

LANGA

HERITAGE AREA DESIGNATION REPORT (CCT)

AND

APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION OF HERITAGE
PERMISSIONS UNDER

SECTION 38 (9) **OR** SECTION 48 (3)

NHRA ACT 25 OF 1999 (HWC)

Environment and heritage resources management branch

February 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WORKING DOCUMENT

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1. Introduction

This report aims to :

- Identify Langa's heritage resources associated with the historic development of Langa as the first formally designed township in the Western Cape, developed as a result of the Native Urban Areas Act of 1923.

The proposed outcome of this report is:

- To motivate for the declaration of a **Heritage Protection Overlay Zone (HPOZ)**, in terms of the Cape Town Zoning Scheme (2013) over the historic core of Langa
- Formulation of an **exemption** in areas identified in Langa as "Areas Preferred for Development" – this will allow for and accelerated process for housing development in areas specified in the exemption :
 - Lifting of general protection in terms of Section 48 (3)
 - Exemption in terms of Section 38 (9) in those cases where the Heritage Impact Assessment triggers are activated.
Where NEMA Regulations are activated, the heritage component would be exempt from additional heritage permission, but the NEMA and association legislative process is not exempt.

2. Site description

Langa is alternatively described as the oldest formally designed township in the Western Cape as well as in South Africa. Certainly without a doubt, the historic events that took place in Langa resonate across the whole of South Africa.

2.1. Location and extent of area to be considered for Heritage Area status

Langa is situated about 12 km from the CBD of the City of Cape Town (33° 56.759'S 18° 31.558'E) and covers an area of approximately 288 ha. It is contained within the N2/Settlers Way (south), the M7/Vanguard Drive (east), the Railway line (north) and the M17/Jan Smuts Drive (west) (Figure 1).

Langa was established on part of the old Uitvlugt Plantation in the area between the confluence of the Elsieskraal and Vygekraal rivers. Historically the natural vegetation type was the Cape Flats Sand fynbos. Nothing remains of the natural vegetation. The topography is generally flat.

Langa is characterised by high population densities and is mostly residential. Open space is generally occupied by informal shacks. Public open spaces squares are generally highly valued and of socio-historic significance to the community.

The area for the proposed Heritage Area (HPOZ) status covers the historic core of Langa as well as the heritage route which extends from the historic entrance to Langa from Bhunga Ave into Washington, across Lerotholi to the Robert Sobuke Memorial and the Old Flats. This heritage route also includes the route from the old train station to the Main Barracks – the so-called 'Migrant Passage' (Figure 2). The proposed HPOZ also includes those places identified by SAHRA as proposed Grade 1 heritage sites (Figure 3).



Figure 1: Location of Langa in relation to the Cape Town City centre and immediate surrounds.

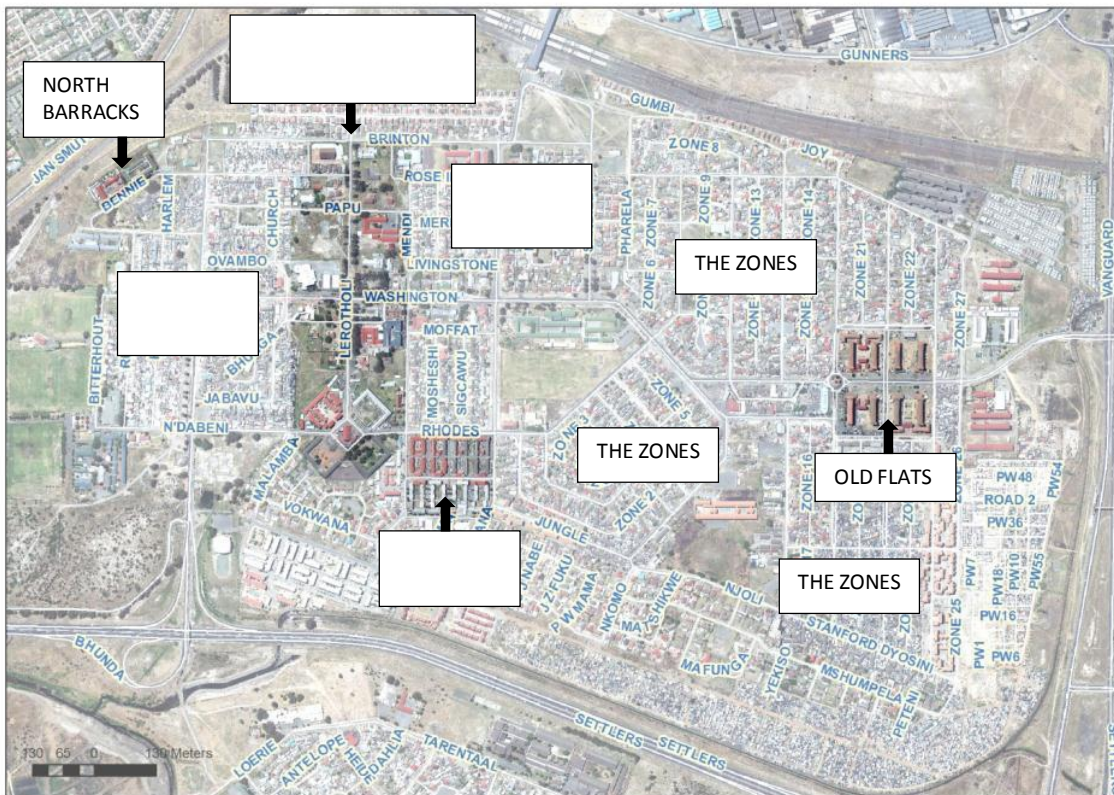


Figure 2: Detail location map of Langa

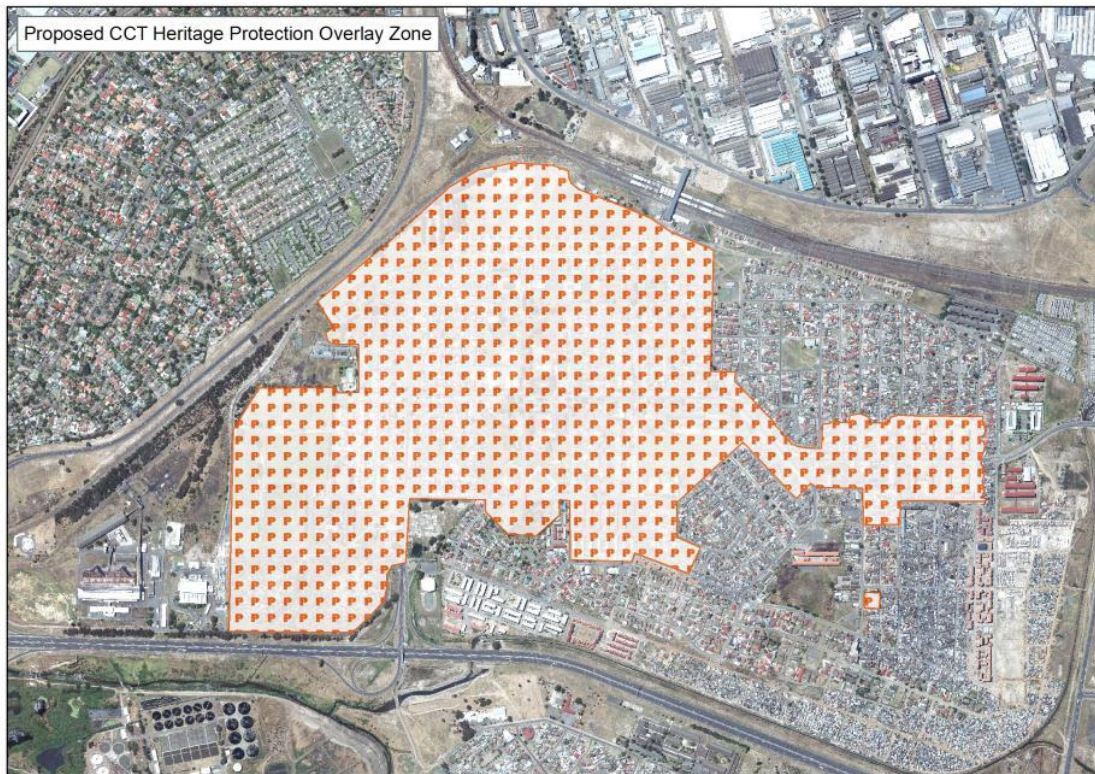


Figure 3: Area to be considered for Heritage Area status (proposed Heritage Protection Overlay zone).

The historical and social significance of Langa must be seen in terms of the greater context of the political history of South Africa as a whole. It is the physical manifestation of the control of an oppressive political regime (and the resistance of “the other”) of the movement of (black) people between rural and urban contexts.

The area for the proposed Heritage Area status covers the historic core of Langa as well as a heritage route which extends from the historic entrance to Langa from Bhunga Ave into Washington, across Lerotholi to the Robert Sobuke Memorial and the Old Flats. This heritage route also includes the route from the old train station to the Main Barracks.

The proposed Heritage Area, protected through the HPOZ of the City of Cape Town Zoning Scheme Of 2013, includes the sites nominated by SAHRA for Grade 1, National Heritage status. The historical and social significance of Langa must be seen in terms of the greater context of the political history of South Africa as a whole. It is the physical manifestation of the control of an oppressive political regime and the manifestation of “the other” in the control of the movement of (black) people between rural and urban contexts. The significance of Langa and specific places identified as heritage resources will be dealt with in more detail in Sections 3 and 4.

2.2. Historic overview (Annexure 1 and 2)¹

The outbreak of Bubonic Plague in Cape Town in 1901 and the ensuing panic amongst the general populous led to the first slum clearances within the City. The worse outbreaks occurred near the harbour and Dock Road as well as District 6 and Woodstock. Black people living in these areas were relocated to the Uitvlugt Plantation. This action was the forerunner of the Forced Removals of the latter half of the 20th century, which characterised the Nationalist Party's Apartheid planning.

Langa (Figure 3) originated as one of the 'garden villages' designed in the early 20th century: Maitland Garden village was the first to be built, followed by Pinelands and Langa. Both Pinelands and Langa were designed by architect Albert John Thompson. The garden village design was adapted to suit what was referred to as the "African" requirements and focused on Black urban workers and temporary migrants rather than permanent residents. Constructed during the depression years after the First World War, Langa was built using white labour as a means of poverty relief.

The central feature of the design of Langa was the so-called Migrant Passage: the route from the railway station through the Administration Block to the Main Barracks. The railway siding was completed in 1924 and the tender for the construction of the Main Barracks was advertised in 1925.

The Main Barracks has a unique cruciform shape which could be converted from compound to prison through the simple closure of the four entrances. The barracks were designed specifically for single men and emphasised the transitory nature of their employment in the City.

Additional accommodation, referred to as the Special Quarters were constructed to the north west of the Main Barracks. These too were designed specifically for single people.

In 1926 the Second Phase of development of Langa was implemented. This phase saw the expansion of the Administration Block as well as the construction of "Married Quarters" – these were simple 2 roomed houses. Of the 300 houses that were built, only 16 were occupied by 1930.

Additional barracks-styled accommodation was constructed in 1927. These barracks were called the North Barracks.

The Third and Fourth Phase expansion of Langa during 1932-1934 saw the expansion of the residential area to the east of Lerotholi (then known as Station) Street. Known as Bongweni, the area between Mendi Street and Jungle Walk included a 48 two roomed houses and 16 three roomed houses.

Between 1939 and 1945 census records show that the number of (Black) people living/working in the City had more than tripled and had nearly doubled again by 1955. In 1941 7436 people were recorded living in Langa.

The Old Flats (named the "New flats" at the time of construction) were built between 1945 and 1948. These too were constructed as accommodation for single men. With the exception of the Married Quarters no provision was being made for family units and the emphasis was still on single migratory workers who would return to their families in the rural areas.

¹ Fields 2007; O'Donaghue 2012

The emphasis on the single male migrant worker was shifted officially only in 1994 when families were allowed to move to Langa and be reunited with husbands and fathers (Fields 2007:27).

2.3. Statutory designations, assessments and policy context

2.3.1. The Constitution of South Africa

Everyone has the right to

- an environment that is not harmful to their well being
- to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations through reasonable and other legislative measures (Section 24)
- with other members of their community to enjoy their culture, practice their religion and use their language
- form, enjoy and maintain cultural, religious and linguistic associations and other organs of society

2.3.2. The National Heritage Resources Act, Act 25 of 1999

The National Heritage Resources Act, aims to:

- Introduce an integrated and interactive system for the management of the national heritage resources
- To promote good governance at all levels
- Empower civil society to nurture and conserve their heritage resources so that they may be bequeathed to future generations
- To provide for the protection and management of conservation-worthy places and areas by local authorities

Protections under the NHRA are either Formal Protections (in the case where sites or areas are declared as a National Heritage Site or a Provincial Heritage Site) or General Protections: Section 34 (structures older than 60 years); Section 35 (archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites) and Section 36 (burial grounds and graves). No site protected under the general protections may be altered, damaged or destroyed without the written permission of the relevant heritage authority.

2.3.3. Cultural Heritage Strategy for the City of Cape Town²

The CCT Cultural Heritage Strategy provides a policy and framework for the management and protection of the cultural heritage resources of the City of Cape Town. The key cultural heritage objective of this strategy is the **identification, assessment, conservation, management and enhancement** of the heritage resources, structures and landscapes of all the people of Cape Town and to ensure that the memories and values associated with such resources are appropriately represented.

A further objective is to ensure that spatial, developmental and environmental planning accommodates and responds to the unique history, scenic and environmental qualities of Cape Town.

² EMB: Heritage Resources Section 2005

The CCT Cultural Heritage Strategy recognises the need to broaden the focus of “conservation and general heritage management to include objects, groups of buildings, streetscapes, events, struggle history, historic colonial and pre-colonial archaeology, whole settlements and ... historic and cultural landscapes and contexts”.

Heritage Protection Overlay zones within the Cape Town Zoning Scheme 2013 provide the mechanisms for the protection of heritage places that are considered to be conservation-worthy

3. Statement of significance

The cultural heritage significance of Langa lies not only in the architectural and socio-historical significance of individual spaces and places, but in the collection of the whole, the historic cultural landscape of Langa: a formally designed layout which aimed to control the movement of (migrant) black workers within the urban landscape.

- ***importance in the community, or pattern of South African’s history;***

Langa is the first formally designed township to be developed in the Western Cape under the Native Urban Area Act of 1923. It’s main function was to accommodate and, if necessary, contain black people working in Cape Town.

- ***possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of South Africa’s cultural heritage;***

The layout of the core of Langa is unique as a town planning feature. The theme of Governmental Control and Oppression is emphasised by the shape and form of the Main Barracks – a form that elsewhere in the world has more in common with prisons and workhouses, than residential accommodation. The main barracks were specifically designed: “double rectangle, each one separated from the others by a high unclimbable fence, and the only means of access will be by one gate from the central part. Efficient police control will thus be obtained and in the event of trouble the police on duty in the centre could quickly close and barricade the gates” (Corporation of the City of Cape Town 1924).

"we began to realise that this township was built in such a way that if they wanted to keep us inside they could, because there are only two entrances and exits in Langa" (Fatima Dike).

The characteristic historic landscape feature of Langa is the historic central core, consisting of the main barracks and the road to the station (originally Station Road, today Lerotholi Road). Station Road lead from the station past the administrative buildings to the main barracks.

- ***potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of South Africa’s cultural heritage;***

In 2005, the Heritage Resources Section (HRS) of the Environment and Heritage Resources Branch of the City of Cape Town commissioned an extensive oral history project to identify sites and areas in Langa which are of social and cultural significance. The oral history of Langa tells the story of the people of Langa, where well-known business men, musicians, sportsmen and political figures lived. It records the personal experiences of people who have lived ‘The system’ and their resistance to political oppression.

The flourishing heritage tourism industry in Langa is testimony to the relevance of this story on a world-wide scale.

• importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of South Africa's cultural heritage;

The challenge of preserving the historic urban landscape of Langa is complicated by the purpose and function for which it was constructed. The barracks and the subsequent hostel style dwellings are indicative of the views of Government at the time and the oppressive control of black people living within the urban boundaries of South African cities. The parsimonious approach to the construction of the urban fabric has led to an urban form which is functional at best and not ascribing to any particular aesthetic.

The original layout of Langa does demonstrate a degree of aesthetics in the spatial arrangement of the barracks and the surrounding special quarters, but this is an aesthetic that can only be appreciated from the 'outside' (on plan and aerial view) and not from street level. Perhaps this is too is a subconscious reflection of the ethos that led to the proclamation of the Native Location Act of 1902 and the Native Act of 1923.

The flourishing heritage tourism industry in Langa is testimony to the relevance of this story on a world-wide scale.

• strong or special association with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in the history of South Africa;

Langa is an importance keystone in the history of the struggle for political liberation in Cape Town: the burning of the passes in 1946; the Anti-Pass Marches of 1960; the 1976 Student uprising. Political meetings took place at Bhunga Square, until the banning of the ANC, SACP and the PAC forced these meetings to go underground. Places in Langa are also associated with well-known political icons e.g. Chris Hani, Nelson Mandela, Philip Kgosana. Robert Sobukwe Square marks the starting point of the 1960 Anti-Pass March.

4. Grading

In 2004, at the request of the Langa Heritage Foundation, SAHRA addressed the heritage status of Langa at the SAHRA Conference held in the Limpopo Province on 27 November 2004. It was decided that Langa should be graded a Grade 1 heritage site and investigated for nomination as a National Heritage Site. This process involved the identification of sites of historical and social heritage significance as well as the recording of oral histories. The City of Cape Town initiated a pilot oral history project, undertaken by Dr Sean Field, Centre for Popular Memory, University of Cape Town.

A detailed map of the SAHRA proposed Grade 1 heritage sites is included as Annexure 3. To date, no further action has been taken by SAHRA to the nomination of Langa as a Grade 1 heritage site.

Table 1: List of places in Langa identified by SAHRA as potential Grade 1 heritage sites

Site name	Erf number	SAHRA Heritage theme	SAHRA Description and significance
Township streets	N/A	Government control and	All streets between Bitterhout, Jungle

Site name	Erf number	SAHRA Heritage theme	SAHRA Description and significance
		oppression	Walk, Ndabeni and Bennie Streets Social significance
Married and Single quarters	Various	Government control and oppression	Social and historic significance
Main Barracks	2737, 3013, 3306, Cnr of Ndabeni and Lerotholi St	Government control and oppression	Social and historic significance
North Barracks	3788, 338	Government control and oppression	Social and historic significance
Administration block	661, 662, 812, 2987, 2984, 2985	Government control and oppression	Administration building, former Pass court and office, Officials residences, Police station, Maragana square, open areas between these buildings Social, historic and scientific significance
Migrant passage, site of former dipping hut	181	Government control and oppression	Social and historic significance
Migrant passage – Lerotholi Ave		Government control and oppression	Social and historic significance
Langa Market Hall – former Civic Hall	113	Creating a living environment	Social and historic significance
Maragana Open Area	2984	Creating a living environment	Social and historic significance
Mendi Square	550	Creating a living environment	Social and historic significance
Initiation site	35979	Creating a living environment	Social, scientific and historic significance
Khulani School site	2324, 2325	Creating a living environment	Social, scientific and historic significance
Langa High, St Cyprians site, St Louis and Tembani schools	2324, 3584, 551, 202, 417	Creating a living environment	Social, scientific and historic significance
Churches: St Francis Catholic, St Cyprians Anglican, Universal Congregational, Wesleyan, Baptist Union, SA Black Mission Field church, Order of Ethiopia, AME, Presbyterian, Dutch	3583, 2747, 413, 164, 2728, 2747, 818, 1182, 3582, 417, 344, 551, 3583, 2747, 413, 164, 2728, 2747	Creating a living environment	Social and historic significance

Site name	Erf number	SAHRA Heritage theme	SAHRA Description and significance
Reformed			
Cemetery	346		Social and historic significance
Sports Stadium	2746		Social and historic significance
Bhunga Square		Liberation struggle	Social and historic significance Site used for political meetings and music concerts
Main Barracks Beer Hall		Liberation struggle	Social and historic significance Association with political and economic oppression
Mendi Square	550	Liberation struggle	Social and historic significance. 1976 student uprising and place where the first student was killed during the 1976 unrest
Robert Sobukwe Square	Traffic circle	Liberation struggle	Social and historic significance. 1960 Anti-Pass march – site of mass gathering and political violence

As part of the City of Cape Town's process of identifying and grading heritage resources within the boundaries of the Metro (Objective 2 of the IMEP Cultural Heritage Strategy 2005) individual sites have been identified and graded according to the heritage significance of those sites.

A detailed map of the City of Cape Town proposed Grade 3 heritage resources is included as Annexure 4. The City of Cape Town proposes to designate a Heritage Protection overlay zone in terms of the Cape Town Zoning Scheme 2013.

Table 2: List of places in Langa identified by CCT as local heritage resources.

Site name	Erf number	CCT Proposed grading	Description and significance
Main Barracks Welcome Zenzile LTA Construction PSG: Peninsula Security Guards	2737, 3013, 3306, Cnr of Ndabeni and Lerotholi Str	3A	First formal township constructed as a direct result of Apartheid town planning. Main Barracks form part of characteristic landscape feature of early Langa. Cruciform barracks complex situated at apex of road to station.
Main Barracks, Beer Hall		3A	Integral part of the Main Barracks. Originally the site of the kitchen area of the barracks. Socio-historical significance. Was modified as a Beer Hall; which was later burnt down in protest during the liberation struggle.
North Barracks	3788, 338	3A	Expansion of oldest formal township
Special Quarters (Married and Single quarters)	Various	3B	Significant component of Langa's historic urban structure.
Site of former dipping hut	181	3A	Previously symbols of Apartheid oppression.

Site name	Erf number	CCT Proposed grading	Description and significance
			Part of active cultural tourism imitative.
Migrant passage – Lerotholi Ave		3A	Main access route from the old Langa train station to the barracks. Forms main N-S access of the historic precinct
Langa Hospital	341	3B	Historical and present social significance: Place of healing with people coming as far as the Eastern Cape to be treated. Now serves as safe haven from women and children
Administration block, CCT Admin office, Formal official residences, Pass Office Museum	661, 662, 812, 2987, 2984, 2985	3A	Previously symbols of Apartheid oppression. Part of active cultural tourism imitative.
Post Office - Museum		3B	Previously symbols of Apartheid oppression. Part of active cultural tourism imitative.
Langa Market Hall – former Civic Hall	113	3B	
Makana	Various	3B	Located between Mquayi and Sandile Streets. Named in honour of Makana who lead the Ndlambe attack on Grahamstown in 1819. Makana was banished to Robben Island. This was the first residential development for professional people as opposed to unskilled migrant labour.
Makana Square	471, 544	3B	Located in the centre of the Makana residential area. It is known as the first play ground in Langa.
Bhunga Square		3A	Gathering place for recruiting and mobilizing people of Langa. Robert Sobukwe first used the square when he addressed the people of Langa. Also used for concerts and political debates. The ANC Youth League, started by Moses Molekwa, was launched at Bhunga Square
Mendi Square	550	3A	Named in honour of the 600 plus Black South African soldiers who died in during WWI when the Mendi was sunk. Significant public open space used for memorial celebrations. Place of 1976 student uprising
Maragana Open Area	2984	3B	
Washington Drive incl historic entrance into Bhunga Avenue		3A	Historic entrance in to Langa as well as being the route of the Pass March. It is the main E-W axis of Langa
Guga S'Thebe Cultural centre		3B	Significant cultural centre and prominent landmark.
Khulani School site	2324, 2325		Socio historical significance
Schools	2324, 3584, 551,	3B	
Langa High	202, 417		
St Cyprians site			
St Louis			
Tembani schools			

Site name	Erf number	CCT Proposed grading	Description and significance
Ethiopian Church Presbyterian Church Universal Congregationa Churches: St Francis Catholic, St Cyprians Anglican, Wesleyan, Baptist Union, SA Black Mission Field church, AME, Presbyterian, Dutch Reformed	818, 3582 3583, 2747, 413, 164, 2728, 2747, 1182, 3582, 417, 344, 551, 3583, 2747, 413, 164, 2728, 2747	3B	Socio historical significance
Cemetery	346	3B	Sacred space and revered by all residents of Langa
Sports Stadium/Field	2746	3B	Originally built in 1934 as part of relief work during the Depression. Social significance associated with building social networks
Initiation site	35979	3A	Social and cultural significance associated with initiation rites.
Robert Sobukwe Square	Traffic circle	1	Memorialising the gathering point for the 1960 Anti-Pass march and the role of Robert Sobukwe in the liberation struggle.
Old Flats	1940, 1941, 1942, 1943	3A	Representative of the subsequent development and expansion of Langa. Socio-historical significance as a number of well-known personalities resided at these Flats. Nelson Mandela was sheltered here, moving within the complex to avoid detention by the Police.
New Flats	2731, 2732	3C	Component of the Langa Migrant hostel residential accommodation. Unique form and position within Langa.
The Zones	Various	3C	Not classified as heritage resources in terms of the NHRA, but significant in terms of the extension of Langa as a formal township and reflecting Apartheid town planning views.

5. HPOZ Guidelines

The purpose of the HPOZ is to identify areas worthy of conservation and to recognise/acknowledge the significance of those areas. The challenge in Langa, is what to conserve and to what purpose?

Develop overall vision for Langa

Developments within the HPOZ will need to follow stringent heritage approval permissions – SAHRA (comment), HWC and CCT (depending on delegation – decision vs comment)

5.1. Threats

For discussion wrt to LANGA QUARTER consent use application

- Uncontrolled expansion of shack dwellings in open spaces between original structures
- Illegal activities impacting on the built environment shape and form

- Redevelopment of original small scale properties (consolidations) - scale and bulk

5.2. Enhancement of existing buildings

For discussion wrt to LANGA QUARTER consent use application

- Reinstate original forecourt
- Reinstate low boundary wall or visually permeable boundary walls
- Respect of original facades
-

5.3. New additions and alterations

For discussion wrt to LANGA QUARTER consent use application

- Discuss concept of template/ pre-approved plans
- Retention of forecourt
- Low boundary walls
- Retention of small erf size i.e. no consolidation of erven
- Retention of original roof profiles
- Retain or respect original building facades

5.4. New buildings

For discussion wrt to LANGA QUARTER consent use application

- Respect existing scale and bulk
-

5.5. Public realm

- Public open spaces are of critical importance in Langa, not only as historically significant places, but are socially significant in the present. Properties are small and other than public open spaces there are few safe spaces for children to play and for people to meet.
- Greening of open space and streetscapes – originally part of old forestry and retained green element until fairly recently

6. Exemption

Langa as a whole has significance as an historic urban landscape. There is an urgent demand for housing in Langa. The housing densities required to address the housing shortage cannot be met within the historic core if the significant historical urban landscape is to be managed as a heritage resource. An alternative is to lift the 60 year clause in areas outside of the historic core and allow the necessary densification and redevelopment to take place in the exemption area (Figure 4).

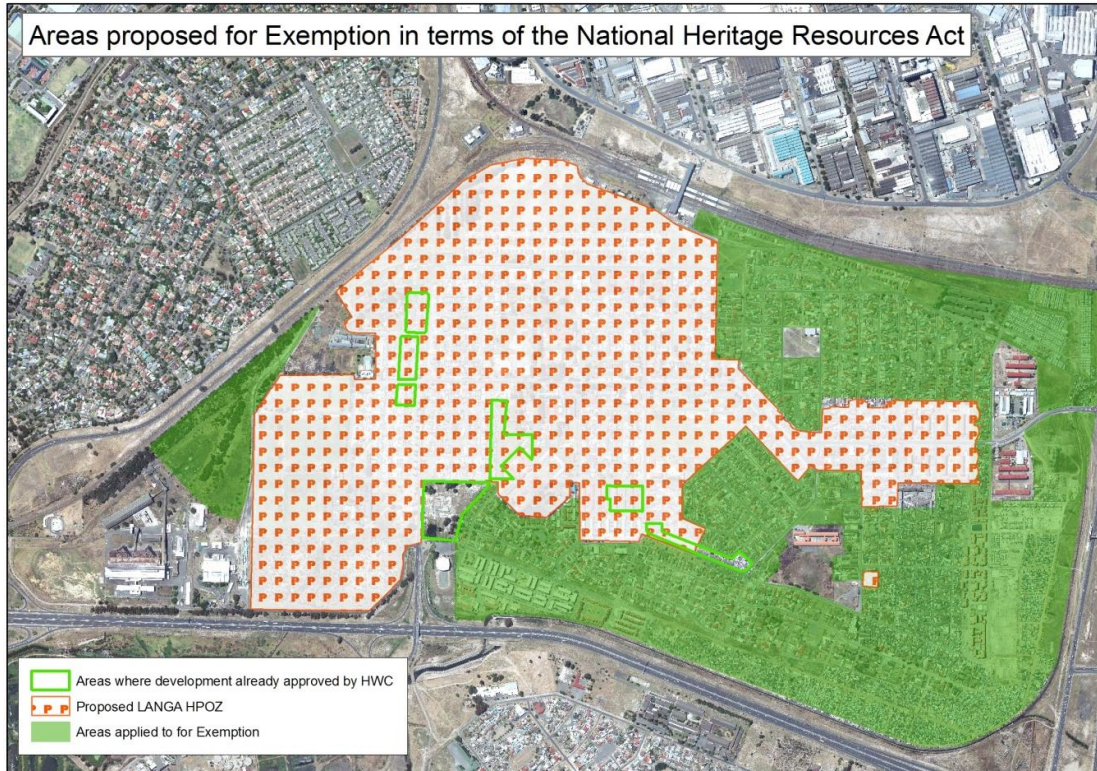


Figure 4: Areas Preferred for Development

Section 48 (3) makes allowance for a heritage resources authority to grant an exemption, by means of a notice in the Gazette or Provincial Gazette, from the requirements to obtain permits for such activities or class of activities as specified in the notice.

The area earmarked for exemption cover the area of Langa known as The Zones. The Zones were constructed between 1950 and 1970. They make up 66 hectares of developable housing land. Samples of The Zone typology have been included in the HPOZ.

Design for new housing will not be submitted to the heritage authorities for heritage approval, but will be carried out in consultation with the City's Environmental and Heritage Branch as well as its Landscape and Urban Design Branch.

This exemption does NOT INCLUDE applications in terms of NEMA and associated legislation.

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Annexure 1: Historic maps and aerial photography showing the development of the area

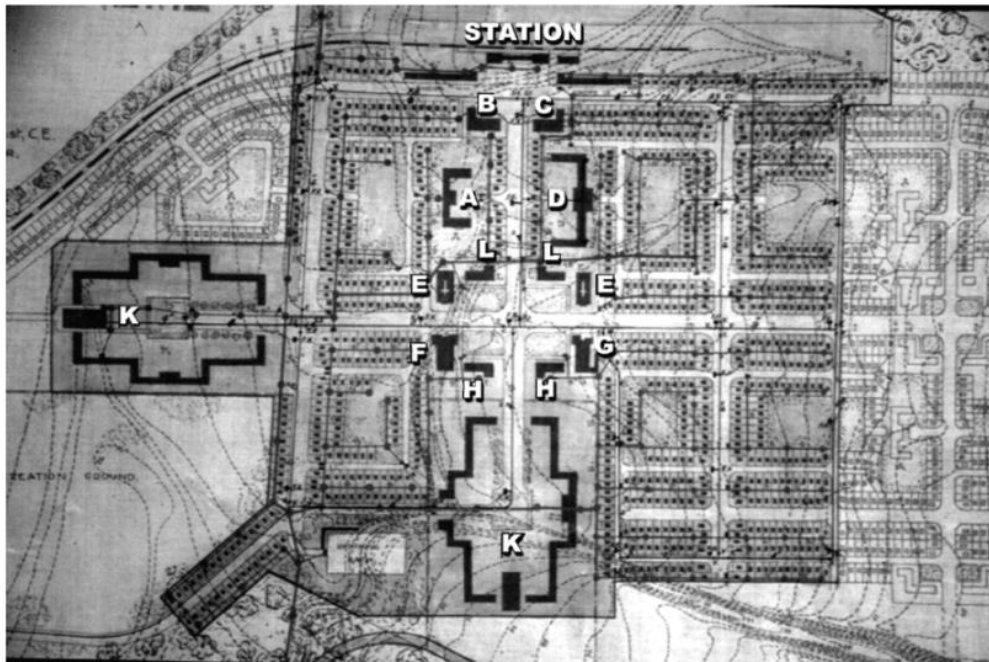


Figure 4

Langa layout, Drainage plan, 1923. Key: A. School, B. Meat Market, C. Fruit & Veg Market, D. Compound for 200 Single Women, E. Churches, F. Picture Theatre, G. Police Station, H. Admin, K. Compound for 2,000 Single Men, L. Church House (source: Cape Archives, M3/4005; key by author).

Figure 1: Original layout plan for Langa by Thompson (in Coetzer 2009:9)

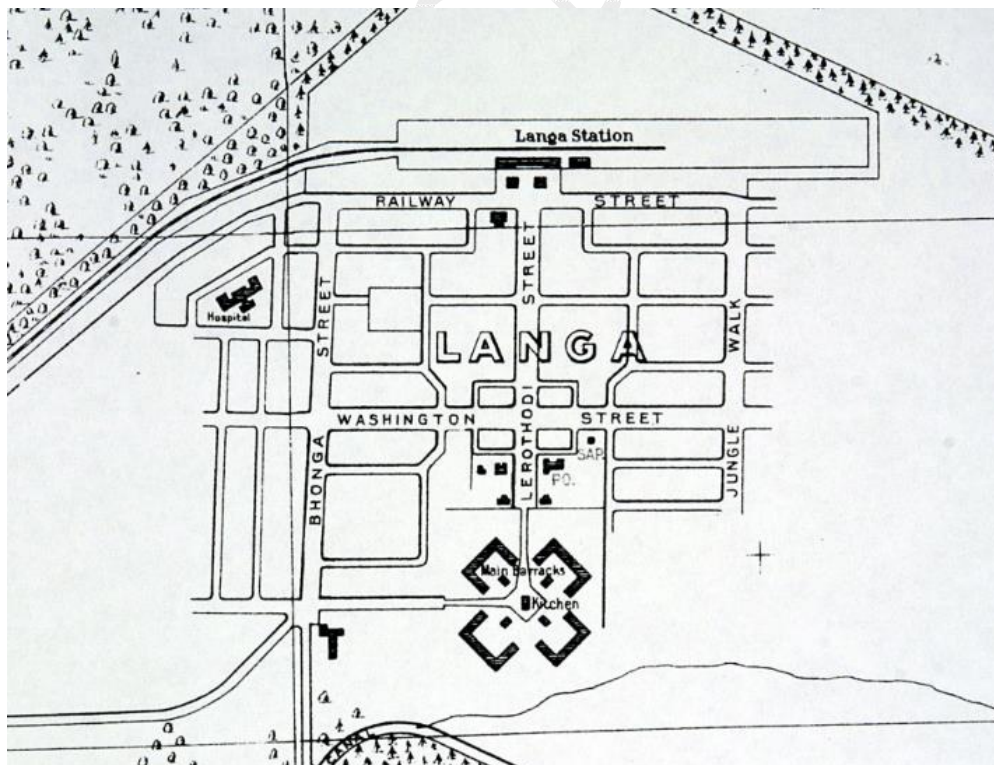




Figure 5: Langa c1938.

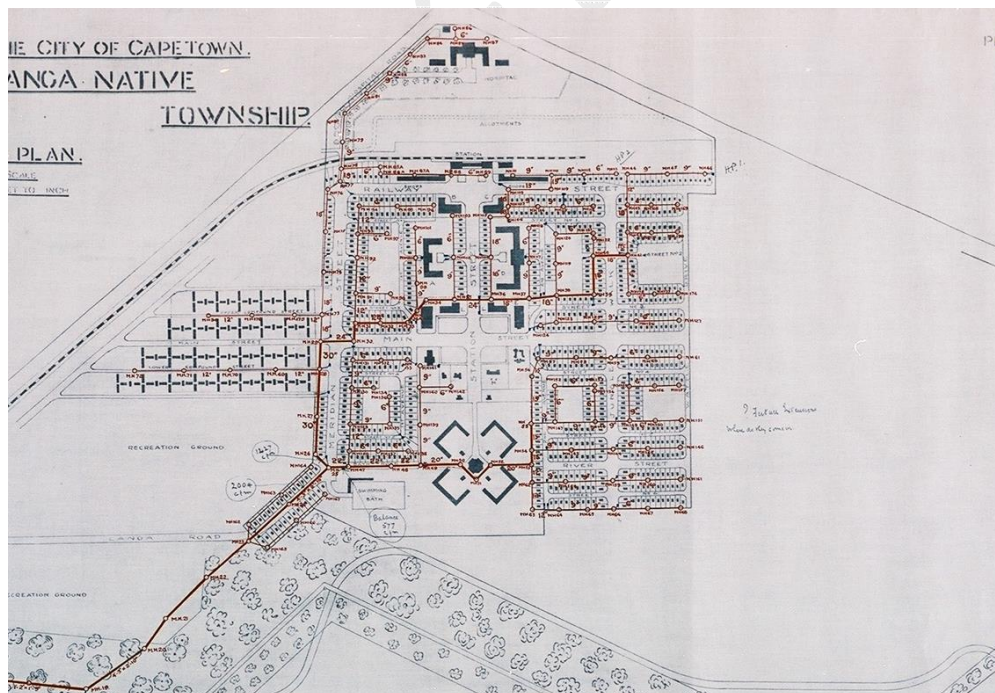


Figure 6: Corporation of the City of Cape Town Drainage Plan for Langa c1940s (in Coetzer 2009:9).

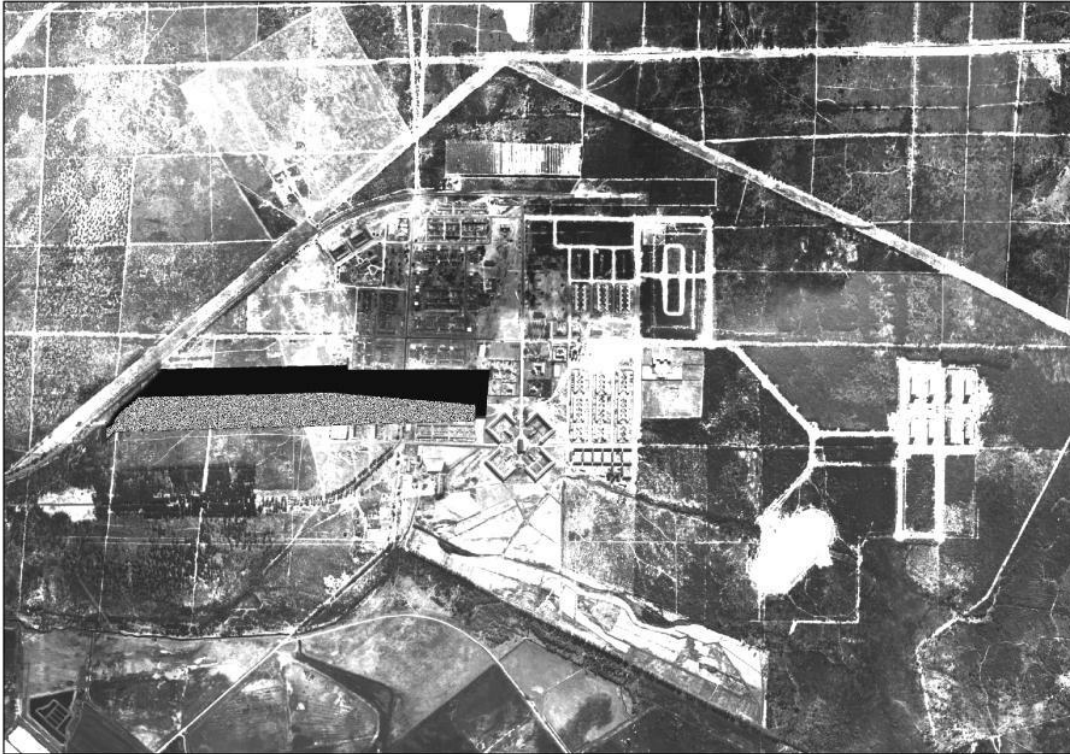


Figure 7: Langa c1945



Figure 8: Langa c1968. Note the expansion of the Zones



Figure 9: Langa c2009. Between the mass infill of backyard shacks and informal dwellings, the original town layout is still visible.

WORKING DOCUMENT

Annexure 2: LANGA – Chronology of events

Period	Role	Description	Nature of significance	Material evidence Physical/Documentary
19 th – early 20 th century	Early slum clearance actions	1901 outbreak of the Bubonic plague in Cape Town, particularly around the harbour and surrounding lower income residential areas. Many, predominantly Black Capetownians relocated from the City to Ndabeni.	Precursor to the later Forced Removals which characterised the Apartheid regime's planning for a segregated South African Society	Locations Act of 1910
	Creation of Ndabeni as the first 'location' outside the boundaries of the City	Much resistance from Black capetownians who represented a heterogeneous economic mix and who were resident across the City Dock Road to Woodstock.	Start of racial segregation in the town planning of Cape Town.	Newspaper clippings of the time document the panic around the plague deaths as well as a meeting held on the Grand Parade to discuss the removal of Black people from the City centre as a mechanism for slum clearance and plague control.
1913		Natives Land Act, Act 27 of 1913		
1914-1918	First World War			
1917	Sinking of the Mendi	Over 600 African troops died off the coast of the Isle of Wright en route to France when the Mendi went down	African contribution to the First World War	Mendi Square named in honour of those who died. The first memorial of this event was held in 1941 lead by the Committee of Langa Church Ministers
1922		Land granted at the Uitvlugt Plantation for redevelopment of formal township. Originally planned to rehouse people living at Ndabeni. Ndabeni was to be redeveloped for industrial purposes.		Native Township Committee appointed. Concerns over safety and design considerations have more in common with prisons than residential areas eg observation towns, un-scalable fences and single sex dormitories.
	Industrial conciliation Act	Economic depression after the First World War resulting in schemes for white poverty relief	Africans/Blacks were excluded from skilled/artisan work in the building and construction trades	Langa was ironically built by white unionised labour and a relatively high cost.
1923	Native Urban Areas Act	Designated urban vs rural areas (prescribed vs non-	Legislated control of	

Period	Role	Description	Nature of significance	Material evidence Physical/Documentary
		prescribed) - Aimed at the control of the movement of Black men between urban and rural areas. Towns as a result became predominately 'white' residential areas.	people and restricting migration from rural areas to cities. Only people with employment were allowed to have passes.	
	Garden Village design	Design of three garden villages in the Post WWI period: Maitland, Pinelands and Langa	Langa being an example of the adapted 'garden village' for Black people working in Cape Town, designed specifically as temporary residents for migrant labour	Langa named in honour of Chief Langalibalele, who was imprisoned on Robben Island. He was sent to Uitvlugt after his release c1875. He is buried in Kwa-Zulu Natal in the Drakensberg Mountains. Langa also means 'sun' and could be seen as a counterpoint to Nyanga 'moon', established in 1950s when Langa became too small.
1924	Rail transport of migrant labour from rural areas to the City	Completion of railway siding linking Langa to Cape Town	Emphasis on the transient nature of Black people in the urban context. New arrivals in Langa 'processed like animals' from the railway station, through a process that was both humiliating and dehumanising, which dipping/delousing and various medical exams before being allocated a bed in one of the various accommodation facilities	Migrant Passage (Lerotholi Ave) from the location of the old Station, through the administration block to the Main Barracks. Site of one of the former dipping huts has been identified as a heritage resource (intangible).
1925	First Phase construction of Langa: Main Barracks and Beer Hall	Tender for the development of the Main Barracks – designed as dormitory accommodation for single men. Consisted of 84 dormitories, in blocks of 21 – providing accommodation for 2032 men. Each dormitory has 24 concrete bunks in double tiers and were serviced by 2 electric light points and one combustion stove. Each of	Ndabeni only officially ceased to exist as a 'location' in 1936. It was never formally laid out and no services were provided.	Four U shaped quadrants arranged around the central 'eating house/kitchen' (now the beer hall). The complex, although run down, still represents a fairly intact townscape/urban feature. Forms a unit

Period	Role	Description	Nature of significance	Material evidence Physical/Documentary
		the blocks had a separate ablution facility. A central 'eating house' was constructed at the centre of the complex and is now referred to as the Beer Hall		with the Migrant passage (Lerotholi Ave).
	Special quarters: Single quarters	Additional accommodation for 200 men and 100 women. These consisted of a number of blocks containing single and double rooms with external ablution blocks and lavatories. There were special quarters for women, referred to as the Spinster Quarters which were located along Haarlem Street, next to the Hospital.		
	Market Hall	Previously the Langa Civic Hall – meeting place as well as venue for elections		Now demolished. The Civic Hall is located on this site
	Administration Block	Residences for the superintendent and other officials		
1926	Second Phase construction of Langa: Expansion of the Administration Block			
	Hospital			
1927	Official opening of Langa			
1927	North Barracks	Also constructed as dormitories, the North Barracks accommodated 840 single men		
1927/28	Special quarters: Married Quarters	The first married quarters were constructed as two-roomed houses without verandahs. 300 houses were constructed, but by 1930 only 16 of these were occupied.		
1932-1934	Married Quarters	Third or Fourth Development extended the residential area from Mendi Street to Jungle Walk. Later known as Bongweni, this development included 48 two-roomed houses and 16 three roomed houses.		
1934	Sports ground	Constructed in 1934 as a poverty relief project for unemployed residents. Two staff cottages were also built for white officials.		
1936	Naming of streets	Historic streets named after various historic figures associated with South African history as well as prominent African-American iconic figures		e.g. Washington Street named after Brooker T Washington a well-known freed-slave born in 1856 in Virginia USA. Ironically he was a proponent of

Period	Role	Description	Nature of significance	Material evidence Physical/Documentary
				separate development.
1935-1940	Increased migration into the City	Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Developments. Development of an additional 60 (two, three and four roomed) housing units between Washington and Jungle Walk, opposite Langa High School (Bulawayo).		Census records show a marked increase of (Black) people moving into the City for work: 1939 – 11 500 1945 – 38 000 1955 – 65 000 Most of these people were living in informal settlements In 1941 there were 7 436 people living in Langa
1940/1		An additional 204 three roomed houses built (Bubana)		
1939-1945	Second World War			
1944	Resistance	Rise of political parties, especially in Langa – giving voice to grievances locally as well as nationally. Also coinciding with memorialisation celebrations centering around specific groupings e.g. Mfengu, Ama-Xhosa	Anti Pass Resistance with door to door campaigns and a mass meeting	
1945	Anti Resistance	Native (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act, Act 25 of 1945 Continued resistance to Pass laws	5 000 people marched to parliament in June 1945, later in the year again met in Langa	
1944-1948	Old Flats	8 four storey blocks with communal ablution blocks, lavatories and kitchens on each floor. Bedrooms to be shared by two men. Each block provided accommodation for 1296 men.		
1944-1957	The Zones	Constructed as a series of small row hostels arranged in a geometric pattern reminiscent of chevron patterning visible on the stone walling of Great Zimbabwe		
1948	Nationalist party comes into power			
1950s	Increasing number of legislation passed to control movement of people and skills	Native Building Workers Act, Act no 27 of 1951 Native Laws Amendment Act, Act no 54 of 1952 Coloured Labour Preference Policy	Restriction of urban residential rights for Black capetownians. Restriction of skilled labour and	

Period	Role	Description	Nature of significance	Material evidence Physical/Documentary
			opportunities for new workers to learn artisanal skills.	
1960	Anti-Pass Law demonstrations Demonstrations at Sharpeville, Vereeniging, Vanderbijlpark as well as at Langa.	Anti-Pass march from Langa to Caledon Square of 21 March 1960; Langa march of 30 March 1960 Demonstrators met at the Anglican Church and at the New Flats (now Old Flats). Rioting broke out in the evening and spread to vanguard Drive and into the settlement. Admin buildings, churches and the Dining Hall were targeted.	Lead to the banning of the ANC and PAC on 30 March 1960	Memorial to Robert Sobukwe at traffic circle on Washington Drive – marking the start of the Anti-Pass Law march in Langa. Robert Sobukwe was leader of the PAC
		Women and children moving into the hostels – contribute to an attempt to recreate family structures	Slow changes in the nature of the township	
1970s	New Flats	Built of the site of the Old Reception Dept barracks. These flats have partly already been converted to family units, and the remainder are in the process of being converted. HWC permission granted in 2013 for the conversion/redevelopment.	Also addition of a number of shopping centres and new schools	
1976		Anti-Apartheid demonstrations – burning down of the Beer Hall and library		
1986	Abolition of influx control	The Abolition of influx control Act of 1986 was passed		
2003/2004	Community driven interest in heritage conservation is actively encouraged by the NHRA as well as the Constitution of SA	Langa Heritage Foundation, representing the community of Langa as well as a growing heritage tourism interest, approached SAHRA with regards to the conservation of the cultural heritage of Langa	Representative of oppressive political regime Has special meaning to the community Significant in the struggle for political freedom and representation	Nomination to declare Langa a Grade 1 heritage site





WORKING DOCUMENT