

INVESTIGATION BAINES PAINTINGS OF PRETORIA

Referring to the Thomas Baines Diary, in Febr. 1872 paintings of Pretoria were made for Messrs. A.H. Brodrick, Carl Jeppe and Robert Lys. One of the paintings is in the possession of the City Council of Pretoria.

In an interview with the only daughter of Carl Jeppe, Mrs. Dunstan, Mrs. Dunstan distinctly remembered a painting of the Jeppe homestead, then situated on the corner of Du Toit and Church Streets, the site being where the Tilsim Hotel is today. The painting was done of the house facing north. The artist facing south viewed it from about where the Hervormde Kerk now stands. She said that also she did not remember the name of the artist; it could be none other than the Thomas Baines painting referred to. It hung in the hall of the homestead.

Mrs. Dunstan also told us that the oak trees in Visage Street between Prinsloo and Van der Walt Streets were planted (under supervision) from acorns by her mother when a child and as far as she recollects the daughter of President Burgers in about 1875. She also stated that one of the oldest homes in Pretoria still standing in Visagie Street, between Paul Kruger and Bosman Streets, and the cottage at the back of the house belonged to the Juta family.

(Mrs.) P.E. PUNT

TWO TELEGRAMS TO PRETORIA

"On the afternoon of September 2, 1897, the secretary of the Sheba Company, John Holland, returning to the mine with a payroll of £1,000 and guarded by two companions, was making his way along the road which led through the kloof called Elephants Kloof from the old bones left there by native hunters. At the end of the kloof they discovered a breastwork and standing on the top a masked man with a Winchester repeating rifle levelled at their heads. He sent two bullets over them and a sharp 'Hand up', Holland's horse bolted. At the bottom of the kloof a second masked man appeared and as the horse passed he shot it through the neck. . . . The highwaymen then seized the cash and the other two horses. They bade everybody an affable good-bye and vanished into the bush with a string of pursuers soon in full cry behind. The money was never recovered. . . . This is the story of a robbery as told by the author of "Lost Trails on the Low Veld" (T.V. Bulpin), a book dealing with Barberton in the early days (Chapter XX).