

# PIONEER SKETCHES

(Church Street Cemetery)



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## PIONEER SKETCHES

### TRIBUTE TO THE AUTHOR



Tom's interest in things historical started early in life, and became an all consuming passion, with his main interest being the origin of place names. To Tom, a name is not just a means of identifying a place, but a way of coming to grips with history and with the romance of the past.

Tom Andrews, also affectionately known as Mr Pretoria, spent over 30 years, researching and surveying, the Church Street cemetery. He was further instrumental in ensuring that the graves were restored. He held numerous historical tours over the years, imparting his knowledge to others. The third entrance gate to this cemetery nl. Pioneers Gate was named by him.

This booklet, by Tom Andrews, was the first ever printed, about the pioneers buried in the Church Street Cemetery.

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Standard, Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa

Dictionary of South African Biography

Emagameni Collection of Place and Street Name Origins.



*Tom Andrews and his Emagameni collection of research books written by himself.*

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## CHURCH STREET CEMETERY

Every town has its God's Acre in which rests the remains of loved ones. Pretoria's Old Cemetery as it is referred to, bears the remains, not only of our own local pioneers, but of persons from all over the Transvaal (Gauteng), and the rest of South Africa and from overseas. Persons from humble homes and palaces who left a mark in the history and rich heritage of our city and country.

One of the first burial grounds in Pretoria was a private block situated at Du Preez Hoek, the south-eastern corner of the ground used by the Berea Park archery club bordered to the south by the remains of the old N.Z.A.S.M. Bridge, which when built in 1893, caused the remains of some buried there, to be re-interred in what was named the Du Preez enclosure in the north-western corner of Church Street Cemetery.

Another small cemetery was situated on ground near the Teachers' Training College.

No burial register appears to have been kept for Du Preez Hoek. It is thought that persons such as Dr G.H. Rissik, founder of the Transvaal family who died shortly after the Siege of Pretoria was laid to rest there without a tombstone, and could possibly be one of the un-named graves in this section.

The Pretoria Cemetery was established in 1867 and had three divisions, the English Episcopal and Wesleyan, the Dutch Reformed and Hervormde and the Roman Catholic in a third. An open area behind toward 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 started in the late 1880's.

The cemetery like the others of our city with its park-like atmosphere is always a pleasure to visit, far from the cry of a writer in 1881 who said, "a desolate, dirty-looking locality, surrounded by brick-kilns, and endangered during the wet season by water courses." During the investment of 1880/81 it was found necessary to enlarge the military portion and was surrounded by a substantial stone wall, which was 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 Ds. Begemann.

### **ANDERSON H.M.**

Harry Mitchell, son of W.A.B. Anderson, who with Walker, surveyed many areas of Pretoria.

*Anderson Street* in the suburb of Brooklyn, was named, some say, after W.A.B., however, the name honours the son, Harry, who surveyed Brooklyn township on behalf of James Brooke; the original township had 722 erven and was established on the farm Uitval in 1902.

### **ATTERBURY**

This pioneer family had connections with Pretoria and Durban. Mr Isom Fuller Atterbury appears to be the original settler of the name in Pretoria.

His son, Manfred Lancaster, established the suburb of Menlo Park in the 1930's, which only became popular in 1961 when erven was first sold there.

Menlo Park (the first name suggested for the township was Cherokee) recalls a place name in America that became well-known for the inventions of Thomas Edison.

The Atterbury family emigrated from there in the 1880's and, being friends of Edison named a street in the suburb after him. Atterbury Road commemorates the family name.

Isom, was a dentist but did not set up a practise in the Transvaal, instead he joined forces with another famous South African-American, Mr I.W. Schlesinger.

Manfred, appears to have settled in Durban where we find a street named after him in Durban North, on property owned by the family in 1903.

### **BAL J.H.E.**

Johannes Hendrik Eliza Bal, born Rotterdam, Holland, 1850. An accountant with the Dutch Trading Company, he spent some years at their Depot at Delagoa Bay.

Johannes then opened a trading store in Lydenburg in 1879 but closed down on the outbreak of the First Anglo-Boer War; he arrived in

Pretoria in 1881 starting up a business in 1886 as financial agent and translator of the High Court; Bal became a large property owner.

In 1891 he married Annie Ingelsby von Reede van Oudtshoorn who died in 1892; his second wife (1894) was Henrietta van Lier.

Bal was co-founder of the Netherlands Bank in S.A., and Alternate (Honorary) Portuguese Consulate-General to Viscount de Matalha. He was a member of the Pretoria Celtic Lodge and a founder member of the German Club.

### **BECKETT T.W.**

Thomas William Beckett, born at the ancestral home a Merton Abbey, Kent, England, in 1851. The family first emigrated to Australia and in 1864 came to South Africa and settled in Port Elizabeth.

Tom worked for the firm of Savage and Hill. In 1871 he tried his luck on the Diamond Fields. He married Annie Harriet Osmond in 1874 and came to Pretoria, a year later he founded the firm of T.W. Beckett.

In the same year he purchased a block of erven from President M.W. Pretorius on which he built Blackwood Villa, named after an indigenous tree of his adopted country, Australia. The name lives on in a street name in a portion of Arcadia township established by him. His town property was purchased by the City Council in 1945 and the Council's headquarter building, "Munitoria" now adorns the site.

Beckett's first business enterprise started in small premises near the corner of Queen and Vermeulen Streets, later moving to the famous Beckett's Corner, now the OK Bazaars on the corner of Church and van der Walt Street. Church Street from his shop to his home in Arcadia was referred to as Beckett's Hoogte.

In 1889 Beckett purchased portion of Arcadia Estate against Meintjeskop from Mr. Eddie (E.P.A.) Meintjes and erected a new homestead, his "country" residence, Merton Keep, named after and to commemorate his ancestry and also established the suburb of Eastwood (a street there reminds us of the suburb name) which today forms part of Greater Arcadia.

Street names in the suburb are called after his sons.

Merton Keep Estate was taken over by the British Military Authorities when Pretoria was occupied in June 1900 and used as a Hospital. Prince Christian Victor, Queen Victoria's grandson, a member of Lord Roberts' staff, died in the house.

Merton Keep was again used to nurse sick soldiers during the Second World War. The property was purchased by the French Government in 1950, they had the "keep" demolished, and the entrance modernised.

The Beckett's were active Methodists and supported many Pretoria Welfare Societies. Tom died in 1924, and his wife died 10 years later.

### **BEGEMANN Ds A.J.**

The Rev. Adriaan Johannes Begemann, born 1831, died Pretoria, November 1925. He was invited to the Transvaal by President M.W. Pretorius. He left his Native land, North Brabant, and was inducted as the first permanent minister of the Ned. Hervormde Kerk in Pretoria.

He served the local flock for 11 years and was then asked to resign because of his liberal theology.

An amusing incident in his life was connected with Free-masonry. It was the duty of the "State Minister" to open the first sitting of the year of the Volksraad with a prayer. One year, he felt he had reason to object, he was reported and censured. When he was invited to open the new Masonic Lodge in 1868, he consented because President M.W. Pretorius was a member, and again, reported and censured.

Pretoria's first permanent Minister took up residence on the 27<sup>th</sup> January, 1861. His parsonage was a double gable house that stood on the corner of Church Square and Markt (now Paul Kruger) Street, now incorporated into the site of the Palace of Justice.

Begemann was a member of the Cemetery Committee established in 1867, Secretary to the Hoogere School Committee in 1876 and in 1892 was a committee member for the Staats Meisjies School.

With his wife Johanna Hermina Goetz, they later made a living at Market-gardening; his two sons fell in battle, Simon at Sand River in May 1900, and Frederik at Dundee.

### **BLAAUW H.A.D**

The birth date recorded on this tombstone of soft blue-slate must be one of the oldest in the cemetery; it carries the following message in early Transvaal Dutch:

“Hier rust Hendrik Albertus Daniel Blaauw Lig van den H. Echbari Volksraad voor het destrek van Lydenburg C.Z.A. Republiek en is geboren op den 20 sten Maart 1819 hier overleeden te Pretoria met de raatzittin op die 28ste Ochter 1881 en den ouden ..... van 62 jaar is 7 maanden in 8 daagen...” ...cezoncen hier by het graf Krisstina Alida Blaauw, geb. Loek....Ps, 10s.8.”

In the Volksraad Minutes under the Chairmanship of C.J. Bodenstein on Zaterdag, 29 October 1881, Article 228 reads: “De Voorzitter deelt aanden Volksraad het treurig nieuws mede, dat het den Almagtige behaagd heft, een der geachte mede-leden, den Wel. Ed. Heer H.A.D. Blaauw, van den tijd in de eeuwigheid op te reopen. In de laatste dagen had de overledene zijne belangen nog opgeofferd aan die van zijn land en volk.” The minutes continue by advising all that the funeral would be the following day at 4 p.m. and that F.G. Joubert will address those present at the grave side.

Article 264 of the Minutes for the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1881, the Vice-President gives notice that the cost of the funeral expenses of Mr Blaauw, will be paid by the Government.

Further information regarding Blaauw's background and history is not known, but like other Pioneers, Blaauw died in Pretoria while serving his country and found his last resting place in the Church Street Cemetery.

### **BODENSTEIN C.J.**

Cornelius Johannes Bodenstein, born at Beaufort-West, C.P., was a son of Johannes Bodenstein who emigrated from Germany, and later joined the Trekkers to natal where he became Secretary to the Volksraad, later serving as magistrate and harbour master.

The family left Natal for the Transvaal and Bodenstein Snr. Died on the trek to the Suikerboschrandt, (Heidelberg).

Cornelius married Magrietha Hattingh, a daughter of Anna Retief. On his arrival in the Transvaal, he settled at Mooiriviersdorp

(Potchefstroom) serving as Fieldcornet, then Commandant and later as Magistrate for the district.

Bodenstein was a member of the Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek Volksraad for fourteen years, from 1870 serving in the capacity 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, a year after resigning as Volksraad Chairman.

### **BOER GRAVES More correctly BURGHER Graves**

Records of British Military action in South Africa during the Second Anglo-Boer War reveal that they had some 449 000 men in the field and suffered 97 500 fatal casualties including those who died of disease.

Burg(h)er strength and casualties are not recorded but estimated figures are that 60 000 were in the field and that 600 died. These are the Country's heroes that should like in God's Acre.

You see before you, a new Garden of Remembrance created by the War Boards Control, completed in 1982 – a token of respect and homage to those who laid down their lives for the country they loved.

The Boer soldiers buried here are not the only Pretoria casualties. Some lie buried on the battlefields where they fell and others were taken back to their farms by comrades or family for burial.

General Piet Joubert died in Pretoria and after a military funeral service, his body was taken to his farm Rustfontein in the Wakkerstroom district for burial. Others are buried in family plots in the cemetery.

### **BOSMAN H.S.**

Ds. Hermanus Stephanus Bosman born on the farm Nobelsfontein, Victoria West, C.P. in 1848. He was first a clerk in a general business and was encouraged to the ministry by Rev. A. Murray. Bosman was called to the Pretoria Congregation of the Ned. Hervormde Church in 1876 which he served until he retired in 1926. He died in 1933.

He saw the erection of the "Groote Kerk" and his parsonage in Koch Street from funds received from the Government when Church Square

was purchased. Kock Street's name was changed to Bosman Street in January 1942 on the suggestion of the Councillor George Brink.

Ds. Bosman founded Prospect Seminary Girls' School (the name of the building in Schoeman Street, off van der Walt street commemorates its position) in 1877 and encouraged two American teachers to run the establishment. (see Clary).

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

The first two Jacaranda trees to decorate Pretoria streets were planted by the Mayor, Mr. Kirkness on the corner of Bosman and Boom Streets opposite the residence of Mr. James Clark, the florist who donated the trees.

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

## **BOURKE FAMILY**

The first Bourke name that comes to mind in Pretoria is Edward Francis Bourke of Barton Keep (now Church property) in Jacob Mare Street. He was Pretoria's first elected mayor in 1903, his name is commemorated in a street in Sunnyside which was previously called Buiten Street.

Eddie was born in Pietermaritzburg and after investigating the possibilities of a commercial existence in the Transvaal, came and settled permanently in Pretoria in 1877.

His general dealers business stood on the north-western corner of Church and van der Walt Streets, later sold to John Jack and the corner now occupied by Garlicks, which in turn will make way for the new Verwoerd Square some time in the future.

Besides being connected with George Heys' mail contract between Pretoria and Kimberley, he established the Bourke Trust Company specialising in administering funds and estates. The building of the same name which housed his headquarters was sold and demolished to make way for the new Old Mutual Centre.

Eddie's brothers also played a part in Pretoria's history and Transvaal history. Tom was a prospector and his name is remembered by all crossing the bridge to view Bourke's Pot Holes in the Eastern Transvaal. Brother George was in the coal business in Pretoria; his home Kenturk in Sunnyside was named after their ancestral home near Castlerea, County Mayo Ireland. This property was used as a hospital during the Second Anglo-Boer War.

The tombstones bear names of the family and their ancestry. John Barton, son of George, died on active service in 1916 at the age of 21. His second name recalls the fortified manor house from where they originated.

Myles Bourke who departed this life a few years ago, will be remembered for the part he played in the entertainment of troops during the last war and his theatrical work thereafter.

### **BOUSFIELD H.B.**

Bishop Twells of Bloemfontein in the Quarterly Bulletin of 1864 writes "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. 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 and held Sunday Services in the Council Chamber kindly lent by the Government."

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

The first St. Albans Church was built in 1872 on the site of what later became the Langham Hotel in Church Street West of the square which was demolished. St. Albans moved to Schoeman Street in 1879.

Bishop Bousfield, first Anglican Bishop of Pretoria, arrived in 1879 and founded two schools. His house stood on the corner of Andries Street, the site now occupied by Wesley Church.

Bousfield left Pretoria on the outbreak of the Second Anglo-Boer War and died in Cape Town in 1902, he is buried at Stellenbosch.

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

## **BRAY EDWIN**

Sacred to the memory of Edwin Bray second son of the late James Bray, is the message on the white marble cross, far from his land of birth.

A humble message of a great pioneer who opened up the mineral riches of the Transvaal, which in his day, was compared with the fabulous realm of the Arabian Kingdom and the riches of King Solomon's Court of Biblical times.

Bray, a Yorkshire miner was in his early forties when he trekked the wilds of the Transvaal in the 1870's examining every step of the way prospecting for hidden wealth.

He discovered lead in the Marico area in 1875 which proved unpayable, disappointedly he turned his back on the site which since then bore the name Bray; he became the first person to mine coal in the Orange Free State.

In 1882 he was fossicking in the hills behind the village of Barberton, where, in 1885 he uncovered a gold vein so rich, that the Commissioner called it The Golden Quarry (Bray's Golden Quarry), because his find was more gold in stone than stone with gold.

With his partner's discovery of the Oriental Reef and another close by which was called the Edwin Bray Ref, the unit became the richest property in the country. The company later fell under the control of the Lewis and Marks Syndicate.

It was Bray's discovery that created the fairy story "Eureka City" township housing the many hundreds of employees working the find above Fig-tree Creek.

Sheba, the mysterious Queen o Solomon's time, The Great Sheba of the Golden Republic of the previous century.. both seem to have something in common, something was lost, the Biblical Sheba's source of wealth, and Bray's wealth and health.

Bray died in Pretoria in 1877 and his story ends there. No record of his wife is found, but a photograph exists showing his son in the garden of the house they occupied at Eureka.

### **BRITISH WAR GRAVES: 1900 – 1902**

This military section occupies a large portion of the cemetery. Some 39 785 Officers and Men lost their lives in South Africa up to the end of August 1900. 28 222 men of all ranks were hospitalised under the heading "disease", mainly enteric fever of which some 5621 died and filled many cemeteries throughout the country.

By the end of the war in 1902 many more thousands were hospitalised and died of the illness. The old Volks Hospital in Potgieter Street being too small to accommodate all the wounded and sick, the military authorities took over buildings and homes turning them into hospitals. The yet uncompleted Palace of Justice was one of such buildings, this 'hospital' was formally opened by Field-Marshal Lord Roberts on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 1900; wards were furnished by Messrs Lewis and Marks, Tom Beckett, George Hayes and Andrew Johnston.

Other places used for hospital purposes were: - the Staats Meisjesskool (Hamilton School), Kenturk, home of George Bourke in Celliers Street, Sunnyside, Mr. Tom Beckett's Merton Keep in Eastwood, Arcadia where Prince Christian died.

"Sons of the Empire" lie buried here in a foreign acre, their graves were tenderly cared for by the Guild of Loyal Women and are now looked after and protected by the National War Graves Board.

As was the military custom of that time, officers were buried apart from other ranks, their graves are found on the perimeter. Also buried apart are two Australians court martialled and executed for plundering and murder.

### **BRODRICK**

Isabella Louisa and Cyril Ernest, wife and son of Albert Brodrick, a colourful personality who established one of Pretoria's first commercial firms at No.1 Church Square where Barclays Bank now stands.

Brodrick (a street in Groenkloof was named after him) was born at Hampshire, England in 1830. It appears that he worked his way to Pretoria arriving here in 1859/60.

His wife was a half-sister to Robert Lys and related to the Struben family. His son died in 1864 and his wife in 1873.

Brodrick with the Rous's, Froude's and Lys family were instrumental in founding the Anglican Community in Pretoria.

"Albertus Broodryk" as he was called by the locals was a friend respected by his customers and others. When the Civil War of 1861 ended, Brodrick amongst others landed in court on charges of aiding the rebel side under General Schoeman. When asked to plead, he replied "I don't know, I was divided into two parts, my left supported Schoeman and my right stood firm by the Government."

"Albertus Broodryk's left side", summed up the Judge, who was President Kruger, "has pleaded guilty of high treason and is fined 500 rixdollars. Your left leg will be placed in the stocks until your fine is paid.

"Your right side", went on Kruger, "I greet you as a firm friend of the State and as you were unable to do active service the court commandeers ten slaughter oxen from you to aid the side you support."

Brodrick invested in mining ventures and farms, one of which was 'Geduld' on the East Rand which he sold for a few pounds to President Kruger, some years later the scene of a rich gold strike.

Albert told the history of Pretoria and his friends in light vein poetry, which was printed and much sought after as Africana today. He returned to England in 1879 and died in 1908.

## **BROOKS JAMES**

James Brooks, Government Surveyor, who surveyed the original, but unused route of the Pretoria to Lourenco Marques railway line, which was later re-surveyed by General Machado, after whom Machadodorp was called.

Brooks lived on property he called "Brookhouse" in Brook Street near the present Berea Park. He later acquired portion of "Uitval ground" east of Pretoria and had James Fehrsen lay out a township which he called Brooklyn, transferring the names Brook House and Brooks

Street to this township. The street bearing his name at Berea Park is now called Reid Street.

Brooks was responsible for laying out a government township on the East Rand known as "De Springs", he wished to couple his name 'which means a stream' to his labours i.e. Brookdorp or Brooklands, but changed his mind when he realised that Broek in Dutch meant trousers – so he called the place Springs, which it still is.

The 's' in his surname was omitted when he named Brooklyn, Brook House and Brook Street. The latter was rectified by the municipality a few years ago.

Brooks was born at Invergarden on the banks of the Cromarty Firth, Scotland. He died at his residence in November, 1901 at the age of 60. His step-daughter, Katie Mackenzie neé Struben lies buried with him.

## **CELLIERS FAMILY**

The Celliers family left footprints in many spheres of Pretoria's history. Johannes Francois, born at Wellington, C.P. in 1839 was invited by President T.F. Burgers to start a pro-government newspaper in Pretoria which he did, and the first edition of De Volksstem was printed in August 1873. After the War of 1880-81 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 on the 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1895. His wife Magdalena died before him in 1889 and both rest in the same plot.

J.F.E. (Jan), the poet, was his son, also born at Wellington in 1865. He tried his hand as a surveyor, then joined the Education Department. He married in 1894 and became State Librarian a year later. Jan was in Pretoria when it fell to the British in 1900, he escaped dressed in his wife's clothes. He established the well known Afrikaans magazine "Die Brandwag" in 1909 and he contributed poetry and prose which lives on in many publications. His love of country and simple things around him are shown in his works.

Jan Celliers, like his father, died in Johannesburg on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1940, his body was returned to his favourite town, Pretoria, for burial beside his wife Susanna in a family plot.

J.D. (Jacobus Daniel – Japie), established himself in Pretoria soon after gold was discovered in Johannesburg in 1886, and became market master in 1887. 'J.D' lived at Myrtle Lodge, in a street named after him in Sunnyside.

In 1888 he planted two Jacaranda seedlings in his garden, the first in Pretoria. Sunnyside Primary School now occupies the site of his homestead and the two Jacarandas still stand bearing a plaque.

### **CLARY SUSAN MILLER**

In 1918 A.E. Adriana wrote: - "Ophet oude kerkhof te Pretoria links van de hoofingang is een eenvoudig graf, door een hek omgeven en door het dite geboomte beschduwd. Het prekje is slegts aan weinigen bekend, en het groepje jonjemeisjes, dat zich op zekere Maandagmiddag in de maand Maart 1899 daarheen begeeft, heft enige moeite het te vinden. Eerbiedig worden de meergebrachte kransen en vloemen neergelegdt, en de meisjes scharen zich met hun onderwijzeres rondom het hekje en lezen het opschrift op de steen, aan het hoofdeinde opgericht."

Briefly: - "In 1918 AE Adriani wrote: " In the old cemetery left of the main entrance, unknown to many lies a simple grave under the shade of some trees.

On a certain Monday morning in March 1899, a group of (school) girls with their teacher laid a wreath and flowers on the grave as a mark of respect and commemoration, reading the following lines engraved on the tombstone."

"Sacred to the memory of Susan Miller Clary, born in Conway Mass, March, 5, 1878. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord; and their works do follow them. And on the other side of the stone: - A teacher for fourteen years in Mount Holyoake Seminary. She came to Pretoria in November 1877 to found a similar institution.

The grave is no longer railed in and the bushes have been cleared.

In her diary (a copy of which is in Dr. Jan Ploeger's library) dated 7 November 1877 she writes "My long journey is over. The many wishes of my friends that it might be safe and pleasant have been fulfilled. I will not speak of my first impressions of Pretoria, except to say that they are pleasant ones."

"Mr. and Mrs. Bosman are exceedingly kind and very enthusiastic about the seminary. One of Mr. Bosman's first remarks was 'The most important thing that remains to be decided is the name.' All manifested the great pleasure with the name affixed upon."

"The building is not yet commences. According to Mr. Murray's urgent advice, the matter was left till our arrival. It is to cost 150 000 dollars.

I have been upon the site which is half a mile from the parsonage. There is a hill back of it, which of course was named Prospect Hill. Next Monday, Miss Ruggles and I are to open a school in the Church, boarding at Mrs. Bosman's..."

It is of interest to record, that the tombstone adorning Miss Clary's grave was made and shipped from her home-town in America.

#### **CORDUA H.**

Hans Cordua came from Germany in 1896 and on the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War of 1899 volunteered and served as a staff officer in the Boer Artillery.

On the occupation of Pretoria, Cordua surrendered and after taking the Oath of Allegiance to the British became involved in a conspiracy to seize Lord Roberts and hand him over to the commandos and to shoot all British officers stationed in Pretoria.

The plot was discovered and the leaders arrested. Cordua's trial was conducted in a military court housed in the Second Raadsaal. Cordua, says one writer, "impressed me as being very much a visionary; a young man, 23 years of age, who would court popularity in almost any cause. The influences about him were undoubtedly bad, and the idea of making 'Europe stagger' at his great attempt had no doubt thoroughly possessed him."

The findings of the court was guilty and the sentence severe: -

"For being found wearing the uniform of a British soldier in the time of war in the enemy's country – DEATH

For breaking his oath of parole – DEATH

For conspiring with others to seize persons of certain British Officers – DEATH

The other supposed leaders were found not guilty, and deported to prisoner of war camps in the Cape Province.

Cordua was executed by firing squad in the prison grounds on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 1900. Captain Borchard, the Court Usher remarked, "He bore it bravely, he admitted the justice of the sentence, and walked across the prison yard to the place of execution, and faced it like a man."

### **COSTER H.J.**

Hermanus Jacob Coster, born at Alkmaar, Netherlands in 30 June 1865. Died 21<sup>st</sup> October, 1899.

In 1891 Coster was practising as an advocate and on Edwald Esselen's resignation in 1895 succeeded him as State Secretary, resigning two years later because of a dispute with President Kruger.

When the war broke out in 1899 he was instrumental in raising the Hollander Corp and served under Commandant Jan Lombard.

On Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 1900 the Corps under General J.H.M. Kock's command stood against the forces of General French at Elandslaagte. French lost 50 dead and 213 wounded as against the Boer losses of 45 dead which included two Johannesburg English speaking men, a German Count, Van Zeppelin and Coster. General Kock was also wounded at this battle and died a few days later in a British hospital at Ladysmith.

Coster was State Prosecutor at the Jameson Raiders/Reformer trial held in the Market Hall in 1896.

Lt. Dr. H.J. Coster was re-interred in Church Street Cemetery on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 1961.

### **DE RAPPER W.A.**

Wilhelm Alexander de Rapper, born in the Netherlands in 1841 found his last resting place here in Pretoria in 1912 alongside his wife who died some 11 years before him.

Wilhelm, was a building contractor who erected many homes throughout Pretoria, especially in Sunnyside where he lived and had a street called after him until it was closed for inclusion in the Sanlam complex.

His talent as an architect and builder can be seen in what is left of his home on the corner of Park and Troye Streets, now occupied by the old wing of the Arcadia Nursing Home which bears a foundation stone laid by him.

In 1913, Mr J. de Rapper, a member of the family, was living at No. 20 De Rapper Street.

### **DEVEREUX (Brothers)**

President M.W. Pretorius had Pretoria 'dorp' laid out from plans submitted by Visagie, Skinner and Devereux brothers on portions of the farms Elandspoort and Daspoort that he had purchased from Prinsloo and Van der Walt, who lent their names to streets in the city centre and from a combination of the two gave the name Waltloo to the industrial section near Silverton.

Article 144 of 27 September 1860 records a resolution which confirms that His Honour M.W. Pretorius gives transfer to the Government of the Z.A. Republiek, the half of the farm Daspoort and the half of the farm Elandspoort – the part of the present town bordered by Du Toit, Potgieter, The Apies in the North, with the exception of J.J. Prinsloo's property (Prinzhof Estate at the Northern end of Prinsloo Street – Ed)

Edward (or Louis) Lewis and Lionel Devereux were builders who came from England in 1850 with William Skinner and settled in Natal where they met Andries Pretorius, who encouraged them to ply their trade in the newly created Trans – Vaal. Their first contract was to build a house for the Hero of Blood River, at Grootplaats, also known as Rust de Ouden, now covered by the waters of the Hartebeespoort Dam.

The trio (including Skinner) erected the first Church on the Square in 1854 and the reconstruction of the second Church, and possibly and still in partnership erected the first Raadsaal.

Lewis Devereux lies buried in the "Skinner plot", dying of a broken heart – it is said. No record is found as to what became of his brother.

### **DE VILLIERS T.N.**

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 member of the first Pretoria Agriculture Society and Chairman of the Temporary Town Council established in 1897.

A director of companies, he owned much property throughout the Transvaal. His home was "Belle Ombre Estate" in Boom Street, extending westwards from Paul Kruger Street (Marktstraat) towards Schoolplaats Mission, where the bus-sheds are now sited.

Tielman, was also a sports pioneer. R.T.N. James recalled: "well do I remember looking on at a cricket contest on the Square, when the Revs. Weavind (Wesleyan) and Law (C of E) wielded the willow in friendly contest while Mr. Hans M. and T.N. de Villiers would shout 'how's that, Umpire,'" to an l.b.w. by P.J.M."

The dramatic execution in marble of his dying son, Desirée on the Natal Battlefield is symbolic.

This youth, one of many hundreds served in the Burger forces during the Second Anglo-Boer War, a fine memorial to a son who laid down his life for his country.

### **DE VOGEL J.A.**

De Vogel came to the Transvaal and married a niece of ds. A.J. Begemann. He was Landdrost of Wakkerstroom and in 1885 became Postmaster-General in Pretoria. His home stood on the site of the Residensie Hotel recently demolished in Schoeman Street, off Paul Kruger Street.

Jan Adam de Vogel with his eight year old son and a Miss Webb, a school teacher, drowned when the stage coach they were travelling in on their return to Pretoria from an inspection at Potchefstroom, overturned at Muldersdrift by a sudden flash-flood.

De Vogel gave the name to "Signal Hill" above the railway station that we today call Salvokop and Timeball Hill.

De Vogel devised a scheme of advising the locals of the valley of what mail had arrived by using signals. When the Kimberley mail arrived, he hoisted a large ball to the top of a tall mast erected for this purpose. A ball and a drum signified that the Kimberley and English mail was on hand. A cone at the top of the mast informed the people that the Natal mail was on hand.

## **DU PREEZ**

The du Preez family graves are enclosed in a section of the cemetery known as Du Preez Hoek, the name commemorating the family on whose farm, Pretoria's first burial ground was established. This burial area was near Fountains, bordered by Willows Road and the railway embankment.

Jan (Diknek) du Preez, one of Pretoria's earliest settlers lived here with his wife Maria, daughter of Andries van der Walt, who left his name to a street in the city centre.

The family cemetery was established on the western bank of the Apies stream and was also used for the burial of other inhabitants of early Pretoria. It is thought that Dr Gerard Rissik, founder of the family in the Transvaal was buried there without a tombstone. Robert Lys, pioneer Englishman is said to have been the last person to be buried there in August 1880, and we can assume that she was buried in the family plot.

It is said that the remains of those interred there were transferred to its present site after the "Boer War", this must refer to the War of 1990/81, as it is generally accepted that re-interment took place when the railway line to Lourenco Marques was being built and the graves removed from the construction of what was then, the only curved bridge in South Africa. The Western arch of the original bridge over the stream still exists, but is due to be demolished when the dual-roadway is completed.

## **ELLIOTT CAPT J.M.**

"In loving memory of Captain John Mitchell Elliott, age 37, who was killed for Queen and Country while crossing the Vaal River on 29 December 1880"

Captain Elliott was one of the survivors of the British 94<sup>th</sup> Regiment under Lt. Col. Anstruther routed at the Battle of Bronkhorstspuit on

the 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1880 while they were en route to support the beleaguered troops in Pretoria.

The survivors were marched off to Heidelberg, the Boer Capital, where some of the prisoners were released on condition that they leave the Transvaal and do not again take up arms during the struggle.

Elliott and Captain Lambert were instructed to leave for the Orange Free State and were escorted to the flooded Vaal River, where they were left to find a fording point.

Two days later still found them on the Transvaal side, when a Boer detachment approached and handed them an official letter accusing them of violating their parole and ordered them to leave immediately or return as Prisoners of War.

The officers explained that the river was running too swiftly, but the eight Boers forced them into the water. Their transport was overturned and, realising that they would be shot, if they returned, they swam for the opposite bank.

For some unexplained reason, the Boers opened fire killing Captain Elliott. Lambert with bullets spraying about him managed to reach the Orange Free State side.

He was shot on the farm Koffersfontein, Elliott's body was later found lower down the Vaal, bullets had passed through his temple, wrist and leg. He was buried by a farmer and his body was brought to Pretoria on the 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1881 and buried with full military honours.

Subsequent enquiries by the Boers during and after the war failed to unmask the culprits. It is said that the incident was revived in an episode in Rider Haggard's novel "Jess", where he placed the hero and heroine in the position of the two officers.

### **ELOFF F.C.**

Frederik Christoffel Eloff's background is vague. He married Elsie Francina, President Kruger's daughter, and settled on the north eastern portion of the farm Daspoort purchased from Marais (Les Marais) in 1896 and called it Eloff Estate which in turn gave us the name of Eloffsdal established in 1918, and Capital Park, so called because it was established in park-like surroundings amongst blue

gum plantations, north of what also became known as Eloff's Cutting at the Zoo.

Franzina gave her name to a street there and Eloff Street was named after Frikkie.

F.C. Eloff Jnr., became Paul Kruger's private secretary and accompanied him to Europe in exile. Another member of the family, Sarel, played an important part in the Second Anglo-Boer War. His name is remembered for leading an attack and capturing a section of the Mafeking defences, which he was forced to surrender, and for his unsuccessful attempt to escape from a prisoner-of-war camp on St. Helena in February, 1901. Sarel left his name to a township and railway station, "Eloff" on the East Rand, where he settled and married.

S.J.P. Eloff (Fanie), the well known sculptor, named after his grandfather, executed the 'Discus Thrower' at the Eastern sports ground and his parent's tombstone.

## **FORSSMAN**

The Forssman brothers from Sweden left their mark also in the history of the Transvaal. Oscar, the youngest brother, an engineer, came to Natal in 1884 when 22 years old. He transferred his interest to the Transvaal and by 1852 was a prominent merchant importing gunpowder and stationery material for the government.

He encouraged some of his countrymen to come to the Transvaal and they settled along the Vaal River ever since known as Scandinavian Drift. Those settlers served their adopted country well as farmers and soldiers who died almost to a man against the British Blackwatch Regiment at the Battle of Magersfontein in December 1899.

Oscar, the Portuguese Consular Representative, became wealthy and owned many farms in the Transvaal. During the Siege of Potchefstroom (1880/81) he took refuge in the open British Fort. He later settled in the Zeerust district, but spent his last years in Pretoria.

Magnus, his elder brother, came out with a party of settlers in 1864. A qualified surveyor, he was commissioned in 1865 to survey Potchefstroom and became Surveyor-General of the Republic in 1886. Under his guidance, the scattered farms were surveyed and registered. He was connected with the Eastern Border question and was honoured

for his services by being made Chevalier of the Portuguese Order of Jesus Christ.

#### **FOURIE J.J.**

Joseph Johannes (Jopie) was born on the farm Wildebeesthoek north of Pretoria and died a martyr of the 1914 Rebellion.

His grandfather was one of the original settlers in the Pretoria district.

A military man from his youth, it was he who carried the message to the Jameson Raiders, demanding their surrender. During the Second Anglo-Boer War he served on General Joubert's staff and after the occupation of Pretoria he continued to campaign and was wounded through both hips and captured when they attacked a fortified British position at Pienaars River on the 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1901.

Jopie married Susan Engelmohr in 1903 and went farming until he took up an appointment as cattle inspector in 1912. In 1914 whilst still an officer of the Union Defence Force he joined the Rebellion forces without resigning his commission and was again wounded in a fight at Rondefontein on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1914.

Fourie's detachment was attacked and overcome by a government force under command of his uncle, Col. N.J. Pretorius at Nooitgedacht on the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 1914. Fourie and his brother were charged with treason, found guilty and sentenced to death. The sentence of his brother Lt. Johannes Fourie was commuted to five years imprisonment. A petition for clemency for Jopie was turned down and he died facing a firing squad at dawn on Sunday morning, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1914.

In death he was not allowed to find rest. After the execution, he was buried in the prison cemetery, two days later he was reburied under a fictitious name in Rebecca Street Cemetery in Pretoria West and in 1915 the body was again exhumed to dispel rumours that quick-lime had been poured over his remains after the execution. On the 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1923, the 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his death the body was exhumed for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time and interred in the Old Cemetery in Church Street.

It is said that during his lifetime he had little influence in the sphere of politics, but his death made a profound and lasting impression on the South African political scene.

### **FRANKEN M.**

“Here rests Marinus Franken, born at Haamstede, Holland, 31<sup>st</sup> March 1847 died 5 June 1901”

is the legend on his tombstone.

Very little is known about Franken besides the fact that he designed the second Church (often referred to as Franken’s Church) on Church Square that was built by Van der Veen.

There was a Franken boarding house recorded in 1880 and Franken’s building in 1893. If those were called after him or his family, if he had any, is not known.

### **GODDEFROY M.J.**

Marinus Joseph, Minister of the Nederduits Hervormde Kerk, born in Brussels in 1848; he was invited to South Africa and came out in 1887.

He lost 2 sons during the war of 1900 – 1902 and he was exiled to India. After his return to the Transvaal he accepted a call to Middelburg.

He died in August 1920.

### **GRAY REV. JAMES**

James Gray was born in 1852, ordained in 1878 and for health reasons left his native Scotland and settled in Harrismith, Orange Free State in 1883 where he established a Presbyterian Church. He married Mary Williams Tyler, daughter of a missionary.

A dedicated man, he took the Word to the Barberton Gold fields and started a congregation in Johannesburg in May 1887 with a sermon in the yet uncompleted heights Hotel. He founded St. George’s Church there and stayed until 1889 when he accepted a call from Pretoria where he built up a strong Congregation.

Rev. Gray served the Capital well for 20 years. President Kruger laid the foundation stone of the St. Andre’s Church in Schoeman Street, a year after his arrival. With the assistance of Mr Fred Nicholson, they

were instrumental in establishing the State Library by collecting R1 400. He took a prominent part in the political and public life of the city.

He left Pretoria during the Second Anglo-Boer War and served as Chaplain to the Scots Fusiliers under General Buller's command. After the fall of Pretoria he became Librarian and Chaplain to the local military hospitals.

In 1909, he answered a call from Trinity Church and transferred himself to Grahamstown where he laboured for eleven years. He established the Rhodesian Congregation and finally settled down in Johannesburg with the Clifton Congregation.

After 50 years service, he retired at the age of 76. he died in his Kensington home in November 1938 age 86; his wife Mary died in 1946; Rev Gray and his wife and two children are buried in a family plot.

One of his daughters, Marian, age 15 died in New York and his son, Allan, age 19 was reported missing when flying over the Western Front in August 1917.

### **GUNNING J.W.B.**

Jan Willem Bowdewyn, M.D., First Director of the Transvaal Museum and Zoological Gardens, born at Hilversum, Holland on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1860. He married twice. His first wife (1884) was Susanna Neethling of Stellenbosch who died in 18809; his second wife was Ellen Dobben of Bethulie who he married six months later.

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 school room in 1874.

"Het Staats Museum" was founded in 1892 under the Chairmanship of Dr N. Mansvelt, Superintendent of Education who laid the foundation stone of the Museum in Boom Street.

The Zoological Gardens started in a small way in a yard at the back of the old Market Hall, the animals were transferred to the "Rus-en-Urbe" property adjoining the museum.

Gunning died on 23 June 1913, his mother-in-law, Mrs Dobbins is buried near his grave. His wife, Ellen, died in Durban in 1942 and was cremated there.

A memorial plaque is to be found on a seat in the main avenue of the Zoo.

### **HAAK B.J.**

Bernadus Johannes Haak came to South Africa as a ganger in the service of the N.Z.A.S.M., which was constructing the railway line to Delagoa Bay. He became assistant station master and was transferred to different stations, finally becoming Station Master of Koedoespoort in 1898, the year that his eldest son, Albert arrived to take up a position as fitter and turner on the railways. B.J.'s wife and children arrived a month before war (1899) was declared.

During the war, father and son established a cycle repair shop, by 1909 they had extended the business and were agents for importing the first Reo motor cars into Pretoria.

B.J., the founder of the well known Haaks Garage died in 1923.

A street in Waltloo Industrial Township, east of Pretoria near the original Koedoespoort station site was named to his honour by the City Council in 1973.

### **HANDCOCK P. and MORANT H.M.**

To the memory of .... 27 February 1902.. He that loseth his life shall find it – is the legend on the tombstone erected by friends.

Two Australians who died on the same day during the Second Anglo-Boer War and buried in one grave – unusual? Yes. What the TOMBSTONE does not tell, is that they were Lieutenants in the Volunteer Bu Carbineers who were executed by a British firing squad for murder.

The corps was raised for scouting and raiding cattle of the commandos operating in the north-eastern area of the Transvaal. The men lacked discipline, drunkenness was the order of the day or night as some writers described them. Unofficial records maintain that they murdered more than 25 surrendered prisoners of war and natives.

The Rev. Hesse, a German Missionary, saw the bodies and was murdered on his way to report the matter at Pietersburg. A Boer trooper in the Corps who witnessed the first murders and threatened to take action was brutally murdered by Lt. Handcock.

Many of the soldiers objected to their actions but remained silent for fear of receiving the same treatment. No man left camp alone or without their loaded rifles at hand.

Word of their cruel deeds leaked out and at a Court Martial, the commanding officers were cleared of the charges, the main culprits were found guilty and faced a firing squad at dawn on the 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1902.

### **HEATHER EDWARD GEORGE BAKER**

Born in Queenstown, C.P. in 1864. As a youngster he went to Kimberley and in 1875 was living in Pretoria. Heather at the age of 16 served with the Pretoria Carbineers under Captain D'Arcy during the Siege of Pretoria 1880-81 and was wounded when Commandant Botha's laager was attacked at Swartkoppies on the Pienaars River.

On termination of hostilities, he launched out in business as merchant and a bakery.

In 1906, Heather entered public life and served Pretoria with men such as Eddie (E.Y.) Bourke and C.M. de Vries.

### **HEROES ACRE**

Is a misnomer of the Afrikaans version "Helde-akker". A petition by H.P.A. Pretorius and J.G. Fourie to investigate the possibility of the re-internment of famous Republican persons in one spot of the local cemetery was successful and General P.J. Joubert was instructed to investigate and obtain permission for the re burial of such persons.

It would seem that the original intention was to have war heroes buried in this acre, but through the years whilst maintaining the name "held-Helde" has now been accepted to be one who had led his country in a different field, that of politics, and is now exclusively used for heads of state.

General Andries Pretorius was the first hero of the Acre when he was re buried with full military honours on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1891.

General Andries W.J. Pretorius, Voortrekker leader after whom Pretoria was named was in command of the Boers who defeated the Zulu forces on the banks of the Ncome Spruit, when some 3 000 Zulu warriors were killed. The stream ran red with the blood of the slain, and from that day (16<sup>th</sup> December 1838) the waterway was called Blood River.

Pretorius trekked to Pretoria in 1847, settling on the farm Grootplaats in the Magalies River Valley. His first wife died at Warmbaths (Tvl) while he was besieging Bloemfontein in May 1848. In 1852 he signs the Sand River Convention giving independence to the settlers north of the Vaal River. He died on his farm on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1853.

General A.H. (Hendrik) Potgieter, another Voortrekker leader who lent his name to Potgieter Street in Pretoria and to Potchefstroom in the Western Transvaal, left the Cape in 1835, he was in command of the Vechtkop laager in 1836 and broke Mzilikatzi's power when the Chief was routed from the Transvaal in November 1837.

He founded Mooiriviersdorp which when re established higher up the river adopted the name Potchefstroom. In 1845 he trekked eastwards and established the town of Andries-Ohrigstad nearer Delagoa Bay which he visited in 1843.

A restless pioneer, adverse to controls, he led his followers northwards to the Zoutpansberg where he died on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 1852. The dorpie brought to life by him later adopted the name Schoemansdal.

General Piet Joubert's wish to have this Voortrekker hero's remains re-interred in Pretoria was not to be. The memorial to his honour was erected on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 1895.

Thomas Francois Burgers, President from 1872 until the Annexation of the Transvaal in 1877 was bitterly disappointed at the political events and settled in Hanover, C.P., where he died on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 1881. It is said that his deathbed wish was to be buried at the entrance to his sheep kraal so that all trace of himself can be trampled into oblivion. He was first buried at Richmond C.P., then re-interred in 1888 on his farm Zoetvlei. His remains were brought to Pretoria and re buried on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 1895. His wife Mary, was buried with him on the 29<sup>th</sup> April, 1929.

### **HEYS G.J.**

George Jesse Heys, born in Durban 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 started a stage coach service.

His later home, the palatial Melrose House opposite Burgers Park was the residence of Lord Roberts and used as British Headquarters during the War of 1900/02 where the Treaty of Vereeniging was signed on the night of 31<sup>st</sup> May 1902.

The house with 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 a former State President, Mr C.R. (Blackie) Swart.

Sunnyside Methodist Church Hall known as the Heys Memorial Hall was erected from funds donated by Mr Heys to commemorate the memory of his wife, Janey. The seldom heard City Hall carillon was donated by him in 1934.

Whilst on a visit to his daughter in England in 1939, Heys took ill and died. His body was returned to Pretoria to be laid to rest beside his wife who died in 1929 and his young daughter, Daphne.

### **HOLLARD W.E.**

William Emil Hollard, born in Danzig, Germany in 1836, died in 1906.

Hollard it seems was not 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 a hotel in Ladysmith or district, ultimately settling in Pretoria as a Law Agent and afterwards an 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 on ground belonging to him and built Height's Hotel, the first modern hotel in the Golden City.

Hollard House, Emil's home stood on the corner of Andries and Jacob Mare Streets, it was a treasure house of art. Much of the contents was purchased by the Transvaal Provincial Administration and incorporated into the Provincial Building.

His name lives on in Pretoria in the name of Hollard Place, a block of flats in Jacob Mare Street near the site of his old residence.

## HOVE

The history of this family begins with a mystery. Was the name perhaps Von dem Hovek Von den Hoven, Van den Hove, Hovey or Hove? Those are the names found jotted over the various maps and publications of Old Pretoria.

The name is associated with a family who had a water mill and home on both sides of the Apies River Drift at the Northern extension of Prinsloo Street leading to the hospital.

In early recordings we find that Mr Von dem Howe occupied Prinsloo's house and owned a watermill there; Mr H. was on the Pretoria Municipal Board in 1877; Von den Hoven's watermill in the 1870's; Von den Hoven lived at Prinzhof.

Hove's mill stood where the Roma Bakery now is; Hoves Drift bridge on the way to the hospital was built in 1920; ground originally owned by Mr Hovey; T. Hove's ground on the way to Nylstroom.

The Hove family also owned ground above the Apies River west of Von Wielligh Street against the hill above Marabastad, and had another mill on the river below.

The area between Boom Street, Beatrix Street and towards the hospital was a White squatter camp that came into existence after the war of 1899 – 1902, and until it was demolished in 1910 was known as Donkey Camp with its own graveyard where the nurses training college now stands.

## **JACK J.**

John Jack, born on the farm Germiston near Glasgow, Scotland. He arrived in South Africa in 1880 and obtained employment with the firm Randle Bros. & Hudson. Jack spent some time in Harrismith where he met August Simmer, a German, with whom he went into a business partnership. Jack controlled their interests from Lake Chrissie in the Eastern Transvaal.

He did gold prospecting in the Eastern Transvaal and by 1885 had half a share in the farm Elandsfontein on the Witwatersrand. When gold was discovered there a year later, he pegged off some 250 claims and the partnership established the Simmer and Jack Gold Mining Company; a township laid out near the mine was called Germiston after his birth place.

In 1889 August Simmer, it is said, persuaded Jack to sell their interest in the mine, which he did, and returned to Scotland where he married, and for some years travelled the world. He returned to South Africa and in 1909 took over the business of E. Bourke on the corner of Church and Van der Walt Streets and the branch office in Church Street west of the Square and traded under the name John Jack. He retired in 1933.

Jack died of Malta fever at the age of 83 and is buried beside his wife and only son.

## **JANSEN E.G.**

Ernest George Jansen, Governor-General of South Africa (1951-1959); born in the Dundee district in 1881; he practised as an attorney in Pietermaritzburg. Jansen entered politics in 1915 becoming a Member of Parliament for Vryheid which he represented for 22 years.

Advocate Jansen was South Africa's first Afrikaans speaking Governor-General and the first Governor-General to die in office.

He was a cultural leader, a champion of Afrikaans in Natal; Chairman of the organising committee responsible for the Voortrekker monument celebrations when the foundation stone was laid and through his efforts, the Church of the Vow in Pietermaritzburg was preserved.

His wife, Martha was a grand-daughter of Jean Pellisier, a French missionary, who founded Bethulie in the Orange Free State.

## **JEPPE FAMILY**

Fred and Julius, two brothers who left their marks on the maps and history of Pretoria and the Transvaal.

The Jeppe's were born in Rostock, Germany. Fred born in 1834 immigrated to South Africa in 1861 to join his brother Herman at Potchefstroom, Julius came out in 1870.

Fred settled for a time in Rustenburg, Transvaal where he married Susanna Truter, daughter of a loyal burger, his son was killed at Spioenkop in January 1900.

Fred was appointed Post Master General in Potchefstroom in 1868; he introduced mail-carts and postage stamps which he designed and had printed in Germany in 1869. The Jeppe Almanack's of the Old Transvaal was also his brain child, the first issue was printed in 1870. he became Treasurer-General of the Republic and retired as Post Master General in 1875.

Fred Jeppe's first map of the Transvaal was based on that of Carl Mauch and was one of many to follow. He died in 1898.

Julius belongs more to the history of Johannesburg. He saw service in the Sekhukhuni War and served with the Boers during the struggle of 1880/81. He later pegged claims on the "Randt" and left his name to Jeppe's Town and Jeppe Street in Johannesburg. His name is also found in Pretoria, in the suburb where a family member lived, Waterkloof, a township established by his company. He was instrumental in establishing the country club in that area.

## **JOLIVET CELINE**

In 1870 President M.W. Pretorius presented the Catholic Community with an erf in Blood Street for the erection of a church. This property was later exchanged for ground where the Cathedral and Loreto Convent now stands in Skinner Street.

Bishop Charles Jolivet, (a street in Groenkloof was named after him) came from Natal and celebrated the first Mass in the town on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 1877 when he informed a small congregation that he had invited his sister, a nun of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary to start a convent in the town.

Celine Jolivet, known as Mother Margaret Mary, with four assistants arrived in May 1878 taking up residence in a few rooms. By 1880 substantial buildings were already erected.

With the outbreak of the First Anglo-Boer War in 1880, the boarders of the school were sent home and the buildings and grounds were taken over by the military and converted into what became known as the Convent Laager.

Mother Margaret Mary, age 35 died during the Siege of Pretoria on the 15<sup>th</sup> January, 1881 of typhoid fever and was buried in the Convent grounds. The funeral was attended by the Camp Commander-in-Chief and other dignitaries.

With school extensions taking up more ground, her remains were exhumed and transferred to the Loreto Circle in the cemetery.

### **JUTA C.J.**

Coenraad Jacobus Juta came to the Transvaal to open the town's first bookshop, a branch of his famous father's Cape Town business, who was the founder of a publishing company still bearing the family name.

Books and stationery in the small Pretoria dorp was being sold as extras by practically every other shop and Coenraad was compelled to expand the business by selling cigars, cigarettes and homeopathic medicines.

His daughter married R.K. Loveday, and he lies buried in the Loveday family plot.

### **KAY J.A.**

Dr. James Alexander, born Plymouth, England in 1849. Serving on a whaling boat he 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 where he married and returned to Pretoria with his new wife and opened a private practise.

In 1899 when war clouds were gathering over Pretoria, Dr. Kay left hurriedly, being suspected of being a British spy; he joined the medical

team tending the inmates of beleaguered Ladysmith, returning once again to Pretoria, where for some time he acted as War Correspondent for overseas papers.

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

Adjoining Dr. Kay's grave is that of Major-General William Ashburner, of the Bombay Lancers, his father-in-law.

### **KRUGER S.J.P.**

President Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger. It is generally accepted that he was born on the farm Bulhoek in the Cradock district. Even the date of his birth, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 1825 is in dispute.

The Kruger family joined the Potgieter Trek northwards and as a youngster took part in the Battle of Vegkop in 1836. Kruger shared the hardships of the Voortrekker pioneers. The family crossed the Vaal River in 1838 and he settled on the farm Boekenhoutfontein, one of his grant-farms in the Rustenburg district.

Kruger's first wife died in childbirth in 1846 and a year later he married Gezina, his late wife's cousin, who bore him sixteen children.

Paul was a great and fearless hunter. A Field-cornet in 1851; he took part in all the Kaffir Wars. A panel on the base of his statue on Church Square depicts the heroic deed of bringing out the body of Piet Potgieter who was shot at the mouth of Makansgat. Kruger also took a leading part in the Civil War of 1863.

The Annexation of the Transvaal was never accepted by the Burgers and with ex-President Pretorius and General Piet Joubert, they formed a triumvirate to take over the reigns from the British and lead the Boer forces in the First Anglo-Boer War of 1880-81.

Kruger was elected President for the first time in 1882 and served in that capacity until he went into exile in 1900. After travelling the continent in the Boer cause, he finally settled at Clarens on Lake Geneva where he died on the 14<sup>th</sup> July, 1904.

His body was embalmed and temporarily laid to rest in the Eik-an-Duinen cemetery at the Hague while arrangements were being made

for its return to Pretoria, which took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 1904, when he was buried beside his wife who predeceased him.

Paul Kruger Street in the city centre bears his name and Gezina Township that of his late wife.

### **LEYDS W.J.R.**

Son of Willem Johannes Leyds, State Attorney and State Secretary who was invited to the Republic in 1884 by President Kruger and served his adopted country well. He lived in Prinsloo Street and was the prime mover in the establishment of the museum and the zoological gardens.

He returned to Europe in 1897 as the Republic's Ambassador and died in Den Haag on 14 May, 1940.

His infant son of ten months buried here, bears his name and Roelf represents his mother's maiden name.

A street in Pretoria was named after him and Leyds street in Johannesburg was also called after him.

A bust of Dr. W.J. Leyds at the University of Pretoria was unveiled by Prof. S.P. Engelbrecht in 1959.

### **LOVEDAY R.K.**

Richard Kelsey Loveday, born Natal 1854, came to Pretoria in 1872 and worked as a civil servant. During the Siege of Pretoria (1900/01) he was a Captain of the Volunteers at "Convent Laager". A daughter was born at that time and was christened Celine, after the Mother Superior, who died a few weeks before her birth.

Loveday took great interest in the preservation of wild life and played a responsible part in the formation of the Sabie Game Reserve, the forerunner of the present Kruger National Park.

The family burial plot includes his wife, Augusta Juta, and her father J.C. Juta.

Loveday Street in Pretoria and Johannesburg was called after him.

## **LYS J.R.**

John Robert Lys, one of the first English speaking people to settle in the Transvaal, was the story told on his tombstone, broken by vandals some years ago.

Descended from Huguenot stock which went to Britain, he came to South Africa in 1850, first working in Cape Town, then farmed near Harrismith and in the year of Pretoria's founding, purchased a portion of the farm Daspoort and lived in Pretoria for the rest of his life.

He established a trading business and built a home on the present site of the Standard Bank on Church Square, he later erected the first iron-roofed building where Tudor Building now stands.

Robert, the "Squire", of Pretoria never cut his home ties. Each year on Queen Victoria's birthday, the Union Jack was raised and a small ship's canon fired a salute. The habit never faded. When he became a Member of the Volksraad (the first English speaking member), the Raad adjourned in the afternoon, marched across the street to his home, and toasted the Queen.

Lys can lay claim to being the founder of the Anglican Community in Pretoria. His home was used for weekly services and with the assistance of Albert Brodrick and Rous, collected funds for the erection of the first St. Alban's Church in Church Street where the later Langhams Hotel stood.

Lys tried his hand in mining ventures but failed to exploit the find of the "pudding-stone" (banket) – the gold-bearing ore of the main reef which he found when his wagon got stuck in a vlei ever since referred to as the Lysvlei near where the later Knights Deep Gold Mine was established near Germiston.

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

Lys Street in Rietondale, commemorates his name.

## **MC CORKINDALE**

Mary-Ann, "There is life to come", died age 72 years erected by her niece. Here ends an episode in the history of the Old Republic. The commemorative inscription to her husband reminds one of Alexander

Mc Corkindale of New Scotland (Eastern Transvaal) who died on the Island of Inyack, Delagoa Bay, age 54 years.

Alexander Mc Corkindale, a hunter, was in the Transvaal in the early 1850's, a friend of President Pretorius, he undertook to promote an immigration scheme to settle people on Government ground which he called New Scotland, to start a bank, to provide postage stamps and to open a trade route to the Eastern Bay.

Some 70 families settled around its Eastern Transvaal capital town, Roburnia (after the poet Robbie Burns).

The contract was cancelled by the Government in 1871 and he died soon after of malaria on the Island of Inhack near Lourenco Marques.

Mc Corkindale christened Lake Chrissie (Chrissiemeer), after President M.W. Pretorius's daughter.

President Kruger, it is said, thought that the name Roburnia sounded too outlandish and had it changed to Amsterdam, commemorating the birth place of Eduard Bok, the State Secretary after whom Boksburg o the East Rand was also called.

## **MARAIS FAMILY**

Jan Christian Nielen Marais with his wife Sophia from Stellenbosch, purchased a portion of the farm Daspoort in 1858 and called it "Les Marais" –the place of the Marais. His brother, Pieter (P.J.) who established the Nigel Gold Mine on the East Rand also lived at Les Marais, Rupert, Pieter's son lent his name to Rupert Street in Brooklyn, whilst another son and his wife gave their names to Charles and May Streets in the same township.

Eugene Nielen Marais, was the seventh child of Jan and Sophia. He had a varied career, but will always be remembered for his poetry and the part played in upholding Afrikaner culture in the Transvaal Republic.

Eugene acted as mediator between the Johannesburg Reform Committee and the Government and was on commando against Jameson, who he escorted to Pretoria after his surrender. He went to England in 1896 where he studied law and upheld his country's cause during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anglo-Boer War.

On his return to Pretoria he restarted his newspaper Land en Volk, which he sold in 1905 and practised as an advocate, later taking up the post of Resident Justice of the Peace for the Waterberg district.

Marais became addicted to drugs from an early age and by 1936 it became too much for him. On the night of 29<sup>th</sup> March, he borrowed Preller's shotgun saying he was going rabbit hunting, but took his own life.

He was buried beside his wife, Aletta Beyers, who died nine days after the birth of their first child, a year after their wedding.

### **MARAIS MELT**

Son of J.C.N. Marais, born Stellenbosch, C.P. in 1860; came to Pretoria in 1868 and farmed at Les Marais. In 1868 he worked for Messrs. Field and Hofmann, General Dealers on the site now occupied by Tudor building, on the corner of Church Square and Church Street.

In 1865 he commenced his own business as General Agent and Broker; Melt was Field-cornet of Pretoria for 15 years; he married Maria, daughter of J.M. Boshoff, Treasurer-General of the Transvaal. He was in command of the cavalry and infantry volunteers serving in the various wars with tribes in the Northern Transvaal. He was in command of the Pretoria Burgers during the Second Anglo-Boer War.

### **MARÉ D.S.**

Dietlof Siegfried Maré lies buried with his two brothers who died within five days of each other in 1918.

Dietlof Street in Danville was named after him. He was born in Pretoria on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1885 and spent his youth in Wellington, C.P.

Dietlof was in the rugby team against the visiting All Blacks in 1903. In 1906 he toured England and France in Springbok Colours.

He was a member of a Pretoria firm of Attorney's. He died in Piet Retief in October 1913 at the age of 28 years.

### **MEINTJES PLOT**

Stephanus Jacobus Meintjes came from Graaff-Reinett and in 1865 purchased Du Toits farm Arcadia, erecting a mill on the north-western

banks of the Apies River near the corner of Edward Street (named after his son).

Meintjes played a prominent role in many spheres of Pretoria's history. He was on the botanical gardens committee, a ward master during the Siege of Pretoria (1880-81); he practised as an advocate from 1877. Meintjes laid out the original Arcadia township (referred to as Old Arcadia on present maps), between Du Toit Street and Beatrix Street, the last named after his grand-daughter. The hill on which Herbert Baker's majestic Union Building stands, took his name, Meintjeskop.

E.P.A. (Eddie) a son, inherited the family riches, and he moved from the old family homestead in Church Street to a new house built in Beatrix Street. His daughter records that he was a bit of a speculator, sometimes well off, but fortune turned her face on some of his investments and he was compelled to sell off portions of the property below Meintjeskop, and had to relinquish his lease on the farm which later was to hold the world-re-known Onderstepoort Laboratories.

Eddie Meintjes built another family home at the base of Meintjeskop, today known as 595 Vermeulen Street, at the junction with Zeederberg Street (previously Nel Street) which he called "Vrede" – when it was built, or why it was so called is not known.

Eddie married twice; his second wife's maiden name "Ayton" was lent to a street in Clydesdale township adjoining the eastern boundary of Loftus Versfeld Rugby Stadium. It has also been suggested that Clydesdale was a personal name connected with the Ayton family.

## **MOGG**

Mogg's ground was an area adjoining Villieria and recalls the name of Joseph Mogg, who was one of 9 registered owners of portions of the farm Rietfontein in 1900; he lived there until 1912.

Mogg came from Pietermaritzburg to open the first Commercial Bank in Pretoria in 1886. In 1912 his occupation was given as "owner", General Agent, with offices at 22 Bureau Lane.

## **MOODIE**

Benjamin William; In loving memory of eldest and beloved son of Donald and Helen Moodie of Groot Vadersbosch, Swellendam, who died fighting bravely in his country's cause – from Officers and Men of G. Squadron Roberts Horse, 16 June 1900.

A member of a distinguished South African family of 1820 stock. Lt. Donald Moodie of Melsetter became a historian. George Pigot Moodie, his son, was a surveyor and gold mining pioneer in the Transvaal, Moodies Reef, better known as Moodies Concession at Barberton bears his name. Thomas Moodie settled in the Orange Free State and in 1892 led a party including their families in a wagon trek to settle in the then Rhodesia where his cousin Dunbar Moodie preceded him with the original pioneers. The area was called Melsetter after their ancestral home.

### **NELLMAPIUS A.H.**

Alois Hugo Nellmapius, born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1847. He came to the Transvaal when he was 25 years of age and after spending some time on the Barberton Goldfields he obtained the first of many concessions; the opening up of a safe route through the tetsy fly area to Delagoa Bay, which he did, and the name "Nellmapius Road" recalls that period.

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, he sold to Lippert.

The Count, as he was called by the Diggers, then obtained a concession for the manufacture of jam and distilling of liquor as well as fruit canning; with financial backing from another of President Kruger's close friends, Mr Samuel Marks, they established the Hatherley Distillery which when opened by the President was called "Eerstefabrieken".

Nellmapius established and owned 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 Irene Estate after his daughter who died in a motor car accident in Potgietersrus in 1961.

His wife, Johanna Hofman is buried with him.

### **ODÉ G.A.**

Gabriel Adolf, a teacher after whom Odé Street in Villieria was named, born in 1856, he came to the Transvaal Republic from Schiedam,

Netherlands in 1890. A year later he became acting Secretary of Education and in 1894 became the Republic's first official historian.

His greatest contribution to the preservation of our past was his recorded interviews with the few remaining original Voortrekkers north of the Vaal River which are safely housed in the State Archives.

Due to dissension between him and the authorities, his services was terminated in 1895. His health failed and he died two years later. His wife and children returned to their homeland.

## **O'NEIL**

In loving memory of Anne O'Neil (Neé Madden) beloved wife of Richardt Charles O'Neil of Rietvlei, near Belfast, District Lydenburg.

Richard was born in Smithfield, Orange Free State in 1850, son of John O'Neil who named his Natal farm Belfast after their ancestral home. "Béal Feirste – mouth of the sandy ford," he also owned Mount Prospect farm which he gave to his son Richard on which stood Stonewall cottage at the foot of Majuba mountain where the Boer forces overwhelmed the British during the First Anglo-Boer-War of 1880/81 and in the cottage which adopted the name O'Neil's cottage, the peace treaty was signed. Anne, his first wife died in Pretoria in July 1891, his second wife was Hester Susanna Scheepers.

When "Gert" as the Transvaler's called him, crossed the Vaal River, is not known; but by 1890 he had already settled in the Eastern Transvaal where he owned farms. He had a trading store on his own farm Tweefontein across which the main wagon road to the East ran and on which he had the town Belfast laid out.

## **PEREIRA BRAS**

Bras Piedade de Pereira was a trader in Oudedorp, (Schoemansdal) in the 1850's, 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 which originated on the property was situated on the north-eastern corner of Markd (Market, now Paul Kruger) and Skinner Streets. His homestead it was said, had a fence, or was enclosed with criss-crossed elephant tusks.

## **PIERNEEF J.H.**

Jacob Hendrik (Henk) Pierneef was born in a humble homestead now forming part of the Zoological Gardens complex.

Henk, artist and painter, loved his Pretoria and left treasures of the past in woodcuts and sketches of houses in Old Pretoria.

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

His first exhibition was in Pretoria in 1913. He took up a post as Art lecturer at the Normal College and from 1924 did painting 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 he called "Elangeni" – from the Zulu, meaning "Where the sun shines in" – dawn the beauty of light.

"Oom Henk", as he was affectionately known, designed the Crest of the Old Pretoria Society.

## **POYNTON J.C.**

The Poynton family were Byrne Settlers who arrived in Natal in 1849. James Calvert Poynton, was born in Durban in 1869 and came to the Rand in 1887, a year later he went to Barberton, finally settling in Pretoria in 1889.

James married a Miss Simpson and lived in old Natal Villa on the southern-end of Andries and Visagie Street, later occupied by George Heys before he built Melrose House.

Poynton established an agricultural machinery in Pretoria in 1890 between the block bordered by Queen and Van der Walt Streets, opposite the old Beckett's Building, and the then OK Bazaar, this establishment later became known as Haaroff's and he transferred his

operation to premises west of the Square on which the first Poynton Building was erected in the 1950's. This building was purchased in 1964 for extensions to the Provincial Building.

Poynton became a large land and property owner. The new Poynton Centre in Church Street was erected on Poynton property. He was a member of the Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce and the Agricultural Society.

### **PRELLER J.C.**

Johan Carel Preller was the owner of Harmony Estate situated along the banks of the Apies River in Sunnyside near the old N.Z.A.S.M. Railway line, from where the street name and the name of his gold venture in the Northern Transvaal derived from.

Preller began his life as an auctioneer, he later traded with "Lang" Piet Marais, who established the Nigel Gold Mine on the East Rand and who called his home in Pretorius Street "Nigel House'. In 1868 he was acting state attorney and in 1877 was a registered advocate and public notary with offices on Church Square in Alexandria Buildings later Mortgage Building, now Barclays Building.

Preller was offered a Judgeship by President Burgers, but declined, he was elected Pretoria's first mayor in 1880, a position never filled, because of the outbreak of the First-Anglo-Boer-War. He was a member of the botanical gardens committee and donated the first flower and tree seed used therein; he served on the cemetery committee.

### **PRETORIUS H.P.N.**

Henning Petrus Nicolaas, nephew of General Andries Pretorius, born in Pietermaritzburg. The family crossed the Vaal River with the earliest Trekkers. He was Commandant of the State (Transvaal) Artillery and responsible for the erection of the forts around Pretoria.

Henning was a Field-cornet during the Sekhukhuni War and during the Siege of Pretoria commandant of the lager at Elandsfontein on the Hennops River, west of Pretoria which repulsed a strong British force on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 1881, being wounded twice in the skirmish.

H.P.N. was appointed Commandant of the Transvaal Artillery Corps in 1882, and he took part in all the tribal wars. He was promoted to Lt.

Col. And recommended the erection of the artillery barracks in Potgieter Street south of the railway line. His officers were trained overseas and they founded the first (S.A.) permanent force. As founder of the elite corps, Pretorius deserved the title, "Father of the Staatsartillery".

He died in Albany, Cape Province district, in January 1897 while searching for the beam from which the Slagtersnek revoltors were hanged.

J.L. (Lood) Pretorius, his son, was also a renown artillery officer whose name goes down in history as "skote Pretorius".

### **PRINCE CHRISTIAN**

With a rat-a-tat-tat of black-draped drums and the sad funeral dirge of a military band, Pretorians witnessed the burial of Queen Victoria's grandson, Prince Christian.

Prince Christian Victor of Schleswic Holstein, as did thousands of his fellow comrades, died of typhoid fever, prevalent throughout the Orange Free State and Transvaal during the Second-Anglo-Boer War. The Prince died at the Imperial Yeomanry Hospital established in Mr Tom (W) Beckett's residence and property "Merton Keep" in Arcadia, which now houses the French Embassy.

The Prince was born on 14<sup>th</sup> 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 the commander-in-chief of British Forces in South Africa, who died saving the guns at Colenso.

In Pretoria in August 1900, he was appointed to Lord Roberts' staff and a few weeks later was stricken with fever; he died after a relapse on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1900.

Military headquarters made arrangements to have his body sent back to England, but his wish was that if he was to die, that he be buried amongst his comrades. His last wish was honoured.

Princess Christian, his mother, visited the grave in 1904, a sprig of Myrtle on his grave, which is still to be found in many gardens of Pretoria, and an oak sapling in the open ground opposite then called

the 'Volkspark' but since then called Prince's Park as well as the street adjoining it ..

During her stay, the Princess laid the foundation stone of the old age home adjoining the cemetery, to which she donated, the property was later purchased by the City Council and a new old age home was erected in New Muckleneuk, the original foundation stone was transferred there and the home still bears her name, the "Princess Christian Old Age Home".

### **PROES B.C.E.**

Bernard Cornelius Ernest, born in Holland, 1831. He studied law and came to Pretoria in 1859 when he was appointed First State Attorney. During the Civil War he acted as Volksraad Secretary but released from his duty by Kruger in 1862. In 1866 he practised as an advocate in Potchefstroom.

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

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

Proes and President Pretorius resigned because of the Keate Award (boundary question with the Cape, 1871) and he died on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1872.

### **REDPATH G.A.**

George Augustine Redpath came to South Africa in 1862 spending some time in Natal and on the Diamond Fields. In 1872, he had a business in Heidelberg (Tvl) and after that we find that he became an auctioneer.

He saw military service in the Sekhukhuni War of 1876. In 1883 he was auctioneer and market master in Barberton; from there he went to Johannesburg and finally settled in Pretoria in 1897.

It appears he was connected with the vendors of Silverton township, where a street was named after him. This street name was changed to Van Riebeeck Street during the celebration of the ter-centenary of 1952, the name was again changed when the area was incorporated

into the "Greater Pretoria Scheme" and became Dykor Street, the City Council re-instated his name in a street in the township in 1976.

Redpath's wife, Emma, died in August 1902 and is buried with other Redpath family members in what was once a family plot.

## **RISSIK FAMILY**

The Physician-surgeon, Dr Gerrit Hendrik Rissik of Dordrecht, Holland, was persuaded by President T.F. Burgers to emigrate to the Republic and set up a practise and be his personal consultant Dr Rissik died shortly after the Siege of Pretoria and his grave, thought to have been in the Old private burial grounds in du Preezhoek had never been discovered. His widow returned to Holland whilst some of their children remained to leave their names in South African History.

The name of Johann (Friedrich Bernhard), second son of the doctor, came to South Africa with his parents when he was 19years old. He was the best known of the Rissik family.

After qualifying as a surveyor, Johann, joined the government service in 1882 and by 1895, became surveyor-general of the Republic. As principal-clerk he assisted C.J. Joubert, the Mining department head, draw up a report on the public diggings on the Witwatersrand, district Heidelberg, under the charge of Field-cornet Johannes Meyer of Klipriviersdorp.

The town of Johannesburg was established, and is generally thought that the new town was called after him, or after the three "Johannes's", the President, the Mining Commissioner and himself.

Johann became the first Administrator of the Transvaal after Union; he resigned seven years later to take up the position as Commissioner of Railways and Harbours.

Rissik and his business partners bought 'Travenna' Estate and laid out portion of today's greater Sunnyside. His own estate in Park Street was laid out as "Linschoten", recalling their ancestral Home. Minnie Street (a miss-spelling) recalls the name of his wife Wilhelmona (Mimmie) after the Queen of the Netherlands.

Johann Rissik Drive, Rissik Street and Station, Johann Street, Rissik House at Boys' High School in Pretoria were named after him. Rissik

Street in Johannesburg, Heidelberg, Balfour, Louis Trichard, Krugersdorp and Pietersburg, also honours his name.

### **SANCTUARY CAPTAIN H.**

Capt. Henry Sanctuary, of the Pretoria Carbineers died from wounds received leading an attack on Rooihuiskraal on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 1881.

It is stated: - "The Carbineers, under Capt. Sanctuary, were ordered to advance and occupy a large stone kraal about 1000 yards to the south of the Red House Kraal farm. Riding boldly up to it, they were met by a very heavy fire from Boers concealed behind the walls. The guns then advanced and shelled the kraal, but the left flank of the Carbineers was turned by the enemy and in spite of the heroic efforts of their brave Captain, who was dangerously wounded, they had to retire."

In Lady Bellairs book *The Transvaal War*, A list of the British soldiers who died during the Siege is given on page 489, there were: - N Batt., 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade, R.A. : Q/Master Sergt. W. Briery. 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt., 21<sup>st</sup> R.S. Fusiliers: Col-Sergt G. Finch: Lance-Corp., T. Cowie, Prts. Charles Byrne, R. Fynn, E. King, E. Thomas, W. Humphreys, Pretoria Carbineers., Capt Henry Sanctuary, Sergt.-Major Thomas Simpson and Troopers J. Charmbury, A.J. Cogan, W. Dickens, W. Erasmus\* , E.A. Gribbon, C.S. Hawes: Nourse's Horse, Trooper James Long.

\* possibly D. Erasmus wounded at Rooihuiskraal who died some days later.

### **SAVAGE DR. S. RADFORD**

Born at Rondebosch 1863; married Mary Bousfield, daughter of the First Bishop of Pretoria. He was Medical Officer to the Cape Government Railways in 1889; he spent some time in the Orange Free State, finally opening a practise in Pretoria in 1902.

He was mayor of Pretoria 1907 – 1908.

Streets in Pretoria that bore his name had seen variations. 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 re-named 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 bore the name Riviera Road. After the erection of the home for war orphans opposite the hospital, it received the name Louis Botha, this section was again changed to commemorate Dr. Savage.

### **SCHOEMAN H.J.**

Boer War General and member of the old Z.A.R. Volksraad. A son of the Voortrekker Commandant-General Stephanus Schoeman, who left his name to the 'Oude-dorp'-Schoemansdal in the Zoutpansberg near Louis Trichardt, and who later settled on his Pretoria Estate, "Klein Schoemansdal", which is today the site of the museum in Boom Street.

Hendrik Schoeman lived and farmed at Rietfontein (our present suburb of that name), and from 1868 went westwards to farm on the Crocodile River, and gave the place the name of Schoemansrust where the Hartebeesfontein Dam now is.

Much has been written about his military career and much more of his actions as peace-maker. Condemned by his own people and penalised by the British authorities who burned down his homestead.

When Pietersburg was occupied on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 1901, the British released him from goal where he was being held by the Boers on a charge of treason. He returned to his town house in Schubart Street and died shortly after when he dropped a burning match into a lyddite shell case, a war souvenir, the blast also killed his daughter, Hester who lies buried with him.

The idea of a dam on the site of the Hartebeespoort Dam was born from the original Sophia Dam constructed by Hendrik in 1898, which he named after his wife. One recording states that it cost Schoeman close on R20 000 to build the wall which was washed away in the 1909 floods.

Hendrik's son, Johann, set himself the task of buying back portions of the family farm over the years, and made his home of the last portion repurchased which he called Uiteindelik.

A large granite memorial cross on the Hartebeespoort Dam road reminds all of this Transvaal pioneer.

## **SCHROEDER W.H.**

William Howard Schroeder (Shröder) born in Cape Town 1851 was encouraged to further his aptitude for drawing by Mr Fanning, art master of the school he attended; he was however, compelled to leave school when he was 14 years old and employed by a firm that taught him photography.

His first love was however art, but continued his studies after hours. His artistic career was continued as a newspaper cartoonist and caricaturist, he also gave art lessons and did portrait painting.

His cartoons were accepted by various newspapers and in 1889 he decided to make the Transvaal his home. After working for several journals on the Rand he was employed by The Press of Pretoria during which time he painted several portraits, one of which was President Kruger.

His wife and children went to England where he was to join them after finishing his commissions, but he took ill and died of pneumonia on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1892.

Schroeder was held in high esteem, The Press published his life story as an extra and the funds from the sale thereof was forwarded to his family. A plaque on his grave was erected by admirers.

## **SIEGE SECTION AND MONUMENTS**

The Siege of Pretoria was but one episode of the Transvaal War, also referred to as the First Anglo-Boer War, The First Boer War, Die Eerste Vryheidsoorlog or Die Engelse-Oorlog.

The war from 16<sup>th</sup> December 1880 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1881 ending with the Transvaal gaining their independence was one of the shortest wars on record.

First shots exchanged in the Pretoria neighbourhood was on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 1880 along the Potchefstroom road about 14 km from town.

Whilst the deciding battles were fought in Natal, the Transvaal clashes were but skirmishes, the most notable being the attack on Botha's Laager at Zwartkoppies, the farm of Mr. Samuel Marks, east of Pretoria, Pretorius' Laager at Elandsfontein in the Skurweberge and across the Six Mile Spruit at Erasmus's Red House (Rooihuiskraal).

The number and names of Boer dead are not known; 10 British soldiers were killed or died of wounds and seven Pretoria volunteers serving in the Pretoria Carbineers and Nourse's Cavalry Corps.

The military cemetery in 1881 was sited well away from the main town section; it was walled in and maintained by the army.

The memorial to Corporal Henry Watson of the Royal Artillery records that he died in Pretoria, a month after Annexation in May 1877 – "The first British Soldier to give up his life in the Transvaal".

### **SKINNER W.**

William Skinner who gave his name to Skinner Street was associated with practically every phase of Pretoria's early history.

Born in Canterbury, England in 1828, he came to Natal in 1840 with his cousins, the Devereau brothers and plied their trade as building contractors.

Andries Pretorius encouraged them to come to the Transvaal offering them their first job of building him a house on his farm Grootplaats now under the waters of the Hartebeespoort Dam. The trio assisted by Jan Visagie drew up the first rough layout of the intended town and built the first Church on the Town Square, the first Raadsaal and other buildings.

Skinner's wife, who came out with him to South Africa died in an accident. Their son, who is buried next to him bore the maiden name of his mother. His second wife was Deborah Landman, granddaughter of Piet Retief, the Voortrekker. Deborah is buried on the farm Perdekop in the Volksrust district.

In 1867 Skinner became Landdrost and moved to a new house built on ground given him by President M.W. Pretorius in return for his hospitality when he had to stay in Pretoria for Volksraad sittings. At the house-warming party he was asked what name he was going to give the fine residence. Judge Kotze who bought his previous house in Paul Kruger Street said "seeing that you are a magistrate, why not call it SKINNER'S COURT" – the name stuck. It later became a well-known hotel and Court Street in Pretoria West is all that remains to remind one where the house stood.

Skinner died in 1885 and his cousin who died a few days after him was also buried in the same plot.

### **SMIT N.J.**

Nicolaas Jacobus Smit, General and Vice-President of the Transvaal Republic was born at Graaff-Reinett. The family trekked to natal in 1840 and in 1846 they were farming in Ventersdorp district in the Western Transvaal.

At the age of 16 years, he took part in the various punitive expeditions against rebellious Transvaal tribes. He was elected Field Cornet for Potchefstroom in 1864 and was second in command during the Sekhukhuni Campaign.

During the First Anglo-Boer War of 1880/81 he took part in the battle of Schuinshoogte in Natal defeating Gen. Colley and again in the same month led 200 volunteers up the steep slopes of Mount Majuba and overwhelmed the same British General. This decisive battle led to the signing of the peace treaty in O'Neill's Cottage.

General Smit served on the Volksraad as Chairman, and as a member for Ermelo. In 1887 he was elected Vice-President and occupied that position until his death at his home in Pretoria at the age of 48 years.

He was a Knight of the Red Eagle of Prussia and honoured by the governments of Portugal and Holland.

As a soldier, he was an indomitable fighter, in the Council chamber a convincing speaker, a patriot and a man of integrity.

### **SOUTTER J.L.**

John Lyall, born Edinburgh, England on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1864, came to the Transvaal in 1888; married in 1894 to Rebecca Jane, daughter of George Mitchell of his home town.

Soutter, a lithographer in the surveyor-general's office, later chief draughtsman rose to greater heights to have been able to have the names of his family recorded in street names in Pretoria West, being Soutter, Mitchell and Rebecca.

### **STIEMENS H.**

Hendrik Stiemens, born at Arnhem in 1822; came to natal in 1856 as a tutor to farm children, three years later becoming the first government teacher in Pretoria in a room on Prinsloo's property.

The meagre salary of that time compelled him to do odd jobs such as watch repairs and bookkeeping. Because of him taking sides with the wrong political party during the Civil War, he was placed in stocks on the Square and later banished to the Orange Free State.

He resumed teaching in 1865 and in 1870 became Volksraad Secretary. He worked for the Annexation Government for two years then returned to Holland. The New Republican Government of 1882 offered him a post and was promoted to Secretary of Education on the retirement of the Rev. S.J. du Toit in 1888; he was later appointed Secretary to the Native Affairs Superintendent.

His first wife and their five children did not come out to South Africa with him and he remarried in 1855. The eldest son of the second marriage was a Lieutenant in Batterij Dingaan, the first artillery regiment established by President Burgers.

### **STRIJDOM J.G.**

Johannes Gerhardus, Prime Minister 1954 – 1958 was born on the farm Sandvlakte, in the Willowmore district in the Cape Province in 1893. he joined the civil service and was admitted to the Bar in 1918.

He was immensely interested in the Afrikaner-cause and when he went into practise at Nylstroom took an active part in politics and was elected M.P. for Waterberg in 1929.

In the 1948 parliament as minister of lands, he was called 'The Lion of the Waterberg' for his uncompromising political views and for being the only Transvaal supporter of Dr. D.F. Malan's party.

He succeeded Dr. Malan as prime minister in 1954.

### **STRUBEN J.H.M.**

Captain Johan Herman Marinus Struben of German origin (de Struben) born on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1806 in Groot Rysterveldt, a manor house at Oirschot near Oosterwijk. He entered the Dutch navy and was a

lieutenant winning a medal for valour during the siege of Antwerp, 1830/31.

Capt. Johann met his future wife on one of his journeys to Portsmouth. Alexander Beattie, of Alverstoke, consented to the marriage of his daughter, Frances (Fannie) Sarah on condition that he became a British subject. The marriage was solemnised in 1838.

Because of Fannie's health it was decided to emigrate and they 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 which 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 then spent some years in the Cape but returned in 1867 to become state attorney, he later represented Lydenburg in the Volksraad.

Harry, one of the brothers who discovered gold at Wilgespruit was born aboard his father's cutter, the Fanny, on 9<sup>th</sup> October 1840 and was christened Hendrik Wilhelm.

### **VAN DER WALT A.P.J.**

Andries Petrus Jacobus van der Walt an early settler who owned portion of the farm Elandspoort and advocated the establishment of a town. He sold out to President M.W. Pretorius who had the later dorp called Pretoria laid out on it and a portion of the farm Daspoort.

Andries'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 where the present Berea Park sports ground is now situated. His son-in-law, Jan du Preez, settled close by along the Apies River and left his name to the area still 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 47 years; his wife died eight days after hi.

The Pretoria City Council saw it fit to have their remains re-interred in the Du Preezhoek section of the Old Cemetery in 1969.

Waltloo Industrial Township was called after him and Prinsloo who owned Daspoort farm.

### **VAN NIEKERK G.J.**

Gerrit Jacobus (Gert) van Niekerk, Hoofd Commissaris van Police den Z.A.R., born in the Orange Free State and later settled near Christiana in the Western Transvaal. In 1879 he farmed near Bloemhof and successfully prospected for diamonds.

He was the one-time President of the Stellaland Republic with Vryburg as its capital which he established in 1882 on land granted to him and his followers who aided chief Massouw against a rival tribe.

With another miniature Boer Republic, The Land of Goshen, they placed themselves under the protection of the Transvaal, but ceased to exist after the British occupation of Betchuannaland (now Botswana) in 1884.

He returned to his farm Niekerksrus on the Harts River and in 1885 was appointed to the Border Commission. In 1893 he became commissioner of Police; he died in October 1896.

### **VAN RENSBURG W.C. Janse-**

President W.C. Janse van Rensburg, born 1818. A member of the Potgieter Trek and was in the lager at Rensburg Koppie which was attacked by Zulu impies.

In 1840, Willem went to Potchefstroom and later followed the Trekkers to (Andries) Ohrighstad. By 1850 he had settled on the farm Kaffirskraal between Rustenburg and Pretoria and served on the Volksraad for eight years becoming a member of the executive council.

Van Rensburg was elected Acting-president when M.W. Pretorius became the President of the Orange Free State, which led to civil disorder in the Transvaal, and was displaced by Stephanus Schoeman.

In 1862 Schoeman was removed from the position and van Rensburg again took over as acting president, a position confirmed officially in 1863.

Van Rensburg died a young man, age 47 in 1865 and was buried on his farm. His wife remarried but on her death in 1895 was laid to rest beside him.

The re-interment of both in the Heroes Acre section on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 1974. The miniature coffins used for the remains of Van Rensburg and his wife were carried by descendants.

To commemorate the occasion, the Kaffirskraal School established on his property was renamed the President Janse van Rensburg School.

### **VEALE DR. H.P.**

Dr. Herbert Prior Veale, J.P., was born in the Cape Province. As practitioner in Pretoria he was the first medical man to use x-rays in the Old Volks Hospital in Potgieter Street.

Dr Veale saw service and was Chairman of the Transvaal University Council (University of Pretoria).

Dr. Veale lived in Pretoria since 1891 and was for years a member of the city council and was mayor for the period 1920-21.

Veale Street was named to his honour.

### **VERWOERD H.W.**

Hendrik Frensch Verwoerd, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa took up office on the death of J.G. Strijdom in 1958.

Born at Amsterdam in 1901, the family emigrated to South Africa in 1903 and settled at Wynberg, Cape. After a spell in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) they made their home in Brandfort, Orange Free State.

Verwoerd met his future wife, Elizabeth (Betsie) Schoombee at Stellenbosch University. He became editor of the Transvaler newspaper in 1937 and was elected to the senate in 1948. In 1950 he entered the cabinet and took over the Native Affairs Department and the idea of separate development as advocated by General Hertzog was put into practice.

Whilst Dr. Verwoerd was opening the Union Exposition at Johannesburg in May 1960 to mark the Union of South Africa's jubilee,

David Pratt, later classified as de-arranged, unsuccessfully tried to assassinate him.

A referendum called for by him in 1961 created The Republic of South Africa. During a Parliamentary session on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1966, he leaned forward to accept a message from a uniformed attendant who stabbed him and died within minutes.

The name Verwoerd is found in a hospital and school in Pretoria, and is the umbrella name of a municipality south of Pretoria. His name has also been given to townships, schools, streets and parks throughout the Republic.

### **VISAGIE J.H.**

Johannes Hendrik (Visage) born in the Malmesbury district of Swartland, 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 Matiwane, the Hill of Execution.

Johannes Visagie, took his place in the sixty-four wagon lager at Blood River. With the British annexation of Natal in 1842 he, and others trekked across the Vaal, first settling in the Heidelberg district where he became Landdrost.

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

Visagie practised as a herbal doctor and rendered assistance during the war against the troublesome indigenous tribes; he later became secretary to the General's son, President M.W. Pretorius. He assisted Skinner and the Devereau brothers in laying out 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.

Visagie Street commemorates his name.

### **VOM HAGEN F.E.A.**

Could this person be connected with Frederick Emil vom Hagen who worked in the Surveyor-generals office, and after whom a street in Pretoria West was called?

Frederick was born in Stedal, Dusseldorp, Germany on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1844; his wife Sophia Margaretha, lies buried with him.

F. died on the 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1900.

### **WALKER FAMILY**

The Walker family appears to have left natal and settled in Pretoria in 1868. Arthur Hamilton and his son, Mackenzie Harry were both surveyors. Arthur resurveyed the Pretoria township originally laid out by Andries du Toit. Mackie (Mackenzie) as he was known to his friends worked in the government surveyor's office. Mackie was born in Pietermaritzburg in 1848; married Augusta White and they settled south of Sunnyside on the upper ridges of the portion of the farm Elandsfontein purchased in the 1870's and established the township of Muckleneuk and Nieuw-Muckleneuk, Bailey's Muckleneuk was established on ground that he sold to that founding company.

Mackie retired to his farm Klippos on the Springbok Flats, north of Pretoria where he died in 1927 at the age of 78 years.

Walker, Mackie, Mackenzie, Sydney and Walker Spruit are named after the family.

### **WEAVIND G.**

The Rev. George Weavind, a well known and loved old Pretoria Wesleyan (Methodist) Missionary, was born in England on 13<sup>th</sup> April 1850; he trained at Richmond college in Surrey and was appointed to a South African vacancy on the Vaal River.

He first served the Pretoria pasture in 1873 and, because he had mastered the second language, he was respected by all inhabitants. Rev. George, erected the first Methodist Church in Old Pretoria.

He married Jeanette Wilhelmina, daughter of Henricus and Anna van Boeschoten, who came to South Africa in 1860 and settled in the Zoutpansberg where his father died. The family finally settled in Pretoria.

Johannes G. van Boeschoten, an attorney, businessman, Councillor from 1903 to 1914, Mayor for the periods 1905 – 1906 and 1908 – 1911 and Knighted during the visit of the Duke of Connaught in 1910, was his brother-in-law.

During the Siege of Pretoria 1880/81 Weavind took on the task of sanitary inspector, a great test for the health of the tent-town and proved most successful.

Throughout his life in Pretoria, he supported the 'sports' of the day – he was a great lover of one sport in particular – cricket.

In 1883 he was transferred to Pretoria and the Potchefstroom Training Institute for Black Evangelists and teachers was also subsequently transferred to Koedoespoort, a farm he purchased and named the institute Kilnerton, recalling the Rev. Kilner's visit from the London headquarters.

Weavind was transferred to Johannesburg in 1889 and he returned to Pretoria in 1892 when the Rev. Watkins took ill. George Weavind remained chairman and governor of the Kilnerton Institute until he retired in 1904.

Weavind also served the Mafikeng and Krugersdorp congregations. He went on a visit to England and on his return was in charge of the Black and Coloured work in Pretoria until he died on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 1916.

He served the Methodists of the Transvaal for 43 years. Weavind Park, adjoining the old Kilnerton Estate was named after him.

### **WOOD S.P.**

Sydney Passmore Wood, regarded as the father of technical education in Pretoria.

During the Second Anglo-Boer-War, Sydney Wood saw the need of vocational education for the inmates of the Irene Concentration Camp and the military cantonments; he was instrumental in starting practical classes at both centres.

When war ended, he hired premises opposite the present Poynton Centre in Church Street West and started plumbing courses, and soon

after saw classes being given in the Concentration Camp and Army Camp.

From that small beginning to the new building of the Pretoria Technical College in Church Street which was officially opened in 1954 which now bears the name Technikon.