

PARKS, RECREATION GROUNDS AND SWIMMING POOLS



A LONG the cluttered streets and round the dreadful latrines at the Orlando Shelters, the smell is loathsome, even when these have been newly cleared. The urine fills the open holes, seeps into the streets, and the soiled water runs down this mutilated and disfigured valley into cess-pools where children play, and where the clothes of Europeans are taken to be washed.

And these appalling conditions exist in a township of which we the citizens of Johannesburg are really the landlords !



WHILE thousands ask in vain for homes, while the people of Moroka still await their promised houses, and while the appalling conditions of the Breeze Block shelters remain, the authorities talk of demolishing structures such as this in the freehold townships of Sophiatown, Martindale and Newclare.

The Western Areas



Note the tarred road, reticulated electricity, and water-borne sewerage, with a piped water supply over sanitary gulleys.

THERE are, of course, also thousands of slum dwellings in these Western Areas that must be removed—such as these . . .



And these . . .



14,000 FAMILIES IN WESTERN AREAS ALONE REQUIRE REHOUSING

TO rehouse the lodgers and tenant families in the slum dwellings of Sophiatown, Martindale and Newclare would require 14,000 houses.

There are, however, many brick buildings that can provide good accommodation for many years to come. Examples can be seen behind the corrugated iron shacks in the pictures on the left.

The uncertainty in the future of these townships has caused most owners to allow their properties to deteriorate, and to erect the meanest and cheapest structures, in defiance of the bye-laws.

An assured future, on the other hand, would encourage repairs, and the erection of better type buildings.



These houses in Sophiatown show what this township could look like if properly run and occupied by better-off Natives.

THE NEED FOR MORE AND BETTER HOUSES IS CLEAR AND URGENT!

THIS is only a short tour of the Non-European Townships, but it is enough to indicate the seriousness of the problem that has to be tackled. For it is in these painful and tormented conditions that—to use a favourite phrase—“primitive tribal people” become “integrated” into the economy of our modern rapidly-growing industrial city.

The urgent need for thousands more houses is obvious.

Estimate of Houses required :

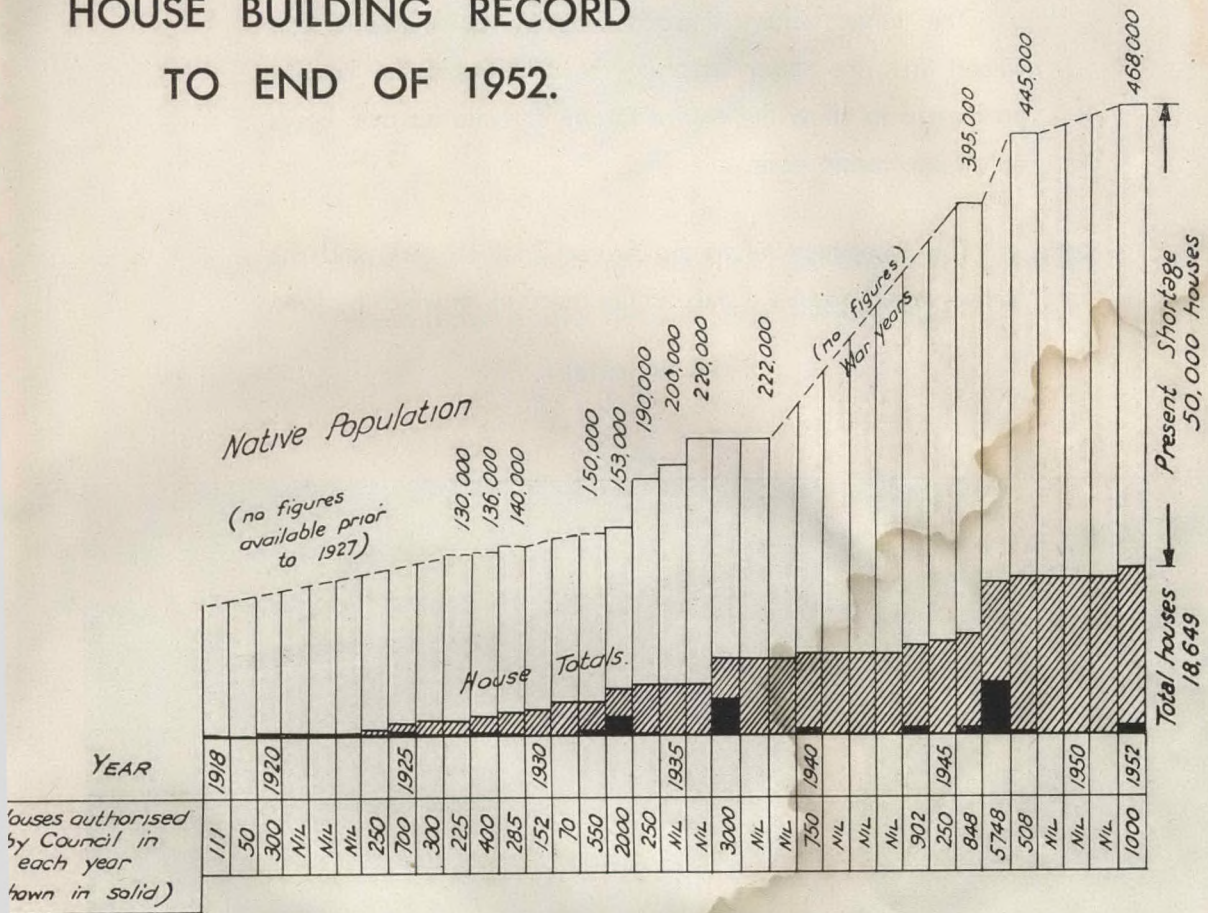
for the people of Moroka	11,000
for the people of the Breeze Block Shelters	6,800
for the slum dwellers of the Western areas	14,000
for families at present sharing houses in other Native Townships	6,500
for those in the Pimville tanks, etc.	5,000
for Native slum dwellers in Vrededorp	1,000
for people at present living in backyards in European Townships	6,000

THE TOTAL PRESENT REQUIREMENTS ARE THUS

50,000 HOUSES

Let us now see how Johannesburg has so far dealt with this problem

JOHANNESBURG'S NATIVE HOUSE BUILDING RECORD TO END OF 1952.



Graph of increasing Native population compared with progressive total number of houses.

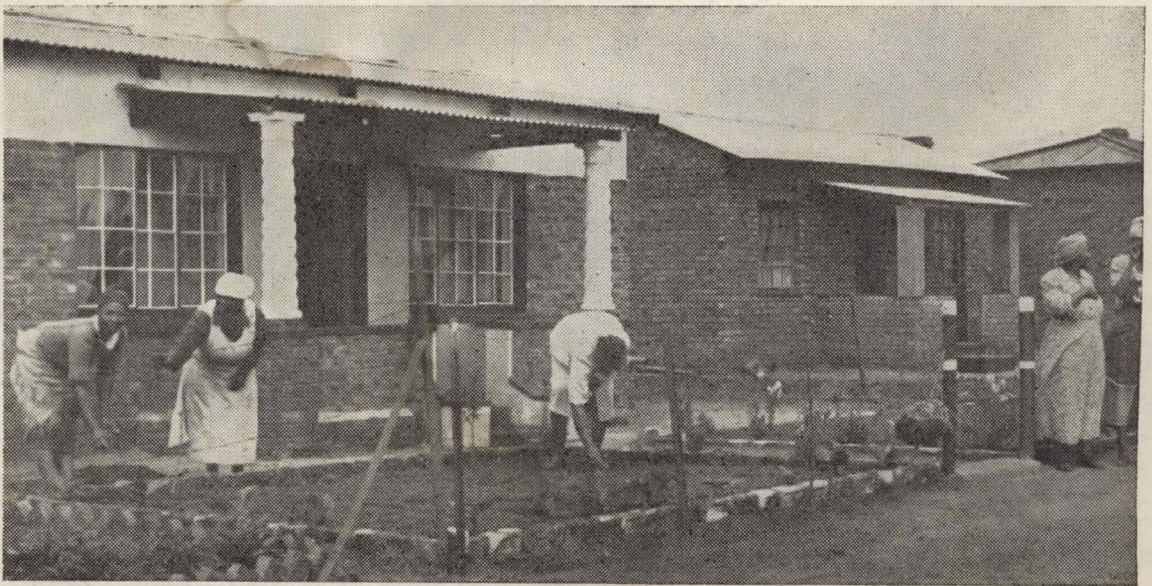
Solid black represents number of houses authorised by the City Council in each particular year.

One Solution — Home Ownership

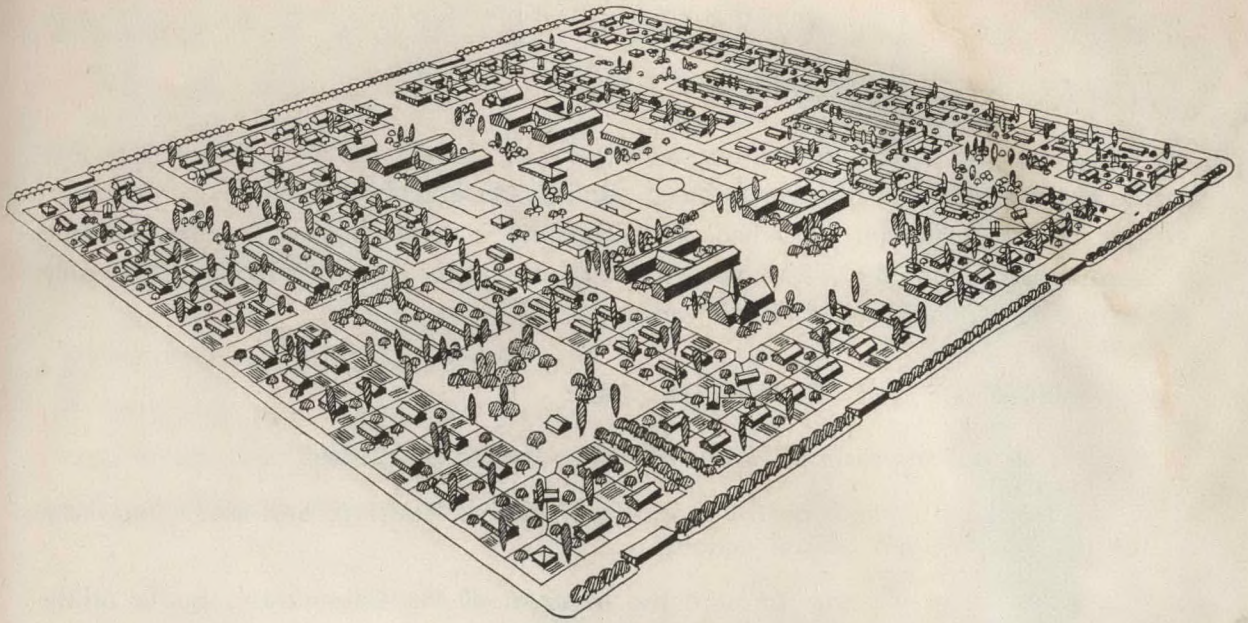
JOHANNESBURG has in the past always built Native houses on a **sub-economic** basis.

The Johannesburg Citizens' Housing Committee is convinced that one major factor in the solution of the housing problem is to allow the Native to buy or build his own house on an **economic** basis.

The Ratepayer suffers no further financial loss, and the Native would acquire a stake in the township in which he lives.



Home-ownership houses at Natalspruit, Germiston, showing what the Native can and will do when given the opportunity.



AERIAL VIEW OF A MODEL NATIVE DORMITORY SUBURB
containing single houses, row houses and
blocks of flats.

THERE is no better remedy for discontent, unrest, rioting and crime than for the Native to have a personal interest in the township in which he lives.

Townships should be properly planned with all modern social facilities for recreation, education, religion, sport, health and medical services.

The Native should be encouraged to own his own home and also to participate effectively in the management of the township in which he lives.

The Johannesburg Citizens' Housing Committee advocates strongly this viewpoint

THE JOHANNESBURG CITIZEN'S NATIVE HOUSING COMMITTEE

came into being as a result of a strong feeling among certain public minded citizens that insufficient attention and energy was being applied to the problem of building houses for Natives by the Authorities concerned. The Committee is convinced that the present unrest and lawlessness among the Native peoples would be largely eliminated by the provision of decent homes for the urbanised Native worker.

THE OBJECTS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE :

- . . . to put the facts of Native Housing before the public;
- . . . to keep a watch on the progress of Native Housing, and when necessary to stimulate official action;
- . . . to assist Natives, through the medium of the Committee's public utility company, to build their own homes;
- . . . to act as an agency to assist Natives in obtaining building loans from the City Council or the National Housing and Planning Commission; and
- . . . to take action, whether by holding meetings, distributing information, or entering the practical building field, to forward the cause of Native Housing.

The Committee invites the public to join its membership, and assist in its ventures. There is no compulsory subscription, but contributions are invited for the following purposes :

- (a) to build up a substantial fund to help Natives with the cash instalment on their houses;
- (b) to cover the costs of this publication, and to enable the Committee to continue its fight for Native Housing.

The members of the Committee's Executive are as follows: The Right Reverend Ambrose Reeves, Rabbi M. C. Weiler, Dr. Ellen Hellman, Prof. L. J. du Plessis, Dr. Winnifred Hoernle, Dr. Ray Phillips, Adv. H. F. B. Vieyra, A. A. Menkin, A. D. McPhail, Mrs. M. Preller, J. P. Cope, A. J. Cutten, R. N. Harvey, J. G. Paterson, J. Lewsen.



For further information, contact the Secretaries :

JOHANNESBURG CITIZENS' NATIVE HOUSING COMMITTEE,

3rd Floor, Cuthbert's Wholesale Building, Smal Street,

P.O. Box 8581

Telephone 22-4707

JOHANNESBURG.

What is his future?

You can influence the choice to be offered him.

IF he grows up in a shantytown, he will certainly acquire a permanent grudge against life. He becomes a wastrel, a "Tsotsi" or even a criminal.

If brought up in a decent house in the environment of a proper township, he can become a useful and active member of the community and an asset to South Africa.

DEMAND DECENT
HOUSING FOR THE
NATIVE . . .



What YOU can do

to help those who are fighting for Social Justice in the form of decent Housing for people . . .

- . . . Acquaint yourself thoroughly with the conditions under which the Natives live—get your own information by questioning your servants or employees.
- . . . Help the Committee's propaganda task by spreading this information.
- . . . Notify your City Councillor either personally or through the recognised organisations, of your resolution that immediate action be taken to change the situation shown in these pictures. Thereafter, call for frequent reports as to how the matter is progressing.
- . . . Join the Citizen's Housing Committee and assist in its work.
- . . . Send in your donation to the Committee either
 - (a) to assist Natives with housing loans, or
 - (b) as a contribution towards the Committee's publications expenses.

●
Finally—

RE-READ THE BISHOP'S FOREWORD

and then . . .

ACT IMMEDIATELY!

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Acknowledgments

The generous assistance of the following concerns helped to make this pamphlet possible.

We gratefully acknowledge our indebtedness to them.

Messrs. Bruce International Advertising Limited—
for the cover design.



Messrs. Denis Garthorne and Co. (Pty.) Ltd.
Messrs. L'Atelier (Pty.) Ltd.
The Rand Daily Mail,
The Star —
for the photography.



Messrs. Haylett-Gibbs (Pty.) Ltd. —
for the block making.



Messrs. Bowater Paper Co. (Pty.) Ltd. —
for the paper.



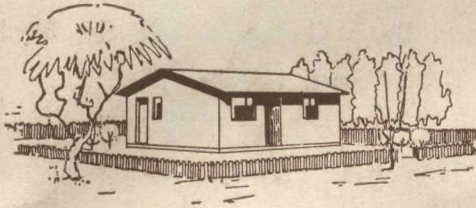
Messrs. Manne and McCann —
for the printing.

What's it to me?

Health
Crime
Land Use
NO representation

Four of Townships

What can I do?



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Collection Number: A3299

Collection Name: Hilda and Rusty BERNSTEIN Papers, 1931-2006

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: **Historical Papers Research Archive**

Collection Funder: **Bernstein family**

Location: **Johannesburg**

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