



District Six Sculpture Festival Heritage Day 24 September

Introduction

For fifteen years, tracts of land in **District Six** have stood empty in response to a community's anguish. Until the recent process towards restitution, there has been a strong reluctance to disturb the silent witness of this political landscape. Now, in a remarkable instance of collaboration amongst communities, organisations and artists, the **District Six Sculpture Festival** will revitalise this space to re-mark it as a heritage site and to herald the return of community life to District Six.

Opening

The sculpture exhibition and festival open on **Heritage Day**, 24 September 1997, with a celebratory procession from the Grand Parade to the festival site in District Six, led by the Alabama Malay Choir. You are invited to join the carnival troops, choirs, drum-majorettes, sports groups, artists, civic groups and ex-residents in this procession.

At the festival site the free musical feast will continue with artists such as The Sunshine Singers, The Princess Square Singers, Zayn Adam, Prophets of da City, Brasse van die Kaap, Four Feet Deep, The Honeymoon Suites, Black Noise and Positive Black Soul (Senegal). There will also be free jazz and dance hall music performed by well-known local musicians.

Through out the day there will be entertainment for the children, as well as a marquee with board games and stalls with food and refreshments. There will also be performance art and dance pieces as well as informal tours to the sculpture sites where the artists will talk about their work.

You are invited to the opening of the

District Six Sculpture Festival

Heritage Day 24 September

Programme

- 10h00 Procession gathers at Grand Parade to walk up to the festival site in District Six (between the Eastern Boulevard & Keizersgracht Street near Holy Cross Hall)
- 11h00 Activities commence at the festival site with Mr Anwah Nagia as master of ceremonies
- 14h30 Opening address by Dr Elaine Clark and Dr Neville Alexander

Key to Map

Sculpture cluster sites

- 1 Cluster 1
- 2 Cluster 2
- 3 Cluster 3

Site specific works

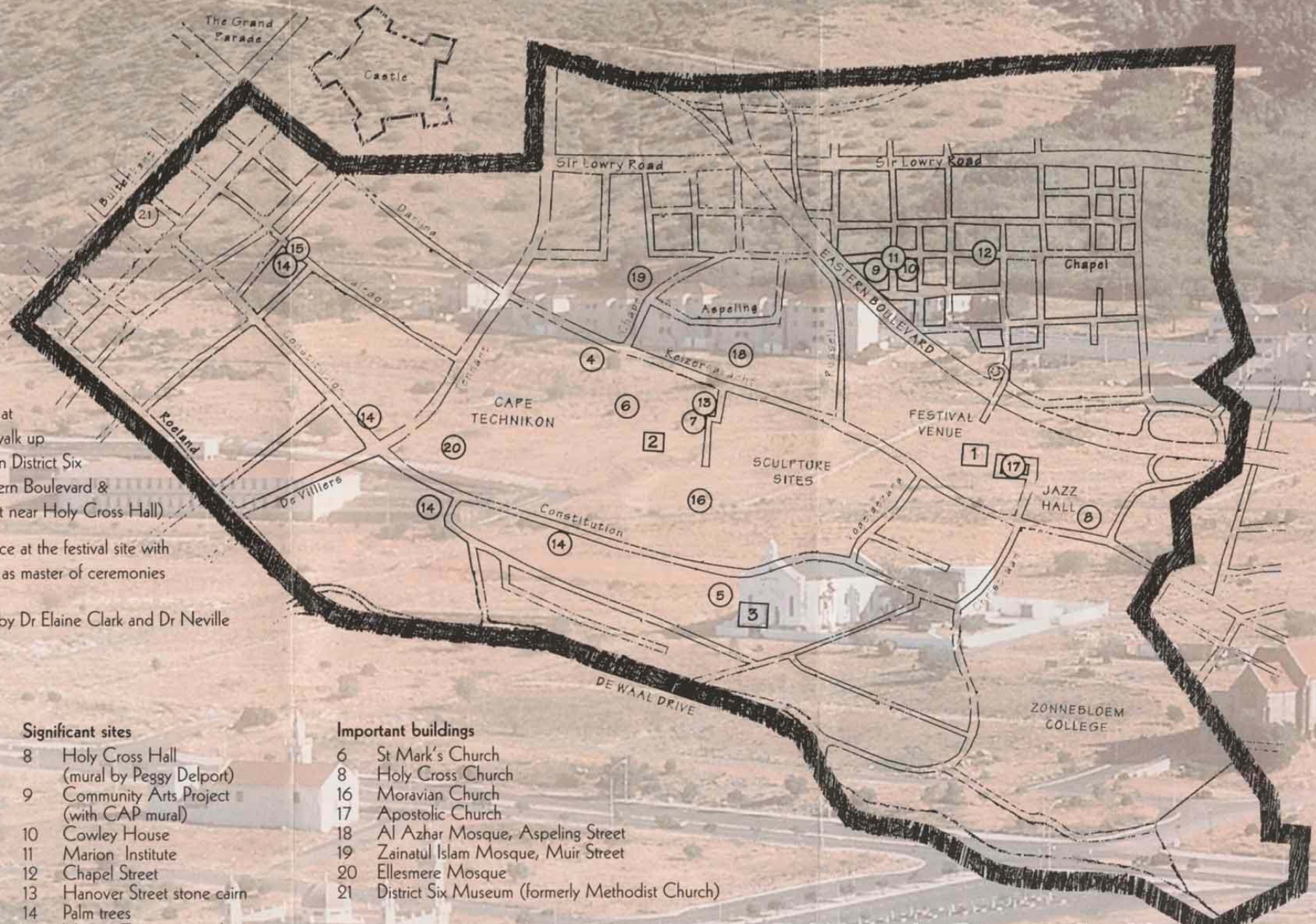
- 4 Seven Steps
- 5 Horstley Street
- 6 St Mark's Church
- 7 Hanover Street

Significant sites

- 8 Holy Cross Hall (mural by Peggy Delpont)
- 9 Community Arts Project (with CAP mural)
- 10 Cowley House
- 11 Marion Institute
- 12 Chapel Street
- 13 Hanover Street stone cairn
- 14 Palm trees
- 15 Vernon Terrace original site

Important buildings

- 6 St Mark's Church
- 8 Holy Cross Church
- 16 Moravian Church
- 17 Apostolic Church
- 18 Al Azhar Mosque, Aspeling Street
- 19 Zainatul Islam Mosque, Muir Street
- 20 Ellesmere Mosque
- 21 District Six Museum (formerly Methodist Church)



© Copyright District Six Museum

Reproduction by Scan Shop
Printing Sponsored by Creda Tel. (021) 54 7321

Sculpture

Where does your mind take you when you think of public sculpture? A uniformed man on a horse, a monument on a hill, or the scar of District Six at the foot of Table Mountain?

The **Sculpture Festival** in District Six has offered artists an opportunity to challenge the nature of public art. The artists have worked collectively, motivated by their own passions and convictions, with a shared commitment to the project. More than fifty artists – led by Kevin Brand, who was himself born in District Six – have enthusiastically sought materials and equipment, pooled ideas and, inspired by stories told by ex-residents, worked together to create a sculptural landscape in District Six. Such collaboration has, however, not hampered individual innovation, as the expression of diverse view points has been encouraged by means of public meetings and open discussions. In the process, the project has challenged the élitism and inflated costs often characteristic of large public commissions.

The sculptures vary in concept, scale and material. These works are not intended to last beyond the duration of the exhibition and some, in fact, may need to be bulldozed during the **redevelopment** of District Six.

This reworking of the land will mingle the historical processes of destruction and restitution with the creativity of the artists, the stories of the ex-residents and a renewed hope for the future.

Since these sculptures are temporary by nature, the exhibition and festival will be documented by means of video productions, sound recordings, photographs and a catalogue.



© Copyright District Six Museum

Artists

Jeremy Acton, Paul Edmunds, Arlene Amaler-Raviv, Gavin Bacon & Jeff van Reenen, Bridget Baker & Petra Mason, Stefan Blom, Lien Botha & Karen Press, Kevin Brand, Ena Carstens, Belinda Clark, Karl Collinson, Nadja Daehnke, Johann Davids & Garth Erasmus & Victor Peterson, David De Leuw, Barend de Wet & Robert Weinek, Brendhan Dickerson, Gary Frier, Karl Gebhard, Graeme Germond, Paul Grendon, Humzah Goolam, Mel Hagen, Randolph Hartzenberg, William Hewett, Lize Hugo, Nicola Jackson & Dorothee Kreutzfeldt & Andrew Porter, Gabriella Kaplan, Johan Louw & Clare Menck, Lizza Littlewort & Martin Bacchus, Paulette Lamoral, James Mader, Mustafa Maluka & Antonio Coetzee & Craig Cupido & Maxwell Southgate, Craig Masters, Jossi Mendle, Renate Meyer, Brett Murray, Thami Kiti, Jo O' Conner, Sue O'Grady, Olaf & Nicky O'Dea, Bill Parker, Lisa Perold & Dylan Trull, Denise Penfold & Magaret Chetwin & Leon Vermuelen, Peet Pienaar, Sandline, Roderick Sauls, Alvin Schroeder, Bernadette Searle & The Paper Project, John Skotnes, Hofmeyr Scholtz, Gregg Smith, Raymond Smith, Tina Smith, David Solomon, Sue Tatham-van Niekerk, Jos Thorne, Clive van den Berg, Belinda van der Merwe, Strydom van der Merwe, Clementina van der Walt, Jeff van Reenen & Gavin Bacon, Roger van Wyk & Simon Dunkley & Warric Sony, Nicolaas Vergunst, Donovan Ward and Sue Williamson.

Participating Organisations and Sponsors

District Six Museum, District Six Civic Association, District Six Restitution Front, District Six Development Forum, National Monuments Council, South African National Gallery, Cape Town Urban Arts Foundation, Association for the Visual Arts, Agency Afrika, Robben Island Museum, Cape Town City Council, Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, German Consulate, Nampak, Safmarine, PPC Cement, Baltic Timbers and The Ford Foundation.

Land Claims and Restitution

In 1966 the community of District Six was torn apart by an autocratic and racist decree which ordered the removal of people from the land. The following 31 years were marked by a struggle for restitution. Until recently, the future of the land was still being negotiated by establishment bodies. In August 1997, at a public hearing held in the District Six Museum, the Land Commission placed the fate of District Six in the hands of a steering committee – the District Six Beneficiary Trust – consisting of ex-residents only. The sculpture festival marks this milestone: finally District Sixers determine the future of District Six.

All ex-residents, both landowners and tenants, have until **April 1998** to submit their claims to the Land Commission (73 Strand Street) for consideration.