



The rising clouds of spray at the Victoria Falls are aptly described in the local African name for the cataract - Most oa Tunya, "the smoke that thunders".

SIPOLILLO. A corruption of the name of the local chief, Chipolillo, originally *chipurro* — "the place where the threshing of grain is done".

SOMABULA. Probably *shamaburo*, referring to a renowned elephant hunter of this name, *shama* — "wonder at" and *buro* — "the sharp stake used in a game pit"; alternatively, *buru*, corruption of the English word *bull*.

SOMAVUNDHLA PAN. Meaning "the place of hares", in the Wankie National Park.

TEGWANI. A missionary station and big secondary school for Africans, the name means "hammerkop".

THOMBORUTEDZA. A very beautiful spectacular waterfall in the Rhodes Inyanga National Park — from *dambo* — "rock" and *tedza* — "be slippery" — A slippery rock.

TJOLOTJO. At Tjolotjo is a pan shaped in the form of an elephant's head, as seen by Mzilikazi. The local people told the Zulu raiders that their name for the pan was *ishololenhova* — "the head of the elephant".

TOKWE. The original spelling is *turi* implying "wandering".

TRIANGLE. The sugar estates were so called because Tom McDougall had great difficulty in acquiring his first cane cuttings, and was only able to obtain three small pieces which were then planted in the lie of a triangle.

TSETSE ISLAND. An island off Gachechache at Lake Kariba which was infested with tsetse fly during the animal recovery of 'Operation Noah'.

TULL. An African name meaning "grey" or "ghostly", *aNthuli* — "dust".

UMVUMA. Originally spelt *muumi*, meaning "thunder cloud", or "thick blanket".

UMZINGWANE. "A river with small beginnings." One of the largest rivers in the south-west of the country, rising near Fort Usher in the Matopos and flowing into the Limpopo near Betbridge. Notorious for sudden heavy floods in its southern reaches.

UMNIATI. Spelling corrupted from *manyani* meaning "many buffalo in the area".

UMSWESWE. Derived from the onomatopoeic word *sweswe* — "the sound of dragging feet". This refers to the slow movement of the river.

UMTALI. A corruption of the ChiManyika word *mutari* meaning "metal", and probably referring to the finding of gold in the ancient workings near Penhalonga.

UMVUKWES. Originally spelt *muruz*, meaning "a heap of pieces".

VAJECHÉ. *Jecha* is the word for sand.

VAN NIEKERK RUINS. After Major Poppey Van Niekerk, a distinguished soldier who was severely wounded at the battle of Tlokoeng and died in the Matabele Rebellion.

VICTORIA FALLS. Named by David Livingstone after Queen Victoria. Livingstone was the first white man to see the Falls — on November 16, 1855.

VILA SALAZAR. The Zimbabwe Rhodesia railway station on the Mocabandje railway, facing Malvernia on the Maputo railway line.

VUMBA. The Vumba Mountains, in the African dialect, are the "mountains of mist".

VUTI. *Vuta* means "blow" and the word is derived from it to mean "bellows" or "place where there is constant wind".

WANKIE. Is a corruption of the name of Chief Wangi, *Wangi* meaning "it is this one".

WATSOMBA. *Tsomba* — "a species of fish"; the original spelling was *kwatsomba* — "where there are *tsomba* fish".

WEDZA. Of Shona origin, contracted from the word *kuswerahwedza* — "always tomorrow". There are a number of high mountains in the district and the name *wedza* is given to the area because the other side of the mountains will only be reached "the day after tomorrow".

WEST NICHOLSON. After Andy Nicholson, an early prospector who entered Zimbabwe Rhodesia as a civilian attached to the Pioneer Column and was responsible for mining exploration in this area.

WHITE'S RUN. White was a trooper, who, with two others, was placed on mounted picket duty at the Bembezi, where the force under Major Forbes that was about to attack Bulawayo was laagered on November 1, 1893. One trooper went in to get his dinner. The other two, White and Thompson, dismounted and were sitting under a bush when the Matabele surprised them. Thompson, failing to catch his horse was stabbed. White mounted but fell off and then ran on beside his horse into the camp, falling down from exhaustion as he reached it. White's Run is the name of the farm where the incident took place. A small landing ground on the farm was used during World War II, and was also known as White's Run.

ZAKA. The site of the District Commissioner's office in Ndanga district, the name means "district which is very low lying", and is derived from the word *kwakazaha* — "where it is going down".

ZAMBEZI. Originally *zambazi*, the SiNdebele word being *egwembem* — "the place of boats".

ZAWI. There are two places of this name near one another, a village and a hill, the correct spelling being *zawe* and refers to the name of the headman in the area.

ZIMBABWE. Originally *dambadze-mabwe* — "great houses of stone" — an apt name for the Zimbabwe Ruins.

Rhodesians Worldwide

...the Conical Tower, within the Great Enclosure at the Zimbabwe Ruins.

