

POTENTIAL TOURISM SITES  
OF  
**POTENTIAL TOURISM SITES**  
HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE  
OF  
**HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**  
AND WITH  
NATURAL HISTORY INTEREST  
**NATURAL HISTORY INTEREST**



## **1. DUNCAN VILLAGE MASSACRE MEMORIAL SITE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This memorial was unveiled by the South African president his Excellency Mr. Thabo Mbeki on the 28 March 2008.

### **DISCRIPTION**

This monument honours those who were killed or injured, fighting for a free and just South Africa. In the 1980s the people of Duncan Village took up the call of president of ANC, O.R.Tambo that the masses of South Africa had a duty to make the structures and the system of the apartheid government unworkable.

On 11<sup>th</sup> August 1985, the people were returning from Rayi Village near King Williams Town, where they had been attending the funeral of a prominent Human Rights Lawyer Ms. Nonyamazelo Victoria Mxenge, who had been assassinated by apartheid agents at her home in Mlazi, Durban.

Angry mourners rose up in protest and set alight symbol of the apartheid regime the Duncan Village Rent Office, other government buildings and the homes of Local Councilors who were seen as collaborators of the Apartheid system. The township became the scene of the running battles between young people and police. The worst violence occurred on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August 1985 when young people of Duncan Village were attempting to destroy a bridge in order to prevent the police from entering the township. During the above events, at least 31 people were killed and many more were injured.

### **LOCATION**

Duncan Village Jabavu Street in front of Kusile High School.

### **ACCESS**

Open

## **2. SUNDAY TIMES HERITAGE PROJECT**

### **2.1 The coelacanth-Dr Marjorie Courtney-Latimer (February 24 1907 – May 17 2004)**

.On December 22 1938, Marjorie Courtney-Latimer, the young curator of the East London Museum, spotted an unusual fish in the catch on the deck of the trawler Nerine, docked here. She took the 1.5m, 57.5kg fish home and had it stuffed to preserve it until it could be identified by Rhodes University chemistry lecturer and keen ichthyologist JLB Smith. He believed it to be a coelacanth, a fish thought to have been extinct for 70

million years, but he needed one with its viscera intact to be certain. Smith made it his life's mission to find another one. 14 years later off the Comores coast, he found his fish and wept.

To find out more about this story go to [www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage](http://www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage)

## LOCATION

East London museum

### **2.3 Happyboy Mgxaji and the story of East London boxing**

## INTRODUCTION

On September 2 1972, Nkosana 'Happyboy' Mgxaji, Mdantsane's first great boxing hero, beat Durban fighter Moses Mthembu in a non-title fight at this stadium – which was only half-built at the time but was the only venue that could accommodate the huge crowds Mgxaji attracted; black boxers could not use the bigger venues reserved for whites. Mgxaji, who won the SA Junior Lightweight title in 1973, inspired generations of champions, many of whom grew up fighting in front of huge crowds at this 20 000-capacity stadium. Mdantsane and Duncan Village have produced at least 14 world champions and 46 South African champions.

To find out more about this story go to [www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage](http://www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage)

## LOCATION

Next to Sisa Dukashe Stadium, Mdantsane

### **2.4 The battle for Eastern Beach – the story of beach apartheid (December 8 1969-November 16 1989)**

## INTRODUCTION

At daybreak on January 1 1986, black people began arriving in their thousands at 'whites-only' Eastern Beach. Word had spread through the city's townships that the beach was to be reclaimed and 25 000 people eventually arrived. They swam, picnicked, played, and occasionally toyi-toyed along the road. The police made no arrests, though many whites fled the area. 'We rejoiced that day,' said 'invader' Mteteleli Pobana, who had not swum here since 1969. 'We came back to a place that was our own.' Peaceful 'invasions' spread to other cities, before apartheid laws segregating beaches were scrapped in 1989.

To find out more about this story go to [www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage](http://www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage)

## **LOCATION**

Ablution block, Eastern Beach

### **2.5 NONTETHA NKWENKWE (About 1875 - May 20 1935)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

On December 6 1922, at the King William's Town Magistrate's Court, the prophetess Nontetha Nkwenkwe was committed to Fort Beaufort Mental Hospital for 'medical observation', as hundreds of her followers sang hymns outside. Nkwenkwe had began having visions and preaching temperance after surviving the 1918 flu epidemic. Authorities feared her growing popularity would threaten white rule and the established churches. After she was moved to Weskoppies Hospital in Pretoria two years later, 36 of her followers walked there on a 55-day 'pilgrimage of grace'. Nkwenkwe died at Weskoppies in 1935. In July 1998 her body was exhumed and returned –via the pilgrim's route - to her home. The Church of the Prophetess Nontetha survives to this day.

To find out more about this story go to [www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage](http://www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage)

## **LOCATION**

In front of the Magistrates Court, King Williams Town.

### **2.6 Archbishop Desmond Tutu & the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) (April 15 1996 - July 31 1998)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In this hall, on April 16 1996, Archbishop Desmond Tutu dropped his head in his hands and wept. It was Day Two of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings; former Robben Islander Singqokwana Ernest Malgas was describing his torture by security police. The TRC would hear from 21 000 people across South Africa, and Tutu, its chairman, would say of the process: 'We have looked the beast in the eye. Our past will no longer keep us hostage. We who are the rainbow people of God will hold hands and say, Never again! Nooit weer! Ngeke futhi! Ga reno tlola!'

To find out more about this story go to [www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage](http://www.sundaytimes.co.za/heritage)

## **LOCATION**

City Hall, East London

### **3. Heroes Park Memorial Complex**

#### **Introduction**

The Heroes Park Foundation was established in 2001 by Mr Dennis Matsane and Ms Zolisa Sgabi incorporation it's Vision and Mission statements as follows:

#### **Vision**

To preserve and celebrate the history of the Eastern Cape in order to inspire future generations and to contribute to the South African nation – building a better life for all.

#### **Mission**

To research and record the history of the Eastern Cape.  
To engage in advocacy this creates awareness of our cultural heritage.

#### **Description**

The complex as of now comprises of Wall of Fame and Garden of Remembrance, and a timber deck. The names of the people who contributed outstandingly to the society are on this wall.

#### **Location**

It is situated on the Beach Front, alongside the German Memorial, just one street up from the Esplanade.

### **4. BELLSTONE**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Bellstone is a unique stone which is located at Breidbach suburb of King William's Town. In actual fact, Breidbach initially was known as Bellstone. This stone produces a metallic sound when struck by an object. The stone keeps a spiritual significance to the community of Breidbach. Often the community will gather at the stone for special services or prayer meetings. In the mid 1990s, the community of Breidbach gathered at the bellstone site to pray for the rain during the period of drought. The very next day the prayers were answered when it rained. Even then, the community went back to the site for a thanks giving service.

## **5. DR W.B.RUBUSANA'S GRAVE.**

### **INRODUCTION**

Dr Walter Benson Rubusana is a son of a senior advisor to the Xhosa chiefs, King Sandile kaNgqika, represents the first wave of African intellectuals. Qualifying with distinction at Lovedale as a teacher, he stayed on to study theology under the guidance of Dr Stewart and Reverend Andrew Smith. In 1880 he went to work at Peeltion mission station, doubling as teacher and assistant pastor. He translated many biblical texts into Xhosa authored a number of original texts, including the respected Zemk' inkomo Magwala ndini (Defend your Heritage), an anthology of traditional epic poetry, didactic Christian essays and church history.

**LOCATION: Braelyn, East London.**

## **6 S.E.K MQHAYI 'S GRAVE**

### **Introduction**

The Poet, **Samuel Edward Krune Ngxeke-ngxeke Loliwe Mqhayi** was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 1875 and died in 1945. In 1891, he attended school at Lovedale, where he graduated as a teacher. He then became editor of IZWI LABANTU newspaper and later helped Reverend Rubusana as an assistant editor for IMVO ZABANTSUNDU. He was a great book and poetry writer and a praise singer, the following are some of his work, Ityala Lamawele, USamson, Ubomi buka J.k.Jolobe, Imihobe Nemibongo, uDon Jadu, UAggrey UmAfrika, Umhlelezi uHintsisa, UMqhayi WaseNtabozuko, Inzuzo. He contributed seven verses to Nkosi Sikelel'i Afrika He was one of the highly respected man for studies he did. In 1925, he showcased his imbongi skills when he delivered the address to the Prince of Wales in King William's Town.

### **Location**

The grave is situated in Ntab'ozuko in Berlin.

S.E.K.N.L. Mqhayi's grave is situated in Ntab'ozuko ("Mount Glory") outside Berlin. A bust of Mqhayi will be installed in Berlin.

## **7. STEPHEN BANTUBONKE BIKO.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

He was born in 1946 in Ginsberg, King William's Town and died on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1977. Some intellectuals regard him as a great leader, an activist, an orator, a great thinker...all in one soul.

Bantu became a leader of the Black Consciousness Movement (BCM) and was instrumental in raising awareness of injustices and promoting sense of pride in them

among Blacks. His message to the youth and students was simple and clear: **Black is Beautiful! Be proud of your Blackness.**

Bantu was arrested while he was busy going around the country consulting with a broad spectrum of people gathered in different, pockets of resistance. Whilst in detention in 1977, he was killed by Apartheid policemen. His legacy contributed a lot towards shaping political conditions in South Africa

#### **8. STEVE BANTU BIKO'S GRAVE**

Steve Biko died on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 1977 from Police torture and assault in detention. The circumstance resulting in his death still begs a complete explanation. He was buried on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 1977 in old cemetery in Ginsberg. His funeral service was attended by 20 000 people. The cemetery and the park were named after him as, **STEVE BIKO GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE**, and on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1997, it was officially opened by former president, Mr Nelson Mandela.

#### **9. STEVE BIKO'S HOUSE.**

Steve's house is at Tyamazashe Street in Ginsberg. In 1997, the house was declared a National Monument.

#### **10. STEVE BIKO'S STATUE**

The statue is installed in front of the City Hall.

#### **11. STEVE BIKO BRIDGE**

The bridge that connects the East and Wesbank, over the Buffalo River in East London has been named after him as, **STEVE BIKO BRIDGE.**

#### **12. STEVE TSHWETE'S GRAVE:**

Steve Tshwete was a well known activist during the struggle. He was a Head Boy of Welsh High School, East London and imprisoned on Robben Island for same years. When released, he went to exile, returning after the release of Mandela. He had a very successful career in government and at his death was Minister of Safety and Security. He died in 2002 and his grave is at Peelton Mission. The unveiling of his memorial stone takes place later that year.

#### **13. GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE.**

#### **GRIFFITHS AND VICTORIA MXENGE'S GRAVE:**

**Location:** Rhayi Locotion, near Ginsberg.

#### **14. THE TOUR OF THE DOVE:**

A group of Veterans of the of the struggle have planned a tour of the sites relevant to the struggle. They also interviews with the veterans themselves and visits to homes of people in Mdantsane.

Contact; Mr Hilmi Daniels- 082 659832 e-mail [hdanco@cybertrade.co.za](mailto:hdanco@cybertrade.co.za); Mr Sydney Sili 043-727 0381/072 1209311.

#### **15. XHOSA CATTLE KILLING**

##### **Introduction**

A young girl called Nongqawuse had seen a messenger from the realm of the ancestors at a waterhole. She told her uncle Mhlakaza about her vision. As he was an important Xhosa priest, his social rank granted a great impact to the prophecy he derived from his niece's vision. He announced that soldiers, who were incarnations of the souls of dead Xhosa warriors, would arrive on the 18th of February over the sea, come onto land through the "Hole in the Wall" and defeat the hated British. But, he continued, the Xhosa had to make a sacrifice to help the warriors by destroying all their cereals and killing all their cattle. After the victory, there would be food in abundance for everybody. The Xhosa followed the instructions in his prophecy and killed their whole stock of cattle. The catastrophe took its course. Thousands of Xhosa starved and the British had an easy time conquering the remaining people.

##### **Location**

The mass grave where the cattle killing victims are buried is situated at Edward Cemetery in King Williams Town.

An interpretative plaque for the site has been installed.

#### **16. NOMPENDULO HIGH SCHOOL MEMORIAL.**

The memorial is situated in Zone 10, Zwelitsha. During 1980's there was political instability in South Africa, and Zwelitsha was part of it. Student protests and uprisings, underground political organizations and horrifying moments of police brutality were ingrained into the life of the town. On 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1985, a protest meeting was held at Nompendulo High School to enforce a democratically elected student body. Student demands were drafted and handed over to the school Principal. He did not cooperate, refused to address the students and called the police. They demanded immediate dispersal, but the student refused and after the use of teargas and assault pandemonium broke out. Many students were subsequently arrested. Fleeing scholars attempted to cross the Buffalo River, adjacent to the school, and in the process at least three students drowned. A memorial commemorating the school tragedy was unveiled on 23 July 2000 on the school grounds by Rev M. Stofile, former Premier of the Eastern Cape.

## **17. BISHO MASSACRE**

This is the second worst massacre in the History of South African liberation struggle that took place in 1992, just two years before the African National Congress (ANC) came to power. In the year, 1992, 60 000 members of the ANC were led into a direct confrontation with 500 black troops of one such homeland- Ciskei. The Ciskei government had warned them not to cross the stipulated border, but senior members of the South African Communist Party played a key Role leading the throng straight into a confrontation with Ciskei army. Two and half minutes of automatic gunfire by the Ciskei soldiers left 28 dead and hundreds injured. So the incident was the same as Sharpville, and Gqozo was criticized. The purpose of the march was to force Briegadier Oupa Gqozo to step down from power and abolish Ciskei homeland.

### **Location:**

The monument to commemorate the incident is situated next to Bisho Stadium.

## **18. EGERTON MASSACRE**

In August, 4, 1983, 11 people were gunned down on this site. During this period there was a general political unrest in South Africa. In Mdantsane, the unrest came about when Mdantsane people boycotted partly state – owned Ciskei Transport Corporation (C.T.C.) Company buses after the company had unilaterally fare increases in 1983. The Ciskei government embarked on a campaign to force people to board buses. It used its ruthless security apparatus, backed by a vigilante group, to beat up those who did not want to board buses. Bus boycott leaders were harassed and detained without trial by the Ciskei security police .Mr Mzwandile Mampunye was the chairman of the Bus Boycott Committee of Ten during this period

**LOCATION:** A memorial has been erected at Egerton Railway Station, zone 9, Mdantsane.

## **19. BENJAMIN PETER JOHN TYAMZASHE MEMORIAL.**

The late ‘‘B Ka T’’ Tyamzashe was one of the greatest music composers in Africa; he really contributed immensely towards development of African music. His greatest composition for the Catholic Church is probably his Gloria, in which he combines a melody closely related to the melody of Ntsikana’s Great hymns with a flowing, rhythmic melody - very like a melody Nofinish Dwyili uses in a song commemorating the ancestral figure Magungqelindawo. In 1938, his wife died having borne him six children and Tyamzashe later married Agnes Masango. A rare ditiction was bestowed upon him when he was invited to conduct a massed choir of 3000 school children at the welcoming ceremony in Mthatha for King George of Britain. In 1975, the University of Fort Hare conferred an honorary degree upon him in recognition of his outstanding contribution to music. It was not only Benjamin

Tyamzashe the musician, but Benjamin Tyamzashe the man who made an impact on his fellowmen and women. Wherever he went this popular personality was greeted with great affection and acclamation as Teacher Tyamzashe. He died at Frere Hospital, East London, on June 04, 1978 at the age of 87. He was buried at Zinyoka location.

**Location:**

Memorial has been erected in 'B ka T' Tyamzashe Secondary School in Ezinyoka administrative area, King William's Town.

## **20. NKOSI NDLAMBE MEMORIAL**

### **Introduction**

Nkosi Ndlambe is one of the Xhosa chiefs who played a significant role in Xhosa and South African history. He successfully fought so many wars and he erected his Great Place during his life time in Mpongo (Maclean town). On this site, there is a bellstone (Ilitye LikaNdlambe) which rings like a bell when struck, it produces a metallic sound. It is believed that he used to sit and relax on it.

**Location:** A monument has been built in MacLean town.

## **21. ILITYE LIKA NDLAMBE (BELLSTONE)**

This rock keeps historical evidence that his Great Place was once built on this site.

**Location:** The rock is plus minus 1 km from the memorial.

## **22. LOCK STREET GAOL**

This stone building was built in 1880 and closed in 1880. It was a women's prison during the Apartheid epoch and a number of women folk were incarcerated there. Mrs. Winnie Madikizela Mandela is one of them. Currently, the National Department of Arts And Culture is planning to transform the building into a Women's Museum.

A high stone wall surrounds the complex, with the original administrative building forming one part of it. This is a very fine building, Georgian in design. Renovations were done in 1981, and some of the original cells have been retained. The old gallows block has been restored and there is a brief history of the goal on display there. The two central cell blocks and the old kitchen have been turned into small shops.

**Location:** This building is situated in Fleet Street, East London.

## **23. GRIFFITHS AND VICTORIA MXENGE'S GRAVE.**

The anti – apartheid activists and human rights lawyers, Griffiths and Victoria Mxenge are buried outside King William's Town. They were married in 1964 and moved to Durban. Their lives were much affected by frequent bannings, detentions and

imprisonment, but they both handled many high – profile and political cases. They were both assassinated by the security force hit squads during Apartheid epoch in 1981 and 1985, respectively.

**Location:** Their graves are situated in Rhayi village in King William’s Town.

## **24. CHILDREN’S CEMETERY IN DIMBAZA**

The apartheid government through its notorious system of forced removals made about seventy families to be dumped in a place subsequently named, Dimbaza, which means a place where rubbish is dumped. They came as far away as far as Middleburg and Karoo. Due to the harsh living conditions hundreds of children died of malnutrition, tuberculosis and preventable diseases such as measles. Whereas other towns are built around a civic square, a town hall or shops, Dimbaza’s centre is the children’s cemetery containing many unmarked graves. In 1970s, over 20 factories were established in Dimbaza following the international outrage that the children’s cemetery provoked. Taking advantage of the Ciskei’s extensive tax rebate and high financial inducements the factories, mostly foreign- owned , were built in an attempt to transform Dimbaza into a showcase of industrial opportunity. When the incentives and subsidies were removed in the 1990’s however, many of the factories closed down or moved elsewhere.

## **25. COVE ROCK / GOMPO ROCK**

### **Introduction**

Gompo features prominently in the human history of East London .The rock has also featured prominently in the religious lives of Xhosa – speaking people. The Xhosa Prophet, Nxele or Makana, was converted to Christianity in 1812. In 1817, in an attempt at mass conversion through a show of his sacred potency, Nxele assembled people at Cove Rock to witness the resurrection of ancestors and cattle from a cavern beneath the rock.

According to traditionalists Cape Nguni belief paternal ancestral spirits, *ABANTU BOMLAMBO*, are said to reside in the water beneath the rock. Gompo Town near East London city centre derives its name from the Rock.

### **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Cove Rock / Gompo are a unique sandstone headland with good example of wave – cut platform, a classic half – heated bay and a large mobile dune field unique to the East London environment. The adjacent area is a protected State forest.

### **Location**

The rock is situated in East London about 11km south west of the Buffalo River mouth between Hickman’s River mouth (east of the site) and the resort of Winterstrand (west of the site)

## **26. Clements Kadalie:**

### **Introduction**

Clements Kadalie was born in Malawi in the 1890's, the exact date unknown. He was educated at a Scottish mission school and became a school teacher. He left Malawi in 1916 and settled in Cape Town where in 1919 he established a trade union, the Industrial and Commercial Worker's Union, among dockworkers. This urban-based union flourished, but disputes over funds and leadership resulted in a loss of support in the Cape. Attention was turned to the rural areas of Transvaal, Natal and Orange Free State to mobilize a mass support base. By the end of 1927, there were more than 100 ICU branches with 100 000 membership around the country. Continued financial problems and leadership struggles led to the demise of the party. In 1929 Kadalie left the party and established the Independent ICU based in East London from where he led strike attempts, attempted to prevent the final disfranchisement of the Cape blacks in 1936 and generally concerned himself with non-white trade union and political interests. A hall in the former East Bank Location was named after him. Clements died on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 1951. He was buried in a grave yard in Duncan village. His wife, Eva Kadalie, was buried next to him following her death on 16 December 1974. Neglect resulted in the exhumation and reburial of remains in the Cambridge Cemetery in 2001.

## **27. MISSION STATIONS**

### **27.1 Missionary Museum**

#### **Introduction**

This was originally a Methodist Chapel with the foundation stone being laid by Rev William Shaw in 1855. It subsequently became a Baptist Mission Church. The building was finally handed over to the Amathole (then Kaffrarian) Museum to be administered as a missionary Museum.

#### **Description**

This is an interesting building in the style of an early church. It houses, among other mission artifacts, the old Mount Coke printing press, on which the first Xhosa bible was printed.

#### **Location**

Berkeley St, King Williams Town

#### **Access**

Unfortunately, owing to staff shortages, there is no permanent curator. The museum will be opened on request with permission of the Director, Amathole Museum 043 6434506

## **27.2. JOHN BROWNLEE MISSION STATION RESIDENCY**

### **Introduction**

The original mission was established by Rev. John Brownlee for the London Missionary Society in 1826 and was established to work among the Ntinde under Chief Jan Tzatzoe. The building was damaged in 1835, but was repaired and additions made. With the establishment of King Williams Town, Sir Harry Smith took it over as his residence 1836. Brownlee then returned but moved the station to his second station in 1847. The original building is now “The Residency” was proclaimed a national Monument in 1977.

### **Description**

This is a stone structure set in pleasant surroundings. Additions have been made’

### **Location**

Prince Alfred Square, King Williams Town.

### **Access**

The exterior is open. Present owner unknown.

### **Recommendations**

This is the oldest building in King Williams Town and is well worth visiting.

## **27.3. PEELTON MISSION**

### **Introduction**

Peelton Mission was established among the Imidange people in 1848 by Rev. Richard Birt, of the London Missionary Society. It was named for Sir Robert Peel, some Prime time Minister of Britain. The original church, mission house and eight cottages, built of wattle and daub, were burnt down in 1850. Birt returned in 1853 and had some success in the community. Some notable names among the first African Christians were Kazi, Timoti, Nyalashe, Bombo, Tembu, Stofile and Qela. In 1875 the congregation raised mfunds to erect the present church. Birt established a boarding school for boys and Peelton became famous as an educational centre. One of the prominent leaders to have been educated there was Dr W.B. Rubusana. Birt died in 1892. The Rev Zondeki assisted in restoring the church in the mid 1970s.

### **Description**

This is a spacious church and has been referred to as the ‘Cathedral of Kaffraria’ it was restored by the local community in 1980.

### **Location**

13 km from Bhisho on the Komga road.

### **Access**

Permission from the Minister.

#### **27.4. MOUNT COKE MISSION:**

##### **Introduction**

William Shaw established the Mount Coke mission in 1825, in the territory of Chief Ndlambe. It was one of the chain of Wesleyan Methodist missions which Shaw started in the Easter Cape and Transkei. It was burnt down during the frontier wars in 1834 and again in 1846, moving to the present site in 1948. The Rev. J.W. Appleyard translated the bible into Xhosa. A printing press was purchased in 1849 and was used to print the first Xhosa bible and was published in 1853. (The press is in the Missionary Museum). Mount Coke became known for the hospital founded by the missionaries. Mount Coke was proclaimed a national monument in 1959.

##### **Description**

Many of the original buildings still exist, the hospital, church and cottages. Many additions were made.

##### **Access**

Unfortunately most of the buildings are derelict and have been vandalized and this is not recommended that that this be visited. A clinic of sorts might still exist and a small congregation struggle to keep the church going. This could be an excellent tourist site if the complex could be restored and developed.

#### **27.5. MISSION CHURCH AT SOUTHERNWOOD (now St Saviours):**

##### **Introduction**

A mission school was started in North End in the 1980s by Anglican Minister Rev. E. Place. Land became available in Southernwood and the site for a hall was purchased in 1899. The foundation stone was laid with full Masonic Honors, on 18 April 1903 by Dr C.J. Egan. Coins of the realm were placed under the stone. The mission work gradually ceased and by 1900 it was used as a church only. An apse was added in 1914 and in 1915 it became a separate parish. A new façade was constructed and a tower added in 1939. The original foundation stone was relaid in the porch and a corner stone laid by Mr. B. Steer. Mr. H. Cordeaux was the architect.

##### **Description**

The church has a Norman-style frontage, but the interior shows the early history. Of interest are the stained glass war Memorial windows, dedicated in 1922, the Bishops Chair installed in 1904 and the Baptismal Shell in 1900. A brass plaque in memory of Sir Charles and Lady Crewe is situated in porch.

##### **Access**

By arrangement with the Rector: 043-722 3842, Home: 043-7438155

#### **27.6. PIRIE MISSION:**

##### **Introduction**

This was established for the Glasgow Missionary Society by John Ross in 1830. The station was burnt down during the frontier wars in 1834, 1846 and 1850 but was rebuilt

and is still in use. It was named for Rev. Alexander Pirie, one of the founders of the Glasgow Missionary Society.

### **Description**

The original church still stands, but the Bryce Ross church is in use. The cemetery is of interest as it contains the graves of the Ross family as well as the Ntsikana family, who were the first converts.

### **Location**

Turn off the R63 just before Dimbaza. It is signposted.

### **Access**

Permission from the Minister

## **28. PLACES OF WORSHIP**

### **Background**

The early white settlers in the Buffalo City area established Christian church congregations at the early stage. While there was some competition between the different denominations, there are some remarkable examples of co-operations. The churches started the first schools in East London and King Williams Town for black and white children.

### **Buildings selected to illustrate this record**

Anglican- St Peters (EL), St Johns (EL), Holy Trinity (KWT)

Presbyterian- St Georges (EL), St Andrews (KWT), Gonubie

Methodist- Trinity (EL), Ncera

Lutheran- St Andrews (EL), Brakfontein

Catholic- Immaculate Conception (EL)

NGK- EL

Muslim- Mosque (EL).

### **28.1 ST PETERS (Anglican)**

#### **Introduction**

This is the oldest extant church in East London. The first congregation gathered together in 1857, shortly after the establishment of East London. The first settlement around the new port was on the West Bank. The first building was imported pre-fabricated structure in wood and iron. The land was granted to the Bishop of Grahamstown in 1861, the building was completed in October 1862 and the first service held on 2 November 1862. The west wall was re-built in 1882 and the sanctuary added.

#### **Description**

This is a simple brick-plastered building. The interior is of interest with some of the memorial plaques. The oak rood screen was erected in memory of Mrs. Munn, wife of the

Port Captain. The house adjoining the church was original manse and was built in the late 1860s, so the Norfolk pine in the garden probably dates to that time.

**Location**

High Street, West Bank.

**Access**

By permission of Rector of St Johns.

**Recommendations**

This is a listed building and those responsible for it should be encouraged to care for it.

**28.2. ST JOHNS THE VANGELIST (Anglican)**

**Introduction**

Following the siting of the railway terminus on the east bank of the Buffalo River, many of the West Bank residents, especially those involved in business, moved to the east bank, to Panmure, as the new village was known. The growing population had more resources available, and so raised funds for a much more imposing Church than St Peters.

The foundation stone was laid on 10 June 1878 by Dr C.J. Egen in the first Masonic ceremony in East London. The clergy present were Archdeacon Kitton, Rev Wyche and the Rev A. Maggs from St Lukes Mission. The first service was held 19 November 1880 and the church was consecrated by Bishop Merriman in 1881. The architects were cordeaux and Walker. The foundation stone for the new aisle for the chapel of the Kaffrarian Riffles (now Buffalo Volunteer Riffles) was laid on 18 October 1902 with coins of the realm being placed under the stone. When the church was built it served a community, which resided in the vicinity. With the growth of the town, the residential area has moved away, so there is only a small congregation at present.

**Description**

The building is of a stone in the neo-Gothic style.

**Location**

It is situated at the corner of Oxford and Church Streets.

**Access**

Permission must be obtained to go inside from the Rector, 043 – 722 8986, rectory – 722 7021

**Recommendations**

This is of interest as it was the ‘Mother Church’ of the Anglican community. Communication could be made with the Rector to plan visits.

**28.3. ST GEORGES CHURCH, (Presbyterian)**

**Introduction**

The first Presbyterian Church congregation met on the West Bank in 1874 and St Andrews church was built in 1880. With the growth of East London in Panmure, small churches and halls were built in the Beach area, Cambridge, Southernwood and North End. A Lutheran Hall in Park Avenue was used, but the growing congregation raised money to build a large church. The foundation stone was laid on 6 Jan 1900 and a silver trowel was presented to Mrs. James Georgeson, who performed the ceremony. (The trowel is now in East London Museum). The original design incorporated a dome, but there was no builder in East London able to erect one and there were several collapses. The concept of a dome was abandoned and a pitched roof used. St Georges first opened its doors in 1902.

### **Description**

The entrance has an impressive pediment and Doric columns.

### **Location**

The building is situated obliquely between Oxford Street and Park Avenue.

### **Access**

Entry by permission of the minister: 743 4060; manse; 735 3637

### **Recommendations**

Contact to be made with the minister.

## **28.4. TRINITY CHURCH,**

### **Introduction**

The first Wesleyan Methodist congregation was West Bank, but with the move to the east bank, churches were built in the Quigney (1880) and in Buxton Street (1890). The larger and wealthier people moved north of the town centre and began raising funds for a more imposing church. The foundation stone was laid on 19 September 1903 by Rev N. Abraham. Coins and a local newspaper placed under the stone. The first service was held on 16 September 1904. The architect was W.B. Longford.

### **Description**

The church is built of brick and plastered. It is in the Early English Gothic style and has an imposing crocketed spire. Repairs were undertaken 1976, when there appeared to be a danger of collapse. The magnificent organ is a source of pride for the congregation. It was purchased at considerable expense in 1902 and was extensively repaired in 1946 and 1961. There are memorial tables to those lost in the first and second World wars.

### **Location**

Oxford Street

### **Access**

With permission from the minister 7228904

### **Recommendations**

This is a well maintained church and contributes to the city's skyline.

## **28.5. ST ANDREWS EVANGELICAL CHURCH**

### **Introduction**

German immigrants arrived in British Kaffraria between 1856 and 1861. Many received land in the then environs of East London. The original church built by these immigrants was in Fleet Street, but this was sold to the Anglican church in 1872. Other small churches were built in Maclean Street and Cambridge. Pastor Heinrich Muller launched the 90 strong Lutheran congregation in 1872, but his educational duties proved too onerous and Pastor Baumgarten took over. Fund raising for a grand church began in 1879 and the foundation stone was laid in 1880. The new building was dedicated in November 1882, but cost much more than the original estimate. It took the congregation 40 years to pay off the debt.

### **Description**

This Gothic styled church with an imposing spire. There are 17 beautiful stained glass windows were donated by St Andrews Lutheran church in Hanover, Germany, in 1922 on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **Location**

50 Park Avenue

### **Access**

By permission of the pastor: 7222700

### **Recommendations**

The interior is well worth visiting.

## **28.6. CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Catholic)**

By 1888 there were some 470 Catholics in East London and the hall in the convent was used as a chapel. Efforts were started 1892 to build a proper church and the foundation stone was laid on 2 December 1893 and the completed church was consecrated on 24 June 1894.

### **Description**

The building has a simple form with spire which is a roof vent. It has lancet and rose windows. Two of the stained glass windows are memorials to John Gately, a figure in early East London, and son, who died in 1899 of typhoid aged 25.

### **Location**

44 Albany Street, but with no access from Buffalo Street..

**Access**

With permission of the priest: 7221724

**Recommendations**

The interior is well worth a visit.

**28.7. NEDERDUITSE GEREFORMEERDE KERK****Introduction**

The first NGK church congregations were in Komga and MacLean town. In 1897, a small congregation in East London built a small hall in St Paul's Road. The population growth in East London and the congregation led to funds being raised and ground was purchased in 1915. The foundation stone was laid on 1 August 1921 and the first service held in April 1922. The organ was installed in 1928.

**Description**

The building has an articulated gabled roof with domed cylinders between the three sections.

**Location**

It is situated between Brill and Paterson Street.

**Access**

Permission of the dominie

**Recommendations**

Make contract with the dominie

**28.8 THE MOSQUE****Introduction**

Indian people first started arriving in East London in about 1880. Muslim religious activity began under the leadership of Ebrshim Kola. The first services were held in houses; later an unused Christian church in Chapel Street was acquired. By the early 1920s, there were enough adherents to begin raising funds for a mosque. With the generous help of Mr. Kemal Casoojee, the single storey building was completed. The second floor with a dome and a cottage for the Imam was built in 1950.

**Description**

The façade has arched windows and front door, with a balustrade parapet. The dome is supported by pillars.

**Location**

Porter Street

**Access**

Permission of the imam.

## **Recommendations**

This should be recognized as forming an important part of the cultural heritage of the city.

### **King Williams Town:**

#### **28.9 CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, (Anglican)**

##### **Introduction**

In 1848, Sir Harry Smith proposed to Bishop Robert Grey that a church should be built to serve the needs of a military men stationed in King Williams Town, which was the headquarters of the military operations in the Eastern Cape at the time. Bishop Grey selected the site and the original plans were modified by Sophia Grey. The soldiers donated money and the foundation stone was laid by Col G. Mackinnon in 1850. Lack of money delayed the completion and it was only completed, even then with the arrival of Rev. Henry Kitton. The debts were cleared, a zinc roof replaced the canvass, the waived their claim and it was finally consecrated in February 1861. During the war of 1877/ 78, it was designated a place of refuge. The walls began cracking and had to be re- enforced in 1879. The church was declared a National Monument in 1986.

##### **Description**

This is a very fine church in the neo Gothic style. The walls are of locally quarried bluestone and the floors of yellowwood from Kwazidenge forest. The main doors are made from timber from the Lady Kennaway, wrecked in East London in 1857. The nave was extended in 1867. An aisle, a vestry and two lacent windows were added in 1864. The present organ was installed in 1880 and the Lady Chapel was added in 1897. The stained glass in the east wall is a memorial to Rev. Kitton. The pulpit and communion were presented to the church in memory of the curate, John Gordon. The Jubilee Bell was a present of Mr J.M Ellis in 1898. The tower was added in 1932 as memorial to Archdcacon B.E. Holmes. The zinc roof was placed with slate in 1935 and the present pews date to 1956.

##### **Location**

It is situated in Alexandra Road.

##### **Access**

By permission of the rector, parish office – 043 642 4154

##### **Recommendation**

This is an extremely interesting church with a rich history. The interior is well worth visiting even if tourist is not exclusively interested in church history. Contact should be made with the rector and the church should be requested to make the excellent booklet on their history available to tourist.

## **28.9.1 ST ANDREWS CHURCH (Presbyterian):**

### **INTRODUCTION**

A group of adherents of the United Presbyterian Independent denomination met in a store and made a decision to form a congregation in 1861, with the assistance of the local missionaries. The first minister was appointed in 1863 and they rented the Wesleyan chapel in Berkeley Street. They became part of the presbytery of Lovedale in 1870. In 1883 James Weir gave land. The church was built to design of Mr Bompas of East London. The gates were presented in 1884.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The church was built in the decorated Gothic style of local blue stone and there is an 80 ft tower. The stained glass windows are dedicated to the memory of John Brownlee, William and John Lumsden, and Francis Tudhope. A memorial tablet of those who died in the First World War was unveiled on 11 December 1921 and another memorial tablet was inscribed for those who died in the Second World War

### **LOCATION**

Alexandra Road.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Make contact with the minister.

## **29. COUNTRY CHURCHES:**

### **29.1. GONUBIE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Founded by Scottish Settlers who settled in the area in 1877 under an immigration scheme. A wattle and daub building was first church but swept away by a gale. A stone church was built in 1902, with the help of German neighbors.

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The simple building has a gothic arched doorway. The new wing of brick was added later.

#### **LOCATION**

It can be reached by turning off the N2 at Brakfontein, then turn right over the bridge and it is signposted.

## **ACCESS**

Permission of the minister. 7374644

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

This church is well worth visit. It is set in attractive country surroundings and the cemetery is of interest.

### **40 BRAKFORTEIN LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Foundation stone dated 16 February 1902. Built by Germans who settled in this area. It has had a fire, but has been rebuilt.

Turn off N2 at the Brakfontein turn off and follow the sign.

### **29.2. NCERA CHURCH (Methodist)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

From about 1860, white framers were granted land in the area around Kidd's beach. Many were of 1820 stock. There was sufficient number to form a congregation and to raise funds and to undertake the building of small chapel, which was completed in 1826. A wood and iron school room was built at the same time but has since been demolished. The roof and the front door were replaced in 1960. The church was bought by Dept of community Development for handing over to the Ciskei in the 1970s. The hand over was never completed and the church, which is one of the oldest extent churches between the fish and Umzimkulu River, was left abundant. The historical society initiated a trust fund and undertook repairs which were completed in 1996. It was declared a National monument in 1993.

## **DESCRIPTION**

This is simple plastered brick building with a pitched roof and entrance porch. The cemetery is of particular interest.

## **LOCATION**

It is situated on the old Ncera Road. Turn off the R32 (Before the turn of Kidds Beach) onto R347. 10 kilometers along turn left onto the old Ncera road at the old canning factory. The church is about 1 km on the right.

## **Access**

At present through the Chairman, Border Historical Society, Miss J. Penrose Mikes, (043) 781 1835. The local community is taking steps to take over the church for interdenominational services.

## **Recommendations**

A meeting has been held with the local community who are very keen that this church could become a tourist attraction. They are talking of setting up a 'boma' and serving cool drinks etc. it would be a great service if this become part of tourist route.

## **30. THE MILITARY SCENE**

Tourist potential of War sites

Military history has a substantial following and Kwa-Zulu Natal has developed excellent battlefield sites, which have attracted a large number of tourists. The Eastern Cape has few battlefield sites as the Xhosa Warriors engaged the British soldiers in guerrilla style, rather than facing up superior numbers and weaponry in open traditional battle formation. What the Eastern Cape does have are forts, which have been largely neglected as tourist attraction. There are over 100 fort of post sites in the Eastern Cape, with 18 of these within the boundaries Buffalo City, and their potential as tourist attractions as yet unrecognized and undeveloped.

The Buffalo City area has the remains of a classic stones – built 'permanent' fort and an earthworks 'temporary' fort as well as powder magazines, which were a part of old forts, and building in the old military Reserve in King Williams Town. Some of these are proclaimed National Monument.

Site selected

Frontier War: Fort Glamorgan, Fort Pato, Fort Murray, Fort Hill ( two powder magazines) the Military Reserve ( military chest vault, barracks, officer's mess, smith, military hospital, stone gutters).

Anglo-Boer War: Colonial Division Memorial.

First and Second World War: Conotaphs in East London, King Williams Town and Cambridge, Lych Gate East London, Memorials – Selborne College, West Bank, Catholic church and selected Memorial tablets.

## **31. THE FRONTIER WARS: The fort sites in Buffalo City date from 1835 to 1857**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

The expansion westward of the Dutch and English settlers during the 19<sup>th</sup> century brought them in to conflict with the Xhosa – speaking people and the present Eastern Cape become a frontier zone. The old Cape Colony boundary was extended to the fish river in

1785. Conflict over the land and between Fish and Keiskamma Rivers led to the proclamation of this area as the so called Neutral Territory in 1819. The Xhosa were systematically being deprived of thousands of hectares of arable and grazing land and by 1834 this drew a response from them. Warriors cross the Fish River raiding farms and settlements and in 1835 the 6<sup>th</sup> frontier war broke out. British Military forces were brought in; King Williams Town was proclaimed and become a centre of Military operation and D'URBAN, Governor of the Cape at the time, proclaimed the area between the Kaiskamma and the Kei River to be the province of Queen Adelaide. A number of forts were established in the new province, including Fort Hill in King Williams Town and Fort Murray, near the Mount Coke Mission Station. The British governor refused to recognize the province of Queen Adelaide and the forts were abandoned.

Renewed hostilities broke out in 1846 (the War of the Axe) and King Williams Town again become the centre of military action. Fort Hill was reoccupied and Fort Murray relocated. East London was established as a part of the mouth of Buffalo River, in order to bring supplies to the scene of the action by sea. In conjunction with this, Fort Glamorgan was constructed to guard the supply port. With the precarious peace being agreed on in 1847, the land between the Keiskamma and Kie rivers was annexed as the colony of British Kaffraria. The peace was short – lived and in 1850 the War of Mlanjeni broke out and lasted till 1853. Temporary posts were erected along the wagon-route between King Williams Town and East London to guard the supply wagons. These were Forts Grey, Pato and needs Camp. The military establishment at King Williams Town was reinforced and a Military Reserve proclaimed.

## **32. FORT GLAMORGAN**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Fort Glamorgan was established at the mouth of Buffalo River in 1848 to house troops and to guard the start of the supply line to King Williams Town. It was named for Lord Charles Somerset's father, the Earl of Glamorgan. It was proclaimed a National Monument 1938.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The original fort consisted of loop-holed stone wall surrounding barrack accommodation for soldiers and officers, forage stores and stabling, a hospital and cookhouses.

The original powder magazine was outside precinct of fort, but it was realized that this was useless and so one was constructed inside the grounds in 1856 this is still exists in good conditions as it has been well maintained by the Dept of Correctional Services. It is built of Dolerite blocks and has an arched roof, of brick roof, surrounded by high stone wall with a small guard house attached. On the outside is around – topped stone with *WD* and an arrow incised. This is one of the original four parameter stones which were situated to indicate the boundary corners of the military rayon. None of the other

buildings remains, but the profusion of stone for supporting walls etc. was taken from the original fort.

### **Location**

It is situated on the West Bank on the right hand side of Bank Street and it is well marked as it is the present day prison of Fort Glamorgan. The powder magazine is situated about 500m from main gate.

### **Access**

Permission must be obtained from the Area manager, Dept of Correctional Services, by sending fax to 7311512 stating the number in the group. Arrangements will then be made for the visit.

### **Conditions**

Very good

### **Capacity and constraints**

This is situated in prison grounds so the Area Manager may have a problem with groups that are too large. This needs to be discussed with him. A group of 20 to 30 is recommended.

### **Recommendation**

Established courteous relations with the Area Manager of Dept Correctional Services.

## **33. HEADQUARTERS**

### **BUFFALO VOLUNTEER RIFLES (ex KAFFRARIAN RIFLES)**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Buffalo Volunteer Rifles was a colonial regiment raised in East London in 1876 under the Captain E.Y. Brabant. Two companies took part in the frontier war of 1877/1878 and they also saw service in the Basuto war of 1880. In 1883 it was reformed as the Kaffrarian Rifles and this regiment fought in the Anglo – Boer War and both World Wars. In 1989 the name was change back to the Buffalo Rifles. The building dates to 1906, when the foundation stone was laid by Col. H.T. Lukin, Commander of the Colonial Forces.

#### **DISCRIPTION**

The building is of red brick with a castellated parapet. A small museum reflecting the history of the regiment has been established and can be visited.

## **LOCATION**

It is situated on the corner of Fleet and Buffalo Streets, East London, with the entrance in Buffalo Street.

### **Access**

The museum is open from 08h00 to 18h00 Monday to Friday. Permission to visit may be obtained by telephoning 742 0677. Officer Commanding is Lieut. Col A.C.M. Clegg. WO2 Craig Brown is the officer in charge of the museum.

## **CAPACITY AND CONSTRAINTS**

Large groups would be difficult to handle. The recommended group size is 20.

## **VISITORS**

Very few people know about this small museum and it receives no publicity.

## **CONDITION**

Very good.

### **Recommendation**

Tourist interested in military history would find this most interesting. The officer commanding and the Curator of the museum should be invited to tourism functions and be involved in planning. There is plan at present for the development of the museum to widen its scope with a particular reference to a more inclusive military history, targeting tourists and education.

## **34. WAR MEMORIAL TABLETS:**

### **34.1. EAST LONDON CITY HALL**

On the landing in the vestibule are tablets made of white marble. On the panels are the names of white men who died during the frontier wars.

### **34.2. FORT PATO**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This was a temporary post which was established in 1853 on the Gulu River ridge (then called 'Goolah Heights') on the site of outspan, to guard the supply line from East London to King Williams town. It was named for Chief Phatho of the Gqunukwebe, as it

was situated in his territory and who has promised to remain it neutral during the war of Axe.

## **DISCRIPTION**

This was square redoubt enclose by earthen parapet, 8 feet high, and fosse, 4-5 feet deep, with two small square loop – holed bastion at opposite corners. It contained three stone buildings, a commissariat, a powder magazine and a cookhouse and brick officers' quarters. Soldiers' barracks and stables were built of wattle and daub. Today the earthworks still exist and remain of brick and stone can be seen within it is completely overgrown with shrubs and trees.

## **LOCATION**

**FORT POTO** is about 300m off the R346, (Mount Coke road) between East London and King Williams Town.

## **ACCESS**

This is on land owned by the Dept Nature Conservation and falls within the Directorate of Marine and coastal Management with Mr Robert Stegman as the responsible official.

## **CAPACITY AND CONSTRAINTS**

As this is out of doors, large numbers would not be a problem.

## **VISITORS**

One part of 8 attempted to view the site but was unable to penetrate the thick bush.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Port Pato is typical of the temporary earthworks forts build in the Eastern Cape during the period of frontier war. No other structure of this kind has been preserved so this is an opportunity for the preservation of a unique site to attract tourists. Mr. Stegman has express his willingness to clear the area and maintain it for tourist. Contact can be made with Mr. Robert Stegman at 043

It is further recommended that local community should be involved in the project and some volunteers could be trained as tour guides for the site.

### **34.3. FORT MURRAY**

#### **INTRODUCTUION**

The original Fort Murray was established 1835 near to the Mount Coke Station. In 1848 it was moved to the present site in Ndlambe territory. It was intended to add muscle to chief commissioner of British Kaffrarian, whose house was situated near by. Fort Murray was occupied by Frontier Armed and mounted Police during the 1870s and by the Cape Police in the 1880s. It was declared a National Monument in 1938. The present ownership of the land and management of the site is not known.

#### **Description**

This was constructed of stone and was intended as more permanent structure. It consisted of a loop-holed stone wall enclosing quarters for officers, barracks for soldiers, a commissariat store, powder magazine and stables. Restoration of the buildings was done in 1977.

#### **Location**

Turn off the R346 (Mount Coke Road). It is some 5kms on. The gravel road in poor condition and is not sign – posted.

#### **ACCESS**

Open

#### **CONDITIONS**

The impressive stone structure still exists, but as there is no control it has been vandalized.

#### **CAPACITY AND CONSTRAINTS**

This is large open air site, so large groups could be accommodated.

#### **VISITORS**

None known

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

As this is a declared National Monument, funds could be requested from SAHRA to do some restoration. Local inhabitants could be counted and involved with the project and tour guides trained. The department of transport (roads) needs to be approached to repair

the road and erect signs. This is the only stone fort of its kind to have been declared and therefore to have same form of protection.

#### **34.4. FORT HILL**

##### **INTRODUCTION**

The outbreak of hostilities in 1835 led to the building of FORT HILL, named for Lord Hill, who was the commander in chief of British Army at the time. It was established in King Williams Town, with the proclamation of the province of Queen Adelaide. It was to be the military headquarters and depot for all the forts in the new province. It was evacuated following the withdrawal in 1837, but reoccupied and rebuilt following the War of the Axe, in 1846.

##### **DESCRIPTION**

It was originally laid out as irregular earthworks square with flanking redans for three guns on three of its faces. Wattle and daub huts were built for 400 soldiers. When rebuilt the walls were reinforced with brick. It was to be used mainly as a depot so provision was made for commissariat and ordnance store complexes and a powder magazine. The second powder magazine was added later. The powder magazines surrounded by stone wall are all that remain of the original fort. The complex is declared National Monument.

##### **LOCATION**

King Williams Town, Lovedale College FET, Amatola Row.

##### **ACCESS**

Permission from the Head.

##### **RECOMANDATIONS**

The principal be consulted about this and the other building from the Military Reserve being accessible to tourist.

#### **35. MILITARY RESERVE**

##### **INTRODUCTION**

In 1847, the area between the Keiskamma and the Kei River was proclaimed as the Colony of British Kaffraria, this further dispossessing the Xhosa people and extending the British control. Commissioners were appointed to administer and work with the Chiefs. It was realized that control would have to be through the force of arms and so

provision was made to build and reoccupy fortifications throughout the new colony. King Williams Town was again selected to be the headquarters and in 1848 a large area was cordoned off for Military buildings – the Military Reserve.

## **DESCRIPTION**

The area covered about 5 acres adjoining the new town and included the Fort Hill. The buildings, often of stone, included officers' quarters, an officers' mess, vault for the military chest, a hospital, a smithy for the engineers, barracks, for Artillerymen, a cavalry troop, a battalion of infantry and a house for the chief Commissioner.

## **LOCATION**

- 1 The barracks, the house for the Chief Commissioner and the vault for the military chest are all situated within the grounds of Lovedale College (KWT campus)
- 2 The officers' mess, a National Monument, is situated in Hood Street.
- 3 The Smithy, a National monument is situated in a field off Military Road.
- 4 The military hospital, a National Monument, is in Military Road.
- 5 Stone gutters in Military Street. These were laid by the Royal Engineers and are proclaimed by the NMC.

## **ACCESS**

For Fort Hill and Military barracks.

Permission from the Principal, Lovedale College campus, Mr N. Dickson, 043-6421414

## **CONDITION**

Some are good. All need care and attention.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The principal of the Lovedale College (KWT campus) be contacted and access discussed. The possibility of introducing a tourism component for one of the courses could be suggested. SAHRA should be contacted and advice given on care of the proclaimed sites. The Departments under whose control the various buildings fall be contacted and possibly hold a tourism workshops with them to involve them in the project.

## **36. ANGLO-BOER WAR 1899-1902(SOUTH AFRICAN WAR)**

### **THE COLONIAL DIVISION MEMORIAL**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

East London was an important port of entry for supplies for the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902. Most East London and King Williams Town white inhabitants were pro British and many streets in East London were named for the Colonial and British generals, such as Lukin, Brabant, Buller, Kitchener, Roberts and French. Many fine houses in the Belgravia were built from the proceeds of burgeoning trade, of which the Ann Bryant Art Gallery is a fine example. While no military engagements were fought in the Buffalo

City area, many of the Colonial Division Units were raised in the area and the equestrian statue was a memorial to those killed in action.

### **DESCRIPTION**

This is a bronze equestrian statue mounted on a plinth of Irish marble. It depicts a scout sculptured by W. Reynolds-Stephens of London. The model for the figure was Captain G.J. Hearn M.C., of the Cape Mounted Riflemen, and the model for the horse was 'Boodles'. The inscription reads "This statue was erected to the memory of the officers and men of the Colonial Division who lost their lives in the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902". The names of men from the Cape Mounted Riflemen, the Kaffarian Rifles, the Queenstown Rifle Volunteers, Border Horse, Cape Medical Corps, and two regiments of Brabant's Horse. It was unveiled on 9 November 1908 by General Sir E.Y. Brabant. The statue was named the best equestrian statue by the Royal Academy in 1910.

### **LOCATION**

It is situated in front of the entrance of the City Hall, Oxford Street, East London.

### **CAPACITY AND CONSTRAINTS**

While this is out of doors in front of the City Hall, it would be undesirable to have very large groups, especially as a visit is likely to be linked to a visit to the City Hall itself.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Any efforts to move this statue should be vigorously opposed. Movement would certainly damage the fabric and bronze becomes very brittle. It should be kept clean and its condition should be monitored.

## **37. MEMORIAL FOR WORLD WAR 1, 1914-1918 AND WORLD WAR II, 1939-1945**

### **INTRODUCTION**

South Africa sent many units to fight in the First World War and, in common with most South African towns and villages, both East London and King Williams Town erected memorials those who lost their lives. The horrific loss of life generated deep emotions and the proliferation of memorials was an effort to justify and glorify those who had died. East London had 5 cenotaphs erected, 2 memorial windows, and 6 rolls of honour were inscribed and located in various buildings around the town. The Second World War did not generate such an outburst of sentimentality and fewer and smaller memorials were erected. Many simply added names to existing memorials.

## **THE CENOTAPH EAST LONDON**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Cenotaph was erected through public subscription and was unveiled on 11 November 1923 by Major General Sir H.T. Lukin K.C. CMG DSO. The design of the memorial was selected from 14 entries and was by Ing and Jackson of Durban. The bronze figure was designed by Mr J.W. Jagger of London.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The central memorial is set within a square enclosed by wrought iron railings, with lamps on pillars at each corner. The memorial is of the cenotaph style with a shaft resting on a platform of sandstone blocks. Each face has the names of the various battle fronts. On the north face is a life-size bronze sculpture of a soldier in full trench kit. Above the figure is the coat of arms of East London and with the inscription "To the men of East London who fell in the Great War, 1915 to 1918". The names are inscribed on the lower faces of the memorial.

### **LOCATION**

The area is bounded by Oxford and King and Lukin Road.

### **ACCESS**

Open

### **CONDITION**

Good

### **CAPACITY AND CONSTRAINTS**

As this is open air, large groups could be accommodated.

### **VISITORS**

No record has been kept. A public ceremony is held annually to lay wreaths on November.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Council should be made aware that maintenance should be ongoing as vandalism does occur.

## **38. LYCH GATE – EAST LONDON**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The passion for elaborate memorials had waned by the end of the Second World War, but it was felt necessary to erect some memorial. A Lych Gate, or covered gateway was usually the entrance to a church, and this was selected for this memorial. It was unveiled

and dedicated on 2 September 1951 by Lt Genl G.E. Brink Cb CBE DSO Croix de Guerre.

### **DESCRIPTION**

A slate roof supports wooden beams. Benches are situated on each side. The names of those who lost their lives are inscribed on tablets.

### **LOCATION**

Adjoins the World War 1 Cenotaph.

### **Access**

Open

### **CONDITION**

Good

### **CAPACITY AND CONSTRAINTS**

As for the Cenotaph

### **VISITORS**

No records kept.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

As for the Cenotaph, this should be regularly inspected and cleaned.

## **39. WEST BANK WAR MEMORIAL**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Two committees were formed by the West Bank community during the First World War, to raise money for the troops: the Ladies' Comforts Fund and the Overseas Contingency Fund. At the end of the war there was a small surplus of money and it was decided to erect a memorial. Further costs were collected from the community. The memorial was dedicated and unveiled by Lieut Colonel R.W. Currin (Office Commanding the Kaffrarian Rifles) on 15 October 1921.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The memorial takes the form of a white marble obelisk standing on a granite base. A springbok badge and inscription "To the Glorious Dead 1914-1919" overlie the names of the fallen on two panels. On the third panel, "1939-1945" has been added with additional names. It is set in a small square, which abuts the pavement, and is bounded by two stone walls and railings.

## **LOCATION**

It is situated on the corner of Bank and Frere streets in the grounds of St Andrews Presbyterian Church, West Bank.

## **ACCESS**

Open

## **CONDITION**

The monument is in good condition but of the four supporting concrete pillars which support the railings, one is broken in half. Railings are also missing. Weeds are growing through the paving.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Contact with the responsible church officials should be made. Council should be made aware of this memorial and suggestions made that the pillars and railings be repaired. It would not be difficult for the grounds men to keep the area weed free when they come to mow the grass in St Alfred Square.

## **40. SELBORNE COLLEGE WAR MEMORIAL**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The building of this memorial was apart of the building of the college when it moved to the present site in 1923. The memorial was unveiled by Sir Frederick de Waal, then Administrator of the Cape, on 8 November 1924. The inscription and names for those who died in the Second World War were added later. Every year there is a service of dedication "The Ceremony of the Key". The Head boy is named in Custodian of the Key and is handed the key to the enclosure. It is his responsibility to look after the monument.

### **DESCRIPTION**

A life size statue in Italian marble of a soldier stands on top of a dressed stone base. On the side of the base is the coat of arms of the school and motto "Palme Virtuti" and inscription "To the glory of God and in proud and loving memory of those old Selbornians who laid their lives in the Great War 1914-1919. Their names lived for ever". On the four sides of the base are words "S.W. Africa, East Africa, Egypt and Palestine, France and Belgium". The names of those who died are inscribed. Added late: "The World War 1939-1945 at the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them".

### **LOCATION**

It is situated in the grounds of Selborne College, entry in Dawson Road.

**ACCESS**

Only with permission of the Headmaster, Mr S. Gunn

**CONDITION**

Excellent as maintained by the school.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Make contact with the staff and Headmaster

**41. CATHOLIC CHURCH MEMORIAL****INTRODUCTION**

Members of the parish raised funds to erect this memorial to their member who had died in the First World War.

**DESCRIPTION**

A large cross with an effigy of Christ appears to be moulded of concrete. It is mounted granite pedestal with marble panels, on which is inscribed "To the memory of the Catholic men of this parish who were killed in the Great War and in gratitude for the return on many other". The names are inscribed on the based.

**LOCATION**

It is situated in a niche next to the door of the Church on the Immaculate Conception, close to the pavement, in Albany Street. Note: vehicle access from Buffalo Street is closed, so entry is via Park Avenue of Beaconsfield Road.

**ACCESS**

Open

**CONDITION**

Good, but it has been painted rather crudely with a heavy layer of white paint.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Make contact with church officials to discuss the paint layer. A sentry box is situated directly in front of the memorial, which detracts from it. This could be investigated.

**42. CENOTAPH – CAMBRIDGE****INTRODUCTION**

The village of Cambridge was first proclaimed in 1904 and was a separate municipality from East London. A separate town hall was in built 19..... The municipality decided that their own memorial should be erected. The Cambridge Municipality was incorporated into that of East London in 1942.

## **DESCRIPTION**

A simple structure of blue granite was erected with the names of the fallen on a Roll of Honour. It was unveiled and dedicated on Delville Day, 16 July 1922 by Brigadier Gen J. Bryan.

## **LOCATION**

In front of the old Cambridge Town Hall on Mayfair Street.

## **ACCESS**

Open

## **CONDITIONS**

Extremely Poor. The name bearing plaques have been removed.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Council should be reminded that this memorial also falls under their care.**

### **43. OTHER MEMORIALS:**

There are memorial windows in St Savior's Anglican Church, St Peters Road and in the original chapel of the Missions to Seamen building in Buffalo Street

The following churches have memorial tablets:

- Baptist Church, Oxford Street
- St Georges Presbyterian Church, Oxford Street
- Trinity Methodist Church, Oxford Street

### **Memorial Tablets:**

- Were in the vestibule of East London City Hall are now in the Kaffrarian Rifles Museum. Names of Municipal employees.
- Chamber of Commerce Hall EL Produce Association \* cant be found
- Railway Station – SA Railways & Harbors

### **44. CENOTAPH – KING WILLIAMS TOWN**

#### **DESCRIPTIONS**

This is one of the most impressive war memorials in the Eastern Cape. It is a very tall stone plinth surmounted by the figure of a winged victory.

#### **LOCATION**

Alexandra Road, King William Town

#### **ACCESS**

Public open space

## **CONDITION**

Good

## **45. THE GERMAN SETTLERS**

### **Tourism potential**

A large proportion of international tourists are from Germany, and many find the Eastern Cape/German connection of great interest. Marketing strategy to this end could be directed specifically to the German interest group.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Sir George Grey, Governor of the Cape from 1854 to 1862, wanted European settlers in British Kaffraria in order to introduce the Xhosa speaking people to a European type of society. The British government first offered Grey the military men of the British German Legion, who had been recruited for the Crimean War, but had not seen service. As a result, some 2362 military settlers landed at East London in 1857. They were given grants of land, which were clearly situated to form the defensive lines. They named many of the villages after their homes in Germany. The one line extended from East London to Stutterheim (named for their commander, Baron von Stutterheim) and included Postdam, Berlin, Marienthal, Frankfurt, Breidbach, Braunschweig and Greyton (after Sir George Grey). The other group of settlements were situated along the Keiskamma River; Hamburg, Bodiam, Bell and Wooldridge. This scheme was not a success as military men did not make good agriculturalists and most left to serve in India. Grey was convinced that German farmers would be more suitable settlers so entered into an agreement with J.C. Goddefroy of Hamburg, German, for a further immigration scheme. As a result, some 3407 immigrants arrived between 1858 and 1862 and were settled in the already established villages. The new immigrants proved to be hardy and hard working and, in spite of the many hardships which they faced, they survived and the created a distinctive life style which adapted their German traditions to the exigencies of their new lives. Communities united and celebrated both the 50<sup>th</sup> and centenary anniversaries of their arrival in grand style. On their centenary, it was decided to raise funds to build memorials in East London and King Williams Town. During the 1960s, during the era of forced removals, many of the German Villages were taken over for incorporation into the Ciskei, and the residents forced to move. The villages of Potsdam and Greyton have gone and many of the churches have been deserted and vandalized.

### **SITES SELECTED**

German Settler Monuments – East London and King William's Town  
Ohlson's Memorial, Charles Vix's Cottage, Von Ronow's Cottage, Moser's Cottage,  
Tindale Road Cemetery

The East London and Amathole Museums have very good displays on German Settler History.

## **46. GERMAN SETTLER'S MONUMENT, East London**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The foundation stone for the complex was laid in 1958 by Dr T.E. Donges, then Minister of the Interior. It was the climax of the German Settler Centenary celebration held in East London in 1958. The statue is the work of Lippy Lipschits, a well-known South African sculptor. It was unveiled on 10 October 1960 by the then Governor General, the Hon C.R. Swart. The plaques were designed and made by the German sculptor, Bodo Kampmann and paid for by the German cities of Hamburg, Hannover and Braunschweig and the West German government. The wall was unveiled on 4 September 1961 by the West German Consul, Mr O.E. Heipertz. The memorial was designed by Mr J. Marsden, architect, and constructed by H.M. Russel, contractor.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The area consists of a group of sculptured figures on a plinth, five large plaques on stepped walls against the hill and a garden. The larger than life-size imposing granite sculpture is of a family group, mother, father and two children. Five bronze plaques depict the story of the settlers.

### **LOCATION**

The memorial is situated on the beach front, one street up from the Esplanade.

### **ACCESS**

This is unrestricted as it is open. There is good parking.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Contact can be made with the German Association, which maintains this memorial. They would be prepared to supply translators and/ or guides.

Contact Mrs G. Schuch, Tel. 748 – 3086

## **47. GERMAN SETTLER MEMORIAL, King Williams Town**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This was also a product of the centenary celebrations. It was designed by Ivan Vincent, an East London architect, who is a German Settler descendant.

### **DESCRIPTION**

This memorial consists of a mounted block of stone framed by a stone arch and is situated at the head of a fishpond. The stone was quarried in Germany, and brought to the site.

**LOCATION**

It is situated in Prince Alfred Square, just off Alexandra Road and Smith Street

**ACCESS**

As it is an open air memorial there is no restriction and there is ample parking.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

This is often looks neglected and the pool is empty. Council should be advised of their responsibility in maintaining it, as tourists would not be impressed with the amount of litter lying around.

**48. OHLSEN MEMORIAL, King Williams Town****INTRODUCTION**

The German military settlers were not suited to be settlers and tended to be a troublesome bunch. There was no military action at the time and, according to contemporary reports, they spent their time hunting, playing cards and making trouble. Ohlsen was a military settler, who was ostensibly “murdered”. The circumstances of his death are not known, so the terms are questionable. The memorial is of interest as it gives some insight as to white attitudes at the time.

**DESCRIPTION**

This is a memorial stone. “Captain Ferdenand Ohlsen” and dated 27 February 1857

**LOCATION**

The memorial is situated on the corner of Sauer and Cambridge Street in King Williams Town.

Public open space

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

There is not much to see, but the implications and interpretation is of interest.

## **49. CHARLES VIX'S COTTAGE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Charles Vix was a surgeon who accompanied the British German Legion to the Eastern Cape in 1856. He was given a grant of land in East London and a small cottage was built on it probably in the 1850s. It has been surmised that this building constricted his surgery. He did not leave the country with most of the legionaries, but remained in East London. He must have died in the 1860s or 1870s, as his widow, Martha, is recorded as living in Park Avenue in 1879. This is the only remaining German Settler house in East London which has not been changed and modernized.

### **DESCRIPTION**

This building is a small square cottage of two rooms. The walls are very thick and there are small sash windows. The one room is furnished as John Gately's office and the other is used as a store.

### **LOCATION**

In the grounds of Gately House.

### **ACCESS**

The property is owned and administered by the East London Museum. There is access by vehicle at the lower end of Beaconsfield Road, but it is better to telephone the Curator, who will open the gates to park inside the grounds as vandalism is a problem. The other access is via the zoo.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Should this become part of a German Settler tourist route, the Museum authorities to open one of the rooms and furnish it in settler style.

## **50. TINDALE ROADE CEMENTARY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

A German Baptist church, "Zoar", was established by a group of German settlers who has arrived between 1858- 59. They were allocated 10 acre plots where they tried with great difficulty, to make a leaving from the land. Many found added ways of making income, such as establishing trading stores, selling cut flowers or taking any work, which become available from time to time. The foundation stone of the church was laid in 1869 and the church was completed in 1871. The cemetery was attached to this church. The church ceased to be used as a Baptist church some time in the 1930s and various other denominations utilized and changed the building. A book with details of cemetery records was compiled by Terry Archer. " the German settler cemetery in Tindale Road" has copies lodged in the East London Museum Library and Central Library, East London.

## **DESCRIPTION**

This is a small accessible old cemetery set in a grove of trees. The headstone were vandalized and maintenance was difficult, so in 1990 the remaining headstone were removed to one area, so the property would be easier to maintain. A site marker with information was erected on the property.

### **Location**

Off Tindale Road between Stockton and Stanton Roads

### **ACCESS**

Public open space.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

This is a pleasant accessible spot for visitors interested in German settler history. Mowing of the lawns tends to be sporadic and Council encouraged to care and maintain this site as part of the historic heritage of the city.

## **51. VAN RONOW'S HOUSE AND MOSER'S COTTAGE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The German Military settlers were divided into three regiments. Berlin was chosen as the headquarters of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment under Lieutenant Count Rudolph von Ronow. He built his house in the village of Charlottenburg. Officers received a better building allowance than ordinary soldiers, so this was relatively large and comfortable one and can be compared with Moser's cottage which is situated nearby.

### **DESCRIPTION**

This is a stone-built house probably built in 1857. The kitchen floor was 'mis' and the original ceiling of calico. There is Dutch oven at the back. In 1896 Charlotte Louise Winkelmann, widow of a military settler bought the property, and was owned and maintained for many years by Miss Louise Winkelmann, who died only a few years ago.

Moser's cottage is also of stone, but only has two rooms. It was occupied by Francois Joseph Moser in 1859 and in the Moser brought up their 10 children. Both these buildings are declared National monuments.

### **LOCATION**

About 2 kms from the main road through Berlin.

## **ACCESS**

Privately owned

## **CONDITION**

They have not been maintained or cared for since the new owners moved in.

## **52. EAST LONDON MUSEUM**

A German Settler Gallery has been created in the East London Museum. This has information on the history of the Settlers, a diorama of a country cottage with wagons and agricultural equipment on display. The interior of a home belonging to Mr. F. Alberti, a wealthy wool buyer from East London is also on display reflecting a comparison of rich and poor homes. Further information on the German Settlers can be obtained from the Librarian and/ or the historian at the museum.

## **53. AMATHOLE MUSEUM**

The German also settled around King Williams Town and the Amathole Museum reflects aspects of their history in a gallery display. Other information can also be obtained from the library and curator of history.

## **54. HISTORICAL EAST LONDON AND MDANTSANE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

East London was founded to serve as a supply port for the military during the frontier wars. King Williams Town had been established as the headquarters for military operations and it was decided that the mouth of the Buffalo River was deep enough for vessels to enter and to off load. The actual founding date has had two interpretations. Sir Harry Smith, Governor of the Cape at the time, issued a proclamation, dated 27 December, 1847, which stated that 'the rising town at the mouth of buffalo river to be called London'. Some confusion evidently arose as "one would think that a flying machine had been invented as the trip from Cape Town to London took only 3 days", and on 11 January 1848, the second proclamation was issued which named the town East London.

The first settlement took place on west bank where a small jetty was built. Trade followed the military and soon a small community was established. The military however, maintained tight control and strangled any development for many years. Once their control had been lifted in the late 1860s, the possibilities for the growth in commerce become more positive. The establishment of the railway terminus at the port gave a great boost to the economy, but as it was situated on the east bank, most of the business men moved their homes and work from the west bank. The belief that ships

could enter the harbour with ease proved unfounded and until the first dredger arrived in 1880, ships had to anchor in the roadstead and wrap passengers and goods ashore in surf boats.

East London has never been a town favored by successive governments, so development has been sporadic. The Anglo-Boer War boosted commerce and many fine buildings date to the early 1900s. The wool trade also played a part in an economic upsurge and many Art Deco buildings of the 1930s indicate that period of prosperity.

## **SITE SELECTED**

Bakers Wells, Prince Alfred Square, West Bank Post Office, wood and iron houses, wooden houses, Erf No 1, West Bank School, West Bank Cemetery, Grand Prix Race Track, Gately House, Station, Old Anglican cemetery, Queens park, City Hall, Old Library, Cuthbert's, old Standard Bank, Ann Bryant Art Gallery, Kimmerling's Plaque, old Wool Exchange, Calgary transport Museum, Mrs. Sonthi's House, Mdantsane.

## **55. WEST BANK**

This was the first area to be settled and unlike most cities in the country where the CBD has flattened the oldest buildings, the West Bank retains its scale and atmosphere. Black inhabitants occupied a "Location" where the present Daimler Chrysler plant is now situated. The first white residents were military personnel, those who were employed by the harbour and those engaged in somewhat precarious trading ventures.

## **56. BAKERS WELLS**

The first water supply for the little village was found by a military officer, Captain Baker of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Highlanders. The original fresh water spring was situated below the Hood Point Lighthouse and on the sea side of the present road. In 1879, the spring was dammed in three places higher up the slope and piped to the village. These became known as Baker's Wells erroneously. The remains of the stone retaining walls can still be seen below the West Bank Golf Course. The engineering firms who are working on the marine outfall pipe have promised to erect a sign to identify the site.

On the corner of Dale and Strand Streets is **Erf No 1**, the 3<sup>rd</sup> plot sold to a civilian in 1849. Descendants of the first owner presented the erf to the City and a plaque attached to a stone, marks the site.

## **57. PRINCE ALFRED SQUARE**

This open space bounded by Frere, Bank and High Streets was named in honour of the visit of Prince Alfred, 2<sup>nd</sup> son of Queen Victoria, to the Eastern Cape in 1860. A market established in 1873 with John Venn as market master. As no produce was received, he had to retire. The Border Historical Society have erected a plaque in the centre of Prince Alfred Square.

Many of the houses in West Bank date to the 1850s and 1860s, especially those in Strand, Smith and High Streets and east of Alexandria Street. **Wood and iron houses** are common as this was a form of building construction which inexpensive, easy to erect and could be easily transported if a venture was unsuccessful. Some have been plastered over and cement pillars replacing the original wooden veranda supports.

34 High Street and? Strand Street are two very early **wooden houses** which have been “modernized”. They both date to the 1850s. There are very few existing examples of this type of construction in the country and should be preserved.

#### **58. WEST BANK POST OFFICE**

This building was erected as the **first Magistrate’s Court**, Customs House and Revenue Office in 1866. In 1882, the Magistrate’s Court was moved to Panmure and the building became a Post Office. It is a National Monument. The Norfolk Pine, which stands next to the building, was planted in 1874 by the Resident Magistrate at the time, Arthur Orpen

#### **59. WEST BANK SCHOOL, Hood Street**

The first school in East London was started by the rector of St Peter’s Church and was for boys only. The original section of the present building was erected in 1881. Later additions were made.

#### **60. THE CEMETERY**

This was laid out in 1879 and contains many graves of great interest. These include George Walker, Harbor Master from 1850 to 1876, Colonel John MacLean, Governor of British Kaffraria from 1860-1864 and an “unknown Seaman”

#### **61. GRAND PRIX RACE TRACK**

This race circuit was constructed on the West Bank in 1935 and for many years was an international Grand Prix Circuit. Here raced most of the famous name in international racing of the 1930s and 1950s. The venue was moved to Johannesburg in the 1960s.

#### **62. EAST BANK**

**The Station.** Terminus Street

A start was made in the construction of the railway in 1876 and a single storey building was erected and opened in 1877. With the completion of the railway through to Queenstown in 1880, a second storey was added and this date can be seen on either side of the clock on the central pediment.

## **63. GATELY HOUSE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This was home of John Gately, an Irish immigrant who was a successful businessman. He was a leading personality in early East London and one of the founders of the municipal council. The house became the property of the East London Museum in 1966 and is administered by the Museum.

### **DESCRIPTION**

Gately House is a single-storey house with a veranda on three sides set in a pleasant garden. Built in 1876, it is an excellent example of a modest Victorian home and is one of the only House Museums in the country which contains the original furniture. There are very fine pieces of furniture such as balloon-back chairs, a magnificent mahogany dining table and leather button-back suite. This is a proclaimed National Monument.

### **LOCATION**

The house adjoins Queens Park

### **ACCESS**

This can be accessed through Queens Park and the Zoo, but the road is overgrown and vehicle access is limited. The main entrance is at the end of Beaconsfield Road but can be difficult to find. Instruction can be obtained from the Museum and a telephone call to the Curator will ensure that the gate will be opened and parking can be done safely within the grounds. Hours: Tuesdays to Saturdays: 09h30-12h30 and 15h00-17h00, Sundays: 15h00-17h00. Telephone: 043-722 2141

## **64. OLD LOCK STREET GAOL – now SBDC**

### **DESCRIPTIONS**

This impressive stone complex was built in 1880 to accommodate the law-breakers of a growing town. A gallows room and death cells formed part of the old goal and the first execution was carried out in 1882. From 1935, all executions were carried out in Pretoria. In 1954 it became a prison for women only. Many famous people were incarcerated here, including Daisy de Melker and Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. In 1979 the prison was closed and building abandoned. The Small Business Development Corporation took it over in 1980 and developed a hive of shops for small businesses. There is a display on the history of the goal in the old gallows section.

### **LOCATION**

Lock Street, off Fleet Street

### **ACCESS**

Free

## **65. OLD ANGLICAN CEMETERY**

Although situated adjoining the old Lock Street Gaol, this old graveyard predates the prison. It was originally attached to Grace Chapel, established by the Anglican Church in 1858 and was situated on the corner of Fleet and Station Streets. The mission was not very successful and with the building of St Johns church, the congregation moved there. The construction of the Lock Street Gaol in 1880 also made the situation less desirable. The property was sold to the Municipal Council by the church in 1909 “on condition that the land shall be put into a proper state of repair and be conserved as public property”. The cemetery was maintained in relatively good order by the prison authorities until the Gaol was closed in 1980. In 1985 the Small Business Development Association took over the property and proposed to flatten the cemetery for a car park. After strenuous objections by the Historical Society, it was agreed to retain the portion in which most of the graves were situated, exhume the graves and remove the headstones and relocate them to the designated space. The contractors arrived with their bulldozers and proceeded to smash and break the headstones. There was an outraged protest from the Society and members of the public and the contractors had to mend the headstones. Three graves were never exhumed and were buried under the park with the loss of three headstones. The remaining graves date from 1875 to 1882.

### **LOCATION**

Lock Street, off Fleet Street, adjoining the parking area

### **ACCESS**

Free

## **66. QUEENS PARK**

Land was set aside for a Botanical Garden in 1880. Gardens were laid out with carriage drives and pathways. In 1890, visiting Governor, Sir Henry Loch, opened the park official giving it the name of Queen’s Park, to honour Queen Victoria, then in the 53<sup>rd</sup> year of her reign. It was proclaimed a National Monument to protect the valuable exotic and indigenous vegetation, when road-makers threatened to drive a road through the middle. The wrought-iron gates were given by three leading businessmen, Sir Donald Currie, John Stroyan and James Georgeson, in 1894.

### **LOCATION**

Entrance at the lower end of Park Avenue

### **ACCESS**

Free to the park, but the old pathways have not been maintained. The Zoo occupies much of the land today

## **67. CITY HALL**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The 1890s saw remarkable growth in East London as wool became a valuable export. The City Hall is a very visible symbol of the faith, which the leaders of the community had in the future of the town at the time. The foundation stone was laid in 1897, the same year that Queen Victoria celebrated her Diamond Jubilee. It was decided to name the clock tower in her honour, the Victoria Tower. The building was completed in 1899, but the opening celebrations were muted as the Anglo-Boer War was declared in the same month. This is a declared National Monument.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The large elaborate late Victorian structure dominates the cityscape of East London. East London became a “city” in 1914 and only then did the “Town Hall” become the “City Hall”. An excellent programme of restoration in 1987 saw much of the supporting fabric being installed as the tower and gables had become dangerously unsteady.

### **LOCATION**

Oxford Street

### **ACCESS**

Free, but as this is still a building in use, it would be preferable to get permission from the caretaker.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It could be of interest to have guided tours available.

## **68. OLD LIBRARY**

A public library was established as early as 1876, but the first premises proved inadequate and were described as a “rabbit hutch”. As the population grew rapidly in the 1890s and early 1900s, funds were raised for a capacious new building. The foundation stone was laid by Mrs. W.H. Fuller on 17 June 1905 and officially opened by Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson. The “Greek Temple” colonnaded façade was designed by a local firm of architects, Page NAD Cordeax. It is a National Monument.

### **LOCATION**

Corner of Argyle and Cambridge Streets.

### **ACCESS**

This is owned by the City Council. The interior is not of much significance

## **69. CUTHBERT'S BUILDING**

This is another splendidly ornate building, which demonstrates the confidence which commercial enterprise had in the future. It was built in 1900 to house a branch of the new Cape Town shoe store, started by Mr. W. Cuthbert. It is a National Monument.

### **LOCATION**

Corner of Gladstone and Oxford Street, opposite the City Hall

### **ACCESS**

The façade is of interest as the interior has been changed too often to have any significance

## **70. OLD STANDARD BANK**

The original premises Standard Bank were on the market square and housed in a small wooden structure. The dignified building in Terminus Street was erected in 1900 and expanded to the corner site in 1927, with the architects carefully matching the original design. The corner entrance has a small cupola and the entrance hall has a beautiful stained glass clerestory window, which are of interest. The building is at present owned by the Provincial Government; it is a proclaimed National Monument.

### **LOCATION**

Corner of Cambridge and Terminus Street

### **ACCESS**

By request at the door

## **71. ANN BRYANT ART GALLERY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This elegant house reflects the way Victorian men were prepared to demonstrate their success in decorating their residences. In this case, the owner's confidence was misplaced. It was built in 1905 by Arthur Savage, who had made money during the profiteering time of the Anglo-Boer War, but who had lost it in the subsequent depression. It was bought by Mr. E.A. Bryant, a more successful businessman. He and his wife were interested in art and built up a private collection. When she died, she bequeathed the property and the collection to the City. It was officially opened as an Art Gallery in 1947.

### **DESCRIPTION**

This is a double-storey home set in the original spacious grounds. It has two elaborate gables surmounted by chimneys. There are beautiful stained glass windows.

### **LOCATION**

The block between Oxford Street and Belgrave Road.

**ACCESS**

Opening Hours – Mondays to Fridays; 09h30 – 17h00, Saturdays; 09h30 – 12h00.  
Telephone 043 722 4044

**72. KIMMERLING'S PLAQUE**

East London was the scene for the first powered flight in the country. At the invitation of the Gala Committee of East London Town Council, Albert Kimberling, a Frenchman, brought his 50 horsepower biplane to East London. On 29 December 1909, he made the first controlled power flight in South Africa on the then Nahoon Race Course. Sterling High School and the Bunkers Hill sports field are situated on the old race course.

**LOCATION**

The plaque commemorating this event is attached to a rock on the corner of Gleneagles Road and M13.

**73. OLD WOOL EXCHANGE**

East London became a centre for trading in wool during the 1890s, with the buying and selling of wool mainly in the hand of wool brokers, usually by auction. As the wool industry grew, co-operatives for brokers and buyers were formed. In 1928 the East London Wool and Mohair Buyers Association decided to build a "Wool Exchange", which was completed in 1930. In 1981, wool buying was moved to Port Elizabeth. The building was purchased by Rhodes University for the site of their new East London campus in 1982. It is a National Monument.

**LOCATION**

On the corner of Hill and Station Streets

**ACCESS**

This building is in use. A visit could be arranged with permission of the university authorities. Telephone 043 704 7000

**74. CALGARY TRANSPORT MUSEUM**

This is a comprehensive collection of vehicles used in transport in the Eastern Cape over the past 150 years.

**LOCATION**

13 kilometers from East London on the N6

**ACCESS**

A small entry fee. Open Mondays to Sundays 09h00 -06h30. Good parking. Telephone 043 730 7244

**75. MRS SONTSHI'S HOUSE**

This home was an original wood and iron municipal council house, which escaped being demolished during the forcible removals in the 1960s. It was erected in the 1920s and had substantial additions in 1958. This is an example of a house of the East Bank Location, later named Duncan Village.

#### **LOCATION**

1558 Mngqebisa Street, Duncan Village

#### **ACCESS**

Privately owned

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

More background information on the Sontshi family should be obtained. The house is still owned by a Mr Sontshi

#### **76. MDANTSANE**

By the 1940s, living quarters for black East London workers were hard to find and the existing locations and Duncan Village were overcrowded. In 1954 the City Engineer was requested to find space for expansion, especially on suitable land adjoin Duncan Village. This survey was refused by the national government and the area was declared to be for whites only. Areas near Newlands, Mecleantown, Kwelegha and a farm "Umdanzani", were examined. The latter was found to be suitable as it lay alongside the national road and railway line, and in 1958 the new site was declared.

The municipality undertook the planning which was based on the "neighborhood concept" of a garden city, first suggested by E Howard in 1898. This envisaged a central CBD with neighborhoods clustering around it. In each neighborhood there would be low order central areas, which would house shops, churches and educational facilities. The nature of the topography, ridges and valleys, dictated much of the layout, which tried to avoid the formal grid pattern and worked around curves, loops and triangles. By the end of 1963 the first 300 residents occupied the new houses.

In 1966 it was proclaimed a "Ciskie Homeland" town and excised from East London. The advantage at least was that this did allow for freehold title. It was originally only intended to make provision for 120 000, but it grew very rapidly and today has 18 zones.

Visits should be arranged with a qualified tour guide.

#### **77. EAST LONDON MUSEUM**

The East London Museum has much to interest visitors on the History of East London.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The above list has mainly utilized the proclaimed national monuments but there are many more building and sites which tell the story of the history of East London and Mdantsane. Some of the sites have been incorporated in other sections

The contribution of the Coloured, Chinese and Indian communities has not been recognized. Consultations with these communities could be helpful as many have retained much of their respective cultural heritages.

Mr. Jeremy Watson, an architect with a knowledge and interest of the built heritage compiled a book, *The Urban Trail*, which identified several walking trails through East London and which gave the history of each building encountered. Since its publication in 1989, many of the buildings have been demolished. Mr. Watson began an updated version, but then left to settle in Scotland. It would be extremely useful if contact could be made with Mr. Watson and the updated version obtained

From this information tourism leaflets or brochures could be compiled for selected tours. These would be of interest to both local people, as well as tourists and would be particularly valuable for educational purposes.

## **78. HISTORICAL KING WILLIAMS TOWN AND ZWELITSHA**

### **78.1 SHORT SUMMARY OF KING WILLIAM'S TOWN HISTORY**

The town was founded by Sir Benjamin D'Urban, governor of the Cape Colony, after the War of Hintsa (1834-1835). King William's Town was established as the capital of the province Queen Adelaide, stretching between the Kei and Keiskamma Rivers. D'Urban's scheme did not succeed however, and the territory was handed back to the Xhosa in 1836.

During the course of the War of the Axe (1846- 1847) the town was re-established by the new governor, Sir Harry Smith. From this date King Williams Town slowly grew and prospered as administrative, military, and economic and education centre of British Kaffraria. The province was incorporated into the Cape Province in 1866.

## **79. KING WILLIAM'S TOWN: TOURIST ATTRACTIONS**

### **79.1 GREY HOSPITAL, CNR EALES & LONSDALE ROAD**

This National Monument was built between 1856 and 1859 for the black population of British Kaffraria. The imposing bell tower and double story wings were designed by E. Pilkington. The building boasted piped water and a novel ventilation system. The timber for the large entrance door is said to have recovered from the wreck of the "Lady Kennaway".

### **79.2. OLD METHODIST CHURCH (MISSIONARY MUSEUM), BERKELEY STREET**

The neo-Gothic building now housing the Missionary Museum (a satellite of the Amathole Museum) was built in 1855 as a Wesleyan Chapel and was subsequently used

by the Baptist congregation. When semi-derelict it was bought by Historical Homes of S.A., restored and converted into Museum in 1973 it was proclaimed a National Monument in 1975. The displays include the Albion press which was used by the Rev. John Appleyard to print the first complete Xhosa Bible at Mount Coke Mission, outside King William's Town.

#### **79.3. OLD METHODIST MANSE, BERKELEY STREET**

This double –storey manse, adjacent to the old Methodist church, was erected in approximately 1855. The wooden balcony, stretching from one side of the façade to the other, was a later addition. It has been renovated recently to accommodate the Potter's House, a Christian fellowship. It was declared a National Monument in 1975.

#### **79.4. BRITISH KAFFRARIAN SAVINGS BANK, CORNER OF TAYLOR STREET AND MACLEAN SQUARE.**

Built in 1908, this architecturally interesting and well- preserved building portrays the architecture of the turn of the century. It received national monument status in 1975.

#### **79.5 LONSDALE CHAMBERS, TYLOR SREET**

This double-storey building with its classical features was completed in 1924. It is named after J.F. Lonsdale, a founder member and later secretary of British Kaffrarian Savings Bank. It was proclaimed as a National Monument in 1979.

#### **79.6 THE RESIDENCY, c/o RESERVE ROAD AND PRICE ALFRED SQUARE**

It was erected in about 1846 on the spot where the dwelling house of Rev John Brownlee stood after his arrival in 1826 as missionary of the London Missionary Society. The original dwelling was twice gutted by fire. Government House, as it was later known as, accommodated many visitors including governors and Princes Alfred (1860). It served as the residence of successive magistrate and was proclaimed a National Monument in 1977.

#### **79.7. OLD STATION BUILDING ALEXANDRA ROAD**

This stone building was officially opened as a railway station in 1877. Until the construction of the present station in 1933, trains were required to enter King William's Town in reverse and then exit along the same route to link up with the main line. It has been used as a school and for the offices. The entrance originally had a square gable with an inscription "EL & QR "It was declared a National Monument in 1979.

#### **79.8. OFFICER'S HOUSE, 5 HOOD STREET.**

This mid-nineteenth century national monument was built by an officer along the lines of a 'typical English farms house'. The house was originally thatched. Aspects of interest are the neo-Gothic windows and the Victorian wooden Balcony.

### **79.9. OLD POST OFFICE AND MAGISTRATE'S COURT BUILDING, ALEXANDRA ROAD**

These public buildings of rubble-stonework were completed in 1877 and accommodated various government departments. They include an imposing clock tower and memorial to the Rev John Brownlee. The old Post Office section now houses the Xhosa Gallery of the Amatole Museum. It was declared a National Monument in 1980.

#### **79.9.1 SYNAGOGUE, BARKELEY STREET**

This predominantly neo-Gothic building dates from the 1850's and was used for several decades as Wesleyan school house, with a bell tower over the front entrance. The first council meeting in King William's Town was held here, due to the fact that it was one of the largest halls in the Old Town at the time. In 1908 the building was converted into a synagogue. It was proclaimed as a National Monument in 1980. In the late 1980's the Synagogue was closed and it is used today by local Christian fellowship.

#### **79.9.2 THE TOWN HALL, MACLEAN STREET**

The foundation stone was laid in 1866 and the building was officially opened the following year. During the Frontier War of 1877-78 it was used as the headquarters of the Civil Defense Force. Large scale alterations were made from 1899 to 1902; and it was officially re-opened in 1904. The impressive sloping stage is a reminder of a bygone era. The Town Hall received National Monument status in 1980.

### **80. THE VICTORIAN DRILL HALL, QUEENS ROAD**

This typical Victorian building with its neo-classical features was designed and built to commemorate Queen Victoria's sixtieth birthday. It still retains its military air and is now used by the Amatole Commando. The Drill Hall is a proclaimed National Monument.

### **81. SUTTON HOUSE, DALE COLLEGE, QUEENS ROAD**

The corner-stone of Sutton House was laid by the Governor of the Cape Colony, Sir Henry Bartle-Frere, in 1877. The building was officially opened in December 1878 and is named after the Rev J.G Sutton, Headmaster of Dale College (1890-1912). It was proclaimed as a National Monument in 1980. In 1996 Sutton House was sold to local developers and now accommodates a shopping center.

### **82. OLD MILITARY COMMISSARIAT STORE, MILITARY RESERVE**

This large stone building, a declared National Monument, was completed in 1849, shortly before the outbreak of the Frontier war of 1850-53. It was used in times of both war and peace to store supplies. It was originally L-shaped but the wing nearest the road was demolished.

### **83. OLD POWDER MAGAZINE, MILITARY RESERVE**

The magazine buildings and surrounding wall represent one of the oldest and best preserved examples of its kind in South Africa. From the stonework it is obvious that the

magazine was constructed in two stages, probably between 1852 and 1862 and between 1864 and 1875. Unfortunately the masonry joints have been repainted in an uncharacteristic manner while under renovation. Magazines consist of square stone buildings with a brick barrel-vaulted ceiling. Flat roofs are of pitch-covered cement. Much of the ammunition used by soldiers of the British Regiment in the Frontier Wars was stored here. It received National Monument status in 1981.

#### **84. EARDLEY-WILMOT GUN, MILITARY RESERVE (OPPOSITE ENTRANCE)**

This bronze muzzle-loading gun was cast at the Royal Gun Factory at Woolwich in 1859. F.M. Eardley-Wilmot was the Superintendent of the factory between 1855-1859, hence his name appears on the gun. The carriage is not contemporary with the ordnance and dates to post-1870. It was probably used at the battle of **Umzintani?** by the Graham's Town (sic) Volunteer Horse Artillery, who probably brought it to King William's Town when regiment disbanded in 1895. It was subsequently displayed in front of the Officers' Mess in the Military Reserve and placed by Excelsior School (now the King Campus of Lovedale FET Collage) in its present location.

#### **85. BROWNLEE MISSION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BEYOND THE MILITARY RESERVE ON THE NATIONAL ROAD TO STUTTERRHEIM**

The Rev John Brownlee established the Buffalo Mission Station at present-day King William's Town in 1826. In about 1847 he was forced by the military authorities to move his mission where this church was built in 1860. The church is a National Monument.

#### **86. DALE COLLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL, ALBERT ROAD**

This fine red brick building was designed by Sir Herbert Baker. Completed in 1908, the building was officially opened by Dr Thomas Muir, Superintendent of Education of the Cape Colony. It received National Monument status in 1982.

#### **87. OLD OFFICERS MESS, MILITARY RESERVE**

The officer's Mess, a declared National Monument, dates from the early 1850's. In the heart of the military Reserve, it served the military until the Reserve was abandoned in the 1920s. In 1925 it became the residence of the Principal of Excelsior School. It is now part of the King Campus of Lovedale FET Collage. Although it has since undergone extensive reconstruction the historic core of the original building is still extant. Corrugated iron was placed over the original thatched roof and gables were added to the front.

#### **88. FORT METZ, MILITARY RESERVE**

A stone cairn and National Monument Council plaque were erected at this spot to mark the site of this small earthen redoubt. The stone blockhouse was nicknamed 'Fort Mertz'

and was one of the outlying defends of the Military Reserve. It was demolished in the 1970's.

#### **89. OLD PUBLIC LIBRARY, CNR OF ALEXANDRA AND ALBERT ROADS**

This delightful Victorian public building was erected largely as results of the efforts of Thomas Daines, pharmacist at the Grey Hospital. Originally completed in 1877, the building became part of the Amatole Museum in 1967 and is known as the Daines Wing, housing a 19<sup>th</sup> century local history display. It is a declared National Monument.

#### **90. OLD NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM BUILDING, 3 ALBERT ROAD**

This National Monument was completed in 1892 to house the collections of the King Williams TOWN Naturalist Society which had been found in 1884. It now contains part of the well-known Shortridge Mammal Collection and is the home of Huberta, the famous wandering hippo.

#### **91. OLD MILITARY HOSPITAL, OAK STREET.**

These building were partially completed as early as 1849 and the present ones dates from about 1875. Part of the complex was occupied by the first Conservator of Forests in the Eastern Cape Conservancy, Joseph Storr Lister, from 1890 until 1905.

#### **92. ROYAL ENGINEERS MESS, OAK STREET**

This substantial stone building was erected in 1862 and considerably altered over the years. It does however; retain some of its 19<sup>th</sup> century atmosphere.

#### **93. OLD SMITHY, OAK STREET**

The square, stone smithy, part of the military complex in King William's Town, was built in what was originally the grounds of the Rev John Brownlee's Buffalo Mission. An aspect worth noting is the ventilated roof, built to allow the escape of warm air from inside the building.

#### **94. DEEDS OFFICE BUILDING, CONR OF ALEXANDRA AND QUEENS ROADS**

The blue-stone national monument was completed in 1933 and was sympathetically designed to blend in with historic surroundings. The Deeds Office dates back to 1858 when it was established to exercise control over British Kaffraria and was originally housed in the adjacent Magistrate's Court.

## **95. HOLY TRINITY CHURCH AND RING WALL, PRINCE ALFRED SQUARE**

The foundation stone was laid in 1850 and the local military were responsible for the initial construction of the foundation and walls. With the outbreak of the Eighth Frontier War in 1850 the building operations were postponed and building was completed in 1856 by local builders. The tower was added in 1932. It received National Monument status in 1986.

## **96. THE SUN BUILDING, CORNER OF ALEXANDRA ROAD AND CATHCART STREET**

Built in 1904 to house the Sun Insurance Company, this impressive two-storey building was originally sandstone colored and has distinct touches of Art Nouveau. It now contains lawyer's offices and a local bank group. This national monument displays beautifully engraved glass panels with the sun emblem as well as the shiny copper sun at the entrance, which reminds the visitor of the building's origins. It was declared a National Monument in 1988.

## **97. Military Reserve boundary stones**

On the pavement opposite the Missionary Museum can be found an upright stone with the engraved letters 'BO'. This 'Board of Ordnance' stone marked the boundary of the Military Reserve and is one of three such stones still in existence in the town.

## **98. Fitzpatrick Court, Durban Street**

This large building was constructed c. 1862 as the private residence of Judge J. C. Fitzpatrick, first judge of the Supreme Court in British Kaffraria and father of Sir Percy Fitzpatrick. After Judge Fitzpatrick's transfer from British Kaffraria it was used as the premises of the collegiate school for girls, the forerunner of today's Kaffrarian High School. It is now a block of flats.

## **99. German Settler Monument**

This commemorates the arrival of the British German Legionaries of 1857 and the German (civilian) Settlers of 1858/9. The pillar feature represents the Brandenburg Gate, a feature of the once-walled city of Berlin. The water represents the sea and the names of the ships which transported the immigrants out, are inscribed around the pond. On the west wall behind the 'Brandenburg gate' are listed the settlements to which the immigrants were sent. The central feature of the monument is a drift stone on a plinth of **local granite, a gift from** the German government who shipped out the stone to South Africa and saw to its delivery to King William's Town.

## **100. Edward Street Cemetery**

This was the first cemetery in King William's Town and was used from 1848 to 1864. The open piece of ground on the far side of the cemetery marks the spot where casualties

of the Cattle Killing were buried in mass graves in 1857. The present layout of the cemetery dates from the early 1970s when it was extensively refurbished after falling into an advanced state of deterioration.

#### **101. War Memorial, cnr of Queens and Alexandra Roads.**

This blue-stone memorial with bronze figures was erected to the memory of the men of the town and district who were killed during the First World War (1914-1918). Plaques were later added to include the area's victims of the 1939-1945 war. The list includes the names of six members of the South African Native Labour Corps who lost their lives in the S.S Mendi disaster in the English Channel in 1917.

#### **102. Fort Murray, Old Fort Murray Road**

Originally established at Mount Coke in 1835, it was refounded in the vicinity during 1846-47. The fort's main function was to guard the King William's Town/East London road. It is associated with a variety of historical characters, such as Col John Maclean (Chief Commissioner of British Kaffraria), who lived just outside the fort from 1848-1862. Members of the British German Legion were housed at the fort in 1857 and the two prophetesses Nonqawuse and Nonkosi were detained there for some time after the cattle killing Movement. It was abandoned in 1867 and was proclaimed a National Monument in 1977.

#### **103. Children's Cemetery, Dimbaza**

In 1967 seventy families were relocated to area subsequently named Dimbaza- meaning a place where rubbish is dumped. They came from as far away as Middleburg and the Karoo. Due to the harsh living conditions hundreds of children died of malnutrition, tuberculosis and preventable diseases such as measles. Whereas other towns are built around a civic square, a town hall or shops, Dimbaza's centre is the children's cemetery containing many unmarked graves.

In the 1970s over 20 factories were established in Dimbaza following the international outrage that the children's cemetery provoked. Taking advantage of the Ciskei's extensive tax rebates and high financial inducements the factories, mostly foreign-owned, were built in an attempt to transform Dimbaza into a showcase of industrial opportunity. When the incentives and subsidies were removed in the 1990's however, many of the factories closed down or moved elsewhere.

#### **104. Nompundulo High School Memorial, Zone 10, Zwelitsha**

The politics of resistance to the South African and Ciskei governments were ever-present in Zwelitsha. Student protests and uprisings, underground political organizations and horrifying moments of police brutality were ingrained into the life of the town. On 23 July 1985 a protest meeting was held at Nompundulo High School to enforce a democratically elected student body. Student demands were drafted and handed over to the school principal. He did not cooperate, refused to address the students and called the

police. They demanded immediate dispersal, but the students refused and after the use of teargas and assault pandemonium broke out. Many students were subsequently arrested. Fleeing scholars attempted to cross the Buffalo River, adjacent to the school, and in the process at least three students drowned. A memorial commemorating the school tragedy was unveiled on 23 July 2000 on the school grounds by Rev M. Stofile, Premier of the Eastern Cape.

#### **105. STEVE BIKO'S HOUSE, TYAMZASHE STREET (GINSBERG)**

The house of the prominent Black consciousness leader, Bantu Stephen Biko (1946-1977) was proclaimed a National Monument in 1997. Biko lived in Ginsberg from the age of four until his death in 1977. Biko symbolized the philosophy of black self respect and the call; to black people to raise themselves by their own efforts. His philosophy played a major role in shaping black politics in South Africa.

#### **106. STEVE BIKO'S GRAVE, GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE (GINSBERG)**

Steve Biko died on 12 September 1977 from police torture and assault in detention. The circumstances resulting in his death still beg a complete explanation. He was buried on 17 September in Ginsberg after services were held at the Victoria Grounds in King William's Town Biko's funeral was attended by an estimated 17 000 people.

On 12 September 1997, a bust of the fallen hero was unveiled and the Steve Biko Garden of Remembrance was officially opened by former president, Mr. Nelson Mandela

#### **107. GRAVES OF THE BISHO MASSACRE, GINSBERG AND THE BISHO STADIUM**

On 7 September 1992 about 40 000 ANC-Alliance members led by SA Communist Party officials marched on Bisho, then capital of the Ciskei homeland, to occupy the town and force the Ciskei ruler, Brigadier Oupa Gqozo, from power. Ciskeian troops opened fire after a section of the crowd broke through a razor wire barricade. Twenty-nine people subsequently died and many were wounded.

A memorial situated on the road between the Kind and Bisho just opposite the stadium, has been erected. Most of the fallen were buried in the new Ginsberg cemetery.

#### **108. GRIFFITHS AND VICTORIA MXENGE'S GRAVE, AT RAYI VILLAGE ON THE N2 BETWEEN KING WILLIAM'S TOWN AND PEDDIE**

The anti-apartheid activists and human rights lawyers, Griffiths and Victoria Mxenge are buried outside King William's Town. They were married in 1964 and moved to Durban. Their lives were much affected by frequent bannings, detentions and imprisonment, but they both handled many high-profile and political cases. They were both assassinated by security force hit squads in 1981 and 1985, respectively.

Historical King William's Town and Zwelitsha  
Compiled by Stephen Pienaar, Historian,  
Amathole Museum

## **109. MARITIME HISTORY AND SHIPWRECKS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The climatic and oceanographic features of the Eastern Cape coast make it one of the most dangerous in the world. There are 150 shipwrecks between Hood Point and Gonubie alone.

The Buffalo River offered a sheltered refuge for ships to land military supplies during the frontier wars and the town of East London grew up around the port activities. In 1847, small ships could enter the river and anchor at a small jetty erected on the west bank. It soon became clear that the river mouth was usually clogged with sand and ships could only enter after a small flood. Efforts to narrow the mouth by constructing 'Training Walls' to concentrate the flow were unsuccessful. A breakwater was built to shelter the mouth in 1880, but it was not until 1886, when a dredger was introduced, that ships could enter the quiet waters of the port. As ships became larger, so the limitations of a narrow mouth were exposed and the banks had to be widened. There were six river ports along the Cape coast during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, but East London is the only one to have survived.

### **110. SITES SELECTED FOR THE HARBOUR**

Port Control grounds to view the harbour structures and facilities  
Latimer's landing  
Hood Point Lighthouse  
Dolos  
East London Museum

### **111. SITES SELECTED FOR SHIPWRECKS**

Hood Point Lighthouse grounds  
Esplanade  
Bonza Bay  
Cintsa East  
East London Museum

### **112. PORT CONTROL GROUNDS**

This is the best site where an overall view of the harbour can be seen. From here the features and dates when constructed can be pointed out:

### **113 The Breakwater**

The first part was constructed in 1876 – the half round protuberance about half way along the wall shows the original length.

The old **Victorian Slipway** on the west bank, where small ships could be repaired was completed in 1897.

The **Kings Warehouse**, a customs building, with its imposing clock tower (clock now missing), was built in 1904. It is a National Monument.

The **Orient Pier** on the East bank was completed in 1929.

In 1935 part of the East bank was excavated, to form a **Turning Basin** for the larger ships.

Before this, passengers and cargo had to be unloaded onto lighters or tugs out in a basket out in the roadstead.

During the Second World War, a **Graving Dock** was constructed where shipping repairs could be undertaken. In 1959 the harbor was widened further by excavating on the west bank.

The **Grain Elevator** was built in 1966

#### **114. THE DOLOS:**

The breakwater block was invented in East London. It has been very successful and can be seen protecting exposed breakwaters throughout the world.

The breakwater protecting the East London Harbour was constantly being bettered and damaged by high seas so common along the Eastern Cape shores. Eric Merrifield, Harbour Engineer at East London, embarked on a project to design a block which would interlock and break the force of waves. The result was a concrete block shaped like a twisted anchor. They were first used in 1966.

Models of dolos and its story can be seen in East London Museum and lining the outer rim of the breakwater.

#### **115. LATIMER'S LANDING**

This is the old fishing wharf and is where the world-famous coelacanth was landed in 1938. Commercial fishing ceased during the 1970s. In 1990, Portnet began a waterfront development project with restaurant and small shops. It was named Latimer's landing to honour Dr Marjorie Courtenay Latimer and opened by her on 18 December 1993. The wooden desk is the only ones remaining in the country.

#### **116. HOOD POINT LIGHTHOUSE:**

The need for lighthouse along the coasts to warn ships of danger was recognized during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and prior the electricity, gas or paraffin light and mirrors were used. East London had one such, Castle Point Lighthouse, built of wood and situated on the West bank at the mouth of buffalo river. By 1890s East London was one of the fastest growing ports in the Cape and the existing lighthouse was inadequate. The Hood Point Lighthouse was built and the light was first lit on 4 June 1895, visible for 31 sea miles.

## **DISCRIPTION**

This is a conical structure of bricks and cement. It was originally painted in squares of red and white, but today is only white.

## **LOCATION**

West Bank, entrance off the road to the West Bank Golf Club.

## **ACCESS**

Permission may be obtained for tourist visiting by permission of the port Manager.

## **117. SHIPWRECKS**

Hundreds of ships have come to grief along the inhospitable shores of south – east Africa. The earliest were those of the Portuguese, which sailed to India during 1500 and 1600s. There are three of these sites along the Buffalo City shores: *the Santo Alberto* of 1593 at the sunrise on sea, *the Madre de Deus* of 1643 at the Bonza Bay and *the Antalaia* of 1647 at Cintsa East. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, coastal trade increased and the severe storms saw ships being wrecked in great numbers. The earliest wreck at the East London harbor was the *Ghika* in 1847. *The Lady Kennaway* (*Kennaway Hotel*) of 1856 came ashore where the Orient pier now stands and very low water, some of the spars can be seen. Most of the ships were wrecked during the 1870s and 1880, before dredging allowed entrance into the more protected waters of the harbour. The Orient (Orient Beach) was wrecked in a storm in 1907. Many of the street names in Quigney were named for ship wrecks (egg *Brighton* and) even in modern times, Oranjeland came to grief off the coast in 1986 and the *Sagittarius* in 2002.

## **118. VIEW SITES**

A series of mounted plaques in the front of Hood Point list some of famous shipwrecks of Buffalo City Coast. A series of plaques listing six of more of the famous shipwrecks are embedded in the low sea-wall along the Esplanade, placed there by the Boarder Historical Society. Blind River, Bonza Bay: *Madre de Deus* – 1647. Cintsa East a Monument to the *Nossa Senhora da Atalaia*, wrecked between Cintsa and Centane in 1647 stands in the village. The site is a proclaimed a National Monument.

All artifacts from these sites are protected by an act of Parliament. Funds should be handed in to the East London Museum.

## **119. EAST LONDON MUSEUM**

There are two galleries devoted to Maritime History. The one features the Portuguese, Dutch and English shipwrecks as well as displays on the *Oceanos* (1992) and the *Grosvenor* (1783). There is gallery where the full history of harbour is shown.

## **NATURAL HISTORY NATURE RESERVES (INCLUDING TRAILS) AND BEACHES OF BUFFALO CITY**

### **Nature Reserves**

#### **120. Umtiza Nature Reserves**

This reserve is under the authority of East Cape Nature Conservation (Provincial Department of Economic Affairs Environment and Tourism) and conserves the special endemic tree the Umtiza (*Umtiza listerana*) and a number of other valuable tree species, including the cycads. From mammal perspective fortunate visitors may see the Samango monkeys –these primates are not widely distributed in South Africa and follow a patchy distribution along the forested eastern areas of the country.

The Reserve has a public road running through it with separate trails on either side for free visitor access (a self issuing permit system is in place). Three routes have been well-marked, a 1.5 km, 2.5 km and a 7 km track each highlighting unique flora of this forest fragment.

Established in 1985, approximately 758 ha of forest has been protected with occasional exotic from previous plantation. Access to the reserve is via Buffalo Pass which crosses the Buffalo River when one leaves Buffalo City traveling westward

#### **121. Amalinda Nature Reserve**

This nature reserve is also under the authority of East Cape Nature Conservation. It is a large open space located on the north-western part of East London (9 km from the city center) and boasts some large mammalian species such as eland (3), zebra (10), southern reedbuck (25) and blesbok (20). A commercial fish hatchery is also situated in the reserve.

Visitors can walk selected routes in the area, spend time at a dam or picnic at designated sites. Bushbucks, duiker, cape clawless otter, vervet monkey's and mongoose also occur and birdwatching is productive throughout the year.

Unfortunately a low income housing project adjacent to the reserve has created an edge effect as all indigenous plants were bull-dozed for the development.

Ablutions are not presently available and the reserve lacks the necessary funding to maintain it in a satisfactory condition. This 134 ha reserve was established in 1968 around the Amalinda reservoir. Three main vegetation communities are found in the area, namely, open *Aacacia karoo* dominated savannah, open to close bushveld and riverine forest.

Gonubie Nature Reserve

This reserve was established in 1995 (the fifth oldest to be proclaimed in the country) to conserve a wetland habitat and associated bird, plants and animals species. It is 8 ha in extent and has a well-established walking route which circumvents the fenced area, including a bird hide overlooking an open body of water. This makes it ideal for birdwatchers interested in wetland species.

This reserve also has a small interpretive center with bird and animal lists and brief history of the area. Ablutions are available and visitors are encouraged to utilize benches and open spaces for picnicking.

This municipal reserve is located in the suburb of Gonubie and is only open to the public at a certain times during the week. Access by appointment can also be arranged through the local authority. The place name Gonubie is derived from *lqunube* – the fruit of the bramble.

## **122. Nahoon Estuary Nature Reserve (incorporating the Dassie Trail)**

### **123. Nahoon Point Nature Reserve**

#### **Beaches**

##### **124. Kidd's Beach**

This popular holiday beach introduces a sweep of sandy beaches to the visitors as one moves eastward. An ablution facility and a paddling pool have been formalized as one accesses the beach and a scatter of rocky outcrops allows for inquisitive investigations at low tide.

The beach, however, has an informal launch site for small craft which contradicts the present regulations which regard to bathing beach in the area.

A restaurant in close by for meals and refreshments and safe parking is available. Life-guards are on duty during holiday season.

##### **124.1 Gulu Beach**

The Gulu river (a blind river for most of the year) has wide flat open beach area seaward of the system which when under controlled conditions (life-guards in summer) makes for safe bathing. A run down ablution facility exists but not much parking. The beach is mostly used by recreational anglers and the odd day tripper. Out of season the area would not be considered safe for single recreationalists.

##### **124.2 Igoda Beach**

This is a jewel of sand, well-forested primary dunes, a safe bathing river (blind for most of the year) and the wide long stretch of open beaches to stroll in the safety. Ablution facilities are available and well maintained. Parking is secure when the area is accessed from the village of winterstrand. Picnicking is encouraged and a braai base has been build. The road to Igoda runs adjacent to the nature reserve and walk in the grassland

covers slopes will reveal many flowering plant species, including the red-hot pocker, a blaze of colour in late spring to early summer.

### **124.3 Cove Rock Beach**

An outstanding promontory and a vestige of a fossilized dune, Cove Rock juts out at the end of the beach welcoming those who like to explore. A fair walk to this huge eroded dune rock reveals wave-cut platforms, paddling pools and a trail over the top which offers some excellent vantage points for whale watching. Cove Rock is also popular with the angling fraternity.

The area holds a lot of historical significance and is still used to them for religious ceremonies by the local people. A proposal has been submitted to heritage authorities to have the area declared a provincial heritage site.

### **123.4 Orient Beach**

The area adjacent to this protected beach has been upgraded with excellent facilities for young children to enjoy water sport. Various paddling pools have been constructed within a 'play park' atmosphere enhancing the visitor experience in a safe environment.

Ablution facilities are good and well maintained. A large car park supports visitor accessibility to this beach.

### **124.5 Eastern Beach**

This is a popular beach for locals, especially during the holiday seasons. Eastern beach has easy access to all the beachfront amenities and is an introductory area for those visitors who may in the future walk to the proposed Nahoon Point Nature Reserve.

Ablutions are maintained and life-guard to duty for a good part of the year due to high visitor numbers. Some picnic facilities have been provided close to this beach at 'Little Mauritius' with additional ablutions.

The area does, however, become congested during peak holiday time and parking can be a problem.

### **124.6 Nahoon Beach**

A world famous part of the Buffalo City coastline, Nahoon Beach has in the past hosted international and national wave-ski and surfing competitions respectively. The wide expanse of open sand, protected topographically by a 'bay', offers bathers and surfers plenty of room to enjoy the surf as well as stroll to the nearby Nahoon River mouth. The latter allows access up river at low tide to 'playwaters' which is also a launch site for small craft and jet-ski's

Nahoon Beach has another smaller river, the Inhlanza (also closed for most of the year), running down from the near suburbs of Bonnie Doon and Nahoon. This river is excellent for birdwatching and has a lot of potential for the development of walking route towards the driving range.

The beach has ablution and showering facilities and a number of car parks. Those are, however, inadequate during the peak holiday season.

#### **124.7 Bonza Bay Beach**

The Quenera river estuary abuts this beach and access to Bonza Bay beach allows the visitor a choice of walking, safe swimming and the pleasant pastime of dune picnic. Moving east a walk to Gonubie can be undertaken and westward a walk towards the Nahoon River and the Blue Band Nature Reserve.

Reasonable ablution facilities are provided and children can enjoy 'water tube' rides at the entrance to the beach close to the river mouth. The mouth is closed for the most part of the year. Fishing on the Quenera River is also popular.

#### **124.8 Gonubie Mouth Beach**

This beach is adjacent to the Gonubie River and good facilities exist for the visitors, including a Boardwalk which allows access to the Gonubie Hotel and the popular walk around Gonubie Point.

The wide expanse of the sandy estuary flood plain and well vegetated cliffs create sheltered 'amphitheatre' for safe controlled leisure activities such as bathing, boating, windsurfing and fishing.

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...**Masichume..!! Sande..!! Siphumelele..!!**