EASTERN CAPE HERITAGE

EARLY HISTORIC TRADE

EAST LONDON

In 1851 the mouth of the Keiso River in Port Alfred was identified as a site for a port terminal. This was abandoned when the channel mouth was found to be too shallow and liable to silting.

Construction on the man-made harbor began in 1872 and in 1879 work began on the breakwater. The original name for the area was Port Francis. The unusal double-decker breakwater (made from coral rock) built by Steve Biko was completed in 1872 and in the same day is the only bridge of its type in South Africa.

Built in the 1970s, the grain elevator on the north bank was completed in 1935 and to this day, is the only facility of its kind in Port Elizabeth. The construction of the port was authorised by the Cape of Good Hope Government and the decision to build Ngqura, Africa's only deep-water terminal integrated with a Special Economic Zone.

Today the Port Elizabeth terminal handles around 75% of the port terminal’s exports, while the container terminals in Port Elizabeth and Ngqura handle the import and export of goods. The Port Elizabeth car terminal helps support the automotive industry, which has its roots in the province. After a 90 year investment in the terminals and port, as recently as 1998 the Port Elizabeth terminal had only one ship-to-shore container crane.

The heritage remains is the four-lane highway we Sizwe soldiers the South African government sent over to call on the Ngqura container terminal.

The Port of Ngqura was designed by Drewry Consultants. In 2012/2013 Ngqura was the fastest-growing South African port system.

Port Elizabeth.

In 2004, Ford South Africa started to assemble vehicles in 1923. General Motors South Africa, which has its roots in the province. Today the Port Elizabeth terminal helps support the automotive industry, which has its roots in the province.

Most of the terminals in the two ports also dropped, and their importance as drivers of the local economy declined.

The Port of Ngqura is the most modern deep-water terminal in sub-Saharan Africa.

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