Thomson's Falls was discovered by Joseph Thomson, Joseph Thomson was the first to reach the falls in 1883 and named them after his father. Joseph was a Scottish geologist and naturalist who was also the first European to walk from Mombasa to Lake Victoria in the early 1880's. The 72 m (243 ft) scenic waterfall on the Ewaso Ngiro river which drains from the Aberdare Mountain range, is located in Nyahururu, Laikipia county, at 2,360 m, also known as the highest town in Kenya. The area was originally a part of the indigenous forest surrounding the famous falls which to date is a home to many animals like the Columbus monkeys and various bird species. This was a haven for Thomson who decided to settle here and went ahead to construct a sprawling cottage facing the falls.