

TIME LINE: THE SALE OF ERVEN AT THE ZITZIKAMMA TOWNSHIP

1883

It was reported in a George & Knysna Herald in November 1883 that Messrs Jones & Co. Intended running a 'lugger' from Plettenberg Bay to Storms River.

The writer asks:

With a good and safe anchorage, the forest close at hand, and the new line of road passing through to Humansdorp, why should Storms River not become the port for the Long Kloof district?

Storms River was eventually recognised as a Port of Entry in 1902. By 1904 the ss Clara (owned by Mangold and Sons, a Port Elizabeth merchant) was delivering yellowwood sleepers to Knysna from Storms River, and even boasted a Customs Officer. Storm River was de-proclaimed as a port in 1916.

1893 Sale of Crown Land in the Township

In a monthly report dated 28 February 1893 from the then Acting District Forest Officer for Storms River, Francis T Tothill to Conservator James Cooper, under a paragraph headed *Sale of Crown Land*, is stated:

Sale of Crown Land and [Storms River] Village erven was held during the month by the CC [Civil Commissioner] Humansdorp. No bid was received for the farm lots – 15 out of 24 Township lots offered for sale were sold at upset price.

An offer of £400 was made after the sale for all the farm lots by Mr J Read of Matjesfontein

The upset price of £1.00 each.

1896

A request was received from a certain van Schijff for three allotments in Township block M. These were Erven 3,4 and 5.

1900

In March 1900 the then District Forest Officer at Storms River, FT Tothill, wrote to the Resident Magistrate & Civil Commissioner of Humansdorp with an earnest request:

As impetus to trade is being given by the shipment of wood from this place and site(s) for stores are urgently necessary it would be a great public benefit if such were now offered for sale by public auction, and I would respectfully suggest your favourable recommendation to the Surveyor General.

He concludes:

The erven would realize more revenue I think if sold on the spot.

On 25 July 1900 the auction as motivated by Forester Tothill was held and eleven erven were sold with an upset price of £2/10/00. These were:

Block C: Erven 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Block G: Erven 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Block M: Erven 3, 4 and 5.

A further sale by public auction was held on 10 November 1900.

32 erven were offered for sale with upset price of £2/10/00:

Block G: Erven 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Block N: Erven 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Block B: Erven 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8

Block F: Erven 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8

Block L: Erven 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8