



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD



HERITAGE SERIES: PLACES AND WALKS

COMPANY'S GARDEN PRECINCT WALK

Making progress possible. Together.

A WALK IN THE COMPANY'S GARDEN

TIME: 1 hour

This guided walk takes you through the historic Company's Garden. At a gentle stroll, the walk should not take longer than an hour. However, allow sufficient extra time to visit galleries, museums, restaurants and other places of interest in the precinct.

STARTING POINTS:

The walk can be started from any of the entrances to the precinct.

A FOLD-OUT MAP IS PROVIDED AT THE BACK OF THE BOOKLET.

We acknowledge that First Nations groups have the right to define their own identities, and that this is an ongoing and fluid process. Where the term 'Khoen' has been used, it refers in general terms to the First Nations groups who played a role at the Cape in the 16th and 17th centuries, and who were directly or indirectly involved in cattle or sheep herding as a mode of subsistence.

2025 Edition.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this book at the time of publication, and to acknowledge photographs and sources correctly. The City of Cape Town accepts no responsibility and will not be liable for any errors or omissions contained herein.

Unless otherwise indicated, the photographs, maps, illustrations and other visual aids used in this guide are the property of the City of Cape Town.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

The Company's Garden is one of the City of Cape Town's nine district parks and is a major heritage site in the inner city. In addition to the Garden and its recreational amenities, the precinct offers a number of museums and galleries.

This self-guided booklet is designed to guide visitors to the Company's Garden using the fold-out map at the end of the booklet to be read together with a brief summary of the points of interest. A short summary of the history of these places is presented to entice you to discover more. The booklet starts with a brief historical overview of the Company's Garden and how it evolved over time.

The points of interest are listed and numbered on the fold-out map. The numbering starts from the Adderley Street end of Government Avenue, but you can visit and explore the precinct from any of the entrance points.

The botanical component of the Company's Garden has its roots in a mid-19th-century municipal garden and contains trees that are of significant age. A guide to some of these trees is included, with a short description.

Cape Town is one of the most biodiverse cities in the world and is located at the foot of Table Mountain: a world heritage biodiversity site. The Company's Garden is an important green space, especially for birds and insects, allowing them to move across the inner city safely, and providing them with a place to forage and rest. It also functions as a green lung in the built-up inner city. For your convenience, a checklist of the fauna of the Company's Garden has also been included.

Explore and enjoy the Company's Garden and the historic places and spaces surrounding it.

COMPANY'S GARDEN PRECINCT WALK

Please refer to the fold-out map at the end of the self-guided walk booklet. A detailed insert map showing the location of specimen trees (numbered A-Z) with a photographic checklist is also included.



ACCESS AND SAFETY

SECURITY

Security cameras have been installed throughout the Garden and Government Avenue. Private security guards as well as the Central City Improvement District (CCID) regularly patrol the precinct.

You do not need a permit to walk in the Company's Garden or anywhere else in the central city.

Do not allow anyone to assist you at an ATM or cashpoint.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

CCID 24-HR EMERGENCY NUMBER:

082 415 7127

CITY OF CAPE TOWN EMERGENCY:

021 480 7700

ALL EMERGENCIES (FROM A CELLPHONE):

122

COMMUNICATION

The Company's Garden is equipped with free Wi-Fi.

REFRESHMENTS

The Company's Garden Restaurant (30) and Coffee @ The Vine (29).

Visitors to the Garden may also bring their own picnics to enjoy in any of the lawned spaces.

TOILETS

The Chalet (13) is presently the only public toilet in the Garden. Toilet facilities are available to patrons of the Company's Garden Restaurant, Coffee @ The Vine, and visitors to the Iziko museums and gallery.

PARKING

Street parking is available along Hatfield Road. Gain pedestrian access to the Company's Garden through Avenue Lane or Gallery Lane (43).

Street parking is available along Hof and Orange streets. Gain pedestrian access to the Company's Garden at the Orange Street entrance (37).

Paid parking is available next to the Centre for the Book, between Green Street and University Drive. Gain pedestrian access to the Company's Garden through the gate near the Company's Garden Restaurant or the formal entrance to the Delville Wood Memorial Garden (31).

ALTERNATELY-ABLED

Parking for visitors with mobility challenges may be available on request at 19 Queen Victoria Street, the City of Cape Town's Recreation and Parks Department, or at the Iziko South African Museum (33).

For the most part, the Company's Garden is wheelchair-friendly.

HOMELESSNESS AND BEGGING

Please give responsibly.

Giving money to beggars often prolongs the time they stay on the street, or even worse, supports a life of substance abuse. Rather consider supporting a recognised non-governmental organisation that works with those living on Cape Town's streets.

[Campaigns | CCID \(capetownccid.org\)](https://capetownccid.org)



THE COMPANY'S GARDEN

The Company's Garden is the remaining extent of the 'vegetable garden' established by the Dutch East India Company (or the Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC) in 1652 as part of a refreshment station to supply VOC trade ships with fresh vegetables, meat and water.

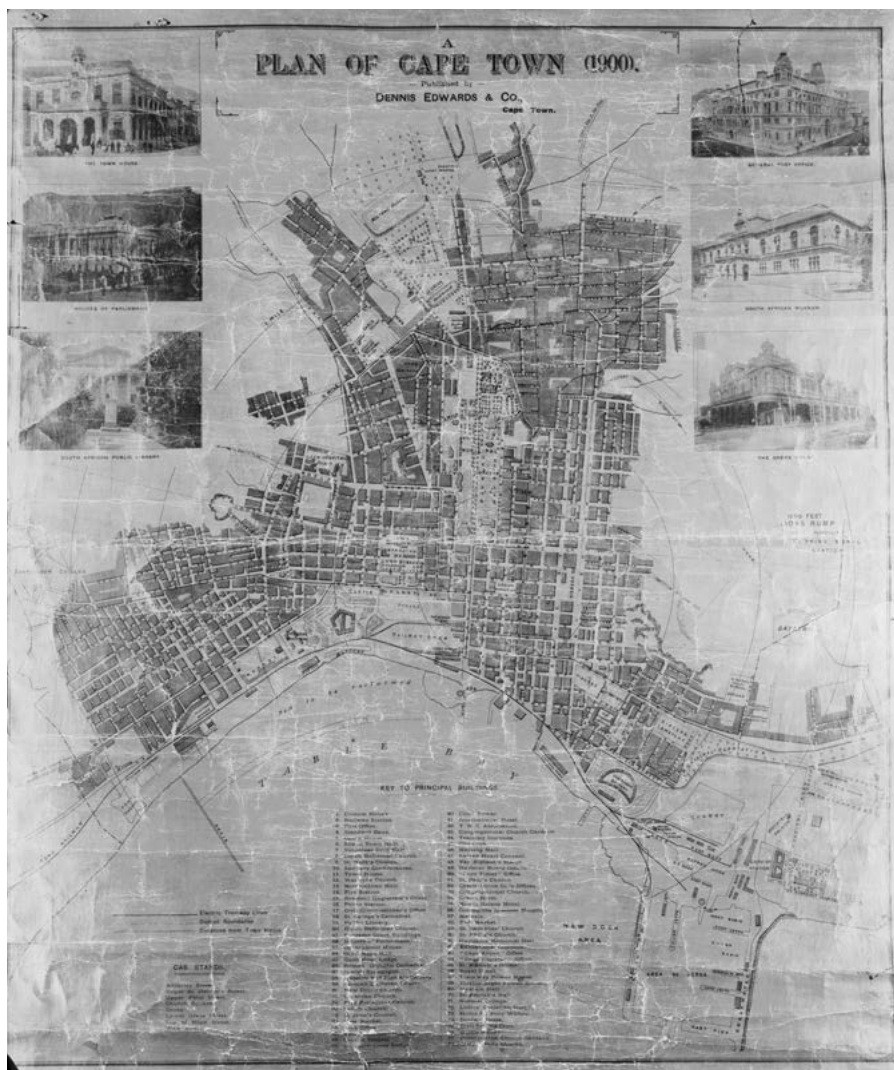
The importance of the Company's Garden in the establishment of the settlement at the Cape is seen in the impact that it had on the layout of the town. Ditches (*grachten*) that were excavated to channel water from the mountain streams to the Garden determined the alignment of major streets. Queen Victoria Street, Hatfield/Plein Street, Orange Street and the furrow-lined Government Avenue all have their

roots in the Garden. The central route of the Garden extended as the Heerengracht down to the Table Bay. The Heerengracht was renamed Adderley Street under the British administration and remains one of the oldest main streets of Cape Town.

Today, the Company's Garden is a vital green lung in the inner city. It is located in a precinct of exceptional architectural beauty, historical layering and heritage significance. The Garden sits within a larger precinct that is bound by Queen Victoria and Hatfield/Plein streets. The precinct is a space characterised by the Garden itself, but also a place where government, law and learning come together.



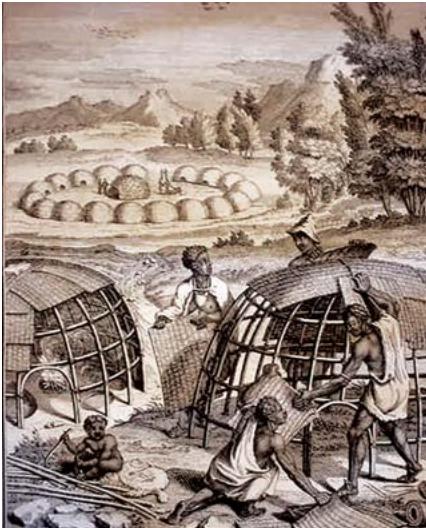
The Company's Garden remains an important green space, originally extending from Table Valley across the old city to Table Bay.



By the beginning of the 20th century, some of the most significant cultural places were located on the edges of the Company's Garden, including the Houses of Parliament, the National Library, and the National Museum. (Source: City of Cape Town EHRIC historical map collection)

BEFORE THE GARDEN

The Table Valley sits at the foot of iconic Table Mountain, flanked by Devil's Peak to the east and Lion's Head to the west. Numerous freshwater springs used to drain into the Table Bay. Peninsula Shale Renosterveld was the dominant vegetation type, serving as prime grazing for both wild game and domesticated stock during the winter months. Remnants of shell middens, stone tools and indigenous pots provide evidence of the deep history of First Nations groups in the Table Valley.



The Khoe traditionally made their huts using reed mats. These 'matjieshuisies' were perfectly suited to their nomadic lifestyle. (Source: Kolbe 1719 De Kaap de Goede Hoop)

Ships stopping in Table Bay from the mid-15th century onwards described different groups of people at the Cape, some with cattle and sheep, and some without. Depending on the time of year, the size of the herds of oxen and sheep grazing in the Table Valley and surrounds varied. The practice of seasonal burning of the grasslands was noted.

The opening of the sea route to the East and the location of Table Bay at the halfway point signalled the start of profound change for the First Nations groups at the Cape. Relations with sailors were not always

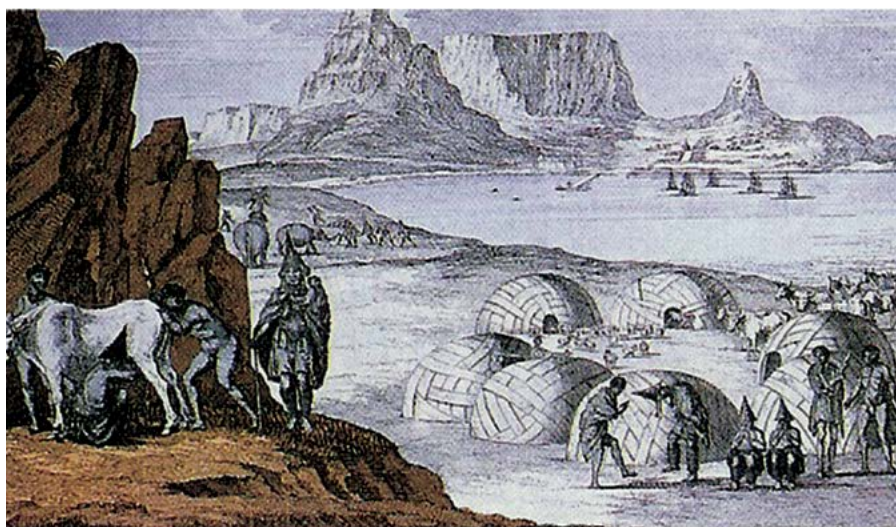
amicable. The earliest recorded skirmish took place in 1510, when a group of Portuguese sailors under the command of Francisco de Almeida clashed with a group of Goringhaiqua after a trade engagement turned sour. De Almeida and 64 of his men were killed. It is not known whether any of the Khoe lost their lives in the altercation.

Ships stopping at the Cape introduced new trade goods and materials in exchange for meat and access to fresh water and greens.



There are no natural sources of iron and other metal at the Cape, so iron implements were sought-after commodities in trading with the Khoe. (Source: Kolbe 1719 De Kaap de Goede Hoop)

The wreck of the *Nieuwe Haerlem* in 1647, part of a fleet heading outward, set the scene for the establishment of the refreshment station at the Cape. The small crew who remained at the Cape to salvage the cargo survived ably for close to a year, successfully growing vegetables. On their return, they made the case to the VOC for the suitability of the Cape of Good Hope as a refreshment station.



*From the 15th century, ships sailing to the East stopped in Table Bay to take on fresh water and food, and traded with the Khoes.
(Source: Bogaert 1711 Museum Africa Johannesburg)*

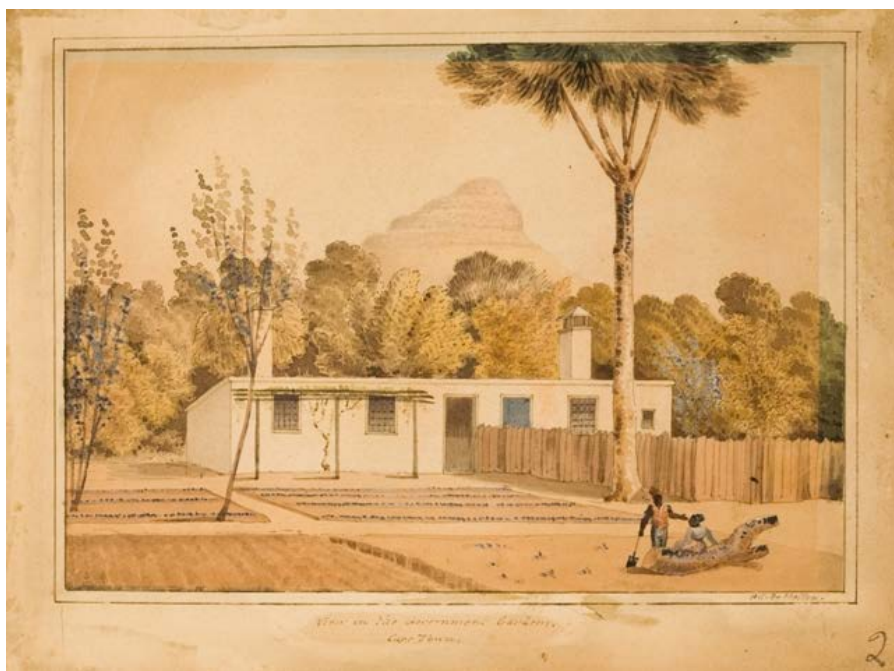
THE GARDEN BEGINS

The first task on arrival at the Cape in April 1652 was the establishment of the vegetable garden. Jan van Riebeeck, the commander of the enterprise, gave clear instructions regarding bed size and shape as well as the sowing plan. Head gardener Hendrik Boom along with another six men cleared the land, prepared the soil, and planted seeds brought from Holland.

The first attempts were discouraging. The planting seasons were different from the northern hemisphere, and strong winds wreaked havoc on early crops. It took time for the gardeners to become acclimatised and in the interim, men starved. However, within two years, the settlement was able to supply passing ships with fresh vegetables. Jan Bundervoet and Herman Gresnigh were the head gardeners from 1658 to 1670. Hendrik Boom joined the growing number of free burghers (*vrijburgers*) in 1660 when he was granted land to farm privately.

The establishment of farms on either side of the Garden and along the Liesbeek river and beyond tipped the Cape from refreshment station to 'colony'. As reliance on the Garden diminished, less-viable parts fell into disuse, and the town expanded around it. The Garden continued as a food and medicinal garden, and also provided cuttings and other plant material to surrounding farmers.

The appointment of Simon van der Stel as commander at the Cape in 1679 heralded a new stage in the life of the Garden. The first Company hospital, slave lodge and church with graveyard were constructed on the less fertile ground at the lower end of the Garden, extending to what later became Darling Street. Van der Stel was responsible for the establishment of Tuynhuys as a summer or guest house for visiting dignitaries. He is also credited with large-scale tree planting, including the ubiquitous oak trees that mark the historical cultural landscapes of the Cape.



Almost immediately on establishing the refreshment station, Van Riebeeck requested slaves to be brought to the Cape. Much of the economy of the Cape, therefore, was built on the labour of enslaved people. (Source: De Meillon)

THE SCIENTIFIC GARDEN

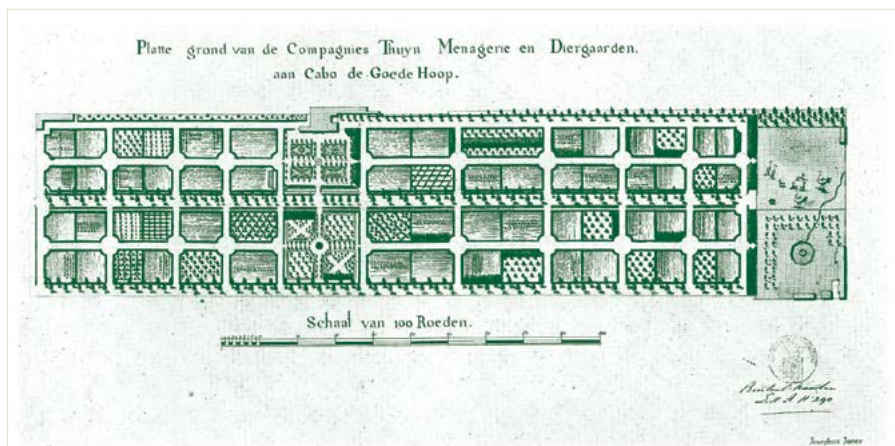
Johan Andries Auge was appointed head gardener in 1747. Auge was an enthusiastic amateur botanist and collected and planted indigenous plants in the Garden. He is said to have planted the magnificent yellowwood tree (*Podocarpus falcatus*) (see B on the tree map), among others. He also sent numerous indigenous plant specimens to universities in Europe. The arrival of pelargoniums (or geraniums and their hybrids) and other Cape plants in Europe dates from about this period. *Augea capensis* (or 'pickle bush') was named in honour of Auge's contribution to the collection and study of indigenous plants of the Cape.

In addition to providing fresh vegetables to passing ships, the Garden was also responsible for supplying herbs and seeds to Batavia and other VOC stations.

During this period, it became well known and was favourably described in contemporary travel journals.

INTERLUDE

By the turn of the 18th century, however, the VOC was in debt and the Garden badly neglected. Europe was in a state of turmoil, with the conflict between the English and the French at its centre. Having lost its American colonies, Britain was determined not to lose the East Indian trade routes, a risk that was exacerbated by the presence of a large contingent of French marines and mercenaries at the Cape of Good Hope in the 1780s. The British occupied the Cape in 1795. There was no interest in maintaining the Garden and it fell even further into ruin and neglect.



The layout of the Company's Garden around 1791, showing the rectangular beds enclosed by high hedges. (Source: Josephus Jones)



Sunday afternoon promenade along Government Avenue. (Source: D'Oyly c. 1832 Western Cape Archives)



The slave lodge was converted into the civil court and housed the Supreme Court. The official entrance was on Parliament Street, with the coat of arms of the United Kingdom and Ireland added to the pediment.

Over the next fifty years and more, the Garden lost nearly half its remaining green space to 'institutional creep'. St Georges Church was built on the north-western corner of the Garden, at the apex of what became St Georges Street. The church was opened in 1834. In 1847 it became a cathedral when it became the seat of Bishop Robert Grey, first Anglican Bishop of Cape Town. To its immediate left was the St Georges Free School, constructed in 1850. The South African College was established in 1820, and in 1841, it moved to the Egyptian Building (now part of the Hiddingh Campus of the University of Cape Town). The National Library was established in 1860, further extending into the old Company's Garden. The South African Museum (Iziko) was built in 1897.

Tuynhuys had already been associated with the governors of the Cape since the mid-18th century. Construction of a new Houses of Parliament (1875–1884) to the northeast of Tuynhuys initiated the development of a Parliamentary precinct along the northeastern edge of the Garden.



Detail of the coat of arms above the entrance of the old Supreme Court.



Map of the Company's Garden and surrounds around 1862, showing the extent of the Botanical Garden, Government Avenue (public walk) and what would later become the Parliamentary precinct (Government House and grounds). (Source: City of Cape Town EHRIC historical map collection)

THE BOTANICAL GARDEN

During the first and second British occupations, the Garden was no longer used for agricultural purposes and was increasingly neglected. Descriptions of the Garden during this time mention it being overgrown with weeds and the water furrows blocked. Yet it remained a significant public space: Military bands played on Sundays; Government Avenue was a popular afternoon promenade; and the menagerie was open to the public. As early as 1825, the need for a botanical garden was also recognised.

In 1848, the portion of the Garden between the South African Museum and the National Library was renamed the 'Botanical Garden', and many of the landscape features visible today were implemented.



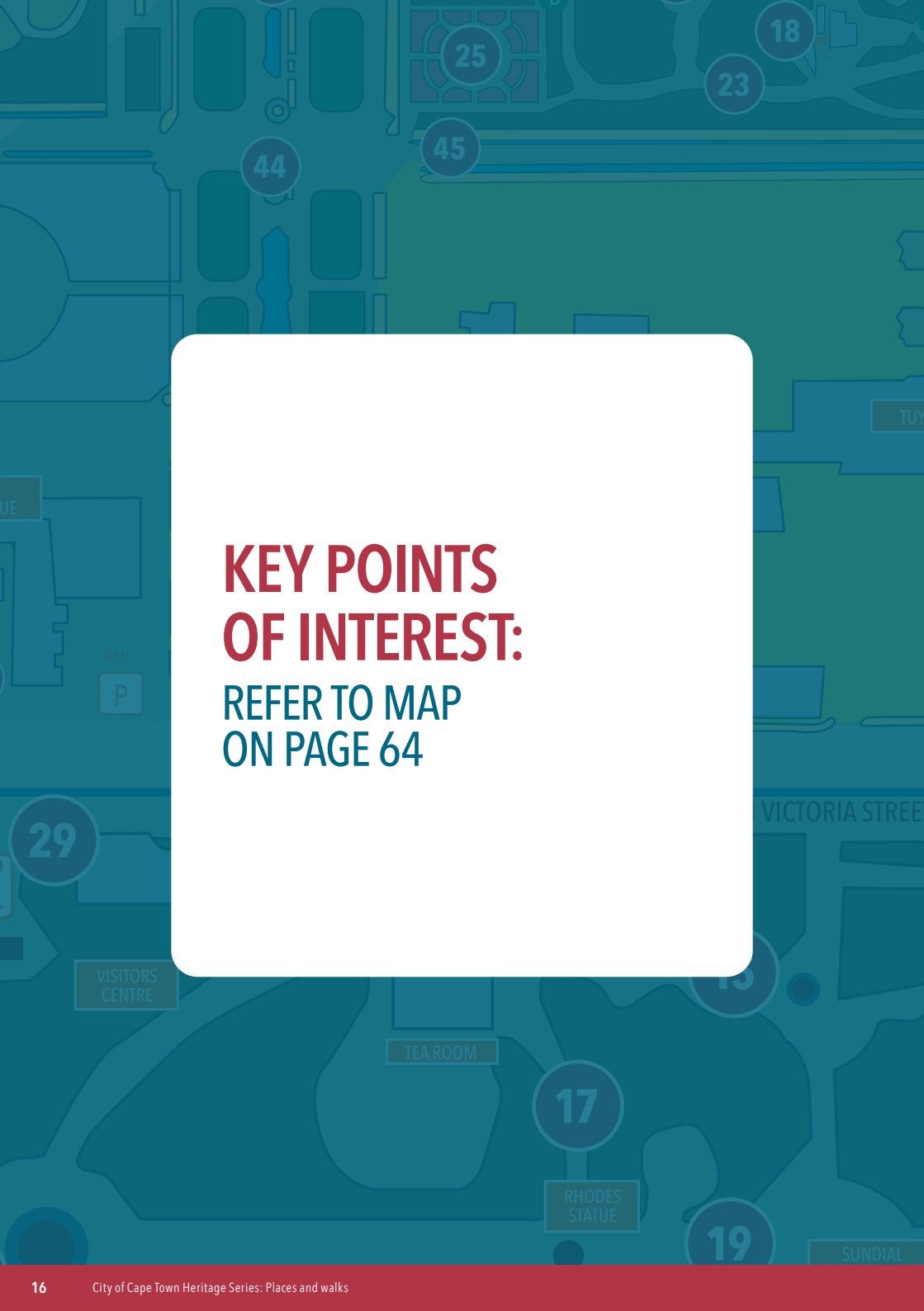
THE COMPANY'S GARDEN IN THE 20TH CENTURY AND BEYOND

The major intervention of the 20th century was the construction of the Delville Wood Memorial Garden in the 1930s. Designed by Sir Herbert Baker, this memorial garden introduced the broad cross axis, linking across from Queen Victoria Street to the Iziko National Gallery.

The Company's Garden is the green heart of Cape Town. It is a multi-layered cultural space with deep historical roots, to be enjoyed by citizens and visitors alike.

Please explore and enjoy the Garden and the historic places and spaces surrounding it.





**KEY POINTS
OF INTEREST:**
REFER TO MAP
ON PAGE 64

1 IZIKO SLAVE LODGE

The VOC slave lodge was completed in 1679. An earlier, much smaller lodge was situated nearby (probably just across what is now Parliament Lane). The lodge was located close to the Garden, as this was where many of the slaves were put to work. The VOC hospital was located directly opposite it, on the site of Temple Chambers, which now form part of the Taj Cape Town hotel.

The lodge was originally single-storeyed. It underwent numerous alterations and additions, until around 1700, it resembled today's rectangular shape with an inner courtyard. There was limited access to the outside, and all rooms (cells or dormitories) opened up to the courtyard, where a daily roll call was held. In 1751, a second storey was added to the lodge, allowing up to 1 000 men, women and children to be accommodated. Living conditions were cramped and inhumane. The lodge was so dark that a lantern was required even during day time.

After the two British occupations (in 1795, and again in 1806), the lodge continued to accommodate slaves, but parts also served as a hospital, mental asylum and prison. It remained the largest 'slave holding' at the Cape between 1660 and 1828.

In 1814, part of the lodge was converted for use by the Colonial Office. The Supreme Court was also relocated here. The pediment above the Parliament Street entrance is one of two such examples, marking the transition to colonial rule: The other is found on the Old Granary Building in Buitenkant Street (The Old Granary

was renamed the Desmond and Leah Tutu House in 2024). In 1914, the Supreme Court moved to Queen Victoria Street.

When Adderley Street had to be widened in 1926, the front façade of the lodge was demolished and rebuilt about 13 metres backwards, aligning with the general building line along Adderley.

The building became the Cultural History Museum in 1966, and was renamed the Slave Lodge in 1998.



*Detail of watercolour by Thomas Bowler (c. 1862) of **Wale Street**. In the centre background is the slave lodge (by then, the **Supreme Court**), and on the right is the old **St George's Church**. (Source: Iziko)*



2 GEN. JAN SMUTS AND PARLIAMENT LANE

At the head of Parliament Lane is a life-like bronze statue of General Jan Smuts by local artist Ivan Mitford-Barberton. The statue was unveiled in 1974.

Parliament Lane is a pedestrian walkway that links Wale Street to Parliament Street and the historical Parliamentary precinct. To the right of Parliament Lane

is the garden of the original Houses of Parliament with its statue of Queen Victoria. This statue, located at the Legislative Council entrance to the Houses of Parliament, was unveiled in 1890 in celebration of the Queen's diamond jubilee and is the work of British sculptor Thomas Brock.





3 ARCH FOR THE ARCH

The Desmond Tutu Commemorative Arch, fondly referred to as the 'Arch for the Arch', was unveiled on 7 October 2017 to coincide with the 86th birthday of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu (1931–2021) and marked the 21-year anniversary of the Constitution.

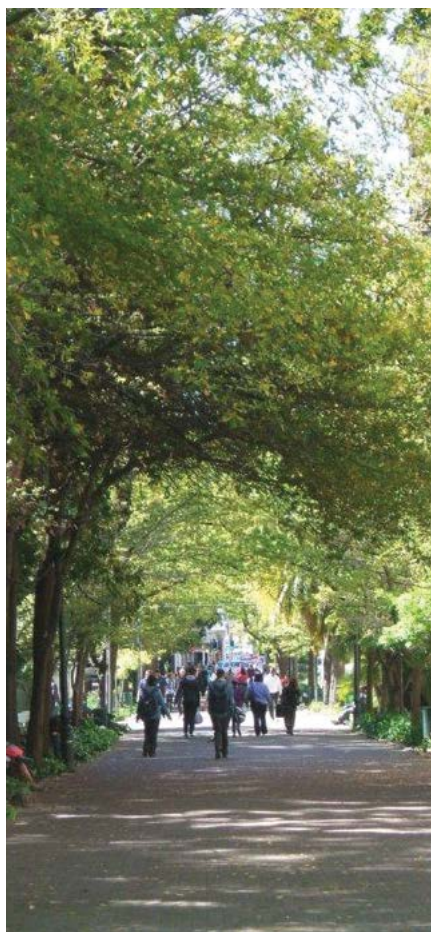
Commissioned by Design Indaba and sponsored by Liberty, the Arch is the design of Craig Dykers from architecture firm Snøhetta in Norway, and Thomas Chapman from Local Studio in Johannesburg.

The Arch consists of 14 Siberian larch arcs (signifying the 14 chapters of South Africa's Constitution) and is 9 metres tall.

GOVERNMENT AVENUE

Government Avenue is the central axis that links the Company's Garden precinct from Adderley Street to Orange Street. It was the central pathway to the VOC garden, flanked on either side by stone-lined water furrows, which are still visible.

First planted with citrus trees, and subsequently, the ubiquitous oak trees associated with the historical cultural landscape of the Cape, Government Avenue is one of the oldest formal pedestrian walkways. The pedestrian nature of the avenue is protected by a government ordinance, stating that no vehicular traffic shall be allowed in the avenue or paths (other than for gardening, maintenance and cleaning).



4

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

St George's Cathedral was the spiritual home of Archbishop Desmond Tutu: It was from here that he gave voice to the struggle against apartheid with passion, candour and simplicity. St George's Cathedral remains a place closely linked to the struggle, and a space for peaceful protest. It is a symbol of democracy.

Formally known as the Cathedral Church of St George the Martyr, it is the seat of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa. The Arts-and-Crafts-style cathedral was designed by architects Sir Herbert Baker and Francis Masey.

The cathedral is located on the site of the 1834 St George's Church, which was situated at the apex of St George's Street (now St George's Mall). The original slate steps are still visible, and six trees mark the position of the six columns of the original church façade.





5 OLD GRAMMAR SCHOOL AND LABYRINTH

Originally part of the old St George's Church, the school was established by Bishop Robert Grey in 1848. When construction on the new cathedral started in 1901, the old school building was demolished and replaced by the double-storey, also designed by Baker and Masey. The wing extending towards Government Avenue was added in the 1950s. The Grammar School later moved to larger premises in Mowbray and still

functioned as a pre-primary school until 2001. The building in the Garden precinct now houses the offices of the Anglican Church.

In 2004, a Garden of Contemplation was established with a replica of the labyrinth at Chartres Cathedral, laid in 1220.



6 HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

The original Houses of Parliament was completed in 1884, and the first session of the Cape Colony Parliament was opened by then Governor Sir Hercules Robinson on 23 May 1885. The design for the Cape

Houses of Parliament was put to competition and was won by Charles Freeman, a clerk in the Public Works Department. It is considered to be a fine example of Victorian Neoclassicism.



7 OLD HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Also referred to as Union House, it was built around 1910, at the time of the Union of South Africa. It was built as an extension to the original Houses of Parliament and was designed to match the aesthetic of the earlier building. The building was designed by the Public Works Department, with some input from Sir Herbert Baker.

It was in this building that the apartheid legislation was passed after 1948. It is also here that Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd, the so-called 'architect' of apartheid, was assassinated in 1966.



8 NEW HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The New National Assembly was completed in 1987 at the height of the apartheid regime. It, too, continues the architectural elements of the two previous Houses of Parliament. It was designed by local architectural firm Meiring, Van der Lecq, Thomas and Ronga. The unbanning of the ANC was announced here in 1994.

This building was at the core of the fire that broke out on 2 January 2022.

9

FORMAL ENTRANCE TO COMPANY'S GARDEN

This formal entrance to the Company's Garden from Government Avenue was built around 1912. From this vantage point, both the National Library of South Africa and the Old House of Assembly can be seen.

TAP IN A TREE

Not far from the entrance, between the Japanese Lantern (11) and the Fernery (22), are two remnants of the earlier garden. The Tap in a Tree has puzzled visitors to the Garden for many years. It dates back to the time before indoor plumbing, when people had to fetch drinking water from springs or wells. A young oak tree

was planted too close to the tap, or pump, and as the tree grew, it engulfed the pump. In 2014, the by then very old oak tree was felled in a storm, but the part of the trunk containing the tap was remounted as a display. The pump shank has long since been lost.

STONE WELL

Beyond the Tap in a Tree, is the Stone Well. The well extends deep into the ground, built of alternate rings of red imported brick and shale, allowing the groundwater to filter into the well through the shale layers.



10 SIR GEORGE GREY

Sir George Grey was Governor at the Cape from 1854 to 1861. The statue was designed by William Calder Marshall and was the first statue ever to be erected in the Cape.



View of the new Public Library and statue of George Grey by Thomas Bowler in 1865. (Source: Western Cape Archives)

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA – 5 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

Just to the north of the statue of Sir George Grey is the National Library of South Africa. The library forms the northern edge of the Company's Garden. The foundation stone was laid by Sir George Grey in 1858, and the library itself was opened in 1860 by Prince Alfred. It was designed by WH Köhler, modelled on the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Originally known as the South African Library and Museum, it housed both these institutions until 1897. A number of significant collections, including that of Sir George Grey, had been donated to the library, which formed the foundation of its collection.



11 JAPANESE LANTERN

This granite lantern was presented to the people of Cape Town by the people of Japan in 1932 in appreciation of the hospitality shown to Japanese sailors and passengers calling at the Cape of Good

Hope. It was removed during World War II and reinstated when peace was announced.

The Japanese Lantern was erected on the site of an earlier fountain, the base of which is still clearly visible.



12 THE BOTHY

One of the oldest surviving buildings in the Company's Garden, the Bothy dates back to the mid-19th century. It had various uses, including serving as the committee room for the board of trustees of the Botanical Garden, the house of the Garden superintendent, and a seed store. It was built in a simple Victorian style, with Gothic design elements.

CITY AND CIVIL SERVICE CLUB – 16-18 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

Across from the Bothy and the National Library, on Queen Victoria Street, is the old City and Civil Service Club. The club, the oldest social club in Cape Town, originated in 1878. Most of the prominent men of Cape Town were members. Women were not allowed membership.

The current building on Queen Victoria Street was designed by Sir Herbert Baker and Francis Masey in 1896 and was completed in 1898. The merger between the Civil Servants Club and the City Club, offered in 1891, only came to pass in 1976.

The premises were sold in 1998, and the club moved to Leinster Hall. The Cape Town Club moved back to its original location at the end of 2024. The building, with its spectacular period interior, is a popular destination for international film shoots.



*Architectural perspective around 1895 by Francis Masey.
(Source: John Rennie)*

13 CHALETS (PUBLIC TOILETS)

This quirky building was designed by municipal architect Walter H. Reid. This is one of a number of 'public conveniences' built by the municipality at the end of the 19th century and is the only surviving example of this style and period.

SUPREME COURT - 20-28 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

Designed in 1907 by local architectural firm Hawke and McKinlay as the Supreme Court of the Union of South Africa, this spectacular granite building was completed in 1912. Today, it houses the Western Cape High Court. The Supreme Court moved to this location in 1914, having been housed in the old VOC slave lodge since 1814. This landmark building is visible from the Bo-Kaap, with the view from Leeuwen Street widening to include the full façade as one crosses Long Street to Keerom Street.



14 WOODLANDS WALK

The Woodlands Walk meanders along Queen Victoria Street. It is one of the original sinuous paths that characterised the Garden when it transitioned from agricultural to botanical garden. The planting theme dates back to the 1980s and attempted to create a secluded retreat from the surrounding urbanisation.

HIGH COURT CIVIL ANNEX – 38 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

This fine limestone building, with its neo-Baroque design elements, houses the Civil Annex to the High Court. The current façade dates back to 1898, when the Department of Education acquired the building and had it refurbished as the Cape Town Training Institute.

The footprint of the existing building very closely resembles that of the early 19th-century school Tot

Nut van het Algemeen (meaning 'For the good of all'). The school, which operated from here from 1833 to 1870, taught both boys and girls, although not in the same classrooms. The children of slaves or emancipated slaves were taught at mission schools (i.e. the Sendinggestig at 10 Long Street, as well as at St Stephen's Church on Riebeeck Square).

During the apartheid years, the Race Relations Appeal Board was located here. Outside the entrance is a memorial in the form of a wooden bench by Roderick Sauls titled *Race Classification Board: A benchmark of the past*. The memorial formed part of the *Sunday Times* Heritage Project, which erected a trail of memorials across South Africa from 2006 to 2008.





15 RUTHERFOORD FOUNTAIN

The fountain features the figure of a young woman holding a bowl and jug. Originally the fountain also had two cups for drinking water and two small brass lion heads which spouted water into the pink granite basin. The entire installation rests on a foundation of local Cape granite. The two bronze lion spouts and cups were cast by Wills Brothers of South London. Unfortunately, the cups were removed in the 1980s and both lion spouts have been stolen or removed.

The fountain was originally erected in 1864 at the lower end of Adderley Street in recognition of the 'active and benevolent life' of local philanthropist Howson Rutherford Esq. It was moved to its present location in the Company's Garden in 1897. Rutherford was instrumental in the transformation of the old vegetable garden to a public botanical garden.



16 HERB, ALOE AND SUCCULENT GARDENS

Walking back along the Woodlands Walk (14) towards the Japanese Lantern (11), the path leads past the Aloe and Succulent Garden and the Herb Garden. The Aloe and Succulent Garden features a rockery of Table Mountain sandstone and a fine collection of tree aloes,

dragon trees and a cabbage tree. The earliest aloes planted here were collected in the Caledon district in 1674. The Herb Garden, in turn, pays homage to the culinary and medicinal importance of herbs in the history of the Company's Garden.



17 PEAR TREE

Believed to be the oldest living tree in the Company's Garden, this *Pyrus communis* (saffron pear) is a re-sprouting of one of the original trees planted in the Garden in 1652. The three existing trunks are said to

have sprouted when the original trunk fell over in the mid-18th century. In 2013, bud material was taken from the tree to preserve its genetic material.



18 OLD AVIARY AND 'SLAVE BELL'

The Aviary is a quaint expression of the architecture and attitudes of the 1930s. At its prime, the Aviary held a variety of indigenous and exotic birds. In keeping with current beliefs around cruelty to animals and caging living beings, it is no longer acceptable or desirable to keep birds in cages.

The 'Slave Bell' is a replica of the bell at the Stellenbosch farm Elsenburg. While the bell is, in fact, the fire bell that hung in the old Town House on Greenmarket Square, it does pay homage to the enslaved men and women who laboured in the Garden and lived in the Slave Lodge (1). Slave bells were a feature of early Cape farms, signalling the start and end to the day's labour. This bell, erected in 1911, was rung to signal the closing of the Garden in the evenings.



CECIL JOHN RHODES

Between the Aviary (18) and the Sundial (19) is the statue of Cecil John Rhodes (1853–1902), looking northward over the hinterland that he dreamed of conquering. Designed by Sir Herbert Baker and sculpted by Henry Pegram, the statue was unveiled in 1908. Originally intended to be placed at the entrance to Government Avenue, the statue was relocated to this, less prominent position following the failed Jameson Raid.

Cecil John Rhodes remains a controversial political figure in postcolonial South Africa. He is, however, acknowledged for his bequest of the Groote Schuur Estate, on which the University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital were built. Rhodes also established the world's first international graduate scholarship programme.



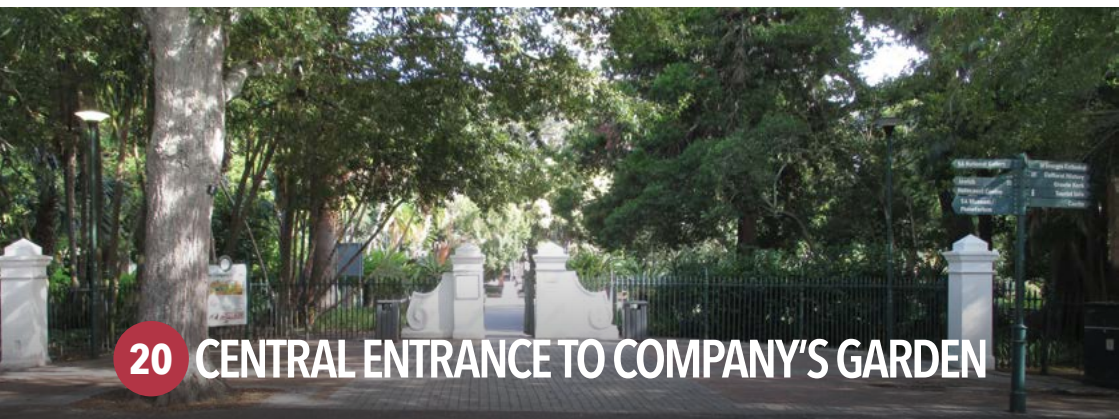


19 SUNDIAL

The scene above, captured by Thomas Bowler in 1851, shows the Sundial (centre left), the steeple of the old St George's Church in the background, and groups of people strolling in the Garden, enjoying the music provided by a military band. The two Norfolk Island pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and one of the gum myrtles (*Angophora costata*) are still standing.

The Sundial is situated at the cross axis linking Queen Victoria Street to Government Avenue. This cross axis is a remnant of the rectangular beds that characterised the old vegetable garden for most of the 17th and 18th century. The Sundial was placed in this position when the Botanical Garden was designed in 1848.

*Image above: Thomas Bowler's view of the Garden c1851
(Source: Western Cape Archives)*



20 CENTRAL ENTRANCE TO COMPANY'S GARDEN

Walking eastwards from the Sundial (19), one comes to the central entrance to the Company's Garden, and across Government Avenue, you have a splendid view

of Tuynhuys (21). This was the main entrance to the Garden. It was restyled around 1912, at the same time as the entrance near the National Library.

21 TUYNHUYTS

This spectacular building had its origins in a humble garden shed. It was restored in the 1970s to reflect the VOC at the height of its success. With the exception of the Castle, Tuynhuys is the oldest building with an uninterrupted association with governance. During the 18th century, it served as a guest lodge for important visitors to the Cape, as well as the Governor's summer residence. From the British occupation onwards, it became the official residence of the Governor and was known as Government House. It was extensively added to and altered in 1814, when Lord Charles Somerset was Governor at the Cape. Today, it forms part of the Parliamentary precinct, with Cape Town being the legislative capital of South Africa.

The parterre garden was reinstated in 1968 as part of the restoration of Tuynhuys.

Tuynhuys and its grounds are separated from Government Avenue by a bridge over a slate-lined *gracht* and a fine wrought-iron gateway. The bridge over the *gracht* is a remnant of an urban feature that would have been common in Cape Town during the 18th century, prior to the canalising of the city's *grachten*.

One can either continue walking along Government Avenue and re-enter the garden at the Rose Garden (25), or return back through the central entrance.





22 FERNERY

The Fernery is to the north of the central entrance, and meanders along the edge of Government Avenue. It is one of the original sinuous walks introduced when the garden was re-landscaped in the mid-19th century. The

pathway includes two small ponds and a stream with stepping stones. The themed garden was introduced in 1984.



23 PALM GROVE

To the south of the central entrance, one passes the ancient black mulberry (*Morus nigra*) before entering the Palm Grove. The Palm Grove contains a wide variety and selection of palm trees. Many of the older trees in the Garden are located in this general area.

24 THORNE FOUNTAIN

This fountain is the centrepiece in the layout of the southern part of the Garden. Located on the site of an earlier pond, this fountain dates back to 1900 and was donated by Sir William Thorne, who was the mayor of Cape Town from 1901 until 1904.

The 'boy and dolphin' fountain, reminiscent of the classic Baroque 'angel with fish' statues, is made of Carrara marble. The pond traditionally contains koi fish, the first of which were donated by the Japanese in 1932, along with their gift of the Japanese Lantern (11). From the Thorne Fountain, one can meander westward to the Director's House and the Company's Garden Restaurant, or continue along the central walkway.

TREE ALOE (*ALOIDENDRON BARBERAE*)

Between the Thorne Fountain and the Rose Garden is a magnificent tree aloe (see C on the tree map). Unfortunately, none of the two tree aloes originally

planted in the Garden in the 1880s have survived. A number of tree aloes are also to be found in the Aloe and Succulent Garden (16).

This species of tree aloe is named *Aloidendron barberae*, for Mary Elizabeth Barber, 19th-century woman botanist and amateur scientist. Mrs Barber's specimen was collected in the Eastern Cape. Thomas Baines later submitted another specimen from KwaZulu-Natal, which was named *Aloe bainesii*. It was subsequently discovered that the two specimens were, in fact, the same species, and according to the scientific naming convention, the tree aloe was named for Mrs Barber, being the first to submit a specimen for classification.

Mrs Barber was the grandmother of Ivan Mitford-Barberton, the sculptor who created the statue of Jan Smuts at the head of Parliament Lane (2), as well as the Lion Gateway (38) in Government Avenue.





25 ROSE GARDEN

During the 18th century, the Company's Garden was well known for its fine-quality rosewater. The 16th-century hybrid *Rosa centiflora*, a cross between the Middle Eastern Damask and the Alba rose, would have been planted here. The Rose Garden, with its radial design, was moved to its current location when the Delville Woods Memorial Garden was designed.

AIDS MEMORIAL

At the centre of the Rose Garden is a modest memorial (red ribbon on a white marble stone) commemorating the millions of lives lost to Aids and HIV-related illnesses. The memorial was erected in 2002 following the High Court ruling that forced the South African government to allow HIV-positive pregnant women free access to antiretroviral treatment. This treatment significantly reduces mother-to-child transmission, and up until that ruling, was not available at clinics.



FYNBOS GARDEN

Cape Town has been described as one of the most biodiverse cities in the world. It is situated in the Cape Floristic Region and contains 19 of the national veld types, of which six are endemic to Cape Town. Peninsula Shale Renosterveld is endemic to the slopes of Table Mountain, visible from the Company's Garden.

The Fynbos Garden, introduced in 2015, frames the edges of the Rose Garden. It celebrates the wide variety of indigenous plants suitable for residential gardens.





26 VOC VEGETABLE GARDEN

The VOC Vegetable Garden was initiated as a project for World Design Capital 2014. It recognises the roots of the Company's Garden as a 17th and 18th-century food garden, and exhibits the potential of urban agriculture. It also serves as an educational exhibition, teaching both adults and children about the food cycle. It supplies the Company's Garden Restaurant (30) and Coffee @ The Vine (29) with fresh salad greens and vegetables.

WITTE WYNAPEL

In 2019, a replica of the historical apple variety Witte Wijnappel (*Malus domestica*) was planted in the Company's Garden. The Witte Wijnappel (see A on the tree map) was grown in the Garden when it was first established. It was re-established by Tru-Cape and Hortgro when a specimen of the original was found in the Netherlands. Reintroducing this heirloom variety to South Africa contributes to the safeguarding of the biological diversity of our agricultural plants.



27 DELVILLE WOOD MEMORIAL

The Delville Wood Memorial is the centrepiece of the Delville Wood Memorial Garden, designed in 1930 by Sir Herbert Baker. It commemorates the Battle of Delville Wood in 1916 and the sacrifice of thousands of South African soldiers.

The tempietto was designed by John Stockwin Cleland and is topped by the sculpture *The Brotherhood* by Alfred Turner. *The Brotherhood* (depicting the inseparable twins Castor and Pollux from Greek and Roman mythology) symbolised the unity of the Afrikaner and English soldiers against a common foe. The memorial is a replica of the one erected on the site of the Battle of Delville Wood in France.

LUKIN MEMORIAL

Towards Queen Victoria Street is the Lukin Memorial by well-known South African sculptor Anton van Wouw. Major-General Sir Henry Timson Lukin gave the battle order to advance at Delville Wood.

ARTILLERYMEN'S MEMORIAL

The Howitzer cannon mounted on a granite plinth was erected in memory of the South African artillerymen who gave their lives in the Great War from 1914 to 1918 (as World War I was referred to before World War II broke out in 1939).





28 LABOUR CORPS MEMORIAL

In 2025, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) unveiled a memorial to the Labour Corps – the more than 1 700 men who gave their lives to the war effort. These men served in a non-combative role, prohibited from carrying arms because of the colour

of their skin. The Labour Corps literally carried the war on their shoulders, bringing food and vital supplies to the frontline soldiers. The contribution of these men has long been overlooked. Their names will be remembered, inscribed on each upright pole.



29 DIRECTOR'S HOUSE

Originally built as the home for the Garden superintendent in 1887, this building now serves as the Company's Garden visitor centre.

COMPANY'S GARDEN HERITAGE SHOP

The Heritage Shop offers a wide range of local produce, ranging from fynbos salts and teas to essential oils. A selection of historical books as well as the City of Cape Town's self-guided Heritage Series: Places and walks can be obtained here.

COFFEE @ THE VINE

Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea on the stoep or under the vine in the courtyard. This quaint coffee shop serves cakes and sandwiches on vintage crockery. Depending on availability, the mini-deli has fresh farm eggs and seasonal vegetables on offer.

CAPE TOWN HERITAGE TRUST

Established in 1987, the Cape Town Heritage Trust is an independent non-profit organisation. It maintains a satellite office in the Director's House. Its mission is the conservation of the architectural, cultural and natural heritage of Cape Town. The restoration of Heritage Square on Bree Street is one of its keystone projects.

CANNON

This touch exhibition is a collaboration between the Cape Town Heritage Trust and the Cannon Association of South Africa.





30 COMPANY'S GARDEN RESTAURANT

Originally built as a tearoom in the 1920s, the restaurant in the Garden was redesigned by the City of Cape Town's architectural branch in 1968/69, and rebranded as the Company's Garden Restaurant in 2014. The venue includes a play area for children, as well as a life-size chess board and boules plain.



HUGUENOT MEMORIAL BUILDING – 46 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

Commissioned as the Synod Hall for the Dutch Reformed Church, this building was designed by Thomas Arthur Sladdin and completed in 1903. It was named in commemoration of the French Huguenots who fled religious persecution and settled at the Cape in 1688/89. It is now used by the Western Cape provincial government.

The Huguenot Memorial Building was declared a heritage site in 1981.

(OLD) LAND AND AGRICULTURAL BANK OF SOUTHERN AFRICA – 52 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

This landmark Art Deco building, with its agriculturally themed carvings and friezes, is now used as a function venue. Designed by local architect Brian Mansergh, the building won the Cape Provincial Institute of Architects' bronze medal in 1938.






CENTRE FOR THE BOOK – 62 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

Located on the western side of Queen Victoria Street, between the two entrances to the Company's Garden, is the magnificent domed Centre for the Book. Construction of this award-winning design by architects Hawke and McKinlay for the new premises of the then University of the Cape of Good Hope (today's Unisa) was completed in 1913.

It housed the Western Cape Archives between 1932 and 1991. The Archives are now located in the old jail in Roeland Street. Today, the Centre for the Book forms part of the National Library and provides a venue for various literacy-based conferences, symposia, training courses, events and exhibitions.

The Centre for the Book was declared a heritage site in 1990.





31 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET ENTRANCE

Continue southwards from the Centre for the Book, along the relic of the old garden wall, until you reach the formal entrance to the Delville Wood Memorial Garden (27) and the newly unveiled Labour Corps Memorial (28).

One can either continue along Queen Victoria Street to the Iziko museum complex, or cut through the Delville Wood Memorial Garden.



32 PLANETARIUM – 25 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET

Entrance to the Planetarium is through the Iziko South African Museum (33).

With its digital dome, the Planetarium is the most advanced on the African continent. This world-class, multifunctional facility brings digital data technology, visualisation and research to Cape Town. It creates a space of innovation and discovery, bringing together professionals, students, families and interested visitors to connect around digital information and research.

The new digital dome theatre provides edutainment and virtual travel to explore the universe, the oceans, the inner workings of the human body, atomic and chemical structures, and the creative arts and animation – all through a 360° cinematic experience.

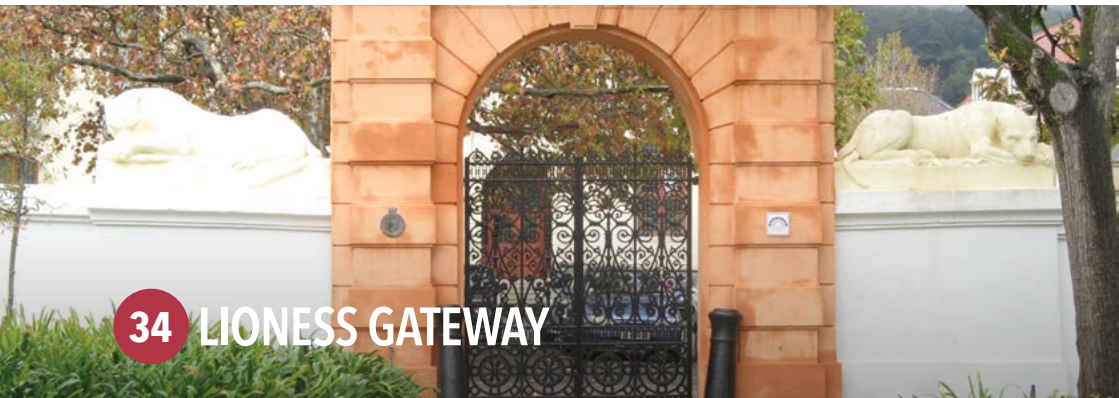
South Africa offers a lot when it comes to the study of the stars: It is also home to the Square Kilometre Array (aiming to be the world's largest radio telescope) as well as the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT), both in the Northern Cape Province.



33 IZIKO SOUTH AFRICAN MUSEUM

The Iziko South African Museum is the oldest museum in South Africa and was founded in 1825. It has been on this site in the Garden since 1893 in a building

designed by JE Vixseboxse. The Museum is a research facility that curates collections spanning almost 700 million years of natural history.



34 LIONESS GATEWAY

By the end of the 18th century, this part of the Company's Garden had been converted for use as a menagerie. This gateway, designed by Louis Michel Thibault, gave access to the 'Beasts of Prey Park'. Today, the gateway provides access to the University of Cape Town's Hiddingh Campus. The sculptures by Anton Anreith are a rare surviving example of 18th-century public artwork.

Note the two cannons placed at the corners of the gateway. Disused cannons were commonly used as corner protectors or to designate pedestrian walkways. A corner protector prevented ox wagons, horse carts or carriages from cutting corners and damaging buildings.

The gateway was declared a heritage site in 1959.

35 UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN HIDDINGH CAMPUS

The University of Cape Town (UCT) Hiddingh Campus is situated on the southern end of the original extent of the Company's Garden. It has its origins in the South African College, founded in 1829. The College moved to this campus in 1841, when the Egyptian Building was completed, and expanded in 1881 with the construction of a Physics laboratory.

After a decision to separate younger students from their older counterparts, the South African College was split into a college, which became UCT, and a college school, today's South African College Schools (SACS). UCT received full university status in 1918. In the same year, the new UCT campus was completed on the Groote Schuur Estate, bequeathed by Cecil John Rhodes for that purpose. The UCT Hiddingh Campus now houses the Michaelis School of Fine Art.



EGYPTIAN BUILDING

This is the oldest building associated with the South African College/UCT Hiddingh Campus. The building was designed by Prof James Adamson and Colonel Griffith George Lewis. Adamson was one of the founding fathers of the College, where he taught Mathematics and Physical Science.

The Egyptian Building was declared a heritage site in 1978.

LITTLE THEATRE

The Little Theatre was the second building to be added to the South African College/UCT Hiddingh Campus. It was designed by Henry Siddon Greaves as the Chemistry building. Sir Herbert Baker and Francis Masey were responsible for the alterations to the building in 1902. Since 1931, it has been known as the Little Theatre.



A photograph of Bertram House, a Georgian-style townhouse. The house is a two-story brick building with a central arched window and several dark-framed windows. The front garden is well-manicured with several large, rounded green bushes and a central stone fountain. The scene is framed by trees and foliage.

36 IZIKO BERTRAM HOUSE – ORANGE STREET

Bertram House is a rare surviving example of a Georgian-style townhouse. It was built in 1839, using imported stock brick. It was restored and converted to

a period house museum, which was officially opened to the public in 1984.

A photograph of the Mount Nelson Hotel Portico. It is a large, white, classical-style structure with a series of tall columns supporting a pediment. The words "MOUNT NELSON HOTEL" are inscribed on the pediment. The background shows palm trees and a clear blue sky.

37 ORANGE STREET ENTRANCE

In 1804, Government Avenue was extended to Orange Street. Orange Street at the time was more of a deep stream, leading water from the mountain into the *grachten* of the Company's Garden, down Grey's Pass into Queen Victoria Street and meeting up with the Heerengracht. While most of Cape Town's *grachten* were canalised in the mid-19th century, the Orange Street stream was only filled in around 1924 when the road was widened. The semi-circle of six pillars is all that remains of the ornate entrance and bridge designed by Louis Michel Thibault and built by Herman Schutte in 1804.

Across the road from the Orange Street entrance to the Company's Garden is the monumental Mount Nelson portico.

MOUNT NELSON PORTICO

The portico was designed by Kendall and Morris in 1924. The Mount Nelson is one of the landmark historical hotels in Cape Town and is famous for its high tea.

38 LION GATEWAY

By the end of the 18th century, this part of the Company's Garden had been converted for use as a menagerie. This gateway, designed by Louis Michel Thibault, gave access to the 'Bird and Antelope Park'. The original lions sculpted by Anton Anreith did not survive and were removed in 1873. In 1958, they were replaced by these magnificent ones created by local sculptor Ivan Mitford-Barberton.

Today, the gateway gives access to the Cape Town High School sports fields. The Bird and Antelope Park became part of the South African College grounds (35) in 1897. The residential properties between Hatfield Street and the park were demolished in the late 1950s and incorporated into the sports fields.

Note the two cannons placed at the corners of the gateway. Disused cannons were commonly used as corner protectors or to designate pedestrian walkways. A corner protector prevented ox wagons, horse carts or carriages from cutting corners and damaging buildings.

CAPE TOWN HIGH SCHOOL

The Cape Town High School buildings are situated on the site of the old Hope Mill. This mill formed part of the VOC holdings and was established in 1685. Following the collapse of the VOC, the mill was privatised in 1805. During the late 19th century, many of the upper Table Valley farms were subdivided and redeveloped as residential properties.



Detail of Snow's survey of Cape Town showing the Hope Mill and the water furrows leading past the mill wheel and from there to the irrigation furrows in the Garden. (Source: City of Cape Town EHRIC Historical map collection)

The Cape Town Hebrew School operated from the Hope Mill site from 1896 until 1920. The main school building dates back to the 1930s.

The current school grounds extend from Government Avenue to Hatfield Street.

AVENUE LANE

An informal road provides a link to Avenue Lane, from where one can exit the Garden into Hatfield Road and gain access to the Jewish Museum and Cape Town Holocaust and Genocide Centre (42).



39 THE PADDOCKS

The Paddocks are the last of the undeveloped parts of the Company's Garden, and the six rectangular beds have their roots in the rectangular vegetable beds of the original garden. The lawned area, with oak trees planted along its edges, provides a shaded and uncluttered space.

Remnants can be seen of a circle of oak trees, aligned with the front facade of the Iziko South African

Museum (33), which were apparently planted in commemoration of the coronation of King George in 1937.

Paddock Crescent forms the eastern edge of the Paddocks. Paddock Crescent was formalised as a public road in the early 19th century. During this period, the market gardens on the eastern edge of the Garden were subdivided for residential purposes.



40 AVENUE TERRACE

Facing onto Paddock Crescent, Avenue Terrace is the last remaining example of the residential buildings that fronted onto the Company's Garden in the late 19th century. It is situated on a portion of the market garden Uitslugt, granted in 1666. Avenue Terrace was used as a boarding house in 1893, as well as a hotel. From 1919 to 1937, it served as one of the UCT Hiddingh Campus residences. Today, this magnificent building forms part of the Gardens Commercial High School campus. Local

architect Louis Karol (1928–2021) was responsible for incorporating Avenue Terrace into the school by means of a Modernist extension, which won the 1979 Merit Award from the South African Institute of Architects. Louis Karol attended Cape Town High School and, tying in with the theme of this part of the walk, was a Jewish immigrant from Lithuania.

Avenue Terrace was declared a heritage site in 1988.



41 THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE

The Great Synagogue was inaugurated in 1905. It was commissioned to accommodate the growing Jewish community of Cape Town. Designed by John Parker and Alexander Forsyth, this magnificent building with its twin spires and large copper dome is one of the notable landmarks in the precinct.

OLD SYNAGOGUE

The Old Synagogue is of great heritage significance, as it was the first purpose-built synagogue in Cape

Town. It was designed by James Hogg and completed in 1862/63. Architecturally, the design is somewhat esoteric, including various design elements and motifs referencing ancient Egypt and the Middle East.

This building now forms part of the Jewish Museum (42).



42 JEWISH MUSEUM AND HOLOCAUST CENTRE – 88 HATFIELD ROAD

Entrance to both the South African Jewish Museum and the Holocaust Centre is via the Gardens Community Centre entrance. Former President Nelson Mandela officially opened the Jewish Museum in 2000.

The Cape Town Holocaust and Genocide Centre was opened in 1999. One of three such centres in South

Africa, it works towards creating a society that is just, caring and respecting, and that values human rights and diversity.

Visitors to the Jewish Museum are required to provide identification before entering the premises.

43 IZIKO SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL GALLERY

The Iziko South African National Gallery is situated on the eastern end of the Delville Wood Memorial Garden. The Gallery was designed by Franklin Kendall, one of the leading South African architects of the early 20th century, in collaboration with Clelland and Mullins from the Department of Public Works. The building itself displays the work of local artists Eva and Herbert Meyerowitz and Ivan Mitford-Barberton, and the Ndebele-style paintings pay homage to the rich traditional art styles of Southern Africa. The National Gallery is considered to house the oldest art collection in South Africa. The Gallery was incorporated into the Iziko Museums group in 2002.

NUMINOUS BEAST

This magnificent 2,8 metre bronze sculpture was commission in 1979. It is the work of renowned South

African artist Bruce Murray Arnott. The sculpture links the ancient and past cultures of both Southern Africa and Europe in a modern-age creation in form, style and interpretation.

OLD MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL

The Iziko South African National Gallery Annex is situated in the old Marist Brothers' School, founded as the St Aloysius Primary School in 1867. St Aloysius operated from this location until the 1980s. Dr Abdullah Abdurahman (1872–1940), founder of the African People's Organisation, attended St Aloysius from 1881 to 1884. In 1904, he became the first person of colour to be elected a Cape Town city councillor.





44 SMUTS STATUE

Located on the Delville Wood Memorial Garden axis, with the National Gallery and Table Mountain at its back, is a statue of General Jan Smuts. Designed by Sydney Harpley, the statue stands on a simple granite base created by Norman Eaton. It was unveiled in 1964 by his granddaughter, Louise Smuts.

This is the only statue in the eastern portion of the Delville Wood Memorial Garden.



45 STONE LINED WATER FURROWS

The story of the Company's Garden is intertwined with the story of water, as told by the interrupted line of water furrows that run alongside Government Avenue. The abundance of perennial fresh water in the Table Valley was a key factor to the success of the vegetable garden.

The Platteklip and Kloof Nek mountain streams were most likely the main streams that fed the Company's Garden. These streams probably merged in the vicinity of Grey's Pass and flowed down Queen Victoria Street, joining the Heerengracht (now Adderley Street). The Garden was laid out in rectangular beds with a central water furrow from which the beds were irrigated. The water furrows presently visible along Government Avenue were part of this 17th-century irrigation system.

The abundance of water is also evident from the number of mills in the immediate vicinity of the Garden. Gortmolen was located on the corner of Mill Street, where the SunSquare Cape Town Gardens Hotel stands today. The Hope Mill would have been fed from the stream as it passed along Orange Street.



View of the settlement at the Cape around 1777, showing the prominence of the Company's Garden. (Source: Library of Parliament)

SIGNIFICANT TREES OF THE COMPANY'S GARDEN

NAME		DESCRIPTION	SA TREE NO
WITTE WIJNAPPEL <i>Malus domestica</i>	A	Europe. The apple tree variety from which the first apple in the Company's Garden was picked on 17 April 1662. Historical variety discovered in the Netherlands and re-established using budwood. Reintroduced to South Africa in 2019.	
OUTENIQUA YELLOWWOOD <i>Podocarpus falcatus</i>	B	Indigenous. Protected species. Highly valued timber used for boat building. Several 'big tree' species reach 60 m in the Southern Cape's Outeniqua, Knysna and Tsitsikamma forests.	16
TREE ALOE <i>Aloidendron barberae</i>	C	Indigenous. Found in forests in the east of the country. The largest aloe species in Southern Africa, reaching 18 m, and the only one with pink-orange flowers.	28
SWAMP CYPRESS (BALD CYPRESS) <i>Taxodium distichum</i>	D	Central and North America. Can survive submerged in swamps for months. Oldest specimen dated 1 622 years. Tallest in Virginia (United States) measured 44 m. Small cones and feathery foliage.	
NEW ZEALAND LAUREL <i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>	E	New Zealand. Also known as the karaka.	
CORAL TREE <i>Erythrina caffra</i>	F	Indigenous. Found in coastal forests from the Garden Route to KwaZulu-Natal. Orange- scarlet flowers and seeds. Widely used for landscaping in temperate areas throughout the world.	242
BROOM CLUSTER FIG <i>Ficus sur/Ficus carpensis</i>	G	Indigenous. Widespread in the east to northeast. Often found growing on termite mounds. Uses range from wagon brake blocks to drums. Fruit relished by certain birds and animals.	50
MADAGASCAR CYCAD <i>Cycas thouarsii</i>	H	Natural range limited to Madagascar and nearby islands, as well as coastal areas of Kenya, Mozambique and Tanzania.	

NAME		DESCRIPTION	SA TREE NO
NORFOLK ISLAND PINE <i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	J	Norfolk Island. Reaches up to 60 m. A tall, straight, symmetrical tree from the South Pacific islands. Well adapted to windy environments. Appears in Bowler's 1851 painting of the Sundial in the Company's Garden.	
BLACK MULBERRY <i>Morus nigra</i>	K	West Asia. Dates back to 1800. Thought to be a seedling from one of the original trees planted to establish a silk industry in the Cape.	
GUM MYRTLE <i>Angophora costata</i>	L	Australia. Reaches up to 25 m, with gnarled limbs. Grey bark shed in spring to reveal new, pink bark. Appears in Bowler's 1851 painting of the Sundial in the Company's Garden.	
SAFFRON PEAR <i>Pyrus communis</i>	M	Europe. A long-lived species that can reach 500 years or more, and 20 m in height. The one in the Company's Garden is believed to be the oldest cultivated tree in South Africa.	
GINKGO (MAIDENHAIR) TREE <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	N	China. Once thought extinct, it is the only living representative of a family that was widespread in the time of the dinosaurs. A well-known tree for medicinal uses. Roasted seeds are edible.	
CAPE WILD BANANA <i>Strelitzia alba</i>	P	Indigenous. Related to the banana and the crane flower (<i>Strelitzia reginae</i>). Leaves and seeds are used for basket ware, spiritual rituals, and adornments.	32
WILD DATE PALM <i>Phoenix reclinata</i>	Q	Indigenous. Eastern Cape to Egypt. Leaves used for woven products, including boys' skirts in the amaXhosa's initiation rites. Palm wine is made from the sap. Beans used as a coffee substitute.	22
SOUTHERN MAGNOLIA <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	R	North America. Reaches up to 27 m. Large white flowers measuring 20–30 cm. Glossy leaves are widely used in the florist industry, especially for wreaths.	
NEW ZEALAND CHRISTMASTREE/BOTTLEBRUSH <i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	S	New Zealand. Red bristling flowers are very characteristic of the Christmas season. Tolerant to acid rain and wind.	

NAME		DESCRIPTION	SA TREE NO
ENGLISH OAK <i>Quercus robur</i> At high risk of polyphagous shothole borer (PSHB) infestation	T	Europe. Brought to the Cape in the 17 th century for timber. Species prone to a number of diseases. Near the Tap in a Tree in the Garden.	
NATAL FIG <i>Ficus natalensis</i>	U	Indigenous. Reaches heights of 20 m, and just as wide. Khoi name was <i>t'Kaa</i> . Bark fibre was used to make rope.	57
BOX ELDER <i>Acer negundo variegatum</i> At high risk of PSHB infestation	V	North America. A variegated, smaller species of the original box elder. Planted for its ornamental qualities, and for shade.	
FLOSS-SILK/BRAZILIAN KAPOK <i>Ceiba speciosa</i>	W	Tropical and subtropical South America. Belongs to the same family as the Baobab. Distinctive bottle-shaped trunk, and largely ornamental. The 'kapok' can be used for stuffing.	
RUBBER TREE <i>Ficus elastica</i>	X	CHAMPION TREE India and tropical Asia. Can be kept as a potted houseplant, but when outdoors, grows to sprawling tree of 15 m tall. Sap is used for making rubber.	
AUSTRALIAN PAPERBARK <i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i>	Y	Australia. Related to the tea tree. Characteristic papery bark that tends to peel off in strips.	
MORETON BAY FIG <i>Ficus macrophylla</i>	Z	Australia. Also known as the strangler fig. Very large tree. See Arderne Gardens, Claremont, for champion Moreton Bay figs.	



A. Witte wijnappel



B. Outeniqua yellowwood



C. Tree aloe



D. Swamp cypress



E. New Zealand laurel



F. Coral tree



G. Broom cluster fig



H. Madagascar cycad



J. Norfolk Island pine



K. Black mulberry



L. Gum myrtle, smooth-bark
apple gum



M. Saffron pear



N. *Ginkgo biloba*



P. Cape wild banana



Q. Wild date palm



R. Southern magnolia



S. New Zealand christmas tree/
bottlebrush



T. English oak with the Tap in
a Tree



U. Natal fig



V. Box elder



W. Floss-silk/Brazilian kapok



X. Rubber tree (champion tree)



Y. Australian paperbark



Y. Moreton Bay fig

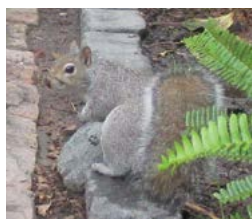
COMMON FAUNA OF THE COMPANY'S GARDEN

NAME	DESCRIPTION
MAMMALS	
Eastern grey squirrel <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	Introduced to South Africa by Cecil John Rhodes in the 19th century. The squirrels were released on the Groote Schuur Estate (campus of the University of Cape Town) and quickly spread to the rest of the Southwestern Cape. Currently, their distribution is limited by the availability of food sources.
White squirrel <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	While albinism is relatively rare, a growing number of white squirrels are spotted in the Company's Garden.
Brown rat <i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	Prolific in the Company's Garden, these rats often come beg for peanuts and treats along with the squirrels.
BIRDS	
Egyptian goose <i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	Very wide distribution, and common in the Company's Garden. Also known as 'kolgans' for the large brown spot on its chest.
Helmeted guineafowl <i>Numida meleagris</i>	Widely distributed across Southern Africa and well adapted to suburban environment.
Reed cormorant <i>Microcarbo africanus ssp. africanus</i>	Wide distribution in sub-Saharan Africa. Fairly common, and breeds in wetland areas and along the coast. Also known as the long-tailed cormorant.
Spotted thick-knee <i>Burhinus capensis</i>	Also known as a 'dikkop'. This bird has adapted well to urban environments. It usually roosts during the day and comes out at dusk.
Speckled pigeon <i>Columba guinea</i>	Widely distributed across sub-Saharan Africa. Well adapted to urban environment. Readily breeds with feral pigeons.
Stock dove <i>Columba livia domestica</i>	Extremely common and well known inhabitant of cities around the world.
Red-wing starling <i>Onychognathus morio ssp. morio</i>	Common in urban environments. Natural habitat extends from Eastern to Southern Africa.
Common starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Very common in the Western Cape and in suburban gardens. It is classified as a category 3 invasive species.
Red-eyed dove <i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	Very common in urban environment, especially where water sources and tall trees are present.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
Red-eyed dove <i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	Widely distributed in Eastern and Southern Africa. Also known as the Cape turtle dove. Squirrels often raid their nests.
Laughing dove <i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	Very tame, small dove commonly found in suburban gardens.
African sacred ibis <i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	Native to much of Africa. Featured strongly in Ancient Egyptian mythology and commonly found mummified in tombs (hence 'sacred').
Hadada ibis <i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	Very wide distribution across sub-Saharan Africa. These birds were once considered rare in the Cape, and a protected species. They are now very common.
Cape weaver <i>Placeus capensis</i>	Endemic to South Africa, this bird is commonly found in fynbos areas. They can be a pest in agricultural areas.
Olive thrush <i>Turdus olivaceus</i>	Very common throughout Africa. It is adapted to suburban gardens.
Cape white-eye <i>Zosterops virens ssp. capensis</i>	Native to South Africa, this little bird is very common in suburban gardens. There are three subspecies, that are geographically distinct, but can interbreed.
Cape robin-chat <i>Cossypha caffra</i>	Common at the Cape, partial to fynbos, and commonly found in gardens and parks.
House sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	This sparrow was introduced to the Cape in the 19th century. It is now widely distributed and commonly found in suburban gardens. Very similar to the local Cape sparrow.
Cape sparrow <i>Passer melanurus</i>	Wide distribution across Southern Africa. Very similar to the house sparrow, but with more striking markings. Also known as 'mossie'. It is becoming less common in the Cape Town area.
Southern fiscal <i>Lanius collaris ssp. collaris</i>	Occurs throughout South Africa. Hunts insects and small rodents. Also known as the butcher bird, as it hangs prey on thorns to be eaten later.
Cape wagtail <i>Motacilla capensis ssp. capensis</i>	Common across Southern Africa. Well adapted to urbanisation, and commonly found in parks and gardens.
Common waxbill <i>Estrilda astrild</i>	Widely distributed across Southern Africa, this bird is commonly kept as a caged bird. One sighting in the Garden was in 2016 in the Aviary.
Sweet waxbill <i>Coccothraustes melanotis</i>	Native to Southern Africa. Commonly found in small groups. Occasionally found in suburban gardens.
Southern double-collared sunbird <i>Cinnyris chalybeus</i>	Common in the Southwestern Cape and occurring in suburban gardens where nectar-rich plants are present.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
Pied crow <i>Corvus albus</i>	Widely spread across sub-Saharan Africa and well adapted to the urban environment, where it scavenges on food wastes. It is becoming somewhat of a pest. Also known as 'witborskraai'.
Hartlaub's gull <i>Chroicocephalus hartlaubii</i>	Endemic to South Africa and Namibia coastal area. Traditional breeding colony on Robben Island.
Grey-hooded gull <i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>	Common and widespread fresh water gull species. It prefers to stay close to land.
Kelp gull <i>Larus dominicanus ssp. vetula</i>	Endemic to Southern Africa. Usually occurring at the coast. In urban areas close to the ocean, they will scavenge in rubbish, and like to bath in fresh water.
Grey heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Widely distributed across Africa, it prefers shallow waterbodies.
Little egret <i>Egretta garzetta ssp. garzetta</i>	Widely distributed across sub-Saharan Africa, preferring shallow water along streams, estuaries and other natural waterbodies. Commonly found near sewerage works and man-made canals and dams.
African harrier-hawk <i>Polyboroides typus</i>	Widely distributed in sub-Saharan Africa. It is well adapted to the urban environment. Interestingly, this hawk is omnivorous and also eats palm fruits.
LIZARDS AND GECKOS	
Cape skink <i>Trachylepis capensis</i>	This lizard is indigenous to South Africa. It is commonly found in suburban gardens. It gives birth to live young.
Common dwarf gecko <i>Lygodactylus capensis</i>	This gecko was introduced to Cape Town and is now commonly found in suburban gardens. It naturally occurs in woodlands and forested areas.
FROGS	
Cape river frog <i>Amietia fuscigula</i>	Widely occurring in the Western and Eastern Cape, with a wide variation in colour. It is threatened by habitat loss.
Clicking stream frog <i>Strongylopus grayii</i>	A small frog with a big call, these frogs are found near ponds and shallow streams.shallow streams.
INSECTS	
Western honey bee <i>Apis mellifera</i>	This is the traditional honey bee that we associate with honey production. They are widely distributed across the world, except for Antarctica.
Cape honey bee <i>Apis mellifera ssp. capensis</i>	Endemic to the Western Cape.

NAME	DESCRIPTION
Double-banded carpenter bee <i>Xylocopa caffra</i>	These bees range from West to Central and Southern Africa. In the Western Cape, all bees have yellow bands, while elsewhere, there is a difference between male and female bees.
Paper wasp (European) <i>Polistes dominula</i>	This paper wasp is an invasive species in the Western Cape. It has characteristic yellow and black banding on its abdomen.
Garden acraea <i>Acraea horta</i>	This butterfly is native to South Africa and Zimbabwe, and is very common. The larvae feed on Kiggelaria and granadilla species.
Plain tiger or African monarch butterfly <i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	Widely distributed across the world.
Large white (butterfly) <i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Also known as the cabbage moth, this is an invasive butterfly. It is a common pest found in vegetable gardens.
Painted lady (butterfly) <i>Vanessa cardui</i>	This butterfly occurs in most countries across the globe. It is common throughout South Africa.
Grassveld sylph <i>Metisella malgacha</i>	Butterfly commonly found in grassland and grass paths in between fynbos.
Geometrician <i>Grammodes stolidia</i>	Widespread across Africa, southern Europe, Asia and Australia.
Julia skimmer <i>Orthetrum julia</i>	A dragonfly. Widely spread, preferring rivers and freshwater springs.
Broad scarlet <i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	A dragonfly. Commonly found throughout Africa.
Common bluetail <i>Ischnura senegalensis</i>	A damselfly. Native to Africa.
Harlequin lady beetle (ladybird) <i>Harmonia axyridis</i>	Introduced as a biological control for aphids and scale, this beetle is now considered to be a category 1b invasive species. It varies in colour from red to orange, and the number of spots also varies. Identifiable by the M or W marking.



Eastern grey squirrel



Egyptian goose



Stock dove



Red-wing starling



Red-eyed dove



Laughing dove



Olive thrush



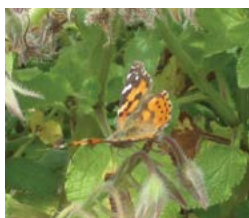
Hartlaub's gull



Western honey bee



Double-banded carpenter bee



Painted lady



Broad scarlet



Common bluetail



Cape skink



Cape white-eye

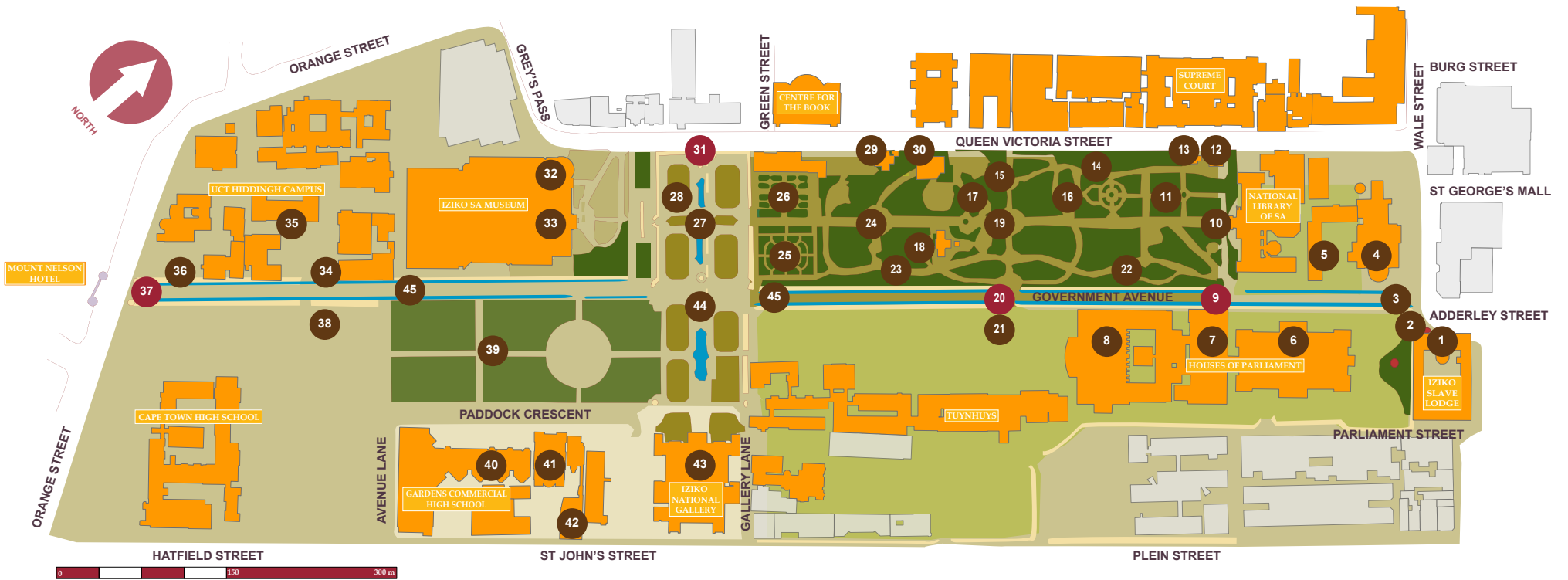
KEY PLACES OF INTEREST

- 1 Iziko Slave Lodge
- 2 General Jan Smuts and Parliament Lane
- 3 Arch for the Arch
- 4 St George's Cathedral
- 5 Old Grammar School and Labyrinth
- 6 Houses of Parliament (1885)
- 7 Old House of Assembly (1910)
- 8 New House of Assembly (1987)
- 9 Formal entrance to the Company's Garden
- 10 Sir George Grey
- 11 Japanese Lantern
- 12 The Bothy
- 13 Chalet (public toilet)
- 14 Woodlands Walk
- 15 Rutherfoord Fountain
- 16 Herb Garden, and Aloe and Succulent Garden
- 17 Pear Tree
- 18 Old Aviary and 'Slave Bell'
- 19 Sundial
- 20 Central entrance to the Company's Garden
- 21 Tuynhuys
- 22 Fernery
- 23 Palm Grove
- 24 Thorne Fountain
- 25 Rose Garden
- 26 VOC Vegetable Garden
- 27 Delville Wood Memorial
- 28 CWGC Labour Corps Memorial
- 29 Director's House
- 30 Company's Garden Restaurant
- 31 Queen Victoria Street entrance to the Company's Garden
- 32 Planetarium
- 33 Iziko South African Museum
- 34 Lioness Gateway
- 35 UCT Hiddingh Campus
- 36 Iziko Bertram House
- 37 Orange Street entrance to the Company's Garden
- 38 Lion Gateway
- 39 The Paddocks
- 40 Avenue Terrace
- 41 The Great Synagogue
- 42 Jewish Museum and Holocaust Centre
- 43 Iziko South African National Gallery
- 44 Smuts Statue
- 45 Stone-lined water furrows

LIST OF TREES

- A** Witte wijnappel
- B** Outeniqua yellowwood
- C** Tree aloë
- D** Swamp cypress
- E** New Zealand laurel
- F** Coral tree
- G** Broom cluster fig
- H** Madagascar cycad
- J** Norfolk Island pine
- K** Black mulberry
- L** Gum myrtle
- M** Saffron pear
- N** Ginkgo/maidenhair tree
- P** Cape wild banana
- Q** Wild date palm
- R** Southern magnolia
- S** New Zealand christmas tree
- T** English oak
- U** Natal fig
- V** Box elder
- W** Floss-silk tree
- X** Rubber tree (champion)
- Y** Australian paperbark
- Z** Moreton Bay fig

THE COMPANY'S GARDEN AND PRECINCT WALK



INSERT: DETAIL TREE MAP



PLEASE OPEN TO VIEW MAP

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