

SIGNAL HILL SITE

THE VOORTREKKER MONUMENT

FREE STATE TOWNS CO-OPERATE

PRESS CLAIMS OF BLOEMFONTEIN

BLOEMFONTEIN, Thursday.—Bloemfontein, backed by the entire southern Free State, put forward a strong claim for the Voortrekker monument when the National Voortrekker Monument Sub-committee visited the town yesterday.

The members of the sub-committee, Mr. E. G. Jansen (chairman), Senator F. S. Malan (Cape Province), Mr. C. M. Booyesen (Natal), Mr. I. M. Lombard (Transvaal) and Mr. B. H. J. van

Rensburg (Free State), with the secretary (Mr. J. J. Scheepers) and the architect (Mr. Gerard Moerdyk), were shown possible sites on the kopje immediately adjoining the Women's National Monument, on a kopje just beyond the cemetery on Naval Hill, and on Signal Hill.

SIGNAL HILL.

The members were particularly impressed by the Signal Hill site, almost in the heart of the town, with its fine view and excellent setting for a great monument.

Mr. Moerdyk referred to it as entirely suitable, but not the only entirely suitable site in the country.

After lunch they were met by Mr. L. W. Deane (chairman of the Finance Committee of the Town Council), Mr. J. B. Dersley (chairman of the Public Works Committee), the town clerk (Mr. S. Fawcett Peck), and the city engineer (Mr. Usher), and at the same time also by a committee representative of the southern Free State towns, consisting of the Mayor of Reddersburg (Lieutenant-Colonel H. F. Venter) Mr. S. J. du Plessis (town clerk of Reddersburg), the Rev. H. F. V. Kruger (Fauresmith), Mr. F. W. Coetzer and Mr. D. A. Lambrechts.

IN CO-OPERATION.

The whole party were taken in motor cars as the guests of the municipality to inspect the sites. At a subsequent conference in the Council chamber, presided over by Mr. Deane, Bloemfontein's representative pointed out that Bloemfontein, besides being the most central of all the big urban centres of the Union and the venue of most national gatherings, was exceptionally well connected by road, rail and air. It was the capital of a province inhabited largely by Voortrekker descendants and had numerous Voortrekker associations.

The southern Free State representatives stated that Bloemfontein, Bethulie, Fauresmith, Jagersfontein, Koffiefontein, Philippolis, Reddersburg, Smithfield, Trompsburg and Zaastron were working in co-operation in trying to get the monument erected in Bloemfontein.—Reuter.