

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).

In Pretoria, Mr. Samuel Marks, of the well-known firm Lewis & Marks, being connected with the Sheba Mining Company, received two telegrams informing him of the daring hold-up.

The text of the first telegram reads as follows:

"Holland and guard Cicognani with Cohn & Cubitt riding in company were held up on Barberton road Elephants Kloof at five this afternoon & robbed of one thousand pounds Sheba cash. Robbers fired killing Holland's horse & took horses of Cicognani Cohn & Cubitt. Have wired all along the lines & offered one hundred pounds reward. Please have authorities take active steps." (From: Blow, Eureka, received at Pretoria, Sept. 2, 1897).

The second telegram, wired to Pretoria on the next day and also addressed to Mr. Samuel Marks, runs as follows:

"Robbers supposed to be trying to escape to Natal via Ermelo & Charlestown. Have two men in pursuit. Robbers shot one man yesterday. One horse returned. Will wire you any further particulars". (From: Blow, Eureka). 1)

J.P.

1) Both telegrams have been traced in Pretoria. J.P.

DIE OORSPRONG VAN ONS STRAATNAME

II

Al reaksie wat daarop die vorige behandeling van straatname van Pretoria gekom het, is van mnr. W. Punt. Hy lewer die volgende bydrae ten opsigte van:

Boomstraat: "'n Kleinseun van Andries du Toit, aldus mnr. Punt, "het my 'n paar jaar gelede die volgende meegedeel. Toe du Toit met die opmeting van wat nou Boomstraat is, besig was, het hy 'n baie groot boom midde in wat die straat sou word, aangetref. Vandaar die naam Boomstraat." Welke verklaring van die herkoms van die naam is nou die juiste, hierdie een, of die wat in die vorige uitgawe verstrek is? Of miskien albei? Ons handel vervolgens die strate van Pretoria-Sentraal verder:

Bosmanstraat: is na ds. H.S. Bosman, bekende predikant en onderwysman van Pretoria, genoem.

Ds. H.S. Bosman is in 1848 op 'n plaas in die distrik Victoria-Wes gebore. Sy ouers verhuis kort hierna na Potchefstroom. In 1864 is hy na die Suid-Afrikaanse Kollege Stellenbosch, toe na die kweekskool aldaar en