

THE KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL MUSEUM SERVICE, 1974-1995

A BRIEF HISTORY

by

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ABSTRACT

The Natal Provincial Museum Ordinance, No. 26 of 1973, made provision for the establishment, control and management of museums and art galleries in KwaZulu-Natal by the Provincial Administration. A museum service was created to provide technical and professional assistance to those museums which are affiliated to the Service.

Twenty-one years later, museums in general, including those in KwaZulu-Natal, are discussing a restructuring of museums and policies. A new national policy for museums in South Africa is envisaged within the foreseeable future. This will effect the museums in KwaZulu-Natal.

The development of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service has never been fully documented. As it is possible that the Museum Service in its present form might change, the author considered it relevant to research the development of the Service since its inception in 1974.

Unpublished documents formed the bulk of the material used for the study. This includes minutes of the Museum Service Advisory Board; minutes of affiliated museum committee meetings; unpublished reports; memoranda and letters. The official legislation relating to the Museum Service, as well as resolutions taken by the Executive Committee of the Province

of KwaZulu-Natal, were studied. In some instances, the author used personal knowledge gained while working at Museum Service, to augment written sources. Verbal communications with Museum Service staff members and individual curators also provided information.

The findings of the study clearly show that the problems experienced in 1985, i.e. too few staff and too little money in relation to the number of affiliated museums, are still experienced. The service which Museum Service provides is of a high quality, but the delay in providing displays to affiliated museums or upgrading the displays that have been mounted, is a problem. The Restoration Section is also in need of more staff, including apprentices who can be taught the techniques of restoration. These problems will become more serious as the Service starts supplying museum services to the rural and disadvantaged areas of KwaZulu-Natal.

However, these problems can be overcome if funding is increased and more staff are appointed. The Service has the infrastructure and know-how to provide a valuable service to the museums of KwaZulu-Natal.

The study was significant in that it documented the past history of the Museum Service and showed, notwithstanding the problems the Service has experienced, what has been achieved in the twenty-one years of its existence. The valuable foundation which has been laid should serve as an inspiration for the future.

DECLARATION OF ORIGINALITY

The author hereby declares that the contents of this dissertation, unless specifically indicated to the contrary, are her own work and that the thesis has not been submitted simultaneously or, at any other time, for another degree.

H. Ridley

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to the memory of my mother

FRIEDA MARGARETHE KRITZINGER

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

In this introductory chapter the research problem is elucidated, the objectives of the study are described and the background to the problem outlined. The necessity for the research and the choice of the period are explained. The collection and evaluation of data, according to the historical method, is described.

The study consists of an overview of the history and development of the Provincial Museum Service. The need for, and the formation of the Museum Service, is described in Chapters II and III. In Chapter IV the first ten years (1974-1984) is discussed. Chapter V deals with the Henderson, Jones and Hosking Reports and Chapter VI with the Provincial Museums. The period, 1985-1995, is discussed in Chapter VII and the affiliation of non-local authority museums in Chapter VIII. A future national policy for museums in South Africa and more specifically a policy for

the museums in KwaZulu-Natal are discussed in Chapters IX and X. The thesis concludes with Chapter XI which contains a summary of findings, as well as recommendations regarding Museum Service.

Instead of a hypotheses, the author has stated a research objective which she has endeavoured to discuss within the confines of a mini-thesis.

I. STATEMENT OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

The KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service¹ was established in February 1974 with the purpose of establishing, controlling and managing museums and art galleries in KwaZulu-Natal².

The Service has grown from an organisation, housed on the ground floor of the Midlands Library Service building in College Road, Pietermaritzburg, with only a few staff and forming part of the Provincial Library Service, into a separate department, housed in the old Grey's Complex with 42 staff members and 31 affiliated museums.

The Museum Service provides financial, technical and professional assistance to its affiliated museums throughout KwaZulu-Natal. Few of the museums would have been able to develop to the extent that they have or be able to exist without the assistance of Museum Service. On 15 February

¹ Before April 1995 the official name was the Natal Provincial Museum Service. After April 1995 it was changed to the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service. This name will be used throughout this dissertation.

² In April 1995 the name of the Province of Natal was changed to the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. When referring to the province, the name KwaZulu-Natal will be used, irrespective of the period under discussion.

1995 Museum Service had been in existence for 21 years. Although the Service has been operating for so long, its history and development has never been fully documented. The Henderson Report covered the period 1974-1984 and the O. & W.S. Report of 1985 investigated the existing staff structure at Museum Service and suggested a new staff structure and additional posts.

Museums in South Africa, and also those in KwaZulu-Natal, are on the threshold of change. Efforts are being made to develop a national museum policy for the whole country and a new structure for the museums of KwaZulu-Natal has also been suggested.

The author considered it important to document the history of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service before the museums in KwaZulu-Natal are possibly restructured. The cut-off date of December 1995 was chosen as it precedes any possible changes which might have been made to the structure or functions of Museum Service.

II. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The definition of the problem or objective of the research was to trace the development of Museum Service from its inception in February 1974 up to the end of 1995. The author wanted to determine to what extent the Museum Service had succeeded in accomplishing what it was directed to do, i.e. develop, manage and administer museums and art

galleries in KwaZulu-Natal. The study has been presented mainly in a chronological sequence in order to show the development of the Service more clearly.

The museums of South Africa are in a process of being restructured. The author included the suggestions for a national museum policy for South Africa and more specifically, a new structure for the museums of KwaZulu-Natal, in the study. It was considered necessary as it is expected that new museum policies will have an influence on existing museums and museum services in South Africa. This will include the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service.

At the time of the completion of this study, no final decisions regarding either a new national or provincial policy on future museum structures had been taken. However, based on the MUSA and ACTAG recommendations, the author has identified the areas where the Museum Service could play an important role in future, i.e. the provision of museum services to the disadvantaged areas of KwaZulu-Natal. The Service could also provide technical services to more museums in KwaZulu-Natal by establishing a conservation centre at its head office in Pietermaritzburg.

III. HISTORICAL METHOD

The author applied the historical research process in this study. According to Gay (p.146) this process consists of the following:

Definition of the problem;
Formulation of hypotheses or questions to be answered;
Systematic collection of data;
Objective evaluation of data;
Confirmation or disconfirmation of hypothesis.

Note: the definition or statement of the research problem and the objective of the research have been discussed. The collection and evaluation of data will now be described.

IV. COLLECTION AND EVALUATION OF DATA

a) Collection of data

In a historical research study, the review of related literature forms part of the research process. There are no measuring instruments such as questionnaires, psychological tests, experiments, etc. which will "create" data which can be used for the research study. (Gay, pp.147-148).

The term "literature" in a historical study refers to all written communication, as well as interviews with persons who participated in the event or process under investigation. (Gay, p.148).

Sources of data are classified as primary or secondary sources. Primary sources constitute firsthand information, such as original documents and reports by actual participants or direct observers. Secondary sources constitute secondhand information, such as books based on

the information contained in primary sources. (Gay, p.148).

The author used mainly primary sources which consisted of the following:

- i) Minutes of meetings of the Museum Service Advisory Board and museum committees of affiliated museums;
- ii) Unpublished reports;
- iii) Provincial legislation;
- iv) Resolutions of the Executive Committee of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal;
- v) Official memoranda and letters;
- vi) Personal communications with museum staff;
- vii) Miscellaneous sources, such as official invitations and programmes to the opening of museums or exhibitions.

Secondary sources consisted of published books and pamphlets. These sources dealt mainly with the history of KwaZulu-Natal and the development of museum services in other areas of South Africa.

The bulk of the documents which were used in the study emanated from the Museum Service itself. These unpublished records are housed at the Museum Service Head Office in Pietermaritzburg.

The author obtained verbal comments from various staff members of Museum Service, as well as curators of museums

affiliated to the Museum Service. These comments are listed in the Bibliography under Personal communications.

b) Evaluation of data

According to Gay (pp.149-150) all historical data must be subjected to rigorous analysis to determine both their authenticity (external criticism) and their accuracy (internal criticism). The fact that a document is "official" does not necessarily mean that all the information contained in the document is accurate.

It is frequently more difficult to determine the accuracy of documents than their authenticity. In determining accuracy Gay (p.150) mentions four factors which need to be considered:

Knowledge and competence of the author

It must be determined whether the author of a documents or was a competent person and in a position to be knowledgeable concerning what actually occurred.

Time delay

An important consideration is of how much time elapsed between the event's occurrence and the recording of the facts. Minutes of a meeting, written while the event is occurring, are likely to be mote accurate than reports written much later, such as an autobiography.

Bias and motives of the author

People often report or record incorrect information. Such distortion of the truth may be intentional or unintentional.

People tend to remember what they want to remember or to amplify or add little details in order to make a story more interesting. A more serious problem is when a persons has motives for consciously or subconsciously misinterpreting the facts.

Consistency of data

Each piece of evidence must be compared with all other pieces to determine the degree of consistency. Sources may validate their accuracy by the very fact that they agree.

The author treated all the reports and memoranda which she used with great care as it was possible that the writers of these documents might have been biased or not knowledgable enough to be regarded as competent and accurate sources. Where possible, the facts were checked against other sources for consistency.

However, in most cases there were no other documents with which to compare the documents which were used. Most of the reports and memoranda were of an official nature which dealt with the day-to-day running of the Museum Service and were written by either officials or persons closely involved with the Service. In most cases the documents were written at the time the events were taking place or very soon after. The author was of the opinion that the sources which she has used were both authentic and accurate.

The author has been working in a senior capacity at the

KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service since 1983. This has in a sense been an advantage as the author has personally experienced events during the period which is discussed in the thesis. However, the author has been aware that she herself could be biased concerning certain matters and she has endeavoured to be as neutral as possible in evaluating the facts.

c) Personal knowledge

At the suggestion of the author's supervisor, Mrs Jennifer Verbeek, and Prof John Laband, Head: Historical Studies Department of the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, the author has included information in the thesis which was considered necessary, but for which there are no written records. In such cases, the author has used the reference: H.Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge.

CHAPTER TWO

THE NEED FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSEUM SERVICE

When the Provincial Museum Service was established in 1974 three major city museums already existed in KwaZulu-Natal, i.e. the Durban Museums (Natural History, Art Gallery and the Local History Museum), the Natal Museum and the Voortrekker Museum, both in Pietermaritzburg.

The Durban Natural History Museum was established in 1887. It was first housed in the old Town Hall (the present Post Office) and in 1910 it moved to its present venue in the Durban City Hall. In November 1920 the Art Gallery, which had been in existence as a private collection since 1892, was incorporated into the Natural History Museum. On 24 June 1966 the Local History Museum in Aliwal Street was opened. It had previously formed part of the Natural History Museum, but lack of space led to the creation of a separate cultural history museum for Durban. (Quickelberger, pp.97-98).

The present Natal Museum building was erected in the years 1902-1903. However, the origins of the museum date back to 1879 when the Council of the Natal Society decided that a collection of natural history specimens should be formed

with a view to founding a museum. The specimens were initially exhibited in the public Reading Room of the Society. (Warren, p. 6).

As space in the Reading Room became too small, a room in the vicinity of the library was rented to house the growing collection. In 1894 a museum hall was built at the back of the library, but by 1900 this building was also too small. It was felt that the Colony needed a larger museum which would be financed and administered by the government. This idea was approved and on 30 November 1904 the Natal Government Museum was officially opened. (Warren, pp.6-7,29).

The Voortrekker Museum was originally housed in the Church of the Vow which was built in 1841 to commemorate the Battle of Blood River-Ncome. At this battle the Voortrekkers³ successfully defeated the army of the Zulu King Dingane. The church was in use until 1866 when a new church building was erected. Due to lack of funds the old church was subsequently used as a school, black smith shop, mineral water factory, chemist and tearoom. (Voortrekkermuseum Pietermaritzburg, pp.9-11).

In 1908 a movement was started to acquire the old church for

³ The Voortrekkers were Afrikaner farmers from the eastern border areas of the former Cape Colony. They were dissatisfied with the British rule at the Cape. They trekked to the interior of South Africa in an attempt to establish their own sovereign state.

the nation. In February 1910 the building was purchased from Mr W.H. Buchanan for the amount of 1,750 pounds. The building was restored and a porch and gables added. On 16 December 1912 the Voortrekker Museum was officially opened. (Voortrekkermuseum Pietermaritzburg, pp.11-12).

These large museums had the staff, facilities and funding to ensure that their collections were adequately cared for. For the few small museums in the Province, who were mainly in municipal hands, little or no technical help was available for the maintenance of their collections. Very little was being done to collect, preserve and display significant historical artifacts in other parts of KwaZulu-Natal.

In the other provinces the situation regarding museums and historical collections was somewhat different. In the former Cape Province, a museum service was established in 1958, as a sub-section of the Cape Provincial Department of Nature and Environmental Conservation. It controlled nearly all the larger and well established museums (except those in Cape Town), as well as many smaller ones. It is a decentralised service, with only a few smaller museums relying on it for professional or technical assistance. The administrative section is in Cape Town. It presently sees to the application of uniform administrative procedures for all the museums and to the allocation of provincial subsidies. (Fransen, p.13).

In contrast, the Provincial Museum Service of the former Transvaal grew from the Library Service. In 1961 the former Transvaal Provincial Administration approved in principle that local museum collections may be housed in public libraries in the rural areas and that the Library Service could assist in the development of such museums. By 1970 fourteen small museums throughout the former Transvaal were indirectly controlled and financed by the Library Service. Consequently, a specialised museum service became desirable to deal with their development. A Provincial Ordinance to this effect was adopted in 1970. (Fransen, p.135).

The establishment of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service resembles that of Transvaal more closely than that of the Cape.

In 1961 Dr R.E.Stevenson⁴ and Mr George Chadwick⁵ addressed a strong memorandum to the Provincial Administration of KwaZulu-Natal. It stressed the importance of preserving the historical heritage of KwaZulu-Natal for future generations and asked in strong terms for action to be taken. This led to some activity through the action of the then Administrator, Mr Theo Gerdener. For instance, the bronze

⁴ Dr Stevenson was a medical doctor and at one time Superintendent of Grey's Hospital. He was an avid amateur historian who was particularly interested in the Anglo-Boer War.

⁵ Mr Chadwick was with the Natal Education Department for many years. He later became the Natal representative of the National Monuments Council and a member of the KwaZulu Monuments Council.

wagon laager at Blood River-Ncome⁶ was created and several buildings and sites listed for preservation. (Henderson Report, p 1).

Particular anxiety was expressed over the deterioration of museum collections of historical value, such as the Mackay Collection at the Ladysmith Museum, the Nieuwe Republiek Collection in Vryheid and the R.E.Stevenson Collection in Colenso. Little progress was made in their protection at that stage, but Dr Stevenson and Mr Chadwick, under the aegis of the South African War Graves Commission and with the assistance of the MOTH organisation played a large part in instituting the care of neglected graves and monuments. Voluntary efforts were considerable, but state funding and participation remained inadequate. (Henderson Report, p.1).

In 1968 the Council of the Natal Museum submitted a memorandum to the Administrator, requesting a museum ordinance and the establishment of a Provincial Museum Service. Representations were further made to Mr G.A.Rall, Member of the Executive Committee of the Provincial Council of KwaZulu-Natal, by Senator Henderson, as KwaZulu-Natal Council Member for the Simon van der Stel Foundation. (Henderson Report, p.2).

⁶ The Battle of Blood River-Ncome took place on 16 December 1838. The Voortrekker wagon laager was attacked by thousands of Zulu warriors. The Zulus fought bravely, but were eventually repulsed by the Voortrekkers. To commemorate this event, the bronze wagon laager was erected.

These representations met with success, as on 21 August 1973 the Administrator-in-Executive Committee granted approval (EXCO Resolution, No. 2034) for the establishment of the Provincial Museum Service and an Advisory Board. Their function was to oversee the development of museums under local authorities and to promote the preservation and care of historic sites in the field. (Henderson Report, p.2). The new Museum Service was to form part of the existing Library Service. In this, KwaZulu-Natal followed the Transvaal example, rather than the Cape Province example. (Fransen, p.107).

It is the development of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service which is the subject of this dissertation.

CHAPTER THREE

FORMATION OF THE KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL MUSEUM SERVICE

I. NATAL PROVINCIAL MUSEUM ORDINANCE

The Natal Provincial Museum Ordinance [No. 26, 1973] was assented to by the State President-in-Council on 21 January 1974. The date of the commencement of the Ordinance was 15 February 1974.

The Ordinance provided for the establishment, control and management of museums, including art galleries, by the Provincial Administration and the establishment of a museum service for this purpose. It also provided for the establishment of an advisory board and local museum committees and for matters incidental thereto.

II. MUSEUM ORDINANCE REGULATIONS

In the Provincial Notice no. 113/1975 of 13 February 1975 the Administrator made regulations relating to the Provincial Museum Service and Advisory Board. The Regulations are an integral part of the Museum Ordinance. They were amended by Provincial Notice, No. 69 of 1988, but the Museum Ordinance was not changed.

The original Regulations dealt in detail with the Provincial

Museum Service Advisory Board. However, no conditions for affiliation to the Museum Service were given. The Regulations stated that a local authority may appoint a museum committee to advise them in regard to their museum if they so wished, but it was not compulsory. No conditions were set for the payment of grants-in-aid, nor was the assistance which Museum Service would render to affiliated museums, stipulated.

III. DEFINITIONS

The Ordinance defines:

" **Administrator** " as the Administrator of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal acting on the advice and with the consent of the Executive Committee of the said Province;

" **Board** " as the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board;

" **Local authority** " as a city council, town council, town board or health committee established in terms of the Local Government Ordinance, 1942 (Ordinance 21 of 1942);

" **Museum** " as including an art gallery other than a museum or art gallery which was subject to the provisions of the Cultural Institutions Act, 1969 (Act 29 of 1969);

" **Service** " as the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service;

" **this Ordinance** " included the regulations. (Museum

Ordinance, 26/1973, p.1).

The Regulations define:

" **Local museum** " as any museum which is established or maintained by a local authority and which has been admitted to membership of the Museum Service;

" **Collection** " as a collection of articles, objects or items of whatsoever nature used or intended to be used for the purpose of a museum;

" **Curator** " as the person appointed as curator of a museum and included anybody lawfully acting in the curator's stead;

" **Director** " as the officer in the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Administration appointed as executive head of the Service and included anybody lawfully acting on behalf of the Director;

" **Provincial museum** " as a museum established and maintained by the Provincial Administration on a field site or outside the jurisdiction of a local authority.

(Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.3).

IV. PROVINCIAL MUSEUM SERVICE ADVISORY BOARD

The Museum Ordinance made provision for an Advisory Board for the Museum Service.

i) Appointment of Board members

The Regulations provide for the appointment by the Administrator of not less than five and not more than twelve members of the Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board for

a term of office of three years; and for the possibility of re-appointment of members. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.3).

The Administrator is required to appoint one of the members of the Board to be its Chairman; and if a vacancy occurs in the office of Chairmen, the Administrator must nominate another member as chairman. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.3).

To qualify as a member of the Board a person must be twenty-one years or older, of sound mind and must not have been convicted of an offence for which a prison sentence, without the option of a fine, has been imposed, unless a free pardon has been granted or the term of imprisonment has expired at least three years before the date of appointment. No allowances are payable to members of the Board apart from a subsistence and travelling allowance when applicable. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, pp.3-4).

ii) Meetings and dissolution of Board

The Board is required to meet at least once in every twelve months, or as determined by the chairman if a written request for a special meeting by at least three members is received. Such special meetings must be held within 21 days after request for such a meeting. The Secretary of the Board is required to notify members, at least fourteen days in advance of the date, time and place of such meeting and of the matters on the agenda. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.4).

Any member who, without leave of the Board, fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board shall cease to hold office and shall not be eligible for re-appointment within a period of one year, The Administrator must be advised of any vacancies which might occur on the Board and on receipt of such notice the Administrator may appoint another person to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the period during which his predecessor would have remained in office. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.4).

The Administrator may at any time, by notice in the Official Gazette, dissolve the Board, and Members of the Board must be informed of the action within 14 days of the date of such notice. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.4).

iii) Procedure of meetings

At the first meeting of the Board the members present must elect one of their number to act as Vice-Chairman. In the absence of the Chairman from any meeting of the Board, the Vice-Chairman shall preside, while in the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, the members present at the meeting elect a Chairman from themselves to preside at the meeting. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.4).

Decisions are taken by vote of the majority of the Board present at a meeting. In the case of an equal vote, the Chairman has, in addition to a deliberative vote, a casting vote. Members of the Board may not take part in Board

proceedings concerning any matter in which the member has a personal, direct or indirect financial interest. A quorum of not less than 50% of the members appointed to the Board is required for any business to be transacted at any meeting. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.4).

iv) Functions and duties of the Board

The Board advises the Administrator on any matter concerning museums which is referred to it by the Administrator. It may, on its own initiative, advise the Administrator on any museum or on museums in general. The Board may consult with any other person or organization in regard to the activities of the Provincial Museum Service. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, pp.3-4).

The members of the first Advisory Board were:

Mr W.B. Reynolds (Chairman)(MEC)⁷

The Hon. G.A. Rall (MEC)

Dr J. Clark (Natal Education Department)

Dr B.J.T. Leverton (Pietermaritzburg Archives)

Prof G.S. Nienaber (University of Natal)

Dr J.A. Pringle (Director: Natal Museum)

Dr L. Steenkamp (Senator)

Mr H.L. Scheffer (Town Clerk: Borough of Eshowe)

Mrs S. Henderson (Northern KwaZulu-Natal historian and conservationist)

⁷ An MEC was a member of the Administrator-in-Executive Committee of the Provincial Council of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal

Ms J. Addleson (Curator: Durban Art Gallery)

Ms L. Ferguson (Curator: Tatham Art Gallery) (Advisory Board Minutes, 27/9/74).

V. AMENDMENTS TO THE MUSEUM ORDINANCE REGULATIONS

The Museum Ordinance Regulations were amended on 3 March 1988 by Provincial Notice, No. 69 of 1988. This amendment did not change the Museum Ordinance. The amendments are discussed in this chapter, rather than in the chapter dealing with the period 1985-1995, as the Ordinance and the amended Regulations form an integral whole.

One of the most important amendments to the Regulations concerned the stipulation that only local authority museums could be affiliated to the Provincial Museum Service. According to Section 14 (4), the Administrator was now able, after consultation with the Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board, and subject to such terms and conditions as might be agreed to by the person establishing or maintaining a museum which is not a local authority museum, to admit such museum to membership of the Provincial Museum Service. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.5).

The consequences of this decision will be discussed in Chapter VIII.

Provincial Notice No. 69 of 1988 substituted Sections 14 and 15, which deals with conditions for admission to membership of the Service and the allocation and variation of museum

themes, by changing and adding to the wording of the sections. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.5).

Sections 16-20 were added. These sections deal with the following matters:

Section 16: Grants-in-aid;

Section 17: Museum Committees;

Section 18: Duties of the curator;

Section 19: Professional and technical assistance rendered by Museum Service;

Section 20: Offenses and penalties. (Museum Ordinance, 27/1973, pp.5-7).

The various sections will be discussed briefly.

i) Requirements for affiliation

A museum or a proposed museum which is established and maintained by a local authority or a private person/institution may be affiliated to the Provincial Museum Service if it meets the following conditions:

a) Owns a collection relating to the history of the town or district, or such theme/s allocated to the museum, which, in the opinion of the Director of the Provincial Museum Service is suitable for creating museum displays.

b) Owns, or by virtue of a lease for a period of not less than 99 years, has at its disposal immovable property which is available and, in the opinion of the Director of the Provincial Museum Service, is suitable

for use or capable of being adapted for use as a museum in accordance with museum standards. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.5).

c) Has adequate funds for the establishment and maintenance of such museum, collection and displays therein.

d) Undertakes to appoint a curator and museum committee for and in respect of such museum.

e) Does not alienate or otherwise dispose of any collection or display or part of any collection or display without the prior written approval of the Administrator.

f) Provides security measures for the protection of its collection and displays to the satisfaction of the Director of the Provincial Museum Service.

g) Applies such procedures in relation to research, collections, displays, documentation and the keeping of museum records as the Director of the Provincial Museum Service may from time to time determine. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.5).

The Administrator may, at the request of the local authority, or after consultation with them, terminate such membership if he is of the opinion that the local authority has not complied with the conditions of affiliation or if continued membership of the Provincial Museum Service is no longer necessary or desirable. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.5).

ii) Termination of membership

The Administrator may terminate the membership of an affiliated museum if:

- a) The local authority has not complied, or can not comply, with the conditions for admission to membership of the Service;
- b) The local authority considers continued membership of the Service no longer necessary or desirable. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p. 5).

iii) Allocation and variation of museum themes

The Administrator may, in consultation with the relevant museum, determine and from time to time vary the themes allocated in order to depict and characterise the purpose for which the museum was established or to promote the uniqueness of the museum. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.5).

iv) Grants-in-aid

The Regulations state that no applications for grants-in-aid would be considered by the Museum Service, other than for expenditure incurred in accordance with a statement of estimated revenue and expenditure in respect of that museum which had been approved by the Director. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.5).

v) Museum Committees

The Museum Committee is required to comply with the following conditions:

a) Composition

It originally had to consist of not less than six and not more than eight persons; but Provincial Notice, No. 187 of 1990, removed the stipulation of a maximum number. The members were to be appointed by the local authority; but included amongst them were to be one person nominated by the Administrator, one person who was a member of the local authority, one person who had a specialised knowledge of local history, one person having a specialised knowledge of education, and, if the museum was an art gallery, one person having a knowledge of art. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, pp.5-6).

b) Procedure of meetings

The local authority is required to appoint one member of the museum committee as the chairman. The members of the committee elect another member as the vice-chairman by a show of hands.

Members of the committee were originally to be appointed for a period of three years and are eligible for reappointment at the end of the period, but this stipulation was changed by Provincial Notice, No. 187 of 1990 to a period not exceeding five years, which expires on the day before the day on which there is an election of the local authority. In the event of a vacancy occurring, other than by the expiration of the members period of office, the local authority appoints a person to fill the vacancy for the

unexpired portion of the period of office remaining. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.6).

Every committee must meet at least quarterly on a date, time and place fixed by the chairman of the committee. Each member of the committee, as well as the Director of the Provincial Museum Service must be given at least fourteen days notice of meetings by the secretary. At the written request of at least 50% of the members of the committee a special meeting may be called. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.6)

c) Functions of the committee

The museum committee must advise the relevant local authority on all matters referred to it by the local authority. It must assist the curator in the preparation of the museum budget, and must lodge a copy of its confirmed minutes with the local authority and with the Director of the Provincial Museum Service. It may, of its own accord, render advice and make recommendations to the local authority regarding any matter in which the museum has a direct or indirect interest. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.6).

vi) Duties of a curator

The Regulations state that the curator should prepare the annual estimates of revenue and expenditure; attend every meeting of the museum committee and act as its secretary and

comply and give effect to the procedures already mentioned under "Requirements for affiliation", point (g).

vii) Professional and technical assistance

The Museum Ordinance and the Regulations pertaining to it stipulate that the Provincial Museum Service will provide technical and professional assistance to affiliated museums.

The Regulations state that the Director of the Provincial Museum Service may:

- i) Carry out research;
- i) Mount displays;
- iii) Perform restoration and conservation work;
- iv) Supply display cases and fittings;
- v) Render any other technical assistance that may be necessary. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, pp.6-7).

In practice, the Museum Service also organises training courses for curators; provides library facilities and assists with documentation. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

Any display executed by the Provincial Museum Service may not be altered without the prior approval of the Director. All display cases and other fittings supplied by the Provincial Museum Service remain its property. Museum items that are on loan to museums also remain the property of the Provincial Museum Service, but must be insured by the local

authority for as long as they remain in the museum. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.7).

ix) Offenses and penalties

The Regulations stated that a fine of R500,00 or six months imprisonment could be imposed on persons who:

- i) Interfered or in any way disturbed other persons in the lawful use of a museum and its amenities;
 - ii) Permitted any animal, bird or poultry under his control to enter or remain in a museum;
 - iii) Did not comply with any lawful instruction or notice in a museum;
 - iv) Damaged, either intentionally or otherwise, any items or displays in a museum or part of a museum.
- (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.7).

Conclusions

The provision of the Natal Provincial Museum Ordinance and the subsequent amended Regulations, as well as the creation of an Advisory Board for the Service, ensured that the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service was placed on a firm footing to start establishing, controlling and managing museums and art galleries and in providing the necessary financial, technical and professional assistance to these institutions.

However, a weakness in the Ordinance is the fact that both

the Museum Advisory Board and the Museum Committees only have an advisory function. This is opposed to the principle of museum trusteeship as vested in a statutory board. It is generally accepted by museums throughout the world that this is the best system for museums. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, Appendix 6, p.35).

The advantages of a statutory museum board are that it is representative of the community; will have meaningful control of the museum's assets; be able to determine policy; have considerable control over funds and budgets; be able to appoint staff and to implement its policies through the receipt of government funding. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, Appendix 6, p.35).

The fact that the Museum Advisory Board is not a statutory body has impacted directly on Museum Service. The Service is regarded and therefore treated in the same way as any other department of the Provincial Administration. Bureaucratic "red tape" complicates the provision of a good service to all the affiliated museums.

An example of this is the filling of vacant posts. Delays of up to six months or more have occurred in the filling of posts, even senior posts. This has, on occasion, caused good candidates to withdraw their applications. The creation of new posts is also problematic. In 1990 Museum Service recommended the creation of apprenticeship posts in

the Restoration Section as such posts are considered essential to train staff for the future. The Administration still has not approved this recommendation and consequently these posts have not been created.

For the local Museum Committees the lack of statutory status has meant that the museums are completely under the control of the local authority. The local authority determines the amount of funding which the museum receives, appoints staff, determines salaries, etc. The museum committees lack any real power in the running and development of the museums. They can only advise on matters concerning the museums and their advice can be ignored if it does not meet with the approval of the local authority. The amount of "red tape" which is involved in the administration of the museums also complicates matters.

There is no tradition of trusteeship at the local authority museums and the community base is small. This will make it more difficult for the museums to survive in future as many of these museums are perceived to be of little importance by some of the transitional local councils and by large sections of the community.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE FIRST TEN YEARS, 1974-1984

The growth of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service during the period 1974-1984 will be discussed under specific headings in order to give a clear picture of its development:

I. ACCOMMODATION AND STAFFING

The first head office of the Provincial Museum Service was at 26 College Road, Pietermaritzburg. The Service occupied the bottom floor of the modest building which it shared with the Midlands Branch of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Library Service. For more than 10 years Museum Service was part of Library Service with Mr C.J.Fourie as Director of both services. KwaZulu-Natal followed the Transvaal example of incorporating the new Museum Service with the existing Library Service. (Fransen, p.107).

Soon the premises became too small and alternative accommodation had to be sought. Various suggestions were put forward and in 1985 Museum Service moved to the Old Grey's Hospital premises in Prince Alfred Street, which it still occupies today. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

Staffing has always been a problem. In the 1974/75 financial year three posts were approved:

1 Chief Professional Officer

1 Professional Officer

1 Technical Assistant. (Advisory Board Minutes, 27/9/74)

The approved post of Chief Professional Officer was later changed to that of Senior Professional Officer and Ms Melanie Hillebrand was appointed. (Advisory Board Minutes, 15/4/75). A Chief Professional Officer's post was eventually approved in 1980 and Mr A.J.Havemann appointed to the post. (Advisory Board Minutes, 19/5/80).

In 1981 Mr Fourie submitted a memorandum to EXCO concerning the staffing needs of the Service for the next 20 years. This would have provided for 25 research officers; four documentalists and a clerical assistant; two librarians and two clerical assistants; eleven restoration workshops, including a wagon restorer and a display studio with at least ten display artists and the necessary photographic and cabinet making assistance. Also included was the post of Deputy-Director, two Chief Professional Officers, a museum architect and a planner with at least four clerical staff. (Advisory Board Minutes, 4/8/81).

Due to the stringent financial conditions which prevailed at the time, these recommendations were not approved. By July

1984 there were only nine professional, seven technical and three clerical staff members working for Museum Service. (Advisory Board Minutes, 27/7/84).

II. AFFILIATED MUSEUMS

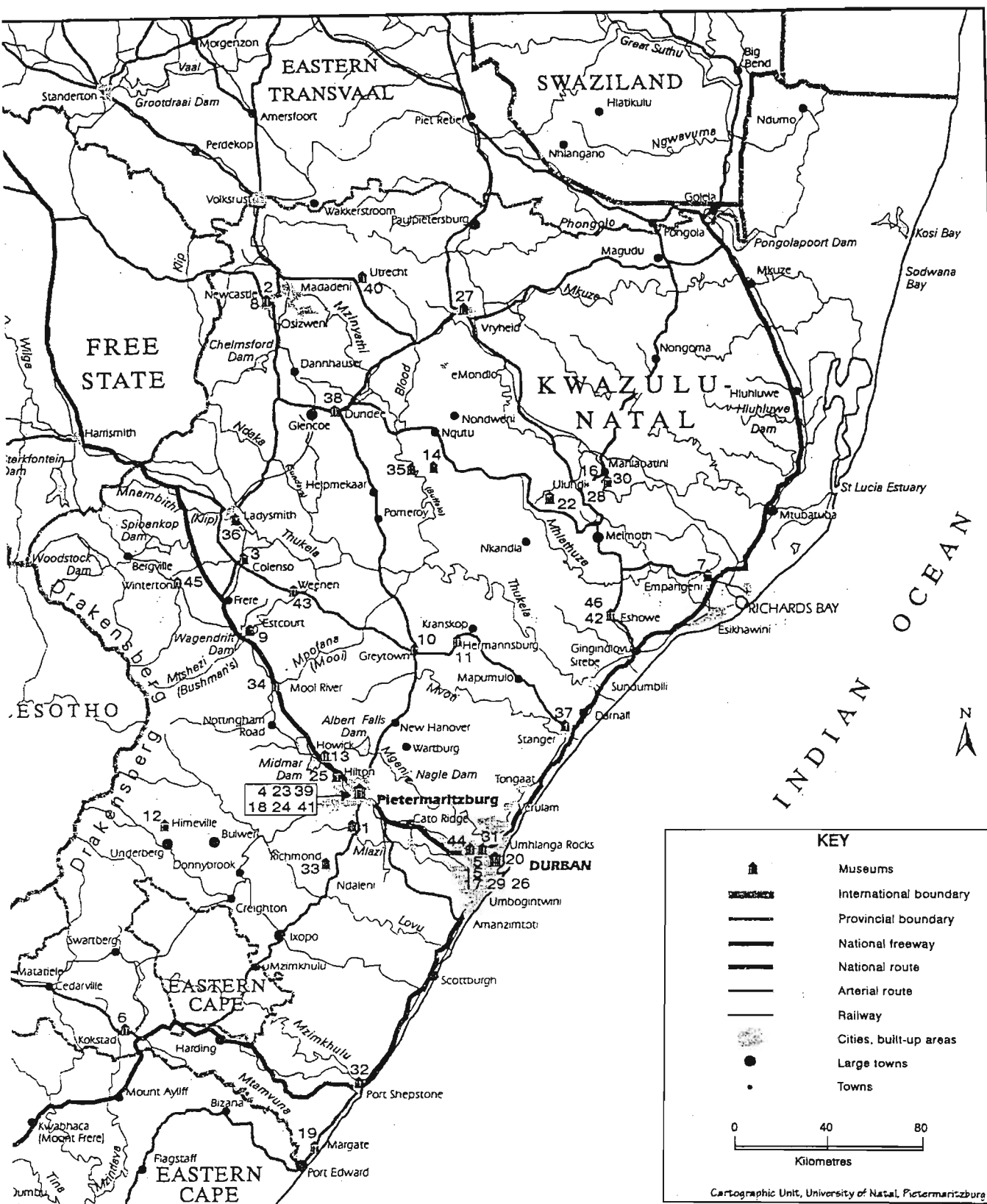
The Museum Ordinance provided for the establishment, control and management of museums and art galleries by the Provincial Administration. Museums and art galleries had to be controlled by a local authority in order to qualify for affiliation to the Provincial Museum Service, although this stipulation was later relaxed when the Regulations were amended in April 1988. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.5).

At their second meeting on 12 February 1975, the Museum Service Advisory Board decided that as many as possible of the existing museums in the Province should be encouraged to affiliate to the Museum Service. (Advisory Board Minutes, 12/2/75). Local authorities were also actively encouraged to establish museums. The financial, technical and professional assistance offered by Museum Service was used as an incentive to establish museums. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

By July 1984 the following museums had affiliated to Museum Service:

Greytown (1 April 1975)*⁸

⁸ An asterisk (*) indicates towns where museums or museum collections were already in existence by 1974.



Locations of Museums in KwaZulu-Natal

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Baynesfield Estate Museum | 11. Hermannsburg Museum | 21. Matatiële Museum | 31. Pinetown Museum |
| Carnegie Art Gallery | 12. Himeville Museum | 22. Mgungundlovu Museum | 32. Port Shepstone Museum |
| Colenso Museum | 13. Howick Museum | 23. Natal Museum | 33. Richmond - Byrne & District Museum |
| Comrades House Museum | 14. Isandiwana Museum | 24. Natal Parliament Building | 40. Utrecht Museum |
| Durban Art Gallery | 15. KwaMuhle Museum | 25. Natal Railway Museum | 41. Voortrekker Museum |
| East Griqualand Museum | 16. KwaZulu Cultural Museum | 26. Natural Science Museum | 42. Vukani Museum |
| Empangeni Museum | 17. Local History Museum | 27. Nieuwe Republiek Museum | 43. Weenen Museum |
| Fort Amiel Museum | 18. Macroërle House Museum | 28. Nodwengu Museum | 44. Westville Museum |
| Fort Dumford Museum | 19. Margate Art Museum | 29. Old House Museum | 45. Winterton Museum |
| Greytown Museum | 20. Maritime Museum | 30. Ondini Site Museum | 46. Zululand Historical Museum |
| | | | |

Vryheid (7 April 1975)*
Eshowe (26 May 1975)*
Howick (26 May 1975)*
Stanger (26 May 1975)*
Dundee (7 July 1975)*
Weenen (8 August 1975)*
Newcastle (25 November 1975)*
Colenso (8 July 1976)*
Pietermaritzburg (1 September 1976)*
Ladysmith (1 January 1978)*
Port Shepstone (1 January 1978)
Himeville (1 September 1978)
Estcourt (1 November 1978)
Kokstad (1 June 1979)
Mooi River (1 September 1980)
Matatiele (1 December 1980)
Durban (1 January 1981)*
Richmond (1 January 1981)
Queensburgh (1 January 1981)
Empangeni (1 November 1981)
Ixopo (1 November 1981)
Utrecht (1 June 1982)
Pinetown (1 January 1983)
Westville (1 March 1983)(Henderson Report, p.5).

In the period 1975-1984 Museum Service mounted displays at all but nine of the affiliated museums. The Service pays in full for the permanent displays it mounts at affiliated

museums. The city museums (Durban Local History; Durban Natural History and Durban Art Gallery, as well as the Tatham Art Gallery, Pietermaritzburg) are excluded from this service. These museums have always mounted their own displays as they have the staff, expertise and facilities to do so. However, Museum Service has assisted the Tatham Art Gallery with the restoration of some sculptures and has on occasion provided assistance with the hanging of an exhibition. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

III. MUSEUM THEMES

The question of allocating themes to the various affiliated museums was a matter that was discussed at the second meeting of the Museum Service Advisory Board on 12 February 1975. Dr J.A. Pringle, Vice-Chairman of the Board, was asked to draw up a report on this issue. Museums were asked which themes, other than local history, they would like to cover. The Board emphasised that this issue should be dealt with in a flexible manner so as not to hurt local pride. (Advisory Board Minutes, 12/2/75)

At the Board meeting on 22 January 1976 Dr Pringle tabled his report on the allocation of themes to affiliated museums. He suggested that each museum should have a primary theme, as well as two or three secondary themes. The primary theme would be unique to that museum, e.g. the New Republic period in Vryheid and the history of the Siege in the Ladysmith Museum. (Advisory Board Minutes, 22/2/76).

Several Board members noted that museums might be reluctant to give up prized exhibits relevant to another museum's primary theme. However, Dr Pringle felt that all museums should be urged to participate in the system as it would prevent the small museums becoming repetitions of one another in their displays. He stressed that good liaison between the Museum Service and the local authorities had to be established for this system to function properly. (Advisory Board Minutes, 22/3/77).

At the Board meeting on 14 September 1977 the Chairman, Mr W.B.Reynolds, reported that some members of EXCO⁹ had expressed concern regarding the lack of sufficient representation of the indigenous cultures in the themes allocated to affiliated museums. Dr Pringle replied that the subject was covered in the Durban Natural History Museum and in the Natal Museum in Pietermaritzburg. A large part of the Killie Campbell Museum's collection also consists of ethnographic items. However, the Advisory Board decided that indigenous cultures should be dealt with in affiliated museums under the heading "Prehistory of the region". (Advisory Board Minutes, 14/9/77).

At the meeting of the Advisory Board on 15 March 1978 , Mr Fourie reported that EXCO had approved the list of themes compiled by the Board. (Advisory Board Minutes, 15/3/78).

⁹ EXCO was the Administrator-in-Executive Committee of the Provincial Council of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal.

IV. GRANTS-IN-AID

The Museum Ordinance of 1973 and the Regulations pertaining to the Ordinance, stipulate that the Provincial Museum Service will provide financial assistance to affiliated museums. Initially, the grant-in-aid only applied to the administrative costs incurred by a museum. At the Advisory Board meeting on 18 August 1976 the Deputy-Director, Mr Fourie, reported that he had asked EXCO whether the grant could also be extended to cover the purchase and renovation of museum buildings. (Advisory Board Minutes, 18/8/76).

On 2 February 1977 Mr Fourie reported that EXCO had approved the following grants-in-aid:

- i) 50% of the administrative costs of affiliated museums;
- ii) Up to R20 000,00 on museum buildings and extensions to museum buildings. (Advisory Board Minutes, 2/2/77).

At the meeting of the Museum Service Advisory Board on 4 December 1978 Mr Fourie reported that EXCO had decided that Museum Service would in future pay for all professional and technical services. This would include the mounting of displays, restoration work, photography, etc. (Advisory Board Minutes, 4/12/78).

According to Provincial Circular, No. L.G. of 1982, addressed to all local authorities, the Provincial

Secretary, Mr J.F.Greebe, stated the following:

a) From 1 April 1982 EXCO had approved that grants-in-aid towards museum accommodation and the administrative costs of museums be calculated according to the income from rates of municipalities according to the following formula:

Up to R200 000,00

A 90% grant would be paid.

R200 000,00 - R1 000 000,00

A 75% grant would be paid.

R1 000 001,00 plus

A 50% grant would be paid.

b) The ceiling on administrative costs would be R15 000,00 and that on capital projects R40 000,00 for all three categories of subsidization.

c) City Museums would be paid as above except that the maximum grant payable in respect of administrative costs would be R30 000,00.

d) The following items could be included in the annual administrative costs:

Salaries and wages;

Travelling costs;

Uniforms and protective clothing;

Publications and exhibitions;

Tools for use in the museum;

Maintenance of the buildings and grounds;

Water and electricity;
Insurance of collection and building;
Office and museum equipment used solely for museum
purposes. (NPA Circular, No. L.G. of 1982).

The principle on which the grants-in-aid is based, is that the smaller local authorities receive more financial assistance from the Province than the larger local authorities.

V. KWAZULU-NATAL ARTS TRUST

As far back as February 1976 EXCO indicated that it was unwilling to subsidise the purchase of art works. The Museum Ordinance allows for the purchase of art works; but EXCO was not in favour of such purchases as they felt that the art works which would be chosen would not meet with their approval. (Advisory Board Minutes, 22/1/76). It would appear that EXCO members did not like modern art and that they were therefore not in favour of the purchase of such art works with taxpayer's money. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

However, the Director of Library and Museum Services, Mr Fourie, did not let the matter rest there. He proposed the creation of an arts trust for KwaZulu-Natal at the meeting of the Advisory Board on 11 March 1976. The Board decided that:

- i) Members of the public would be urged to leave money or paintings to the fund in their wills;
 - ii) That a press campaign should be launched;
 - iii) That artists should be approached directly for donations;
 - iv) That the Borough of Pietersburg (in the Transvaal) which had already launched a successful campaign, should be contacted;
 - v) The Board expressed concern that EXCO did not have money available for the subsidisation of art works.
- (Advisory Board Minutes, 11/3/76).

On 18 August 1976 Mr Fourie informed the Board that the Legal Department of the Provincial Administration had declared that the Board could not raise funds as it was not an autonomous body. It was subsequently decided that legislation needed to be promulgated to permit the creation of an arts trust which could raise funds for the purchase of art works. (Advisory Board Minutes, 18/8/76).

In May 1977 EXCO decided that it could only allow the creation of an arts trust if the body was independent of the Administration. At the Advisory Board meeting on 19 June 1980, Dr Pringle pointed out that national art galleries received state funding for the purchase of art works. This had set a precedent which would also allow for the funding by provincial governments of the purchase of art works. The Museum Service Advisory Board therefore decided to resubmit

the idea of an arts trust to EXCO. (Advisory Board Minutes, 18/5/1977, 19/5/80).

Two years later, on 27 September 1982, Mr Fourie reported to the Advisory Board that the Administrator had in a recent speech, mentioned the establishment of an arts trust for KwaZulu-Natal. On 11 April 1983 an inaugural meeting was held to form a steering committee for such a trust. At the first annual meeting on 14 June a constitution was finalised and Board members were appointed. (Advisory Board Minutes, 27/9/82).

At the meeting of the Advisory Board on 19 October 1983, Mr Fourie reported that EXCO had approved the following:

- i) All local authorities could become members of the Arts Trust;
- ii) All printing and typing costs would be borne by the Administration;
- iii) Accommodation for staff would be provided;
- iv) A rand for rand subsidy, to a maximum of R30 000,00 p.a. would be paid on cash raised by the Arts Trust;
- v) EXCO was hoping to get approval from the central government to subsidise the Trust as a provincial matter. (Advisory Board Minutes, 19/10/83).

The creation of the KwaZulu-Natal Arts Trust has contributed significantly towards the development of an appreciation of

art in the province. The Arts Trust has subsidised the three rural art museums (Margate, Newcastle and Empangeni) to purchase art works for their collections. The Trust also organises the KwaZulu-Natal Art Biennale, which has become a major platform for artists in KwaZulu-Natal to display their work. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

VI. ANGLO-ZULU WAR COMMEMORATION, 1979

The Museum Service Advisory Board was instrumental in putting pressure on EXCO to involve the Provincial Administration in the Anglo-Zulu War¹⁰ centenary commemorations of 1979. EXCO was reluctant to involve the Province in a ceremony which might have proved a political embarrassment for it. Relations with the KwaZulu Government were at a very delicate stage and EXCO did not want the commemoration, of what could be perceived by the KwaZulu Government as a colonial war, to jeopardise these relations. (Advisory Board Minutes, 15/3/87).

At a Board meeting on 27 July 1978, Judge Fannin, a member of the Board, informed the meeting that he had been appointed Chairman of a Steering Committee for the centenary commemorations. He emphasised that there would be full cooperation between the Steering Committee and the KwaZulu Government. (Advisory Board Minutes, 27/7/78).

¹⁰ The Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 was fought in northern KwaZulu-Natal between the British forces and the armies of the Zulu Kingdom.

Judge Fannin told the Board that it had been decided that the ceremonies would not be held in January as it was the height of the rainy season. However, it was decided that plaques would be unveiled on 25 and 26 January 1979 at Isandlwana, Rorke's-Drift and Ulundi by the State President, the Administrator of KwaZulu-Natal and King Goodwill Zwelithini¹¹ respectively. (Advisory Board Minutes, 27/7/78).

The Board decided that Museum Service should prepare explanatory panels for display at Rorke's Drift. Displays at Isandlwana would be handled by the KwaZulu Monuments Council(KMC).¹² It was also decided that maps, as well as centenary souvenirs, of both the Anglo-Zulu War and Boer War, be produced. (Advisory Board Minutes, 2/10/78).

At the meeting of the Advisory Board on 4 December 1978 the Director, Mr Fourie, reported that Mr Chadwick, who was at this stage working for Museum Service on a temporary basis, was preparing the publications and text for the Rorke's Drift display. It had been decided to employ commercial

¹¹ King Goodwill Zwelithini is the King of the Zulus.

¹² The KwaZulu Monuments Council was formed in 1980 by an Act of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly. The Council has to provide for the preservation of sites and buildings in the KwaZulu region which are important to the Zulu nation. The KMC and the Museum Service have different functions as Museum Service provides services to museums established in northern KwaZulu-Natal, such as Eshowe, Empangeni and Mgungundlovu. The KMC deals with sites in the KwaZulu region. Staff of the two organisations consult one another when necessary. A good working relationship exists between the research staff of both organisations.

display artists to assist with the exhibition as Museum Service did not yet have trained display staff. (Advisory Board Minutes, 4/12/78).

At the next meeting, in February 1979, Judge Fannin provided full details regarding guests of honour and the programme of events and functions to be held. He also mentioned that a display had been prepared for Rorke's Drift consisting of models, show cases with museum items and a photographic display. (Advisory Board Minutes, 13/2/79).

The commemoration of the Anglo-Zulu War was a great success. Many overseas visitors came to the commemoration. More importantly, the historical significance of the sites, was once again emphasised, as well as the lack of development of these sites as tourist attractions. Much of this was due to the input provided by the Museum Service Advisory Board and Museum Service.

VII. PROTECTION OF HISTORICAL SITES

This was an issue which was much discussed by the Museum Service Advisory Board during the period 1975-1985. As far back as February 1979 the Board had expressed its concern regarding the vandalising of historic sites by private persons. The NMC (National Monuments Council) was criticised for not protecting the sites sufficiently. The Board was also of the opinion that the NMC was not capable of properly looking after historic sites and war graves in

KwaZulu-Natal, due to lack of staff and finances. (Advisory Board Minutes, 13/2/79).

By December 1979 the Province had agreed to assist the NMC, which was a statutory body appointed by Parliament, in administering and maintaining historic sites and war graves. This was made possible by an Amendment to the Financial Relations Act. (Advisory Board Minutes, 6/12/79).

At the Board meeting on 20 June 1983 it was suggested that the Natal Parks Board, due to their integrated staff structure, was in a favourable position to run historical sites. Several meetings were held with the Natal Parks Board to discuss this suggestion. (Advisory Board Minutes, 20/6/83).

At the meeting of the Museum Service Advisory Board on 28 May 1984, Col. Jack Vincent¹³, supported by Dr Ian Player¹⁴ and Mr George Tatham¹⁵, proposed that the Natal Parks Board should take over the control of the battlefields and war graves in KwaZulu-Natal. (Advisory Board Minutes, 28/5/84).

The Deputy-Director of Museum Service, Mr Fourie, opposed

¹³ Col Jack Vincent was the first director of the Natal Parks Board.

¹⁴ Dr Ian Player is a well known Natal conservationist and founder member of the Wilderness Leadership School.

¹⁵ Mr Tatham was the Chairman of the Ladysmith Historical Society for many years and was instrumental in the establishment of the Ladysmith Siege Museum.

this suggestion. He pointed out that the Natal Parks Board was neither trained in historical research nor in how to deal with historical sites; that the Midmar Historical Village was not accepted as a museum due to the fact that documentation and research had not been done according to museological standards; and that it would lead to a duplication of services if the Natal Parks Board were to become involved with historical sites in the Province. Mr Fourie suggested that it would be better to allow Museum Service to appoint more staff and thus deliver a better service. (Advisory Board Minutes, 28/5/84).

However, in spite of these arguments, the Advisory Board decided to recommend to EXCO that Rorke's Drift and Spioen Kop be expropriated by the Province and handed to the Natal Parks Board to administer as heritage sites. (Advisory Board Minutes, 28/5/84).

At the following meeting of the Advisory Board on 27 July 1984 Mr Fourie reported that the issue of Rorke's Drift had been referred to the Legal Section of the Administration, which had concluded that the Province could not expropriate the area suggested by the Board. The Province could only help finance the purchase, control and maintenance of historic areas which had been acquired by the NMC. This was confirmed in a letter, dated 18 June 1984, from Mr Bezuidenhout, Acting Provincial Secretary, to Mr Whiteley, Chairman of the Museum Service Advisory Board. (Advisory

Board Minutes, 27/7/84; Letter: Bezuidenhout to Whiteley, 18/7/84).

Conclusions

The first ten years of the existence of the Museum Service was a period of much activity and development. The fact that 25 museums had affiliated to the Museum Service proved that there was a great need for such an institution. Throughout South Africa the early 1980s saw a dramatic increase in museums, more specifically cultural history museums. It was unfortunate that standards for the affiliation of museums to Museum Service had not yet been set, as this led to the creation of a number of "ghost museums" which had no collections, buildings or staff.

The allocation of themes to the various museums was a positive step to prevent the smaller museums of becoming too similar in their displays. Having a specific primary theme, which is unique to that museum, has encouraged a museum to collect artifacts relating to that theme which is especially important to the history of the areas, thus preserving such artifacts for posterity.

The creation of the KwaZulu-Natal Arts Trust was a great achievement. In this way art museums were assisted in the purchasing of art works, especially the purchasing of work by local artists. The Arts Trust encouraged the

establishment of art museums at Empangeni, Margate and Newcastle in order to make art more accessible to the people of KwaZulu-Natal.

The Anglo-Zulu War commemoration of 1979 was a great success. Not only did a large number of overseas visitors come to KwaZulu-Natal for the event, but it stimulated long-term interest in the Anglo-Zulu War and the battlefields of the Province. It indirectly led to the establishment of the KwaZulu-Natal Battlefields Route in northern KwaZulu-Natal which has promoted tourism to a considerable extent.

Another very important consequence of the commemoration of the Anglo-Zulu War was that it focused attention on the need to develop the historical sites of KwaZulu-Natal. This led to the development of Isandlwana by the KwaZulu Monuments Council and Mgungundlovu and Rorke's Drift-Shiyane by Museum Service.

Unfortunately, Museum Service did not grow in proportion to the increase in affiliated museums. This imbalance gave rise to many problems, such as staffing and funding. This in its turn, led to the compilation of three reports which had far reaching consequences for Museum Service.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE HENDERSON REPORT, THE JONES WORK STUDY REPORT AND THE HOSKING COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY

During the period 1984-1985 three important reports concerning Museum Service were submitted to the Provincial authorities. These reports had far reaching consequences.

I. THE HENDERSON REPORT

Early in 1984 Mrs Sheila Henderson¹⁶ presented a report to the Museum Service Advisory Board on the progress, or lack of it, which the museums in Northern KwaZulu-Natal had made in the ten year period, 1974-1984, since the formation of the Museum Service. She was asked by the Board to broaden the scope of the report to include all the affiliated museums in Natal. (Advisory Board Minutes, 5/3/84).

In May 1984 the report, entitled " Report on the state of the museums under the control of the Natal Provincial Museums Advisory Board " was presented to the Advisory Board. The report is generally referred to as the Henderson Report.

Some of the matters discussed in the report were:

¹⁶ Mrs Sheila Henderson is the Chairman of the Talana Hill Museum in Dundee. She is also very involved in conservation matters, especially in Northern KwaZulu-Natal.

- i) Affiliated museums;
- ii) Lack of representation on the Natal/NMC Liaison Committee;
- iii) Provincial museums;
- iv) The powers of the Advisory Board. (Henderson Report, p.2).

i) Affiliated museums

The report noted that although there were 25 affiliated museums, nine of these (Port Shepstone, Mooi River, Matatiele, Queensburgh, Empangeni, Ixopo, Utrecht, Pinetown and Westville) were museums in name only, as there were no museum buildings, collections or staff. (Henderson Report, p.5).

The Report stated that none of the affiliated museums had adequate storage for items or documents not on display. Security was also often lacking. Many curators lacked proper offices and workrooms, as well as lecture room facilities. (Henderson Report, pp.5-8).

It was pointed out that, thanks to the Pringle Report, (see section on " Museum themes " in Chapter IV) the museums had held to a thematic approach which had led to each museum developing unique themes. However, it had become necessary to review some of the initial themes allocated and add new ones as some of the allocated themes were, due to a lack of sufficient museum items, not viable as display themes.

(Henderson Report, p.8).

The report stated that the quality of the display work produced by the Museum Service was of a high standard, but that the time lag involved had caused many curators to become impatient. The distance which Museum Service staff had to travel to and from the affiliated museums curtailed the time that they could spend at the museums preparing displays. (Henderson Report, p.9).

The museum curators felt unhappy about the fact that they were not allowed to change displays done by the Museum Service without the written consent of the Director of Museum Service. They were also frustrated by the changes made in the documentation system, which meant that certain cards had to be retyped. (Henderson Report, p.9).

The report emphasised the fact that there were too many affiliated museums. The Museum Service could not cope with its workload with so few staff and an insufficient budget. A number of experienced staff had left Museum Service, mainly due to these frustrating circumstances. Additional posts that had been asked for, had not been approved due to the stringent financial climate. (Henderson Report, pp.12-15).

It must be noted that there was a countrywide proliferation of museums in the early 1980s and most museum services could

not keep up. This problem was therefore not one which was unique to KwaZulu-Natal. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

ii) Lack of representation on the Natal/NMC Liaison Committee

The Report pointed out that the Museum Service had acted as an agent for the NMC during the 1979 centenary commemorations of the Anglo-Zulu War, as well as the 1981 centenary of the Battle of Majuba. Museum Service had produced displays, at Provincial expense, over which it had no direct control as the sites of Rorke's Drift, Isandlwana and Majuba were on private property. In all this the Museum Service and other Provincial departments had been acting as agents for the NMC and not in their own right. (Henderson Report, pp.19-22).

The report showed that the co-ordination of these schemes did not rest with the Museum Service Advisory Board, but with the Natal/NMC Liaison Committee, chaired by Dr Fred Clarke, MEC. The Board had no representation on this Committee, although Museum Service was represented by its Director. (Henderson Report, pp. 20-21).

iii) Provincial museums

The report expressed concern about the establishment of provincial museums (i.e. site museums established, administered and funded by the Administration). It pointed

out that such museums would have to be funded entirely by the Province and would require major staffing. Buildings and housing would also need to be provided, while the isolated conditions would make the provision of a stable staff difficult. Furthermore, the appointment of a Board of Trustees to control such museums was contrary to the Ordinance which required that the Advisory Board be the controlling body. (Henderson Report, pp.26-27).

iv) Powers of the Advisory Board

Another matter raised in the report was that input from the Advisory Board, aimed at providing guidance to the Museum Service, had been largely ignored by the latter. The Board had been consulted less and less about matters of importance and had often not been fully informed of major developments. The Board had been created to advise the Administrator on matters concerning the Museum Service, but this was not happening. (Henderson Report, p.29).

v) Recommendations

The Henderson Report made the following recommendations:

- i) That the powers and authority of the Board be more clearly defined to prevent the whittling away of its powers by Museum Service;
- ii) That no further museums be affiliated or proclaimed, receive Provincial subsidies, or be assisted by the staff resources of the Museum Service without the specific approval of the Board; (Henderson Report, pp.30-31).

iii) That the Board give closer scrutiny to:

- a) Resignations of staff;
- b) Creation of new posts;
- c) Applications for posts;
- d) Staff appointments.

iv) That the Board, in conjunction with the Director and his staff prepare a detailed five-year plan for museum development for the period 1985-1990 and establish clear priorities, giving close attention to:

- a) Regional problems;
- b) Themes;
- c) Collections and field research;
- d) Public relations;
- e) Staffing at head office and local level.

v) That the Administration should, without further delay, use its powers of expropriation to resolve the problem of ownership and control of historic sites, such as Majuba, Rorke's Drift and Spioen Kop; (Henderson Report, p.30).

vi) That the Board should immediately investigate the implications of the proclamation of Provincial Museums with special reference to:

- a) Ownership;
- b) Museum buildings and domestic accommodation;
- c) Staffing;
- d) Themes;
- e) Finance;
- f) Control;
- g) Constitution. (Henderson Report, p.31).

vii) That the Provincial Administration should determine that:

- a) Local authority museums should fall under the control of Museum Service;
- b) Field museums should be administered by the Natal Parks Board. (Henderson Report, pp.30-31).

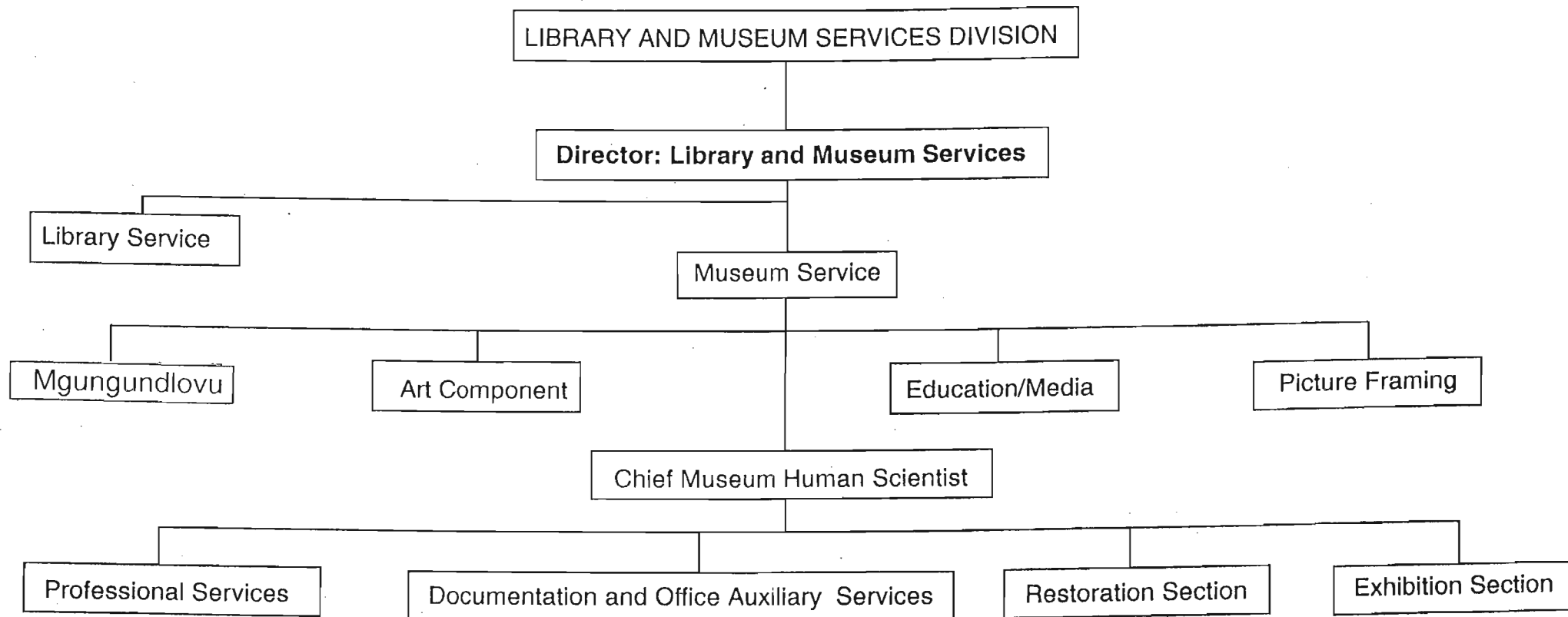
The Henderson Report was submitted to EXCO; which subsequently appointed a Committee of Enquiry, the so-called Hosking Committee of Enquiry, to investigate the recommendations made in the report. (EXCO Resolution, No. 835 of 14 May 1985). The work of the Hosking Committee of Enquiry is discussed in Section III of this chapter.

II. THE JONES WORK STUDY REPORT

As a result of problems experienced in the staff structure of Museum Service at this time, and in order to expedite the work of the Hosking Committee of Enquiry (appointed by EXCO to investigate the matters raised in the Henderson Report) the Organisation and Work Study Branch of the Provincial Administration was requested to investigate the organisation and post establishment requirements of Museum Service. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, p.1).

The study was undertaken by Mr L.W.E. Jones, Senior Work Study Officer, under the guidance of Mr K.R. Ladbrooke, Chief Work Study Officer. The Report is generally referred to as the Jones Report. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, p.52).

MUSEUM SERVICE STAFF STRUCTURE: AUGUST 1985



In 1982 the Organisation and Work Study Branch had undertaken a review of the organisation and post establishment requirements of Museum Service. The report, O.& W.S. Report No. 21/82, dated 14 July 1982, formed the basis of the then existing Museum Service. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, p.2). The staff structure of Museum Service, prior to the Jones Report, is shown on the opposite page.

i) Findings

The Report pointed out that at the time of the investigation four components of Museum Service, namely the Provincial museum at Mgungundlovu; Education/Media; Picture Framing and the Art component, were functioning under the direct control of the Director: Library and Museum Service. The remaining four components: Professional Services and Documentation; Office Auxiliary Services; the Restoration Section and the Exhibition Section were under the control of the Chief Museum Human Scientist. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, p.11).

This organisational structure was found to be unsatisfactory for the following reasons:

- i) The Museum Service Sub-Division could not function as a single coherent unit as overall control of the Sub-Division had been divided;¹⁷

¹⁷ The Commission of Administration had recommended in 1975 (Minute 3/2/41/1/ dated 24 March 1975) that a Senior Professional Officer (later changed to a Chief Professional Officer) should be in charge of the Museum Service component, under the overall control of the Director: Library Services. (O & W.S. Report, 21/82, p.3).

- ii) Professional resources had been stretched too thinly, resulting in an abnormally heavy workload being placed on the museum human scientists;
- iii) No formal provision had been made in the staff structure for coordinating the four components which were still under the control of the Chief Museum Human Scientist. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, pp.11-12).

ii) Recommendations

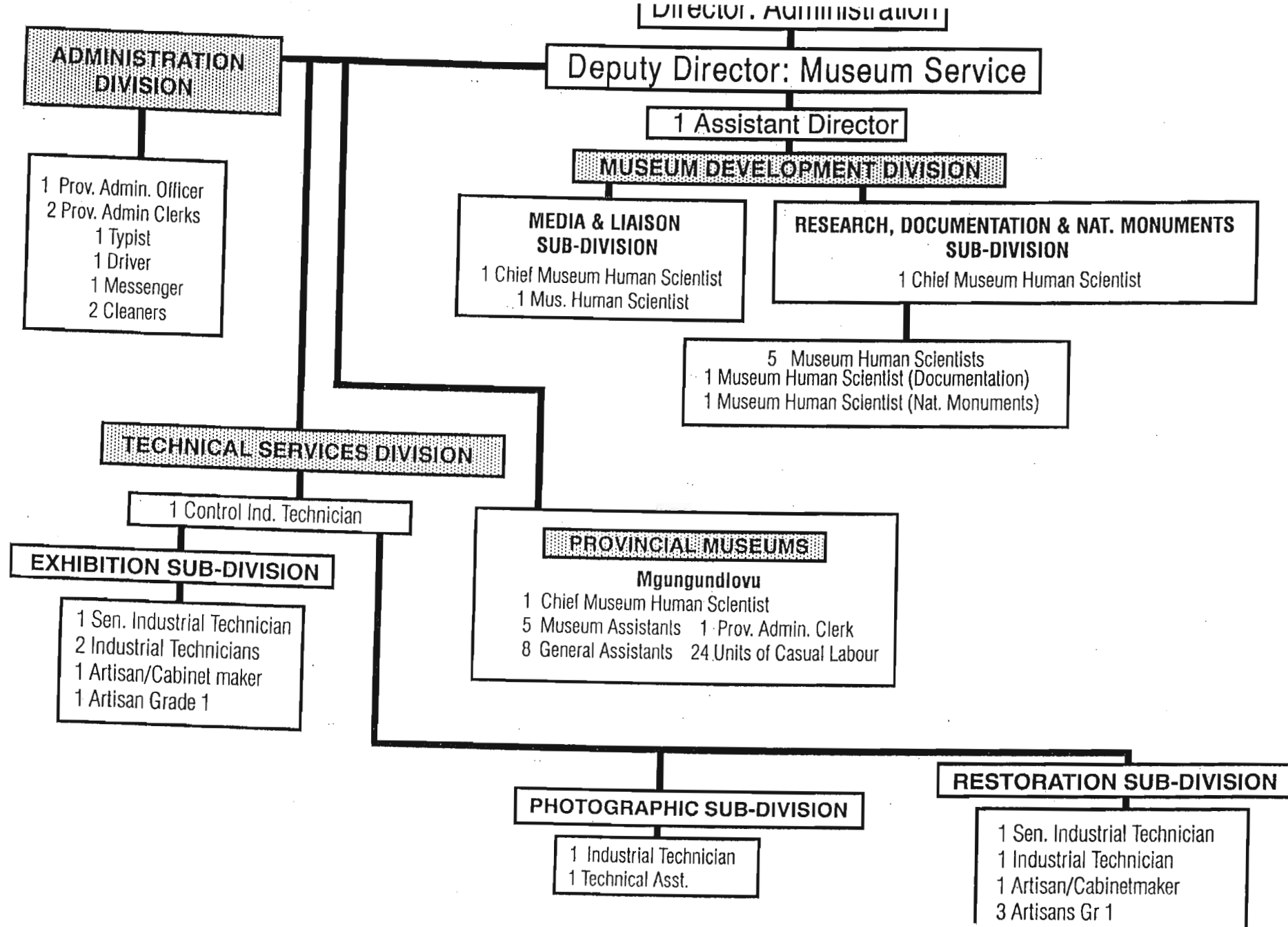
The Report recommended the following:

- i) Museum Service should function separately from Library Service under the control of its own Director;
- ii) The post establishment be increased by 24 posts: 16 for the Mgungundlovu Provincial Museum and 8 for the head office;
- iii) The additional posts at head office to include the posts of Director; Assistant-Director; Chief Museum Human Scientist: Media and Liaison; Control Industrial Technician; Provincial Administrative Officer and a post of Museum Human Scientist for the newly created National Monuments section.¹⁸ (O.& W.S. Report,

At the time of the Work Study investigation in 1985 it was found that the Director: Library Services directly controlled four of the sections at Museum Service and the other four sections came under the control of the Chief Museum Human Scientist.

This situation caused problems of organisational control and co-ordination.

¹⁸ The establishment of this post was an attempt to help the NMC by providing a researcher who could assist them in their work. It was also hoped that it would improve liaison between Museum Service, the Museum Service Advisory Board and the NMC.



34/85, pp.5-6).

- iv) The post of Museum Assistant to be included in the approved list of ranks for Museum Service;
- v) Minimum standards, to be set by Museum Service, which museums had to satisfy before they could be considered for affiliation;
- vi) All existing primary museum themes must, in consultation with the local authorities, be reviewed to ensure their viability;
- vii) The provision of residential, office and other accommodation at Mgungundlovu Museum be reviewed;
- viii) Specifications be supplied by the Director for the picture framing requirements of the Library Service art prints. These should be used as the basis for privatising the work.¹⁹ (O. & W.S. Report, 34/85, pp.6-9).

iii) New structural organisation

The new proposed structural organisation provided for four divisions as indicated in the diagram on the opposite page.

a) Museum Development Division

This division would fall under the control of the Assistant-Director. It would consist of two sub-divisions:

¹⁹ Art prints which were issued to public libraries were framed by Museum Service. This meant that two staff members on the Museum Service staff establishment were fully employed in work which benefitted only the Library Service.

- i) Research, Documentation and National Monuments;
- ii) Media and Liaison. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, p.13).

b) Technical Services Division

This division would fall under the Control Industrial Technician. It would consist of three sub-divisions:

- i) Graphics;
- ii) Photographic;
- iii) Restoration. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, pp.16-17).

c) Administrative Services Division

This division would fall under the control of an Administrative Officer.

d) Provincial Museums Division

The present provincial museum, Mgungundlovu, would fall under the control of a Curator with the rank of Chief Museum Human Scientist. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, p.17).

It was calculated that the cost involved in creating the additional posts would amount to R232 039,00 per annum. (O.& W.S. Report, 34/85, p.10).

The new National Monuments and Media and Liaison Sub-Divisions were created with the express purpose of dealing with some of the problems mentioned in the Henderson Report, e.g. insufficient liaison with the affiliated museums and the NMC. (O & W.S. Report, 34/1985, pp.24-26).

III. THE HOSKING COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY

In order to investigate the validity of the recommendations of the Henderson Report, EXCO, by Resolution 835 of 14 May 1985, established a Committee of Enquiry to investigate the future position of the Museum Service component of the Library and Museum Services Division within the Provincial Administration and to investigate the other recommendations of the Henderson Report. The Committee consisted of Dr G.A. Hosking,²⁰ Chairman, and Mr E.G. Reid,²¹ Member. (Hosking Report, p.1).

The report which the Committee compiled is generally referred to as the Hosking Report.

i) Terms of reference

The terms of reference of the Committee were to investigate and make recommendations on:

- a) whether the Museum Service component should form part of the Library and Museum Services Division or whether it should be separated from Library Service;
- b) the constitution and functions of the Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board and the Natal/NMC Liaison Committee with specific reference:
 - i) to the desirability or not of the Board and Committee being reconstituted into one body;

²⁰ Dr Hosking was the former Director of the Department of Education of KwaZulu-Natal.

²¹ Mr Reid was the former Director: Administration of the Provincial Administration.

- ii) to what the constitution, functions, duties and status (advisory or executive) of the new body should be in the event of one body being recommended.
- c) the relationship between the Board/Council and the Director and staff of the Library and Museum Services Division;
- d) any organisational establishment or Ordinance amendments necessary to give effect to the recommendations;
- e) any other matter which the Committee considered relevant to its terms of reference. (Hosking Report, pp.2-3).

The Committee received written evidence from nineteen individuals/bodies and oral evidence was taken from the Natal Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board and the Natal Parks Board. The Committee also had discussions with Mr C.J.Fourie (Director of Library and Museum Service) and Mr G.A.Chadwick (Chairman of the Natal Regional Committee of the NMC). (Hosking Report, pp.2-4).

The Committee studied the War Graves and National Monuments Act (No 28 of 1969); the Natal Provincial Museum Ordinance (No 26 of 1973) and the Regulations framed under the Museum Ordinance. It also sought advice from the Senior Legal Adviser of the Provincial Administration. (Hosking Report, p.5).

ii) Findings of the Committee

Regarding its terms of reference, the Committee of Enquiry

found the following:

a) The weight of evidence received was strongly in favour of separating the Museum Service component from the Library Service component. It was pointed out that the two disciplines were not really compatible as museums were mostly involved in collecting and conservation while libraries had more of an educational and recreational function. It was also recognised that the degree of support for each component could depend on the preference of the Director. This view was supported by the O & W.S. Report, No. 34/1985. (Hosking Report, p.5).

b) Regarding the possible amendments to the Museum Ordinance, the Committee felt that the Advisory Board had "more teeth" than it had cared to use. It was pointed out that both the Ordinance, and the Regulations pertaining to it, made provision for the Advisory Board to use its initiative to advise the Administrator on any museum or on museums in general. The Advisory Board had not initiated any matter in terms of the Regulations, although it had complained of inactivity in certain fields where it could have initiated activity. (Hosking Report, pp.6-7).

c) It was found that the Natal Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board and the Natal/NMC Liaison

Committee had different functions. Firstly, the Advisory Board was a body created by ordinance of the Provincial Council. The Natal/NMC Liaison Committee was a body established by resolution of the Administrator-in-Executive Committee. The NMC itself, was a body created by Act of Parliament of the Republic of South Africa. No changes could therefore be made unless consensus has been reached with the NMC. (Hosking Report, pp.7-8).

It was also pointed out that the Museum Ordinance of 1973 did not give the Advisory Board any powers or statutory responsibilities regarding national monuments, war graves or battlefields. The Administration acted in certain fields as agent for the NMC, and, in order to co-ordinate this inter-activity, the Natal/NMC Liaison Committee was established. The Director: Museum Service was a member of that Committee and thus there was no need for a member of the Advisory Board to serve on the Committee. (Hosking Report, pp.8-9).

d) Regarding the relationship between the Advisory Board and the Director: Museum and Library Services, the Committee found that it was not a satisfactory relationship. The Advisory Board complained that the Director felt under no obligation to follow advice from the Board and would approach EXCO directly "as he

chose". (Hosking Report, p.9).

According to the Director, Mr Fourie, he had been under the impression that the Advisory Board had been established to advise the Museum Service and that it therefore was his prerogative to decide what should be submitted to EXCO. This was an incorrect supposition, as the Advisory Board had been established to advise the Administrator-in-Executive Committee, and not the Director: Museum Service, on matters relating to the development of museums in KwaZulu-Natal. (Hosking Report, p.10).

e) The Committee found that the Museum Service Ordinance did not need to be amended; but suggested that it be improved by the promulgation of regulations governing the affiliation of museums to the Service; regulations governing the payment of grants-in-aid to local authorities in respect of museums; and regulations governing the conditions of service of curators of museums. (Hosking Report, pp.11-12).

f) The Committee found that it could not support the suggestion of the Natal Parks Board that local authority museums should become the responsibility of the Parks Board. However, the Parks Board did have the necessary staff and infra structure to develop field sites and eliminate the vandalism which was occurring

at these sites. (Hosking Report, p.12).

g) The Committee supported the findings of the Organisation and Work Study Report which recommended the allocation of enough funds to enable the Museum Service to provide a better service to affiliated museums. (Hosking Report, pp.12-13).

h) The Committee felt that the site of the Provincial museum at Mgungundlovu was of unique historic importance. As it was outside the boundaries of the local authority, it was the duty of the Province to administer the museum. (Hosking Report, p.14).

i) The Committee felt that consideration should be given to the establishment of a regional office for Museum Service in northern KwaZulu-Natal. (Hosking Report, p.14).

j) The Committee agreed that local interest should be encouraged, but did not consider the mere fact of a collection of artifacts, with the view to the creation of a museum at some stage in the future, sufficient progress to warrant affiliation. (Hosking Report, p.13).

k) The Committee pointed out that museum collections are valuable and should be insured. However, this was

not always done. The Committee was also not satisfied with the aspect of trusteeship, and was of the opinion that both these matters should be referred to the Advisory Board for consideration and recommendation to the Administrator-in-Executive Committee. (Hosking Report, p.14).

iii) Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee recommended the following:

a) A separate division of the Administration to be known as the Museum Service Division be created and be directly responsible to the Director: Administration. (Hosking Report, p.18).

b) The Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board not be given executive powers. It should remain an advisory body and be given greater responsibilities in as much as no more museums should be affiliated to Museum Service without the express permission of the Board. (Hosking Report, p.18).

c) The Director should attend all meetings of the Advisory Board; that a staff member from Museum Service should be appointed to do the secretarial work; and that the Advisory Board should have no contact with members of the staff of Museum Service other than the Director and the Secretary of the Advisory Board, as such contact could undermine the authority of the

Director. (Hosking Report, p.10).

d) Regulations should be promulgated governing:

- i) The affiliation of museums to the Service;
- ii) The payment of grants-in-aid to local authorities in respect of affiliated museums;
- iii) The appointment of curators and their conditions of service. (Hosking Report, p.18).

e) No steps be taken to amalgamate the Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board and the Natal/NMC Liaison Committee into one body. (Hosking Report, p.18).

f) An adequate establishment be created to cater for the needs of the Service, and the staffing recommendations as contained in O. & W.S. Report No. 34/85, be approved for implementation during the financial years 1985/86 to 1987/88. R100 000,00 per annum should be provided for this purpose and for essential equipment. (Hosking Report, pp.18-19).

g) All field museums, with the exception of Mgungundlovu, should be controlled and administered by the Natal Parks Board and be incorporated into conservation areas. (Hosking Report, p.19).

h) The question of trusteeship and security be referred

by the Administrator-in-Executive Committee to the Museum Advisory Board for investigation and recommendation. (Hosking Report, p.19).

The Report was signed by Dr G.A.Hosking and Mr E.G.Reid on 8 October 1985.

The recommendations of the Hosking Report were accepted by EXCO. The first recommendation to be implemented was the separation of Library and Museum Service in August 1986. Most of the other recommendations, with the exception of the creation of a regional office for Museum Service in northern KwaZulu-Natal, were implemented over a period of years. Due to stringent financial measures, the recommendations for an adequate staff establishment, were never fully implemented. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

The recommendation that the Natal Parks Board(NPB) obtain control of all field sites, with the exception of Mgungundlovu, was never implemented. When Dr George Hughes became the Director of the NPB in 1988 there was a change in policy. The NPB decided to concentrate on nature conservation. This meant that historical sites were seen as outside the brief of the NPB. The post of historian at Spioen Kop, which had been so ably filled by Mr Gilbert Torlage, was changed in order to accommodate this new policy decision. (Personal communication: Torlage and Ridley).

This automatically led to the NPB not being interested in taking on the administration or control of any additional museums or historical site museums not yet under their control. The Natal Museum has been negotiating with the NPB regarding the protection of rock art sites in the Drakensberg. The Natal Museum has recommended that a trained archaeologist be appointed by the NPB to monitor and research the rock art sites in the Drakensberg which come under their control. It would seem as if the NPB are prepared to do this in the foreseeable future. (Personal communication: Torlage and Ridley).

Conclusions

The Henderson, Jones, and Hosking reports formed a watershed in the development of Museum Service. The reports indicated problem areas which existed in Museum Service and suggested ways in which these could be improved.

The Henderson Report summed up the achievements of Museum Service during the period 1975-1985, but it also pointed out the problems which the Service was experiencing, such as too many affiliated museums, too few staff and too small a budget. The Report also highlighted the fact that the Advisory Board had only advisory powers and not enough "teeth" to play a meaningful role in the development of the Service.

The Jones Report tried to address some of the problems mentioned in the Henderson Report with regard to the staff establishment at Museum Service. It recommended that certain important additional posts be created; that Museum Service should become a department in its own right and that Museum Service should receive more funding from the Provincial Administration.

The Hosking Report also recommended that Museum Service should become a separate department and that more funds be made available to the Service. However, on the important matter of statutory powers for the Advisory Board, it recommended that this not be granted and that the Advisory Board should remain advisory only.

This is to be regretted, as the granting of statutory powers to the Advisory Board and therefore also to the Museum Committees, would have opened the way for the principle of museum trusteeship to have been fully implemented. It would have led to more community involvement in both the local museums and in Museum Service than is the case at present. Statutory status would have eliminated most of the bureaucratic "red tape" that exists and would have enabled both Museum Service and the affiliated museums to develop independently from bureaucratic control.

CHAPTER SIX

THE PROVINCIAL MUSEUMS

The Natal Provincial Museum Ordinance, 1973 and the Regulations relating to it, make provision for the establishment of provincial museums which are situated on field sites and which are not under the control of a local authority. (Museum Ordinance, 26/1973, p.2).

The KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service has three provincial museums which it controls, administers and finances:

- i) Mgungundlovu;
- ii) Rorke's Drift-Shiyane;
- iii) Natal Parliament Building, Pietermaritzburg.

I. MGUNGUNDLOVU MUSEUM

The Mgungundlovu Museum was the first museum established by the Provincial Administration.

i) History of the site

After the murder of his half-brother, King Shaka, in 1828, Dingane assumed the kingship of the Zulu. He abandoned Dukuza (now Stanger) to return to the traditional home of the Zulu in the Makhosini, the valley between the Mtonjaneni and Babanango ridges. Here he lived for a while on the site of the old Zulu royal complex, Nobamba, while he planned a

new royal imuzi (homestead) for himself. (Letter: Chadwick to Fourie, 16/11/82).

The building of the new imuzi was completed during 1829. It was called Mgungundlovu, which means "Place of the Elephant". It covered an area of some 25,000 hectares and was roughly oval in shape, having a width of 600 metres and being 700 meters long. As was traditional, the royal quarters or isigodlo, was situated at the upper end. The east and west horns were in effect military barracks, housing 8 amabutho (regiments), four to the left and four to the right of the isigodlo. A parade ground, known as Hlomo Amabutho (arm, or raise up the regiments) was established on a low ridge to the east. (Letter: Chadwick to Fourie, 16/11/82).

It was here that the Voortrekkers under Piet Retief, visited King Dingane in November 1837. They received a promise of an area south of the Thukela River in which to settle if they recovered cattle stolen by Chief Sekonyela, the Tlokwa chief, from King Dingane. That mission having been accomplished, Piet Retief returned in February 1838 to claim his part of the bargain. It was then that he and his party of 70 men were put to death on 6 February 1838. (Duminy and Guest, p.91)

Immediately after Retief's death, Zulu forces proceeded to attack Boer laagers in KwaZulu-Natal in an apparent effort

to annihilate the Trekkers in one fell swoop. King Dingane did not succeed in dislodging or destroying the Trekkers, though his troops seized some 35 000 cattle. Towards the end of 1838, the demoralised Trekkers rallied round a new leader, Andries Pretorius. Under his command they inflicted a crushing defeat on King Dingane's forces at Blood River, or as it is known in Zulu, the Ncome River. (Duminy and Guest, p.91).

After the Battle of Blood River the Voortrekkers reached the royal homestead on 20 December 1838 to find it in flames. The burning thatch and wooden support poles had collapsed on the hut floors, baking them to the consistency of brick and thus preserving them. After this, the site was abandoned by the Zulu. (Letter: Chadwick to Fourie, 16/11/82).

In 1884 the site was included in the Nieuwe Republiek (Vryheid) and became part of the farm " Moordplaats". KwaZulu-Natal annexed the districts of Vryheid and Utrecht, which had until then formed part of the Transvaal, in 1902. The farm was eventually acquired in the 1940s by the Dutch Reformed Church of KwaZulu-Natal for use as a mission station and seminary. The area of the homestead was transferred to the NMC in 1934. (Letter: Chadwick to Fourie, 16/11/1982).

ii) Importance of Mgungundlovu

According to the Curator, Mr Frans Roodt, Mgungundlovu has

a four-fold importance:

- a) It was the royal capital and military headquarters of King Dingane;
- b) It was the destination of early British traders from Port Natal;
- c) It was the centre of early missionary activity in the Zulu Kingdom;
- d) It was the site of one of the central events of the Great Trek, viz. the killing of Piet Retief and his party. (Minutes of Mgungundlovu Planning Meeting, p.1)

The fact that so many original hut floors were preserved, makes the site a cultural treasure. At Ondini, King Cetshwayo's homestead at Ulundi, only a few hut floors have remained. The Ondini homestead had to be reconstructed without the inclusion of much original/historical material. (Letter: Chadwick to Fourie, 16/11/82).

For this reason the NMC made great efforts to save and preserve the Mgungundlovu site. However, to fully develop and interpret the site it was necessary to rebuild a selection of the huts in the isigodlo (royal enclosure), the military sections and also the Beje²² homestead. As the NMC is not a body which controls museums it was felt that the site should be developed as a museum by the Provincial Museum Service. (Letter: Chadwick to Fourie, 16/11/82).

²² The Beje homestead was associated with the women of the isigodlo. It is thought that it was used in initiation ceremonies.

iii) Television documentary on King Shaka

The development of the site was set in motion in 1982 when the SABC/TV commissioned Elmo de Witt Films to do a documentary on the life and times of King Shaka. After exhaustive investigations, it was decided that the best set for the film would be the site of Mgungundlovu. (Letter: Chadwick to Fourie, 16/11/82).

The film company approached the National Monuments Council with the following proposals:

- a) That they rebuild some 30 huts of various types;
- b) That the palisade or outer fence and cattle enclosures be largely restored;
- c) That the main entrance be reconstructed;
- d) That a number of the reed and grass screens in the isigodlo be rebuilt;
- e) That buildings be erected to serve as storerooms, showers. etc. for their workers. This could eventually be taken over by the museum for use as display areas;
- f) All authentic huts would be left on site and all other "incorrect" structures would be removed. (Letter: Chadwick to Fourie, 16/11/82).

On 19 January 1983 EXCO approved in principle the establishment and development, with the concurrence of the NMC, of a Provincial Museum at Mgungundlovu. (EXCO Resolution, No. 127 of 1983). Mr Frans Roodt was appointed as curator/archaeologist in charge of the Mgungundlovu

Museum. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

When Elmo de Witt Films decided that they could not continue with the making of the film "Shaka Zulu", the production was taken over by SABC TV. In exchange for using Mgungundlovu as a film set, the SABC financed the reconstruction of part of the isigodlo area. This meant that archaeological excavations had to be undertaken to determine the location and size of huts in this area. This involved excavating the hut floors, sifting the soil, documenting any items which were found and photographing the excavated area. (Roodt: Report on development of Mgungundlovu, 21/3/83 - 17/6/83, p.1).

The huts which were used for the film set were constructed by the firm Proset. Some of the permanent huts were built in an authentic manner by using the correct building techniques and materials. The frames of the other huts were made from wattle because the use of indigenous wood would have been too costly and it was not readily available. The permanent huts were constructed over original floors. The floors of the huts which were not rebuilt, were covered with soil after they had been excavated and documented. (Roodt: Report on the development of Mgungundlovu, 21/3/83 - 17/6/83, p.1).

Approximately 126 huts were reconstructed to form the film set. Some grain huts and the palisade were also

reconstructed. All in all, the film set formed less than one-third the size of the original homestead. This allowed it to be built almost entirely on sterile soil, i.e. the cattle enclosure and land that had been ploughed and where all possible archaeological remains had therefore been destroyed. (Roodt: Mgungundlovu Museum Report, 8/2/1984, p.2). Filming eventually took place during January 1985. However, most of the close-up shots were filmed at another venue near Eshowe. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

iv) Objectives

At a Planning Meeting held on 26 July 1985 the primary objectives of the Mgungundlovu Museum were defined as:

- a) The preservation of the site as a national monument, including the visible remains and the archaeological deposit;
- b) The physical reconstruction of parts of the site based on archaeological, historical and ethnographic research. (Minutes of the Mgungundlovu Planning Meeting, pp.1-2).

The secondary objectives were defined as:

- a) The portrayal of certain aspects of Zulu culture within the reconstructed site by means of live demonstrations of the manufacture, display and use of material culture;
- b) The mounting of formal displays and the use of informal methods of education, such as lectures,

publications and guided tours. (Minutes of the Mgungundlovu Planning Meeting, p.2).

v) Long term development planning

The long term development of the site was seen in six phases:

- a) Preliminary excavations and reconstruction of the isigodlo;
- b) The excavation of the area between the hut floors in the isigodlo to determine its size and to locate King Dingane's hut;
- c) Determining the full size and boundaries of the royal umuzi and the construction of a scale model, as well as locating the pre-Dingane site in the vicinity of the monument to Nkosinkulu (it is believed that he was the founder of the Zulu clan);
- d) Determining the main entrance, the visitor huts, the huts for warriors and shields, and the places where the warriors ate;
- e) Reconstruction of a small section of the military huts area;
- f) Location of the cattle kraals in the centre of the open space. (Minutes of the Mgungundlovu Planning Meeting, pp.3-4).

vi) Jones Work Study Report

The Jones Work Study Report, No. 34/1985, had recommended the following posts for the Mgungundlovu Museum:

1 Chief Museum Human Scientist (Curator)
1 Museum Human Scientist
5 Museum Assistants
1 Provincial Administrative Clerk
2 Gr I Male General Assistants
4 Gr I Female General Assistants
2 Gr III Male Cleaners
24 Units of casual labour (Jones Report, pp.38,43).

However, by November 1987 none of the museum objectives had been achieved, nor had any of the additional post recommendations been implemented. In a memorandum to Dr E.H. Bigalke²³ the Curator, Mr Roodt, stressed the need for a more meaningful development strategy for the museum. (Memorandum: Roodt to Bigalke, 9/11/87).

vii) Present situation at Mgungundlovu

At the present time, the author is aware that the situation has not improved all that much. Due to insufficient funds the permanent staff recommended in the Jones Report have not been appointed. The post of Curator has still not been upgraded to that of a Chief Museum Human Scientist. There is only one Museum Assistant, instead of the five posts that were recommended. This has meant that some of the General Assistants are being utilised to act as guides and help with

²³ Dr Erich Bigalke was Director of Museum Service from 1 March 1987 to the end of July 1988. He was previously the director of the East London Museum where he had acquired extensive museum experience.

basic administrative work.

It has also meant that there is not sufficient assistance with the archaeological excavations. The professional staff end up doing work which should in fact be done by museum assistants. In this way a lot of time has been wasted. (Personal communication: Ridley and Roodt, 1995).

There is also a lack of sufficient casual labour to help with the clearing of the site so that excavations may commence. This has slowed down development. (Personal communication: Ridley and Roodt, 1995).

Of the six phases of long term development mentioned in 1985, some had been partially achieved by August 1995. However, some of the excavations and reconstructions mentioned in the report of the Planning Meeting of July 1985, have not been started. An important find has been the discovery of King Dingane's hut in the isigodlo. (Personal communication: Ridley and Roodt, 1995).

The visitor centre at Mgungundlovu Museum, which had been on the cards for many years, was completed early in 1995. Due to the increase in building costs and the fact that the NMC had stipulated that several smaller buildings would be preferable to one large building, the end product is considerably smaller than what was originally planned. (Personal communication: Roodt and Ridley, 1995).

II. RORKE'S DRIFT-SHIYANE MUSEUM

The Rorke's Drift-Shiyane museum is the most recent of the museums established by the Provincial Administration.

i) History of the site

From pre-historic times the area around Rorke's Drift was of considerable importance, largely as a result of a number of geographical factors. The main one of these is that, a few kilometres downstream, the Buffalo River enters a gorge in which it flows until its confluence with the Thukela River. At this point the Thukela flows in a steep valley almost until it reaches the sea. The traditional routes into Zululand have thus been in the vicinity of Rorke's Drift or northwards along the coast near the mouth of the Thukela River. (Chadwick, p.1 ; Knight, p.47).

At Rorke's Drift a natural drift is formed by a rocky outcrop. Combined with the level nature of the land, this has led to the settlement of the area since pre-historic times. Rock paintings, stone artifacts and the remains of pre-Zulu homesteads give evidence of a long history of human occupation. The local community has always referred to the hill behind the mission station as Shiyane. (Chadwick, p.1).

During the reign of King Shaka, many Zulu expeditions crossed into northern or central KwaZulu-Natal at or near the drift. It is almost certain that the Voortrekkers also crossed here in April 1838. (Chadwick, p.1).

In 1849 the farm was acquired by James Rorke who started a trading store in addition to his farming activities. He became well known and the Zulu referred to his homestead as "Kwa Jima", the place of Jim. Rorke died in 1875 and the farm passed into the hands of the Swedish Mission with Reverend Witt in charge of the mission. The Swedish missionaries renamed it Oskarsberg in honour of the then King of Sweden and their patron saint, Saint Ansgar (Oscar). (Chadwick, p.1).

At the disastrous Battle of Isandlwana on 22 January 1879 the Zulu army almost wiped out the whole British camp. After the battle, the iNdluyengwe, uThulwana, iDlondlo and uDloko regiments, numbering approximately 4 500 men, crossed the Buffalo River on the afternoon of 22 January 1879 and attacked the British garrison at Rorke's Drift. It was mainly the 24th Regiment that was stationed there, consisting of 139 men, 120 of whom were fit for service. (Knight, pp. 69-77).

The troops fortified themselves in the hospital and the commissariat buildings. The attacks lasted until midnight, but did not stop until approximately 04:00 on 23 January 1879. It was one of the most famous defensive actions in the history of the British army. Eleven Victoria Crosses were awarded. The Zulu bravery and tenacity were outstanding. They had been in action from 11:00 on 22

January 1879 at Isandlwana to approximately 04:00 on 23 January 1879 and had travelled about 25 kilometres from Isandlwana to Rorke's Drift on foot without rations. (Knight, pp.69-77).

The Witt house, which had been used as a hospital, was demolished on 23 January 1879 and was subsequently rebuilt to a different plan. A large part of the area around the house and church was proclaimed a national monument in March 1969. (Chadwick, p.3).

ii) Steenkamp Report

In September 1975, Dr Louis Steenkamp²⁴, Member of the Museum Service Advisory Board, recommended to the Board that the Province should buy the site of Rorke's Drift from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Africa, to whom it belongs, in order to restore the buildings and develop the site. He gave as reasons the historical importance of the site, as well as the nearby battle fields of Blood River and Isandlwana; the centenary celebrations of the Anglo-Zulu War in 1979; the inability of the NMC, due to lack of funds and staff, to develop the site as it should be developed and the fact that the battlefields of northern KwaZulu-Natal attract many overseas visitors. (Letter: Steenkamp to Fourie, 12/9/75).

²⁴ Dr Louis Steenkamp was a Senator in the South African Parliament. He was particularly interested in historical events, especially the history and conservation of the battlefields of northern KwaZulu-Natal.

The Museum Service Advisory Board fully supported this suggestion. A delegation, consisting of Dr J.A. Pringle (Chairman), Dr L. Steenkamp (Vice-Chairman), Mrs S. Henderson, Mr Simpson and Mr C.J. Fourie, was appointed to approach EXCO with the request of obtaining the site of Rorke's Drift for the Province. (Advisory Board Minutes, 11/3/76).

The delegation met with EXCO on 10 May 1976. It was suggested that a portion of land be bought as an historical reserve to be administered by the Natal Parks Board. EXCO verbally agreed to this suggestion, as it was the only way in which the Province could acquire the land. It was suggested that the Museum Service Advisory Board negotiate with the owners in order that a reasonable price for the land could be decided on. (Advisory Board Minutes, 18/8/76).

iii) Development of site

On 4 July 1978 the National Monuments Council reached an agreement with the Evangelical Lutheran Church for public access to the site and that the defences erected during the Battle of Rorke's Drift could be partially rebuilt. On 17 August 1978 it was agreed that a interpretive display could be placed in the Witt House for the centenary commemorations of the Anglo-Zulu War. This display remained in place until 1981 when the Church authorities asked that it be removed as they wished to use the house. Subsequent negotiations regarding development for public use made little progress.

(Chadwick, p.2).

In May 1983 Mr George Chadwick compiled a report in which he sketched the proposed development of Rorke's Drift as a historical complex. He suggested that the Province should obtain control or ownership of an area which would include the Witt house, the British graves, the rocky ledge south of the house, the Zulu graves north of the church, and an area extending north and west of the house. The church, which is still in use, was excluded. (Chadwick, p.3).

Mr Chadwick suggested the partial or entire rebuilding of the defensive system as at 22 January 1879; that the Witt house be altered to the condition it was in when it was used as a hospital during the battle; the re-instatement of the plants and trees as in 1879 and interpretive view sites, dioramas, situation maps and markers of such a nature that they would blend in with the natural environment. Mr Chadwick also suggested that the Province should accept the site as a Provincial museum. (Chadwick, pp.3-6).

On 16 November 1984 members of the Natal/National Monuments Liaison Committee met with representatives of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Rorke's Drift. Since the historical site formed part of the area which belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran Church Property Management Company, it was decided that a long lease would be the best way for the Province to obtain control of the historical area in order

to develop the site. (Minutes of Rorke's Drift Liaison Committee Meeting, 16/11/84).

On 23 May 1985 a draft agreement between the Evangelical Church of Southern Africa and the Provincial Administration was referred to EXCO for approval. On 4 June 1985 EXCO approved in principle the establishment of a Provincial museum at Rorke's Drift to be administered by the Provincial Museum Service. (EXCO Resolution, No. 917 of 1985).

iv) Lease agreement

The lease agreement stated that:

- a) The lessor would be the E.L.C. Property Management Company (Draft Lease Agreement, p.2).
- b) The area would be leased by the Provincial Administration for a period of 99 years (Draft Lease Agreement, p.2).
- c) The total area would be approximately 5,5 hectares and the beacons would be determined by mutual consent (Draft Lease Agreement, p.2).
- d) The Province would compensate the Evangelical Lutheran Church for any buildings taken over by them (Draft Lease Agreement, pp.3-4).
- e) The sports field, which falls within the leased area the Province would be leasing, would be replaced by a sports field of a similar nature at the expense of the Province (Draft Lease Agreement, p.4).
- f) Due to limited funds, the conversion of the site to

a museum would be done in phases, with 1990 as the approximate completion date:

- i) The stone house would be taken over in 1986/87;
 - ii) The pottery building in 1987/88;
 - iii) The four houses accommodating the stores and spinning rooms in 1988/89;
 - iv) The remaining two buildings would be taken over in 1989/90 (Draft Lease Agreement, pp.5-6).
- g) The Province would pay an annual rental of R600,00. It was decided that the rental be re-determined after the expiry of each five year period. (Draft Lease Agreement, p.4).
- h) The Province would not interfere with the life of the residents in the area and would allow reasonable access to the area leased, so long as it did not interfere with museum activities (Draft Lease Agreement, p.4).
- i) A liaison committee, consisting of an equal number of representatives of the NMC, the Provincial Administration, the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the E.L.C. Property Management Company would monitor the development of the site (Draft Lease Agreement, pp.4-5).
- j) The area, facilities and amenities provided would not be separated according to race (Draft Lease Agreement, p.5).

The lease agreement commenced on 1 August 1986 and will

terminate 99 years later on 31 July 2985.

iv) Interpretive displays

The JEA²⁵ decided that the sites of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift should be jointly developed. It was felt that this would improve comprehensive interpretation of the two Anglo-Zulu War sites, as well as improving them as tourist attractions. With this in mind, Dr John Vincent²⁶ asked EXCO to approve additional funds in order to provide interpretative displays; to concrete the pathways and to landscape the area at Rorke's Drift. He proposed that the development should take place over a three year period. (Memorandum: Vincent to EXCO, 8/6/89).

On 25 July 1989 EXCO approved the additional funds as requested by Dr Vincent. (EXCO Resolution No. 692 of 1989). In November 1989 permission was received to employ Clive Hatton Display Studio of Pietermaritzburg to provide an interpretive display in two of the museum buildings at Rorke's Drift. The theme would be the Battle of Rorke's Drift, 22-23 January 1879. (Memorandum: Bowden to Vincent, 1/12/89).

The staff of Museum Service would have preferred to have

²⁵ Joint Executive Authority for the then Province of Natal and the self-governing territory of KwaZulu.

²⁶ Dr John Vincent was appointed Director of Museum Service on 1 February 1989. He had previously been employed by the Natal Parks Board.

done the display themselves, but due to research and display commitments at certain affiliated museums it was decided that an outside agency should be employed to do the Rorke's Drift-Shiyane display rather than delay the work at the affiliated museums. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

The display was officially opened by the Administrator of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr C.J. van R. Botha, on 20 January 1992. His Majesty, King Goodwill Zwelithini, unveiled one of the commemorative plaques. Lt. Col. P. Kerruish of the Royal Regiment of Wales laid wreaths at both the British and Zulu graves. (Programme of Official Opening of Rorke's Drift Provincial Museum, 20/1/92).

vi) Renaming of museum

On 31 August 1992 Dr Vincent informed EXCO that the Advisory Board had, at its meeting on 20 August 1992, decided to ask EXCO to change the name of the Rorke's Drift Provincial Museum to Rorke's Drift-Shiyane Provincial Museum. The reason for this decision was that the site is still known by the original Zulu name "Shiyane" (the name of the hill behind the museum). EXCO accordingly approved the new name of Rorke's Drift-Shiyane Provincial Museum on 27 October 1992. (EXCO Resolution, No. 905, 1992; Memorandum: Vincent to EXCO, 31/8/92).

vii) The present situation

The archaeologist who was employed by Museum Service at that

time, Dr Lita Webley, had found during her excavations that the surface stones indicating the foundations of the Commissariat building did not correspond with her excavations. This inaccuracy also applied to the British defence lines. (Advisory Board Minutes, 18/2/93).

Based on the archaeological finds and contemporary information, the stones were re-laid in the correct position. Inscribed dolerite markers provide the necessary information concerning the battle. A pamphlet has been compiled which enables visitors to go on a self-guided tour of the battlefield. (Advisory Board Minutes, 18/2/93).

The Rorke's Drift Appeal Fund was launched in 1990 with Mrs Sheila Henderson as official fund-raiser. The objective is to raise funds which would be used to upgrade community facilities at Rorke's Drift. Some of the facilities which were provided include additional class rooms at the Oskarsberg and Amoibi primary schools, the establishing of a secondary school, the provision of electricity to the schools and the provision of library books. (Rorke's Drift Community Development Scheme, p.1).

This public outreach programme at Rorke's Drift-Shiyane is of great importance as it showed that the Museum Service was not only interested in developing a museum, but also in assisting in the uplifting of the people. The outreach programme helped to establish a good working relationship

with the local community which has benefitted both the community and the museum. It can be seen as a model for museums working in rural communities. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

A small staff is employed at the Rorke's Drift-Shiyane Museum. It consists of the Curator, Mr Graeme Smythe, who was appointed in March 1991, and a caretaker. Over weekends there is a part-time caretaker on duty. The site is visited by many overseas tourists who are interested in the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879. Future themes for displays include the history of the Swedish Mission and the work of the famous Rorke's Drift Arts and Crafts School. The rock art in the area is also being researched by staff from the Natal Museum in Pietermaritzburg. (Personal communication: Ridley and Smythe, 1995; Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

III. NATAL PARLIAMENT BUILDING

This was the second museum established by the Provincial Administration.

i) History of the building

The Natal Parliament Building²⁷ is the old Provincial Council building in Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg. In the 1880s, when increasing demands were made for responsible government for Natal, the Natal Legislative Council investigated the need to build a new parliamentary complex.

²⁷ The Provincial Council was renamed the Natal Parliament Building in February 1990.

The site for the proposed building was occupied by St Mary's Church. A new church was built at the corner of Burger and Commercial Road and opened in 1884. (Provincial Council of Natal booklet, p.3).

The corner stone of the new legislative complex was laid on 21 June 1887. The ceremony formed part of the local celebrations of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. The building was completed two years later and on 25 April 1889 the Governor, Sir Arthur Havelock, opened the first Legislative Council session in the new building. (Provincial Council of Natal booklet, pp.6-7).

The building was extended at the rear in 1898 by the addition of a large kitchen, servery, refectory, billiard room, Members' bar and improved toilet facilities. In 1900 the library (the present Library Committee room) was added. When responsible government was granted in 1893 the new upper house or Senate needed a new chamber. The foundation stone of the new building was laid in 1899 on a site which adjoined the parliamentary buildings, which had been used by the Inns of Court (offices used by advocates and lawyers needing to attend the nearby Supreme Court). (Provincial Council of Natal booklet, pp.7-8).

The Natal Parliament was disbanded in 1910 and the single-chamber Provincial Council had no need of the Senate building. The building was then used by the Provincial

Administration as office space until 1973, when it was used by Provincial Councillors as offices and interview rooms. (Provincial Council of Natal booklet, p.9).

ii) Listing of items of historical interest

In 1971 the Provincial Secretary compiled a memorandum for the approval of EXCO. In it he pointed out that under Resolution No. 635 of 20 February 1968, EXCO had decided that a list of historical objects in Provincial institutions should be compiled. The official contents of "Parkside", the official residence of the Administrator of KwaZulu-Natal, was to be included in the listing. Dr J.A.Pringle, Director of the Natal Museum, had indicated his willingness to scrutinise the lists with a view to eliminate items of little or no historical value. (Memorandum: Provincial Secretary to EXCO, 7/9/71).

On 23 July 1971 the Clerk of the Provincial Council submitted a list of items of historical interest in the Provincial Council. However, seven years later Dr Pringle had still not been able to assess the historical value of the items listed. The Provincial Secretary submitted another report to EXCO on 27 July 1975 and EXCO decided on 7 August 1975 that the staff of the newly created Museum Service should undertake this task. (EXCO Resolution, No. 1806 of 1975; Memorandum: Provincial Secretary to EXCO, 24/7/75).

iii) Declaration of building as a museum

On 2 December 1982 Mr Fourie, Director of Museum Service, asked EXCO to approve the establishment of a provincial museum in the Senate building. Mr Fourie stated that this museum could depict the history of the Provincial Administration. However, due to lack of staff, he asked that the Provincial Council staff should administer the museum. On 10 August 1983 EXCO approved the declaration of the Provincial Council building complex as a Provincial museum. (EXCO Resolution, No. 1348 of 1983).

In 1985 Museum Service compiled a brochure on the history of the Provincial Council which was available to the public. (Memorandum: Van der Merwe to EXCO, 13/12/85). Mr John Martin, Clerk of the Provincial Council, had arranged for the Colonial Trail to include the Council complex as part of their itinerary. The Colonial Trail was arranged jointly by the Durban and Pietermaritzburg Publicity Associations. The visits were organised for the last Saturday of each month. Participants on the Trail visited places of historical importance during the colonial period of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. (Memorandum: Martin to Van der Merwe, 18/12/85).

Due to the impending closure of the Provincial Council, Mr Martin recommended to Museum Service in December 1985 that some of their staff take over responsibility for conducting visitors on the Colonial Trail through the complex.

(Memorandum: Martin to Van der Merwe, 18/12/85). This led to the establishment of a post of curator at the Provincial Council under the direct control of Museum Service in November 1988. Mrs Heather Ruddiman was appointed as curator. (Personal communication: Ridley and Ruddiman, 1995).

iv) Renaming of building

The Museum Service Advisory Board decided at its meeting on 1 February 1990 to recommend to EXCO that the Provincial Complex be renamed the Natal Parliament Building. This recommendation was approved by EXCO. (Advisory Board Minutes, 1/2/90; 3/5/90).

Part of the Mary Stainbank collection of art works, which is on loan to the Province, is housed in the Natal Parliament Building. Mary Stainbank (1899-1996) was one of South Africa's most important modern sculptors. She was a member of the well-known Stainbank family. The collection consists of 73 works in plaster, wood, stone, bronze, lead and ceramic. The display was formally opened on 13 April 1994. (Natal Witness Supplement, 8/4/94).

The Natal Parliament Building had been used for meetings of the Provincial Standing Committees of the Tri-Cameral Parliament. Since the election on 19 April 1994 the KwaZulu-Natal Legislative Assembly has met alternately in Ulundi and in Pietermaritzburg. The Natal Parliament

Building is used for those meetings which are held in Pietermaritzburg. The building is also used daily for portfolio committee meetings and hearings. (Personal conversation: Ruddimann and Ridley, 1995).

In April 1994 the items on display in the vestibule of the building were changed to depict both Zulu traditions and the Province's colonial past. (Personal conversation: Ruddimann and Ridley, 1995).

Conclusions

Initially, the principle embodied in the Museum Ordinance, which states that the Province could establish and control museums, was criticised by some people, even members of the Museum Service Advisory Board. It was felt that the affiliated museums would be neglected in favour of the Provincial museums. As this never happened the fear soon vanished and it was seen that the Province was developing important historical sites which for many years had been lying dormant and had in most cases been neglected.

The sites of Mgungundlovu and Rorke's Drift-Shiyane have become major tourist attractions. Much of this can be attributed to the fact that museological research has been done on site and based on this research, museum displays have been mounted which depict the history in an interesting manner. The availability of enthusiastic and knowledgeable

curators has helped to make the sites more "visitor friendly".

The outreach project at Rorke's Drift-Shiyane has become a model for museums working in rural areas. The upliftment of the community, in conjunction with the development of the museum, has created a great deal of goodwill amongst the Rorke's Drift-Shiyane community. The community has benefitted a great deal by the improvement of educational facilities.

The KwaZulu-Natal Monuments Task Group has recommended in their report to the Minister of Education and Culture, Dr Vincent Zulu, that all site museums should come under their control. The KMC feels that at a site museum the emphasis is on the historical site and not on the museum. (KwaZulu-Natal Monuments Task Group Report, p.12).

The Museums Task Group does not agree with this view of site museums. Such museums are regarded as ordinary museums which have collections which have to be stored, documented, conserved, researched and displayed according to museological standards. Museum Service has therefore asked that the site museums of Mgungundlovu and Rorke's Drift-Shiyane should remain Provincial museums. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums in the future, pp.37-38).

The site museums of KwaZulu-Natal are of great historical

importance. It is important that they be administered correctly and the collections be curated according to museological principles. It is hoped that whoever controls these sites in future will develop them to their full potential, but also care for the collections in the correct way.

CHAPTER SEVEN

THE YEARS 1985-1995

The Henderson, Jones and Hosking reports led to certain changes being made to the structure and organisation of Museum Service. This was followed by a period of slow growth. Only eight museums affiliated to Museum Service during the period 1985-1995, compared to the 25 museums which had affiliated during the preceding ten years.

Of the eight museums which affiliated to Museum Service, only two, Margate and Winterton, were local authority museums. The other six were so called "private" museums. Macrorie House used to be funded by the City Council of Pietermaritzburg, but it now affiliated to Museum Service as an independent museum.

I. ORGANISATION OF MUSEUM SERVICE

Due to the recommendations of the Jones Work Study Report, No. 34/1985 and the Hosking Report, and with the approval of the Commission of Administration, Library Service and Museum Service became two separate departments on 1 August 1986. As a temporary measure Museum Service still came under the control of the Deputy Director: Library Service. However, on 1 March 1987 Dr E.H. Bigalke was appointed as the new Deputy Director: Human Science Museum.

The professional section of Museum Service was renamed the Museums Development Section. It now consists of two sub-divisions: the Research, Documentation and National Monuments Sub-division and the Media and Liaison Sub-Division. (O.& W.S. Report, No.34/85, pp.13-14).

i) Media and Liaison Section

A senior person was appointed to this new post. This was indicative of the importance attached to the post. It is seen as the contact point between the local authorities and Museum Service. The Henderson Report had mentioned that the lack of frequent contact with Museum Service was the aspect of Museum Service most criticised by local authorities. (O.& W.S. Report, No. 34/85, p.26).

The Media and Liaison Section is meant to:

- a) Liaise with press, radio and television regarding developments in provincial/affiliated museums;
- b) Liaise with local authorities on matters affecting affiliated museums;
- c) Evaluate exhibitions prepared by Museum Service;
- d) Be responsible for all publications released by Museum Service;
- e) Write and edit captions prepared by Museum Service for exhibitions;
- f) In-house training of curators. (O.& W.S. Report, No 34/85, p.26).

The O. & W.S. Report recommended that two persons be appointed to this new section. Unfortunately, only one person, the author, has so far been appointed to this section. Consequently, only the two most important duties listed in the O. & W.S. Report have been met, i.e. liaison and training. There is regular liaison with the curators and meetings of the museum committees are attended as often as possible. On these occasions the Liaison Officer discusses with the curators any problems which they may be experiencing. She also provides valuable in-put at museum committee meetings. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

The provision of in-service training to all curators, especially new curators, is an important aspect of the Liaison Officer's work. New curators are given in-house training in basic museology and any specific problems which they might be experiencing at their museum. Training for all the curators, in the form of short courses on practical museum matters, are organised twice a year. These courses have proved to be of great benefit to the curators. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

ii) National Monuments Section

The National Monuments Section was a new component in the Museum Service organisation. The duties attached to the post are the following:

- a) Undertake research into war graves and national monuments in KwaZulu-Natal;

- b) Undertake short and long term planning regarding the work programme of identification, preservation, restoration and development of war graves and national monuments;
- c) Advise on the restoration of war graves and national monuments in KwaZulu-Natal;
- d) Liaise with National Monuments personnel on all matters regarding national monuments and war graves in KwaZulu-Natal;
- e) Liaise with the Provincial Works Branch regarding maintenance of war graves and national monuments in KwaZulu-Natal. (O. & W.S. Report, No 34/85, pp.24-25).

None of the other posts or changes which were recommended in the Work Study Report of 1985 have been introduced, mainly due to financial constraints. The staff component at Museum Service head office has remained static and the small staff has had to handle the work generated by the extra seven museums which had affiliated to the Service.

Some of the very specialised restoration work, such as restoration of paper items or works of art on paper, as well as repair and cleaning of oil paintings, has been contracted out to specialists in Durban. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

II. PROMULGATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

One of the first actions which Dr Bigalke undertook after

becoming Head of Museum Service, was to recommend to the Advisory Board that the Museum Ordinance Regulations (Provincial Notice, No. 113 of 1975) be amended.

The following matters, some of which had been specifically mentioned in the Henderson and Hosking Reports, were recommended:

i) The conditions of admission of a museum to the Service and provision for disaffiliation

No fixed conditions for the affiliation of museums had ever been set. Museum Service did not have a firm policy in this regard. Each Director decided how museum development in the Province should be handled. In the period prior to 1985 museums were encouraged to apply for affiliation even though they might not have a collection, premises, curator or funds to develop a museum. It was argued that with the necessary encouragement these museums would start a collection, find a museum building and receive funding from both the local authority and the Province. This led to "ghost museums" being allowed to affiliate to the Museum Service. Some of these museums took a long time to develop, some never did and were eventually disaffiliated. These included Queensburgh and Ixopo. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

Dr Bigalke wanted to ensure that only museums which were viable would be permitted to affiliate to the Museum Service. In the Cape Province, where there had been considerable pressure from local authorities for admission

of their museums to the Museum Service, certain criteria were laid down in 1985. This required that the local authority be able to demonstrate that it had:

- a) a substantial nucleus of a collection of objects relating to the history of its town and district;
- b) a suitable building available for use as a museum;
- c) adequate funds for the establishment and running of a museum.

Dr Bigalke recommend that the above criteria be adopted and embodied in Regulations. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary regulations for the Museum Service, p.2).

Regarding the disaffiliation of museums, Dr Bigalke recommended that:

- a) The Administrator may, without reference to the relevant local authority, disaffiliate any museums should he be advised that any of the conditions of admission to membership of the Service were no longer in the power of the local authority to implement;
- b) The Administrator may accede to the request by a local authority to disaffiliate its museum from the Service. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary regulations for the Museum Service, p.5).

ii) Allocation of themes to affiliated museums

In order to avoid duplication of certain themes at the affiliated museums, Dr Bigalke recommended that:

a) The Administrator may allocate one or more themes to any affiliated museum in order that the history of the town and its surrounding region be depicted in an unique way;

b) The Administrator may, from time to time, review allocated themes, as circumstances and developments may warrant such review. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary regulations for the Museum Service, p.5).

iii) Conditions for, and the granting of, grants-in-aid in terms of section 7 of the Ordinance

Previously the only condition applicable to the granting of grants-in-aid to affiliated museums which the Museum Service controlled, had been the percentage of the grant which the local authority received. The percentage was based on the local authority's income from rates and taxes.

Dr Bigalke recommended that the Administration should no longer provide grants unconditionally. He was of the opinion that museums which did not meet museological standards could be brought into line by withholding their grants for a certain period. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary regulations for the Museum Service, p.2).

iv) Appointment and composition of local museum committees

Dr Bigalke pointed out that paragraph 3 of the Ordinance and

paragraph 14 of the Regulations stated that " a local authority may appoint a local museum committee..." He mentioned that there were many towns where the relationship between municipal officials and the museum was problematic. This warranted the mandatory requirement that a museum committee be appointed and that its composition be determined by regulations. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary regulations for the Museum Service, p.3).

v) Records to be kept by or in respect of the Service

Dr Bigalke pointed out that early in the existence of the Museum Service, a standard documentation procedure was laid down for use by all affiliated museums, under the guidance of Museum Service personnel. A master catalogue was to be maintained at head office to ensure that a complete record of items held at all affiliated museums was readily available and could be adequately controlled.

Dr Bigalke recommended that all affiliated museums be required to implement and maintain standard documentation procedures as laid down by the Head: Museum Service. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary regulations for the Museum Service, p.3).

vi) Appointment and conditions of service of curators of affiliated museums

Dr Bigalke pointed out that this matter had been raised in

the Henderson Report and that it deserved urgent attention.²⁸ He recommend that the Head: Museum Service be invited to be present at interviews for the selection of staff at affiliated museums; that museum personnel be remunerated according to Museum Service's recommended salary scales and that all museum personnel be appointed according to conditions recommended by the South African Association of Municipal Employees. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary regulations for the Museum Service, pp.3,5).

vii) The control, safety and custody of property, of, or under the control of, the Museum Service, and the assistance available from the Museum Service

Dr Bigalke pointed out that display cases and fittings, made available by the Museum Service from its own funds, for use in affiliated museums, as well as museum items belonging to Museum Service which are on loan to affiliated museums, had up to that point not been covered by the existing Regulations. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary regulations for the Museum Service, p.4).

Dr Bigalke recommended that the amended Regulations should stipulate that all such items (display fittings and museum items) should remain the property of the Provincial

²⁸ The Henderson report had pointed out that the level of the professional qualifications of curators varied greatly. There was also a discrepancy in working hours, duties undertaken, conditions of service and salary scales. However, Museum Service could only recommend salary scales as it was the Town Councils who appointed the curators and determined their salaries and duties.

Administration and that the local authorities to whom they had been loaned should assume responsibility for adequate insurance coverage. (Bigalke: Motivation for the need for supplementary Regulations for the Museum Service, p.4).

The Advisory Board debated the draft regulations as suggested by Dr Bigalke at an extraordinary meeting held on 8 October 1987. Mr Cuff, the Legal Advisor of the Provincial Administration who had drafted the regulations, was present in order to explain any clauses if required. The Advisory Board approved the draft regulations at its meeting on 29 October 1987 and recommended that they be approved by EXCO. EXCO approved the Regulations on 9 February 1988 and they were promulgated as of 1 April 1988. (Advisory Board Minutes, 8/10/87; 29/10/87; 28/4/88).

The amended Regulations were fully discussed in Chapter III of this dissertation, as that chapter deals with the Museum Ordinance and Regulations.

III. FIVE YEAR PLAN, 1988/89 - 1992/93

Another important project undertaken by Dr Bigalke, with the assistance of Mr G.Dominy and Mrs H.Ridley, was the development of a five year plan for Museum Service.

In the Introduction to the report, Dr Bigalke stated that in order for Museum Service to function effectively and to employ public funds responsibly, it was necessary to develop

a five year plan. Prior to the compilation of the report, the local authorities with affiliated museums had been requested to present their own plans for the development of their museums. The response was not particularly good. Most of the local authorities presented very little or no information regarding their own plans. As a result, much of the detail contained in the Five Year Plan, was proposed by Museum Service, based on the familiarity of its staff with affiliated and other museums. (Natal Provincial Museum Service: Five Year Plan, p.1).

i) Factors which influenced the Five Year Plan

The following factors influenced the Five Year Plan:

- a) Extent of significant financial and practical assistance rendered to certain affiliated museums in previous years, while others with potential were still waiting to be developed;
- b) The joint development of certain site museums (Rorke's Drift and Isandlwana; Mgungundlovu and the KwaZulu Cultural Museum at Ulundi) under the auspices of the Natal-KwaZulu Joint Executive Authority;
- c) The possible implementation of the "own affairs" policy (see section VI of this chapter);
- d) The Government's new financial policy;
- e) An overall consideration was the preservation of the cultural heritage of all communities in KwaZulu-Natal. (Natal Provincial Museum Service: Five Year Plan, 1988/89 - 1992/93, p.1).

The report stressed that for an affiliated museum to be a viable and vital entity in the community, it required considerable assistance and interest from the authority under whose jurisdiction it came, as well as support from members of the public. As Museum Service has no direct control over the affiliated museums, it could only assist local authorities to improve the standards of their museums if the local authority is genuinely interested in its museum and committed to its improvement. (Natal Provincial Museum Service: Five Year Plan, p.2).

ii) Museum extension service

Dr Bigalke was of the opinion that a museum extension service would be of great benefit to the people of KwaZulu-Natal, especially those disadvantaged people who did not have ready access to a museum.

Dr Bigalke mentioned in the Five Year Plan that preliminary discussions had been held with staff from the Natal Museum in Pietermaritzburg and the Durban Museums concerning the establishment of a museum extension service for the purpose of lending remote rural schools small portable displays for educational purposes. Dr Bigalke expressed the hope that this scheme would be fully planned and organised and ready for implementation before the end of the five year period. Unfortunately, after Dr Bigalke left Museum Service at the end of July 1988, this scheme came to a standstill. (Natal

Provincial Museum Service: Five Year Plan, p.2).

iii) Touring exhibitions

The Five Year Plan stated that the successful touring exhibition of graphic art techniques mounted by Museum Service, as well as the travelling exhibition constructed for the 150th anniversary of the Great Trek in 1988, had proved that such displays were a relatively economical means of providing the affiliated museums with new exhibitions to attract visitors. Dr Bigalke expressed the hope that Museum Service could mount one travelling display each year. (Natal Provincial Museum Service: Five Year Plan, pp. 2-3).

iv) Five Year Plan Report

Of the 26 museums affiliated to the Museum Service in February 1988, two were classified as "city museums" i.e. Durban and Pietermaritzburg and the remainder as "local museums" i.e. local authority museums. (Natal Provincial Museum Service: Five Year Plan, p.3).

The report indicated the date of affiliation for each museum, the current percentage of subsidy based on the local authority's income from rates and anticipated capital subsidies. Relevant comments were made on each of the museums and proposed assistance was indicated. The final section dealt with the existing and proposed Provincial museums. These included Mgungundlovu, Rorke's Drift-Shiyane and the Natal Parliament Building. A Provincial

agricultural museum was proposed, but this did not materialise. (Natal Provincial Museum Service: Five Year Plan, p.3).

Capital expenditure was envisaged at the following affiliated museums during the period 1988-1993:

Colenso (Roof for traction engine and restoration of stonework)

Dundee (New industrial building)

Empangeni (Development of a Sugar Museum)

Eshowe (Toilets)

Estcourt (Restoration of fort and Kwezi Hall)

Greytown (Restoration of Umvoti Mounted Rifles Hall; repair of staircase at museum and erecting a building to house wagons and steam tractors)

Himeville (Restoration of museum)

Howick (New museum building)

Margate (New museum)

Newcastle (Restoration of Fort Amiel and conversion of Carnegie Library into an art gallery)

Utrecht (Restoration of museum)

Vryheid (Purchase of additional building)

Westville (Climate control in museum)

(Natal Provincial Museum Service : Five Year Plan, pp.4-13).

Displays during the same period were planned for:

Dundee (Local history display; refurbish Zulu display)

Empangeni (Display cases for art objects)

Eshowe (New ethnographic display)

Estcourt (Voortrekker display and military history display)

Greytown (Local history display and military display in the Umvoti Mounted Rifles Hall, as well as a sponsored display on wattle/timber)

Himeville (Relocate San display)

Howick (Displays in new museum)

Margate (Local history display)

Mooi River (Dairy display and reorganise local history display)

Newcastle (Displays at Fort Amiel)

Pinetown (Refurbish existing displays)

Stanger (Refurbish existing displays)

Vryheid (Local history display)

Weenen (Improve costume display case and do a display in mill house)

Westville (Local history display)

(Natal Provincial Museum Service : Five Year Plan, pp.4-13).

Unfortunately, Dr Bigalke left Museum Service at the end of July 1988²⁹ and the recommendations of the Five Year Plan were subsequently never fully implemented. The affiliated museums developed on a more or less ad hoc basis as they themselves requested displays or additional buildings or

²⁹ Dr Bigalke gave as reason for his departure from Museum Service that he could not work within the confines of the "red tape" of the Provincial Administration. At the East London Museum he had been used to a fair amount of independence and autonomy within the constraints of the museum budget and under the overall control of a statutory museum board. (Ridley, H. Personal knowledge).

sheds to house their collections. The museum extension service and regular yearly travelling displays did not materialise. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

IV. SOUTH AFRICAN MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION(SAMA) CONFERENCE, PIETERMARITZBURG, 1987.

The SAMA Conference, which was held in Pietermaritzburg in 1987, was in many ways a watershed for museums in South Africa. It also had an influence on Museum Service and for that reason two papers which were delivered at the conference will be briefly discussed as part of this thesis.

Dr Brian Stuckenberg, Director of the Natal Museum, delivered a paper entitled " Stating the case: a synoptic view of the position of museums and of the problems they face, in the changing and divided society of contemporary South Africa". He pointed out that in 1975 the "Directory of Museums" had stated that the museums of South Africa were the museums of white South Africa. The Black majority was not represented in the planning and organisation of museums, but only in ethnographical collections and exhibitions. (Stuckenberg, pp.293).

Stuckenberg said that the system of values, rooted in Western cultural traditions, were being critically examined and even rejected by Black communities. Most museums did not know how their institutions were viewed by Black people or whether Black visitors to the museum found the displays

relevant or acceptable. Stuckenberg warned that South African museums needed to change in order to be seen as relevant in the new South Africa. (Stuckenberg, pp.293-294).

At the same conference Dr John Wright, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, and Dr Aron Mazel of the Natal Museum, delivered a joint paper entitled "Bastions of ideology" in which they surveyed the depiction or lack of depiction of pre-colonial history in KwaZulu-Natal museums. (Wright & Mazel, pp.301-302).

The survey showed that the depiction of pre-colonial history in the KwaZulu-Natal museums was a negative one; coverage was random and uninformed. The evolution of the human species, the history of the hunter-gatherer communities, rock paintings, Black farming communities and the interaction between Black and White communities prior to 1820 were themes which were missing from museum displays. (Wright & Mazel, pp.302-304).

However, White settler history was depicted in every museum in some way or other. No space was allocated to Black people in the colonial history of KwaZulu-Natal except for static ethnological displays. (Wright & Mazel, pp.305-306).

Wright and Mazel were of the opinion that the displays served to maintain ethnic separatism and the dominance of

the region's ruling classes and that they were based on political ideology. (Wright & Mazel, p.307).

The Museums Conference of 1987 underlined the fact that most of the museums in South Africa were too euro-centric and not relevant to the majority of the people in the country. Museologists realised that change was required if the museums were to survive. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

The Museum Service Advisory Board, when discussing the allocation of museum themes in September 1977, had decided that the history of indigenous cultures should be displayed in affiliated museums under the heading of the "prehistory" of the region. (Advisory Board Minutes, 14/9/77). Due mainly to a lack of sufficient original objects these themes were not adequately displayed by Museum Service.

The Museums Conference of 1987 led to Museum Service depicting pre-colonial history in KwaZulu-Natal in a more specific way. The history of the hunter-gatherers (Khoi-San); rock paintings; evolution and plant and animal fossil remains were displayed where possible at affiliated museums. The contribution of Black and Indian communities to the history of local areas was also depicted more and more. Museums were also encouraged to include these themes in their collections and in their research. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

Objects were borrowed from museums such as the Natal Museum to augment objects on display at the affiliated museums. Museum Service appointed a qualified ethnographer and an archaeologist to conduct the necessary research on which museum displays are based. Large ethnographic collections were also purchased by Museum Service in order to depict Zulu history more adequately. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

V. PROPOSED MUSEUM AT BLARNEY

In May 1986 Mr Fourie, as Director of Library and Museum Service, suggested to the Advisory Board that a Provincial agricultural museum should be established on the farm Blarney which is situated in the Byrne Valley near Richmond. The farm belonged to the McLeod family who had come to Natal with the Byrne Settlers in 1849-1850. (Advisory Board Minutes, 15/5/86).

Mr Fourie pointed out that the house on Blarney had been declared a national monument and had been restored with the assistance of First National Bank who had donated R60 000,00 for the project. The NPA's Works Branch and Museum Service had also assisted with the project. (Advisory Board Minutes, 15/5/86).

The site had been donated to the NMC, but as it did not have the legal power to run a museum, they had suggested that Blarney should become a Provincial museum under the control

of Museum Service. (Advisory Board Minutes, 15/5/86).

However, the Advisory Board felt that it would be more fitting if the site became a satellite museum of the Richmond, Byrne and District Museum in Richmond as this museum has as its primary theme, the Byrne Settlers.

(Advisory Board Minutes, 15/5/86). Richmond Town Board said it would be willing to take over Blarney and develop it as a satellite museum, but only if they could receive a 100% grant-in-aid for the museum. (Advisory Board Minutes, 27/11/86).

The Advisory Board felt that it would not be advisable to set a precedent in granting any museum a 100% grant. It was therefore decided that the status quo regarding Blarney should be retained for the next two years and that the Provincial Works Branch should continue to maintain the site. (Advisory Board Minutes, 27/11/86).

When Dr Bigalke became Director of Museum Service on 1987, he expressed reservations regarding the suitability of developing Blarney as a Provincial agricultural museum. He was of the opinion that it was too isolated to attract sufficient visitors to make it a viable museum. On 28 July 1988 Dr Bigalke reported that EXCO had been informed that Blarney was not a suitable site for a Provincial museum. (Advisory Board Minutes, 29/10/87; 28/7/88).

However, at the meeting of the Advisory Board on 7 August 1989 Dr Vincent, who had become Director of Museum Service on 1 February 1989, told Members that the NMC had once again asked Museum Service to take over Blarney. Dr Vincent asked the Board to reconsider its earlier decision not to take on Blarney as a Provincial museum. He was of the opinion that Blarney could generate most of its own funds by propagating and selling the old fruit trees and roses brought out by the Byrne Settlers. However, the Board took no firm decision on the matter. (Advisory Board Minutes, 7/8/89).

Two years later, at the meeting on 28 November 1991, Dr Vincent told the Board that the NMC had again asked Museum Service whether it would be interested in acquiring Blarney. Dr Vincent reiterated his view that Blarney could support itself. The Board accordingly resolved to recommend to EXCO that the Province acquired Blarney. (Advisory Board Minutes, 28/11/91).

On 13 January 1992 Mr I.Omar, MEC responsible for museums, asked Dr Vincent to comment on the feasibility of Blarney becoming a Provincial museum. The Advisory Board supported the guidelines for the acquisition of Provincial museums as expressed by Dr Vincent in his memorandum to the Board, dated 25 January 1993. However, EXCO passed a resolution on

12 January 1994 in which the development of Blarney as a Provincial museum was not approved. No reasons were given.

(Advisory Board Minutes, 18/2/93; 17/2/94).

VI. "OWN AFFAIRS" MUSEUMS

In 1987 the government decided that all museums receiving state funding should be classified as either "general affairs" or "own affairs" museums. This would have meant that eight of the museums which were affiliated to the Museum Service would have become "own affairs" museums. These museums would have been placed under the Department of Education and Culture: House of Assembly. Museum Service would then not have supplied services to them.

The museums designated as "own affairs" museums were:

Macrorie House, Pietermaritzburg

R.E.Stevenson Museum, Colenso

Ladysmith Siege Museum

Utrecht Museum

Vryheid Museum

Weenen Museum ³⁰

Old House Museum, Durban

Richmond, Byrne and District Museum. (Natal Provincial Museum Service: Five Year Plan, p.1).

The Advisory Board opposed this division right from the start. At the meeting on 29 October 1987 Ms Ferguson (Curator of the Tatham Art Gallery) tabled a resolution,

³⁰ The two Indian shops in Weenen, which formed part of the museum complex, were to have been placed under the control of the Department of Education and Culture: House of Delegates.

which was supported by the Board. It stated that the history of all groups in KwaZulu-Natal are interlinked; that the museums exist to serve the inhabitants of the whole province and that the classification of certain museums as "own affairs" museums will give offence to cultural and religious groups in the Province and thereby hinder the educational functions of the museums and of the Museum Service. The resolution also stated that the Southern African Museums Association was opposed to the classification of museums as "own affairs". (Advisory Board Minutes, Appendix D, 29/10/87).

At the same meeting Dr Bigalke said that the Department of Organisation and Work Study of the Provincial Administration, in conjunction with the personnel of Museum Service, had decided that the most practical way of dealing with the "own affairs" museums would be for the Province to administer them on an "agency" basis. (Advisory Board Minutes, 29/10/87).

At the meeting of the Board on 28 April 1988, Dr Bigalke said that the EXCO had been requested to state its views on the matter. EXCO decided that it considered all museums in KwaZulu-Natal to be "general affairs" museums. Mr P.J. Clase, the Minister of Education and Culture: House of Assembly: Own Affairs was informed of this decision. (Advisory Board Minutes, 28/4/88).

On 28 July 1988 Dr Bigalke informed the Board that the Commission for Administration had informed the Provincial Administration that the eight museums had been declared "white own affairs" museums with effect from 30 June 1988. (Advisory Board Minutes, 28/7/88). However, in practice, no changes took place and the museums all remained affiliated to the Museum Service and received the same services as before. (H.Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

This matter dragged on until May 1991. At a Board meeting on 23 May 1991 Dr Vincent informed members that it had been decided that none of the museums in KwaZulu-Natal would become "own affairs" museums as there had been too much opposition to the division of museums in the province. (Advisory Board Minutes, 23/11/91).

VII. MARY STAINBANK COLLECTION

Mary Stainbank was one of South Africa's most important modern sculptors. She was born in 1899 and died in March 1996 in Durban. She was a member of the well known Stainbank family of KwaZulu-Natal. (Natal Witness Supplement, 8/4/94). She originally offered her collection of art works to the Natal Parks Board. The Parks Board accepted the collection on condition that:

- a) Museum Service administers and cares for the collection;
- b) The collection be housed within the Dering Stainbank

Nature Reserve³¹.

Dr Ian Player suggested that the Stainbank House in the reserve could be used as a museum and that it could function as a provincial museum within a Parks Board reserve. (Advisory Board Minutes, 25/10/88).

At its meeting on 20 February 1989, the Advisory Board proposed that as the studio, where the collection was to be housed, was an unsuitable venue due to lack of access for the public and a leaking roof, the collection should either be housed in the head office of the Provincial Administration or in "Coedmore", the Stainbank house in the reserve. An alternative would be for Ms Stainbank to alter her will and allow the best pieces to go to art museums and the rest to be exhibited elsewhere. (Advisory Board Minutes, 20/2/89).

Ms Stainbank was not prepared to break up the collection. Dr Vincent therefore negotiated with the Provincial Administration that the collection be housed in the Natal Parliament building. On 1 February 1990, Dr Vincent reported to the Advisory Board that the Stainbank family had agreed to the collection being housed in the Natal Parliament Building. Dr Vincent arranged for a legal agreement to be drawn up between the Stainbank Trust, which controls the collection, and the Provincial Administration. (Advisory

³¹ The Dering Stainbank Nature Reserve comes under the control of the Natal Parks Board. It is situated near Durban.

Board Minutes, 1/2/90).

The Stainbank Collection is in the care of a Trust and is on loan to the Provincial Administration in order that the collection can be displayed for the benefit of the general public. The Trust document states that the collection must be displayed in KwaZulu-Natal and that it may never be broken up; the Trustees may permit individual works to be displayed outside the Province for a limited period of time; if the Administration ceases to be the organisation responsible for the administration of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal or if it ceases to control the Natal Parliament Building, the loan would be cancelled and copyright was retained by the Trust. The Deed of Trust was signed on 29 March 1990 by the Administrator, Mr Radclyffe Cadman. (Stainbank Trust Deed, 1990). Later amendments to the document meant that Mr Botha, Administrator of KwaZulu-Natal, had to sign the amended version on 22 November 1990. (Letter: Botha to Yeats, 22/11/90).

The collection was taken to Museum Service to be documented and cleaned or repaired. There are 73 works in the collection: 46 in plaster; 7 in wood; 10 in stone; 7 in bronze; 2 in lead and one work in ceramic. (Natal Witness Supplement, 8/4/94).

The display in the Natal Parliament Building was officially opened on 13 April 1994 by Mr R.B. Hindle, a previous

Director-General of the Provincial Administration. (Official Invitation to the Opening of the Stainbank Collection, 13/4/94).

VIII. GRANTS-IN-AID

The grants-in-aid for administrative and capital costs were adjusted several times since 1982 when it was decided that the income from rates and taxes of local authorities would be used to determine the percentage of the grant-in-aid.

Provincial Circular L.G. 1 of 27 January 1987 stated the following:

ADMINISTRATIVE AND CAPITAL COSTS

Up to R400 000

A 90% grant would be paid

R400 000 to R2 000 000

A 75% grant would be paid

R2 000 000 plus

A 50% grant would be paid

The maximum amount payable to any local authority or museum during one financial year would be R30 000 on administrative costs and R60 000 on capital costs. The two city museums, Durban and Pietermaritzburg, would receive the maximum of R30 000 on administrative costs. (Provincial Circular, L.G. 1 of 1987).

IX. AFFILIATION OF THE MARGATE AND WINTERTON MUSEUMS

Two local authority museums were affiliated to the Provincial Museum Service during this period:

i) Margate Art Museum

Margate, Newcastle and Empangeni were designated by the Advisory Board as centres for the development of art museums in the rural areas of KwaZulu-Natal. It was envisaged that Margate would have a joint art/cultural history museum. The theme of Natal artists was adopted for the art section and recreation and tourism were the primary themes allocated to the cultural history section. (Report: Dominy and Leigh to Fourie, 2/5/86; Memorandum: Fourie to Advisory Board, 5/12/85).

The art collection consists of works purchased by the Margate Town Council; works donated to the museum and works on loan from the Museum Service art collection. The art works were initially housed in the Council Chamber and in the Borough building. The cultural history collection, which consists mainly of photographs, was first housed in the library and the librarian documented and indexed the collection. (Memoranda: Ridley to Van der Merwe, 20/3/86; 22/5/86; Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge). The Margate Art and Cultural History Museum was affiliated to the Museum Service on 1 January 1986. (Advisory Board Minutes, 15/5/86).

In June 1988 initial planning of the new Margate Museum

building started. (Letter: Collocott to Bigalke, 23/6/88). The project was delayed for many years, mainly due to financial constraints. There was also opposition from certain taxpayers who felt that the new museum should be sited in the centre of town and not at the Borough office, which is on the outskirts of the town. It was also felt by some that the funds should rather be spent on extending the library. (Advisory Board Minutes, 18/11/93).

Notwithstanding this opposition, the Margate Art Museum was erected and officially opened on 21 April 1994 by the Administrator of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr C.J. van R. Botha. (Margate Town Council. Official Invitation).

The cultural history component of the museum has not been developed and the existing museum is only an art museum. However, the building has been designed in such a way that it can be extended. Such an extension might pave the way for a cultural history section to be developed. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

ii) Winterton Museum

In August 1991 the Winterton Historical Society applied to Museum Service to assist them in the setting up of a museum. The main purpose of the Historical Society is to encourage an active interest in local history and it was felt that a museum was essential to achieve this purpose. (Letter: Gray to Vincent, 26/8/91).

Dr Vincent informed the Advisory Board at its meeting on 22 August 1991 that a new building was to be erected in Winterton which would house both the museum and the library. The two sections would be completely separated, but would share toilet facilities. The request for affiliation was recommended by the Advisory Board. (Advisory Board Minutes, 22/8/91). ECXO approved the application for affiliation on 25 September 1991. (EXCO Resolution, No. 706 of 1991). Agriculture was the approved primary theme as the museum already had a collection of farming implements. (Advisory Board Minutes, 28/11/91).

The official opening of the library and museum building took place on 26 May 1993. Mrs Peggy Drew unveiled the library plaque and Mrs Sheila Henderson the museum plaque. Museum Service did a temporary display for the occasion. A part-time curator was appointed in July 1993.

Subsequently the museum themes have been revised to also include the amaZizi³², the San³³ and the fauna, flora and geology of the Drakensberg. A blacksmith's workshop is also being developed, as well as an Ngwane³⁴ homestead. (Winterton Museum Committee Minutes, 2/8/93).

³² The amaZizi is the one of local Black tribes.

³³ The San is a Stone Age people who lived predominantly in the Drakensberg. They were previously known as the Bushmen.

³⁴ The Ngwane is one of the local Black tribes.

X. DEVELOPMENTS AT OTHER AFFILIATED MUSEUMS

During the period 1985-1995 new displays were mounted by Museum Service at the following museums:

Displays

Rohde House, Mooi River (Dairy display: 18 May 1989)

Fort Amiel, Newcastle (Local history display: 9 March 1990)

Bergtheil House, Westville (Local history display: 29 September 1990)

Lucas Meijer House, Vryheid (Local history display: 8 February 1991)

Zululand Historical Museum, Eshowe (Local history display: 1 September 1991)

Fort Durnford, Estcourt (Local history display: 17 February 1994)

Port Shepstone (Local history display: 9 December 1994)

Howick (Local history display: not yet officially opened)

New museum extensions or buildings

During the same period, new buildings or museum extension were completed at:

Talana Museum, Dundee (Industrial building: 1 May 1988)

Talana Museum, Dundee (Miner's cottage: 17 March 1989)

Colenso (Shed for traction engine: 1 February 1991)

Newcastle (Carnegie Art Gallery: 26 October 1991)

Howick (New museum: 1 July 1992)

Bergtheil House, Westville (Education Centre: 23 June 1993)

Pinetown (Museum extension: 23 February 1995).

(Advisory Board Minutes, 19/2 87; 20/2/88; 1/2/90; 26/7/90;

28/11/90; 28/2/91; 23/5/91; 20/8/92; 17/5/93).

(Ford Durnford Museum Committee Minutes, 11/2/94).

(Zululand Historical Museum Committee Minutes, 7/7/92).

Museum Service is presently working on a display for the Pinetown Museum and research has also started on a display for the Stanger Museum. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

XI. KWAZULU/NATAL HERITAGE LIAISON COMMITTEE

On 14 May 1986 the first meeting of the KwaZulu/Natal Heritage Committee took place in Pietermaritzburg. The Committee, which was formed under the auspices of the JEA, was intended to co-ordinate the work done by the KwaZulu Monuments Council (KMC) and the Provincial Administration. Overlapping and duplication of services were to be avoided. It was decided that historical sites would be divided between the two bodies as regards maintenance of such sites. (Minutes of the KwaZulu/Natal Heritage Liaison Committee, 14/5/86).

Access from provincial roads to historical sites and signposting of such sites would be shared between the two bodies. Museum development would be planned so that it became complementary and not competitive, especially with regard to collection policy. An exchange of research expertise and even display material was mooted, as well as technical co-operation. (Minutes of the KwaZulu/Natal Heritage Liaison Committee, 14/5/86).

This Committee continued to meet until early in 1993. Due to personality clashes and institutional jealousies the meetings then ceased. Dr Vincent of Museum Service feels that this was a most unfortunate development. He was in favour of this committee leading the way to an amalgamation of the KMC, the Museum Service and the NMC in one heritage body which would have been to the benefit of all parties concerned as it would have created a stronger organisation which would have had more clout and influence with the Provincial Administration. (Personal communication: Vincent and Ridley).

A SAMA KwaZulu-Natal Working Committee recommended in August 1994 that museums and monuments in the Province be managed separately, but that they should fall under the same ministry. (KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future proposal document, p.5). This has ended any possibility of amalgamation of the various heritage bodies, as envisaged by Dr Vincent, for the foreseeable future.

An interesting development during the ten year period under discussion was the appointment of Prof Fatima Meer to the Museum Service Advisory Board in May 1992 as Vice-Chairperson. (Advisory Board Minutes, 26/5/92). Prof Meer was not the first Indian person to have been appointed to the Advisory Board as both Black and Indian members have been appointed since 1985. (Ridley, 1995. Personal

knowledge).

However, Prof Meer is a well known sociologist and a person of high standing in the Indian community in KwaZulu-Natal. She is active in promoting Indian culture throughout KwaZulu-Natal and was interested in seeing it displayed to a greater extent in the museums. Unfortunately, she did not serve on the Advisory Board for very long as she resigned, due to work commitments, after she was elected as a member of the SABC Board. It has remained difficult to depict Indian culture in museum displays as very few artifacts have been donated to museums by the Indian community. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

Conclusions

The period 1985 to 1995 was an important one for Museum Service. Due to the recommendations of the Hosking Report (1985) Museum Service became an independent department with its own Director in August 1986. Amended Regulations were compiled which laid down standards which museums had to meet if they wished to be affiliated to the Museum Service. Previously such standards had not existed and consequently some museums which only existed on paper, were affiliated to the Service.

Dr Erich Bigalke was instrumental in the drawing up of a Five Year Plan which would have provided Museum Service with

a written policy for the development of the affiliated museums. Unfortunately this Plan was never implemented as Dr Bigalke left Museum Service in July 1988 and his successor did not continue with the implementation of the Five Year Plan. It is to be regretted that the Advisory Board, who had unanimously approved the Five Year Plan, did not encourage its implementation.

The SAMA Conference of 1987 in Pietermaritzburg was a watershed conference for South African museums. The need for museums to be less euro-centric and more relevant to all sections of the community was highlighted. It was emphasised that museums needed to change in order to be accepted as worthwhile institutions by the Black peoples of South Africa.

The Museum Service Advisory Board opposed the principle of dividing museums within the Province into "general" or "own affairs" museums. They were successful in preventing this system of being implemented in KwaZulu-Natal, although it was implemented in the other three provinces. In 1995 this artificial division of museums was completely scrapped.

The period under review was a period of stabilization and consolidation for Museum Service. Few additional posts were created, but staff turn over was low. This has led to the existing staff becoming experienced in dealing with the local museums and their unique problems.

The Henderson, Jones and Hosking Reports of 1985 had emphasised the fact that museology and librarianship were different disciplines. The reports had stressed the need for the Head of Museum Service to be a trained and experienced museologist. Unfortunately, this was not strictly adhered to as only Dr Bigalke, of all the directors before and after him, was an experienced museologist.

CHAPTER EIGHT

AFFILIATION OF NON-LOCAL AUTHORITY MUSEUMS

Most of the museums which are affiliated to Museum Service at present, were affiliated before 1985. Since that date only eight museums were affiliated to the Service, one of these being Macrorie House which affiliated to Museum Service in 1992 in its own right. Most of these "newer" museums are non-local authority or "private" museums. Prior to 1988 they were not allowed to affiliate to Museum Service as the Ordinance only provided for the affiliation of local authority museums. (Museum Ordinance, No. 26 of 1973).

However, according to Section 14(4) of the amended Regulations, which were published by Provincial Notice, No. 69 of 1988, the Administrator could, after consultation with the Museum Service Advisory Board, affiliate non-local authority museums to the Museum Service.

In this way, six so called "private" museums were admitted to membership of the Museum Service.

I. MACRORIE HOUSE MUSEUM

Macrorie House is a Victorian house at the upper end of Loop Street in Pietermaritzburg. It was built in the mid 1860s and was the home of Bishop Macrorie from 1870 - 1892. The

house is now furnished much as it was in the Bishop's time. (Country Museums of Natal pamphlet, p.8).

The house was bought by the Simon van der Stel Foundation and restored by them, with financial assistance from both the City Council of Pietermaritzburg and Museum Service. The Foundation leased the house to the Macrorie House Board of Trustees at a nominal fee for use as a museum. (Personal communication: Sterley and Ridley, 1996).

Macrorie House Museum has always had an independent Board of Trustees to which the collection belongs and which administers the running of the museum. In 1976 EXCO decided that the Macrorie House Museum could not be subsidised by the Province unless it became a local authority museum. This decision was based on the fact that the Ordinance at that stage stated that only local authority museums could be affiliated to the Museum Service and receive subsidies. (Advisory Board Minutes, 22/1/76).

By 1977 Macrorie House had become a local authority museum under the City Council of Pietermaritzburg, albeit with reluctance on the part of the City Council as they did not want the added financial burden of running both the Tatham Art Gallery and the Macrorie House Museum. The fact that the building, in which the museum was housed, still belonged to the Simon van der Stel Foundation, meant that the museum had no security of tenure. (Advisory Board Minutes, 2/3/77).

At the Advisory Board meeting on 15 March 1977 it was stated that the Pietermaritzburg City Council had agreed to rent the premises from the Simon van der Stel Foundation. However, in July 1978 the Advisory Board was informed that the Simon van der Stel Foundation wanted to sell the premises. (Advisory Board Minutes, 14/6/78).

For a long time nothing further happened, but on 25 October 1988 the Advisory Board recommended to EXCO that the continued affiliation and subsidisation of Macrorie House be made conditional upon the satisfactory resolution of the anomalous position of an affiliated museum not owning or having a 99 year leasehold on the building which they occupied. (Advisory Board Minutes, 25/10/88).

On 24 January 1989 EXCO decided that the City Council of Pietermaritzburg had to acquire ownership of the building if the museum were to continue receiving a subsidy. (Advisory Board Minutes, 20/2/89).

The City Council of Pietermaritzburg refused to pay the amount of R210 000,00 (based on market related prices) which the Simon van der Stel Foundation wanted for the house. The City Council offered a sum of R15 000,00, but the Foundation was not prepared to accept this. (Advisory Board Minutes, 7/8/89).

Two years later, in a letter dated 20 November 1991, Mr G.A.

Dominy, Chairman of the Macrorie House Board of Trustees, informed Museum Service that the Simon van der Stel Foundation had sold the building to the Board of Trustees for R25 000,00. Half of this amount was provided by the City Council of Pietermaritzburg, the other half by the Province. At long last, the Macrorie House Museum had security of tenure. (Letter: Dominy to Vincent, 20/11/91).

In the same letter Mr Dominy also applied for the affiliation of the Board of Trustees of Macrorie House Museum to Museum Service. (Letter: Dominy to Vincent, 20/11/91). This application was approved by EXCO on 12 February 1992. (Letter: Vincent to Dominy, 11/8/92).

II. MISSION HOUSE MUSEUM, HERMANNSBURG

The Hermannsburg Mission Society was founded by Louis Harms in 1849. In 1854 eight missionaries and eight colonists, originally bound for East Africa, landed in Durban. They trekked up to the present site of Hermannsburg (near Greytown) and built a small storeroom and kitchen. (Country Museums of Natal pamphlet, p.5).

Work then started on the Mission House. The building was constructed from sun-baked bricks and timber cut from the nearby Umdoni Gorge. The building is a single storey with a thatch roof (later replaced with corrugated iron), forty meters long and eleven meters wide. It had sixteen bedrooms, eight small lounges and a large outside kitchen.

In style and architecture it resembled a farm house in the Lower Saxony region of Germany. It was adapted to suit local weather conditions with the addition of a verandah on three sides of the house. The house was declared a national monument in 1977. (Letter: Rottcher to Vincent, 14/2/89).

A German private school was established in Hermannsburg in 1856. After the Mission House was declared a national monument, the eastern half of the building was used to accommodate the school museum. The collection consists of artifacts donated by local individuals and families who have a connection with Hermannsburg School or the Mission. The portion of the building not used as a museum has been used as accommodation for school staff. (Letter: Rottcher to Vincent, 14/2/89).

In February 1989 the school applied for the affiliation of their museum to Museum Service. This application was approved by EXCO on 26 September 1989. The Mission House Museum was the first non-local authority museum to be affiliated under the revised Regulations, which permitted the affiliation of "private" museums. (Letters: Rottcher to Vincent, 14/2/89; Vincent to Rohwer, 1/11/89).

A part-time curator was appointed on 1 January 1991 and the restoration of the "Alte Kuche" (Old Kitchen), which was built in 1854, started towards the end of 1991. (Letter: Leuschke to Vincent, 5/11/91).

With 1992 being celebrated as the German Settler Festival Year in South Africa, the Museum Committee felt it would be fitting for the new museum display to be officially opened on 19 September 1992, the anniversary of the day when the Hermannsburg missionaries arrived in 1854. (Letter: Leuschke to Vincent, 23/2/92).

The Mission House Museum was officially opened by Rev Meyberg, Superintendent of the Hermannsburg Mission Society. In the Old Kitchen the history of the Hermannsburg Missionary Society is displayed. In the Mission House there are some period displays, including a school room scene, kitchen, pantry and lounge. In one of the other rooms there is a display of Stone Age implements and stone masons tools used to build some of the local churches. In the passage is a display of brass musical instruments. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

III. NATAL RAILWAY MUSEUM

In the early 1980s, some concerned members of the Railway Society of Southern Africa, established the Umgeni Steam Railway. It was based on leased sidings at the Umgeni Power Station, New Germany. Their aim was to preserve the history of steam trains in KwaZulu-Natal and also to demonstrate to future South Africans what travel was like in the era of steam-hauled trains. (Letter: Pritchard to Gray, 16/9/88).

In 1985 it became clear that a depot site was needed to

accommodate the growing number of locomotives, coaches and wagons which the Society had acquired. The Society managed to obtain the use of sidings at the Old Hilton Quarry. It started negotiating with the South African Transport Services to preserve all or part of the disused railway line from Boughton to Hilton with the purpose of establishing an operating railway museum. The Society particularly wanted to preserve this section of rail as it had been in use from 1882 until the September floods of 1987. (Letter: Pritchard to Gray, 16/9/88).

The building of the line was also an engineering feat in its own right, as the railway climbs nearly 1500 feet from Pietermaritzburg station to Hilton Station. The Society started having steam train rides for the public on the first Sunday of each month to raise funds for restoration work on old steam locomotives. (Letter: Pritchard to Gray, 16/9/88).

In September 1988 the Society applied for affiliation to the Museum Service. (Letter: Pritchard to Gray, 16/9/88). At the meeting of the Advisory Board in December 1988 it was recommended to EXCO that the Umgeni Steam Railway be affiliated on condition that no grant-in-aid be paid to the Society, unless recommended by the Museum Service Advisory Board. (Advisory Board Minutes, 5/12/88).

On 28 April 1989, by EXCO Resolution No 376, the affiliation of the Umgeni Steam Railway Museum, Hilton, was approved.

The approved theme was steam railway transport in the Natal Midlands. (EXCO Resolution, No. 376 of 1989).

In July 1989 the museum changed its name to Natal Railway Museum as it wanted to depict the history of the railways in the whole of KwaZulu-Natal. (Letter: Pritchard to Vincent, 2/7/89). In January 1992 it was decided by the New Germany and Hilton depots that Hilton would be seen as the parent body and New Germany as the satellite. Both would use the name Natal Railway Museum. (Letter: Hathorn to Vincent, 14/1/92).

In July 1990 EXCO approved a subsidy of R3 000,00 to assist the Natal Railway Museum to erect security fencing at its site. (EXCO Resolution, No. 89 of 1990).

A small museum is situated at the Hilton Station. Special public trips are arranged during the summer months, when the danger of veld fires are less. These trips are proving to be very popular. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

IV. BAYNESFIELD ESTATE MUSEUM

Joseph Baynes was the son of a Byrne³⁵ farmer who through hard work, determination and shrewd business acumen, became a very successful farmer, businessman and member of the Legislative Council of KwaZulu-Natal. He is best known as a

³⁵ The Byrne Settlers came to KwaZulu-Natal in 1849/50 and settled in the Richmond/Byrne area.

pioneer in the field of dairy farming. Baynes established the Nels Rust Dairy and later the two Model Dairies in Durban and one in Pietermaritzburg as outlets for his produce. When he died in 1923 without an heir, he bequeathed his estate of more than 20 000 hectares to the nation. (Memorandum: Vincent to Advisory Board, May 1992).

Many of the original buildings, such as the house, the dairy, the cool room, the milking sheds and piggery, and what is believed to be the first dipping tank in the country, still exist. (Memorandum: Vincent to Advisory Board, May 1992).

The present manager of the Estate, Mr John Kennedy, is sensitive to the historic value of the property. He has encouraged the Board of Trustees to develop a "living museum" on the estate. In May 1992 the Board applied for affiliation to Museum Service. (Letter: Kennedy to Vincent, 20/5/92).

The Advisory Board recommended the affiliation of the Baynesfield Estate Museum and on 6 October 1992 by Resolution No. 829 EXCO approved the affiliation of the museum, subject to it being open to the public once it was established. (EXCO Resolution, No. 829 of 1992).

One room of the original dairy houses the present museum. In it are items relating to Joseph Baynes, as well as farm

records, trophies won at agricultural shows, etc. It is hoped to restore the dairy, which dates back to 1898/99, to its original working condition, as the butter churns are still in perfect condition. The museum is to be officially opened in 1998 when the dairy building is 100 years old. (Report: Walker, 10/5/93).

The museum and the estate is open to the public during the week and by prior arrangement over weekends. School groups are taken by tractor and trailer on a conducted tour of all the original buildings on the estate. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

V. VUKANI MUSEUM, ESHOWE

The Vukani collection consists of over 2 700 items of Zulu craft that was accumulated over 40-50 years by the Vukani Association. This Association was started by a Swedish missionary to serve as a "clearing house" for craft work from many parts of Zululand. The Association buys works from local crafts people. The wares are then sold locally and internationally. (Memorandum: Vincent to Ladbrooke, 22/5/91).

The items in the Vukani Collection consist mainly of basketware, wood carving, beadwork and clay articles. It is made up of two parts: the older collection contains items of outstanding artistic value which were set aside by the Association with the intention of developing a museum at

some future date. Due to financial constraints the Vukani Association had to abandon the idea of developing their own museum. This older and more valuable collection was donated by the Vukani Association to the Vukani Collection Trust on condition that they develop a museum in which the collection could be housed and displayed. (Memorandum: Vincent to Ladbrooke, 22/5/91).

The second collection consists of more recent items. It has also been given to the Vukani Collection Trust, but the Trust has undertaken to raise funds to pay the Vukani Association an amount of R80 000,00 for it. The collections are both controlled by the Vukani Collection Trust. (Memorandum: Vincent to Ladbrooke, 22/5/91).

The Trust initially asked the Zululand Historical Museum to develop the Vukani Museum as a satellite museum, but due to stringent financial measures, this was not acceptable to the Eshowe Town Council. The Vukani Collection Trust then decided to develop the Vukani Museum as a "private" museum and to affiliate directly with Museum Service. The Trust leases the old Post Office building from the Eshowe Town Council for use as a museum. (Vukani Collection Trust Minutes, 22/4/91).

In May 1991 Dr Vincent obtained permission from the Provincial Administration to spend R25 000,00 from the Museum Service Items Vote to assist the Vukani Collection

Trust in purchasing the second collection. (Memorandum : Vincent to Director: Auxiliary Services, 22/5/91). In January 1992 a further R10 000,00 was paid by Museum Service towards the purchase of the second collection. (Memorandum: Vincent to Schofield, 5/1/92). The outstanding balance must still be raised by the Vukani Collection Trust. (Vukani Collection Trust Minutes, 14/10/94).

In June 1991 the Vukani Trust Museum applied for affiliation to Museum Service. The application was approved by EXCO on 7 August 1991. (EXCO Resolution, No. 588 of 1991). The museum was officially opened on 23 November 1994. (Vukani Collection Trust Minutes, 11/1/92; Letter: Salt to Vincent, 13/10/94).

The Advisory Board has recommended to the Cabinet of KwaZulu-Natal that the Vukani Museum should become a Provincial museum, as the collection is of great importance to the Province of KwaZulu-Natal and the Province has already contributed in part to the purchase of the collection. However, no decision has as yet been taken by the Cabinet. (Advisory Board Minutes, 1/6/95).

VI. COMRADES MARATHON MUSEUM

The Comrades Marathon started in 1921 when 34 determined runners left Pietermaritzburg for Durban to commemorate their comrades who had fallen during World War I. This event has occurred every year since, with the exception of

the World War II period. The number of competitors has grown from 34 runners to over 13 000 runners. (Comrades Marathon: South Africa [pamphlet], p.1).

The Comrades Marathon is run every year between Pietermaritzburg and Durban. The route is along the old Main Road and is approximately 89 kilometres long. Start and finish venues alternate each year, with Durban hosting the start one year and Pietermaritzburg the following year. (Comrades Marathon: South Africa [pamphlet], p.2).

The Comrades Marathon Museum is housed on the ground floor of the Comrades Marathon House, situated at 18 Connaught Road, Pietermaritzburg. The house was built by Mr Michael Henry Guttridge after he bought the property in November 1913. The house was at once stage used as a boarding house. In April 1981 the Anglican Church of the Province of South Africa bought the property for R50 000,00. On 4 June 1986 the house was bought by the Comrades Marathon Association as their future home. Previously the Association had its headquarters above the Alexandra Road Supermarket. (Lake, pp.3-4).

The house was in a rather decrepit state. There had also been a number of unsightly renovations. The architect, Wynand Claasen, ex-rugby Springbok and runner of the Comrades marathon, was asked to do the restorations. The project lasted two years. Meticulous attention was paid to

detail and the iron work and intricate woodwork were based on authentic examples. The building received an award in recognition of outstanding architecture and craftsmanship in the aesthetic use of clay brick. The building has also been listed by the NMC. It was officially opened on 16 March 1988 by the Administrator of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Radclyffe Cadman. (Lake, pp.3-5).

The establishment of the museum was the pet project of Mr Bob Lambert, Chairman of the Comrades Association Board of Trustees from 1992-1995. The museum, which was established in 1987, has on display a wide selection of personal treasures donated by former competitors, as well as a comprehensive gallery of photographs of past winners and people who had served with distinction in promoting the ideals of the Comrades Marathon. A detailed scale model of the route is a prime focus. It was made by Mrs Margaret Dedekind, assisted by her mother, Mrs Patrick. (Lake, pp.5-6).

The permanent exhibition was done unofficially in 1994 by staff of Museum Service, as the museum was not yet affiliated to the Service and therefore not entitled to technical assistance. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge). The museum was affiliated to the Museum Service on 11 April 1995. (Letter: Vincent to Barron, 11/4/95).

Conclusions

In 1988 non-local authority museums were allowed for the first time to become affiliated to the Museum Service. The six so called "private" museums which have affiliated to Museum Service since then, have unique themes and they have enhanced the museum community of KwaZulu-Natal. The decision to allow non-local authority museums to affiliate to the Museum Service has proved to be a wise one as it is unlikely that these museums would not have been able to develop to the extent that they have, without the assistance of Museum Service.

Five of the six museums have Board of Trustees who hold the collections in trust; appoint staff; make policy decisions and control funding. The Boards are not fully representative of the communities which they serve, but they do represent those sections of the community who are specifically interested in these museums.

As these museums are not linked to local authorities they receive very little or no funds from them. Funding is therefore in some cases a problem. The museums have needed to secure a certain amount of sponsorship from the community in order to survive. This will benefit them in future as government funding to museums is likely to decrease. Museums will be required more and more to generate a certain percentage of their own funds.

CHAPTER NINE

NATIONAL POLICY FOR MUSEUMS IN SOUTH AFRICA

As a result of the new government taking power in 1994 and the radical changes in society, two important museum policy documents were drawn up. These documents will undoubtedly influence museums in South Africa in the future are very likely to have an influence on Museum Service.

For many years SAMA (South African Museums Association) tried to negotiate a national policy for the museums of South Africa as there are many different controlling bodies for museums. At present, there are the following categories of museums:

- i) National museums³⁶
- ii) Museums in ex-TBVC³⁷ states and self-governing

³⁶ All national museums now fall under the control of the Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology. Prior to 1 April 1995 general affairs museums came under the control of the Department of National Education. These museums were mostly natural history or art museums where the emphasis was not on one culture or group of the community.

Own affairs museums came under the control of the Department of Education and Culture of either the House of Assembly (Whites), House of Delegates (Indians) or the House of Representatives (Coloureds). These museums predominantly displayed the culture of one group of the community.

³⁷ The TBVC states were Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei. These regions had independent governments, although they were financially dependent on South Africa.

territories³⁸;

- iii) Museums operated by government departments;
 - iv) Provincial museum services;
 - v) Provincial museums;
 - vi) Local authority museums;
 - vii) University museums/collections;
 - viii) Private museums/collections;
 - ix) Museums of statutory bodies financed by public money.
- (MUSA Report, pp.29-31).

Two reports had been compiled in an effort to deal with the issue of formulating a new national policy for the museums of South Africa. These reports are:

- The MUSA (Museums for South Africa) Report;
- The ACTAG (Arts and Culture Task Group: Heritage) Report.

I. MUSA REPORT³⁹

After the dramatic announcement by the State President, Mr F.W.de Klerk, of a new negotiable democratic dispensation for South Africa in February 1990, SAMA resolved that a senior delegation should seek an interview with the Minister of National Education in order to discuss the need for the formulation and implementation of a national museum policy

³⁸ The self-governing states were not independent, but they governed themselves. The KwaZulu Government was an example of such a state.

³⁹ MUSA is the acronym for Museums of South Africa: Intersectoral Investigation for National Policy.

in the future South Africa. This meeting took place in January 1991. (MUSA Report. Foreword, p.viii).

As a result of this initiative the first meeting of what was named the Pilot Committee for the Investigation of a National Museum Development Policy was held in Pretoria on 25 May 1992. Some 20 representatives of South African and TBVC governmental and provincial departments, museum organisations like SAMA, and the two Committees of Heads of Declared Institutions⁴⁰ (Department of National Education and the Department of Education and Culture: Administration: House of Assembly) attended this meeting. Subsequently, the newly established Association of Directors of National Collections sent representatives. Certain museologists were also invited to attend in their personal capacities. (MUSA Report. Foreword, p.viii).

i) Working groups

Four working groups were established to cover the full field of investigation:

Group 1 - clients and museum programmes;

Group 2 - system affairs;

Group 3 - financing, staff and assets;

Group 4 - information.

Dr J.C. Pauw, Deputy Director-General of the Department of National Education, was appointed chairman. (MUSA Report.

⁴⁰ In 1990 the national museums were still divided into "own" and "general" affairs museums. Each group had its own Committee of Directors.

Foreword, pp.ix,xii).

It is important to note that of those who attended the meeting on 25 May 1992, about half were practising museum professionals. Decision making in the working groups thus rested with museum professional. Never before had the museum profession in South Africa enjoyed such substantial representation in a proposal making body. (MUSA Report. Foreword, p.ix).

ii) Recommendations

MUSA put forward 63 recommendations concerning:

Programmes and clients (13)

Governance, bodies, structures and legislation (24)

Finances, staff, assets and information systems (26)

(MUSA Report, pp.90-93).

Some of the matters emphasised were:

- a) State recognition of its responsibility towards the continued preservation of South Africa's cultural and natural heritage;
- b) The history and heritage of previously marginalised communities should be reflected in museum collections;
- c) Special funding should be made available for the computerisation and networking of natural history collections as a matter of urgency;
- d) Museological research should be regarded by funding bodies as an essential function of museums;

- e) The role of museums in education should be recognised by the relevant authorities; (MUSA Report, pp.70-72)
- f) Interactive displays for children, (displays where the child is encouraged to interact physically with display material) especially directed at science education, should be produced;
- g) Museums should broaden their programmes to serve the widest possible audience (MUSA Report, pp.73-76);
- h) Museums should be free from party political influence;
- i) The seven "own affairs" national museums should be re-united with the eleven "general affairs" museums;
- j) The eleven national museums should be organised on a more or less provincial basis;
- k) Conservation centres should be established (MUSA Report, pp.73-75);
- l) Departmental museums⁴¹ should only be established after consultation with SAMA;
- m) Legislation should be enacted for the establishment of provincial museums and/or provincial museum support services;
- n) The National Monuments Act should be amended to enable the Minister to declare an item or site to be under State protection (MUSA Report, pp.78-79);

⁴¹ Various government departments, as well as university departments, established museum collections, usually as teaching tools. Unfortunately, these collections were not curated according to museological principles.

- o) Funding to museums by the State should be increased;
- p) A standard system of labour relations for museums should be developed;
- q) Organisations representing staff should be recognised by employers (MUSA Report, pp.80-85);
- r) The importance of professionalism and standards in museums should be recognised;
- s) Ownership and control of museum collections should be vested in Boards of Trustees;
- t) Museums should utilise the minimum standards laid down by the SAMA accreditation system⁴²;
- u) A national museum data base should be developed as a matter of urgency by SAMA. (MUSA Report, pp.85-89).

II. ACTAG REPORT⁴³

Following the unbanning of the liberation movements in 1990, the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) of the African National Congress also set about addressing practical issues of reconstruction and policy in the cultural sphere. In 1991 the ANC established a Commission on Museums, Monuments and Heraldry (CMMH). (ACTAG Report, p.1). Its brief was to engage the state, develop future policy and push for

⁴² The SAMA accreditation system endeavours to encourage museums to meet certain museological standards. Different ratings are awarded, according to the standard of excellence.

⁴³ ACTAG is the acronym of the Arts and Culture Task Group: Heritage. Their unpublished report is entitled: A new policy for the transformation of South African museums and museum services.

transformation and democratisation of the country's cultural institutions.

In March 1992 the Commission convened a meeting in Bloemfontein to discuss heritage and cultural issues. Representatives from SAMA, the national museums and the State attended. This was followed in April 1993 by the International Culture and Development Conference where important guidelines for the future of museums in South Africa were adopted. The CMMH was disbanded and replaced by the Commission for the Reconstruction and Transformation of the Arts and Culture in South Africa (CREATE) in November 1993.

CREATE gave particular attention to the Government's MUSA report, which the ANC saw as a unilateral restructuring exercise by the state and museum establishment. (ACTAG Report, p.2). When the MUSA report was completed early in 1994, CREATE strongly criticised it as being not inclusive and transparent enough. CREATE called on the former government and official museum bodies to refrain from publishing the report or proceeding with the its implementation before a broader process of consultation, which included museum workers and the democratic movement, had occurred. At the SAMA Conference held in East London in May 1994, it was decided that both the CREATE document and MUSA report be circulated for further discussion and comment. (ACTAG Report, p.2).

On 9 November 1994 a national workshop, under the auspices of SAMA, was held at the Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum near Pretoria. More than 30 submissions were received. The workshop decided that a new policy document should be compiled and that the MUSA Report was to have no special status in this respect. (ACTAG Report, p.2).

The National Museums Workshop coincided with the establishment in November 1994 of an Arts and Culture Task Group (ACTAG) appointed by Dr Ben Ngubane, the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology. The Minister mandated ACTAG to make recommendations for a future arts and culture policy and indicate how the arts and culture could promote the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP).

ACTAG set up 11 working groups to deal with the different arts and culture genres. One of these was a Heritage Working Group, which included museums, national monuments, archives and living culture. Dr Udo Kusel, Director of the National Cultural History Museum in Pretoria, was appointed convener of the museums sub-committee. (ACTAG Report, pp.2-3).

In view of the ACTAG initiative by the new democratically elected government, it was decided at the museums workshop on 9 November 1994 that all further submissions for a new museum policy should be sent to this body. (ACTAG Report, p.3).

The ACTAG Heritage sub-committee met several times and received a number of new submissions relating to the future of museums. It also held meetings in all nine provinces early in 1995 to solicit the viewpoints of those involved in heritage conservation. Further public hearings were held in the provinces during April. A draft document was drawn up by Dr Kusel, Prof Andre Odendaal⁴⁴ and Mr Brian Wilmot.⁴⁵ The document was sent to all interested parties for comment and finalised at a national museums meeting on 27 May 1995 at the Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum. (ACTAG Report, p.3).

The ACTAG Report is based on the MUSA Report. It contains 66 recommendations, compared to the 63 recommendations of the MUSA Report. Some of the MUSA recommendations were scrapped or amended and some new recommendations are included in the ACTAG document.

The following are some of the new recommendations:

Number 7 The need for museums to give more attention to Amasiko (living culture/oral history) is emphasized;

Number 10 Exhibition centres should be established in marginalised communities so that the heritage of South Africa can be shared; the larger museums should assist these

⁴⁴ Prof Andre Odendaal is the Head of the Mayibuye Centre , at the University of the Western Cape in Bellville. The Centre houses the official archives of the ANC.

⁴⁵ Mr Brian Wilmot was at that stage the President of SAMA.

exhibition centres through travelling and temporary exhibitions;

Number 11 Amasiko (living culture) should be incorporated into the educational programmes of museums;

Number 30 It was recommended that a National Museums Commission be established to advise the government on policy and co-ordination and act as an interest body representing its member institutions;

Number 47 It was recommended that only two national museums be retained (one in Gauteng and one in Cape Town). The other national museums should become provincial museums under the control of the specific provincial government. (ACTAG Report, pp.87-89,96,101).

Conclusions

The draft paper, which is based on the ACTAG recommendations, had not been submitted to Parliament by the end of 1995 and thus falls outside the time limit of this thesis. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

The recommendations of MUSA and AGTAG have laid the foundation for the development of a national policy for museums in South Africa. It has highlighted areas which have been neglected in museum such as amasiko/oral history; interactive displays; museum services to disadvantaged communities; travelling displays; conservation centres; need for community involvement and consultation, as well as

displays which are relevant to the people which the museums serve.

The recommendation that certain museums, who at present come under the control of Central Government, should be devolved to the provinces and that there should only be two national flagship museums, one in Cape Town, the other in Gauteng, is controversial and not generally accepted by the museums who might be involved in this process. It is essential that this recommendation be discussed with all stakeholders and their in-put be secured, before a final decision is made.

CHAPTER TEN

FUTURE MUSEUM POLICY FOR KWAZULU-NATAL

On 15 July 1994 SAMA KwaZulu-Natal called a meeting of all members and interested people to discuss the regional organisation of museums and the way in which this could be incorporated into regional government structures while not losing sight of the national picture. (KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future proposal document, p.1).

Policy proposals were put forward by the following persons:

Museums of South Africa (MUSA) : Dr J.J. Oberholzer⁴⁶

ANC museum policy : Dr G. Dominy⁴⁷

KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service : Dr J. Vincent

KwaZulu Monuments Council : Mr B. Marshall⁴⁸

National Monuments Council : Mr A. Hall⁴⁹

National museums : Dr J. Londt⁵⁰ (KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future proposal document, p.1).

⁴⁶ Dr Hannes Oberholzer is the Chief Director of the Durban Museums.

⁴⁷ Dr Graham Dominy was then the Historian at the Natal Museum. Pietermaritzburg.

⁴⁸ Mr Barry Marshall is the Director of the KwaZulu Monuments Council in Ulundi.

⁴⁹ Mr Andrew Hall is the Natal Regional Manager of the National Monuments Council.

⁵⁰ Dr Jason Londt is the Director of the Natal Museum.

I. WORKING COMMITTEE

A Working Committee consisting of six persons was elected. Its brief was to prepare a report recommending a structure for museums in KwaZulu-Natal with reference to the policy proposals of the ANC, MUSA, KZNPMS⁵¹ and the KMC/NMC⁵². The committee was to consult with museum workers and was to report back before 26 August 1994. (KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future proposal document, p.1).

In the meantime, the directors of the main regional museum services met on 12 August 1994 to discuss a future structure for museums in KwaZulu-Natal. Those directors present were: Dr J. Londt, Dr J. Vincent, Dr H. Oberholzer, Dr I. Pols⁵³ and Mr B. Marshall. (KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future proposal document, p.1).

The Committee took note of all proposals received from SAMA members and the minutes of the meeting of the directors on 12 August. The committee compiled its first document and reported its findings to a meeting convened on 25 August 1994. The committee was asked to present the report to the KwaZulu-Natal Minister of Education and Culture, Dr Vincent Zulu, at a meeting scheduled for 13 September 1994. The report was also sent to all SAMA KwaZulu-Natal members,

⁵¹ KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service

⁵² KwaZulu Monuments Council and the National Monuments Council.

⁵³ Dr Ivor Pols is the Director of the Voortrekker Museum in Pietermaritzburg.

other regional SAMA committees and the President of SAMA. (KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future proposal document, p.2).

The report suggested the following basic principles for a new regional structure:

- i) Effective co-ordination of resources;
 - ii) Competition for common resources should be avoided;
 - iii) Some level of service should be provided to areas that have no museums;
 - iv) Cognisance should be taken of community needs;
 - v) Outreach programmes should be provided;
 - vi) An active educational component is essential;
 - vii) The new structure should be such as to allow for rationalisation of resources and an improved museum service.
- (KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future proposal document, p.3).

The report also recommended that museums and monuments be managed separately, but that they should both fall under the same ministry. Both groups should have statutory councils and there should be a regional director who would co-ordinate the work of the "flag ship" museums (the Natal and Voortrekker Museums)⁵⁴ and the regional museum service. Local authority museums and university collections should affiliate to the Provincial Museum Service. (KwaZulu-Natal

⁵⁴ The Natal and Voortrekker Museums are both national museums; the only two such museums in KwaZulu-Natal.

museums for the future proposal document, pp.4-5).

At a meeting with Dr Vincent Zulu, the Provincial Minister of Education and Culture, on 13 September 1994, the Minister appointed two task groups; one to advise him on museums and one on monuments. The Museums Task Group consisted of Dr Jason Londt (Convenor), Dr John Vincent and Dr Ivor Pols. (Letter: Londt to all museum workers, 28/2/95, p.1).

II. MUSEUMS TASK GROUP

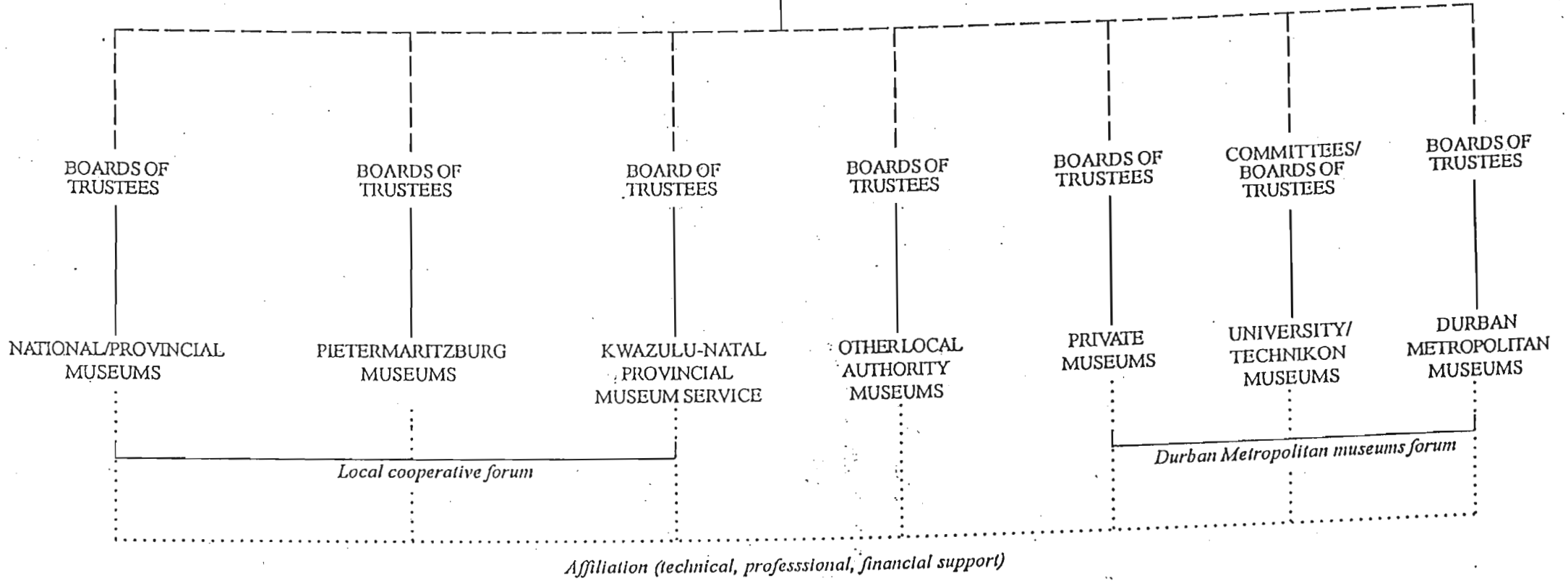
The Museums Task Group was requested by the Minister to prepare a report which was to contain information and proposals relating to:

- i) Structure/Administration;
- ii) Legislation;
- iii) Staffing;
- iv) Budget (Letter: Londt to all museum workers, 28/2/95, p.1).

A report was compiled by the three members of the Task Group and submitted to the Minister early in November 1994. The document was called "Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future". At a report back meeting, held on 25 November 1994, various people expressed their reservations concerning the document. It was felt that the Task Group had not consulted widely enough and that certain main role players, such as the Durban Museums, had not been sufficiently involved in the compilation of the report. (Ridley, 1995.

KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL MUSEUMS COORDINATING COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Proposed structure for museums in KwaZulu-Natal

Personal knowledge).

A new draft, dated 31 January 1995, was compiled and circulated to all SAMA KwaZulu-Natal members and other interested parties for comment. An open meeting was held in Pietermaritzburg on 10 March 1995 to discuss the draft document. Certain major changes were suggested. The document was revised and was to have been presented to Dr Zulu on 19 June 1995. The presentation did not take place as the meeting was cancelled at the last moment. However, the report was later sent to the Minister for his information and approval. (Letter: Londt to all museum workers, 28/2/95, pp.1-2; Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

A proposed future structure for the museums of KwaZulu-Natal, as recommended by the Museums Task Group, is indicated in the diagram on the opposite page.

i) Coordinating Council

The Report recommended the appointment of a KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Coordinating Council (See diagram on the opposite page). The Council should be appointed by the Minister. It would be advisory to the Minister and would be responsible for ensuring that overall policy is adhered to. A small secretariat would provide administrative support to the Council. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, p.9).

The Coordinating Council should represent each of the Councils/Boards of Trustees of the major Provincial museums. There should also be two representatives appointed from the affiliated museums. The possibility of ex officio representation from SAMA was mentioned. The remaining members of the Coordinating Council should be appointed on the basis of nominations received after public advertising of vacancies on the Council. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, 19/6/95, p.12).

ii) Executive Officer

The Executive Officer would provide administrative support to the Coordinating Council and liaison between the Council and the various Boards/Committees of Trustees.

The Executive Officer's main functions would include:

- * Ensuring the adherence by museums to minimum standards;
- * Monitoring of museum legislation;
- * Coordination of resources;
- * Fund-raising and allocation of funds;
- * Establishment of regional priorities. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, p.13).

iii) Boards of Trustees

The Report recommended that all local authority museums should be managed by independent Boards of Trustees. However, provision should be made in the legislation for

this to be optional, where a museums or local authority does not wish to establish a Board of Trustees. However, it recommended that all newly established museums should have Boards of Trustees from the beginning. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, p.12).

iv) Provincial Museum Service

The Report recommended that the Provincial Museum Service should continue to provide professional and technical support services to the affiliated museums, and after negotiation with the relevant authority, should extend this to include other institutions and collections under the control of Provincial departments. A Board of Trustees should be appointed to represent Provincial interests. Funding should be derived from the Provincial budget and staff members of the Museum Service will be public servants.

It was proposed that the two national museums situated in Pietermaritzburg, the Natal and Voortrekker Museums, should participate fully in the provision of services to the Province. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, p.9).

The Report recommended that universities and technikons, with museums or museum collections, should be encouraged to establish formal boards or committees to administer their collections. They should be encouraged to seek affiliation to the Provincial Museum Service. Private museums should

also, by agreement, be urged to seek affiliation with the Provincial Museum Service. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, p.12).

v) Site museums

An issue which caused much controversy, concerns the future of the site museums. The Monuments Task Group recommended that all site museums should come under their control as they feel that the control of historic or heritage sites is a function of a monuments council. However, the Museums Task Group was of the opinion that site museums should fall within the ambit of museums as these museums had collections of objects which needed to be conserved according to museological standards. The museums which might be effected by this controversy are:

a) Under Provincial control

Rorke's Drift-Shiyane and Mgungundlovu;

b) Under the control of the KwaZulu Monuments Council

Ondini, Nodwengu and Isandlwana;

c) Under the control of the Voortrekker Museum

Blood River, Majuba and Zaaylaager⁵⁵. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, 19/6/95, p.37).

⁵⁵ Zaaylaager was the farm on which the Voortrekker leader, Gert Maritz, formed his laager in February 1838. It is situated on the banks of the Bushmans River, Estcourt.

Despite numerous meetings of the two Task Groups, this issue was not resolved within the time-frame of this thesis. The Minister of Education and Culture, Dr Vincent Zulu, will have to determine under whose control the site museums of KwaZulu-Natal will fall and whether museological standards will be applied to these museums. (Ridley, 1995. Personal knowledge).

Conclusions

The debate concerning the restructuring of the museums in KwaZulu-Natal has not been resolved as Central Government has yet to decide whether the two "national" museums, i.e. the Natal and Voortrekker Museums, should be devolved to the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. The Museums Task Group Report emphasised the need for extensive discussions and a carefully planned and budgeted strategic planning exercise before any decisions regarding this matter are taken. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, p.11).

The Museum Task Group Report did not recommend statutory status for Museum Service and the Advisory Board. The KwaZulu-Natal Museums Coordinating Council which the Minister of Education and Culture would appoint, would also be advisory only, not a statutory body. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, p.12). It is very much to be regretted that it was not recommended that the principle of trusteeship be made obligatory for all museum boards.

As there has been no decision concerning the recommendations of ACTAG and a Draft White Paper on museums has yet to be compiled, a decision regarding the restructuring of museums within KwaZulu-Natal has been delayed.

The decision by the SAMA KwaZulu-Natal Working Committee in August 1994, that museums and monuments in KwaZulu-Natal should continue to function as separate organisations, was an unfortunate one. It gave rise to the controversy concerning the future of the site museums in the Province which has caused so much bad feelings; much of which can be attributed to personality clashes and institutional jealousies.

The creation of a single heritage body, which would have included both museums and monuments, would have benefitted both organisations, as it would have been stronger, would have spoken with one voice and would therefore have had more influence.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

CONCLUSION

A national policy for museums in South Africa has not yet been approved. A draft White Paper on arts, culture and heritage is being compiled, but was not yet available at the end of 1995. However, based on the recommendations of both the MUSA and ACTAG documents, the author has drawn some conclusions regarding the role which the Provincial Museum Service could play in the future.

I. IMPACT OF MUSA AND ACTAG REPORTS ON MUSEUM SERVICE

Certain recommendations in the MUSA and ACTA Report refer specifically to the future role of museum services:

Number 8 The need for museological research is stressed. National museums and museum services are tasked with this function;

Number 10 The responsibility for providing exhibition centres, travelling displays and temporary exhibitions in the provinces is seen as the duty of the museum services;

Number 24 The museum services would provide support services to provincial museums;

Number 33 Museum services in the new provinces should evolve according to the requirements of a particular province. The provinces with an inadequate infra structure

could buy services from other museum services or national museums;

Number 35 Legislation should be enacted for the establishment of provincial museums and/or provincial museum support services; for framework autonomy; the appointment of Boards of Trustees and the affiliation of all local museums, as well as departmental and university museums, to the provincial museum services;

Number 36 The same legislation mentioned under Number 35 should also be enacted for local museums, site museums and exhibition centres. (ACTAG Report, pp.87-88,94,97-98).

The report of the KwaZulu-Natal Museums Task Group emphasized that the Provincial Museum Service has an important role to play in introducing museums and their resources to marginalised communities in KwaZulu-Natal through education and extension services. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, 19/6/95, p.9).

The same report also suggests that the Midlands Museums Forum⁵⁶, which was started by Dr Brian Stuckenberg⁵⁷ in 1991, could form the basis of a local cooperative forum of the museums of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. This forum would share resources and expertise. Museum Service is a member

⁵⁶ The Midlands Museum Forum consists at present of 20 museums. It was formed initially to promote the museums of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands.

⁵⁷ Dr Stuckenberg retired as director of the Natal Museum in 1994.

of the Forum. (Towards KwaZulu-Natal museums for the future, 19/6/95, p.11).

It is interesting to note that Dr E.H. Bigalke in his Five Year Plan for Museum Service recommended the establishment of a museum extension service for the purpose of lending remote rural schools small portable displays for educational purposes. Dr Bigalke also felt that regular travelling displays were a relatively economical means of providing museums with new exhibits to attract visitors. (Bigalke: Five Year Plan, pp.2-3). Unfortunately, these suggestions, with the exception of the occasional travelling display, were never implemented.

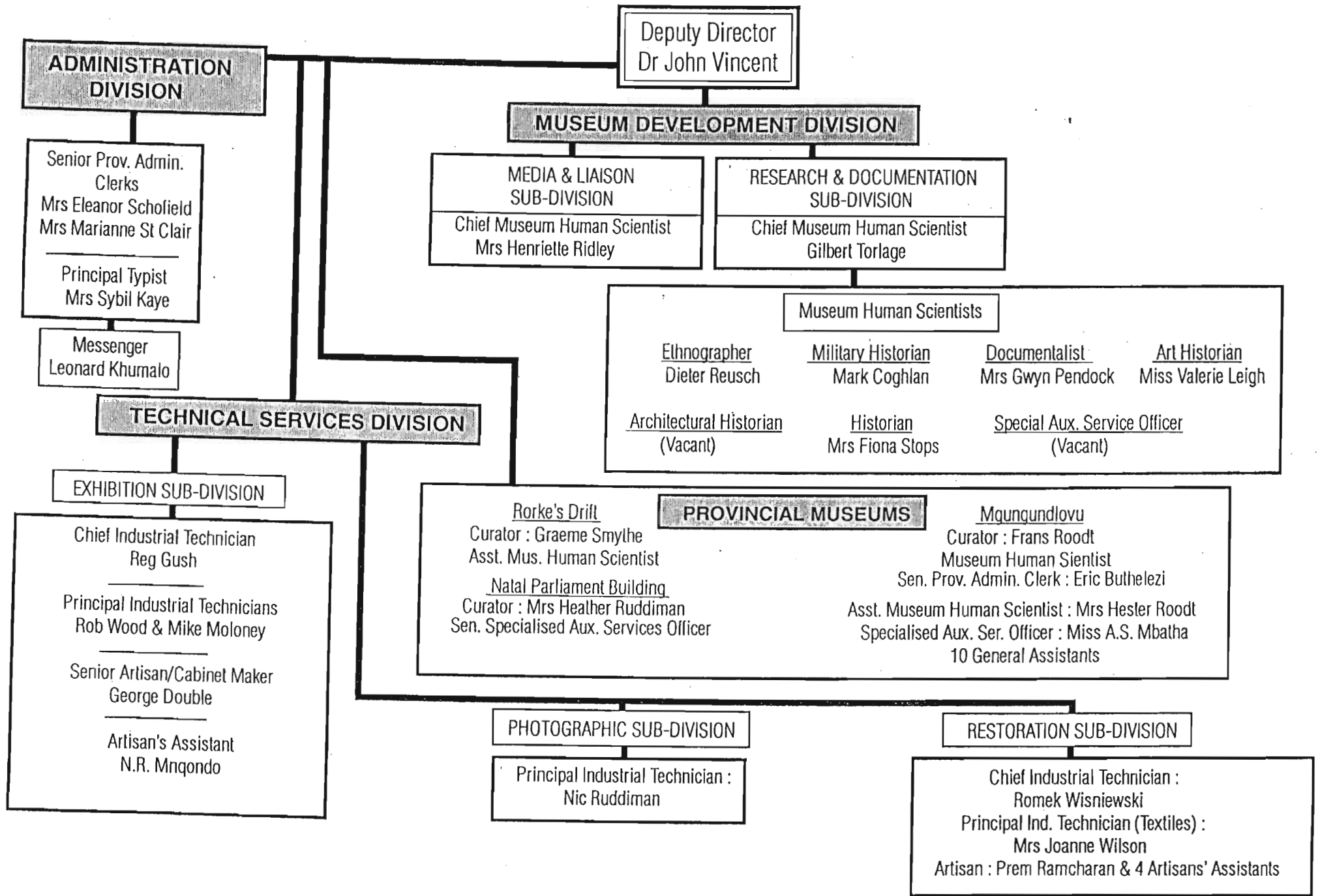
The report of the KwaZulu-Natal Museums Task Group has not yet been accepted by Dr Vincent Zulu, Minister of Education and Culture. It is possible that Dr Zulu is waiting for the formulation of a national policy, before he decides on a policy for KwaZulu-Natal.

II. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A study of the history of the Provincial Museum Service, from its inception in 1974 to the end of 1995, has led the author to the following conclusions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the Service:

i) Museum Service: Weaknesses

The following weaknesses have been identified in the Museum



Deputy Director
Dr John Vincent

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Senior Prov. Admin. Clerks
Mrs Eleanor Schofield
Mrs Marianne St Clair

Principal Typist
Mrs Sybil Kaye

Messenger
Leonard Khumalo

MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

MEDIA & LIAISON SUB-DIVISION
Chief Museum Human Scientist
Mrs Henriette Ridley

RESEARCH & DOCUMENTATION SUB-DIVISION
Chief Museum Human Scientist
Gilbert Torlage

Museum Human Scientists

Ethnographer Dieter Reusch	Military Historian Mark Coghlan	Documentalist Mrs Gwyn Pendock	Art Historian Miss Valerie Leigh
Architectural Historian (Vacant)	Historian Mrs Fiona Stops	Special Aux. Service Officer (Vacant)	

TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

EXHIBITION SUB-DIVISION

Chief Industrial Technician
Reg Gush

Principal Industrial Technicians
Rob Wood & Mike Moloney

Senior Artisan/Cabinet Maker
George Double

Artisan's Assistant
N.R. Mnqondo

PROVINCIAL MUSEUMS

<u>Rorke's Drift</u> Curator : Graeme Smylthe Asst. Mus. Human Scientist	<u>Mqungundlovu</u> Curator : Frans Roodt Museum Human Scientist Sen. Prov. Admin. Clerk : Eric Buthelezi
<u>Natal Parliament Building</u> Curator : Mrs Heather Ruddiman Sen. Specialised Aux. Services Officer	Asst. Museum Human Scientist : Mrs Hester Roodt Specialised Aux. Ser. Officer : Miss A.S. Mbatha 10 General Assistants

PHOTOGRAPHIC SUB-DIVISION

Principal Industrial Technician :
Nic Ruddiman

RESTORATION SUB-DIVISION

Chief Industrial Technician :
Romek Wisniewski

Principal Ind. Technician (Textiles) :
Mrs Joanne Wilson

Artisan : Prem Ramcharan & 4 Artisans' Assistants

Service:

a) Shortage of staff

In 1985 Mrs Sheila Henderson was asked to assess the progress made in the first decade of the existence of Museum Service. She found that there was too little money and too few staff to provide a really efficient service to the 25 museums affiliated to Museum Service at the time. Twenty-one years later, the situation has not changed much. Museum Service now has 31 affiliated museums, compared to the 25 of 1985. To these should be added the three Provincial museums (Mgungundlovu, Rorke's Drift-Shiyane and the Natal Parliament Building). Museum Service also provides technical services to these museums as they either lack the expertise or the facilities and equipment to perform these services for themselves.

Mrs Henderson mentioned in her Report that in 1985 there were nine professional and seven technical posts at Museum Service. At present there are still only nine professional posts. However, the number of technical staff has increased to thirteen persons. This includes five semi-skilled workers. (See diagram on the opposite page).

The author does not include the professional and technical staff at the Provincial museums in these calculations, as these staff seldom render assistance to any of the affiliated museums. Mr Frans Roodt, Curator of the Mgungundlovu Museum, has on occasion helped with

archaeological work at some of the affiliated museums, but this does not happen often, due to Mr Roodt's heavy work schedule at Mgungundlovu.

b) Delay in mounting of exhibitions

The comment made on p. 9 of the Henderson Report: " Time lag. This is a headache. In most cases a wait of from three to five years faces a museum between the mounting of one exhibit and the next" still applies. In most cases, Museum Service has not had the time to upgrade displays done more than ten years ago. At the most, small displays have been added to existing displays at some of the museums.

However, the situation has improved in one respect: most of the museums have by now received a good quality permanent display from Museum Service, but these displays need to be updated and maintained by the Display Studio staff. Museum Service can on average provide one large display per year. This means that those museums needing displays, or changes to their existing displays, must wait their turn. The resulting delay can be up to three years. This is due to Museum Service having too many affiliated museums to provide services to and too few staff to do the work.

c) Lack of apprentices in the Restoration Section

The situation in the Restoration Section has worsened since 1985. The number of museum items sent in for repair or restoration by the affiliated museums has greatly increased,

but there are still only two qualified restorers; one for textiles, porcelain and glass and the other one for all the other items.

Another serious problem is that no provision has been made for apprentices in the Restoration Section to be taught restoration techniques. The restoration of museum items is not something which can be learnt from books, it can only be learnt from practical experience. Museum Service has repeatedly asked for the creation of two apprentice posts in the Restoration Section, but this has not been approved by the Provincial Administration. Should either of the two restorers leave the Museum Service, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to replace them with equally qualified or experienced staff.

d) Insufficient budget

The Museum Service budget has not kept up with inflation. The budget for subsidising the administrative expenses of the affiliated museums has been insufficient for the last five years. In practice this has meant that the museums receive less financial assistance from the Province than they are entitled to in theory. It is unlikely that this situation will improve, as money will be needed to develop museum services in the disadvantaged areas. Fortunately, the capital budget has been sufficient to assist the affiliated museums with capital projects, i.e. extensions to museum buildings; major repairs; new museum buildings; sheds

for agricultural implements, etc.

e) Lack of statutory powers

The fact that Museum Service and the Advisory Board lack statutory powers has led to the Service being regarded as simply another provincial department and being treated accordingly. The "red tape" involved in the administration of a provincial department, bound by bureaucratic regulations, has complicated the running of an efficient Service.

This is especially noticeable in staff matters. Museum Service can not create posts for apprentices in the Restoration Section even though there is a dire need for such posts. The filling of vacant posts is another problem area. It takes a least six months to fill even senior positions. This delay in making appointments has on occasion led to good applicants withdrawing their applications.

The reason for these delays are entirely due to "red tape" and lack of statutory powers which prevents the Advisory Board from creating posts or advertising and filling vacant posts.

f) Lack of long term planning

Museum Service has functioned since its inception without proper long term planning. The development of the

affiliated museums is done largely on an ad hoc basis. This has on occasion led to criticism from some of the affiliated museums when it is felt that Museum Service does not decide on which projects are priorities and then adhere to these.

Dr Bigalke tried to remedy the situation by compiling a Five Year Plan for the affiliated and Provincial museums. In this plan, development of the affiliated and provincial museums was prioritised according to the needs of the museum, the available collection, etc. This was not implemented as he left after only 15 months as director of Museum Service. It is to be regretted that his successor did not continue with the Five Year Plan.

The lack of detailed planning and setting of priorities for museum development was one of the points raised in the Henderson Report. The Advisory Board unanimously approved the Five Year Plan compiled by Dr Bigalke. When he left, the Board should have ensured that the Five Year Plan was implemented. Not doing so has meant that after being in existence for 21 years Museum Service still has no long-term policy and strategy for providing museum services to the communities of KwaZulu-Natal.

ii) Museum Service: Strengths

The following strengths have been identified in the Provincial Museum Service:

a) Qualified staff

Museum Service's biggest asset is its staff. The staff are academically and technically well qualified for the work which they do. Staff have been encouraged to obtain museological qualifications. In 1984/85 five of the research staff completed the Post Graduate Museum Diploma at the University of Pretoria. They were assisted financially by the Provincial Administration to obtain this qualification. At present one staff member is doing the Technical Museum Diploma at the Technikon SA. Museum Service has benefitted by having persons with museological training on its staff.

The staff are also experienced in dealing with the problems which the rendering of services to museums scattered over the whole of KwaZulu-Natal entails. Most of the staff have been at Museum Service for a long time and they are dedicated to their work and are prepared to their very best for the affiliated museums.

b) Equipment

The Service has also been fortunate in that it has managed to acquire most of the equipment necessary for the mounting of displays; doing of restoration work; provision of a photographic service, etc.

The use of computers in the various activities of the Service, i.e. research, administration, display work,

documentation and collections management, has benefitted the staff and ensured that certain aspects of the work can be dealt with more speedily. In this regard the Service is much better off than it was in 1985 when there were no computers at Museum Service.

c) Premises

In 1975 Museum Service shared a building in College Road with the Midlands Branch of the Provincial Library Service. Office accommodation was very limited and storage space totally inadequate. Some museum items were stored in a room in what is today the Tembaletu Building in Burger Street. Most of the technical staff could not be accommodated in the main building in College Road, but were housed in pre-fabricated buildings on the site. The photographer had a tiny cubicle in the main building.

The premises which Museum Service occupies at present in the Old Grey's Centre in Prince Alfred Street, has plenty of space for all the staff. There are spacious storerooms; separate photographic and display studios; large restoration and cabinet making workshops and enough space so that staff members do not need to share offices.

d) Curators

The calibre of the curators at the affiliated museums has improved dramatically since 1985. The curators are better qualified and on the whole better paid than before 1985.

Museum Service now provides training courses for the curators, as well as one-on-one training. This has been a great advantage in assisting Museum Service in rendering a more efficient service to the affiliated museums.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

The author is of the opinion that a challenging future lies ahead of Museum Service if the following requirements are met:

- i) The Service must receive the necessary financial support from the KwaZulu-Natal government. It is essential that more staff, especially technical staff be appointed and that more money is made available to assist museums, continually upgrade Museum Service's infra-structure and provide for the services which are rendered;
- ii) Museum Service must draw up a long-term policy and strategy for the provision of museum services to all communities in KwaZulu-Natal;
- iii) The need for apprentices in the Restoration Section can not be emphasised enough. It is imperative that at least two young people be appointed to be instructed in museum restoration;
- iv) There will in future be a need for Museum Service to appoint educational officers to assist and advise the affiliated museums regarding the use of museums as educational support systems;
- v) The ACTAG Report recommends that existing museum services should provide services to those museums or provinces which

lack the infra-structure to provide such services themselves.

Museum Service could consider providing services to non-affiliated museums in KwaZulu-Natal and to the provinces of Mpumalanga and the Eastern Cape, as these provinces do not have organisations which can provide museum services at present. Such services could be provided on an agency basis and Museum Service could be paid for services rendered;

vi) Museum Service could, in conjunction with the Durban Museums and the Natal Museum, develop a Conservation and Restoration Centre in Pietermaritzburg. In this way resources and expertise could be pooled to the benefit of all the museums of KwaZulu-Natal;

vii) In the opinion of the author, the greatest challenge to Museum Service will be in providing museum services to the marginalised communities of KwaZulu-Natal;

a) This could be in the form of travelling displays which could be mounted in libraries, community centres, schools, etc. and be used to inform non-museum users of what museums are about;

b) An extension service to the rural areas will also be essential. The Albany Museum in Grahamstown has for years provided this service to schools in the area. KwaZulu-Natal can learn from their experience;

c) Exhibitions of a more permanent nature could be mounted in community centres and places frequented by the local community. The ACTAG Report refers to exhibition centres as a means of reaching the

disadvantaged communities.

viii) It will be essential to involve the local community in all decision-making concerning the museum services which are to be provided. Museum Service will not be able to render museum services to a community if the community does not want these services or see them as irrelevant;

ix) Liaison with the community will be very important in order to receive input from the community concerning their views regarding proposed museum services.

The author is confident that Museum Service can play a vital role in developing and providing museum services to all the communities of KwaZulu-Natal if the weaknesses which have been mentioned are addressed.

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1. The unpublished material in this bibliography is available at the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service.
2. Items entered under Ridley, H. are based on personal knowledge and are entered in the bibliography in this manner on the advice of my supervisor and the Head: Department of History, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.
3. Unpublished material is entered in the style recommended by the Department of History, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

The Minutes of each Committee is filed under the name of the museum or the relevant body with the file number in brackets.

Fort Durnford Museum Committee (16/2/3/2/22)

11 February 1994.

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(2/6/2)

27 September 1975 - 16 November 1995.

Margate Art Museum Committee (16/2//3/2/42)

11 April 1994.

Mgungundlovu Museum. Planning Meeting (16/2/3/2/35)

26 July 1985.

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16 November 1984.

Vukani Collection Trust Committee (16/2/3/2/31)

22 April 1991.

11 January 1992.

14 October 1994.

Winterton Museum Committee (16/2/3/2/9)

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the Minister of Education and Culture on Provincial museum matters, prepared by a Ministerial Task Group, convened by Dr J.Londt.

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Natal Provincial Museum Ordinance, No. 26 of 1973.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCO) RESOLUTIONS

Province of Natal. Administrator-in-Executive Committee [EXCO]. Resolutions:

No. 635 of 1968
No. 2034 of 1973

No. 1806 of 1975
No. 127 of 1983
No. 1348 of 1983
No. 835 of 1985
No. 917 of 1985
No. 376 of 1989
No. 692 of 1989
No. 588 of 1991
No. 706 of 1991
No. 905 of 1992

MEMORANDA AND LETTERS

Material is listed under the relevant file heading in chronological order. Where possible, the title is indicated.

The number of the file is given in brackets.

Baynesfield Estate Museum (16/2/3/2/30)

Kennedy, J.P.B. [Letter to J. Vincent]

Affiliation of Baynesfield Museum.

20 May 1992.

Vincent, J. [Memorandum to EXCO]

Proposed affiliation of Baynesfield Museum.

25 August 1992.

Walker, J. [Memorandum to G.P. Torlage]

Baynesfield, May 1993.

10 May 1993.

Comrades Marathon Museum (16/2/3/2/43)

Vincent, J. [Letter to L. Barron]

Comrades Marathon Museum.

11 April 1995.

KwaZulu-Natal Museums Task Group (2/7/68/8)

Londt, J.G.H. [Letter to all museum staff in KwaZulu-Natal].
Call for further comment on the Museums Task Group's Report
to the KwaZulu Minister of Education and Culture.

28 February 1995.

Macrorie House Museum (16/2/3/2/16)

Dominy, G.A. [Letter to J. Vincent]

Affiliation of Board of Trustees of Macrorie House Museum.

20 November 1991.

Vincent, J. [Letter to G.A.Dominy]

Affiliation of Macrorie House.

11 August 1992.

Margate Art Museum (16/2/3/2/42)

Fourie, C.J. [Memorandum to Museum Service Advisory Board]

Margate: Application for affiliation.

5 December 1985.

Ridley, H. [Memorandum to E.C. van der Merwe]

Besoek aan Margate Museum, 4 Maart 1986.

20 March 1986.

Dominy, G.A. & V. Leigh. [Memorandum to C.J.Fourie]

Proposed museum: Borough of Margate: Development reports.

2 May 1986.

Ridley, H. [Memorandum to E.C. van der Merwe]

Besoek aan Margate Museum, 6 Mei 1986.

22 May 1986.

Collocott, D.M.J. [Letter to E.H. Bigalke]

Margate Museum: New building.

23 June 1988.

Mary Stainbank Collection (17/2/1)

Botha, C.J. van R. [Letter to C. Yeats]
The Mary Stainbank Trust.
22 November 1990.

Vincent, J. [Memorandum to the Director General
Opening of Mary Stainbank Collection.
7 March 1994.

Mgungundlovu Museum (16/2/3/2/35)

Chadwick, G.A. [Letter to C.J.Fourie]
Mgungundlovu: proposed development.
16 November 1982.

Roodt, F. [Memorandum to Dr E.H.Bigalke]
uMgungundlovu Museum: a re-assessment.
9 November 1987.

Mission House Museum, Hermannsburg (16/2/3/2/46)

Rottcher, H. [Letter to J. Vincent]
Hermannsburg Museum.
14 February 1989.

Vincent, J. [Letter to R.Rohwer]
Establishment of museum.
1 November 1989.

Leuschke, A. [Letter to J. Vincent]
Official opening of the Mission House Museum.
23 February 1991.

Leuschke, A. [Letter to J. Vincent]
[No title].
5 November 1991.

Natal Parliament Building (16/2/3/2/28)

Provincial Secretary. [Memorandum to EXCO]

Objects of a historical nature and value in Provincial institutions.

7 September 1971.

Provincial Secretary. [Memorandum to EXCO]

Objects of a historical nature and value in Provincial institutions.

24 July 1975.

Martin, J. [Letter to E.C. van der Merwe]

Provincial Council Complex: Colonial Trail.

13 December 1985.

Van der Merwe, E.C. [Memorandum to the Provincial Secretary]

Museumdiens: Verkoop van publikasie aan die publiek.

13 December 1985.

Natal Railway Museum (16/2/3/2/44)

Pritchard, R.D. [Letter to M. Gray]

[No title].

16 September 1988.

Pritchard, R.D. [Letter to J. Vincent]

Affiliation: Natal Railway Museum.

2 July 1989.

Hathorn, J.P. [Letter to J. Vincent]

Natal Railway Museum.

14 January 1992.

Natal Provincial Museum Service Advisory Board (2/6/1/)

Bezuidenhout, W.B. [Letter to R. Whiteley]

National Monuments: Involvement by the Natal Provincial Administration.

18 July 1984.

Rorke's Drift-Shiyane Museum (16/2/3/2/20)

Steenkamp, L. [Memorandum to C.J.Fourie]

Rorke's Drift: 22-23 Januarie 1879.

12 September 1975.

Fourie, C.J. [Letter to M.Madjera]

Agreement of lease: Rorke's Drift.

19 September 1985.

Vincent, J. [Memorandum to EXCO]

Development of Rorke's Drift Provincial Museum: additional funds.

8 June 1989.

Bowles, K.G. [Memorandum to Dr J.Vincent]

Development of Visitors' Facilities: Rorke's Drift Provincial Museum.

1 December 1989.

Vukani Museum (16/2/3/2/31)

Vincent, J. [Memorandum to EXCO]

Affiliation of Vukani Museum.

26 June 1991.

Vincent, J. [Memorandum to Director: Auxiliary Services]

Authority to purchase collection of Zulu craft.

22 August 1991.

Vincent, J. [Memorandum to E.Schofield]

Purchase of museum items.

5 January 1992.

Salt, J. [Letter to J.Vincent]

[No title].

13 October 1994.

Winterton Museum (16/2/3/2/9)

Gray, A. [Letter to J. Vincent]

Winterton Historical Society.

26 August 1991.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

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1993. [Pietermaritzburg]: Natal Provincial Museum Service.

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Muller, C.F.J. 1978. A pictorial history of the Great Trek: visual documents illustrating the Great Trek. Cape Town: Tafelberg.

The Natal Provincial Council [guide to the building]. 1985. Pietermaritzburg: Natal Provincial Administration.

Quickelberger, C. 1987. Collections & recollections: Durban Natural History Museum, 1887-1987. Durban: Natural History Museum.

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Roodt, F. Personal communication. 20 October 1995.

Ruddimann, H. Personal communication. 13 October 1995.

Smythe, G. Personal communication. 20 October 1995.

Sterley, V. Personal communication. 11 February 1996.

Torlage, G.P. Personal communication. 14 May 1997.

Vincent, J. Personal communication. 14 May 1997.

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the changing and divided society of contemporary South Africa. SAMAB, 17(7&8): 293-300.

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MUSEUMS AFFILIATED TO

THE KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL MUSEUM SERVICE

The date of affiliation is given in brackets.

Greytown (1 April 1975)
Vryheid (7 April 1975)
Eshowe (26 May 1975)
Howick (26 May 1975)
Stanger (26 May 1975)
Dundee (7 July 1975)
Weenen (8 August 1975)
Newcastle (25 November 1975)
Colenso (8 July 1976)
Pietermaritzburg (1 September 1976)
Ladysmith (1 January 1978)
Port Shepstone (1 January 1978)
Himeville (1 September 1978)
Estcourt (1 November 1978)
Kokstad (1 June 1979)
Mooi River (1 September 1980)
Matatiele (1 December 1980)
Durban (1 January 1981)
Richmond (1 January 1981)
Queensburgh (1 January 1981) *

Empangeni (1 November 1981)
Ixopo (1 November 1981) **
Utrecht (1 June 1982)
Pinetown (1 January 1983)
Westville (1 March 1983)
Margate (1 January 1986)
Natal Railway Museum, Hilton (28 April 1989)
Hermannsburg (26 September 1989)
Winterton (25 September 1991)
Vukani, Eshowe (7 August 1991)
Macrorie House, Pietermaritzburg (12 February 1992)
Baynesfield (6 October 1992)
Comrades Marathon Museum, Pietermaritzburg (11 April 1995)

* Queensburgh Museum applied to be disaffiliated in 1991.

** Ixopo Museum applied to be disaffiliated in 1993.

DIRECTORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MUSEUM SERVICE

Mr C.J. Fourie (15 February 1974 - 31 July 1986)

Miss E.C. van der Merwe (Acting: 1 August 1986 - 28 February 1987)

Dr E.H. Bigalke (1 March 1987 - 31 July 1988)

Mrs M. Gray (Acting: 1 August 1988 - 31 January 1989)

Dr J. Vincent (1 February 1989 to the present)