chairmanship of (Sir) Abe (Abraham) Bailey, Rand magnate and politician.

Bailey was born at Cradock, C.P. in 1864 and married Kate Paddon, in whose name the property was registered in 1900; he was created a Baronet in 1919; he died in Muizenberg in 1940.

We pass Nixon Street which recalls William Nixon, an attorney.

In the 1920's Duncan Street had four names along its length from Church Street to Brooklyn Circle and one of them was Nixon Street. The name was then transferred to this area where it replaced Korte Street.

Nixon was a partner in the firm Lunnon and Nixon, associated with the establishment of Brooklyn township.

Following the river still northwards we pass many other streets recalling persons associated with Old Pretoria. The next signpost we come across tells us that the street bears the name Mackie.

Mackenzie (Mackie) Walker lived with his wife Augusta (Gussie) (after whom Augusta Street in the area was named but later changed to Tram Street) lived on Muckleneuk farm above Sunnyside.

Charles Bramley Street recalls a former market-master and local agent for (Sir) Abe Bailey's company associated with the establishment of Waterkloof and Bailey's Muckleneuk townships. A Children's Home also bears his name.

Totius Street veers off from the left hand side of Queen Wilhelmina Street. Totius is the pen name of the poet, the Rev. Jacob Daniel Du Toit (1877-1953); born at Paarl C.P., studied at Burgersdorp and for a time served as Preacher to the Boer forces during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902).

After further studies in Holland he settled in Potchefstroom from 1903 to 1911 later becoming professor at the Potchefstroom Theological College; Totius died in 1953 and was buried in Potchefstroom.

His father, Rev. S.J. du Toit, was Superintendent of Education and lived in Rietondale where Totiusdal Post Office was established and the Totiusdal school. The house, although much altered still stands in Deerness.

A slight deviation up Totius Street brings us to the Harlequin Club, founded by Gerald Pilditch, one of Pretoria's greatest sports administrators, and former mayor of Pretoria. Pilditch Stadium at Pretoria West bears his name.

The name was borrowed from a London football club that bore the name since 1871.

The harlequin traditional costume is that of the ancient Roman mimic – the entunculus or variegated harlequin's jacket, the shaven head, the sooty face and the unshod feet.

Walter Lanham Street branches off to the right of Totius Street. Walter Roderick Lanham, FRGS, government land and mine surveyor, born near Grahamstown in 1874; came to the Transvaal in 1898, he surveyed Bailey's Muckleneuk and Eastlynne township where a street also bears his name. His second wife was Gertrude Roper whose name is also found in a street name in the vicinity.

Nicolson Street: On old maps this street bore the name Jeppe and then later Frederick.

Malcolm Graham Nicolson, a solicitor, born in Scotland in 1880, a Town Councilor for many years whose residence was in Marais Street.