Mountain Passes, Roads & Transportation in the Cape: a Guide to Research

Section B:

SCHEDULE OF PIONEERING AND CONSTRUCTION DATES

February 2009

"Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight and the rough places plain.

Isiah, 40:4

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SCHEDULE OF PIONEERING & CONSTRUCTION DATES

- > This is a chronological one-line-date-and-name type of schedule, a sort of historical summary of major roadmaking activities in the Cape.
- > Only mountain passes and the more noteworthy roads and bridges are included in the listing.
- > Dates relating to a mountain pass indicate when the pass was pioneered (i.e. first traversed), or constructed. An annotation "in use" indicates that the entry at that date is the first mention that I have found -- the earlier pioneering or construction date is unknown.
- > For more detailed information about any entry consult the Chronology.

- 1653: Wagenpad na't Bosch "constructed" and maintained.
 - First South African road construction and maintenance!
- 1658: Roodezand Pass pioneered by Potter.
- 1660: Piquinierskloof pioneered by Jan Dankaert.
- 1661: Botmans Kloof/Bothmaskloofpas pioneered by Peter van Meerhof.
- 1662: Elands Path/Gantouw pioneered by Hendrik Lacus.
- 1662: Piquinierskloof pioneered for wagons by Pieter Cruythoff.
- 1666: Kirstenbosch road extended to Constantia Nek/Cloof Pas.
- 1671: Bridge in Cape Town.
- 1682: Houw Hoek Pass pioneered by Olof Bergh.
- 1682: Olof Berghspas pioneered by Olof Bergh.
- 1689: Attaquas Kloof pioneered by Isaac Schrijver.
- 1692: Du Toit's Kloof: Hawequa cattle path in use.
- 1692: Plankenbrug (Eerste River) Stone Bridge at Stellenbosch.
- 1693: Constantia Nek road extended to Hout Bay.
- 1699: Olifants Pad (Franschhoek) in use.
- 1701: Roodezand Pass/Oudekloof in use.
- 1705: Banghoek/Helshoogte Pass in use.
- 1720s: Heuningklip Kloof (De Groot Wagen Weg) in use.
- 1738: Du Toit's Kloof: The Hawequa cattle path developed.
- mid 1700s: Ruiterbosch Pass: a bridle path in use.
- 1752: Kaaimans Gat Pass pioneered on horseback by Beutler.
- 1760s: Nieuwekloof Pass/Tulbagh Kloof in use.
- 1765: Mostert's Hoek Pass, built by local farmer Jan Mostert.
- 1772: Duiwelskop Pass, possibly built by farmer Jacobus van Beelen.
- 1772: Paardekop Pass: a bridle path in use.
- 1772: Plattekloof Pass pioneered by Thunberg.
- 1772: Prince Alfred's Pass: a bridle path in use.
- 1773: Elands Kloof Pass (SE of Citrusdal): a bridle path in use.
- 1773: Kardouw's Kloof Pass (south of Citrusdal) in use.
- 1774: Hex River Pass and Kloof in use.

- 1776: Akkedisberg Pass in use.
- 1778: Kaaimans Gat Pass pioneered for wagons by Van Plettenberg.
- 1778: Michielshoogte crossed by Robert Gordon.
- 1780: Schurfteberg Pass, built by Field Cornet Pieter Pienaar.
- 1780: Witsenberg Pass, built by Field Cornet Pieter Pienaar.
- 1798: Elands Kloof Pass (SE of Citrusdal) used by wagons.
- 1800s: Wuppertal-Eselbank Pass, built by Wuppertal missionaries.
- 1801: Nardouw Pass in use.
- 1803: Cogmans Kloof in use.
- 1803: Bokkeveld's Poort/Karoo Poort in use.
- 1803: Paardekop Pass and Little Long Kloof used by wagons.
- c1807: Caledon Kloof (SW of Calitzdorp), built by Gerrit Pretorius.
- 1811: Klein Straat in use.
- 1811: Steenberg Pass in use.
- 1811: Palmiet River: Die Oudebrug, first bridge outside a town.
- 1812: Cradock Kloof Pass, built by Landdrost Adriaan van Kervel.
- 1812: Trek-aan-Touw Pass in use.
- 1819: "Cats Pad", built by farmer S. J. Cats of Franschhoek.
- 1820: Kalk Rand Pass in use.
- 1820: The Beinbrecht Bridge, Riviersonderend, near Genadendal.
- 1824: Buffelshoeknek (north east of Pearston) in use.
- 1824: Du Toit's Kloof: a wagon road over Kleygat, built by Lieutenant Schonfeldt.
- 1824: Hottentots Holland Kloof in use.
- 1824: Jan Joubert's Gat wooden bridge, on Franschhoek Pass.
- 1825: Franschhoek Pass, constructed by Major William Cuthbert Holloway.

(The first engineered/constructed pass in the country.)

- 1825: Paarde Berg Pass (E of Stanford) in use.
- 1825: Shaw's Mountain Pass in use.
- 1829: Oudeberg Pass, built by Andrew Bain and Charles Lennox Stretch.
- 1830: Molteno Pass: a bridle path in use.
- 1830: Sir Lowry's Pass, constructed by Charles Cornwallis Michell.
- 1831: Houw Hoek/Cole's Pass, constructed by Major Charles Michell.
- 1832: Van Ryneveld Pass, built by Andrew Bain and Charles Stretch.
- 1834: Jan Joubertsgat wooden bridge replaced by a stone arch bridge.
- 1836: Attaqua Kloof: improvements by Charles Michell.
- 1836: Bastiaan's Kloof Pass in use.
- 1836: Howison's Poort in use.
- 1837: Molteno Pass: a wagon track built by local farmers.
- 1837-1842: Ecca Pass, constructed as part of the "Queen's Road" by Andrew Bain working under Major C.J.Selwyn, Royal Engineers Corps.
- 1837-1845: Koonap Heights constructed by Andrew Bain as part of the "Queen's Road" military highway between Grahamstown and Fort Beaufort.
- 1841: Plattekloof Pass reconstructed (Gysmanshoek?).
- 1842-1845: Pluto's Vale Pass (on military highway) constructed by A.G.Bain.
- 1842-1845: Military highway, Grahamstown-Breakfast Vlei.
- 1844: Salt River: Montagu Bridge, near Cape Town.
- 1844: Kat River: stone arch Victoria Bridge, on the "Queen's Road".
- 1844: Great Brak River wooden bridge, by Magistrate Moodie.
- 1845: The "Hard Road" across the Cape Flats constructed by Charles Michell.
- 1845: Black Bridge, on old Katberg Pass.

- 1845: Bot River Bridge, near Bot River village.
- 1845: Eerste River bridge, on Cape Flats hard road.
- 1845: Lourens River stone arch bridge, in Somerset West.
- 1846: Fish River: first Fort Brown Bridge, on "The Queen's Road".
- 1847: Houw Hoek Pass reconstructed by Andrew Bain.
- 1847: Keur River stone arch bridge, in Montagu Pass.
- 1848: Great Brak River Heights Pass, constructed by Henry Fancourt White.
- 1848: Gydo Pass, constructed by Andrew Geddes Bain.
- 1848: Karoopoort, constructed by Adam Gabriel de Smidt, under Andrew Geddes Bain.
- 1848: Kloof Neck, Cape Town under construction.
- 1848: Michell's Pass, Ceres, constructed by Andrew Geddes Bain.
- 1848: Montagu Pass, constructed by Henry Fancourt White.
- 1848: Breede/Dwars River: stone Grey Bridge, Michell's Pass.
- 1849: Bain's Kloof tunnel, attempted by Andrew Bain (unsuccessful).
- 1849: Zuurberg Pass, constructed by Henry Fancourt White.
- 1850: Boma Pass in use.
- 1850: Dagga Boers Nek in use.
- 1850: Great Brak River: the 1844 bridge replaced by a causeway.
- 1850: Cloete's Pass constructed.
- 1850: Du Plessis Pass constructed.
- 1850: Fish River Heights in use.
- c1850: Camphoor Poort, on Central Roads Board list.
- 1850s: Cogmans Kloof, improvements by Swellendam DC.
- 1851: Michell's Pass/Klein Katberg Pass, by Captain Michell.
- 1852: Buffeljagts River: red sandstone bridge.
- 1852: Palmiet River second bridge, upstream in Grabouw.
- 1853: Bain's Kloof, constructed by Andrew Geddes Bain.
- 1853: Zwart River Hoogte, on road to Kaaimansgat, in use.
- 1853: Van Staden's "new" Pass, by Central Roads Board (?).
- 1853: Berg River bridge, in Wellington, by Andrew Bain.
- 1853: Wolwekloof: Borcherd's Bridge in Bain's Kloof.
- 1853: Breede River: Darling Bridge in Bain's Kloof.
- 1854: Helshoogte Pass: Bang Hoek Pass reconstructed on new route.
- 1855: Meirings Poort: a bridle path in use.
- 1855: Schoeman's Poort in use.
- 1855: Berg River: Lady Grey Bridge in Paarl, by Thomas Bain.
- 1855: Breda Bridge over Dwars River in Ceres, by Thomas Bain.
- 1858: Amandelhoogte, constructed by Andrew Bain.
- 1858: Doringnek (near Zuurberg Pass).
- 1858: Goliatskraal se Hoogte, constructed by Andrew Bain.
- 1858: Grey's Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1858: Lootsberg Pass, constructed by Andrew Bain.
- 1858: Meirings Poort, constructed by Adam de Smidt.
- 1858: Naudesberg Pass, constructed by Andrew Bain.
- 1858: Perrieshoogte, constructed by Andrew Bain.
- 1858: Zuurberg Pass reconstructed.
- 1858: Citrusdal-Clanwilliam, built by Thomas Bain.
- 1858: Graaff-Reinet Middelburg construction started, by A. G. Bain
- 1859: Meiringspoort: flood repairs.
- 1859: Koonap Bridge, Fort Beaufort.

- 1860: Hudson's Pass: new name for Gysmanshoek Pass through Plattekloof, improved by DC.
- 1860: Nieuwekloof constructed on new alignment, by Thomas Bain.
- 1860s: Hex River Poort and Hex River Pass, constructed by Divisional Council.
- 1860s: Viljoens Pass, Grabouw.
- 1861: Meiringspoort: flood repairs.
- 1862: Bastervoetpad pioneered.
- 1862: Phantom Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1862: Schoeman's Poort, constructed by D. Hattingh for DC.
- 1862: Seweweekspoort, constructed by Mr Apsey and Adam G. de Smidt.
- 1862: Knysna River: stone waterway built by Thomas Bain.
- 1863: Baillie's Pass near Leliefontein, built by Rev John Baillie.
- 1863: Bosluiskloof, constructed by Adam de Smidt.
- 1863: Ertjiesvleipas, improved by Divisional Council.
- 1863: Great Fish River: Carlisle Bridge near Grahamstown.
- 1863: Berg River iron bridge near Piketberg.
- 1864: Duiwelskop Pass: a "country road", built by Thomas Bain.
- 1866: Katberg Pass, constructed by Andrew Bain and Adam de Smidt.
- 1866: Paardepoort (NW of Glenconnor).
- 1867: Prince Alfred's Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1867: Avontuur Uniondale Pass over Gwarna Range, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1867: Van Staden's Pass, improved by Thomas Bain.
- c1868: Swart River Pass (The Passes Road), by Adam de Smidt.
- 1868: Van Staden's Pass washed away.
- 1869: Kaaimans and Silver River Pass (The Passes Road): constructed by De Smidt.
- 1869: Robinson Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1869: Schoemanspoort washed away in toto.
- 1871: Hoogekraal Pass (The Passes Road), constructed by Adam de Smidt.
- 1871: Messelpad Pass, constructed by Patrick Fletcher.
- 1871: Touw River Pass (The Passes Road), constructed by Adam de Smidt.
- 1871: Wildepaardehoek Pass, constructed by Patrick Fletcher.
- 1872: Cogmans Kloof, constructed by Thomas Bain: first section opened.
- 1873: Tradouw's Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1873: Gats River: stone Letty's Bridge, in Tradouw Pass.
- 1875: Meiringspoort: flood repairs.
- 1875: Prince Alfred's Pass: flood repairs.
- 1875: Schoemanspoort: flood repairs.
- 1876: Fish River: second Fort Brown Bridge (plate girder).
- c1876: Bell River Pass: trail blazed by Naude brothers.
- c1876: Naudes Nek Pass: trail blazed by Naude brothers.
- c1876: Pot River Pass: trail blazed by Naude brothers.
- 1877: Fish River Clough Bridge at Committees by Joseph Newey.
- 1877: Cogmans Kloof, constructed by Thomas Bain: second section opened.
- 1877: Cogmans Kloof tunnel, built by Bill Handey and Thomas Bain.
- 1877: Garcia Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1877: Klipfontein Pass (near Pakhuis Pass), constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1877: Koo/Burgers Pass, constructed by Divisional Council.
- 1877: Pakhuis Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1877: Thompson's/Rooihoogte Pass, constructed by Divisional Council.
- 1877: Verlate Kloof Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1877: Fish River: Clough Bridge, at Committees.

- 1877: Vissershok single lane bridge (Cape Town-Malmesbury).
- 1878: Botterkloof Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1879: Oukloof Pass (Fraserburg Leeu Gamka), constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1879: Van Staden's Pass rebuilt after 1868 wash-away.
- 1879: Gats River: teakwood bridge to replace stone Letty's Bridge
- 1878: Great Kei Pass and Great Kei River bridge by Joseph Newey.
- 1880: Klein Swartberg Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1880: Molteno Pass (north of Beaufort West), constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1880: Rose's Berg Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1880: Van Rhyn's Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1880: Wagenaars Kloof/De Jager's Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- c1880: Nonesi's Nek, constructed by Patrick Fletcher.
- 1880: Sundays River: Berrange Bridge at Graaff-Reinet.
- 1880-1882: Orange River bridges, near Colesberg and at Bethulie, Hopetown and Aliwal North.
- 1881: Gouna Forest Road, Knysna, by Thomas Bain.
- 1881: Klein Brak River: Sprigg Bridge.
- 1881: Knysna River stone causeway.
- 1881: Kraai River: stone Sauer Bridge, Aliwal North-Lady Grey.
- 1882: Groot River Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1882: Homtini Pass (The Passes Road), constructed by Adam de Smidt.
- 1882: Karatara River Pass (The Passes Road), constructed by Adam de Smit.
- 1882: Phantom Pass renovated, by Adam de Smidt.
- 1882: The Passes Road, end of construction by Adam de Smidt.
- 1882: Orange River iron bridge, at Hope Town.
- 1883: Bloukrans Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1883: Vanrhynsdorp-Garies, built by Thomas Bain.
- 1883: Bitou River bridge, near Plettenberg Bay.
- 1884: Olifants River: Victoria Bridge at Styldrift.
- 1885: Caledon Kloof destroyed by floods.
- 1885: Meiringspoort washed away by flood.
- 1885: Storms River Pass, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1885: Vaal River: iron bridge near Barkly West.
- 1885: Coastal road from Cape Town reached Humansdorp.
- 1886: Baviaanskloof, road built by Thomas Bain.
- 1886: Groot River Pass (E end of Baviaanskloof), by Thos Bain.
- 1886: Meiringspoort reconstructed after washaway.
- 1886: Nuwekloof Pass (W end of Baviaanskloof), constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1886: Prince Alfred's Pass to Plettenberg Bay, constructed by P. H. Ferreira.
- 1887: Die Venster Pass (Ceres-Touws River), constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1887: The Passes Road handed over to Divisional Council.
- (includes Swart, Kaaimans/Silver, Touws, Hoogekraal, Karatara
- and Homtini (Goukamma) River Passes, and the Phantom Pass.).
- All built by Adam Gabriel de Smidt.
- 1887: Breede River: Victoria Bridge near Robertson.
- 1888: Swartberg Pass, constructed by John Fitz-Neville for Thomas Bain.
- 1888: Victoria Road, Sea Point to Hout Bay, constructed by Thomas Bain.
- 1889: Phantom Pass reconstructed on new alignment.
- 1889: Schoeman's Poort reconstructed by Mr McConomy for DC.
- 1890s: Table Mountain "bridle path/jeep track".
- 1890s: Teekloof Pass (Fraserburg to Leeu Gamka), constructed by DC.

- 1891: Cala Bridge: 5 stone arch spans.
- 1891: Lady Loch iron bridge, Berg River near Wellington.
- 1892: Penhoek Pass in use.
- 1892: Gourits River road-&-rail bridge, on the Great Wagon Road.
- 1892: Umzimkulu River: Union Bridge, on Natal border.
- 1893: Kaaimans River bridge, tarred pine, on The Passes Road.
- 1893: Kaffirkuils River bridge.
- 1893: Keiskamma and Tyoyi Rivers bridges near Line Drift.
- 1893: Kraai River: stone Loch Bridge, Barkly East-Lady Grey.
- 1893: Silver River bridge, tarred pine, on The Passes Road.
- 1894: Olifants River: Sivewright Bridge.
- 1895: Breede River: iron Grier Bridge near Swellendam.
- 1895: Knysna River: wooden bridge at Eastford.
- 1896: Huis River Pass, constructed by Ladismith and Calitzdorp DCs.
- 1896: Spektakel Pass, constructed by Namaqualand Divisional Council.
- 1896: Springbokfontein-Spektakel road, built by Divisional Council.
- 1896: Grobbelaars River: Juta Olivier Bridge.
- 1897: Tokai-Hout Bay pass: road shown on 1897 map.
- 1897: Breede River bridge, between Worcester and Villiersdorp.
- 1898: Fish River: third Fort Brown Bridge.
- 1898: Kraai River: stone Langkloof Bridge, Barkly East.
- 1898: Seekoei River bridge, near Colesberg.
- 1899: De Jager's Pass: new name for reconstructed Wagenaars Kloof.
- 1899: Karringmelk River: De Wet Bridge, Lady Grey-Barkly East.
- 1902: Tradouw Pass: flood repairs.
- 1902: Kaaimans River (on The Passes Road): replaced by concrete bridge.
- 1902: Silver River (on The Passes Road): replaced by concrete bridge.
- 1903: Orange River: iron bridge at Hope Town: war damage repaired.
- c1903: Houw Hoek Pass reconstructed on "railway" route.
- c1903: Bot River: small stone bridge.
- 1904: Buffalo River: "temporary" timber bridge in East London.
- 1905: White's Road, at Wilderness, built by Montagu White.
- 1908: Cowie River: Henry Putt Bridge at Port Alfred.

This was the first reinforced concrete bridge in this country.

- c1910: Macgregor's Pass (north of Citrusdal) in use.
- 1911: Naudesnek Pass, military road constructed by George Mandy.
- 1911: Pot River Pass, military road constructed by George Mandy.
- 1911: Herolds Bay: first constructed road (gravel).
- 1911: De Waal Drive, constructed by Union Government PWD.
- 1911: Riviersonderend bridge north of Stormsvlei.
- 1915: Kingna River: De Waal Bridge at Montagu.
- 1915: Knysna River plate girder bridge at Eastford.
- 1920: Cloete's Pass reconstructed by Divisional Council.
- 1921: White Bridge in Michell's Pass; replace Grey Bridge.
- 1922: Chapman's Peak Drive: gravel construction, by Robert Glenday (of the Union PWD).
- 1923: Knysna River red painted iron bridge at Eastford.
- 1924: Koo Pass improved as relief works.
- 1924: Penhoek Pass abandoned in favour of route via Halseton.
- 1924: Van Ryneveld Pass deviated for dam construction.
- 1926: Olifants River bridge at Vredendal.

- 1927: Bellville-Paarl road: tarmac construction by Griffiths & Raw. Only rural tarmac surface on the Cape to Cairo route.
- 1927: Boyes Drive constructed by municipality.
- 1927: Keurbooms River low-level bridge.
- 1928: Uniondale/Avontuur Poort road, replacing 1867 "Bain's Pass".
- 1928: Rooiberg Pass (south of Calitzdorp), as relief works.
- 1928: Kleinzee approach road: clay construction by Jack Carstens.
- 1930: Sir Lowry's Pass "tarred".
- 1930: De Vlugt low-level bridge in Prince Alfred's Pass.
- 1931: Cogmans Kloof: road "tarred".
- 1931: Gourits River railway bridge; previous bridge now road only.
- 1932: Hogsback Pass constructed (undoubtedly gravel).
- 1932: Boesmansrivier: Ghiobrug.
- 1932: Great Fish River: Hunt's Drift Bridge.
- 1932: Vaal River bridge at Schmidtsdrif under construction.
- 1932: Vissershok two-lane bridge, o Cape Town to Malmesbury road.
- 1933: Constantia Nek-Hout Bay: road surfaced.
- 1933: Franschhoek Pass reconstructed (gravel).
- 1933: Studer's Pass constructed as relief works (gravel).
- 1933: Great Fish River: Carlisle Bridge, northwest of Grahamstown.
- 1933: Malgas River bridge.
- 1934: Bain's Kloof Pass: "tarred".
- 1935: Nieuwekloof Pass/Tulbagh Kloof widened.
- 1935: Buffalo River double-deck steel bridge in East London.
- 1935: Orange River two-lane bridge at Aliwal North.
- late 1930s: Houw Hoek Pass reconstructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1936: Helshoogte Pass reconstructed (bitumen surface).
- 1936 or 1937: Boesmanskloof Pass: never completed.
- 1937: Gordon's Bay-Steenbras Dam Mountain Road, constructed by Ronnie Fisk.
- 1937: Cogmans River bridge in Ashton.
- 1937: Soutrivierbrug north of Vanrhynsdorp.
- 1938: Gydo Pass reconstructed by Ceres DC (gravel).
- 1938: Breederivier bridge at Bonnievale.
- 1938: Lourens River: second bridge, alongside 1845 original.
- 1939: Hex River Pass reconstructed (bitumen surface).
- 1940s: Buffalo Pass, East London.
- 1940s: De Waal Drive reconstructed (bitumen surface).
- 1940s: Prince Alfred's Pass: surfaced from N2 to The Glebe.
- 1941: Penhoek Pass: lower portion reconstructed (gravel).
- 1941: Bitterfontein-O'Okiep-Nababeep constructed by CPRoads unit (gravel).
- 1941: Orange River: Eendrag Bridge to Kanoneiland.
- 1943: Wapadsberg Pass constructed by Divisional Council (gravel).
- 1945: Amandelhoogte reconstructed (bitumen surface).
- 1945: Goliatskraal se Hoogte reconstructed (bitumen surface).
- 1945: Lootsberg Pass constructed on new line (gravel).
- 1945: Naudesberg Pass reconstructed (bitumen surface).
- 1945: Oudeberg Pass/Ouberg Pass reconstructed (gravel).
- 1945: Perrieshoogte reconstructed (bitumen surface).
- 1946: Michell's Pass: concrete construction by District Roads Engineer John Williamson and the Ceres Divisional Council.

- 1947: Bitou River bridge, concrete, on N2.
- 1947: Keurbooms River bridge, concrete, on N2.
- c1948: Dasklip Pass, constructed by Divisional Council (gravel).
- 1948: Swartvlei bridge, concrete on N2.
- 1948: Vark River bridge in Bloukrans Pass widened.
- 1949: Du Toit's Kloof Pass constructed by Italian POWs and CPRoads units (Starke and Rex Shave) bitumen surface.
- 1949: First Du Toit's Kloof tunnel, by CPRoads (Starke and Coetzee).
- 1950: Pienaar's Pass, 4x4 in Karoo National Park constructed by Kowie Pienaar.
- 1950: Nababeep-O'Okiep: T. A. C. premix construction, CPRoads unit, Graham Ross R.E.
- 1950: Oudtshoorn-Calitzdorp constructed by DC (concrete).
- 1950: Twee Riviere Mata Mata road in Gemsbok Park: gravel construction by Louis Terblanche and Gordonia DC.
- 1950: Berg River: Carinus Bridge at Velddrif by M&S.
- 1950s: Gydo Pass reconstructed by Divisional Council (bitumen).
- 1950s: Sir Lowry's Pass: lower portion reconstructed (bitumen).
- 1951: Bloukrans Pass reconstructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen).
- 1951: Burger's Pass/Koo Pass reconstructed by DC (gravel).
- 1951: Groot River Pass reconstructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen).
- 1951: Howison's Poort reconstructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen).
- 1951: Outeniqua Pass constructed by Italian pow's and CPRoads unit (bitumen surface).
- 1951: Piet Esterhuizen Pass (Minor Road 121) built by Piet Esterhuizen.
- 1951: Robinson Pass reconstructed by Divisional Council (bitumen).
- 1951: N1: Cape Town to Du Toit's Kloof road constructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen surface).
- 1951 (1953??): Breede River bridge at Swellendam.
- 1951: Groot River bridge in Groot River Pass replaced causeway.
- 1951: Kaaimans River curved bridge on N2.
- 1951: Kogman's (Cogmans) River bridge in Ashton widened.
- 1951: Orange River: Ernest Oppenheimer Bridge, near mouth.
- c1951: Great Brak Pass, on N2: first construction, by CPRoads Unit.
- 1952: Penhoek Pass reconstructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen).
- 1952: N2: George-Knysna constructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen).
- 1952: N7: O'Okiep-Springbok constructed by CPRoads (bitumen).
- 1952: N1: bitumen surfacing complete from Cape Town to the Orange Free State boundary near Colesberg (nicely 300 years after Jan van Riebeeck landed!!)
- 1952: Cogmans Kloof: (No. 2) Boy Retief Bridge on TR1.
- 1952: Orange River: Rupert Riley Bridge on DR56 at Koegas.
- 1953: Allemans Poort (south of Jamestown): bitumen construction by CPRoads unit. . .
- 1953: Anenous Pass constructed by Divisional Council (gravel).
- 1953: Cogmans Kloof reconstructed on new alignment (bitumen), and Cogmans Kloof tunnel enlarged, by Divisional Council.
- 1953: Meiringspoort: concrete causeways by Divisional Councils.
- 1953: O'Okiep Concordia Main Road constructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1953: N2: Cape Town-George: bitumen surface complete.
- 1953: Cogmans Kloof: (No. 1) Loftus Bridge on TR1.
- 1953: Orange River: Bloemsemond Bridge to Kanoneiland.
- 1953: Orange River bridge: Kanoneiland to Agtereiland.
- 1953: Sunday's River bridge at Tweede Drift.
- 1953: Umzimvubu River: Pondoland Bridge near mouth.
- 1954: Remhoogte Pass outside Ashton, constructed by Montagu DC.

- 1954: Breede River bridge at Nieuwedrift.
- 1954: Keiskama River: Howard Shaw Bridge at Ebb and Flow.
- 1954: Umtata River bridge on N2/21 near Umtata.
- 1955: Cala Pass constructed (gravel).
- 1955: Kei Cuttings, constructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen surface).
- 1955: Olifantskop Pass, on N10, constructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen surface).
- 1955: Telemachus Poort/Modderpoort, on N6, constructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen).
- 1955: Kaffirkuilsrivierbrug by Stilbaai.
- 1955: Knysna Lagoon bridge ("the white bridge") on N2.
- 1955: Swartkops River bridges (2) at Despatch.
- 1955: Tyumie River bridge on TR8.
- 1956: Orange River: D. F. Malan Bridge at Vioolsdrift.
- 1956: Storms River: P. O. Sauer Bridge on N2/13.

The all-asphalt link between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth was established

with the construction of the Storms River bridge.

1956 or 1957: Warrenton to Pudimoe by CPRoads unit (bitumen).

1956 or 1957: Great Fish River bridge at Cookhouse.

1956 or 1957: Great Fish River bridge near the mouth.

1956 or 1957: Groot River bridge at Beervlei.

1956 or 1957: Zwartkops River bridge at Nivens Drift.

1957: Elandsberg Pass (on N6, south of Aliwal North) constructed by CPRoads unit.

1957: Ntywenka Pass, on Tsolo - Maclear road (gravel construction).

1957: Piekeniers Kloof, on N7, reconstructed by CPRoads unit.

1957: N6: Bitumen surfacing complete from N2 at King Williams Town to Aliwal North on the border with the Orange Free State.

1957: Orange River: P. J. Olivier Bridge at Groblershoop.

1958: Sir Lowry's Pass reconstructed, by Simpson Construction.

1958: De Waal Drive reconstructed, dual carriageway.

1958: George-Oudtshoorn R25 National Road: construction complete.

1958: Orange River bridge on N12 at Hope Town.

1958/59: N7: Citrusdal-Clanwilliam constructed by CPRoads unit on opposite side of the river.

1958/59: Bushmans River bridge on N7/3 at Saltaire.

1958/59: Cogmanskloof River bridge at Goudmyn.

1958/59: Gouritz River bridge on DR61 at Melkhoutfontein.

1958/59: Jan Dissels River bridge on TR1 at Clanwilliam.

1958/59: Olifants River bridge on TR3 at Steildrift, Oudtshoorn.

1958/59: Oskraal River bridge on TR1 at Whittlesea.

1958/59: Palmiet River bridge on N2/2 near Grabouw.

1959: Little Fish River bridge on N7/3 near Ripon.

1959: Olifants River bridge on N11/5 at Krantz.

1959: Olifants River bridge on TR2 at Vredendal.

1959/60: New Olifantshoek Pass opened to traffic.

1959/60: Black River bridge on N2/1 at Mowbray.

1959/60: Buffalo River bridge at Buffalo Pass.

1959/60: Kat River bridge on TR1 at Fort Beaufort.

1959/60: Orange River bridges at Onderstekoms Eiland.

1959/60: Tarka River bridge on N7/5 at Driefontein.

1960: Brooke's Nek Pass, on N10, constructed (bitumen surface).

1960: Burger's Pass reconstructed (bitumen surface).

1960: Ibisi Heights Pass, on R56, constructed (bitumen surface).

- 1960: Munnik's Pass, on N1/5, constructed.
- 1960: N2 and N10: Bitumen surfacing complete from Cape Town-Port Elizabeth-East London-Umtata to the border with Natal.
- 1960: N7: Bitumen surfacing complete from N2 at Nanaga to N9 at Middelburg.
- 1960: N13: Bitumen surfacing complete from Three Sisters—Kimberley—Warrenton-the border with the Transvaal.
- 1960: Olifants River bridge on SR6 at Klawer.
- 1960: Olifants River bridge on SR6 at Lutzville.
- 1960/61: Bushmans River Mouth: two bridges on TR1.
- 1960s: Schoeman's Poort reconstructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1960s: Viljoen's Pass: reconstructed.
- 1960s: Droekloof, on R29, constructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen).
- 1960s: N12: Beaufort West-Klaarstroom: constructed by CPRoads.
- 1961: Lootsberg Pass, on N9, reconstructed.
- 1961: N9: Lootsberg Pass-Middelburg: road constructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1961: Okiep-Concordia mine road: bitumen construction by S&L.
- 1961: Sundays River: two bridges in Graaff-Reinet.
- 1961/62: Little Fish River bridge on TR41.
- 1961/62: Piesang River bridge at Plettenberg Bay.
- 1961/62: Steynsdrift River bridge on N1/3 at Willowmore.
- 1962: Eland Pass, on Gamkaskloof Road, constructed by DC (gravel).
- 1962: Gwarina Heights, on N9, constructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1962: Potjiesberg Pass, on N9, constructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1962: Robinson Pass reconstructed by DC (bitumen surface).
- 1962: Gamkaskloof Road (Otto du Plessis Road): gravel construction by Prince Albert DC.
- 1962: N7/8: Okiep-Steinkopf reconstructed by J&G/S&L.
- 1962: N12: Oudtshoorn-Cango Caves reconstructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1962: Prince Albert-Prince Albert Road: bitumen construction.
- 1962: Swartkops River bridge on N2/15 at Amsterdam Hoek.
- 1962/63: Great Fish River bridge at Hunts Drift.
- 1962/63: Kamanassie River bridge on N1/3 at Uniondale.
- 1962/63: Orange River bridge on SR3 at Kakamas.
- 1963: Buyspoort, on N9, bitumen construction.
- 1963: Franschhoek Pass: improvements.
- 1963: Ghwarriepoort, on N9, bitumen construction.
- 1963: Garcia Pass reconstructed by DC (bitumen surface).
- 1963: N9: Bitumen surfacing complete from N2 at George -- Uniondale -- Graaff-Reinet--N1 at Colesberg.
- 1963: Boyes Drive extended up to Westlake.
- 1963/64: Kwelegha River bridge on N2/18.
- 1963/64: Kariega River bridge at Kenton-on-sea.
- 1964: Keiskamma River bridge on N2/16 at Line Drift.
- 1965: Bruintjies Hoogte Pass on R63: bitumen construction.
- 1965: Franschhoek Pass reconstructed.
- 1965: Van Rhyn's Pass, constructed by VKE/Simpson Road Construction.
- 1965: N7/8: Steinkopf-Vioolsdrift reconstructed J&G/M&R.
- 1965: Vyf Myl Poort, near Vioolsdrift, reconstructed by M&R.
- 1965: Graaff-Reinet Pearston Cookhouse: bitumen construction.
- 1965: Great Brak River causeway at village.
- 1965: Little Brak River bridge on N2.

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1965: Orange River: Oppenheimer Bridge at mouth replaced by C&N.
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1965/66: Gonubie River bridge on N2.

1965/66: Kromme River bridge on TR44.

1966: Barkly Pass, Barkly East-Elliot: bitumen construction.

1966: Grootvleipas, Barkly East-Elliot: bitumen construction.

1966: Helshoogte Pass reconstructed on new line.

1966: Huisrivier Pass reconstructed: K&T and A. G. Burton.

1966: Kraairivier Pass, Barkly East-Lady Grey: new route.

1966: N7/8: Springbok-Okiep reconstructed by J&G/M&S.

1966: TR75: Bitumen surfacing complete from Graaff-Reinet to P.E.

1966/67: N10: Bitumen surfacing complete from Prieska to Aughrabies.

1966/67: Brak River bridge at Victoria West.

1966/67: Vaal River new bridge at Schmidtsdrif.

1967: Mackays Nek constructed by CPRoads Roads unit (bitumen).

1967: Nico Malan Pass constructed, by VKE/?.

1967: Nonesis Nek reconstructed by CPRoads unit.

1967: Uniondale Poort reconstructed by DC (bitumen surface).

1967: Gemsbokvlei-Port Nolloth bitumen construction by J&G/M&R.

1967: Kleinzee-Gemsbokvlei, MR746: gravel construction by J&G/M&R.

1967/68: Zeekoe River bridge on N17/1.

1968: Meiringspoort flood damage.

1968: Nieuwekloof Pass reconstructed on new alignment (bitumen).

1968: Ouberg Pass, NW of Sutherland, reconstructed by DC (gravel).

1968: Ou Kaapse Weg: Steenberg Pass reconstructed above Westlake.

1968/69: Broekpoort Spruit bridge, Verwoerd Dam.

1968/69: Hartebeest River bridge near Kenhardt.

1968/69: Zout River bridge north of Vanrhynsdorp.

1969: Ouberg Pass, Graaff-Reinet, reconstructed (bitumen).

1969: Taandjies Nek constructed (bitumen), VKE/.

1969: N7: Vanrhynsdorp-Bitterfontein constructed by CPRoads unit.

1969: TR27 and 63: bitumen surfacing complete from Vanrhynsdorp(N7) -- Calvinia – Williston -- N1 at Victoria West.

1969/70: Orange River bridge at Koegas.

1970: Brown's Pass in Richtersveld: gravel construction.

1970: N7: Bitumen surfacing complete from Cape Town--Van Rhynsdorp--Springbok -- border with South West Africa at Vioolsdrift.

c1970: Brakdam se Hoogte (N7), by CPRoads unit.

c1970: Burke's Pass (N7), by J&G/Le Frenz-LTA Consortium.

c1970: Garies Hoogte Pass (N7), by CPRoads unit.

c1970: East London By-pass freeway: VKE/CPRoads/Clifford Harris.

1970/71: TR18: Clanwilliam-Lamberts Bay: bitumen construction.

1970/71: Kowie River bridge on TR45.

1971: Meiringspoort reconstructed by CPRoads unit (bitumen).

1971: Port Elizabeth Bypass: freeway: Commercial Road to Deal Party,by VKE/M&S-S&L; 1963-1971 (four contracts).

1971: Orange River bridge on N17/8 at Upington.

1971: Van Staden's Gorge bridge on N2/14.

1971: Berg River Lady Grey Bridge, replacing Thomas Bain's 1853 bridge.

1971/72: Orange River bridge on TR69 at Prieska.

1971/72: Sundays River bridge on N2/15.

- 1972: Wapadsberg Pass (R61): bitumen construction.
- 1972: R61: Bethesda Rd(N9) to Cradock(N10) bitumen construction.
- 1972/73: TR35 (R61): Beaufort West(N1) to Aberdeen(N9): by CPRoads unit.
- 1973: "Blue Route" freeway, Wynberg Hill-Tokai, VKE/?.
- 1973: Bertram Armstrong Bridge on R340.
- 1974: Widespread flood damage.
- 1974/75: N14:Upington- SWA border bitumen surfacing complete.
- 1974/75: Gamtoos River bridge on N2/14.
- 1974/75: Nahoon River bridge on MR17.
- 1976: Houw Hoek Pass (N2): dual carriageway reconstruction, HHO/?.
- 1976/77: Berg River bridge at Wellington.
- 1976/77: Seekoei River bridge on MR3.
- 1977: Fish River: fourth Fort Brown Bridge.
- 1977: Gouritz River bridge on N2.
- 1977/78: Harts River bridge on MR9.
- 1977/78: Great Fish River bridge on TR47.
- 1977/78: Koonap River bridge on TR47.
- 1977/78: Olifants River bridge on TR75.
- 1977/78: Orange River bridge on TR79.
- 1977/78: Orange River bridge at Groblershoop: replaced.
- 1977/78: Vaal River bridge on TR5.
- 1978: Kleinzee-Koingnaas "white road": limestone, constructed by DBNM.
- 1978/79: N1: Laingsburg-Beaufort West: reconstruction complete.
- 1979: Anenous Pass: bitumen reconstruction by J&G/S&L.
- 1979: Steinkopf-Gemsbokvlei (R352): bitumen construction J&G/S&L.
- 1979: Tradouw's Pass reconstructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1979: Aggeneys-Loop 10 (TR 84/1): gravel construction by VKE/LTA.
- 1979: Kromme River bridge on MR8.
- 1979: Seekoei River bridge on MR8.
- 1979/80: Breede River bridge on TR30.
- 1980: Cape Town-Velddrif (TR27): bitumen construction by J&G/?.
- 1980s: Penhoek Pass reconstructed by CPRoads unit.
- 1981: Great Brak Pass, freeway, constructed by NS/CH.
- 1981: Spektakel Pass reconstructed by Namagualand DC (gravel).
- 1981: Kleinzee-Koingnaas: bitumen construction: Keeve Steyn/LTA.
- 1981: Laingsburg floods.
- 1982: N14: Springbok-Aggeneys-Pofadder-Kakamas: bitumen construction completed, linked through to Upington, etc.
- 1982/83: Buffeljagts River bridge on TR2/5.
- 1983: Bobbejaans River bridge on N2 toll road.
- 1983: Bloukrans River bridge on N2 toll road.
- 1983: Groot River bridge on N2 toll road.
- 1984: Sir Lowry's Pass: upper portion reconstructed by HHO/S&L.
- 1985: Ciskei Transportation Plan (1985-2000) by Ninham Shand.
- c1985: Nunnik's Pass, on N9, reconstructed.
- 1986/86: Caledon-Bredasdorp (TR29) reconstructed: NS/. . .
- 1986: Hex River Pass and Poort: dual carriageway by NS/Concor.
- 1986/87: Stellenberg Interchange (N1/S300): first fully directional, four level interchange in the Cape, designed by VKE.
- 1986/87: Sundays River bridge at Graaff-Reinet.

1987/88: Kliphuis River bridge in Pakhuis Pass.

1987/88: N2: George Bypass (freeway) completed.

1988: Huguenot Toll tunnel (N1) in Du Toit's Kloof opened.

1988/89: Diep River bridge (on MR355 - The Passes Road): replaced.

1989/90: Boesmanshoek Pass (on MR664): construction completed.

1990: DCs replaced by RSCs: except in the case of the Western Cape and Algoa RSCs. The roads function in respect of proclaimed main, divisional and minor roads was transferred from the DCs to the Administrator, and CPA therefore became the roads authority for such roads within the Province!! The benefits of local knowledge and experience were lost.

1992: Klipspringer Pass, in Karoo National Park: bitumen construction by NPB.

1992: Michell's Pass, Ceres, reconstructed by CPRoads unit.

1992: Port Nolloth-Orange River (R731): bitumen construction: Scott & De Waal/Haw & Inglis.

1993: Port Nolloth-McDougall's Bay: bitumen construction by Haw & Inglis.

1994: Cape Province fragmented into Western Cape, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape Provinces, and a bit of my old Kimberley District given to the North West Province.

1994: THE END OF AN ERA, WHICH STARTED IN 1910.

gldr February 2009