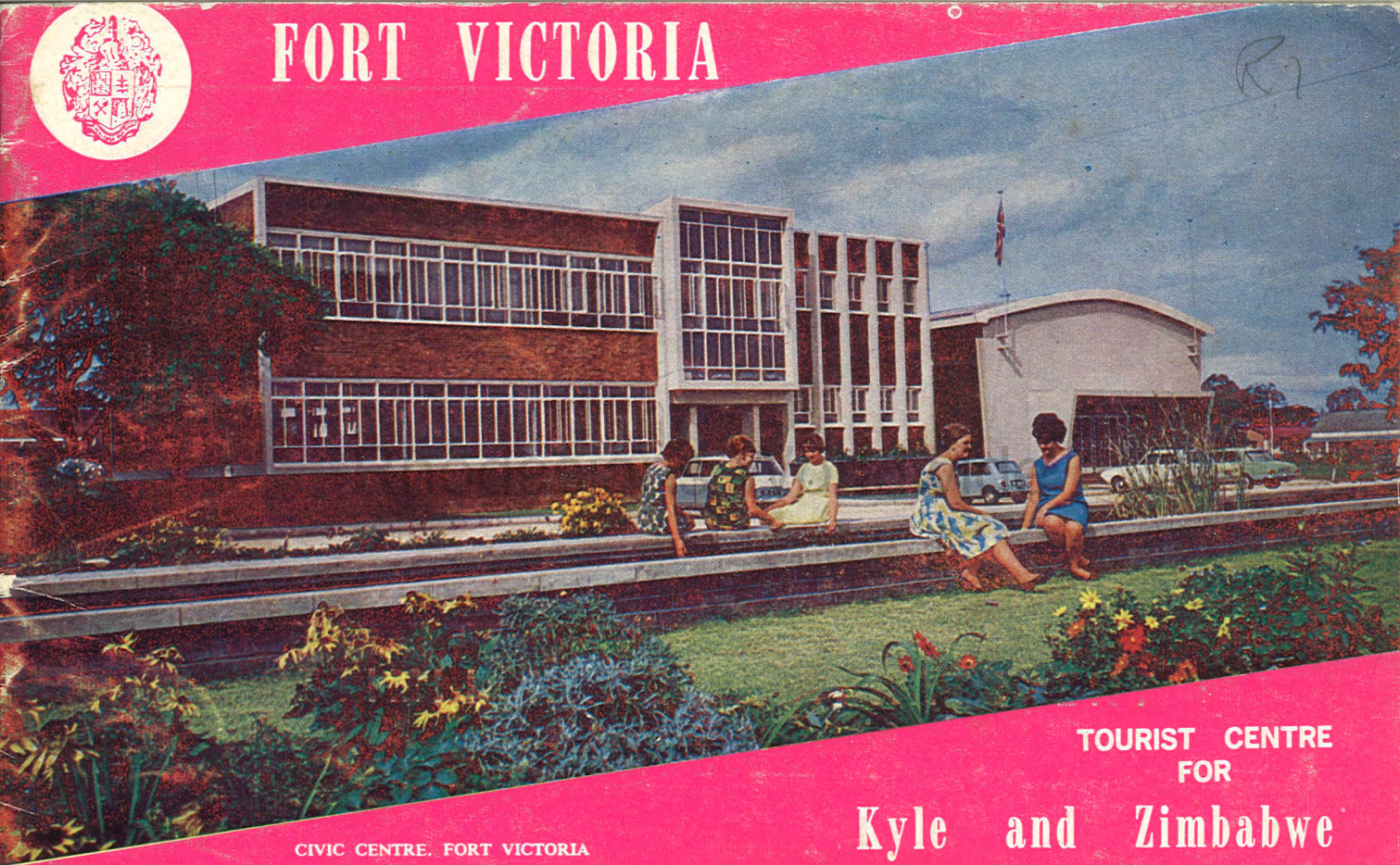




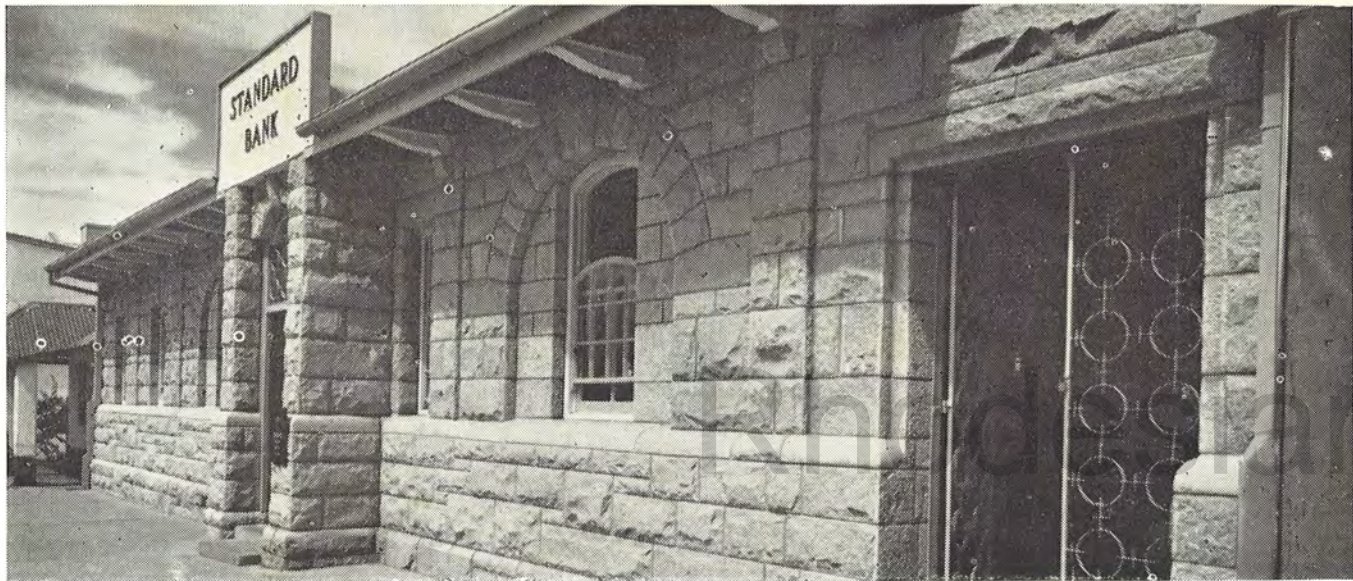
FORT VICTORIA



CIVIC CENTRE, FORT VICTORIA

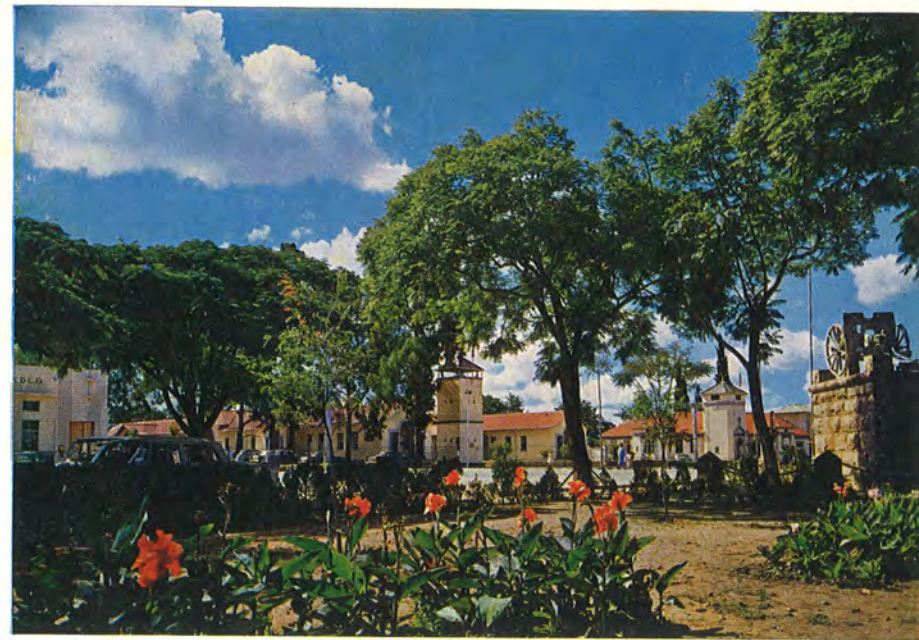
TOURIST CENTRE
FOR

Kyle and Zimbabwe



THE STANDARD BANK LIMITED

Fort Victoria Branch,
Established in 1911.



The graciousness and pioneering atmosphere of the town is captured in this picture. The famous Bell Tower (from the original fort) can be seen through the trees (centre).

Fort Victoria

Past and Present

Fort Victoria lies approximately in the dead centre of the developed portion of Rhodesia, being almost equidistant from Salisbury, Bulawayo and Umtali and enjoying an equable climate all the year round.

Fort Victoria is the oldest town in Rhodesia and was the first permanent settlement established by the Pioneer Column in its march through Mashonaland in 1890. Part of the old Fort, built in 1891 for protection against hostile natives, still stands in the centre of the flourishing township which has grown up around it.

The Pioneer Column left North Bechuanaland in July, 1890, to occupy Mashonaland under the terms of the concession granted by Lobengula, King of the Matabele. Since the concession was not favoured by the Matabelele people, the Column's guide, the Hunter, F. C. Selous, chose a route through thick bush



country well to the east of Lobengula's country. At the foot of the hills guarding the Mashonaland Plateau, Selous had to search for three days before he found a route he named Providential Pass which would allow the Column's 117 ox-wagons to get through.

The altitude is 3,502 feet above sea-level and the climate is moderate. The average rainfall is 25 to 28 inches falling between November and March for the main part and the mean temperature is between 60°F. and 85°F.

The population is — Europeans 2,400 — Africans 9,000 and other races 300.

Over the years, the district had built up a large cattle industry which, in 1952, justified the erection of one of Africa's most modern cold storage works in the town.

Coupled with the postwar boom, this was the first major "breakthrough" resulting in the circulation of a considerable amount of extra money in the district owing to the elimination of losses on weights and grades which had occurred in railing cattle to Bulawayo for slaughter.

The nuclear age also brought a demand for the base minerals in which the district abounds, and small secondary industries started to spring up, generating, in their turn, considerable expansion of commerce.

Thanks to the vision, courage and enterprise of Mr. Thomas Murray MacDougall, the pioneer of sugar growing in Rhodesia, the produc-

tion of that crop in the lowveld area to the south of the town continued to expand, justifying the construction of the £2,000,000 Kyle Dam a few years ago, to meet the demand for irrigation water.

As a consequence, land which could previously only produce 5/- per acre a year under ranching conditions, was made to realise £20 an acre a year under irrigated sugar, citrus and other crops, providing employment for tens of thousands.

But the creation of this 32 square-mile lake, (second only to Kariba in size), has created yet another industry which promises to be of no less importance than the primary production which was its main object.

Flooding two main river valleys and set amid wooded hills in scenery which reminds many people of the Scottish lochs, with the world-famous Zimbabwe Ruins only a few miles from its shores, this man-made lake is rapidly developing into one of Rhodesia's main tourist attractions.

The development of communications has, of course, kept pace with all this surge of activity and the construction of high-level bridges on the Fort Victoria-Beitbridge Road has removed entirely the former hazard of being cut off by flooded rivers on the shortest route between South Africa and Salisbury. Fine tarred roads, through some of the finest scenery in Rhodesia give visitors from the South the unique experience of following the



Rest Huts, Camping and Caravan Sites

For those who plan more of an open-air holiday than staying in hotels, there are both Government and privately run rest camps in the Kyle/Zimbabwe area, where comfortable rest huts are available with all facilities for cooking, ablutions, laundry, etc., and within a short distance of country hotels with swimming baths, bars and normal services.

One such camp is in the immediate vicinity of the Ruins and another on the shores of Lake Kyle and there is ample provision for caravaners and campers under canvas.

In Fort Victoria itself there is a municipal camping ground, also with full facilities, quietly situated on a river bank, yet within easy walking distance of the shopping centre.

Victoria's second dam, Mushandike, also has Government rest huts available.



The atmosphere of mystery at Zimbabwe is nowhere more potent than in the parallel passage between the outer and inner walls of the Elliptical Temple. Note the symmetry of the mortarless granite blocks forming the walls.



Some of the delightful thatched rest huts, at Zimbabwe, for those who like to savour the real life of Rhodesia.

approximate route of the 1890 Pioneer Column, with all the comforts of modern travel.

With its central geographic position and easy access to other centres, Fort Victoria provides the ideal starting point for a tour of Rhodesia.

Gone are the days when visitors would make a flying, one-day trip to Fort Victoria just to see Zimbabwe Ruins. The opportunities for boating, angling and water-sport, sites of historic interest and numerous scenic drives are such that Fort Victoria has become recognised as one of Rhodesia's main holiday resorts. The addition of a museum at Zimbabwe, in charge of a qualified archaeologist, has given a new meaning to a visit to the Ruins.

For the more serious visitor, and the investor, large or small, the exciting developments, taking place in a town and district, which has earned the reputation of being the brightest spot in the Rhodesian economy in recent times of recession, cannot fail to be of interest.

One asset, which cannot be sufficiently stressed, is the fantastic water potential available.

Most of Rhodesia's development has, so far, taken place along the line-of-rail, running along the Rhodesian watershed, from which the large number of major rivers flowing through the Fort Victoria area are supplied.

It is an elementary fact that the large concentrations of population attracted by industries cannot exist without adequate water, apart from

actual industrial needs, and this fact alone must compel future industries to move to the lower areas in order to avoid sub-economic pumping operations.

With the building of Kyle alone, the municipal area is assured of sufficient water for all time and the abundance of future dam sites for further agricultural development ensures no lack of supplies for processing main and by-products.

This, then, is the broad outline of Fort Victoria to-day and the following pages are intended to give you information in greater detail.

MUCHEKE TOWNSHIP

Fort Victoria has always been one of the most progressive towns in Rhodesia in the matter of the housing and welfare of its African population.

There are over 1,000 residential units (houses and rooms) and 25 occupied houses under the "Home Ownership Scheme" which have been purchased by the occupants and are being paid for over a period of 20 years. A new administration block, with accommodation for the Township staff and a committee room, has been built.

Sporting facilities include a full size sports stadium, incorporating a cinder running track. Football, boxing, tennis, netball and golf are all catered for.

There is a children's club, a library and an active Women's Homecraft club.

Places of Interest to Visit

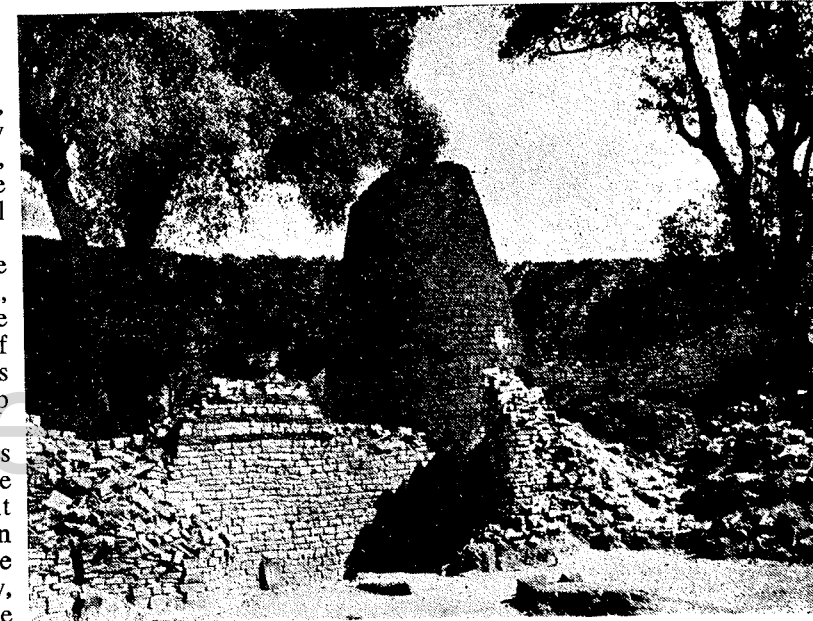
ZIMBABWE

From the time of the Occupation in 1890, long before the Victoria district, as such, held any attractions other than prospecting and farming, the now world famous Zimbabwe Ruins have acted as a magnet drawing people from all corners of the globe.

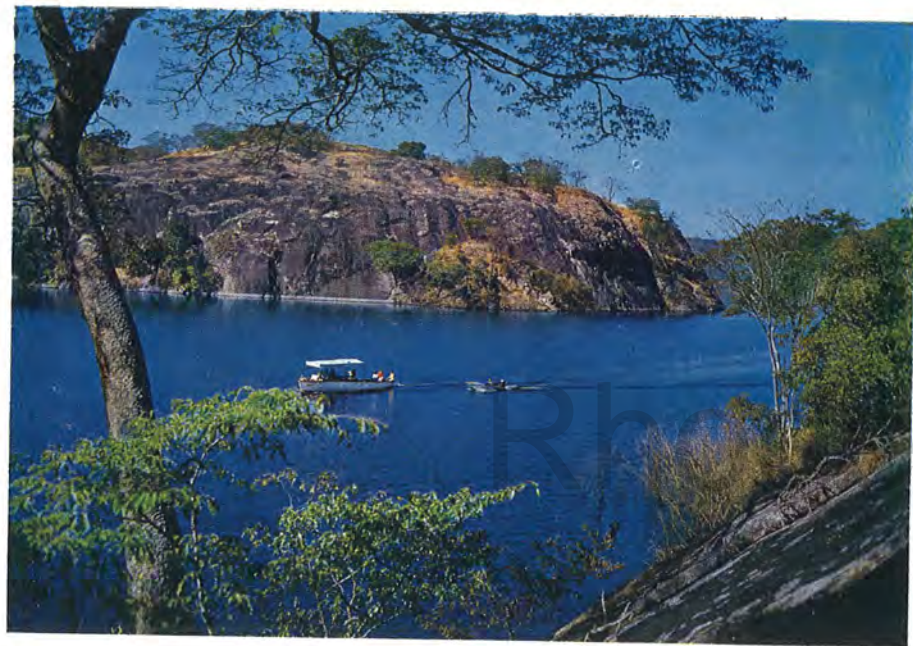
The mystery of this great area of stone buildings with massive walls up to 32 feet high, gave rise to fanciful theories connecting the site with such romantic personages as the Queen of Sheba, and even some of the early investigators were carried away to the extent of bolstering up the popular myths.

Modern research has disproved the fallacies without destroying either the romance or the mystery of the Ruins. It is now known that Zimbabwe has been in continuous occupation since 300 A.D. although the ruins themselves were not commenced until well into the 11th century, and their construction by an indigenous people spread over several hundred years.

But the big question marks remain. Who exactly were the people and what was the purpose of the buildings? What sort of life was lived there? What were the logistics of carrying to the



The Conical Tower and a section of the ruins in the Elliptical Temple at Zimbabwe.



A scene on the 32-square-mile Lake Kyle, showing some of the massive granite hills so typical of the area. The lake has a shoreline 160 miles long and irrigates thousands of lowveld acres 70 miles away.

site the fantastic amount of stone needed and feeding the multitudes who must have been engaged on the task of erecting the huge, unmortared walls?

Those who have only seen pictures of Zimbabwe are frequently misled into believing, from photographs of the "Elliptical Temple" and the earlier built "Acropolis" towering on the hill top on the opposite side of the valley, that a few hours are sufficient to see all that is to be seen, and suffer disappointment if their itinerary does not permit a longer stay, when they find a whole day insufficient time in which to ramble through the Ruins area, where sheer fascination leads one on from point to point and it is difficult indeed not to let the imagination run riot.

But the visitor wants more than speculation — he also wants FACT and this is supplied by a site museum which was erected in 1961, by public subscription and a grant from the State Lotteries Trustees.

Here have been gathered many of the relics of Zimbabwe, and, where this has not been possible, replicas have been supplied by other Museums.

It is tragic that so much that might have been on view and cast light on the mystery was lost in the past through the lack of the present day knowledge of preservation.

The Ruins and Museum are now in the charge of an archaeologist.

Adjacent to the Museum is a 19th Century Village housing the Karanga exhibits of that period. The entrance to the Village is through a small curio shop with pottery and carvings made by local craftsmen.

Route: Turn left just outside Fort Victoria on Beitbridge road and fork left after 5 miles.

KYLE DAM

Kyle Dam is one of Rhodesia's greatest engineering achievements. From a purely utilitarian standpoint, the public expenditure of £2,000,000 on this barrage (219 feet high and 1,020 feet long) at the confluence of the Umshagashi and Mtilikwe rivers has proved one of the finest investments of public funds in the country's history.

Its success in terms of creating new wealth by opening up irrigation schemes in the lowveld has been such that, in early 1964, a locally stationed agricultural expert stated publicly he was unable to keep up with the acreage of the big estates: new land was being opened every time he visited them. The value of the scheme in giving employment for thousands of Rhodesians, on an ever increasing scale, and building a great export trade, is incalculable and it is forecast on all sides that the resultant fantastic development so far achieved is but a shadow of things to come.

But the secondary effect of building this dam is no less important. The flooding of two

deep river valleys to form a 32 square-mile lake, in the shape of a broad "Y", with innumerable creeks and inlets, has resulted in a sheet of water unrivalled anywhere in Africa for its beauty. Surrounded by steep, wooded hills, every change of light, weather or season brings a change of vista so that the panorama never palls, even on those who live there. Lake Kyle represents the finest Rhodesia has to offer.

With Zimbabwe Ruins, hotels and camping sites in the immediate vicinity and only a short run from Fort Victoria itself, the opportunities for angling, boating, yachting and all forms of water sport, in an equable climate, make it an ideal place for a holiday, short or long, and its reputation rests firmly on the reports carried away by thousands of tourists, to whom its attractions came as a revelation on their first visit.

The surrounding country offers endless rambles over fascinating terrain and the other places of interest in the Victoria district all lie within easy driving distance.

As a place to "get away from it all" without the inconveniences so often involved in the phrase, Kyle is something unique in Southern Africa.

Route: Turn left just outside Fort Victoria on Beitbridge road and fork left after 5 miles.

MUSHANDIKE NATIONAL PARK: The 1,000-acre Mushandike Dam, 24 miles from Fort Victoria, provides excellent fishing and boating.

Boats are available to the public, but preference is given at week-ends and public holidays to Angling Society members. There are comfortable rest huts which are proving most popular over week-ends.

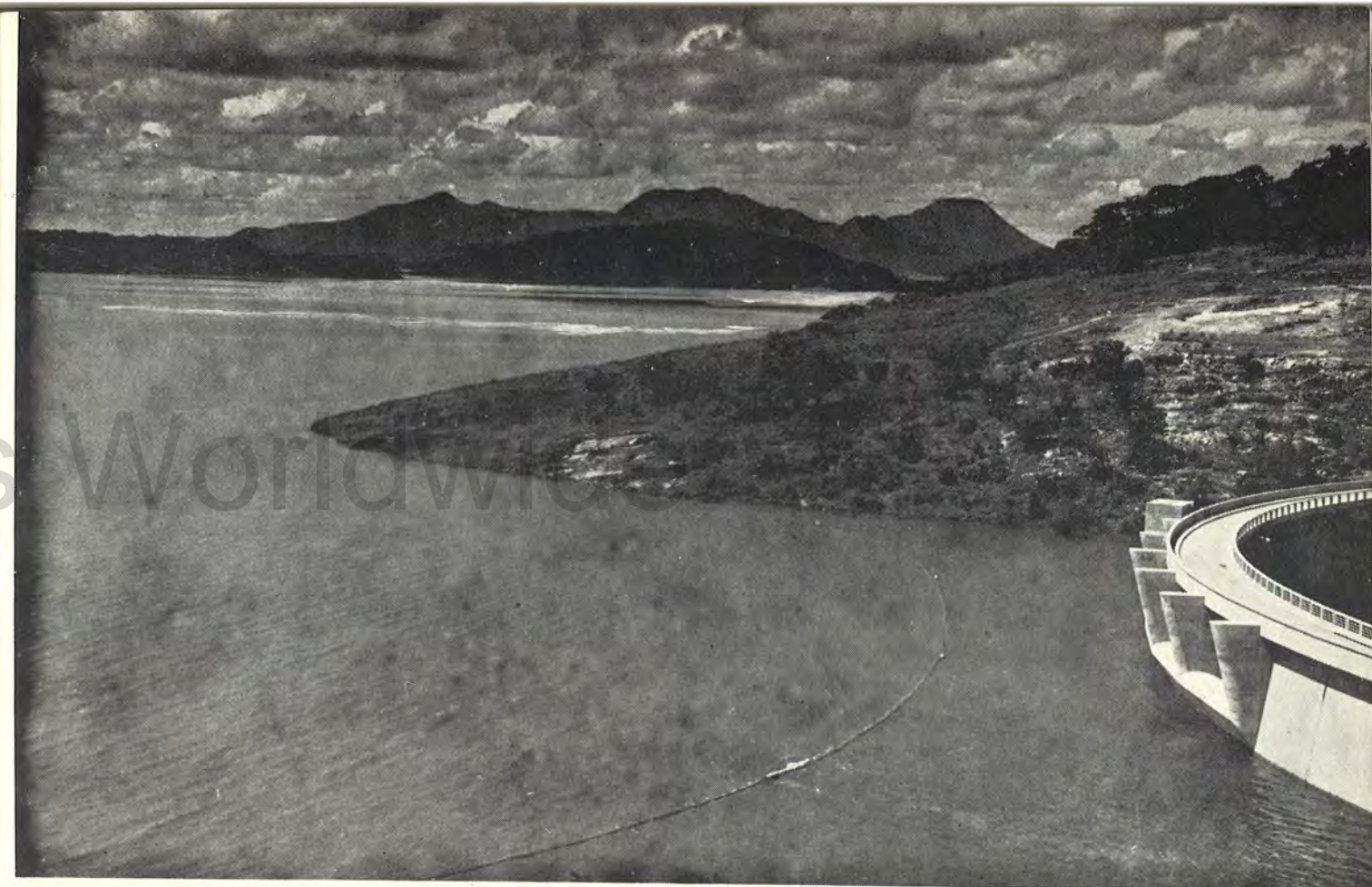
The less used approach, via the Beitbridge road and Mushandike Valley, is another lovely run with a glorious surprise view at the end, as one tops the last hill, and the glistening panorama of water and the hills beyond come into view. The road has now been extended to avoid the arduous walk over the hill. From this side the Water Bailiff operates, and the dam wall can be inspected.

Route: Along the Mashaba road 17 miles, turn left at signpost and continue for 7 miles. For those interested in a good view of the dam wall — along the new Beitbridge road for 13 miles and turn right at signpost.

The rest huts are most comfortable and set among shady trees.

BIRCHENOUGH BRIDGE: The second route from Fort Victoria is via Birchenough Bridge and takes the visitor through the beautiful Eastern Highlands of Rhodesia. Birchenough Bridge, 112 miles from Fort Victoria is a two-hinged steel arch bridge with a span of 1,080 feet, and crosses the

The massive wall of Kyle Dam is a thing of beauty in itself and has not only created a new holiday resort but also jobs for tens of thousands of workers.



Sabi River 280 feet above the water. It was built by the Beit Trustees and was opened to traffic in 1935.

PUBLIC GARDENS — ZIMBABWE.

A garden of some ten acres in extent has been developed at Zimbabwe National Park. Water gardens and woodland walks alternate with rockeries planted with aloes and cacti, giving a colourful show during June/July. The plants, mostly of African origin, have been named, as have most of the trees. Within the garden is a



cave used in the past as a refuge from raiders, and a flight of steps up to the face of a kopje, giving a fine view of Lake Kyle.

ITALIAN CHURCH

The Chapel was built by the Italian Prisoners of War of the 5th Camp Extension of Fort Victoria, during the years 1942/1946.

Most of the Prisoners of War originated from Ethiopia.

The Chapel was built more or less as it stands at present, with the exception of the two wings, which were added after the war to collect the remains of 71 Italian Prisoners of War who died in captivity, in the following Prisoner of War Camps of both the Rhodesias: Salisbury, Fort Victoria, Gatooma, Lusaka, Gwelo, Umvuma, Selukwe and Chipinga.

The paintings and mosaics of the apse are the works of an Italian Civil Engineer, who was himself a Prisoner of War. The Murals and paintings of the Aisle were done by the Italian Authorities in 1956/57 at the time when the wings and tombs were being constructed.

On the 27th January, 1957, the Chapel was consecrated by Bishop Francis Mazzieri.

An African watchman is on duty at the Church all week, except on Mondays and on

Mushandike Lake seen from Circular Road.



A legacy of World War II. The beautiful interior of the chapel built by Italian prisoners of war.

request will unlock the Church door. A key is also kept at the Publicity Bureau — open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Route: Proceed along Umtali road for approximately 2 miles, turn left at sign-post, continue for about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile on the right hand fork.

GLENLIVET: For the visitor who can spare the time, a trip to Glenlivet is recommended. The attractive circular route runs part of its way along the Mtilikwe River. From here a good view is obtained of Kyle Dam. When the new road over the dam wall links up with the Glenlivet road, the distance will only be 19 miles from Zimbabwe Ruins.

Route: Along the Umtali road 18 miles, turn right.

CHIPINDA POOLS: Far off the beaten track lie the Chipinda Pools 40 miles west of the confluence of the Lundi and Sabi rivers. The turn-off is seven miles north of the Lundi Bridge on the Fort Victoria/Beitbridge road. A good road runs from the Triangle Halt to the Triangle Sugar Estates, and then a bush track, easily travelled by big car, winds through a Native Reserve to the Pools, where there is good fishing and rugged scenery. Tourists should carry water, food and camping equipment — an axe is often useful for clearing

the trees pushed across the road by elephant near the Pools. Petrol is now obtainable on route.

Route: The Turn-Off is seven miles north of the Lundi Bridge on the Fort Victoria/Beitbridge Road.

MORGENSTER MISSION: Visitors to Zimbabwe and Kyle Dam who have sufficient time are strongly recommended to visit Morgenster, a picturesque mission station which lies four miles from Zimbabwe at the end of a winding road through the hills. This Mission was founded by the Rev. A. A. Louw in 1891, the year after the Pioneer Column entered Mashonaland, and is directed by the Cape section of the Dutch Reformed Church. The "Morgenster View" provides one of the greatest panoramas in Rhodesia.

PIONEER CEMETERY: The earliest burials in the district took place in this Cemetery, before the township was moved to its present site. For many years these graves suffered from considerable neglect until, fairly recently, and largely as a result of the initiative of Sir Ray Stockil, the present granite wall was erected and the Cemetery rededicated.

Of the pioneers buried here, the names of only a handful are known, and even the most exhaustive enquiries have failed to elicit much information about them.

But the cemetery may be regarded as symbolic of Rhodesia's Unknown Pioneers — men

whose lives were claimed too soon by the hazards of the country for them to be remembered as individuals, but whose contribution to the civilising of Central Africa was not one jot less valuable than those whose names later became famous. The route to the Cemetery is well signposted on the Beitbridge road.

Route: Beitbridge road — turn right 1 mile.

PROVIDENTIAL PASS MEMORIAL: The discovery of this pass by the great hunter and scout, Selous, brought a sense of relief to the men of the Pioneer Column who had spent many weeks painfully cutting a road through the thickly wooded lowveld, always on the alert against possible ambush by Matabele raiding parties. Once they had emerged onto the more open country of the highveld, the worst hazards of the journey were over. The memorial was erected in 1950 during Rhodesia's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

Route: Beitbridge road — 7 miles from town.

ZIMBABWE SITE MUSEUM: The opening of this Museum by the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, the Hon. Sir Humphrey Gibbs, in 1961, gave a new meaning and purpose to a visit to the Ruins.

Nearly all the known relics of Zimbabwe have been returned to this Museum and, where this has not been possible, replicas have been supplied.

The Museum was erected by public subscriptions and Government Grant, and it is pleasing to note that not less than 2,000 visitors per month are recorded.

Open during hours: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

PUBLICITY BUREAU: Fort Victoria is unique in that we have three National Parks, viz., Mushandike, Kyle Dam and Zimbabwe. A striking Publicity Bureau was opened in 1960 which will meet the much-needed help tourists require when visiting this area. Do call in and let us help you plan your stay with us.

THE OLD BELL-TOWER: The town of Fort Victoria is the oldest European settlement in Rhodesia. Part of the Fort still stands to-day, and the old Bell-Tower from which a warning was sounded of native unrest, still tolls at 9 p.m. every evening. The Bell-Tower is opposite the Victoria Hotel in Allan Wilson Street.

CIVIC CENTRE

Fort Victoria was the first of the Municipalities in Southern Rhodesia (and probably Zambia) to embark upon a Civic Centre. Bulawayo, much earlier, constructed Municipal buildings and two town town halls, but the Bulawayo scheme has never been referred to as a Civic Centre.

In Fort Victoria the first building in the Civic Centre scheme was the Town Hall opened



Zimbabwe Museum.

in September, 1957. These buildings cost £38,500. The Administration block was opened on the 3rd June, 1959, and this building cost £34,200, making a total cost of £72,700. The Public Library is at present housed in the Municipal buildings. The scheme provides for a further building to house

the Library and a Museum. There is also provision for a large Town Hall to be built later.

An unusual feature in the Municipal buildings is the Council Chamber. One entering this Chamber for the first time has the feeling of being aboard ship. There are no windows and ventilation and lighting are obtained by artificial means. The ceiling and main back wall are so designed to give the appearance of a roll top desk.

Another special feature of this Council Chamber is the carpet on which is a pattern of the Zimbabwe Bird.

In the foyer of the Town Hall the Zimbabwe Bird has been well portrayed in the floor tiles.

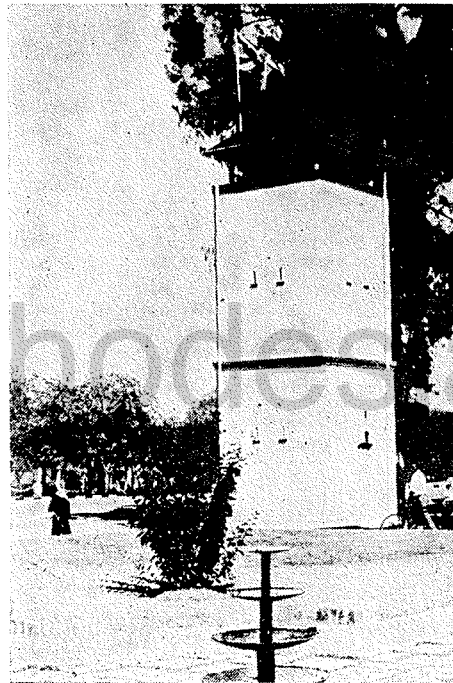
The Civic Centre is situated in the Queen Elizabeth Gardens which were so named with the approval of Her Majesty the Queen Mother, on the occasion of her visit to the Town in 1953.

KYLE GAME RESERVE

The Kyle Game Reserve is one of Rhodesia's new wildlife sanctuaries. When Kyle Dam was built it was decided to reserve a piece of land where the existing wildlife could be conserved and where new species or species that had become extinct in the area could be re-introduced. Accordingly, an area of some 16,000 acres was set aside for this purpose. The Reserve is situated between

the Shagashi and Mtilikwe arms of Lake Kyle on a peninsula.

To reach the Reserve one travels along the Umtali road from Fort Victoria for a distance of



Bell Tower.

about 10 miles and turns right at the Reserve sign post. A further 10 miles along a good gravel road brings one to the Entrance Gate.

A nominal charge of 2/- per car is charged for entry into the Reserve. A clearly sign-posted road system is available to visitors for game viewing. The Reserve is open to visitors during the winter months.

The wildlife is most interesting and varied. Kudu, bushbuck, duiker, steenbuck, klipspringer, bushpigs, vervet monkeys and reedbuck have thrived under protection and this Reserve has probably got the heaviest concentration of reedbuck in Rhodesia.

The Department of National Parks & Wildlife Management who administer this area have taken active steps to re-stock the area and there are, at present, nine White Rhino (Square-Lipped) in the Reserve.

In addition to the Rhino, Buffalo, Sable, Giraffe, Eland, Impala, Waterbuck, Zebra, Wildebeest and Ostriches have been introduced and some of these creatures have started to breed in their new home.

There is much of interest for the bird watcher. Both Humboldt's and the Red Wing francolin occur and the Secretary Bird and Martial Eagle are frequently seen. There is a wide variety of other birds.

Some 17 hippo inhabit Lake Kyle and are often seen from the roads in the Reserve or by boaters.

There is a Fish Research centre in the Game Reserve with a resident Biologist. Fish breeding ponds are being established and a start has been made on the aquarium which will contain local fish. The Biologist is very keen that fishermen should record their catches and pass the information on to him.

MISSIONS

Around Fort Victoria there are a number of mission stations, the oldest being Morgenster, where there is a school for the deaf. The newest is Bondolfi and a Swiss community there has provided funds for a large church of contemporary design.

There is also the Zimuto school for the blind, and Gokomere Mission founded by the Jesuit fathers, has now become a large secondary school.

Visitors to Capota Blind School are welcome provided the visit is made in the afternoons.

POST OFFICE HOURS

Mondays to Fridays 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Saturday 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Certain classes of business in the Post Office close an hour earlier.

THEATRE

Fort Victoria has made a contribution to Rhodesian Theatre far in excess of its size as a town, and is possibly the best known centre of theatrical activity outside the major cities. The Fort Victoria Drama Circle has a country wide reputation for outstanding theatrical productions of both experimental and conventional pattern, and has been described as a theatrical oasis by West End Director Mr. Hugh Goldie.

Membership of the Circle approximates 200, and in addition to several public productions each year, there is a lively series of productions staged at "Club Theatre".

About ten miles from the town, at Gokomere Mission, there exists an amphitheatre capable of seating two thousand people, and productions of de Calderon's "Everyman" and Elliot's "Murder in the Cathedral" have been staged here with considerable success. These productions have played to capacity audiences and have held the interest of hundreds of Africans.

In addition, Fort Victoria artists have regularly had works hung at the National Art Gallery

and local scenery attracts many landscape painters.

A very active Music Club caters for music lovers and regularly meets for recitals of live and recorded music.

Many professional musicians have been brought to Fort Victoria by the Music Club which has been sponsored by the local branch of the National Arts Council.

VICTORIA AND DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Public Library at Fort Victoria was founded twenty-six years ago by a few enthusiasts, who put up shelving in the passage of one of the offices in the town, and collected together the nucleus of what is now one of the best libraries to be found in the smaller centres.

The Library to-day is incorporated in the new Civic buildings and has a total of 7,000 books classified under sections of Biography and autobiography, Travel and Exploration, Fiction, Crime, Humour, Wild West, Classics, short stories, etc.

Industrial Possibilities

In relation to its size, Fort Victoria can claim to be as well endowed with industries as any other centre.

The Cold Storage Works was established here because of the high cattle population of the district and has proved its worth again and again, both in raising farm incomes through eliminating losses of weight and grade previously suffered on the long rail journey to Bulawayo and enabling the slaughter of stock during periodic outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease. On such occasions, before the building of the works, standstill orders prevented the sale of stock.

The Farmers' Co-operative Society, from humble beginnings many years ago, has grown into one of the largest single business organisations in the town and its wide sphere of activities includes industrial operations.

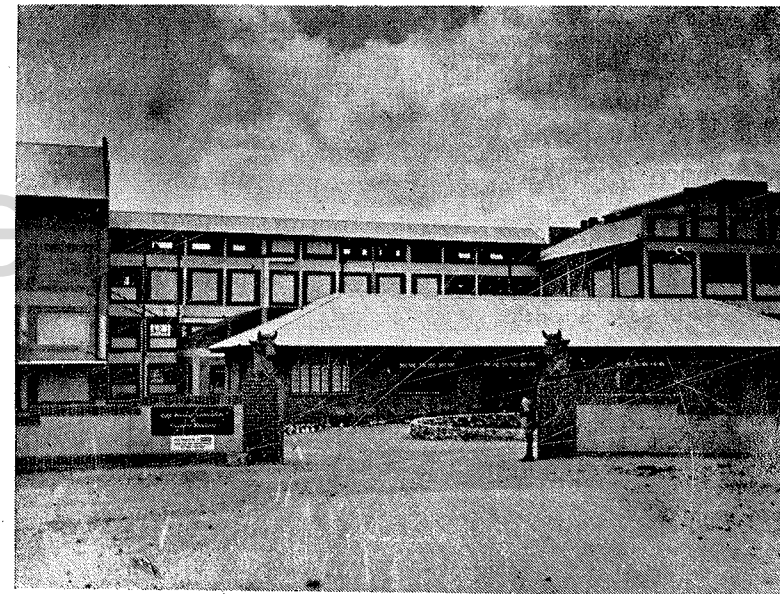
The heavy transport industry is well established and light engineering firms do a thriving business, not only in repair and maintenance work, but manufacturing, scotch carts, trailers, deep-well, centrifugal and handpumps (the latter for plowholders and African areas).

A Brewery for African-type beer has considerably expanded its activities since it was built a few years ago, and other industries include a sheet-metal works, tyre-retreading works, quarries,

brick and tile works, joinery shops, printing works, bottling plant, etc.

The success of these enterprises and the undoubted period of expansion now facing Fort Victoria are such that it cannot fail to have attractions for industrial investors, with land and power available at figures which compare favourably

Cold Storage Commission.



with other centres and industrial sites closely placed in relation to the town's African township.

Water, one of the most important factors affecting the establishment of industry is not only available at competitive rates but, what is more important, is in unlimited supply, thanks to the Municipality's farsighted action in obtaining an allocation from Kyle Dam calculated to meet every possible demand of the future.

The Victoria Province has an African population of 540,460 Africans which includes 110,900 adult males and over 100,000 children at school. This represents a tremendous reservoir, not only of unskilled labour but suitable candidates for semi-skilled jobs and training for more advanced positions, for some of the largest mission stations in the country are turning out young men keen to seize opportunities of bettering themselves.

The local Africans are a good humoured and peaceable people, who are reluctant to move far from their homes, which makes for a stable labour force. The creation of employment opportunities in the midst of this vast population carries with it the natural corollary of the creation of "a market-on-the-doorstep" which needs no explaining to industrialists.

Briefly, all the conditions exist in which industry can be expected to flourish in Fort

Victoria: new wealth is being generated at a fantastic rate in the surrounding area with a rapid increase in purchasing power; power, water and labour are freely available and every opportunity is here to "exploit success".

Ranching and Farming

FORT VICTORIA DISTRICT

The Victoria Group of European Intensive Conservation areas comprise Victoria Central, Victoria East, Mushandike, Nuanetsi, Chiredzi and Sabi Valley I.C.A.'s, with a total area of 5,500,000 acres. In addition Fort Victoria is the centre for the Chatsworth and Gutu farmers.

The mean annual rainfall varies from 40 inches in the northern parts to 15 inches in the frost free lowveld.

The main enterprise over most of the area is cattle ranching. This industry is served by a large modern Cold Storage Works situated in Fort Victoria itself. The total cattle population is approximately 185,000 and is steadily increasing. The pasture in much of the area is sweet veld on which cattle do extremely well. Beef produced in the area makes a significant contribution to the country's beef exports. The potential for expan-

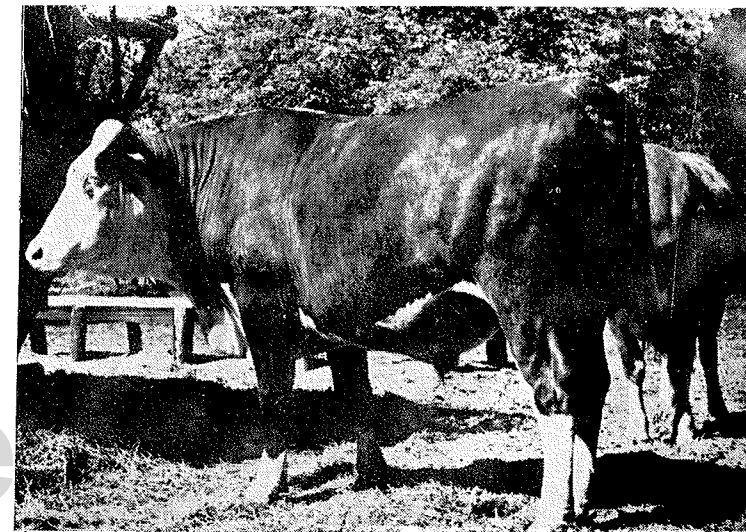
sion in cattle numbers in the lowveld is conservatively put at 80,000 head.

Dairying plays a minor role and is confined to the highveld areas adjacent to the town. Most of the milk produced is consumed locally but a ready outlet for surplus milk is found through the D.M.B. dairy in Gwelo.

Pig production although not a major enterprise has a ready outlet at the Cold Storage Works. Pigs do extremely well. Poultry production supplies the local requirements and there is little scope for expansion. The main dryland crop is maize grown principally in the Victoria East I.C.A. Returns of up to 35 bags per acre have been achieved. In the remaining areas dryland crop is geared to fodder production. Turkish tobacco, ground nuts and sorghums are recommended as cash crops.

Flue cured tobacco is important in the Gutu and Chatsworth areas and makes an important contribution to the economy of these areas.

The Mushandike I.C.A. bears its name from the Mushandike Dam which supplies water for irrigation on farms in the I.C.A. The bulk of the country's barley is grown in this I.C.A., and yields of 20/23 bags per acre are common. Wheat is the other winter crop. Flue cured tobacco, maize and cotton are grown successfully in summer under irrigation. Burley tobacco is in an early



stage of development and this crop shows considerable promise.

Most of the lowveld is devoted to extensive cattle ranching but there are 50,000 acres of sugar cane and 1,000 acres of citrus planted. Sub-tropical crops generally grow well in the lowveld, under irrigation, although much has still to be learnt about which are the most suitable varieties and what are the most suitable methods of culture.

Lowveld Development

The steady and accelerated growth of Fort Victoria, in recent years, has been so closely bound up with that of the Lowveld that it has earned the town the sobriquet of "Capital of the Lowveld". As the only Municipality in the area of jurisdiction of the Sabi-Limpopo Authority, Fort Victoria will occupy a position of increasing importance and influence in the future.

The Sabi-Limpopo area stretches east from Fort Victoria to the Portuguese border (taking in Melsetter), then follows the Rhodesian boundary south-west and west to Beitbridge, whence it continues north, through Shabani, and east back to Fort Victoria, embracing an area of over 26,000 square miles. The closest liaison is maintained between the Municipality and the Authority, which was constituted by Act of Parliament, early in 1965, with largely autonomous powers, on similar lines to the well-known Tennessee Valley Authority.

At Triangle and Hippo Valley Estates a total of 53,000 acres is under irrigation, largely to sugar, but including 1,000 acres of citrus. Sugar production is expected to reach 500,000 tons a year by 1968. A considerable amount of work has been done on other crops, including cotton, wheat, burley tobacco, beans and lucerne.

Canning, distilling and other secondary industries are in operation and the cotton prospects are such that a ginnery would seem to be one of the next logical developments, possibly followed by spinning and weaving factories.

The availability of increased fodder supplies, from the irrigable areas, has given considerable stimulus to what has always been one of Rhodesia's largest ranching areas and the eventual development of a beef fattening industry should at least double the present offtake of the country.

It is estimated there will be a population of approximately 3,000 Europeans and 100,000 Africans in the Triangle/Hippo Valley area by 1967.

Water is supplied from the Kyle and Bangala Dams, both on the Mtilikwe River, which cost a total of £3.9 million, have a combined capacity of 321,600 gallons and deliver 457 cusecs. By 1966, the MacDougall Dam on the Chiredzi River, costing £1.3 millions, will be in operation, to irrigate a further 15,000 acres on the east bank of the Chiredzi.

Three further dams in the Victoria Province are envisaged, which will deliver an estimated total of 1,225 cusecs, to irrigate between 135,000 and 185,000 acres. Two of these dams will be even larger than Kyle and when all three are built, this will mean there will be seven major dams (with the possibility of others to follow) within a 75-mile radius, south-east of Fort Victoria, making

it the veritable Lake District of Central Africa.

The Sabi-Limpopo Authority has similar development under consideration for the Sabi valley itself and the east side of the Sabi basin, which will bring the estimated total irrigation potential of the whole south-eastern lowveld to 700,000 acres, requiring development over 20 years or more.

The decision, in 1965, to build a new bridge over the Lower Sabi, will extend the predominant influence of Fort Victoria on the already thriving Lowveld even further, to areas of rich promise on the eastern side of the river.

Is it to be wondered that, with all this taking place on their doorstep, Fort Victorians look forward to the future with a sense of confident excitement? (Note: 1 cusec = 1 cubic foot per second. 1 cubic foot = 6½ gallons, approx.)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

	Tel.
Post Office	411
European Hospital	201
African Hospital	201
Taxi Service (Superline)	670
Publicity Bureau	643
Police	222
Automobile Association	563
R.A.C.	478
Public Library	231
Railway Station	237
Vehicle Inspection Depot	377
Fort Victoria Advertiser	469



Cane arriving at the gantry of a Lowveld sugar mill.

Minerals and Mines

The total value of minerals produced in the Victoria Mining District in 1964 was £2,765,450. Of this the value of the asbestos fibre produced by the asbestos mines at Mashaba was £1,944,905. The largest asbestos mine there is the Gaths Mine owned by the Rhodesian and General Asbestos Corporation (Pvt.) Ltd. Copper is produced at the Umkondo Mine in the Sabi Valley by the Messina (Transvaal) Development Co. Ltd., and the world's largest Lithium mine is at Bikita and is operated by Bikita Minerals (Pvt.) Ltd. This Company produces the lithium ores Lepidolite, Petalite, Eucryptite, and Spodumene, and sell them all over the world.

A new discovery of Gold on the Renco Mine has caused great interest lately. This mine is in the Granites in the Nyadjena Tribal Trust land, about fifty miles south-east of Fort Victoria and just north of the Bangala Dam on the Mtilikwe river.

Education in Fort Victoria

The teaching of children in Fort Victoria commenced as far back as 1901 and today the town can offer as good education facilities, for all races, as anywhere else in Rhodesia.

Largely because of the generosity of the Municipality, children of pre-school age can attend a Nursery School opened two and half years ago. The building is an attractive one with large sheltered spaces for outdoor activities and the fees are reasonable.

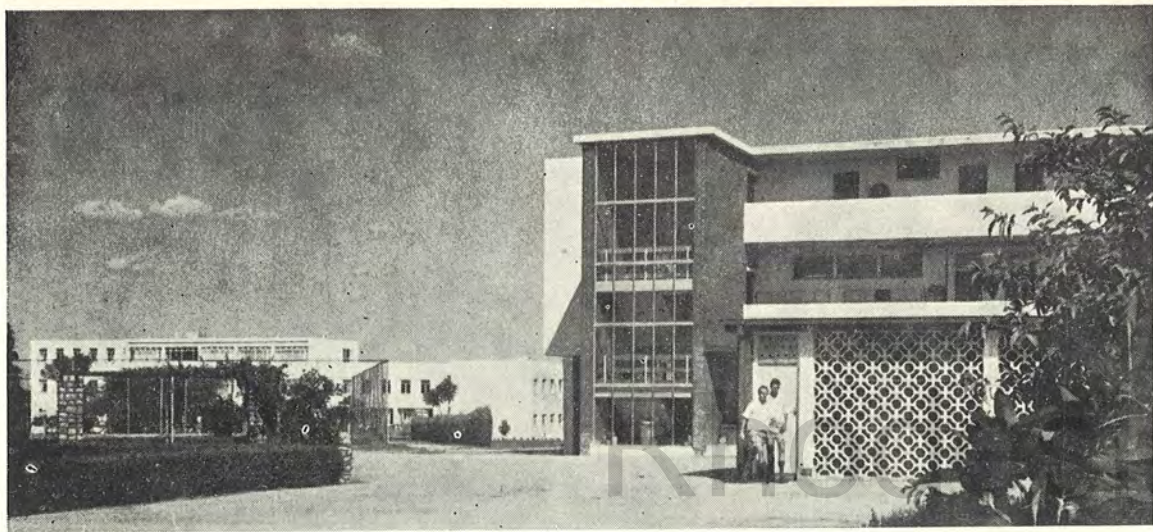
The Infants' School, opened in 1959, is also ideally housed in modern buildings surrounded by ample playgrounds. Adjacent is the oldest school, the Fort Victoria Junior School, which has been extended several times to cope with the growing number of primary school children in the town and district, and now has an enrolment of nearly 400.

A new high school was opened in 1959 and its contemporary style buildings stand out in a delightful setting between the Northleigh and Rhodene suburbs of the town. It has well equipped laboratories and specialist rooms for all subjects as well as a first class library which is well used by pupils and parents alike. A full range of academic education, leading to "Matric" level, and of general secondary education is offered, and, when fully developed the school will cater for about 550 pupils.

Boarding hostels for boys and girls are attached to both the High School and Junior School, and increasingly Fort Victoria is becoming the education centre for the mining and farming districts around, and particularly for the developing lowveld areas.



Playtime at the Nursery School.

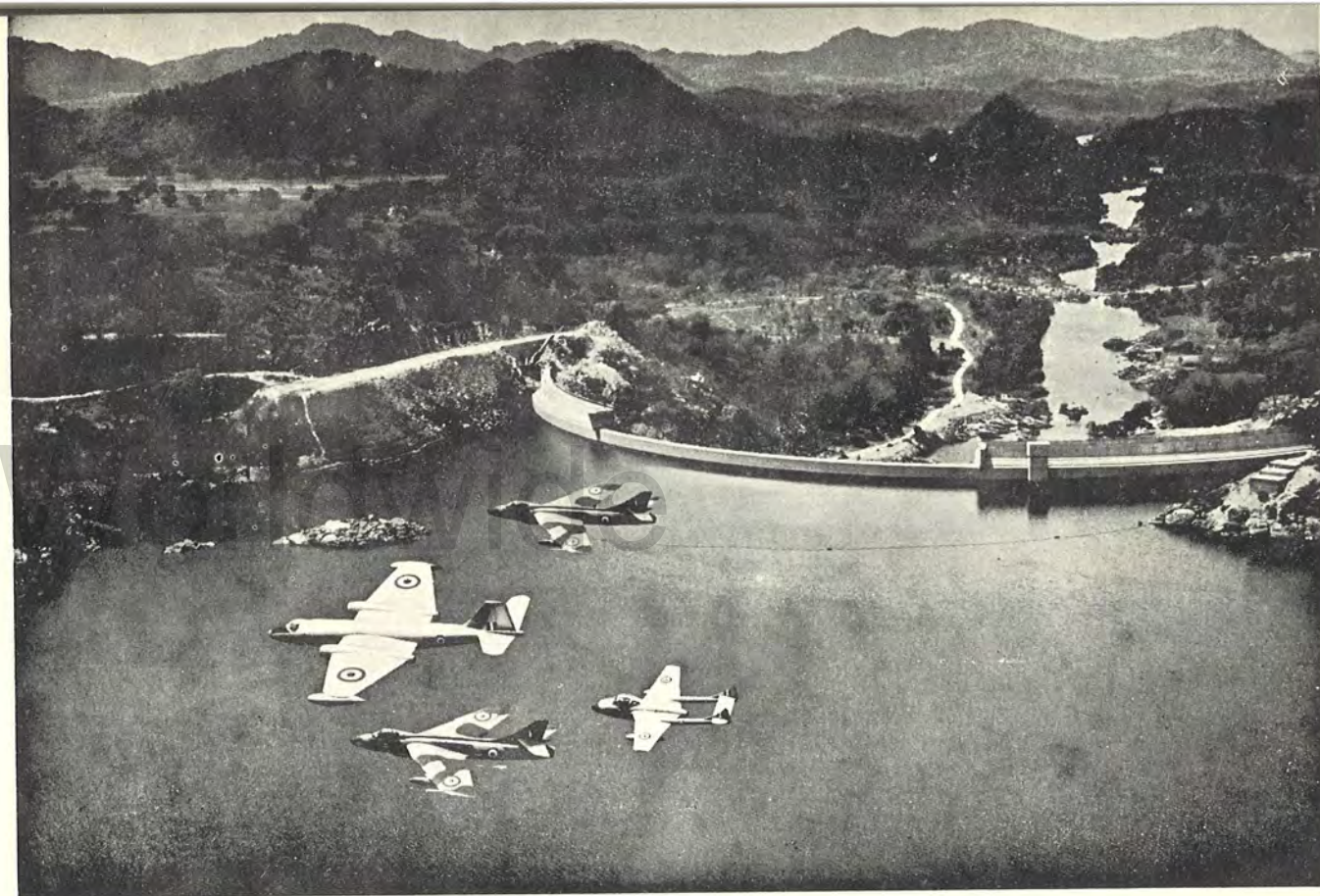


A section of the Fort Victoria High School buildings.

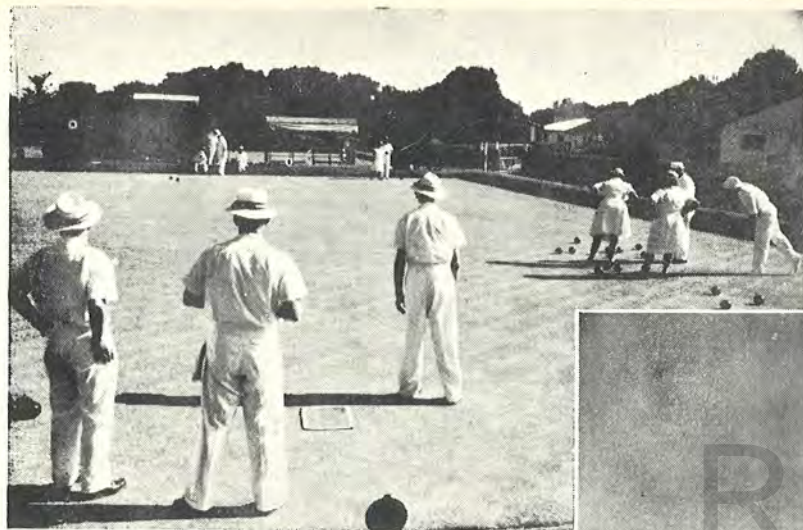
There is a Primary School, with "upper tops", for Coloured children, and an increasing number of the pupils are being prepared for secondary education. A swimming bath is a recent addition to the amenities offered by this school.

For the African children there are school facilities in the Municipal African township. There

are two Government undenominational schools with an enrolment of 1,205 and a Roman Catholic school with 590 pupils. In addition a night school is being run and the total number of children being educated in the township is over 2,000. This number of pupils attending these schools is indicative of the facilities offered and the keenness of the Africans to learn.

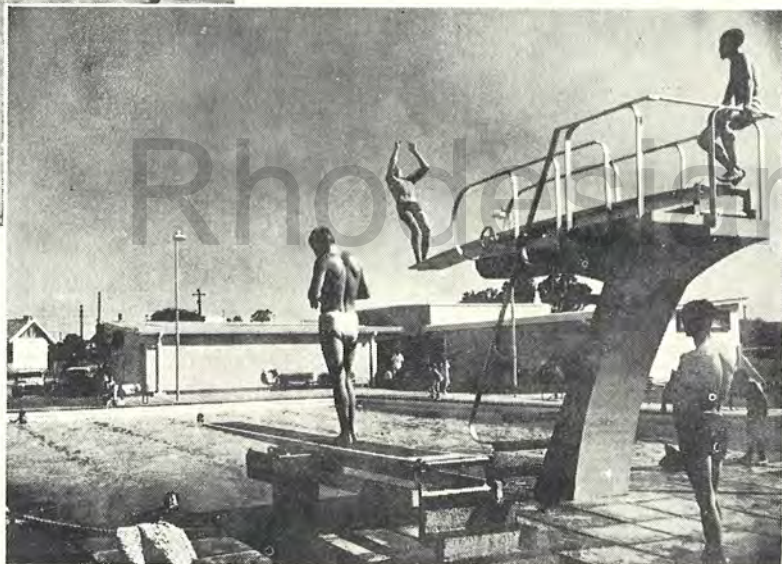


An aerial view of Bangala Dam.



There are plenty of fine sporting facilities

Keeping cool in the new swimming bath.



Sports and Recreation

VICTORIA SPORTS CLUB: Golf, Tennis, Bowls, Badminton, Squash, Snooker, sporting facilities and Club House facilities of the Victoria Sport Club are available to bona fide visitors, on application to the Club Secretary, and on payment of a nominal green or temporary membership fee. P.O. Box 82, Fort Victoria.

GYMKHANA CLUB: Fort Victoria is particularly fortunate in that its surrounding commonage and farms afford some of the most delightful riding country in Rhodesia. An active Gymkhana Club and Polocrosse Club is situated two miles out on the Mashaba road, the stables and grounds are signposted and members are entitled to stable their horses in the club stables. Polocrosse is also available to the enthusiast through the Club, who have two grounds. Race Meetings are held at intervals and in conjunction with the annual combined Training event on New Year's Eve.

KYLE BOAT CLUB: This Club have a very attractive site on Kyle dam and membership is growing rapidly. The Club caters for all boating enthusiasts, having Sailing, Power Boat, Ski-ing and Angling Sections.

Fishing

The main fishing areas within easy reach of Fort Victoria are Lake Kyle and Mushandike Dam.

KYLE DAM has a capacity of 256,000 million gallons. This is a new dam and from an angling point of view will reach its peak in 1966.

When fish research began in 1961 a carefully planned stocking programme could therefore be undertaken whereby only the best type of

sporting fish were selected for introduction into Lake Kyle waters.

Short notes appear below giving some of their angling properties and whether they are indigenous or introduced.

Clarias Cariepinus (Barbel): The only indigenous predator. Size eventually attained is 20 to 50 lbs.

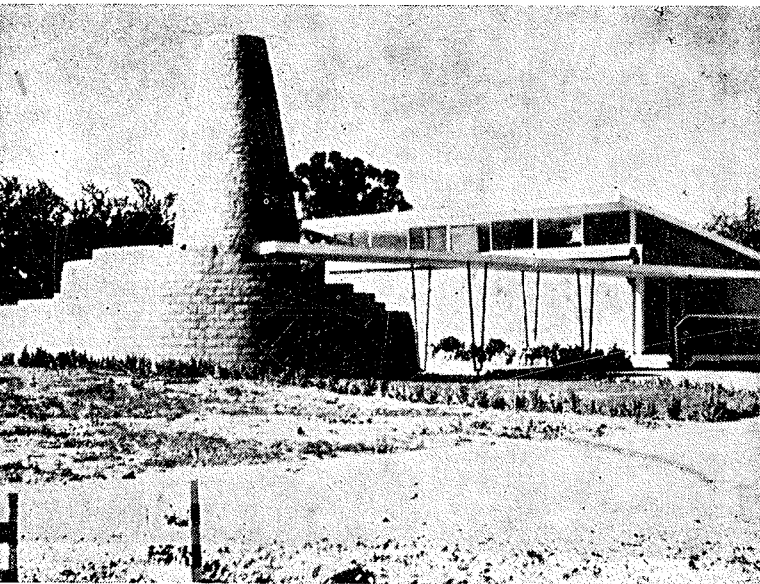
Micropterus Samoides (Large Mouth Black Bass): Introduced November, 1961. This is an ideally suited predator for these waters, it is soft-mouthed and attains considerable size in large dams, it can be landed on untraced line when spinning for bream, and is an extremely good table fish. The growth rate recorded has been extremely good; three-year-old fish weighed 5 lb. 4 oz. and 6lb. 8 oz.

Barbus Holubi (Vaal River Yellowfish): Introduced June, 1964. This fish is taken on worm, small fish, crab and spinner. It grows to above 30 lb. — the largest recorded scaling 39 lb.

Mormyrus Longirostris (Bottle Nose): Introduced 1961. Weight attained: 10 lb., being taken on worm set on a very small hook.

Labeo Rubropunctatus (Red-Spotted Mud-sucker): Indigenous. Sizes attained to date at Kyle: 4 lb. 10 oz. and 5 lb. Bait — mealie-meal paste set on a small hook

Labeo Cylindricus (Mudsucker): Indigenous. Attains 2 lb. weight. Also caught on mealie-meal paste bait.



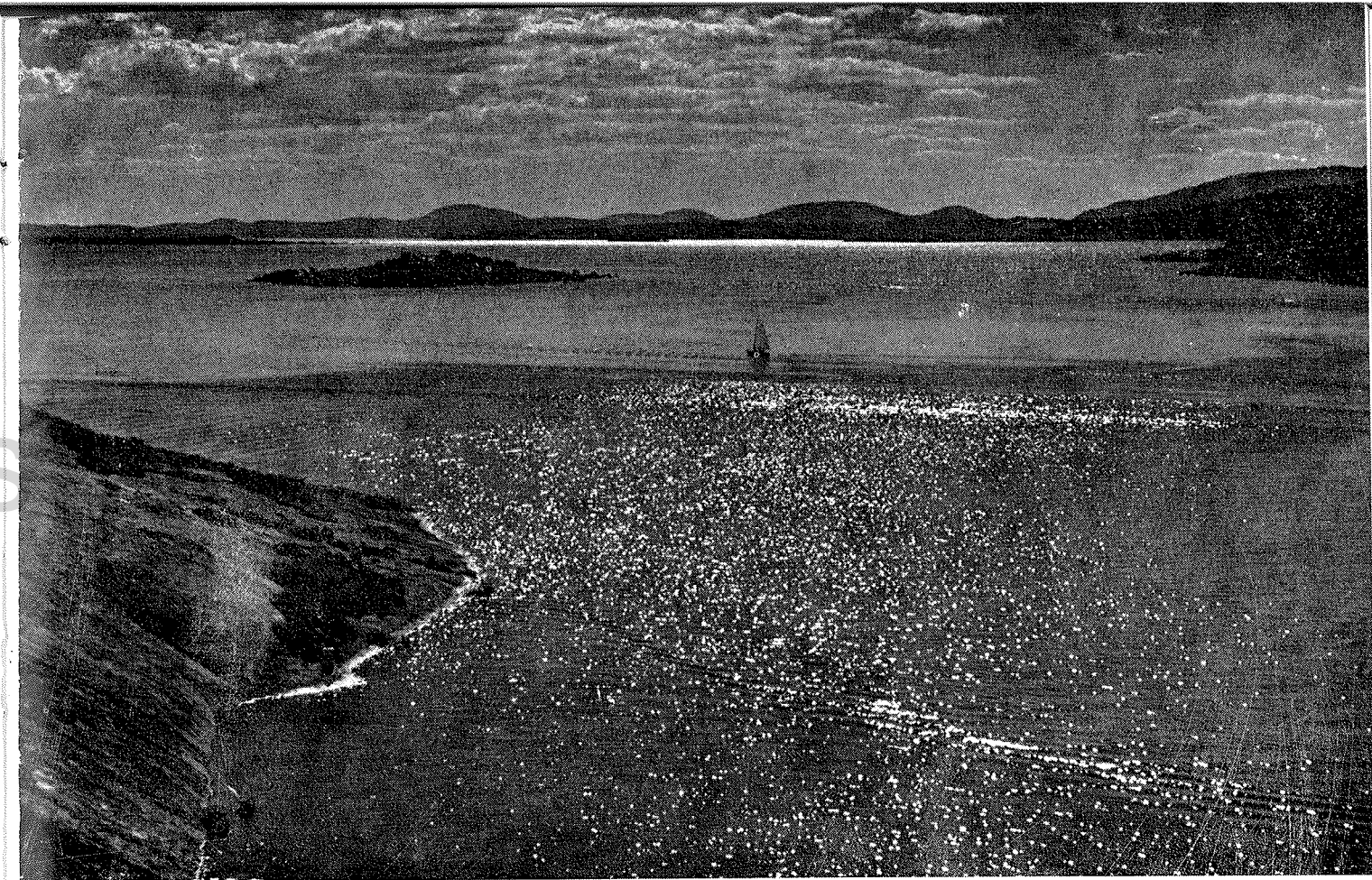
The Publicity Bureau, Allan Wilson Street.

Tilapia (Bream): There are three introduced species in the lake, the most prolific breeder, hence the dominant species being *Tilapia Melanopleura* — the Sabi bream. *T. Macrochir*, the olive bream noted for its red eye and domed head, and *T. Placida*, the black bream distinguished from others by four anal spines are the other two species.

MUSHANDIKE DAM has a capacity of 8,456 million gallons. This dam is situated south-west of Fort Victoria and may be reached from either the Beitbridge or Mashaba roads. It is under the control of the National Parks Dept. Rest huts are available. Bookings through the warden, Mushandike National Park, Pte. Bag 9036, Fort Victoria. A licence is required to fish in this dam. The fee is 2/- per day and licences are available at the entrances to the Park or from the warden. Boats are also available for hire.

Mushandike is stocked with bream, black bass, mudfish and barbel and some of the best bass fishing in Rhodesia may be enjoyed here. A black bass of 8 lbs. 7ozs. taken on an artificial lure held the South African record for a number of years.

ANGLING SOCIETY. Fort Victoria has its own Angling Society known as the Fort Victoria and District Angling Society. The Society welcomes enquiries from visiting anglers. The address is P.O. Box 134, Fort Victoria.



FORT VICTORIA — SOME FACTS AND FIGURES

POPULATION (Municipal Area):

European	2,400
Asian & Coloured	300
African	9,000

TOTAL VALUATION

Land	£440,160
Improvements	£2,347,630
	<u>£2,787,790</u>

MUNICIPAL TARIFFS: ELECTRICITY:

Domestic:

Minimum 20 units @ 1/- per unit per month. Next 30 units @ 8d. per unit per month. Next 200 units @ 1.5d. per unit per month. Balance @ 1.25d. per unit per month. Subject to 2½% rebate if paid by specified date.

Commercial:

Minimum 30 units @ 1/- per unit per month. Next 70 units @ 8d. per unit per month. Next 500 units @ 4d. per unit per month. Balance @ 1.5d. per unit per month. Subject to 2½% rebate if paid by specified date.

WATER:

Domestic:

First 2,000 galls., 25/-. Balance 3/- per 1,000 galls. per month.

Commercial:

First 2,000 galls., 25/-. Balance 6/- per 1,000 galls. per month.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES:

Domestic:

Residences — £2 per month per Stand.
Flats — £1.7.6d. per month per flat.

Commercial:

£1.10.0d. per Stand per month with sliding scale assessed on area of building.

(Special concessions to large consumers of water and electricity by arrangement).

RATES:

Rates on Land:

Land: 7½d. in the £.
Improvements: 1d. in the £.

Residential Land:

Buildings: £300 per acre.
Building Clause: Minimum £3,000 on main buildings.

Industrial Land:

The minimum price of Industrial land (heavy and light) is fixed at £75 per ¼ acre or part thereof; £125 for stands larger than ¼ acre but not larger than ½ acre; larger stands at a minimum price of £200 per ½ acre upwards.

In addition an amount of £175 per acre or part thereof, calculated to the nearest £5 upwards, is levied where Rail Spur facilities are available.

Building Clause:

£2,000 on ¼ acre Stands. The Building Clause in respect of larger Industries is considered on the merits of each application.

SHOPPING HOURS:

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekdays.
8 a.m. to 12 noon Saturdays.

SHOPS DO NOT REMAIN OPEN DURING LUNCH HOUR.

MEDICAL FACILITIES:

Hospital services include a General and Maternity Hospital with ante- and post-natal clinics provided at the above. There are four doctors and one dentist.
Mr. Major, G.M.O. Tel. 201.
Dr. Hacker. Tel. 424 and 7122.
Dr. Sinclair. Tel. 265 and 7172.
Dr. Warne. Tel. 265 and 677.
Mr. Shay (Dentist). Tel. 336 and 654.

PLACES OF WORSHIP:

Anglican	Cnr. Robertson St./Brown Road
Methodist	Fitzgerald Ave./Hughes St.
United Apostolic Faith	Hughes St.
Presbyterian	Harding St.
Roman Catholic	Hughes St.
Seventh Day Adventist	Hofmeyer St.
Baptist	Greenfield St.
Ned. Geref. Kerk	Allan Wilson St.

BANKS

Banking Hours:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays — 8.30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Wednesdays — 8.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Saturdays — 8.30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

STANDARD BANK LIMITED:

BRANCH Chiredzi.

AGENCIES:

Mashaba	Open Tuesday and Friday 9.30 a.m.—11.00 a.m.
Gath's Mine	Open Tuesday 2.30 p.m.—4.30 p.m.
King Mine	Open Friday 2.15 p.m.—3 p.m.
Chatsworth	Open Thursdays 9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.
Gutu	Open Mondays 10.00 a.m.—12.30 p.m.
Bikita	Open Wednesdays 10.00—11.15 a.m.
Rutenga	Open second and fourth Tuesdays 10.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.

BARCLAYS BANK D.C.O.:

BRANCH Triangle.

AGENCIES:

Gutu	Each Monday 10.00 a.m.—12.30 p.m.
Chatsworth	Each Thursday 9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.
Mashaba	Weekly Tuesdays and Fridays 9.30 a.m.—11.00 a.m.
Bikita	Weekly Wednesdays 9.45 a.m.—11.00 a.m.
Umkondo Mine	Once monthly first Thursday 12.00 noon—1 p.m.

DISTANCES BY ROAD FROM FORT VICTORIA:

	miles		miles
Bulawayo	183	Cape Town	1,433
Beitbridge	179	Durban	945
Blantyre	571	Gwelo	117
Beira	390	Livingstone	478
Johannesburg	537	Ndola	715
Lusaka	501	Umtali	196
Salisbury	190	Wankie Game Reserve	360

CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

ROTARY:

Weekly luncheons Hotel Victoria, Thursday 12.45 p.m. All visiting Rotarians welcome.

ROUND TABLE:

Meets first three Mondays each month 5.30 p.m. All Tablers welcome.

MASONIC LODGE:

The Victoria Zimbabwe Lodge, 1171 S.C., meets at the Masonic Temple every third Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m.

M.O.T.H.S.:

Meet first Tuesday each month, 8 p.m., W.I. Hall.

OLD TIME DANCING:

Old Time dancing is held every Thursday evening at 8 p.m. behind Umkondo Sales.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE:

Second Tuesday each month, W.I. Hall, Hughes Street, 2.45 p.m.

YOUTH CLUB:

Every Friday evening 7.30 p.m. Tel. 383.

KYLE BOAT CLUB:

Particulars — Secretary, P.O. Box 237, Fort Victoria.

ANGLING SOCIETY:

Particulars, Secretary, P.O. Box 134, Fort Victoria.

DRAMA CIRCLE:

Meets regularly — particulars P.O. Box 361, Fort Victoria.

OTHER CLUBS ARE

	Tel.
Gardens Club	637
Arts Council	511
Archery Club	271
Flying Club	222
Pistol Club	609
Loyal Women's Guild	316
Gymkhana Club	222
Music Club	408
Midget Car Club	275
Small Bore Club	278
Swimming Club	257



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Chiredzi Hotel P.O. Box 245. Tel. 554.
Victoria Hotel P.O. Box 126. Tel. 476.

DISTRICT:

Great Zimbabwe Ruins Private Bag Fort Victoria.
Hotel Tel. 47320.
Sheppard's Hotel Private Bag Fort Victoria.
Tel. 09521.

REST HUTS:

Zimbabwe National Park Apply the Warden, P./Bag
9087, Fort Victoria. Tel.
0-8903 (10/- per night).

Mushandike National Park Apply The Warden, P./Bag
9036, Fort Victoria. Tel.
0-9603 (10/- per night).

Kyle View Rest Huts ... Apply J. Gifford, Oatlands
Farm, P./Bag 9055, Fort
Victoria. Tel. Fort Victoria
0-9522 (12/6 per night).

CAMPING SITES:

Zimbabwe National Park Apply The Warden, P.Bag
9087, Fort Victoria. Tel.
0-8903.

Mushandike National Park Apply The Warden, P.Bag
9036, Fort Victoria. Tel.
0-9603.

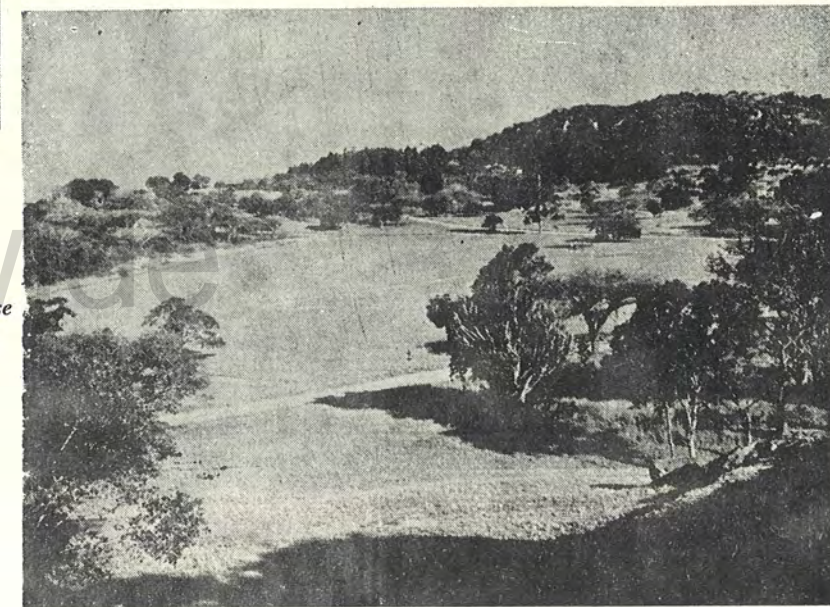
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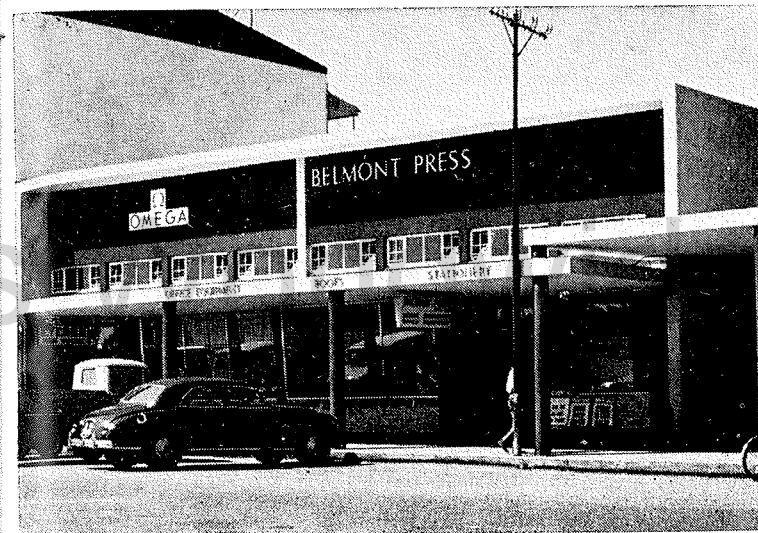
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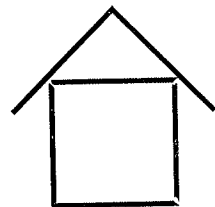
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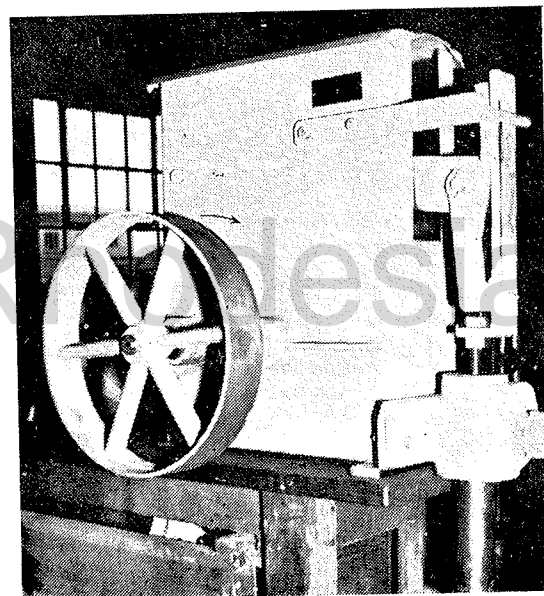
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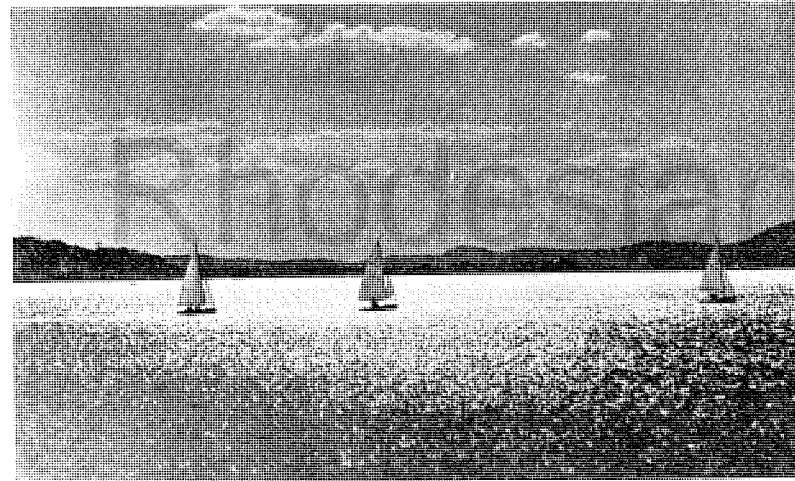
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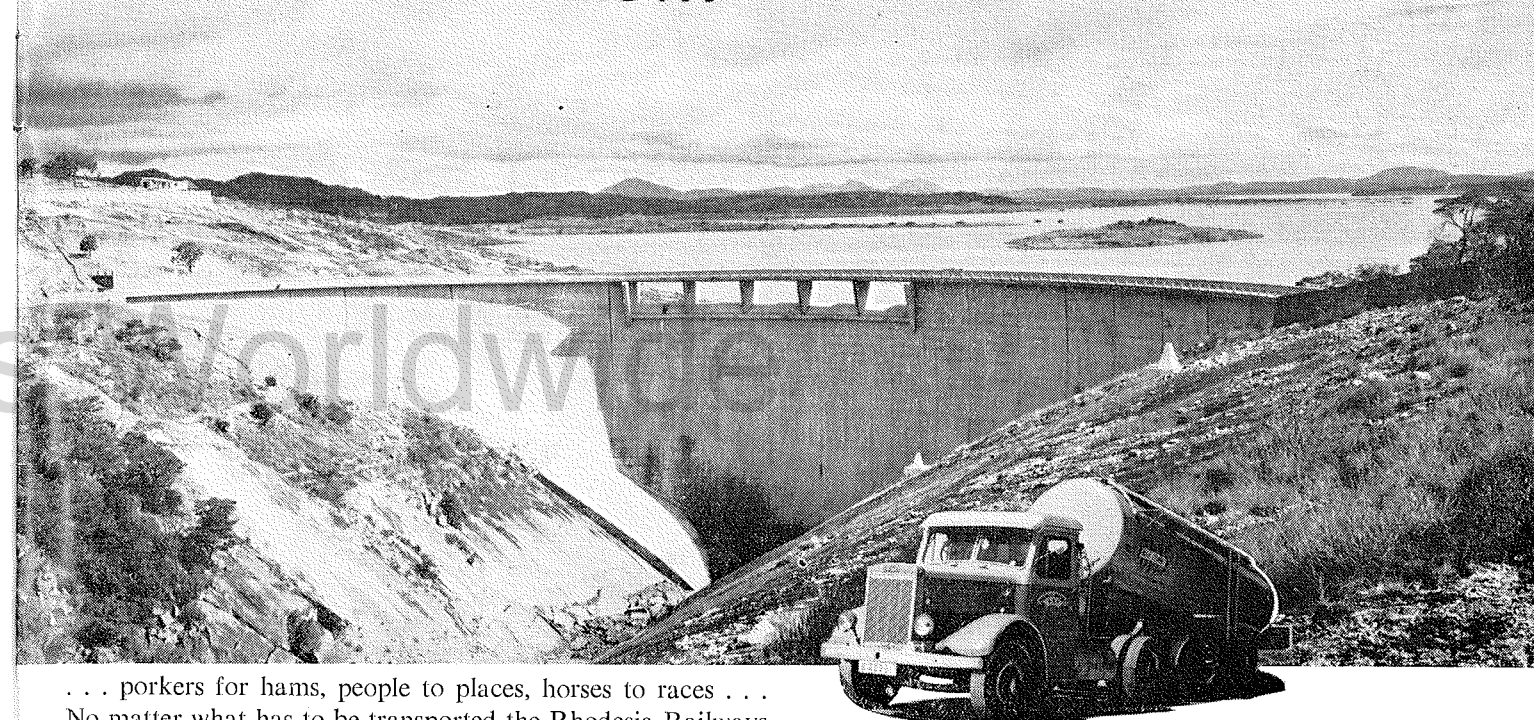
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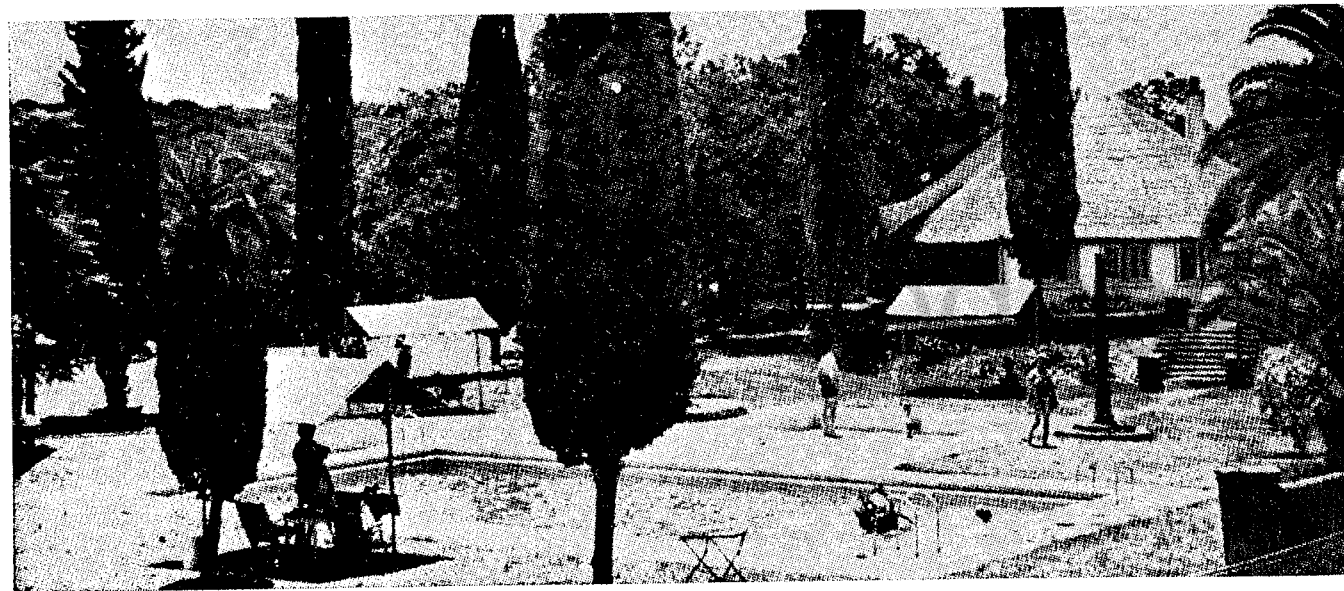
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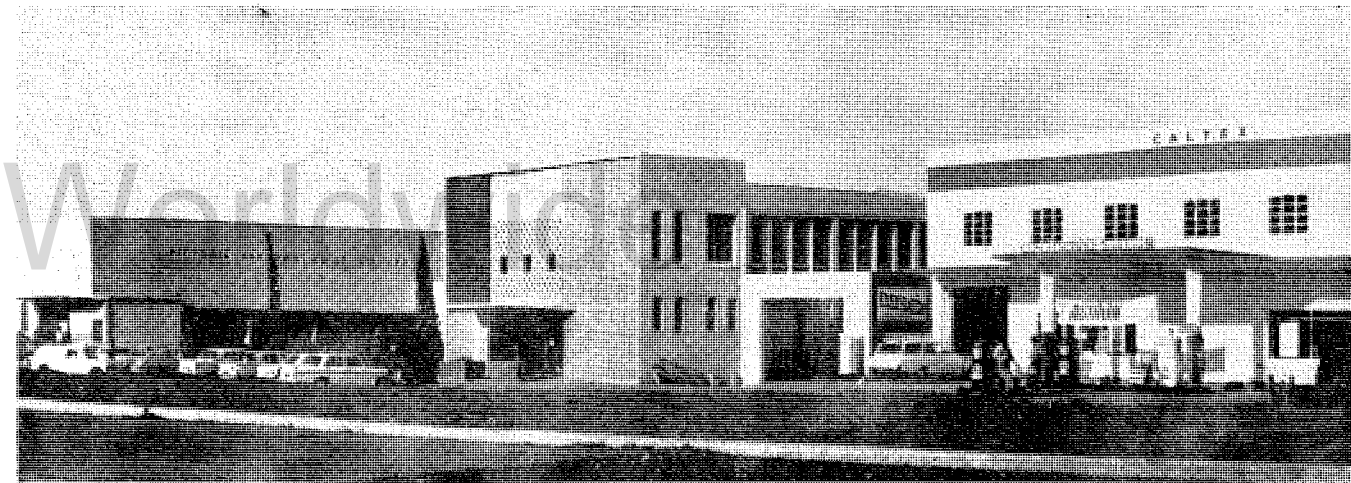


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