

Archaeological Site Report	SiteNo	9/2/018/0229
	Site Name	Treaty Tree, Woodstock, Cape Town
	Date	
	Project	
	CaseNID	
	Coords	-33.926247, 18.451313

Page No: 1 **SiteAutoID:** 29161

Site Category: Natural

SiteComments:

Archive Import History: In 1803 England who had occupied the Cape Colony for seven years, gave it back to the Netherlands which was then known as the Batavian Republic. General J. W. Janssens was appointed as governor. Barely three years later England again sent a fleet to occupy the Cape. This fleet anchored off Blaauwberg Strand and on 8th January, 1806, General Janssens' weak garrison was decisively defeated at the Battle of Blaauwberg. He with- drew with the remainder of his force to the Hottentots Holland mountains. On 10th January, 1806, Cape Town capitulated to the British commanders at this site in Woodstock, then known as Papendorp. The articles of capitulation were signed in a thatched house which stood alongside the square. By this instrument Lt. Col von Prophalov, the commander of the local defences, transferred the property of the Batavian government at the Cape to the British commanders, Maj.-Gen. Sir David Baird and Commodore Home Popham. The so-called "Treaty House" stood for many years but was demolished about 1935 to make way for a factory. Meanwhile a persistent tradition arose that the treaty was signed under the tree which consequently became known as the "Treaty Tree". Fortunately the site on which the tree stands stood as "derelict land" without an owner for about a century. In 1966 the City Council of Cape Town obtained possession of it. Visual Description: This site and the tree are historically related to the second British occupation of the Cape in 1806. In a building which stood adjacent to this land the capitulation conditions were signed on 10th January, 1806, whereby the property of the Batavian Government at the Cape was transferred to the commanders of the British forces, Maj-Genl. Sir David Baird and Commodore Sir Home Popham. Colours: Site Features: Condition: Construction Date: Materials: Catalogue: , No: , Significance Category:

Damage Types: