

**Group of Experts on
Geographical names**

Twelfth Session
Geneva, 29 September - 7 October 1986

WORKING PAPER No. 6

1 July 1986

Agenda Item 7

TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP AND OTHER EDITORS - SOUTH AFRICA

2nd Edition

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1 LANGUAGES

1.1 General remarks

South Africa is a country in which many languages are spoken, or have been spoken in the past. The geographical names of South Africa are thus derived from a number of languages: Afrikaans, Dutch, English, French, German, Khoekhoen (Hottentot), Northern Sotho, Portuguese, San (Bushman), Southern Ndebele, Southern Sotho, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa, and Zulu.

In the present edition attention will be given primarily to geographical names from the two official languages of the RSA, namely English and Afrikaans, and to those from Khoekhoen, on which a comprehensive investigation has been carried out.¹ In view of the divergence of the Bantu languages, and the fact that the independent Black states are reformulating their orthographies, the National Place Names Committee (see par. 2.1: Names Authorities and Names Standardization) has appointed a sub-committee to investigate certain aspects of Bantu place-names. These names will receive proper attention when the findings of the sub-committee are made known.

1.2 Official Languages

1.2.1 General remarks

English and Afrikaans are the two official languages of the Republic of South Africa, and both are written in the Roman script. Place-names in other languages are also written in the Roman script.

Regardless of the language from which a geographical name is derived, that name has official status if it is the name of an official place, cf. par. 2. It is thus recognized that geographical names are not language-specific but equally valid in all languages. Once the spelling of a geographical name has been standardized, its status is equal in all the languages of the country. On an unofficial level, however, names in different languages may be applied to the same entity. Thus Pretoria is also known as Tshwane, a name which occurs alongside Pretoria on station sign-posts. In the same way Johannesburg is also known as Rauteng on an unofficial level.

1. Nienaber, G.S. & Raper, P.E. Toponymica Hottentotica, 3 vols. Pretoria, Human Sciences Research Council, 1977 and 1980. (1 947) pp.

1.2.2 The alphabet

In both English and Afrikaans the same alphabet is used:

| | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| A a | H h | O o | U u |
| B b | I i | P p | V v |
| C c | J j | Q q | W w |
| D d | K k | R r | X x |
| E e | L l | S s | Y y |
| F f | M m | T t | Z z |
| G g | N n | | |

In addition to the normal alphabetical sequence there are certain diacritic signs in Afrikaans which are used in conjunction with particular vowels, for example \ddot{a} , \ddot{i} ; \hat{a} , \hat{e} , \hat{f} , \hat{o} , \hat{u} ; \acute{e} , and the like. Particularly the diaeresis occurs in place-names.

1.3 Spelling rules for geographical names

The rules given below have been formulated² by the National Place Names Committee and are implemented by this Committee (see par. 2.1) as well as by the Chief Directorate of Surveys and Mapping, by municipalities, state departments, and other naming bodies.

1.3.1 General rules

- "(i) The recognized spelling and styling of the language from which the name is derived should be adhered to as far as possible.
- (ii) Diacritical signs should be used in accordance with the requirements of the language."

1.3.2 Afrikaans place-names

1. Simplexes

Names consisting of a simplex should not cause any problems.

2. Compound names

Compound names are normally written as one word. The following two types will serve as examples.

- (a) Boesmankop, Bultfontein, Klawerkuil, Koedoedraai.
Each of these names consists of two parts which in a non-onomastic context are two nouns. Sometimes the two parts are also linked with

2. See the Introduction to Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa and in South West Africa, compiled by the Place Names Committee (Pretoria, Government Printer, 1978); summarized in Raper, P.E., Nienaber, G.S. and Marais, J.S.B. Manual for the Giving of Place Names (Pretoria, HSRC, 1979). Quotes are from the latter publication, but have been adapted.

an -s, for example in Boesmanskraal, Broedersput, Klawershoek.

Note: (i) Sometimes there is uncertainty as to which one of the following pairs is admissible: laagte or leeqte, rand or rant, olien or oliewen, wilge or wilger, et cetera. It is suggested that local custom should decide the issue. However, this freedom of choice no longer exists in the case of -stad and -stat. The form -stat is now retained only in Dingaanstat, in all other cases the form -stad is used. (ii) Names of the following kind are also written as one word: Brugo (from Bruwer and Hugo), Krudoring (from Kruger and doring), Palfon (from Palmietfontein); also letter names such as Eljeesee (L.J.C.) and syllable names such as Deimyn (from delvery and mynbou), et cetera.

(b) Diepkloof, Nuweland, Swartrand, Warmbad. These, and most names compounded of an adjective plus a noun, are written as one word.

3. Hyphens

The hyphen is used in combinations with contrasting or distinguishing additions, such as Aqter, Voor, Groot, Klein; Nuwe, Ou; Bo, Onder; Noord, Suid, Oos, Wes. They occur before or after a place-name, for example Aqter-Sneeuberg, Groot-Brakrivier, Nuwe-Mosbank, Noord-Rand, Somerset-Oos, Riebeek-Wes. In an ordinary word which is not a distinguishing place-name, such additions are normally affixed to the ordinary word without a hyphen. In this way one finds Bo-Tautesberg, but Boplaas; Groot-Drakenstein, but Grootvloer; Wes-Transvaal, but Weskoppies.

Note: Where certain vowels occur together in such combinations, a hyphen is used to facilitate legibility, for example Bo-erf (instead of Boerf), Perde-eiland (instead of Perdeeiland), et cetera. Hyphens are also used in place-names consisting of two words linked by en, for example Haak-en-Steek, Rus-en-Vrede, Hooq-en-Droog.

4. Compound names that are written separately

Cases do occur in which parts of a compound place-name are written separately.

(i) We write Jan Smutslughawe. All compounds consisting of a Christian name and a surname are treated in this manner. The Christian name or names are written separately, the surname is dealt with according to the rule, and in this case it is joined to the next component. Initials are dealt with in the same manner as Christian names, in other words they are also written separately from the surname, e.g. J.G. Strijdomtonnel.

(ii) We write De Clerqville, Du...Toitskloof, Le Rouxsrivier, Van Blerkskraal, Van der Merwerus;—in other words, when a place-name consists of a surname of the type beginning with De, Du, Van, Van den, Van der, the prefixed parts in the place-name are also written separately.

Note: There used to be a tendency to write names of this kind all as one word, for example Dewetsdorp, Vanderbijlpark, Vanwyksvlei. Where this form of writing has become traditional it must be retained.

- (iii) Ou is written separately when it precedes a personal name or nickname in place names such as Ou Thomas se Loop, or where the Ou no longer has any distinguishing or contrast value, for example Ou Handelspos.

Note: Compare this to what was said under "hyphen" above.

- (iv) Place-names consisting of combinations with the possessive se between the words are written separately, for example Beck se Plaas, Booi se Kraal, Lof se Dam, and many others.
- (v) Where the definite article Die forms the first word in a place-name, it is written separately, and there is a tendency for the words following it to be written separately as well, for example Die Hollandse Saal, Die Onderste Aar, Die Ou Elands, Die Ou Vaal.
- (vi) The components of place-names consisting of a numeral plus a noun used in the plural form are written separately, for example Drie Susters, Veertien Strome, Twee Riviere, each element beginning with a capital letter. If the numeral is followed by a noun in the singular form, the elements are written as one word: Driefontein, Tweespruit, Vyfhoek.
- (vii) Place-names comprising phrases such as Aqter die Berg, Hoek van die Berg, Koppie Alleen, Op die Tradou, are written separately. In these cases only the main words begin with capitals.
- (viii) Place-names consisting of two verbs such as Aanhou Hoop, Help Soek, Kom Kyk are written as separate words."

1.3.3 Dutch place-names.

Historically there is a fairly large number of geographical names derived from Netherlandic.

"The Committee maintains the general principle of giving an Afrikaans form to certain names that are submitted in the Dutch form, for example Blouberg, Noupoort, Seekoeivlei and Sondagsrivier. Dutch names are retained where the Dutch spelling has become the accepted form and is being used as such. For example, we write De Doorns, Franschhoek, Volkstrust, Zeerust. This rule normally applies to important places. The Dutch spelling can also be retained if a post office or siding, et cetera, is named after the farm on which it is situated and the farm name has a registered Dutch spelling and the Place Names Committee is requested to retain the old spelling. Each case is decided on merit."

1.3.4 English place-names

"English names already existing overseas that are given to places in South Africa in most cases retain their original spelling and form. English names that were formed and given in this country, however, may differ in spelling and form from the "imported" names.

1. Simplex names

There should be no problems in regard to the spelling of simplex names.

2. Compound names

It is not easy to provide guidelines for the spelling of compound English place-names. In practice a certain degree of irregularity is found in the writing of such place-names. For example, names ending in crest, end, gate, hill, ridge, view, may be written either as one word or as two. Thus are encountered Wavecrest but Leisure Crest; Teaksend but Flats End; Westgate but North Gate; Foxhill but Calf Hill; Redhouse but Blue House; Aloeridge but Gravel Ridge; Bayview but Mountain View. The Place Names Committee has studied the written form of English place-names in South Africa. An analysis of certain types of word combinations has indicated that in some cases a pattern, or at least a tendency, can be discerned in the writing of English place-names.

3. Names that are written separately

The following types of place-names are normally written as separate words:

- (a) Most names of which the first part is one of the following adjectives: Bonny, Golden, Lower, Old, et cetera; New, Rocky, Sweet, et cetera. Examples are Bonny Rest, Golden Grove, Lower Adamson, Old Place; New Centre, Rocky Hill, Sweet Hope;
- (b) names in which the generic term is still strongly felt as a common noun, e.g. Amatole Basin, Algoa Bay, Brighton Beach, Nagle Dam, Albert Falls, Cape Flats, Bretby Mine, Table Mountain, Sand River, Berg River Valley;
- (c) most names of which the second part is a plural noun, e.g. Birch Acres, Beecham Woods, Broken Slopes;
- (d) names with Crown, Fort, Loch, Mount and Port as the first part, e.g. Crown Reefs, Fort Beaufort, Loch Maree, Mount Frere and Port Alfred;
- (e) names of which the second part indicates the situation, e.g. Beaufort West, Boksburg North, Modder East, Randfontein South;
- (f) names consisting of a numeral plus a noun, e.g. Four Pines, Three Sisters, Twenty Four Rivers;
- (g) names consisting of Glen plus a personal name, e.g. Glen Karen, Glen Lynden;
- (h) phrases used as place names, e.g. Ascot on Vaal, Henley on Klip, Ebb and Flow, The Hole in the Wall;
- (i) names of which the first part is written with an apostrophe, e.g. Davey's Halt, Gordon's Bay, Eagle's Crag, Lion's Head;
- (j) names consisting of the abbreviation St plus a proper name, e.g. St Andrew's, St Mark's.

4. Names written as one word

The following kinds of place-names are normally written as one word:

- (a) Names ending in bourne, bury, combe, dene, hurst, lea, leigh, mere, wick, et cetera. For example Ashbourne, Woodbury, Ashcombe, Forestdene, Meadhurst, Birchleigh, Buttermere, Thornwick, et cetera;
- (b) names beginning with Broad, Cross, Gay or Middle, e.g. Broadlands, Crossmoor, Gayridge, Middelbrook;
- (c) names beginning with Bal, Brae, Clan, Craig, Dal, Holm, Pen, Sel, Strath, et cetera. For example Balcraig, Braeview, Clanville, Craigend, Dalview, Holmleigh, Pendale, Selcourt, Strathcona, et cetera;
- (d) names composed of syllables or parts of names or words, such as Atcem from (Atlas Cement Company), Corobrick (Coronation Brick), Navex (Navarro Exploration), Soweto (South Western Townships)."

1.3.5 Dual forms

"In South Africa where English and Afrikaans are the official languages, one may expect a large number of place-names that are used in the one language also to be used in a translated form in the other language. In the course of time dual forms of names have established themselves for the same places.

Three kinds of translations can be differentiated, viz. (a) names of which all the parts are translated, e.g. Bloedrivier - Blood River; Coffee Bay - Koffiebaai; Drieankerbaai - Three Anchor Bay, et cetera;

(b) names of which both parts are ordinary words in the language concerned, but only the second part is translated, e.g. Bergrivier - Berg River; Melkbosrand - Melkbos Ridge et cetera; (c) names of which the first part is a personal name and the second a generic term, e.g. Boshoffweg - Boshoff Road; Caledonplein - Caledon Square.

In terms of the country's policy of bilingualism the members of each language group have the right to insist on the form they use in the natural context of their own language. For official purposes, however, precedence may be given to one form, that is, the "first of the two equals." This precedence is based on the derivation and linguistic composition of the name, its age, the population group preponderating in the locality concerned, et cetera.

We write Brighton North, but Randfontein-Suid. In combinations of this kind the precedence form in the first type is normally English, and in the second, Afrikaans. In the first type the main word is derived from English, in the second from Afrikaans. The part of the name which indicates the name type or the point of the compass, or which constitutes a descriptive addition will be indicated in the same language as the main word in the precedence form. Thus we write Bay Road (Bayweg), Bergrivier (Berg River), Oos-Rand (East Rand). The precedence form is given in italics. Combinations of which the first part is a word derived from a native language are written as one word if the second part is Afrikaans, and as two words if the second part is English, e.g. Gamtoosrivier, Kaya Fort."

1.3.6 Khoekhoen (Hottentot) place-names

"The Khoekhoen languages have become virtually extinct within the

borders of the Republic. The possibilities of these languages producing any new place-names are therefore very slight. There is, however, a large number of farms and other places with Khoekhoen names of which some may be submitted to the National Place Names Committee for approval as official names. The following principles will apply in such cases.

- (a) Khoekhoen place names are normally written as one word.
- (b) Diacritical signs to indicate pitch, nasalization, et cetera, are not rendered in writing. . .
- (c) Clicks are not indicated.
- (d) Established forms of spelling, such as Henkries, Kango, Knysna, are left unchanged.
- (e) Spelling should be changed as little as possible except that at the end of a name:
 - (i) -p may be standardized as -b;
 - (ii) -bep/-beb/-bes, -beep/-beeb/-bees, -biep/-bieb/-bies may be standardized as -bib/ -bis;
 - (iii) -sep/-seb/-ses/-sieb/-sies, et cetera, can be normalized as -sib/--sis; rep/-res as -rib/-ris, et cetera.
- (f) The sound (x) is represented by ch, except in cases where it has already become established, e.g. Gamka, Khorixas. Compounds of which one element is Khoekhoen and the other Afrikaans, or English, are dealt with according to the principles applying to Afrikaans or English place names. We therefore write Gouritsrivier, Cango Caves, Kei Mouth, Naab se Berg. Khoekhoen place-names that have been taken over via a Bantu language and have been Europeanized, are dealt with according to the principles applying to place names from Bantu languages."

1.3.7 Place-names from Bantu languages

"When place-names from Bantu languages are given to places in a White area, the spelling of the names may be adapted to the pronunciation of the White language concerned. Thus we find Kyalami instead of iKhayalami ("My home"); Silkaatsnek from the Europeanized Silkaats which is Moselekatse in Sotho and uMziilikazi in Zulu.

Firmly established or traditionally adapted Bantu-language place-names in White areas remain unchanged, e.g. Congella, Illovo, Isando, Umbogintwini, et cetera.

Names of places in self-governing territories and in urban areas inhabited by Blacks are written in accordance with the officially recognized orthography of the language concerned. The diacritical signs of the languages are also written in place-names in these areas. Personal names and surnames used in or as place-names are also spelled in accordance with the recognized orthography.

In the Nguni languages the locatives e-, i-, u-, ku-, and kwa-, are joined to the component following it, and the initial consonant of that component is written with a capital letter. Thus we find names such as eDuiseni, iMpangeni, uMthatha, kwaJojo, et cetera.

Ga and Ha in the Sotho languages are linked with a hyphen to the following component; both the Ga-/Ra- and the next component begin with capital letters, for example Ga-Dikgale, Ga-Rankuwa.

In Tsonga Ka and eka and the component following them are written as separate words, for example eka Mpofu, eka Mhinga.

In Venda Ha and the personal name following it are written as one word. The Ha begins with a capital letter and the personal name with a small letter, e.g. Hamasia, Hamakuya.

Kwa in the Sotho languages is regularly omitted before place-names.

When a place-name consists of a contraction or an abridgement of more than one word, it is written as one word, e.g. Thabatshweu, iNtabankulu".

1.4 Pronunciation of South African geographical names

1.4.1 General remarks

- (a) When geographical names are spoken, they tend to be pronounced as though they belonged to the language of the speaker or to the language in the context of which they are being used. Thus Afrikaans names would be anglicized when spoken by English-speaking persons, and English names pronounced as though they were Afrikaans when pronounced by Afrikaners.
- (b) This tendency is particularly strong in the case of Khoekhoen, since the Khoekhoen languages are no longer extant in the Republic of South Africa. Thus not only are the suction consonants or clicks omitted, but the original pitch (high, middle, and low) is ignored, and the names are pronounced as though they were Afrikaans or English. This phonological adaptation is sometimes reflected in the orthography.
- (c) Geographical names derived from the various Bantu languages, too, are adapted phonologically (and orthographically) to Afrikaans and English.
- (d) For the pronunciation of Dutch, English and German geographical names, see Toponymic Guidelines for The Netherlands, England, Germany, always taking into account (a) above.

1.4.2 Afrikaans

Pronunciation Key

| Spelling | Pronunciation (IPA symbol) | | Spelling | Pronunciation (IPA symbol) | |
|----------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| | primary value | secondary value | | primary value | secondary value |
| a | a a: | | n | n | |
| aa | a: | | ng | ŋ | |
| b | b | p | nn | n | |
| bb | b | | o | o: | o |
| c | k s | | oe | u | oe o: |
| ch | x k | | oe | u | |
| d | d | t | oei | ui | |
| dd | d | | oo | o: | |
| e | ɛ e: ə | | ooi | o:i | |
| eë | e:ə | | p | p | |
| ee | e: | | pp | p | |
| ei | ɛi | | qu | kv | |
| eu | ɛ | | r | r | |
| f | f | | rr | r | |
| ff | f | | s | s | |
| g | x g | | ss | s | |
| gh | g | | t | t | |
| h | h | | tt | t | |
| i | ɪ i | | u | u | |
| ie | i | | ui | ui | |
| j | j | | uu | y | |
| k | k | | v | f | |
| kk | k | | w | v | |
| l | l | | x | x ks | |
| ll | l | | y | ɛi | |
| m | m | | z | z | |
| mm | m | | | | |

1.5 Linguistic substrata recognizable in place-names of South Africa

A large proportion of place-names in South Africa are of European origin, or have their origin in European languages, e.g. Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and so forth. The linguistic substrata peculiar to each of these languages will ipso facto feature in these place-names. This will also apply to elements from these languages occurring in hybrid place-names in which other elements (San, Khoekhoen, Bantu) are present. Then there are popular etymological (or folk etymological) adaptations which seem on the surface to be, for example, English or Afrikaans names, but which are, or were, Bantu, Khoekhoen or San, e.g. Goodhouse, Koppies, Koringhuis. Certain names of which the lexical meaning is not immediately evident, e.g. The Coombs, Illovo, also reveal Khoekhoen or Bantu substrata when researched. By and large

the linguistic substrata can readily be discerned in geographical names which have become adapted into Afrikaans and English from the Khoekhoen and Bantu languages, e.g. Abbabis, Ga-Marota, Hlobane, Kraggakamma, and the like. Less readily discernible is the Khoekhoen substratum in names adapted into Xhosa, e.g. Bulura, Qora.

2 NAMES AUTHORITIES AND NAMES STANDARDIZATION

2.1 The National Place Names Committee (NPNC)

This Committee, established in 1939, is attached to the State Department of National Education and advises the Minister of National Education on the spelling and styling of official place-names, i.e., names of cities, towns, townships, post offices, railway stations, sidings, airports, reserves, and the like. Names of geographical features are submitted to the Committee by the Chief Directorate of Surveys and Mapping. Thus all place-names appearing on official maps have been under the scrutiny of the NPNC. The NPNC comprises experts in English, Afrikaans, Khoekhoen, and the various Bantu languages, as well as the Head of the Onomastic Research Centre, and representatives of the Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns (S.A. Academy for Science and Art), the English Academy of South Africa, State Language Services, the office of Surveys and Mapping, and the State Departments of Education and Training, Posts and Telecommunications, and Transport Services. A list of official place-names approved to 1 April 1977 was published in 1978 (vide par. 3.2: Gazetteers). This is to be replaced by a Dictionary of Geographical Proper Names which is being compiled at the request of the Place Names Committee by the Onomastic Research Centre of the Human Sciences Research Council. The terms of reference of the Onomastic Research Centre have been extended to include the standardization in Afrikaans of foreign (i.e. non-South African) place-names.

2.2 Pretoria Urban Advisory Committee on Street and Place-Names

This Committee, established in 1972, comprises experts in English, Afrikaans, local history, and the Head of the Onomastic Research Centre. Its function is to consider proposed names for streets, parks and suburbs of Pretoria and to advise the City Council on these names, and to establish a name-bank from which names may be drawn when required.

3. SOURCE MATERIAL

3.1 Maps

South Africa 1:50 000, 1 920 sheets, 1967-1981.

South Africa 1:250 000 Topo-cadastral edition, 71 sheets, 1954-1981.

South Africa 1:250 000 Topographical edition, 71 sheets, 1954-1981.

3.2 Gazetteers *****

3.2.1 Official -----

Onomastic Research Centre, comp. Place-Names in the Cape Province and South West Africa. Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council, 1976. Comprizing some 30 200 entries, this computerized gazetteer was compiled for the Cape Province from the Topo-Cadastral Series 1:250 000 South Africa (Pretoria: Government Printer, 1954-1975), and for Namibia from sheet South West Africa 1966 1:1 000 000 (Windhoek: Surveyor General, 1965; partial revision 1972).

Place Names Committee, comp. Official Place Names in the Republic of South Africa and in South West Africa. Pretoria: Government Printer, 1978. This gazetteer contains an alphabetical list of all official place-names approved to 1 April 1977, some 18 500 entries. An introduction of 121 pages (in English and Afrikaans) is devoted to principles governing the approval or rejection of names, guidelines on the spelling and styling of names in Afrikaans, English, San, Khoekhoen, and the Bantu languages, and to historical aspects of the National Place Names Committee.

3.2.2 Private -----

Skead, C.J. Zoo-historical Gazetteer. Grahamstown: Cape Provincial Museums, 1973. Published as Annals of the Cape Provincial Museums Volume 10, this gazetteer contains a list of some 11 000 place-names with alternate (historical) names for the place or entity concerned.

Leistner, O.A. and Morris, J.W. Southern African Place Names. Grahamstown: Cape Provincial Museums, 1976. Published as Annals of the Cape Provincial Museums Volume 12, this gazetteer contains some 42 000 place-names (including names of geographical features) taken from maps, gazetteers, lists of farms and post offices, and other sources.

Rousseau, W.L. Suid-Afrikaanse Pleknaamleksikon. Cape Town: Kennis-uitgewers, 1975. This 'lexicon' of geographical names is contained in the same volume as the index to a children's encyclopaedia entitled Kennis ('knowledge'). It comprises some 130 pages (triple column), about 11 000 entries, and gives the situation of each place in terms of province, grid reference (e.g. K-6, L-3, etc.), and description (e.g. 'west of Springs', 'at Germiston').

3.3 Other sources *****

Publications such as those in the Onomastic Series of the Human Sciences Research Council's Onomastic Research Centre. Thus the names of regions, for example, are being entered on official maps on the strength of their situation as determined in archival and other historical sources.

4. GLOSSARY OF WORDS FREQUENTLY OCCURRING IN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES AS
 DESCRIPTIVE TERMS OR AS SPECIFIC ELEMENTS, AND WHICH ARE USEFUL FOR
 THE UNDERSTANDING OF MAPS

4.1 Afrikaans

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| Aalwyn | aloe |
| Aan | at, on |
| Aand | evening |
| Aap | monkey |
| Aar | underground watercourse |
| Aard(e) | earth |
| Aasvoel | vulture |
| Agter | behind |
| Als | <u>Artemisia afra</u> |
| Altyd | always |
| Alwyn | aloe |
| Amandel | almond |
| Amper | almost |
| Anys | aniseed |
| Apie(s) | small monkey |
| Appel | apple |
| Appelkoos | apricot |
| Arbeid | labour |
| Arend | eagle |
| Armoed | poverty |
| As | ash |
| Asbes | asbestos |
| Assegaai | assegai |
| Baai | bay |
| Bad | bath |
| Baken | beacon |
| Baklei | fight, battle |
| Bakoond | oven |
| Bak | basin |
| Bamboes | bamboo |
| Bank | shelf |
| Bas | bark |
| Bees | ox |
| Berg | mountain |
| Biesie | bulrush |
| Bles | blaze, bald |
| Blink | shiny |
| Bloed | blood |
| Blou | blue |
| Bobbejaan | baboon |
| Boesman | Bushman, San |
| Bok | buck, goat |
| Bont | pied, spotted |
| Boom | tree |
| Boonste | top |
| Bos | wood, bush, thicket |
| Brak | brackish, saline |
| Breë | broad, wide |
| Bruin | brown |
| Buffel | buffalo |

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Bul | bull |
| Bult | hill, hillock |
| Dagbreek | dawn, daybreak |
| Dal | dale, valley |
| Dam | dam, reservoir |
| Das(sie) | rock rabbit |
| Deel | divide, portion |
| Derde | third |
| Die | the |
| Diep | deep |
| Dik | thick |
| Donker | dark |
| Doring | thorn |
| Dorp | town |
| Draai | bend, curve |
| Drie | three |
| Droë | dry |
| Duin | dune |
| Dwaal | err, roam |
| Dwars | transverse, diagonal |
| Een | one |
| Eerste | first |
| Eiland | island |
| Eland | eland |
| Esel | ass |
| Fontein | fountain, spring |
| Gans | goose |
| Gat | hole |
| Geduld | patience |
| Geel | yellow |
| Geluk | luck, happiness |
| Gemsbok | oryx |
| Genade | mercy |
| Gif | poison |
| Glad(de) | smooth |
| Goeie | good |
| Gras | grass |
| Groen | green |
| Groot | large, big |
| Gruis | gravel |
| Grys | grey |
| Hart(e)bees | <u>Bubalis caama</u> |
| Helder | clear, bright |
| Heuning | honey |
| Heuwel | hill |
| Hoek | corner, narrow glen |
| Hol | hollow |
| Hooq | high |
| Hout | wood |
| Jaq | hunt |
| Jakhals | jackal |
| Jakkals | jackal |
| Kaal | bare, barren |
| Kaap | cape |
| Kalk | lime |
| Kalkoen | turkey |
| Kameel(perd) | giraffe |

| | |
|----------|--|
| Ranon | cannon |
| Kat | cat |
| Keerom | turnabout |
| Klein | little, small |
| Klip | stone |
| Kloof | ravine |
| Koedoe | kudu |
| Kop | hill |
| Koppie | hillock, knoll |
| Koring | wheat |
| Kraai | crow |
| Krans | cliff, crag |
| Krom | crooked |
| Kruis | cross, athwart |
| Lang | long |
| Leeu | lion |
| Lekker | pleasant |
| Lelie | lily |
| Lemoen | orange |
| Los | loose |
| Matjies | bulrush |
| meer | lake |
| Melk | milk |
| Middel | middle |
| Modder | mud |
| Moed | courage |
| Moed | pretty |
| Neus | nose, headland, shoulder (of mountain) |
| Nooit | never |
| Noord | north |
| Nou | narrow |
| Nuwe | new |
| Olien | wild olive (<u>Olea africana</u>) |
| Olifant | elephant |
| Onder | lower, under |
| Ongeluk | misfortune, accident |
| Oorlog | war |
| Oos | east |
| Os | ox |
| Ou | old |
| Palmiet | bulrush (<u>Prionium spp</u>) |
| Pampoer | pumpkin |
| Pan | depression, pan |
| Papkuil | bulrush (<u>Typha sp</u>) |
| Patrys | partridge |
| Perd(e) | horse |
| Plaat | patch, stretch |
| Plat | flat |
| Poort | defile, gorge |
| Put(s) | well |
| Rand | edge |
| Rant | ridge |
| Reebok | deer, roe-buck |
| Renoster | rhinoceros |
| Riet | reed |
| Rivier | river |
| Rond(e) | round |

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Rooi | red |
| Rots | rock |
| Ruigte | coppice, thicket |
| Rus | rest |
| Saaï | sow |
| Seekoei | hippopotamus |
| Ses | six |
| Sewe | seven |
| Skaap | sheep |
| Skiet | shoot |
| Skilpad | tortoise |
| Skurwe | rough |
| Slang | snake |
| Smal | narrow |
| Sneeu | snow |
| Soet | sweet |
| Sout | salt |
| Spioen | spy |
| Spits | pointed, peaked |
| Springbok | springbok (<u>Antidorcas euchores</u>) |
| Stad | city |
| Steenbok | steenbok |
| Steil | steep |
| Sterk | strong |
| Stil | quiet, silent |
| Stof | dust |
| Strand | beach |
| Stryd | struggle |
| Suid | south |
| Suikerbos | sugar-bush (<u>Protea mellifera</u>) |
| Suur | sour |
| Swart | black |
| Taaibos | 'tough bush' (<u>Rhus</u> sp.) |
| Tafel | table |
| Tier | tiger, leopard |
| Toring | tower |
| Turf | peat |
| Twee | two |
| Twyfel | doubt, uncertainty |
| Uitkoms | deliverance |
| Uitkyk | look-out, prospect |
| Uitsig | view |
| Uitspan | outspan, unharness |
| Vaal | grey |
| Vallei | valley |
| Vals | false |
| Vark | pig |
| Veg | battle |
| Ver | distant, far |
| Vet | fat |
| Vier | four |
| Vis | fish |
| Vlak | shallow |
| Vlei | marsh |
| Voël | bird |
| Volstruis | ostrich |
| Voor | before, in front |

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Vrede | peace |
| Vryheid | liberty |
| Vye | fig |
| Vyf | five |
| Waai | blow |
| Warm | hot |
| Water | water |
| Wei | graze |
| Wes | west |
| Wild(e) | wild |
| Wildebees(t) | gnu, wildebeest |
| Wilge(r) | willow |
| Wit | white |
| Wolve | wolf |
| Yster | iron |
| Ystervark | porcupine |

4.2 Dutch

See Toponymic Guidelines - Netherlands

4.3 English

See Toponymic Guidelines - United Kingdom

4.4 Khoekhoen (Hottentot)

General remarks

The Khoekhoen languages, which have become extinct within the Republic of South Africa, are characterized by suction consonants or 'clicks' which are, or may be, semantically determinative. They are the dental click, represented in writing by the symbol /, the palatal click #, the lateral click //, and the cerebral click, represented by !. In place-names these suction consonants are generally omitted. Thus for /Ae//gams the form Aegams is written. In appellatives, epithets and other words, these suction consonants are indicated. In the following lists, the suction consonants are given where relevant, for it is from these appellatives etc. from which place-names are derived.

Although some of these elements are not in line with the modern orthography (of Nama) they are listed here because that is how they are encountered in place-names. Only the most frequent elements are listed. For a more comprehensive listing cf. Nienaber G.S. and Raper, P.E. Toponymica Hottentotica, Pretoria, 1980, pp. 71-122.

| | |
|-----|----------------------|
| Ani | bird |
| Aru | <u>Albizzia</u> tree |
| Au | bitter |
| Bi | milk |
| Dai | milk |

| | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|
| Dani | honey |
| Dawe | <u>tamarix</u> sp. |
| Gama | crooked |
| Ganna | lye-bush, <u>Salsola</u> |
| Gaxu | long |
| Gei | large |
| Goba | speak, argue |
| Goma | cow, ox |
| Gu | sheep |
| Tsao | ash |
| Tsara | dust |
| Tsau | well |
| Tsawi | ebony, <u>Euclea pseudebenus</u> |
| Tsoari | behind |
| Tsuni | sand |
| Uri | louse |
| Xam | lion |
| Xau | excrement |
| Xora | waterhole dug in sand |
| /A | moist, wet |
| /Ae | hot, fire |
| /Ami | ostrich |
| /An | moist, wet |
| /Aru | dung |
| /Asa | new |
| /Au | fontain |
| /Ga | grass |
| /Gam | two |
| /Garu | leopard, tiger |
| /Gina | fly |
| /Giri | jackal |
| /Goa | child |
| /Gom | dense, overgrown |
| /Gowa | dune |
| /Gowe | wild fig |
| /Gu | hot, boiling |
| /Gui | one |
| /Hara | breast, nipple |
| /Haru | bulrush |
| /Hei | grey |
| /Huni | Boscia tree |
| /Ka | wild orange, <u>Parkinsonia</u> sp. |
| /Kara | gully, rift, crevice |
| /Khawi | grass, (<u>Aristida</u> sp.) |
| /Khora | rocky, rough, stony |
| /Kuru | sour |
| /Nara | <u>Acacia tortilis</u> |
| /Nera | baboon |
| /Noma | fig |
| /O | stinking |
| /Ora | old |
| /U | salt |
| /Ui | stone |
| //Ara | blunt, truncated |
| //Ari | raisin bush, (<u>Grewia</u> sp.) |
| //Au | fish |
| //Eixa | angty |

//Ga attack, battle
//Gam water
//Gana Acacia giraffae
//Gara quiver tree, Aloe dichotoma
//Garu waterhole in rock
//Gu springbok
//Guru quartz
//Haraga korhaan (Ovis aroides)
//Kama hartebeest
//Kara gravel
//Khae sand
//Khu thorn
//Nui fat
#A reed
#Are grass (Aristida)
#Ga cliff; plain
#Gama brown
#Go pointed
#Goa mud
#Gui many
#Ha flat, plain
#Hawa broad, wide
#Hoa blue
#Hui willow (Salix capensis)
#Khari small
#Khoa elephant
#Nu black
#O narrow
!Am green
!Are karee (Rhus lancea)
!Ari steenbok
!Ga poison
!Gam deep
!Gawa Catophractes alexandri
!Gho Acacia hebeclada
!Gom wild olive (Olea africana)
!Gou athwart, transverse
!Gu wild pear (Dombeya rotundifolia)
!Guwu round
!Hau sill, rock bank
!Hoa crooked, twisting
!Huni yellow
!Kae dark
!Kani eland
!Kha wild orange (Parkinsonia sp.)
!Kho limestone
!Khor limestone
!Khuwi marsh, swamp
!Na glistening, shining
!Naba rhinoceros
!Nae giraffe
!Nani finger; six
!Nara Acanthosicyos sp.
!Naru ebony (Euclea pseudebenus)
!Nau ochre
!Nawa rhinoceros
!Noa porcupine

| | |
|-------|-----------------|
| !Noe | Acacia detinens |
| !Nu | far, distant |
| !Unia | palm tree |
| !Uri | white |

5. GENERIC TERMS ENCOUNTERED IN SOUTH AFRICAN PLACE-NAMES

5.1 General remarks

For names derived from Dutch, English, German, etc., see Toponymic Guidelines - The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany, etc.

5.2 Afrikaans

| | |
|---------|-------------------------|
| Aar | underground watercourse |
| akker | field, plot of land |
| baai | bay |
| bad | bath, (mineral) spring |
| bank | shelf |
| berg | mountain |
| bron | spring |
| bult | hillock, ridge, rise |
| burg | castle, (hence) town |
| dal | dale, dell, gien |
| dam | dam, reservoir |
| deel | part, portion |
| dorp | town |
| drif | ford |
| eiland | island |
| fontein | fountain, spring |
| fort | fort, stronghold |
| gat | hole |
| grot | cave, grotto |
| heuvel | hill |
| hof | court, garden |
| hoogte | height, prominence |
| huis | house, home |
| kamp | camp, paddock |
| kasteel | castle |
| klip | stone, rock |
| kloof | gorge, ravine |
| kolk | eddy, pool |
| kom | basin, bowl |
| kraal | corral, kraal, village |
| krans | cliff, precipice |
| kruin | crown, summit, crest |
| kuil | pool |
| laagte | depression, dip, valley |
| land | land, field |
| leegte | depression, dip, valley |
| loop | watercourse |
| lughawe | airport |
| meer | lake |
| mond | mouth |

| | |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| myn | mine |
| nek | neck, col |
| neus | promontory, shoulder (of mountain) |
| oog | fountain(head) |
| oord | place, resort |
| pan | pan, basin, hollow |
| pas | (mountain) pass |
| plaas | farm, place |
| poel | pool |
| poort | gateway, defile |
| pos | post |
| punt | point |
| put(s) | well |
| rand | edge, rim |
| rant | ridge, range of hills |
| rif | reef |
| rivier | river |
| rug | ridge, hill |
| rus(t) | rest, repose |
| sloot | ditch, furrow, gully |
| spits | peak, summit |
| spruit | creek, stream, tributary |
| stad | city |
| stasie | station |
| stroom | stream |
| val | fall(s) |
| vallei | valley |
| veld | field, pasture |
| vlakke | plain, flat(s) |
| vlei | marsh, moor, swamp |
| vliet | brook, rivulet |
| wal | bank, embankment, wall of dam |
| waterval | waterfall |
| woud | forest, wood |

5.3 Khoekhoen *****

5.3.1 General remarks -----

In common with other substantives, place-names generally end in -b (masculine) or -s (feminine). These endings are not reflected in the following lists of generic terms. Here again the elements are sometimes given as they occur in place-names, and consequently they do not always comply with the modern orthography. The click or suction consonants, //, //, ʘ and !, are integral elements of words or morphemes and, although omitted from place-names when these are written, they are semantically determinative. The following lists should, therefore, correctly be systematized under each of these consonants. However, in view of the use for which they are intended, and the fact that the users are not au fait with the Khoekhoen languages, and since these consonants are not reflected in place-names and one would not know under which consonant to seek the element, the listing is alphabetical according to the letters following the suction consonant. Thus a, /a, //a, ʘa and !a would all be listed under a.

a hole
 /a marsh, swamp
 *a reed
 !a river
 am mouth, fountain, spring
 /ara gully
 !are hill, hillock
 /au fountain
 dana head, hill
 dani honey
 dao mountain pass, road
 dawē Tamarix usneoides
 dom throat, channel, furrow
 ei face, plain
 *ga flat, plain
 !ga back, ridge
 //gam water
 !gan path, road
 //qana Acacia giraffae
 !gari river
 //qaru waterhole in rock
 //qau place, settlement
 /gawa hat, cliff
 *go peak
 *goa mud
 !goa ravine
 /gowa dune
 *gui nose, cliff
 //ha gorge, ravine
 hai tree
 /hara knoll
 !hao ledge, sill, bank
 !hara kraal
 hei tree
 //hoa cliff; hollow
 !homi mountain
 /horo neck
 !hu earth, ground, land
 /huni Boscia tree
 kamma water, river
 /kara gully
 //khae sand
 !khae place, locality
 !kho lime, limestone
 /khom stone
 //khu thorn
 !khuwi marsh, swamp
 kobi marsh, swamp
 koe hill, mountain
 *kuru watervein
 kuwi marsh, swamp
 mu eye, spring
 //na horn
 !na stomach, plain
 !nani ridge, edge
 *nari island
 //noa hollow

| | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| !nom | head, hill |
| !noro | hind-head, hill |
| ob | river |
| om | house |
| /ori | iron |
| ro | round hill |
| sam | breast |
| sana | mole, birthmark |
| su | pot, depression |
| toro | Karoo ground |
| tsau | well |
| tsawi | ebony (<u>Euclea pseudeberus</u>) |
| /ui | rock, stone, mountain |
| !unia | palm tree |
| xora | waterhole dug in sand |
| xanu | drift, ford |

6 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Republic of South Africa is divided into four provinces, namely the Cape Province, Natal, the Orange Free State, and Transvaal. Each province is, in turn, divided into magisterial districts, each with its seat of magistracy. In most instances the magisterial district takes its name from the seat of magistracy. Where this is not the case, the name of the seat of magistracy will, in the lists that follow, be given in brackets after the name of the magisterial district.

As may be expected in a country in which there are two official languages, both an English and an Afrikaans name may occur for a magisterial district, particularly when such names contain an easily translatable generic term. In these cases both the English and Afrikaans form will be given, with an asterisk to indicate which form takes precedence for official purposes (vide par. 1.2.3.5). In view of the incorporation from time to time, of certain magisterial districts into neighbouring independent states such as Bophuthatswana, the Ciskei, Transkei and Venda, and self-governing national states such as Kwandebele, Kwangwane, Kwazulu, Quaqua and so forth, the lists are not to be regarded as final.

6.1 Cape Province

Aberdeen
 Adelaide
 Albany (*Grahamstown/Grahamstad)
 Albert
 Alexandria
 *Aliwal North / Aliwal-Noord
 *Barkly East / Barkly-OOS
 *Barkly West / Barkly-Wes
 Bathurst
 *Beaufort West / Beaufort-Wes
 Bedford
 Bellville
 Bredasdorp
 Britstown
 Calvinia
 Caledon

Calitzdorp
Cape (Cape Town/Kaapstad)
Carnarvon
Cathcart
Ceres
Cianwilliam
Colesberg
Cradock
De Aar
*East London/Oos-London
Elliot
Fort Beaufort
Fraserburg
George
Goodwood
Gordonia (Upington)
Graaff-Reinet
Hankey
Hanover
Hartswater I
Hartswater II
Hay (Griquatown / *Griekwastad)
Heidelberg
Herbert (Douglas)
Hermanus
Hofmeyr
Hopefield
Hopetown
Humansdorp
Indwe
Jansenville
Joubertina
Kenhardt
Kimberley
King William's Town
Kirkwood
Knysna
Komga
Kuilrivier
Kuruman
Ladismith
Lady Grey
Laingsburg
Maclear
Malmesbury
Maraisburg (Hofmeyr)
Mdantsane I
Mdantsane II
Mdantsane III
Mdantsane IIII
Middelburg
Molteno
Montagu
Mossel Bay / *Mosselbaai
Murraysburg
Namaqualand / Namakwaland (Springbok)
Noupoort

Oudtshoorn
 Paarl
 Pearston
 Philipstown
 Piketberg
 Port Elizabeth
 Postmasburg
 Prieska
 *Prince Albert / Prins Albert
 Queenstown
 Richmond
 *Riversdale / Riversdal
 Robertson
 *Simonstown / Simonstad
 *Somerset East / Somerset-Oos
 *Somerset West / Somerset-Wes
 Stellenbosch
 Sterkstroom
 Steynsburg
 Steytlerville
 Stockenstrom (Seymour)
 Strand
 Stutterheim
 Sutherland
 Swellendam
 Tarkastad
 Tulbagh
 Uitenhage
 Uniondale
 Vanrhynsdorp
 Venterstad
 *Victoria East / Victoria-Oos
 *Victoria West / Victoria-Wes
 Vredenburg
 Vredendal
 Vryburg I
 Vryburg II
 Vryburg III
 Warrenton
 Wellington
 Williston
 Willowmore
 Wodehouse (Dordrecht)
 Worcester
 Wynberg

6.2 Natal

 Alfred (Harding)
 Babanango
 Bergville
 Camperdown
 Dannhauser
 Dundee
 Durban
 Eshowe

Estcourt
 Glencoe
 Hlabisa (Mtubatuba)
 Impendle
 Inanda (Verulam)
 Ingwavuma
 Ixopo
 Klip River / *Kliprivier (Ladysmith)
 Kranskop
 *Lions River / Lionsrivier (Howick)
 Lower Tugela (Stanger)
 Lower Umfolozi (Empangeni)
 Mahlabatini
 Mapumulo
 Mooli River / *Mooirivier
 Mpendle
 Msinga
 Mtonjaneni (Melmoth)
 Mtunzini
 Ndwedwe
 Newcastle
 New Hanover
 Ngqotshe (Louwsburg)
 Nqutu
 Nkandla
 Nongoma
 Paulpietersburg
 Pietermaritzburg
 Pinetown
 Polela (Bulwer)
 Port Shepstone
 Richmond
 Ubombo
 Umbumbulu
 Umlazi
 Umvoti (Greytown)
 uMzinto (Scottburgh)
 Underberg (Himeville)
 Utrecht
 Vryheid
 Weenen

6.3 Orange Free State / Oranje-Vrystaat

Bethlehem
 Bethulie
 Bloemfontein
 Boshof
 Bothaville
 Brandfort
 Sultfontein
 Clocolan
 Dewetsdorp
 Edenburg
 Excelsior
 Fauresmith

Ficksburg
Fouriesburg
Frankfort
Harrismith
Heilbron
Hennenman
Hoopstad
Jacobsdal
Jagersfontein
Koffiefontein
Koppies
Kroonstad
Ladybrand
Lindley
Marquard
Odendaalsrus
Parys
Petrusburg
Philippolis
Reddersburg
Reitz
Rouxville
Sasolburg
Senekal
Smithfield
Theunissen
Trompsburg
Ventersburg
Viljoenskroon
Virginia
Vrede
Vredefort
Welkom
Wepener
Wesselsbron
Winburg
Zastron

6.4 Transvaal

Alberton
Amersfoort
Balfour
Barberton
Belfast
Benoni
Bethal
Bloemhof
Bochum
Boksburg
Bolobedu
Brakpan
Brits
Bronkhorstspuit
Carolina
Christiana

Colligny
Cullinan
Delareyville
Delmas
Eerstehoek
Ermeio
Germiston
Giyani
Groblersdal
Heidelberg
Highveld Ridge / *Hoeveldrif
Johannesburg
Kamlushwa
Kempton Park
Klerksdorp
Koster
Krugersdorp
Letaba (Tzaneen)
Lichtenburg
Lydenburg
Malamulele
Marico (Zeerust)
Mdutjana
Messina
Mhala
Middelburg
Mokerong I
Mokerong II
Mokerong III
Moutse I
Moutse II
Moutse III
Namakgale I
Namakgale II
Naphuno I
Naphuno II
Nebo
Nelspruit
Nigel
Oberholzer
Pietersburg
Piet Retief
*Pilgrim's Rest / Pelgrimsrus (Sabie)
Potchefstroom
Potgietersrus
Pretoria
Randburg
Randfontein
Ritavi I
Ritavi II
Roodepoort
Rustenburg
Schweizer-Reneke
Sekgosesa
Sekhukhuneland
Seshego
Soshanguve I

Soshanguve II
Soutpansberg (Louis Trichardt)
Springs
Standerton
Swarttruggens
Thabamopo
Thabazimbi
Vanderbijlpark
Ventersdorp
Vereeniging
Volksrust
Wakkerstroom
Warmbaths / *Warmbad
Waterberg (Nylstroom)
Waterval-Boven
Westonaria
Witbank
White River / *Witrivier
Wolmaransstad