
Langa Gateway Landscape Framework.

June 2013

For City of Cape Town Tourism Department



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BRIEF

BACKGROUND

The Tourism Development Framework (2004) has identified the elements needed in the various regions to create identity and access to tourism precincts. Within this framework the legible city project was created to focus on creating distinct, high quality environments to differentiate areas of character and special significance within the wider City and to support the movement of visitors throughout the City.

The concept of the “legible city” has been defined to enable visitors to understand the extent and diversity of the city regions and access them easily and safely. Through action on the ground (i.e. pedestrian signage, colour, street furniture, pavements, murals, art work, city maps, etc.) supported by promotion and interpretational activities, this project aims to provide clear understanding of the distinctive offers in various parts of the City and to generate a clear sense of place within the City.

The purpose of the project is to design and maintain pedestrian routes, heritage aspects and historic references holistically through the proposed design improvements. The project would provide a safe and aesthetically pleasing road-side environment free of visual clutter caused by a plethora of illegal, excessive and/or outdated signage, unnecessary furniture and fittings and problematic pavements thus easing the pedestrian's navigational task.

Earthworks Landscape Architects was appointed to approach the above-mentioned brief in the main tourist areas of Langa. The scope of the Langa Landscape Framework was the Gateway into Langa when exiting the N2 onto Bhunga avenue, the length of Bhunga avenue up to the Washington street intersection, the Bhunga / N'dabeni intersection as well as Harlem Avenue. The focus of the Landscape Framework will be on creating a pedestrian environment that will enhance the visitors experience of the areas.

OUTCOME

The concept Landscape framework presented in this report (Page 2) and the sections (Pages 3 - 4) seek to address the key requirements of the brief. The main focus of the concept being that of improving the pedestrian realm as well as improving and designing for the tourism routes in Langa. A focus on the heritage of the Langa area is addressed as a means of using artwork / sculptural elements in the landscape to enhance the spatial experience of the Langa tourism routes.

Key observations of the current indicators of sense of place in Langa where used as a departure point for design. Positive indicators that were considered were; an active street life, vibrancy, cultural festivals, sense of community and heritage. Aspects that were considered as negative indicators were; a lack of social identity, harsh climatic / environment conditions, and a lack of appropriate public and pedestrian space.

The Landscape Framework aims to enhance improve the pedestrian realm and Langa tourism routes through continuation of the language of pedestrian surfacing that is already existing at Bhunga / Washington street intersection and by linking Harlem Avenue with the upgraded Washington street area. Tree planting and the improvement of green spaces aim to allow for flexible recreational space. Increasing the allowance for social interactions and “street” life is accommodated through a series of public spaces and squares that can either interface with residential or commercial activities in the area. The strategy and concept for Harlem Avenue aims to celebrate and maintain the heritage of the area. There is a concern that current developments and private alterations to homes in the historic areas could result in a loss in the heritage character of the area. The proposal for Harlem Avenue and potential future further areas should inform ways in which areas can be upgrading without losing the characteristic heritage of the area.

A compass rose with a circle in the center. Four lines extend from the center to the top, bottom, left, and right edges of the circle. The word "NORTH" is written vertically along the left line. The word "SOUTH" is written vertically along the right line. The word "EAST" is written horizontally along the bottom line. The word "WEST" is written horizontally along the top line.

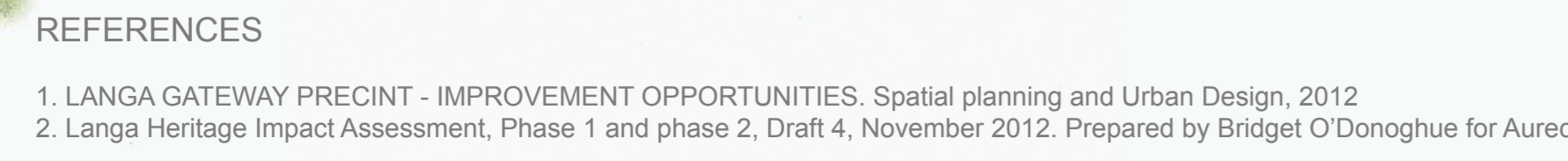


EARTHWORKS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



Proposed Tree

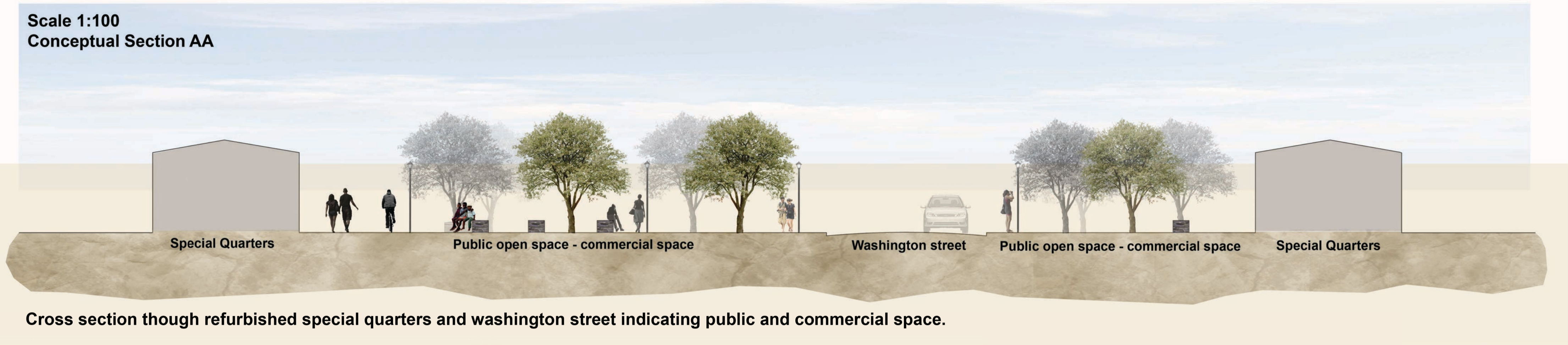
N2 Towards
Cape Town
International
Airport



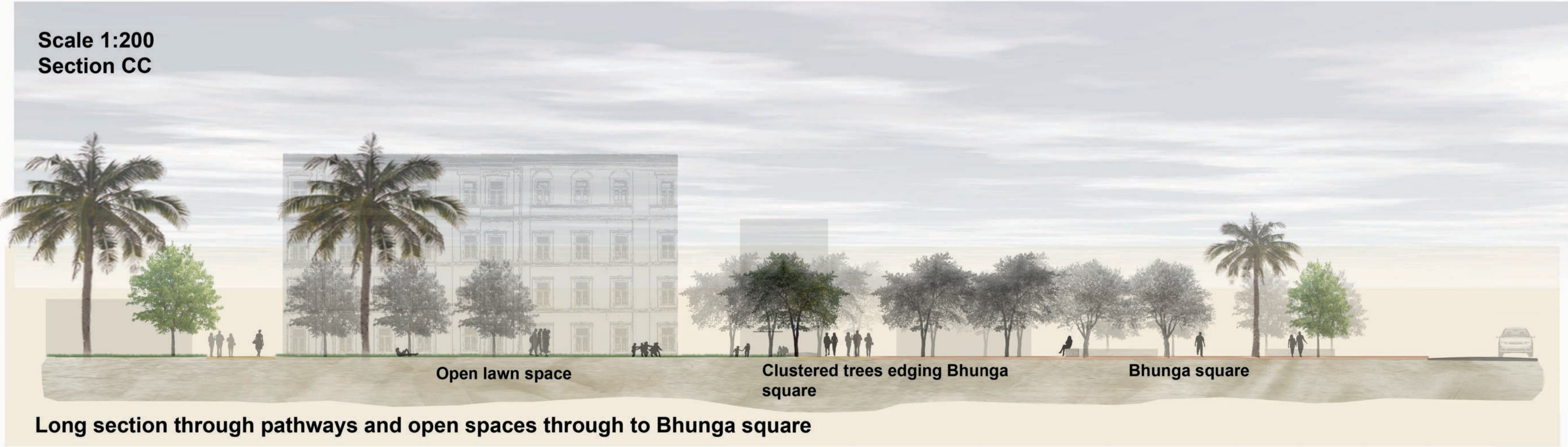
LANGA_Landscape Framework concept: Sections

The concept of this Landscape Framework is to improve the pedestrian realm. The spirit of Langa at the moment seems to be very dependent on the life and activity that happens outside the homes and in the streets. The idea of the framework is to celebrate this public life and to create spaces for people to linger and to safely enjoy the public realm.

Aspects of the framework aim to create spaces for fun, celebration and the display of artwork / sculpture. The idea behind the Special Quarters improvements and design will be to conserve the historical aspects as well as to create space for pedestrians. Parking will provide for tourism. The Special Quarters upgrades will form part of the Langa Heritage and Tourism routes.

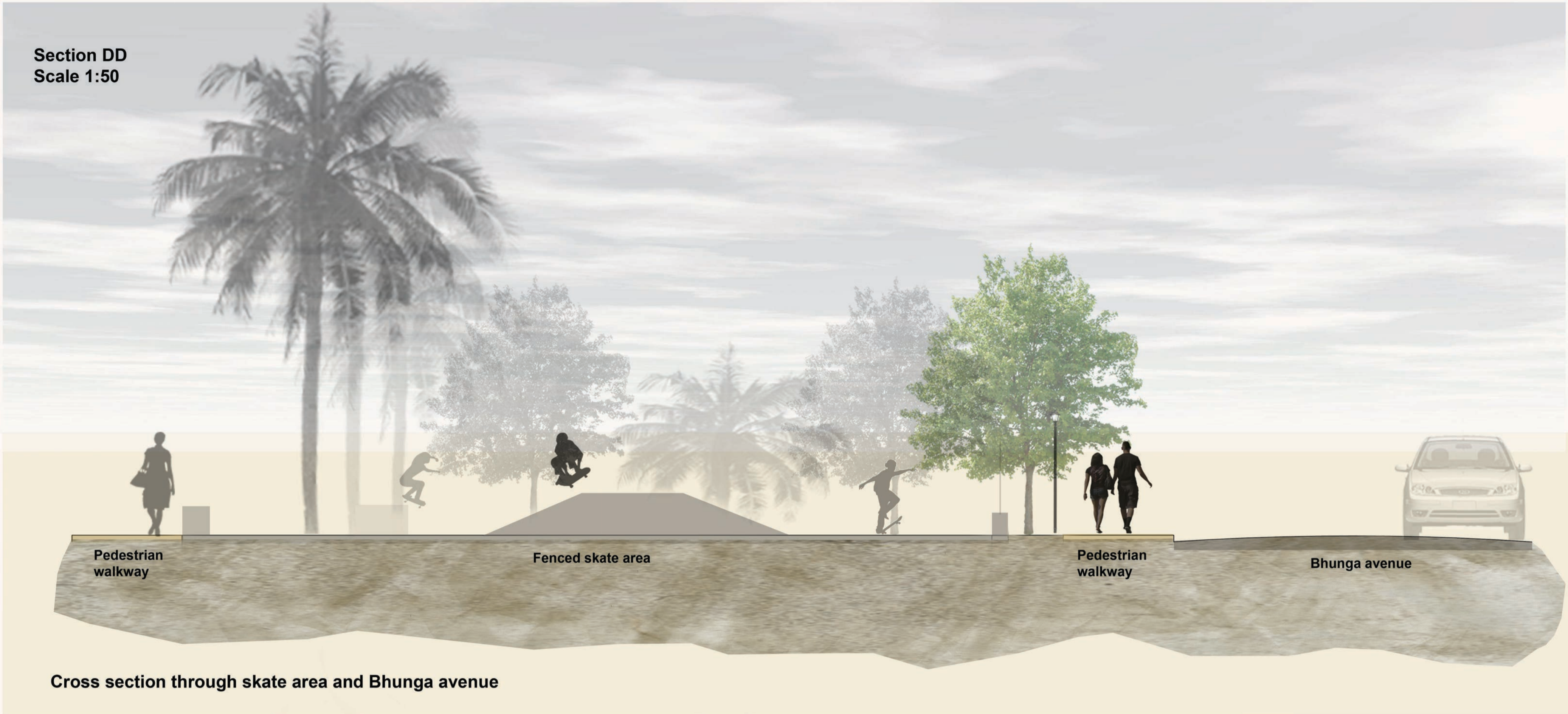


The idea of improving the public realm is translated into creating a large informal public open space that interacts with commercial activity along Washington street.



Reference Plan

LANGA_Landscape Framework concept: Sections



Fun play space incorporated into areas of public spaces.

Harlem avenue: concept



Alleyway concept: Draws colour and vibrancy onto the street through into the alleyways. Connecting parallel streets.



Harlem Avenue: Celebration of the heritage of Harlem Avenue through by bringing the heritage out onto the street, through artwork / paintwork.



The concept for Harlem avenue would draw on a significant feature / character and celebrate this aspect. The celebration of each person becomes a spatial experience along Harlem avenue.

1. MEETINGS HELD:

Appendix A: Public meeting Register and Comments

LANGA LANDSCAPE FRAMEWORK: PUBLIC MEETING with TOURISM REPRESENTATIVES

May 2013
At Guga S'thebe

Attendance Register

NAME	COMPANY	CONTACT No.	EMAIL
Sisa Ngundo (SN)	CoCT: Tourism Dept	021 417 4067	Sisa.ngondo@cape-town.gov.za
Xolani Dyala (XD)	Ward 53 Act Chairman Street Committees	021 694 6714	Xolani90@yahoo.co.fr
Amanda Booyens (AB)	Cape Town Tourism	021 915 4080	Amanda@capetown.travel
Pauline van der Spuy (PvdS)	CoCT: Tourism Dept	021 417 4061	Pauline.vanderspuy@capetown.gov.za
Peter Koen (PK)	CoCT: Roads and Stormwater	021 400 6431	Peter.koen@capetown.gov.za
Abigail Joustra (AJ)	Earthworks Landscape Architects	072 123 6318	asjoustra@gmail.com
Ntuthuko Mchunu (NM)	CoCT: Tourism Dept	021 417 4074	Ntuthuko.mchunu@capetown.gov.za
Amra Mahloane (AM)	Ward 53 Rep: Street committees	082 523 6404	

COMMENTS and NOTES

Item	Notes	Action
1. Introduction	Pauline van der Spuy welcomed attendees and introduced the project and its intention.	
2. Presentation	Abigail Joustra presented the analysis and thoughts and design concept for the Langa Landscape Framework	
3. Floor Open for Comments and Discussion		
	3.1 Discussion around the proposed housing development (by others) as well as the Landscape Framework Plan which does not indicate catering for taxi's or a Taxi Rank	Noted - (AJ); In the process going forward this aspect of accommodating taxi's will definitely be considered.

	3.2 On the note of the taxi's there was a request to allow for more stopping bays along Bhunga avenue between N'dabeni and Washington streets	Noted – (AJ) would like to assess this as whether this would be the best strategy for accommodating taxis.
	3.3 There is a proposal to incorporate an information center – is relocate what is at Guga S'thebe – to either at the Special Quarters or at the public square on the right of N'dabeni / Bhunga intersection.	Noted – An information centre will be incorporated into the plans going forward.
	3.4 There was a suggestion that you could receive your “pass” and the information center when you enter into Langa. Best proposed position for the information center was the public square at the N'dabeni interchange.	
	3.5 A comment was raised about the planting of trees, and whether planting low shrubs would be a lower maintenance option.	AJ commented that Trees allow for a permeable planted edge. Shrubs that are low growing can form a barrier that could decrease visibility into / out of certain spaces which could decrease the sense of safety and connection with other areas. Maintenance of shrubs can also be high as a result of litter being stashed in bushes and dumping occurring in clumps of shrubbery.
	3.6 The aspect of accommodating tour busses was raised. It was expressed that there was a need for a drop off area where a tour group can arrive and be dropped off and an alternative parking area that busses can stop and wait. It was proposed that the arrival drop off be accommodated at the N'dabeni / Bhunga avenue square where the information center has been proposed in the discussion above. The parking for waiting busses was suggested to be accommodated.	AJ noted the proposals and will take these forward in the development of the plans

	3.7 PK raised a comment that the choice of trees should consider appropriateness for application for streets. Allowing for visibility etc. for drivers.	Noted – AJ commented that this would most certainly be considered and detailed when the project moves into a more detailed phase.
	3.8 PvdS proposed that there should possibly be consideration for parking at the Special Quarters commercial area.	Noted – AJ would like to consider incorporate parking in a way that does not negatively take away space from the public open space that will be created through connecting commercial activity across Washington street. However the need for parking is noted and will be considered in the further development of the plans.
	3.9 It was suggested that aspects of “OLD” Langa be introduced into the public spaces as a type of artwork. Possibly through bench design or use of paving surface – certain aspects of old Langa can be alluded to through the design of the language of the spaces.	Noted, PvdS to ensure that input on what aspects of old Langa would like to be re-introduced in the process going forward.
	<p>3.10 The artwork for Harlem street proposal was raised. PK noted that there would need to be a processes followed in order to allow for the artwork on the road.</p> <p>Remaining on the topic of Harlem Avenue – it was proposed that it be considered to convert Harlem avenue to a one way street in a northerly direction. This could allow for the nature of the road to change slightly – accommodating more for pedestrians.</p> <p>A suggestion to put speed bumps in Harlem avenue.</p> <p>An alternative suggested that was raised was to convert Harlem avenue to a residents only street. Allowing for only vehicles of the residents to enter.</p>	<p>PvdS to follow up on the details of this process.</p> <p>AJ noted each of the possibilities and suggestions and will take this into consideration in the process going forward.</p>

	3.11 A concern was raised about this process moving forward without input from various interested parties.	<p>AJ noted the concern – and expressed that the capacity from her side was not for a public participation process at this stage. However plans and drawing presented at the meeting could be distributed for comment.</p> <p>It was arranged that copies of the plans and drawing presented would be distributed to a relevant street committee leader who can then be responsible to encourage participation and comments from the community.</p> <p>AJ to set up this arrangement to get copies of plans and drawing to Xolani Dyela from the street committees.</p>
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Appendix B: Comments received from street committee meetings (June 2013)

Comments were received in response to the proposed concept Landscape Framework Plan and sections. 9 street committees contributed to the comments received.

COMMENTS and QUESTIONS raised:

1. Street representatives questioned the focus of this project on one street. How did it come about that Harlem street alone was identified for heritage focus. There are 13 streets in the wards. All passages that have been identified for art should continue from Bhunga avenue, Harlem avenue, Rubusana and Bitterhout streets (to the stadium) for tourist walks.
2. Not only Harlem Avenue, but the oldest streets also have a story to tell.
3. Street committees believe that the history of Langa can not be told by someone who does not come from this area - in order for the history and the vibrancy of this community to be embraced and expressed - community people need to be involved and can tell a better story.
4. Would like to see that meetings with the community members (street committees) take place during this process and that there is more engagement in the process.
5. The concept that has been proposed could be a great prospect for beautifying the Langa area, in the future. Would like to have more consultations going further.
6. Looking forward to more consultations that will bring out the best with all the plans that are in process.

Appendix C: Comments- telephonic discussions with tour operators operating in the area (June 2013)

Comments were received through an informal telephonic consultation with tour operators that operate tours in the Langa Area.

COMMENTS and QUESTIONS raised:

1. It would be great to see some interpretive /information signage around Langa. However not too much information on the signage that would take away the purpose of a tour operator. It would be good to see signage around or near the key attractions. (Old Hostels, richer area, shack area, Emqombothini(place of traditional beer & smileys (sheep heads)).
2. It would be great to have a welcome area or parking /drop off area at the Bhunga/ N'dabeni intersection. This area is a meeting point for some tours.
3. Would there be a possibility of erecting a tourism sign along the N2 which can indicate that the turn-off that one is approaching has some tourist attractions. It could help for tourists navigating themselves to meet tour operators in the area.
4. The improvements that have been done so far at the Washington street Bhunga avenue interchange has been remarkable - would like to see this progress continuing.
5. Some concerns around basic problems. Don't focus on the urban design / landscape architecture until these key issues are addressed:
 - i) Litter
 - ii) Poorer streets in such deteriorated conditions eg sewage and storm-water in the streets. Basic hygiene factors that are a concern for tour operators.
 - iii) Jungle walk is a street of particular concern.

Appendix D: Final Meeting with Earthworks Landscape Architects and CoCT representatives.

LANGA LANDSCAPE FRAMEWORK

June 2013

14th Floor Standard Bank Building

Key Points Raised:

Parking around the commercial /pedestrian area at the Special Quarters along Washington street has not really been accommodated for. Adam van Nievenhuizen and Abigail Joustra urge that this area is a space that the focus should really be for pedestrians and the public realm. There should be a means to avoid cluttering the space with cars / parking bays as much as possible.

It was agreed that a few parallel parking spaces could be incorporated into the final framework plan going forward.

The Gateway threshold and associated squares are recognized as significant spaces that hold opportunity for welcoming people into Langa. This space holds the opportunity to develop and inform future housing developments in the surrounding areas.

Nakita mentioned **artworks** in the process of being developed for the installation as a **“welcome” sign into Langa**. It was agreed that the preferred location for positioning this sign would be on the side of the road on the side of the sports precinct; visible to those both arriving into Langa and leaving. This proposal is incorporated in the final plan.

Abigail Joustra mentioned that from the process of acquiring **input from the street committees**, with regards to the concept plans, the following points were raised:

- Support for effort to improve and beautify the area.
- Why is the project focussed only on Harlem and Bhunga avenue, there is a lot of history and many stories to be told about Langa. There is a history to many more streets other than Harlem avenue.
- The artworks / proposals should continue with further participation and input from the community. How can someone not from Langa develop something for Langa without the people.

Worthwhile contacts have been made through this process. Refer to the contact details for Xolani Dyala and Amra Mahloane in the register in Appendix 1. for useful point of contact with the street committees.

Appendix E: List of Other Meetings Held.

LANGA TOURISM and LANDSCAPE FRAMEWORK

- **Sub Council 15 ACTIVITIES DAY** on Monday 19 Nov 2012 – presentation and discussion on Langa proposal by Pauline van der Spuy

- **Langa Heritage and Tourism Task Team** meetings during 2012 and 2013 – proposals were presented and discussed.

Noted comments: the initial design proposed by Earthworks Landscape Architects showed some alterations and activities proposed for Bhunga square. It was requested that Bhunga square remain unchanged as it is recognised as a heritage square. The design going forward and the final Framework Plan thus has left Bhunga square unchanged.

- Meetings with Tony Alvin. (2012 - 2013)

Appendix F: List of Persons Consulted (June 2013)

Name	Company	Contact
Xolani Dyala	Ward 53 Acting Chairman. Street committees representative	021 694 6714 071 834 6836 xolani90@yahoo.co.fr
Amra mahloane	Ward 53 Reap Street committee representative	082 523 6404
Siviwe	Township Tours Siviwe Tours	084 945 0739
Fizal	Cape Capers Township Tours	021 448 3117 083 358 0193 tourcape@mweb.co.za info@tourcapers.co.za

Appendix G: Langa VIC's Information Report July 2011 to June 2012 Provided by City of Cape Town.

LANGA VIC'S INFORMATION REPORT

1. Visitor numbers – feet through VIC (Domestic and International) – July 2011 to June 2012

Domestic:

Months	Visitor Numbers	Western Cape	Gauteng	Eastern Cape	KwaZulu Natal	Northern Cape	Free State	Northern Province	Mpumalanga	Northwest
July	164	164	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August	204	199	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
September	248	241	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
October	275	272	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	277	273	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
December	174	172	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January	321	321	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	294	290	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
March	268	256	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
April	304	302	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	333	331	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	361	359	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3 223	3 180	19	12	6	1	2	0	3	0

Domestic – 3 223 (54% of total)

International – 3 720 (46% of total)

Total – 6 943 (**Note:** this is only the number of visitors to the Cape Town Tourism office and not to the centre as attraction)

International:

Months	Visitor Numbers	Germany	United Kingdom	Europe	Benelux	USA	Canada	Asia	Other
July	167	34	9	23	0	56	0	0	0
August	265	54	5	50	0	39	0	5	0
September	251	54	21	53	0	29	2	15	0
October	310	71	18	83	0	49	10	20	0
November	394	77	18	65	5	111	0	19	0
December	272	41	26	69	0	62	6	21	0
January	306	69	30	61	1	84	0	16	0
February	271	67	38	33	0	54	0	17	0
March	233	55	27	45	0	46	0	5	0
April	389	66	31	73	0	43	32	28	0
May	435	81	48	58	4	46	42	21	0
June	427	35	42	28	0	108	12	48	0
TOTAL	3 720	704	313	641	10	727	104	215	0

2. International (country) vs Domestic (region) % split over the last year

Domestic region	%
Western Cape	98.7%
Gauteng	0.6%
Eastern Cape	0.4%
KwaZulu Natal	0.2%
Northern Cape	0.0%
Free State	0.1%
Northern Province	0.0%
Mpumalanga	0.1%
Northwest	0.0%

International Country	%
Germany	18.9%
United Kingdom	8.4%
Europe	17.2%
Benelux	0.3%
USA	19.5%
Canada	2.8%
Asia	5.8%
Other	27.0%

3. 5 Top Questions at the Langa VIC

- Information on the history of Langa
- Statistics re: population of Langa
- Where to make copies / send faxes and use internet and cost of service
- General enquiries: where is the clinic, schools, etc
- Map for Langa

4. Main 3 services at the Langa VIC

- Business support in terms of copies / faxes / internet
- Walking tour / activity reservations at CTT members
- General information

5. Things visitors enjoy in Langa

- Social life, sense of community and sharing. Everyone talk and greet one another.
- Welcoming and friendliness of locals.
- Seeing businesses in Langa whereby people have limited resources but manage to pull through which means they still have hope.
- Interaction with locals, home and hostel visits and understanding the challenges that are faced in the community.

6. Things visitors do not enjoy in Langa

- Living conditions, poverty and neglected children.
- When some tour operators do not allow them to get out of the vehicle as they prefer to walk around.
- All stops have become commercial where everyone is selling items.

7. Most popular sites / attractions in Langa

- Lelapa Restaurant
- Guga S'thebe Arts and cultural Centre
- Dompas Office
- Emqombothini(place of traditional beer & smileys (sheep heads)
- Hostels(new&old)
- Ndaba traditional healer
- Sobukwe Square
- Open meat market (tshisa nyama)
- Love Life Youth Centre
- Happy Feet dancers

Appendix H: Langa VIC's Information Report July 2012 to May 2013
Provided by City of Cape Town.

LANGA VIC'S INFORMATION REPORT

1. Services offered at the Langa VIC:

- Accommodation / tour / activity reservations at CTT members
- Webticket bookings
- Tourist information on what to see and do
- General information
- Brochure display of local area members / activities and also for the broader Cape Town Metropole.
- Retail display and sales
- Business centre: faxes, copies, internet café facility
- Green / Activity card sales

Please note: CTT VIC's do not only offer information on the Town where it is based, but all offices are to be able to provide information on Cape Town as a destination.

2. Visitor numbers – feet through VIC for the past 11 months (Domestic and International)(Jul 2012 – May 2013)

Domestic:

Months	Visitor Numbers	Western Cape	Gauteng	Eastern Cape	KwaZulu Natal	Northern Cape	Free State	Northern Province	Mpumalanga	Northwe:
July	210	210	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August	261	253	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
September	231	231	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	323	323	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	324	324	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	198	194	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January	371	367	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
February	323	323	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	268	268	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April	380	370	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	337	334	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3226	3197	23	2	2	0	0	0	0	0

- Top 3 domestic destinations visitors came from and the percentage contribution per province of the total domestic visitors. **Western Cape, Gauteng and Eastern Cape**

Domestic region	%
Western Cape	99.1%
Gauteng	0.7%
Eastern Cape	0.1%
Northern Cape	0.0%
Northern Province	0.0%
Mpumalanga	0.0%
Northwest	0.0%

Domestic – 3 226 (55% of total)
International – 2 605 (45% of total)
Total – 5 831

International:

Months	Visitor Numbers	Germany	United Kingdom	Europe	Benelux	USA	Canada	Asia	Other
July	173	38	14	20	3	53	2	3	
August	235	38	39	22	0	25	20	11	
September	199	43	23	21	2	54	8	0	
October	288	50	17	43	4	72	11	0	
November	287	56	57	42	0	67	18	2	
December	198	59	18	19	0	45	8	3	
January	313	50	57	41	2	75	13	0	
February	271	69	48	39	8	41	2	0	
March	230	56	32	26	0	36	13	2	
April	262	51	9	27	0	56	10	2	
May	149	50	8	13	0	23	4	0	
TOTAL	2605	560	322	313	19	547	109	23	

- Top 3 international destinations visitors came from and the percentage contribution per destination of the total international visitors. **USA, Germany and United Kingdom**

Domestic region	%
Western Cape	99.1%
Gauteng	0.7%
Eastern Cape	0.1%
Northern Cape	0.0%
Northern Province	0.0%
Mpumalanga	0.0%
Northwest	0.0%

3. Enquiries (telephone / email) over the past 11 months

Months	Total Enquiries	Telephone	Email
July	6	6	
August	7	6	
September	2	2	
October	7	6	
November	7	4	
December	8	6	
January	10	8	
February	6	6	
March	3	2	
April	11	11	
May	2	1	
TOTAL	69	58	1

4. Types of enquiries:

- Services that we offer in our VIC, eg faxing, printing ,photocopy and Internet
- Directions to schools, Guest houses and restaurants.
- Enquiries about walking tours, cycle tours, traditional healers, where to buy traditional beer.
- History of Langa
- Accommodation around Cape Town

5. Top 5 most popular enquiries:

- How do people(residents of Langa) feel when they see tourists around the area
- What is the population of Langa
- Where is the pass office/is it still operating
- Safety & Crime(Whether it safe to walk around Langa)
- Employment rate

Appendix I: LANGA: Gifts 9 Signs _ Position and Direction Provided by City of Cape Town.

- 1 1st Khoekhoen Dutch War 1659 DHCJ v2
- 2 Langa Heritage Routes 1A DHCJ
- 3 Langa Heritage Routes 2A DHCJ
- 4 Langa Heritage Routes 3A DHCJ
- 5 Langa Heritage Routes 4A DHCJ
- 6 Langa Heritage Routes and quotes - 2
- 7 Langa Heritage Routes and quotes -1
- 8 Langa Museum A DHCJ
- 9 LangaPass Office A DHCJ



Facing river
when reading it
1

First Khoekhoen-Dutch War: 1659

In February of 1657, V.O.C. Commander at the Cape, Jan van Riebeeck, began establishing individuals (recently released from Dutch East India Company service) as farmers along the banks of the Liesbeek River. The encroachment on the Khoekhoen's pasture lands by the Dutch set the scene for open conflict between the Company and the Cape herders.

The Dutch settlers regarded land and cattle as a commodity. For the Khoekhoen, land and the grazing it yielded were common property subject to customary practices. Disputes over the bartering of cattle exacerbated the tension. The demand for meat from passing fleets steadily increased and Company employees had to find more trading partners among the Khoekhoen. The Khoekhoen regarded their cattle as symbols of wealth and were reluctant to use them as items of trade. The Dutch misunderstood the Khoekhoe herders' reluctance to part with their cattle and they increasingly grew wary of the herders' motives. This strained the uneasy peace which had existed for the previous five years with the local Khoekhoen (known as the Goringhaiqua and Goringhaicona) to the breaking point. These mutual misunderstandings led to the first Khoekhoen-Dutch war (May 1659 - April 1660). Angered by the cultivation of prize grazing land by the colonists, a band of Khoekhoe men 'confiscated' seven of the Company's draught oxen in the hope that the farmers would discontinue their agricultural activities. In response, the newly established burgher militia was sent out to recover the stolen animals. Fighting broke out, resulting in the arrest of the Khoekhoe chief, Autshumato, or, as the Dutch called him, Harry (also Herrie) the Strandloper.

April 5th and 6th 1660 (Van Riebeeck's Journal) - Peace was renewed today with the chief and overlords of the Kaapmans, with Harry (Autshumato) and with all the principal men and elders. ... They strongly insist that we had been appropriating more and more of their land, which had been theirs all these centuries, and on which they had been accustomed to let their cattle graze, etc. They asked if they would be allowed to do such a thing supposing they went to Holland, and they added:

"It would be of little consequence if you people stayed here at the fort, but you come right into the interior and select the best land for yourselves without even asking if we mind or whether it will cause us any inconvenience."

Tension between the Khoekhoen and the Dutch settlers continued to simmer. In an attempt to contain the situation, the Dutch concluded two treaties with the Goringhaiqua and the Goringhaicona in 1672. In terms of the agreements, the Goringhaiqua and the Goringhaicona agreed to surrender large tracts of land stretching from Table Bay in the south to Saldanha Bay in the north and across to the Hottentots Holland Mountains in the east.

Varshedrift farm - near today's Malta Road bridge - had been one of the early contact points for trade between the Khoekhoen and the Settlers, as it was near the ford across the Liesbeek River.

The historic Varshedrift homestead - pictured in c.1900 below is gone, but you can see its foundation today in an archaeological site preserved and on display in the Black River Business Park at the end of Fir Rd Observatory

In Observatory, near
corner of Liesbeek
Parkway and Observatory
Rd. Between cycle lane
and footpath.
Facing River

Facing South
when reading it

2

NB

Places to visit

Langa Heritage Routes

Langa, established in 1927, is Cape Town's oldest township. The infamous 1923 Native (Urban) Areas Act accommodated the demand for African labour whilst treating black African people as "temporary sojourners" in cities. Langa demonstrates race-based control over the lives of people, the harsh living conditions imposed and the struggle for democracy in South Africa. Langa is a heritage resource of national significance.

Langa Walking Tours are offered by trained and officially registered local tour guides. Since tours are very popular, prior booking is recommended. The Langa Walking Tour is offered 7 days a week.

Map Legend:

- Historic evolution & social dynamics of Langa:** 45 minutes, starts at Gugisa 5 Thebe.
- Culture and lifestyle (eat, drink and sleep):** 60 minutes, starts at Gugisa 5 Thebe.
- Story of Langa and its formation:** 30 minutes, starts at Bhungu Ave container near.
- Langa walking tour:** 120 minutes, starts at Bhungu Ave container near.

Routes:

- Yellow Route:** Starts at Gugisa 5 Thebe, ends at Gugisa 5 Thebe.
- Red Route:** Starts at Bhungu Ave container near, ends at Bhungu Ave container near.
- Orange Route:** Starts at Bhungu Ave container near, ends at Bhungu Ave container near.

Key Sites:

- Thunga Ave container:** From 11 St Francis High School and the initiation site to the south.
- The many church buildings:** One of the key features of Langa is the many churches. The Protestant, Methodist and Church of England churches built, but which represented a challenge to the indigenous (Xhosa) Shona, Zulu, which were traditionally in Langa with the remnants of an urban, black, working-class town. The churches represented a challenge to the indigenous (Xhosa) Shona, Zulu, which were traditionally in Langa with the remnants of an urban, black, working-class town.
- Initiation Site south of St Francis:** The initiation site was a place where the young men of Langa went to be initiated into manhood. The site was a place where the young men of Langa went to be initiated into manhood.
- The original sports ground:** It was built in 1924 by the African Labour as part of relief work during the depression. The stadium was built in 1924 by the African Labour as part of relief work during the depression.
- Harlem Ave and Special Quarters:** It was the people and the houses of the town. The Special Quarters were built in 1924 by the African Labour as part of relief work during the depression.
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- Across Washington Street to Mendi Square memorial:** It was a place where the young men of Langa went to be initiated into manhood. The site was a place where the young men of Langa went to be initiated into manhood.

Langa Walking Tour Map

Police vehicle near the Old Pits during the 1960 protests

www.capetown.gov.za/heritageinfo

south end, Harlem Ave

Facing South
when reading it

3

NB

Places to visit

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Langa Walking Tour Map

Police vehicle near the Old Pits during the 1960 protests

www.capetown.gov.za/heritageinfo

half way up Harlem Ave

Facing South
when reading it.

4

NB

Facing South
when reading it

5

NB

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ORANGE ROUTE: Langa walking tour - 120 minutes, starts at Bhungu Ave container near

Things are contained from 11 St Francis High School and the Initiative Site to the south.

The many church buildings show the history of religion and important role of the churches in the history of Langa. The Protestant, Methodist and Church of England were the first to build the churches, representing the religious and the independent churches. The churches which were built in Langa with the exception of an African Methodist Episcopal Church, were built by people from the British and Dutch colonies.

Initiative Site south of St Francis: The Initiative of Shona Bay was a tradition that has continued in Langa.

The original sports ground: It was built in 1924 by African labour in part of relief work during the depression. The stadium was built in 1925, apart in Langa rugby, cricket, football and tennis had always been played. Sporting teams developed along "Thursday" lanes, with most from the same area and teams wearing unique kit.

Harlem Ave and Special Quarters: It shows the people and the history of Langa residents. Langa traditional African cooking at one of the restaurants. It is also the local children and play a game of football with the local while playing a cold beer and drinking to the music.

Bhungu Square is not a square, an empty lot, but was once the very heart of public life in Langa. Games for its Sunday afternoon gatherings. Political parties would make their way here, singing as they marched. A makeshift platform was set up for speakers. Walter Sisulu and Robert Sobukwe spoke here. Medical bands were also a regular feature. Bhungu gatherings were considered a bit dangerous for children, who made it a game to watch from the surrounding blue gate trees.

Langa Hospital: It is a small house for women and children. Built in 1928, this facility housed a male and female ward, 16 and later a maternity ward. People in need from as far as the Eastern Cape to attend the hospital. The legend during the 1960 Langa Riots were treated here.

Bhuyaniwe northern barracks: Individuals who made notable contributions towards the history of Langa are commemorated in the naming of buildings and spaces, rather than in their final resting place. Langa Cemetery is a sacred space for the ancestors of all Langa residents.

Phughe Street, Church Street, in

Gugu S'Thebe: It is a cultural corner housing a Duthu's Water Canteen and local arts and crafts.

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Across Washington Street is Mendi Square memorial. This cultural heart of Langa is named after the township 52 Mendi that sank in the English Channel, during the First World War on 28th February 1917. Of the 1460 men lost, 107 were African troops from South Africa on their way to serve in France. Mendi Memorial Day took place on the square with singing, drumming and dancing. The first child killed in Langa in the children's cemetery of 1918, John Mendi, died here. Washington Street is named after the early U.S. Marine. The flight instructor Robert T. Washington who stood for organized but equal rights in the United States. Washington's name influenced John Langalibale Dube, first president of the ANC in 1912.

Langa High School: Founded in 1927, Churches built the first four primary schools in Langa. Secondary schooling was provided only after a two-year battle by Langa residents. Government believed it would attract Africans to move to the city. Classes were held in the vestries of churches until the education department built the first classrooms in 1942. The first principal was Mr. Theodor Gertze. As the only African secondary school in Cape Town at the time, students came from as far as St. John's Town and the Island. The school has a proud history of academic and sporting achievements.

Library: Clinic & Tonga Environmental Centre, Restaurant

The 1960 Beer Hall: Originally built with the Bantaba in 1927 as an eating house for the township residents. Traditional brewing which had taken place until the 1940s was considered to be dangerous and by setting up a municipal beer hall managed in the early hours. Existing open in 1947 left one person, Daphne Mendi, died and damage to the existing house. This building, seen as a dangerous place for children, who made it a game to watch from the surrounding blue gate trees.

New flats and old barracks: New family quarters, open market, Dalukhanga cinema (if open), Settlers' suburban area, Radebe B&B, K2 Gateway housing, Joe Stone informal settlement.

Police vehicle near the Old Flats during the 1960 protests

www.capetown.gov.za/heritageinfo

At Guga S'Thebe

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Police vehicle near the Old Flats during the 1960 protests

www.capetown.gov.za/heritageinfo

Corner Jungle Walk &
Washington outside
Langa High School

Facing south
when reading it.
6



At Langa Museum
gate.

Facing south
when reading it
~~6~~ 7



At Gugu S*Thebe gate

Facing the ~~Post~~ Post office when reading it

8

Langa Museum

"Langa" (sum) is an abbreviation of Langaibalele, the name of the rebel amaXhosi chief who was later imprisoned at Uitenhage (in Langa/Pinelands area) after release from Robben Island in 1875. His trial, held over six days, started on 16 January 1874 and was South Africa's first treason trial. In what is believed to have been a travesty of justice, the prisoners were tried according to 'Bantu law', and were not permitted to have counsel. Langaibalele was found guilty of murder, treason and rebellion, and exiled to the Cape Colony, banished to Robben Island for life in 1874. He was buried in KwaZulu Natal's Drakensberg area in 1889. His grave, kept secret by the amaXhosi for over 60 years, lies within the borders of the Giants Castle Game Reserve and has been visited by one of his blood descendants, Nelson Mandela."

Langa, Cape Town's Oldest Township

Home to many of South Africa's most notable politicians, artists, musicians, and sporting stars, the township of Langa in Cape Town's eastern suburbs has a rich and diverse history. Langa has extended a welcome to many newcomers to the city. It is a place full of stories, laughter, tears, and joy. Its vibrant expression of politics, religion, and culture is both unique to Langa and a true reflection of South Africa's multicultural past and present.

Langa was established in 1927. The infamous Native (Urban) Areas Act, 1923 had recently become law. This Act was designed to force all African people who were not employed in urban areas to live in designated townships. Langa was the first township established in Cape Town. It was the only township in the city that was established before the 1923 Act.

The Streets Names of Langa

Through its streets, Langa tells its story. The names of its streets, and the stories behind them, reflect the township's history and the lives of its people. The streets of Langa are a testament to the resilience and spirit of its residents. The streets of Langa are a testament to the resilience and spirit of its residents.

Langa Museum in the old post office

The old post office, now the Langa Museum, was the place where migrants would collect mail from home and would pay children a few cents to read the letters for them. The Langa Museum, was opened on Heritage Day, 2011, with displays prepared by the Langa community. It tells the story of the township from the lives of people, the politics of the 1920s pass march, 1976 riots and other acts of resistance leading up to the first democratic elections in South Africa in 1994.

Cultural Festivals

The 1940s and 1950s were the heyday of traditional cultural and religious festivals in Langa. Ntshona Day celebrated Ntshona, considered by many to be the patron saint of the amaXhosi. Mendi Day commemorated the sinking of the SS Mendi in 1917 with the loss of 1917 African troops. On Mendi Memorial Day, Mingo, in full traditional costume, carrying a wooden tray, would march from the outskirts of Langa to the Market Hall in a symbolic re-enactment of the flight of Mingo into the Cape. Mingo's Day commemorated the founding of the Basotho nation. Celebrations included traditional praise songs, speeches, traditional dances and food. Visiting chiefs would be received at Mendi Square, from where the festival would move up Lintell's Street into the Market Hall for housing.

The Vibrancy of Life in Langa

Every day, with its vibrant and lively atmosphere, Langa is a place where life is lived. The streets are filled with the sounds of music, the laughter of children, and the chatter of people. The streets are a testament to the resilience and spirit of its residents. The streets of Langa are a testament to the resilience and spirit of its residents.

A Timeline of Development

1923-1927: The Old Langa, between Bhangema Avenue and Langa Walk, included the barracks, administrative buildings, the Special and Married quarters. Special quarters, situated between

www.capetown.gov.za/heritageinfo

Facing South when reading it

9

Langa Pass Office

OPPRESSION AND RESISTANCE

Langa Township was named after Chief Langaibalele of the amaXhosi people who was imprisoned on Robben Island in 1874. He was moved to imprisonment at Uitenhage (today's Langa/Pinelands) in 1875.

The First Forced Removals

In 1901 the first township was created after Bantustan policies had the city. Black Africans were identified as a health hazard and were forced to live in a health hazard and were forced to live in a health hazard. The township was created after Bantustan policies had the city. Black Africans were identified as a health hazard and were forced to live in a health hazard.

Resistance

The shift towards national liberation politics from the 1950s onwards with its focus on the pass laws was fuelled by the frustrations created by this inhumane system of people control. On the 21st March 1960 four people were killed and many wounded by police following a PNC-led anti-pass march on the Langa police station. The ground between the eight blocks of flats, erected in 1945, was commonly used for mass meetings. The crowd reassembled here on the afternoon of March 21, to be addressed by activists, notably the Langa based Philip Kgosane. During the afternoon crowds swelled to more than 10,000, with people arriving from Nyanga West and East.

The Pass Office and Court

Under the racially based legislation of the pass laws, African residents in Cape Town could only be legally assured either by proof of having been born in the city or by proof of employment in the city. A pass, indicating the status of each person, had to be carried by Africans at all times and regularly renewed. During the 1940s the 'migrant workers' passage (Langa's Street) came about, where arrival in Langa involved stripping off the Mombembe mask from Eastern Cape and being handed into the Old Market Hall to have papers checked.

The Langa Walking Tour Map

The map shows the layout of Langa, including the Langa Pass Office, the Langa Pass Court, and the Langa Pass Office. The map is a detailed illustration of the township, showing the streets, buildings, and landmarks. The map is a detailed illustration of the township, showing the streets, buildings, and landmarks.

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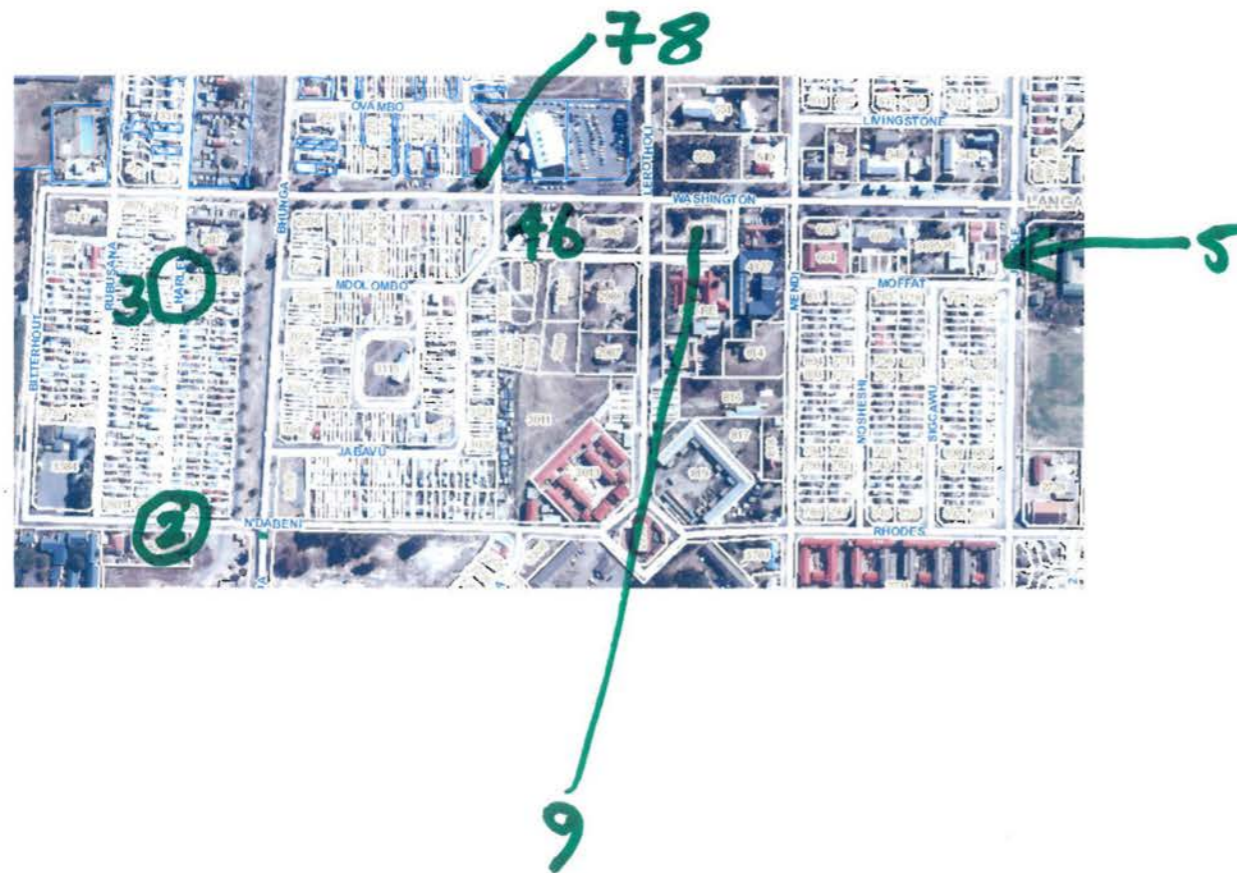
On Washington (the old post office) at the Langa Museum

At gate to Langa Pass office, Washington Street.

1 Khokoen-Dutch
Observatory, between pedest. path & cycle path



1



2 Route map
south end of
Harlem St 'T'-junction
Faces south.

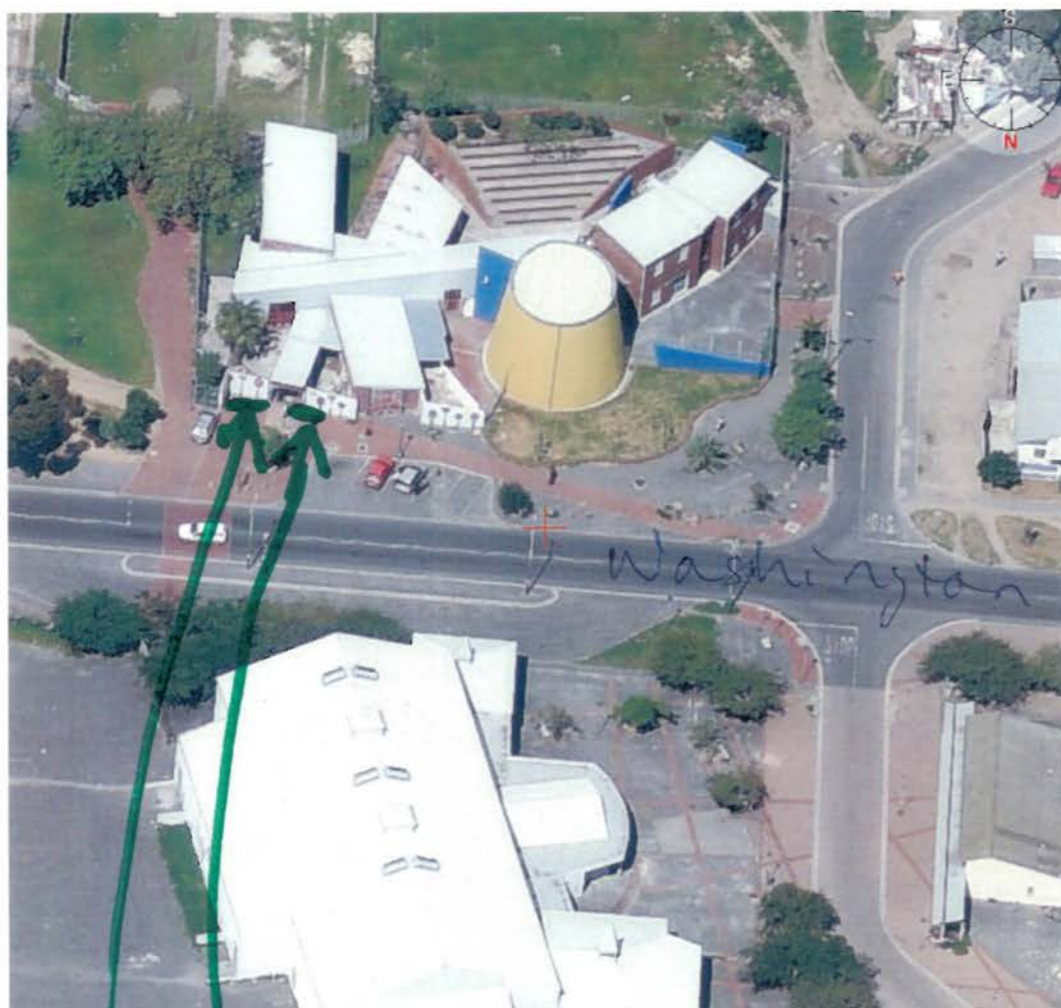


3 Route Map facing south
On Harlem Ave
where parking
bay ends.
Near Fannie's.



6 Big route map facing south at museum gate

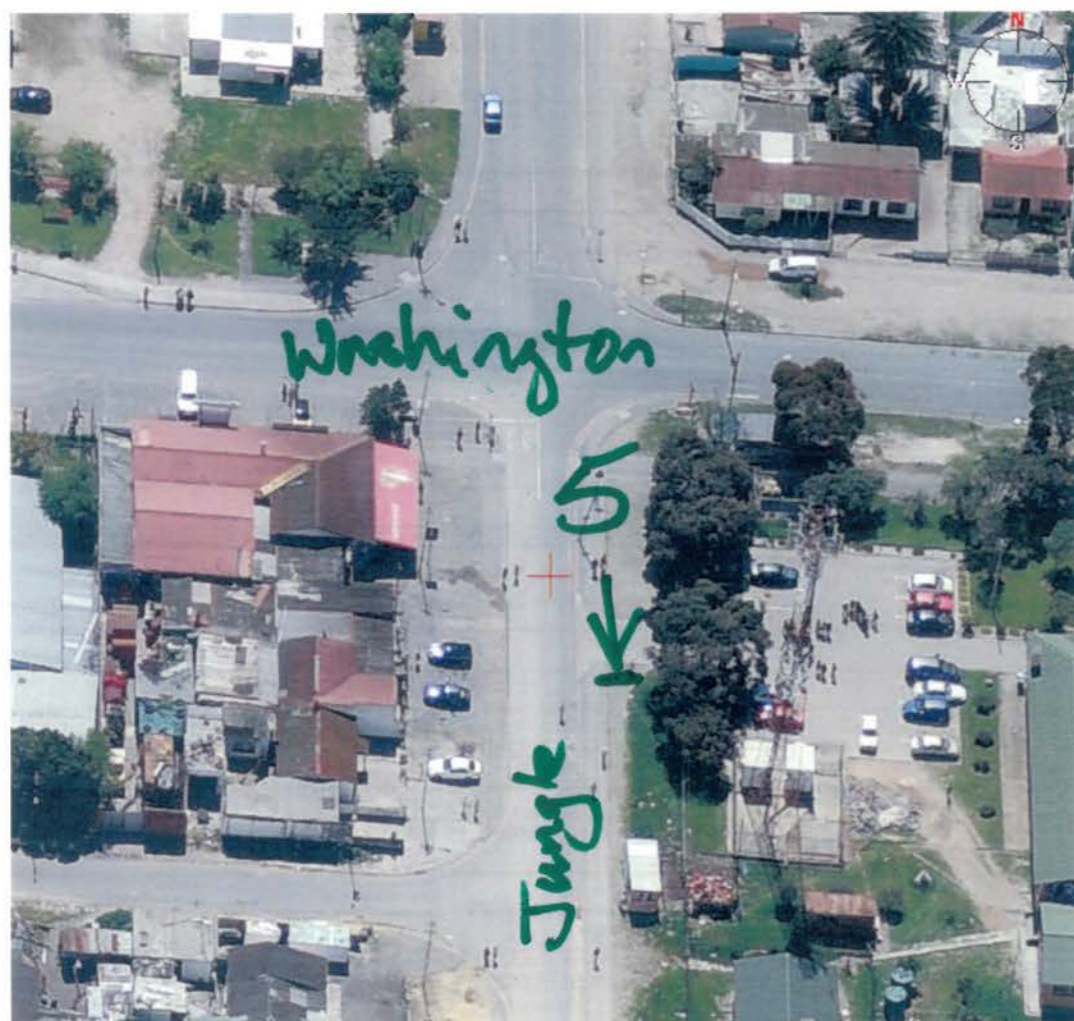
8 Langa Museum facing north at museum gate



- 4 Route map - facing south
at Guga S'Thebe gate
- 7 ~~Area~~ Big route
map - facing south at
Guga S'Thebe gate



- 9 Langa Pass Office
Oppression & resistance
facing south
at Pass Office gate



5. Route map
facing south at
corner Jungle Walk &
Washington
(Outside Langa High School)

LANGA | Current initiatives

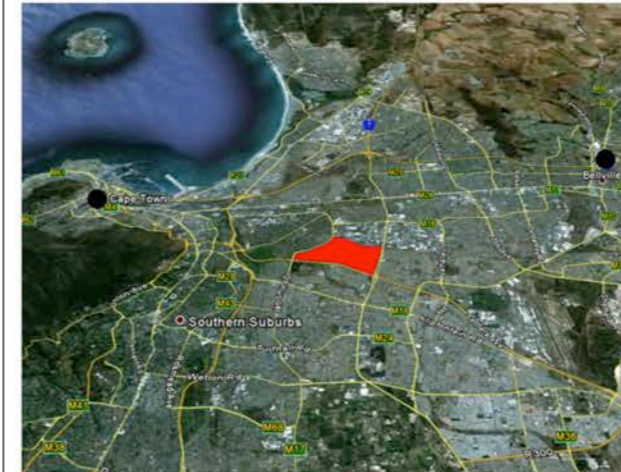
Local Area Planning Initiative
&
related projects

SPATIAL PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN
March 2013



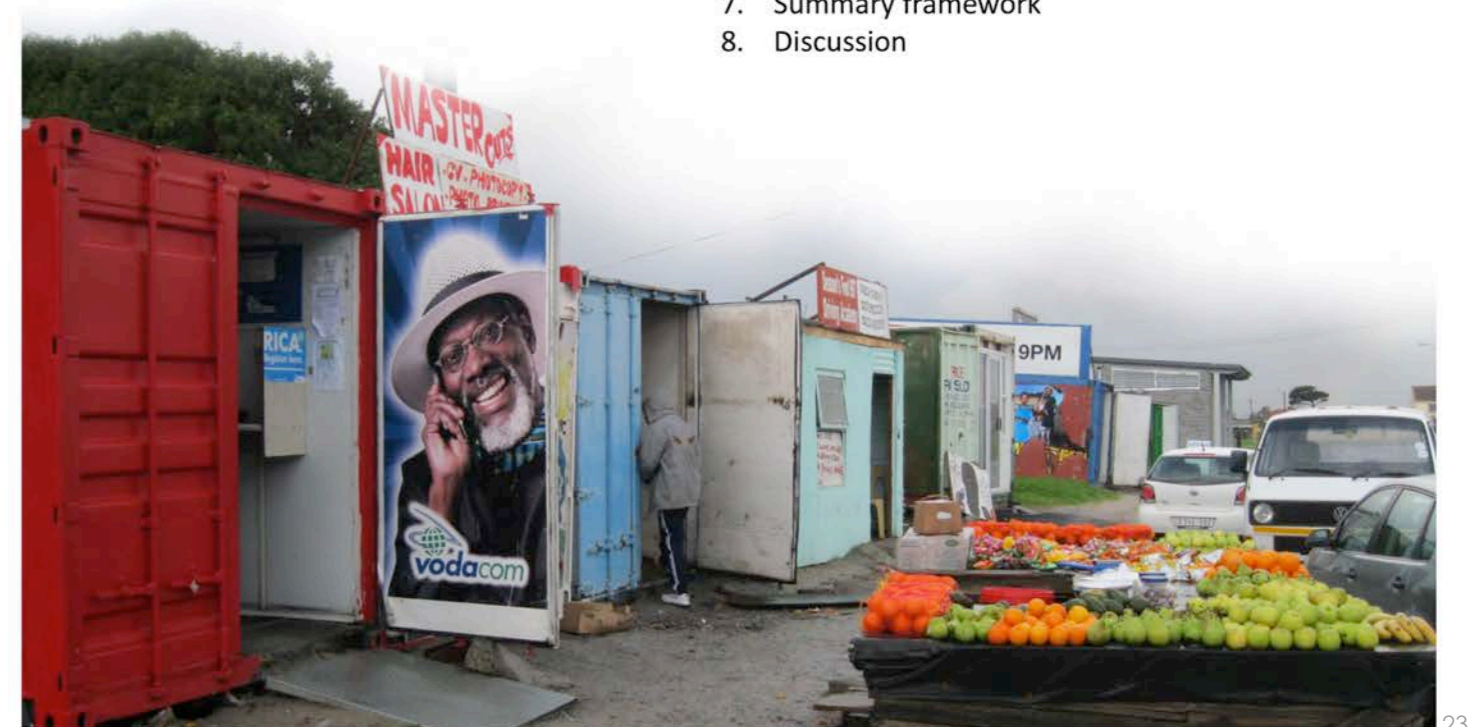
Locality

- Centrally located close to CBD
- Easy access of N2
- On existing tourist routes
- Close to employment opportunities

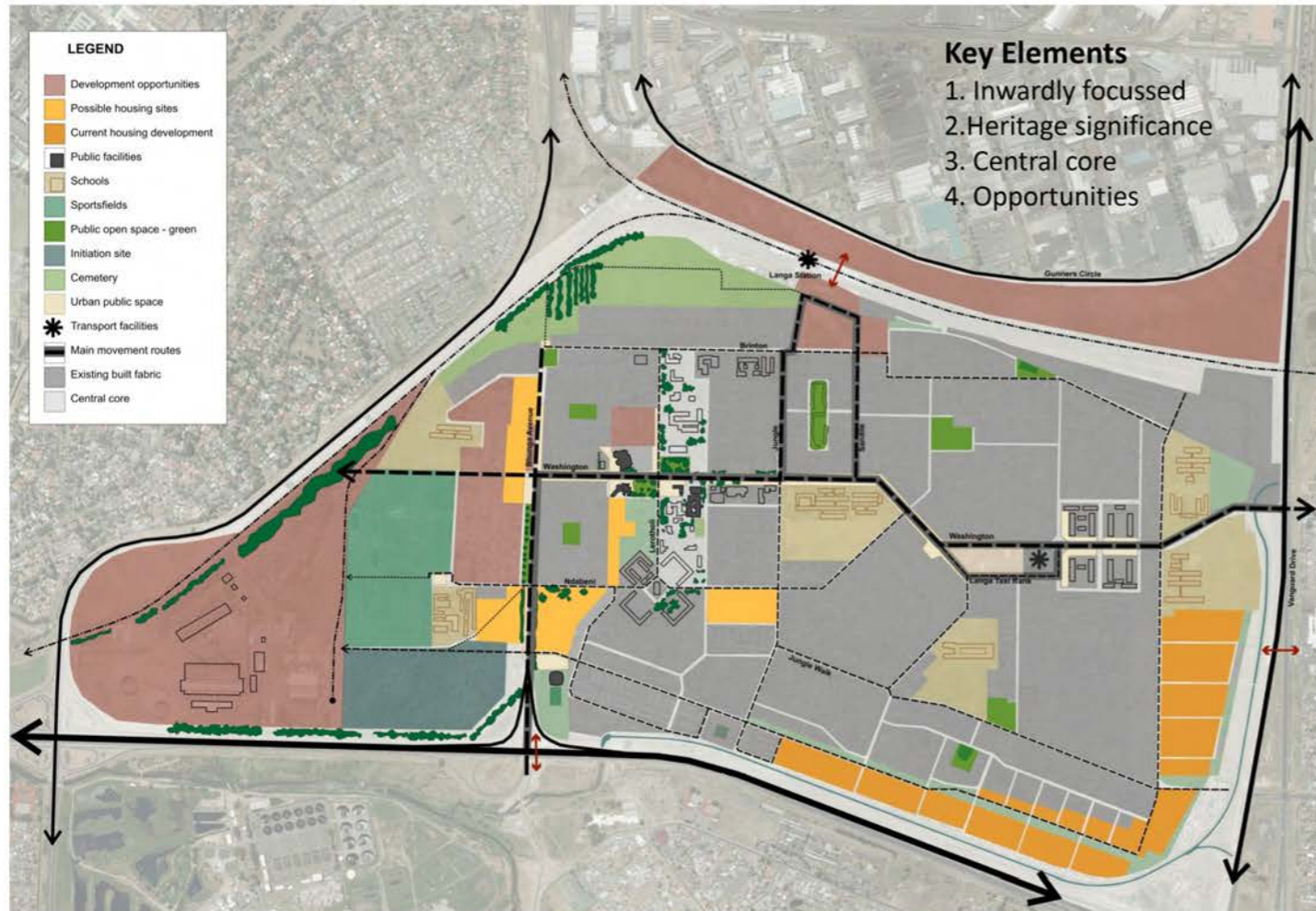


Overview

1. Spatial Framework
2. Development context
3. Current initiatives
4. Focus areas
5. Development opportunities
6. Related projects
7. Summary framework
8. Discussion



1. Spatial framework



2. Langa development context

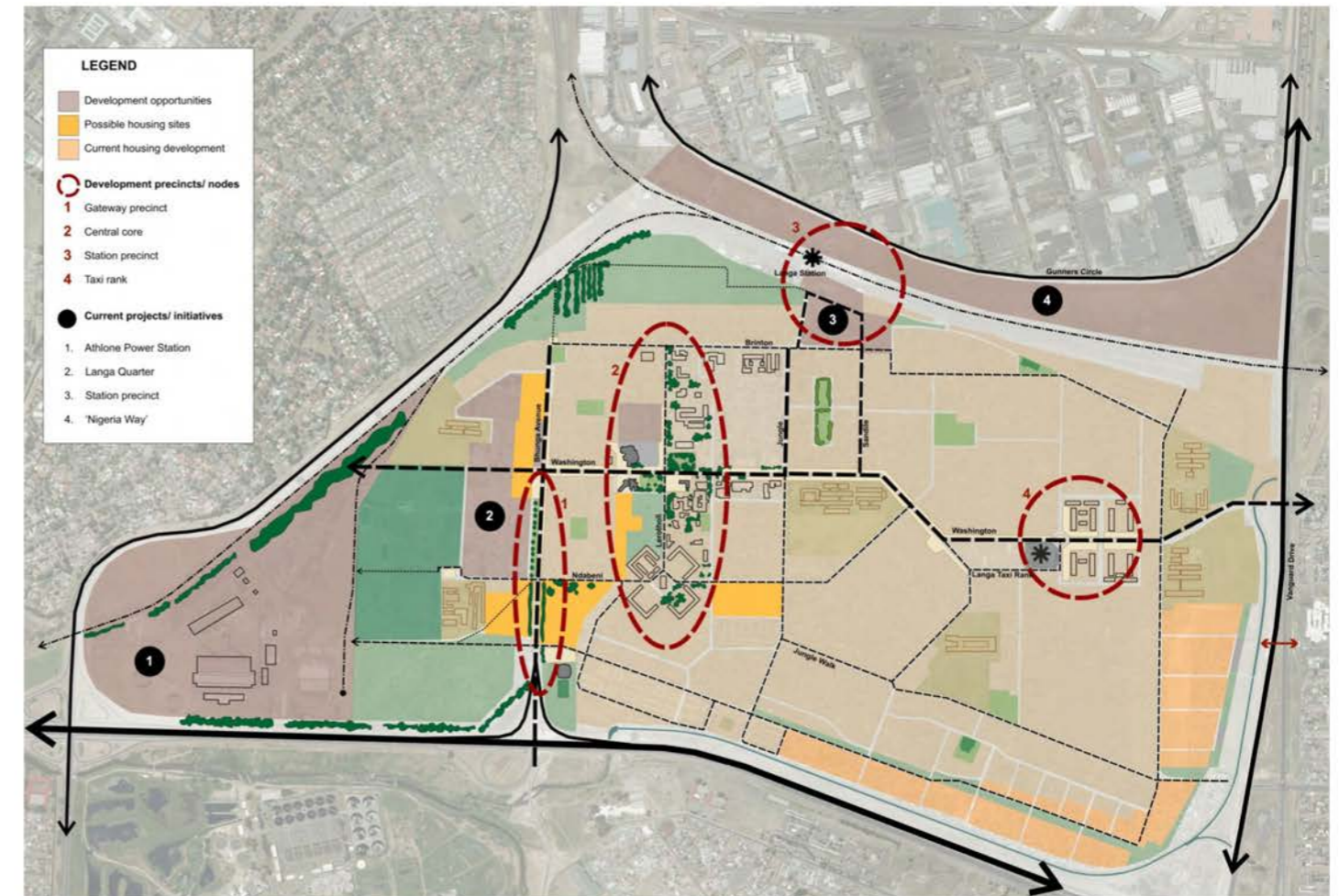
Recent & current projects

- Athlone Power Station redevelopment as a high order mixed-use precinct
- Innovative dense housing environment for Joe Slovo N2GW
- Completed and planned upgrades of hostels; rental accommodation (CRU)
- Public space upgrades (eg Washington Drive)
- Non-motorised transport upgrades
- Multi-million rand station upgrade
- Proposed shopping centre adjacent to station
- Heritag & tourism task team – various projects
- Guga s'Thebe extension

Opportunities

- Substantial vacant City landholdings to the north of the railway station (Nigeria Way)
- Bulk services that will require an engineering and design solution to overcome the development constraint
- Extension of the IRT system is intended to locate here with at least one bus station alongside the station
- Epping Industrial area which represents a huge economic node and generates significant movement from Langa
- Vacant public land situated to the south of the station
- Informal trade both north and south of the station
- Informal long distance bus service on the Epping side and an informal taxi rank to the south
- General lack of formal retail and commercial services within the local area

3. Current initiatives



4. Focus areas

- 4.1. Gateway precinct/ Bhunga Avenue
- 4.2. Central core/ cultural hub
- 4.3. Station precinct
- 4.4. Washington circle precinct

4.1. Gateway precinct

- Large sculpture at entrance to create identity & draw people in
- Linear park with sculptural elements along Bhunga Avenue
- Upgrading of Bhunga Square
- Landscaping along Bhunga Avenue as gateway into Langa
- Entrance to future APS development
- Memorialisation related to Special Quarters
- Langa Quarter project & Harlem St landscaping



Sculpture principles & concepts

Large + visible
Unique to Langa
Landmark quality



Sculpture location



- 1 Road reserve – N2 Bhunga off-ramp**
- + Good visibility from N2
 - + Prominent gateway location
 - Potential design restrictions
 - Ownership/ maintenance
 - Drainage
 - Future interchange design – removable?



- 2 Road reserve – Bhunga Rd ramp**
- + Internal gateway
 - + Landmark function
 - + Associated with APS
 - Less visible from outside Langa
 - Ownership/ maintenance



- 3 Bhunga Drive open space**
- + Potential for park - available space & gateway
 - + Multiple 'sites', greater impact internally
 - + City-owned land
 - Limited visibility outside Langa



- 4 Road reserve – Bhunga N2 on-ramp**
- + Associated with sports hall/ gateway
 - + Potential civic precinct
 - More internalised
 - Existing visual clutter



- 5 Road reserve – sports hall precinct**
- + Associated with existing structure & green space
 - + Fenced
 - Visibility mostly to outbound traffic



Non-figurative/ abstract
Collaborative



Location specific

- By the people, for the people
- From where is the sculptured viewed? – size, detail
- Environment: sun, wind, materials
- What does it say
- Public space: element in / part of setting
- More than just pretty: commemoration, comment, story telling

Celebrate environment



Comment on things



Tell a story



Educate / commemorate



Materials



Observe Langa



Interactive



Message



Landmark



4.2. Central core/ cultural hub

Issues:

- Integration & improvement of existing facilities: Guga S'thebe, civic hall, old Pass Office, Post Office museum
- Economic/ informal trading opportunities
- Tourism hub
- Maintenance of QPS/ facilities
- Public space around pass office under-utilised & unfriendly

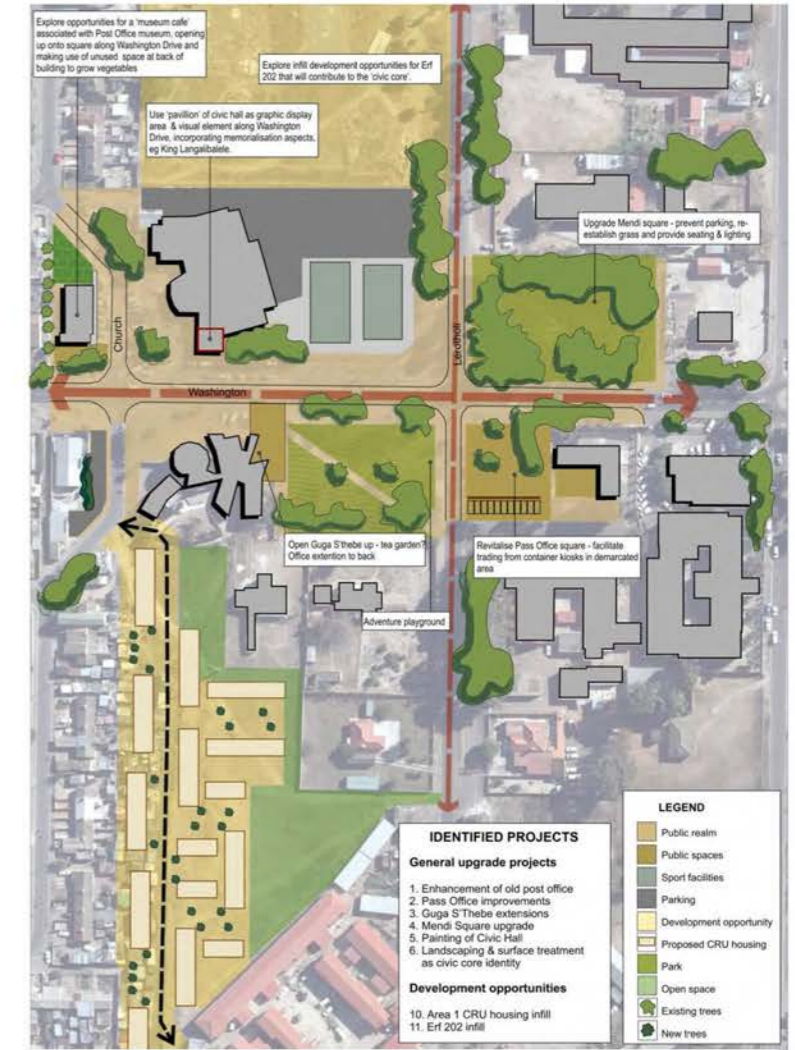
Proposals:

- Memorialisation/ commemoration/ public art
- Innovative signage/ Infographics
- Creative play equipment
- Painting of facilities
- CRU housing
- Extension of Guga S'thebe
- Upgrade of pass office



Concept proposals

- Consolidated precinct with landscaping theme/ character
- Management & operation of facilities NB
- Relationship to proposed housing
- Upgrade of individual buildings/ 'beautification'



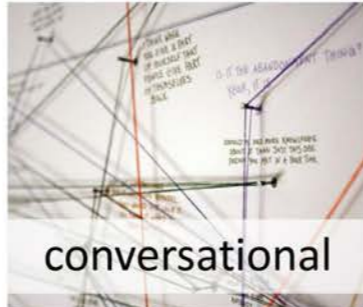
Signage

- Taking a creative look at it
- Integrate with environment
- Visual interest & fun



Signs can also be...

Directional/ way finding



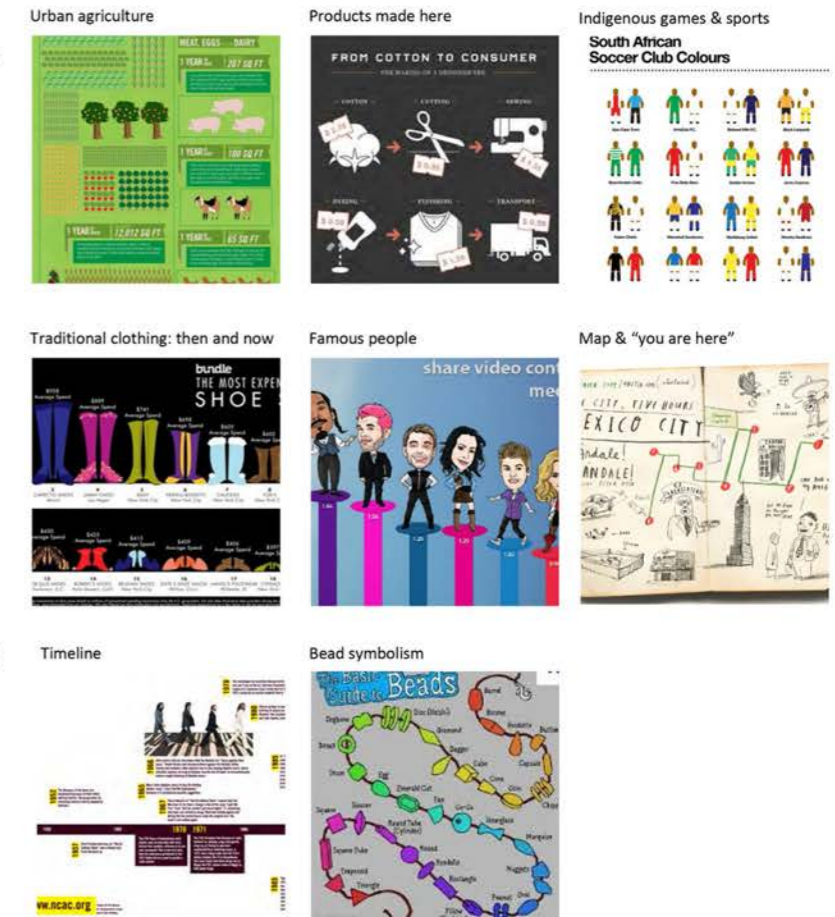
Infographics

→ A visual that contains a lot of information

- Info quickly passed to viewers
- Remembered longer than text
- Accessible to larger audience
- Beautiful artwork with meaning
- Valuable tourism tool

Applications:

- Use to liven up dead facades
- Tell stories of the community
- Tell stories of the site and cultural activities like initiation
- Graphically illustrate what Langa is about + where to find things



Play park equipment – Mendi Square/ QPS



Works in paving



Adventure play



Various configurations possible



Use invasive exotics as building material

Signs can also be...

Informative

Painting the Civic Hall: an identity for the central core

- Guga S'tebe and civic hall has same visual language
- Create an identity for the area

Red brick paving and brick walls

Sunny
Vibrant
Warm

Ideas around commemoration of King Langa libalele



Using the civic centre as visual info point



4.3. Station precinct



Current situation



Land ownership



Some ideas on efficient utilisation and intensification of land: Multi-storey mixed use jointly planned with PRASA, using air rights for parking, general upgrade of precinct

Station precinct development: Principles agreed on



- It has been agreed that the shopping centre will be set back to make provision for a **station forecourt** (vehicle-free public space) in front of the station building (see attached diagram). Further discussions between professional teams needed to resolve the detail and landscaping design for this area.
- The precinct will be managed as a **pedestrian priority zone** by providing bollards on two sides as indicated on diagram. Loading will take place on the south western corner of the site and will be suitably enclosed.
- The majority of anticipated pedestrian movement is accommodated by a **diagonal walkway** across the site, with access to the anchor shop taken off this walkway in the vicinity of a secondary public space.
- Smaller **line shops** will be added to the western edge of the centre to enable a more active façade and pedestrian safety.
- Motivation to be prepared for **reduced parking ratio**.

Erf 4330: Current proposal



Precinct design appointment

Scope of Work

- Investigating land requirements (Erf 830, 831) as part of precinct concept
- Access requirements and arrangements/ pedestrian prioritisation
- Future transport needs – park & ride/ taxi drop-off/ parking
- Planning & design of station forecourt
- PRASA involvement/ design co-ordination
- Public participation
- Asset owner agreement

Design brief

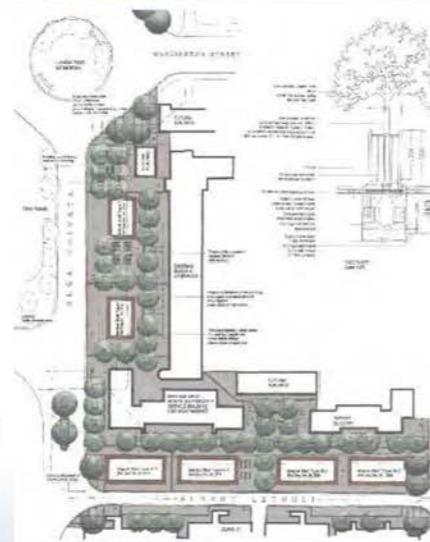
- Forecourt: treeplanting, paving and street furniture
- Dignified edge to cemetery
- Cemetery gateway
- Trading configuration
- Taxi facility/ park& ride/ drop-off
- Bicycle facility
- Pedestrianised access to precinct



4.4. Washington circle precinct



- Meat market initiative
- Possibility of public realm improvement adjacent to Old Flats
- Opportunity for business precinct in proximity to taxi rank
- (Intensification of Washington Drive)
- Renaming of portion of Washington Drive



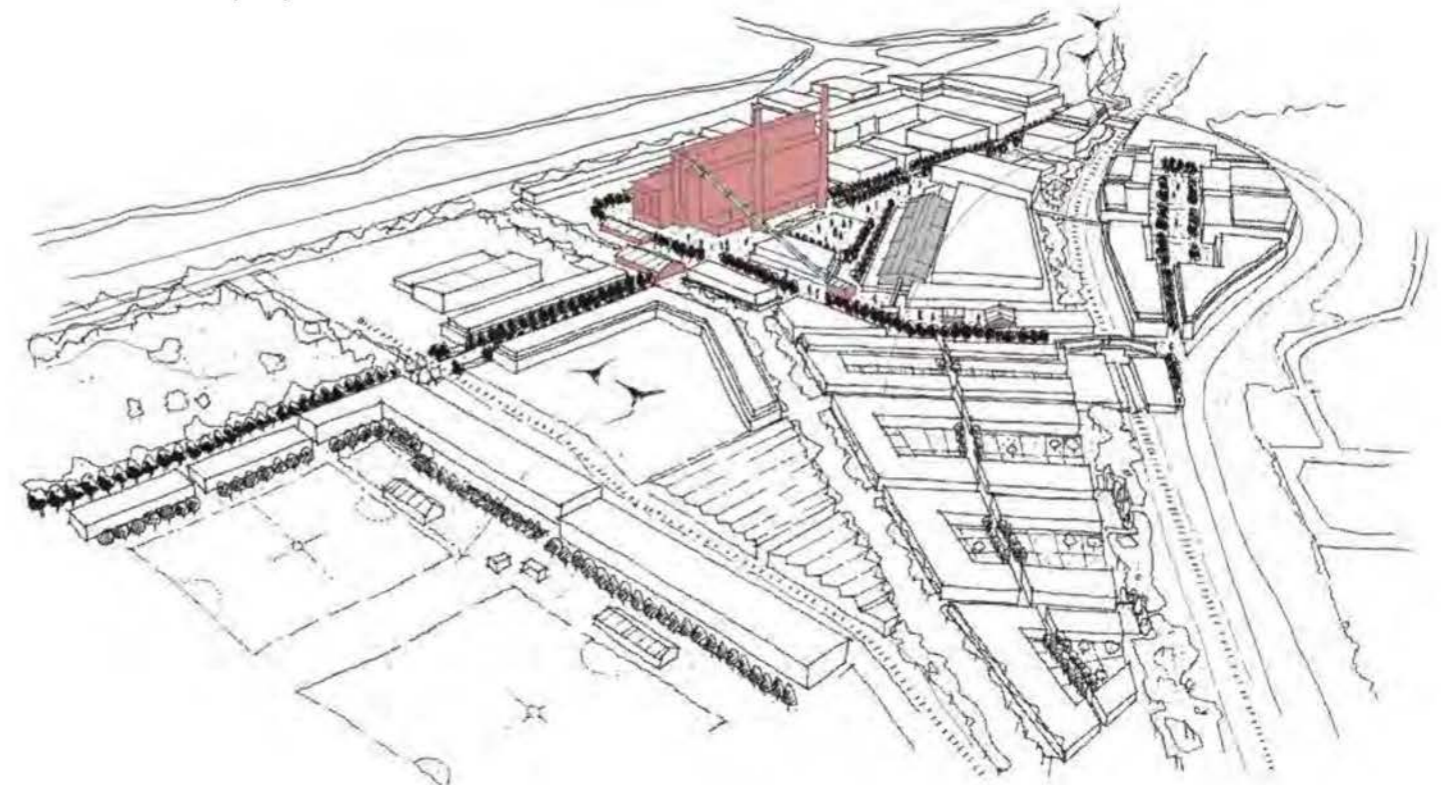
5. Development opportunities

5.1 Athlone Power Station

5.2 Nigeria Way

5.1. Athlone Power Station

The preferred development scenario for the APS site is that it will become a special place in Cape Town: a **mixed use urban district**, containing a vibrant local community – with all necessary facilities needed by the community provided – but also a place of work, learning and recreation which draws people from further afield.



5.2. Nigeria Way

- Vast City-owned vacant landholding to the north of Langa railway station
- Future road reservation : Nigeria Way
- Area encumbered with bulk services – requires engineering and design solution to overcome development constraint
- Extension of IRT intended to locate here with (at least one) bus station alongside the station
- The City has contributed towards the street-to-street access between Langa and Nigeria Way
- Epping industrial area represents a huge economic node and generates significant movement from Langa
- Intensity of people movement has supported threshold to support informal trade both north and south of the station
- Informal long distance bus service being offered on the Epping side
- Opposition to housing in the area



Feasibility study appointment

Scope of work:

- A **utility services investigation** to identify possible impacts on the development potential of the site and how this can be overcome if necessary;
- An assessment of **transport requirements** and proposals related to the site, particularly considering Integrated Rapid Transport proposals, the demand for an additional mobility link (Nigeria way) as well as access infrastructure to and from Vanguard Drive and other transport network requirements and how these will be accommodated on the site;
- The determination of the **spatial implications** of the above and the preparation of basic layout plan options that indicate developable land parcels in accordance with spatial constraints and opportunities;
- The finalisation of **planning options** and preparation of a spatial plan which will facilitate development in the context of a thorough understanding of utility services availability and infrastructure constraints;
- A **market analysis** in order to determine the demand for and nature of potential new land use activities on the site;
- **Regulatory/ statutory processes** required to provide appropriate regulatory approvals (environmental, heritage and land use) for the rezoning of the site to sub-divisional area;
- A **public participation** process to ensure that stakeholders are informed and engaged as necessary throughout the process.

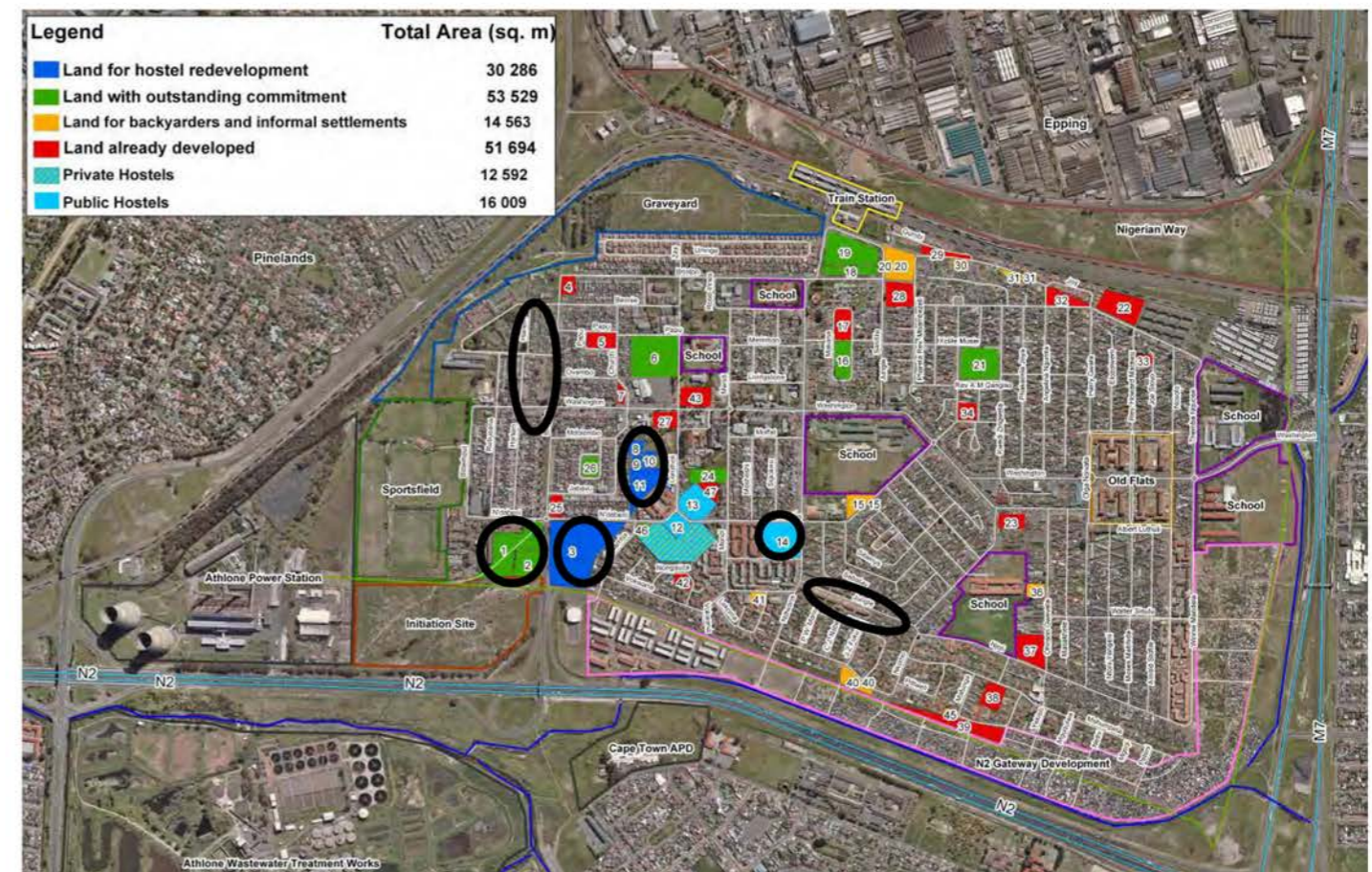


6. Related projects

- 6.1 Community Residential Units (CRU) housing upgrade
- 6.2 Heritage Tourism task team
- 6.3 High Street model
- 6.4 Langa Quarter/ Harlem Street

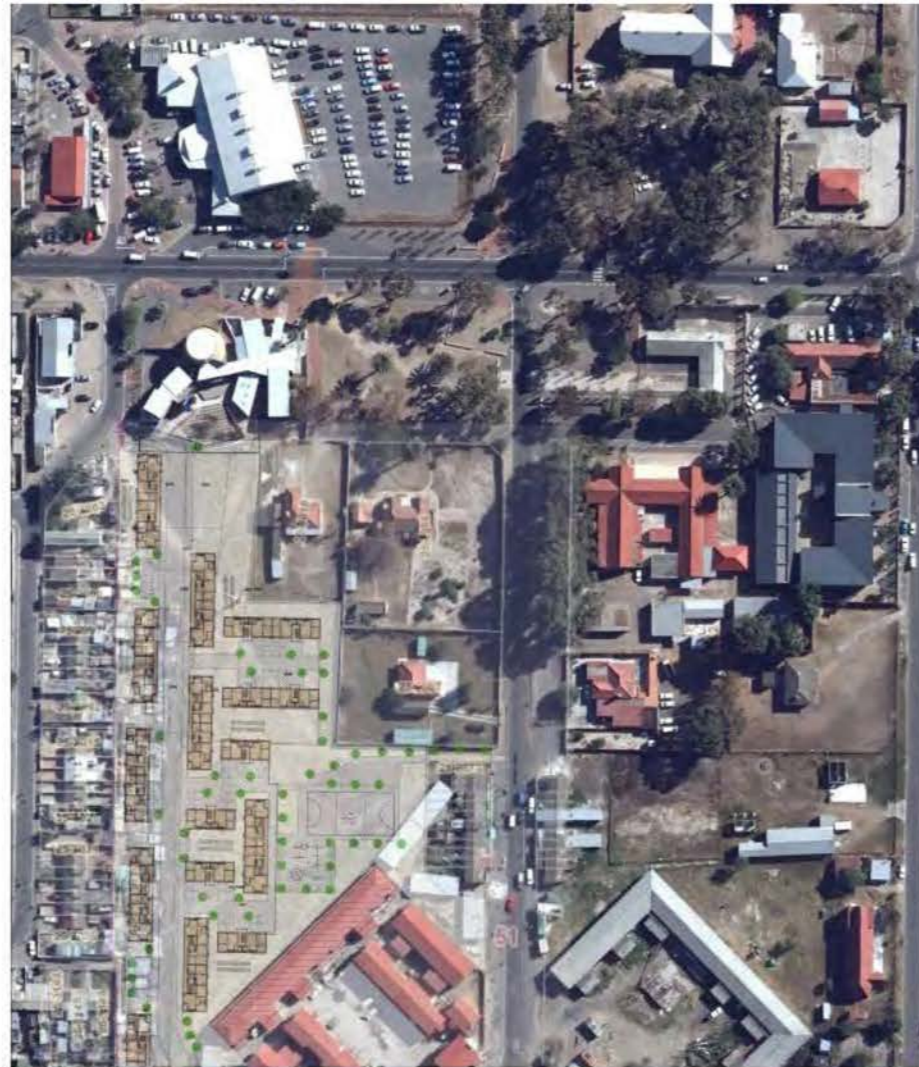
SPATIAL PLANNING AND URBAN DESIGN

6.1. CRU housing upgrade (Affordable Rental Housing Programme)



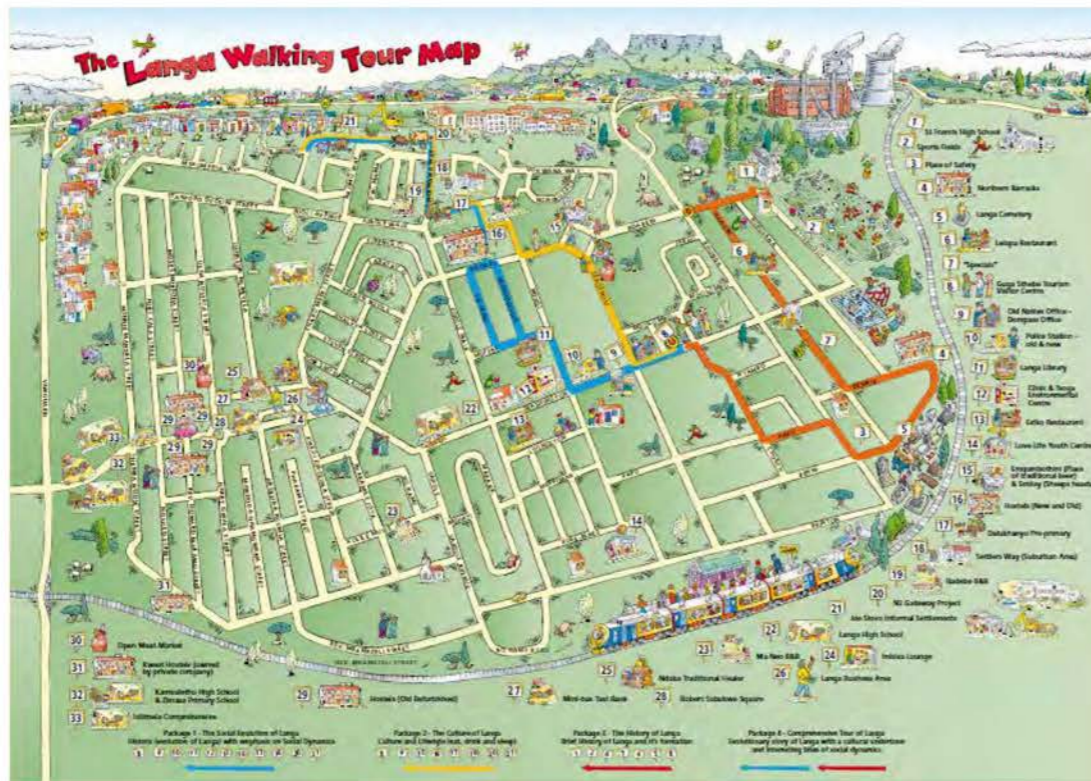
Current CRU planning :

- Depot site (457)
- Area 1 (159)
- Special Quarters (350)
- New Flats (133)
- Police site (210)
- Zone 2 (144)



6.2. Heritage/ tourism

- Langa Heritage/ Tourism working group established Jan 2012
- Multi-departmental TT headed by Tourism
- Possible interventions identified based on tour experience
- Working document drafted to co-ordinate actions & funding
- Business plan to be drafted to guide implementation

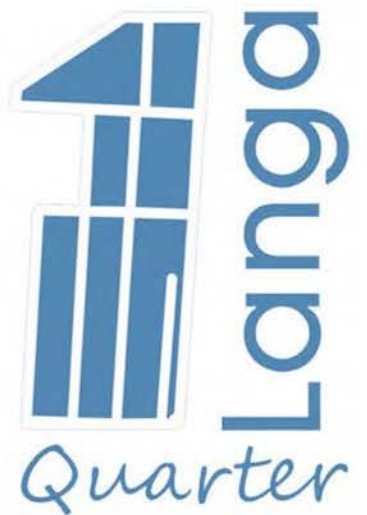


6.3. High Street model



6.4. Langa Quarter

The Langa Quarter project is aimed at developing Langa as a leading destination for tourists and Capetonians by supporting existing local businesses and creating a large number of sustainable tourism focused enterprises, to provide local employment opportunities in and around the Harlem Street area.



7. Summary framework



Langa spatial elements mapping

4	Development Phases	1924-28 The Old Location (between Bhunga & Mendi Avenue)			
5	1	1924 Railway siding from Cape Flats line completed. 1925 tenders for construction went out. Main Barracks, Special Quarters, market hall and Administration block constructed.			
6	2	Second development phase			
7		Police stn and hospital (1926), 6 general dealer shops, 4 butchers shops, 4 bakers shops, 10 tearooms, other bldgs incl stores, workshops, stables (1927/8), the North Barracks (1927) and 300 2-roomed married quarters (1927/8)			
8	3	Third development phase			
9		In 1932 additional married quarters between Mendi Ave & Jungle Walk, behind shopping Centre on Washington, known as Bongweni (48 2-roomed houses & 16 3-roomed)			
10	4	Fourth development phase			
11		Thembeni (opposite Bongweni on other side of Washington), developed in 1934 (Additional 160 2 and 3-roomed married quarters). Sports ground provided in 1934 & 2 more staff cottages for white officials.			
12	5	Fifth development phase			
13		60 married units (2, 3, 4-roomed) built in 1935 between Washington and Jungle Walk, opposite Langa High School. (Became known as Bulawayo)			
14	6	Sixth development phase			
15		Another 36 units added in 1936			
16	7	Seventh development phase			
17		An additional 204 3-roomed houses built in 1940/41 (known as Bubana)			
18	8	Old Flats (8 multi-storey blocks housing 1296 men) developed between 1944-8			
19		1947 old reception Depot converted to barracks (hutments) for 480 men			
20		Between 1944-57 850 small hostels built; became known as the Zones			
21	9	New Flats development on site of hutments in 1970s			
22					
23	Places with heritage interest/ value				
24		Lerotholi Ave known as Lover's Lane (where courting took place)			
25					
26					
27	Events				
28		1960 Police Lining sides of Jungle Walk			
29		1976 Children marched down Washington singing hymns			
30					
31					

8. Discussion

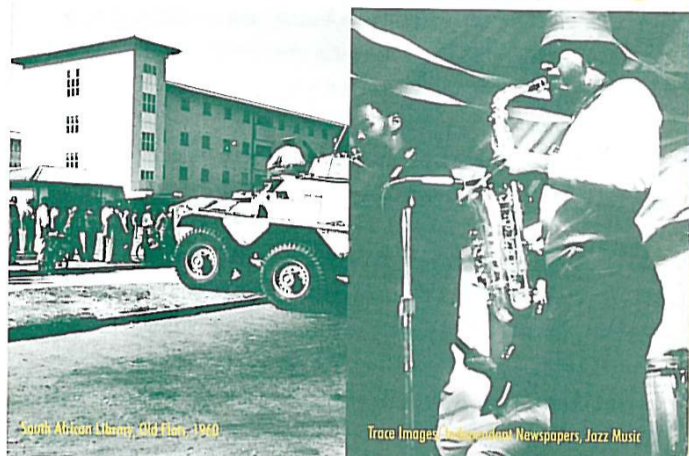
Other Issues

- Backyarders/ housing shortage
- Food gardens
- Economic opportunities
- Celebrating heritage & managing it
- Jobs fund application?
- Guga S'thebe extension
- Community interaction

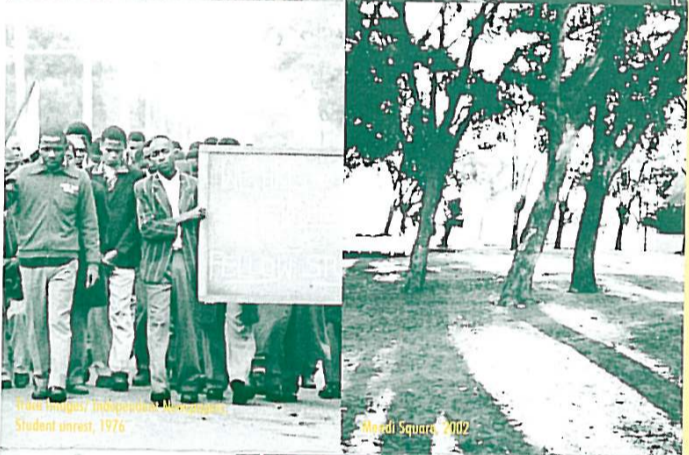
Appendix K: LANGA: Heritage Information Provided by City of Cape Town.

9 LANGA Heritage

City of Cape Town Heritage advice pamphlet no. 9



South African Library, Old Flats, 1940



White Langa's Independent High School
Student unrest, 1976



Trace Images/ Independent Newspapers. Photographs taken in Pass Office c. 1946

Living apartheid "I wouldn't expect any other community to experience what we experienced."
(Mrs C. M., 2002).

Under the racially discriminating legislation of the past, African residence in Cape Town could only be legally attained either by proof of having been born in the city, or proof of employment. A pass, indicating the status of each person, had to be carried by Africans at all times and regularly renewed. During the 1940s a migrant worker's passage into Langa, from stepping off the *Mbombela* train from the Eastern Cape, involved being herded from the train into the old Market Hall to have papers checked and then being passed through a "deverminisation chamber" at the top of Bennie street. Council made provision for new entrants to be housed in a Temporary Reception Depot until they found employment. If no employment was found, they were "repatriated" to the rural area from which they had come.

The 1950s onwards saw the National Party enforcing influx control with greater and greater determination. A new pass court and office room was built in Langa in the 1950s to handle pass administration and cases of contravention of pass laws. As the main pass court and office in the peninsula for many years people would come from as far afield as Simonstown and the Boland, to queue from 4a.m. each day, to renew their passes.

These decades are remembered for the experience of being chased and hounded down during pass raids by police. The invasion of lives and assault on dignity is

Langa: Cape Town's Oldest Township

Home over the years to some of South Africa's most notable politicians, artists, educationalists and sporting stars, the family township of Langa is Cape Town's oldest existing township. Langa has extended a welcome to many newcomers to the city. Forced out of site by apartheid, Langa now extends this welcome to its fellow Capetonians, to South Africans and foreigners visiting the city and celebrates its heritage as one of the older suburbs in a growing metropole. It is a place full of stories, laughter, tears, heroism and villainy. Its vibrant expression of politics, religion and culture is both unique to Langa and a lens through which South Africa's tumultuous past may be viewed.

Langa was established in 1927. The infamous Native (Urban) Areas Act, 1923 had recently become law. This Act accommodated the demand for African labour whilst strenuously denying African people access to urban resources. Africans were to be "temporary sojourners" in cities. Langa, the Council's new "model" township on the outskirts of the city, embodied the basic tenets of the Act.

'Langa' (sun), is an abbreviation of Langalibalele, name of the rebel Hlubi chief who had resided on the land after release from Robben Island in 1875. The new community was formed from disparate groups: Ndabeni residents forced to move here on closure of Cape Town's first township, town residents and migrant workers coming from the Eastern Cape and the rest of South Africa. Residents were physically and socially divided between "permanent" Capetonians and migrants. Women struggled against the laws of the day to gain legal residence. The differences and divides have been important in shaping the history of Langa. Kinship networks and the common experience of oppression, narrow living space and harsh adversity, however, saw acts of cooperation and resistance that resulted in a community that created itself more than it was created by the authorities.

Street life, with street-based sporting teams, hopskotch, "pucha" and marbles, along with a vibrant music and sports scene and traditional events were at the heart of life in Langa during the 1950s and 60s. Langa's music bands *Merry Macs*, *Chordettes* and *Honolulu Swing Stars* played alongside the likes of Miriam Makeba in the old Market Hall. Capped in both rugby and cricket, the legendary Ben Malamba drew crowds to the sports stadium. Political debate thrived in Bhunga square, which saw Robert Sobukwe speaking alongside local activists. Everybody knew everybody in this family township. However, the shadow of racial oppression was never far away. Langa was designed with the administrative block and police station lying at the centre of the township to maintain control.

captured in the oft-repeated exclamation: "you couldn't even go to the toilet without your pass!" People arrested in pass raids were thrown into police vans, known as *umgqomo*: the rubbish bin.

From the 1960s defiant women began to enter the single quarters to live with their husbands. Children recall watching their mothers running away from the police during night raids on the barracks and flats. Children themselves were arrested at times and fathers would have to pay for their release. In court the only acceptable plea was "guilty".

"In a township people had to create their own entertainment, so kids used to go out and sing under the street lamps." (Ms F. D., 2002)



City of Cape Town. Market Hall houses, Ndabeni Street, 2005

Township life, games, sport, politics, music and love was experienced on the street and street names reflect the contradictions and conflicts of the society many Africans lived in. Moshesh street commemorates the founder of the Sotho nation; the Rev. Dr Walter Rubusana was founding member and vice-president of the South African Native Congress, which became the ANC in 1925; Ndabeni street commemorates the township from which many Langa residents were forcibly removed; Livingstone and Moffat streets impose a colonial missionary heritage while Washington and Harlem streets indicate a degree of African-American cultural influence. Leretholi street linked the old station to the Administration buildings and main barracks in what has become known as the "migrant passage". It also formed the backbone of cultural festivities, which moved from Mendi Square up to the Market Hall. This street also became known as "Lovers' Lane" as it was where couples would court.

A colourful character that many Langa residents remember had an idiosyncratic gait and wore expensive suits. People would hail him *Tshintsha mfana KaTapile!* Change your walk, son of Tapile! In response he would switch to another graceful gait.

Conditions within the township were harsh. Accommodation was overcrowded and rentals high. Residents were denied municipal representation and any expression of grievance was frustrated. The shift towards national liberation politics from the 1950s onwards, with its focus on the pass laws, was fuelled by such local frustrations.

On the 21st of March 1960 Langa erupted following the PAC-led anti-pass march. Crowds meeting at the Old Flats were fired at by police and four people killed. The township was cordoned off and soldiers lined the street of Jungle Walk.

The 1970's saw the rise of Black Consciousness as a political movement in South Africa. In Langa, the Black Mamba Youth Movement was established in 1972 and worked to concentrate all sections of the community.

1976 witnessed the students' uprisings, beginning with a march from Langa High School to Sobukwe Square and returned to Mendi Square, with the students singing soft songs and holding placards. Students were met with bullets and the first child casualty in Langa was killed on Mendi Square. Langa became a fertile recruiting ground for the military wings of the liberation movements. The 1980s were again years of active resistance, culminating in the first democratic elections of 1994. Older residents recall 27 April 1994 with mixed feelings. The excitement was overwhelming, but intermingled with bitterness at the pain and loss endured over the years.

Cultural Festivals

The 1940s and 1950s were the heyday of traditional ethnic and religious festivals in Langa. Ntsikana Day celebrated Ntsikana, considered by many to be the patron saint of the Xhosa. Mendi Day commemorated the loss of African lives with the sinking of the troopship Mendi in 1917. On Mfengu Memorial Day, Mfengu, in full tribal costume, carrying colourful bundles, would march from the outskirts of Langa to the Langa Market Hall in a symbolic re-enactment of the flight of the Mfengu into the Cape. Moshoeshe Day commemorated the founding of the Basotho nation.

Celebrations included traditional praise singers, speeches, traditional dances and food. Visiting chiefs would be received at Mendi Square, from where the festivities would move up Leretholi Street into the old Market Hall for feasting. While some Langa residents, striving for a national, or working-class identity, saw these festivals as divisive, such festivals and tribal societies organised in Langa importantly offered some kind of social identity in an urban environment very hostile to many black people. They also enshrined black history in memory at a time when it was given no place in the official histories.



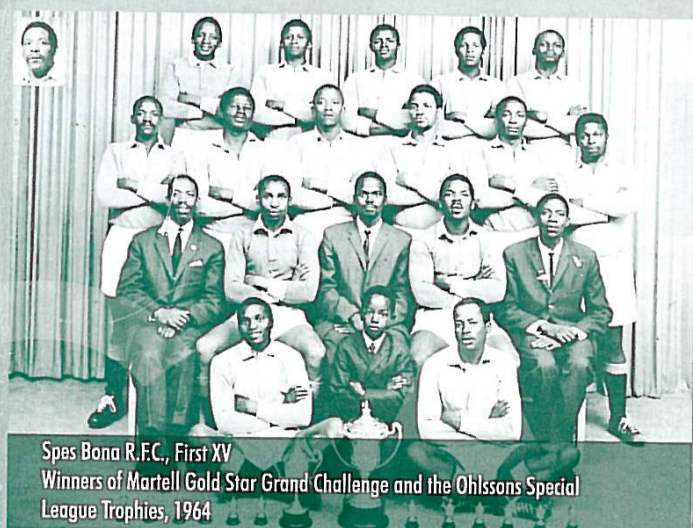
South African Library, Ntsikana Day, 26.04.1954

Suggested Parking

Outside the Pass Office, opposite police station.

Toilets

Toilet facilities available within Guga S'Thebe, 23 opposite the Pass Office, also in public bath houses, such as the bath house in Papu Square, Zone 8 and the Taxi rank, Langa Interchange, Washington Street.

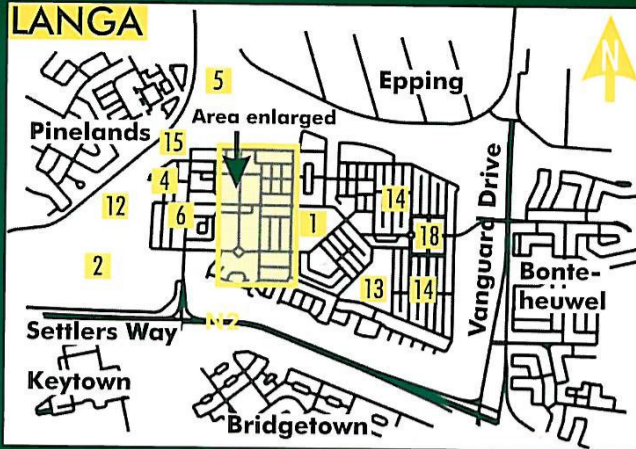


Spas Bona R.F.C., First XV
Winners of Martell Gold Star Grand Challenge and the Ohlssons Special
League Trophies, 1964

Acknowledgements

Langa Heritage Reference Group for input and guidance
Langa residents contributing to oral histories of Langa

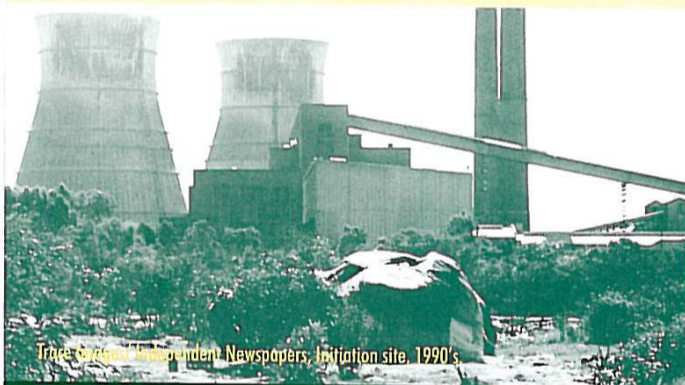
LANGA



Development Phases

- 1925 -1931: The Old Location, between Bhunga Avenue and Jungle Walk, included the barracks, administrative buildings, the Special and Married quarters. Special quarters, situated between Bhunga and Haarlem Avenues, were single and double rooms, built back to back with communal toilets and wash houses. A block of 50 double rooms on Haarlem Street, known as the Spinster quarters, accommodated single mothers, widows and old ladies. Married quarters were two to three-roomed family houses.
- 1932 -1940: Married quarters, built behind the police station and on either side of Lerotholi Avenue, north of Washington Street.
- 1944 -1957: Additional Single quarters including the Old "new" Flats and the Zones built on forested land that had been used for initiation and "illegal" brewing of African beer.
- 1970s: additional Single quarters, replacing the temporary reception depot huts, became the New Flats.
- 1980s: Singel residential housing; Joe Slovo informal settlement between the New Flats and the N2.

1 Churches built the first five primary schools, in Langa. Secondary schooling was provided only after a ten-year battle by Langa residents. Government believed it would be an added attraction for Africans to move to the city. Langa High School was begun in 1937. Classes were held in the vestries of churches until the education department built the first classrooms in 1943. The first principal was Mr. Vincent Qunta. As the only African secondary school in Cape Town at the time, students came from as far afield as Simonstown and the Boland. The school has a proud history of academic and sporting achievement.



Three Churches Independent Newspapers, Initiation site, 1990's

2 The initiation of Xhosa boys into manhood is a tradition that has continued from the rural to the urban setting and is an important rite of passage in Langa. A central feature of initiation is circumcision. Initiation schools take place on the open area adjacent to Settlers Way (N2).

3 The cultural heart of Langa, Mendi Square, was named after the troopship Mendi that carried African soldiers from South Africa for service in France during the First World War. The Mendi sunk in the English Channel on 20 February 1917, drowning 615 men in a tragedy that has since assumed mythic proportions. Cultural celebrations, including the Mendi Memorial Day, took place on this square and visiting chiefs were received here. The first child killed in Langa in the student uprisings of 1976, Xolile Mosie, died on Mendi Square.

4 Now a safe haven for women and children, the Langa Hospital, built in 1928, housed a male and female ward, a TB ward and later, a maternity ward. People traveled from the Eastern Cape to attend the hospital. The injured during the 1960 Langa March were treated here.

5 Individuals who made notable contributions towards the history of Langa are commemorated in the naming of buildings and spaces, rather than in their final resting-place. Langa Cemetery is a sacred space for the ancestors of all Langa residents.

LANGA HERITAGE SITES



6 Not, as it appears, an empty lot, but once the very heart of political life in Langa, Bhunga Square was famous for its Sunday afternoon gatherings. Political parties would make their way to Bhunga Square, singing as they marched. A makeshift platform was set up for speakers. Walter Sisulu and Robert Sobukwe spoke here. Musical bands were also a regular feature. Bhunga gatherings were considered a bit dangerous for children, who made it a game to watch from the surrounding bluegum trees.



Rego Images/ Independent Newspapers, Dance in Civil Hall

7 Where the buzz was: the Langa Civic Hall began its life as a market place located alongside the old station to serve residents returning to Langa by train. In 1931 a portion of the market was converted into a public hall where Langa's social life flourished. Wedding parties and tribal ceremonies took place here, but the civic hall is particularly remembered for "afternoon spends", Saturday afternoon dances with music provided by one of Langa's many jazz bands. The hall has been demolished and an Apostolic Church built on the site.



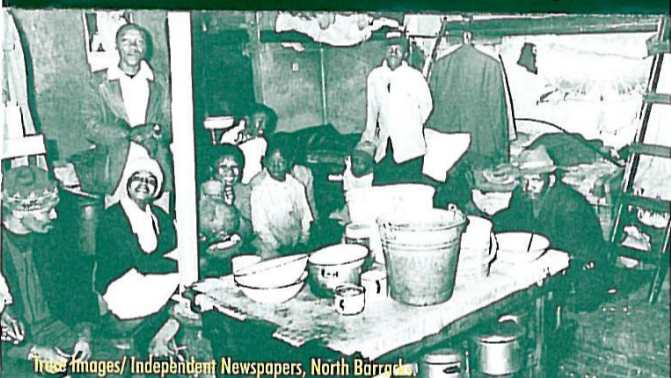
City of Cape Town, Pass court and office, 2007

8 A human hellhole: a pass court and office was built in the early 1950s to administer passes and hear cases of Urban Areas Act contravention. Up to thirty cases could be heard in as many minutes, with officials barely glancing at defendants. Pass offenders could be arrested in the middle of the night and forced to appear in their underwear. A sign in Xhosa in the building read: Do not spit. Built of untreated wood the building disintegrated after its disuse. It has been restored as part of the Langa heritage project.

9 The council's administrative block, encompassing the police station, 10 pass court and office, 8 administration offices and white officials residences, 11 was physically and functionally at the centre of the township life, regulating rentals, passes, registration, social welfare issues, beer licensing and domestic disputes. Housing all pass records, the administration building was a natural target of resistance and frustration and was partially burnt down in 1960. It continues to function as a municipal office today.

12 The original sportsground was built in 1934 by African labour as part of relief work during the depression. The stadium was built in 1959. Sport in Langa, rugby, cricket, football and tennis has always been vibrant. Sporting teams developed along "homeboy" lines, with men from the same areas and towns teaming up together.

13 The site of Khulani school was known as *Esingqini*: the slope. Older residents still remember the time when this site was a dam, reached through the pine forest area behind the Old Location, in which children swam. With the development of the Zones 14 from the mid-1940s, the dam was shut down and the site became a sports field. The only problem was that the field sloped!

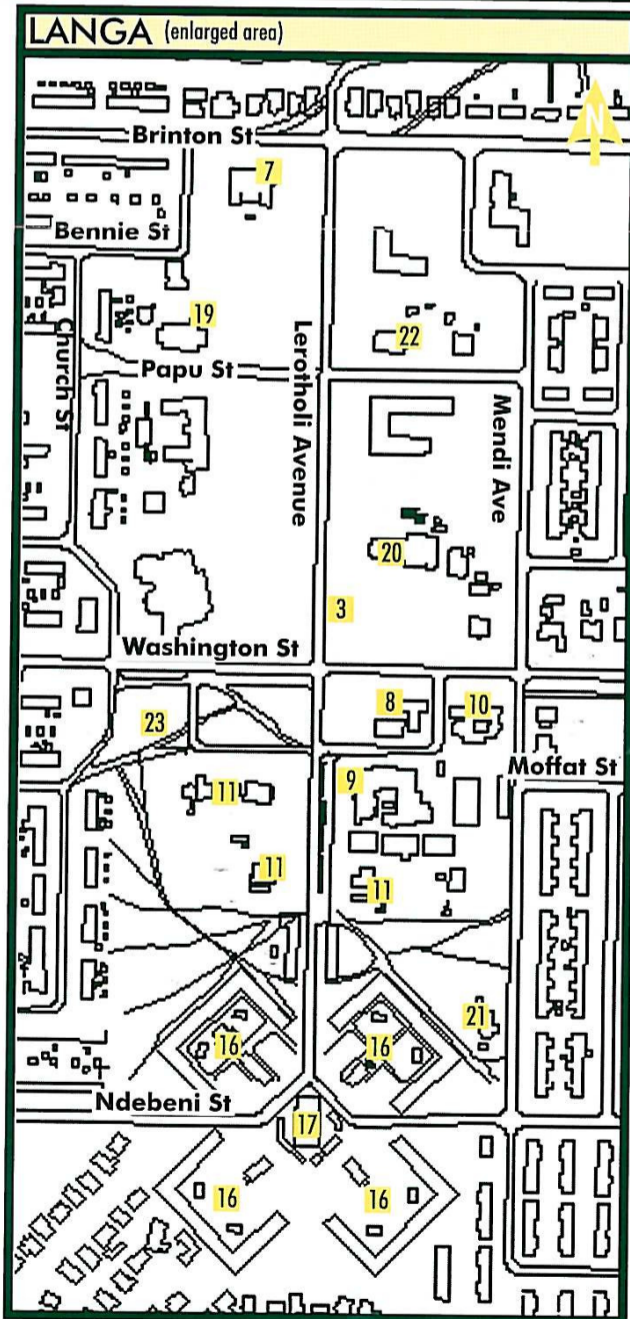


Three Churches Independent Newspapers, North Barrack

15 Built on the same line as the Main Barracks, 16 the North Barracks, built in 1927, have now been converted to family housing.

17 The Beer Hall, built with the barracks in 1925, originally contained the eating houses for the migrant residents. Until 1942 four African traders were licensed to run these, after which the council ran a monopoly food scheme. After years of opposition including a riot in which a resident died and £678 of damage was done to the eating-house, a beer hall, run by the council, was established here in 1948. This building was partially destroyed in the liberation struggles of the 1980s. Beer-halls were seen as sapping the anger of people that should have been directed into the struggle.

18 On the 21 March 1960 four people were killed and many wounded by police following a PAC-led anti-pass march on the Langa police station. The ground between the eight blocks of flats, erected in 1945, was commonly used for mass meetings. The crowd reassembled here on the afternoon of March 21, to be addressed by activists, notably the Langa-based Phillip Kgosana. During the afternoon crowds swelled to more than 10 000, with people arriving from Nyanga West and East. The crowds were given to a count of three to disperse before police fired into the crowd. The Robert Sobukwe Square commemorates this atrocity.



The wealth of church buildings honour the long tradition of religion and important role of the churches in shaping the history of Langa. The Presbyterian, Wesleyan and Church of England were the first churches built in Langa. Not initially represented in buildings are the independent churches (Ethiopian, Zionist) which grew substantially in Langa with the emergence of an urban, black working class from 1938. Laws forbidding the council to grant land to separatist churches forced such churches to meet outdoors, in the Market Hall and in private homes.



Appendix L: Langa: Walking Tours Map (Provided by City of Cape Town.)

Appendix M: Langa: Harlem Avenue; heritage information and existing plaque placement.
Provided by City of Cape Town.



Notes:

The positioning of the plaques along Harlem avenue should inform the placement of the flags / artwork on the road surface of Harlem avenue. This information along with community participation should be the process through which the decision around the placement of artwork on the road surface is made.

Appendix N: LANGA: Harlem Avenue - Places Of Interest Provided by City of Cape Town.

<p><i>Lutela's Sand Art Studio</i></p> <p>Middle Alleyway Behind House 50 Harlem Avenue</p>	<p><i>Sicamba Bed & Breakfast & Backpackers</i></p> <p>9 Harlem Avenue, Langa Contact: 0728275228/0216954440 Email: sicamba.nombulelo@gmail.com</p>	<p><i>Dave's Spaza Shop</i></p> <p>Special Quarters, Harlem Avenue Open 7 days a week From 7:00 AM til late</p>	<p><i>Mzansi Restaurant</i></p> <p>45 Harlem Avenue Open Monday to Sunday From 10:00 AM til late We take bookings Contact: (021) 6941656/ 073 754 8502</p>
<div data-bbox="486 779 973 1312"> <p>About</p> <h3>Harlem Avenue Project</h3> <p>The Harlem Avenue Project is a unique and innovative social enterprise initiative aimed at rehabilitating Harlem Avenue, the Mother City's oldest township, to make it the hottest and most sought-after tourist destination in the Western Cape.</p> <p>Through the rolling phases of cleaning, greening and painting the historic homes along Harlem Avenue, the institution of the 'Black Plaque Scheme' which demarcates the homes of noteworthy individuals (past and present) on Harlem Avenue from the worlds of music sports and politics, and the training and fostering of local enterprises such as B&Bs, street restaurants, street hotels, front yard vendors, and cafes (all in close partnership with the community of Langa), Harlem Avenue residents will begin to benefit from the burgeoning number of tourists visiting Cape Town, foreign and domestic.</p> <p>As is common when the word 'township' is uttered, security concerns jump to the fore. TEA SA and HAREA have taken serious consideration of this and through joint efforts, have adopted the central theme of 'Respect and Protect', a motto which applies equally to Langa's past history, residents, the environment and of course, tourists. Working in partnership with the local police, a community policing forum, street ambassadors and residents of Harlem Avenue, TEA SA and HAREA aim to set Harlem Avenue as a benchmark community within a township setting, providing a safe and clean environment for all, residents and tourists alike.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1092 800 1406 1136"> <h3>Contact Information</h3> <p>Tel: +27 21 424 8843 Fax: +27 21 424 8805 E-mail: teasouthafrica@gmail.com</p> <p>Website: www.harlemavenue.co.za</p> <p>Address: Heritage Square 71 Buitengracht Street Cape Town, 8000</p> <p>To find out more about the Harlem Avenue Project please visit our website at: www.harlemavenue.co.za</p> <p>Alternatively e-mail us at: teasouthafrica@gmail.com</p> </div> <div data-bbox="982 1121 1383 1461"> </div>		<div data-bbox="1531 758 1976 978"> <h1>Harlem Avenue Langa</h1> </div> <div data-bbox="2125 789 2504 873"> <h2>Harlem Avenue Resident Enterprise Association</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="2214 873 2421 898"> <p>RESPECT & PROTECT</p> </div> <div data-bbox="2154 915 2504 1062"> <p>HAREA is a non-political, non-religious formation founded on the three social enterprise principles of people, planet, profit which seeks to work with any organisation that will help the community achieve its aims of a sustainable future for all residents of Harlem Avenue.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="2273 1073 2407 1104"> <p>TEA SA</p> </div> <div data-bbox="2273 1104 2407 1220"> </div> <div data-bbox="2228 1220 2451 1241"> <p>SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CONSULTANTS</p> </div> <div data-bbox="2258 1251 2436 1335"> </div> <div data-bbox="2214 1346 2481 1377"> <p>EDITH STEPHENS WETLAND PARK</p> </div>	
<p><i>Nomzi's B&B</i></p> <p>56 Harlem Avenue Available from Jan 1, 2011</p>	<p><i>Fanie's Place (Shebeen)</i></p> <p>Open Monday to Sunday From 10 AM til midnight</p>	<p><i>UBIZO Events and Tours</i></p> <p>45 Harlem Avenue Contact: 0837 307942</p>	<p><i>*blo's & Stone Hair Salon</i></p> <p>Corner of Harlem Ave and Bennie Street Open Mon-Sat 9:00AM-6:00PM</p>