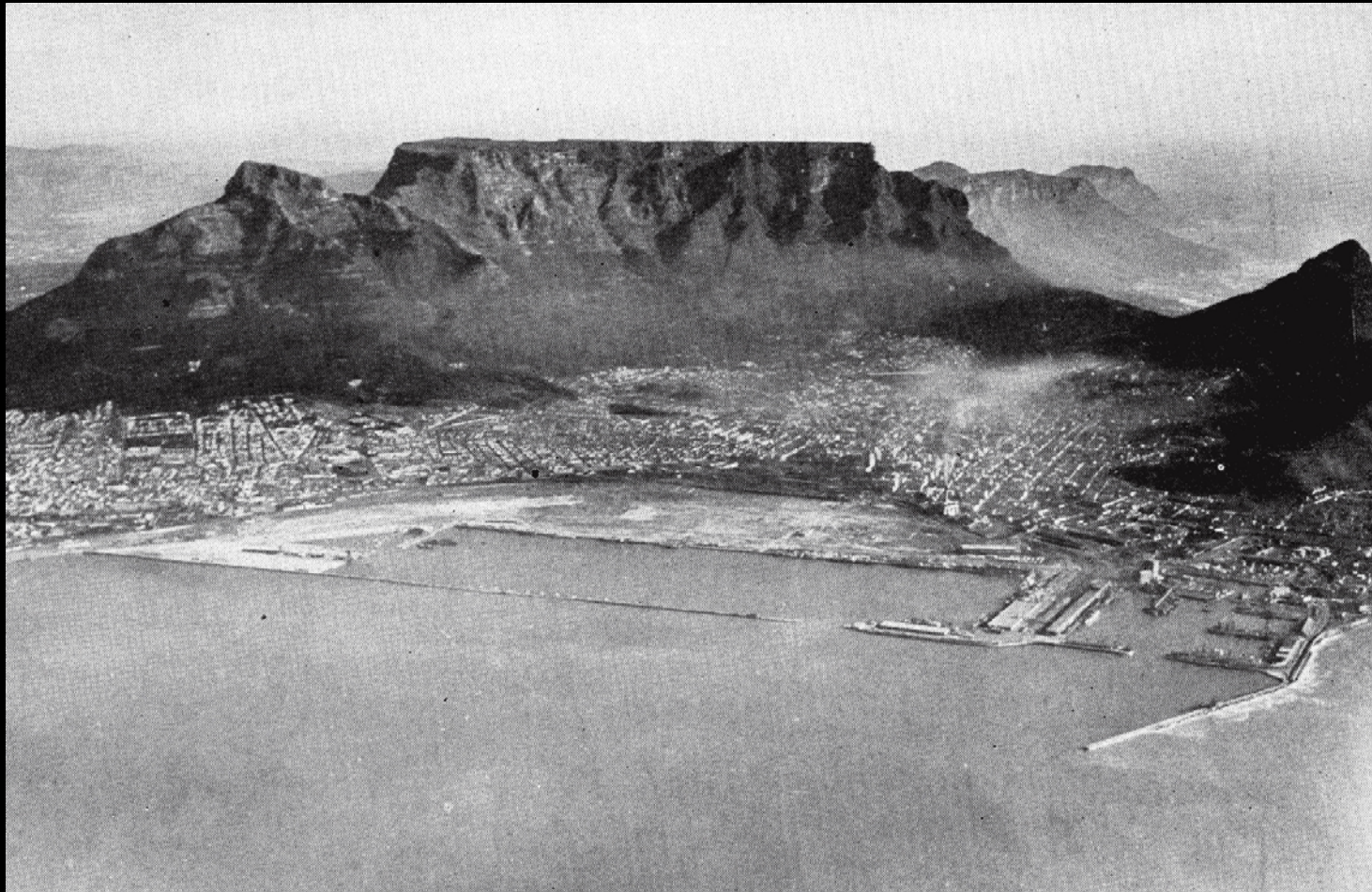


Colonial Modernism in Cape Town

André van Graan



Rethinking Colonial Modernism in Cape Town

Modernism was used as a method of controlling the marginalized:

- People of colour were targeted for removal from the city centre
- Health was used as the means to move people
- Slum clearance through the Slums Act of 1934
- Town planning was used to create new residential areas on the Cape Flats removed from the historical inner city

- Modernism was used as a means of rendering visible
- Modernist principles were adopted by the City Council for both planning and public housing.
- The urban parks for the proletariat in Ernst May's Frankfurt became the horizontal defences of the city
- The proposed reclamation scheme in Table Bay created a tabula rasa for a grand modernist vision of the city
- This vision also envisaged the creation of separate residential areas on the marshy low-lying Cape Flats to the east of the old settlement around Table Mountain.

Modernist housing sites

1. Langa
2. Bloemhof- District 6
3. Schotsche Kloof
4. Q-Town
5. Retreat

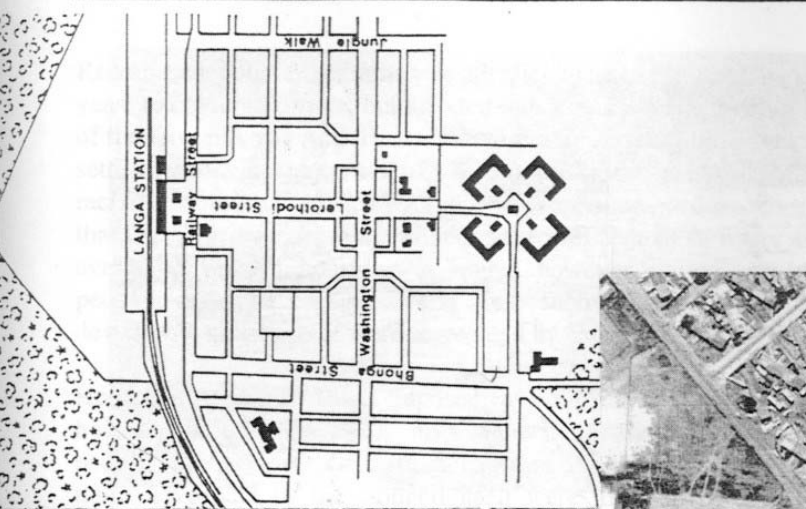


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Plan of the city in 1934 prior to the harbour reclamation scheme

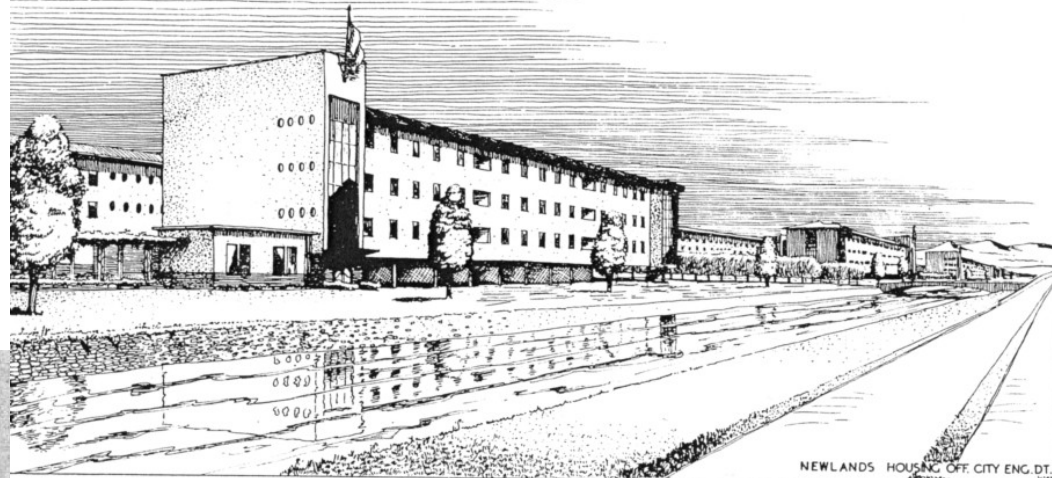
Bo Kaap

District 6

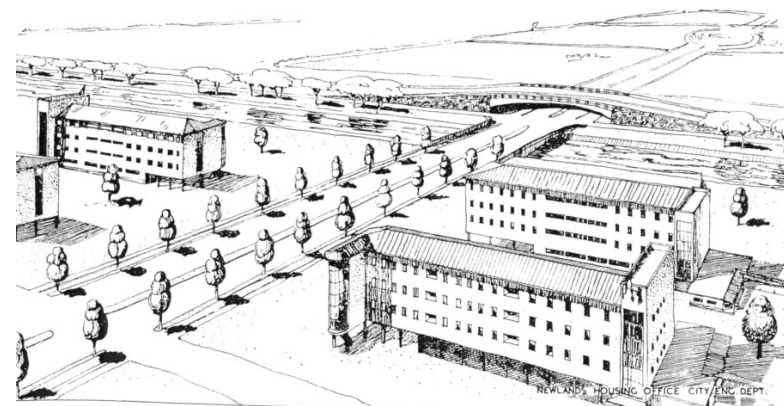


Langa 'Township' founded in 1927- designed on Garden City principles

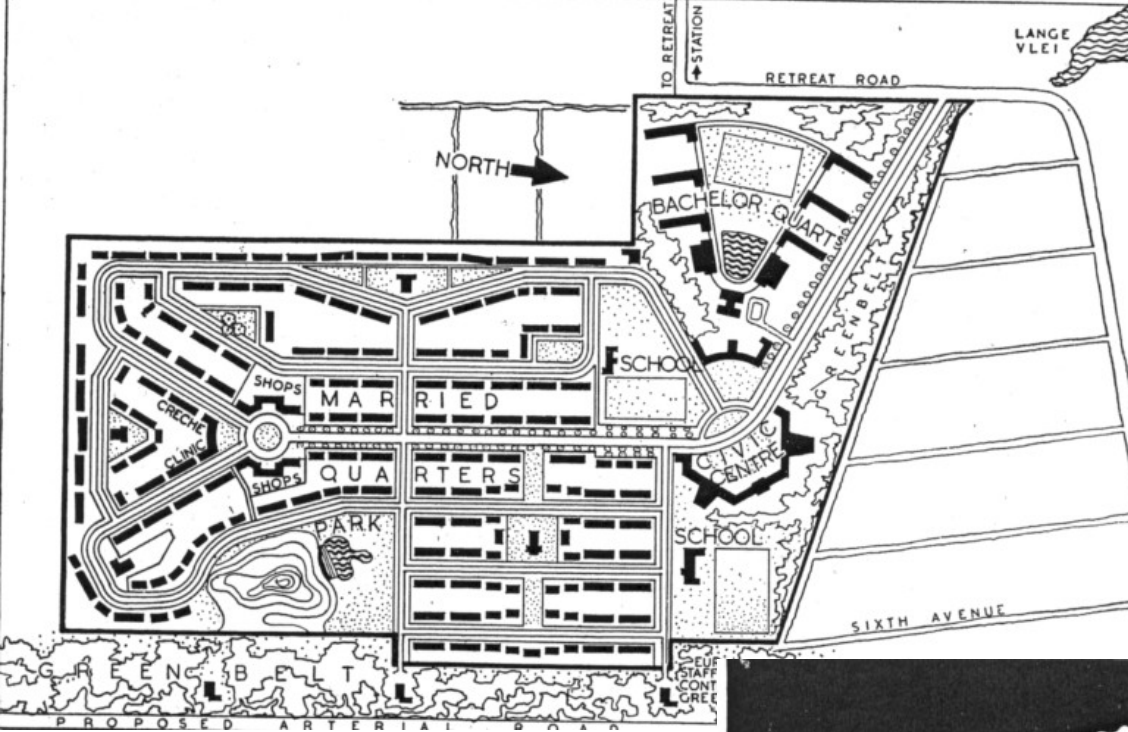
Langa 'Native Township'- 'Bachelor quarters'



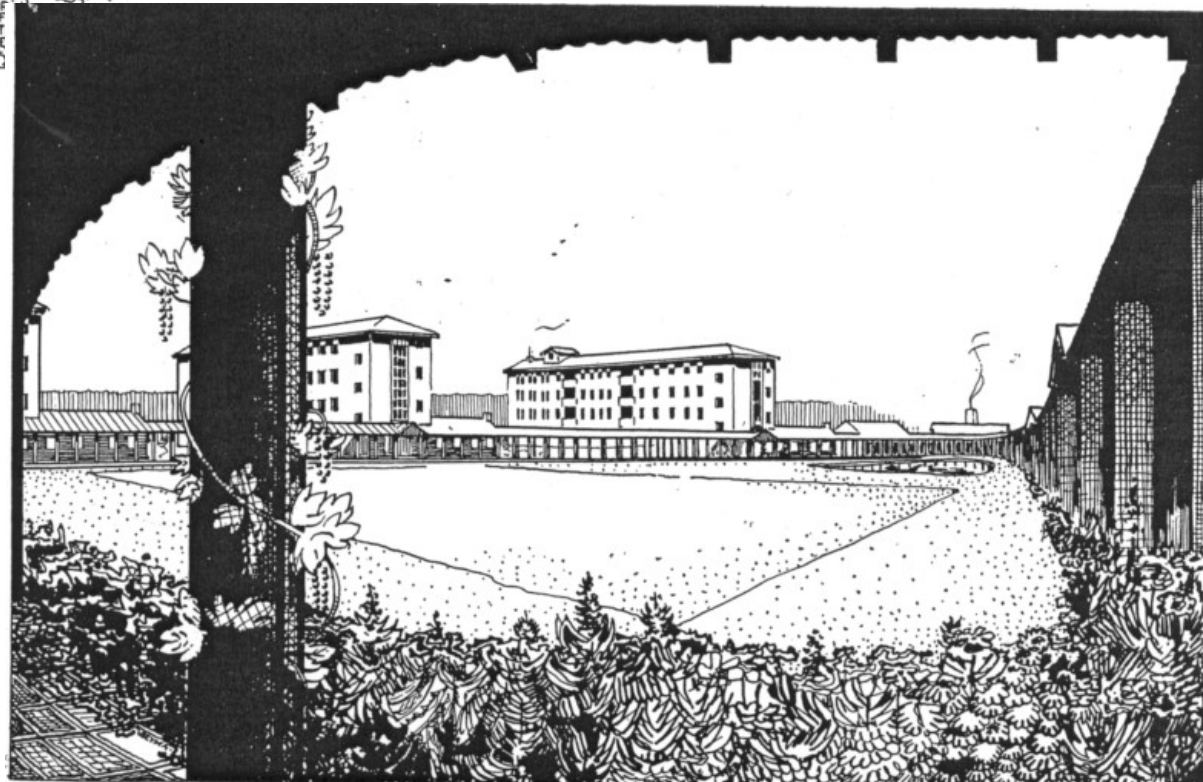
BIRDS-EYE VIEW OF PROPOSED BACHELOR QUARTERS, LANGA.



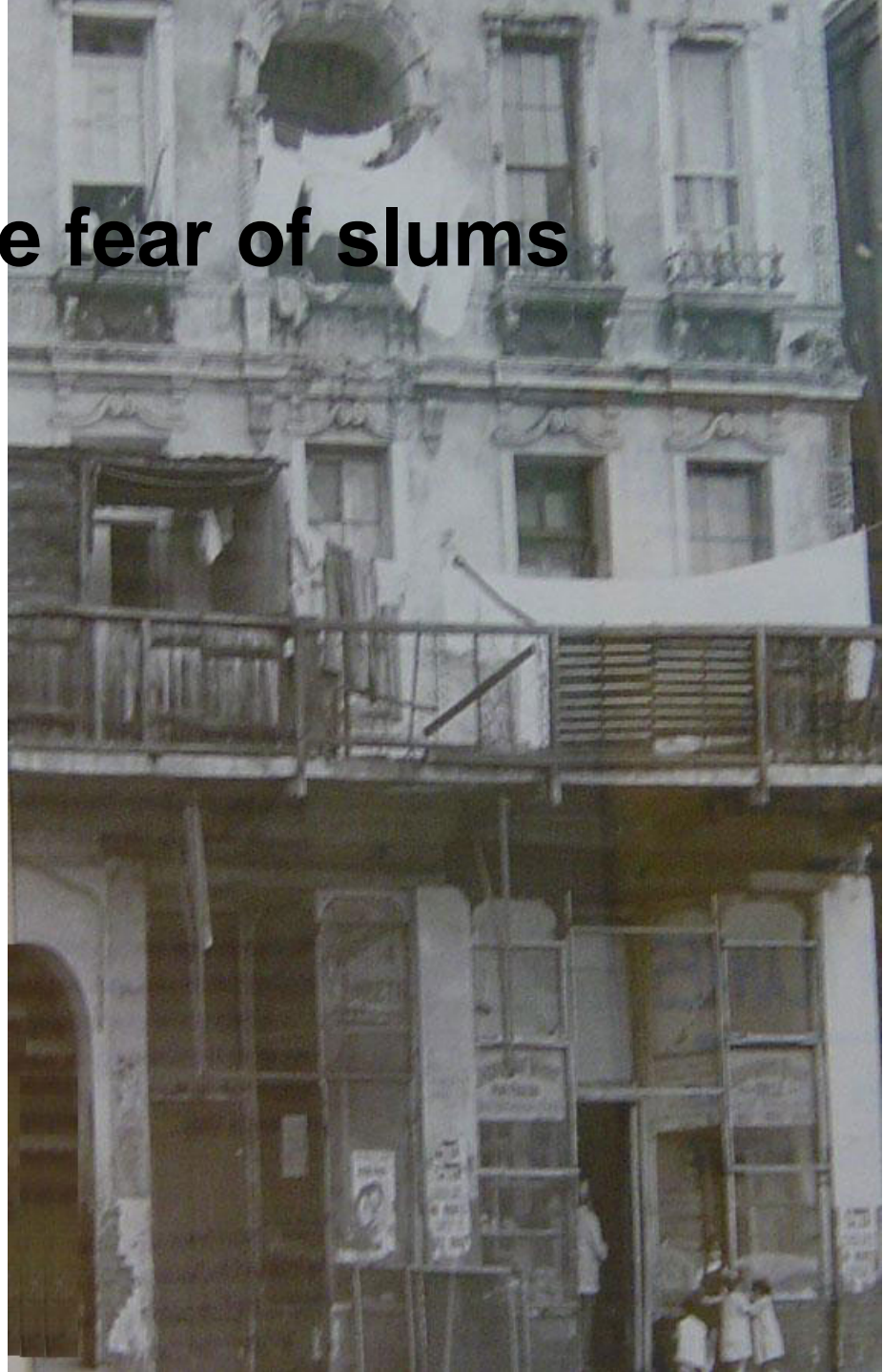
PERSPECTIVE OF BACHELOR QUARTERS, LANGA.



Retreat 'Native'
Housing Scheme



District Six- the fear of slums

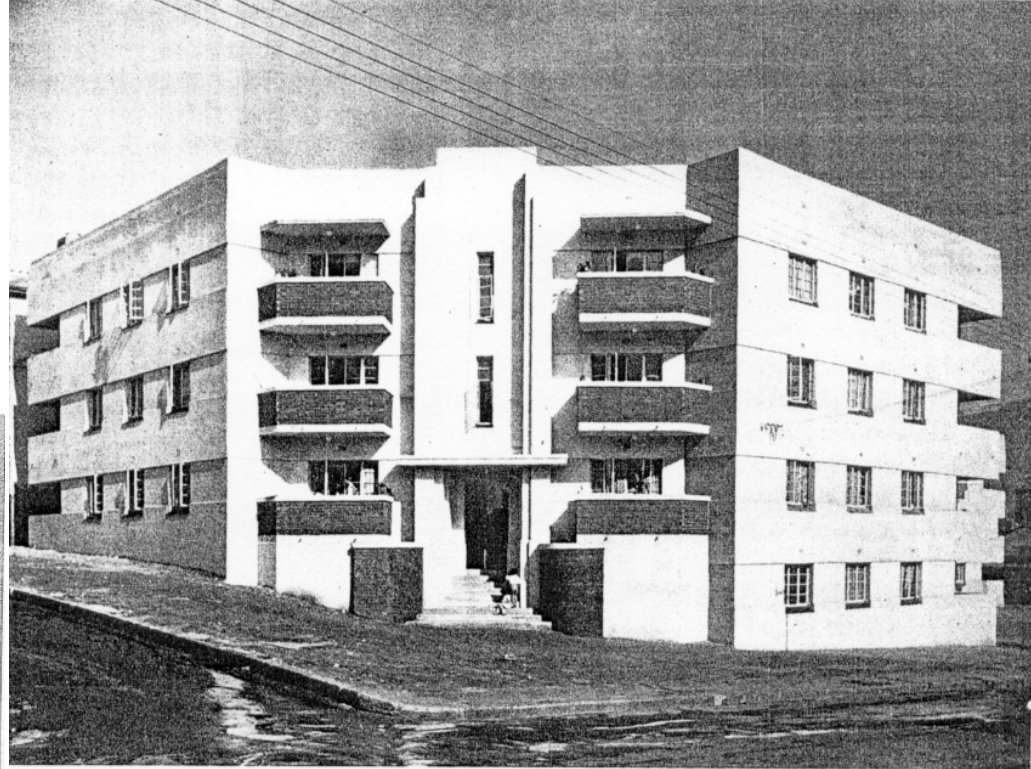
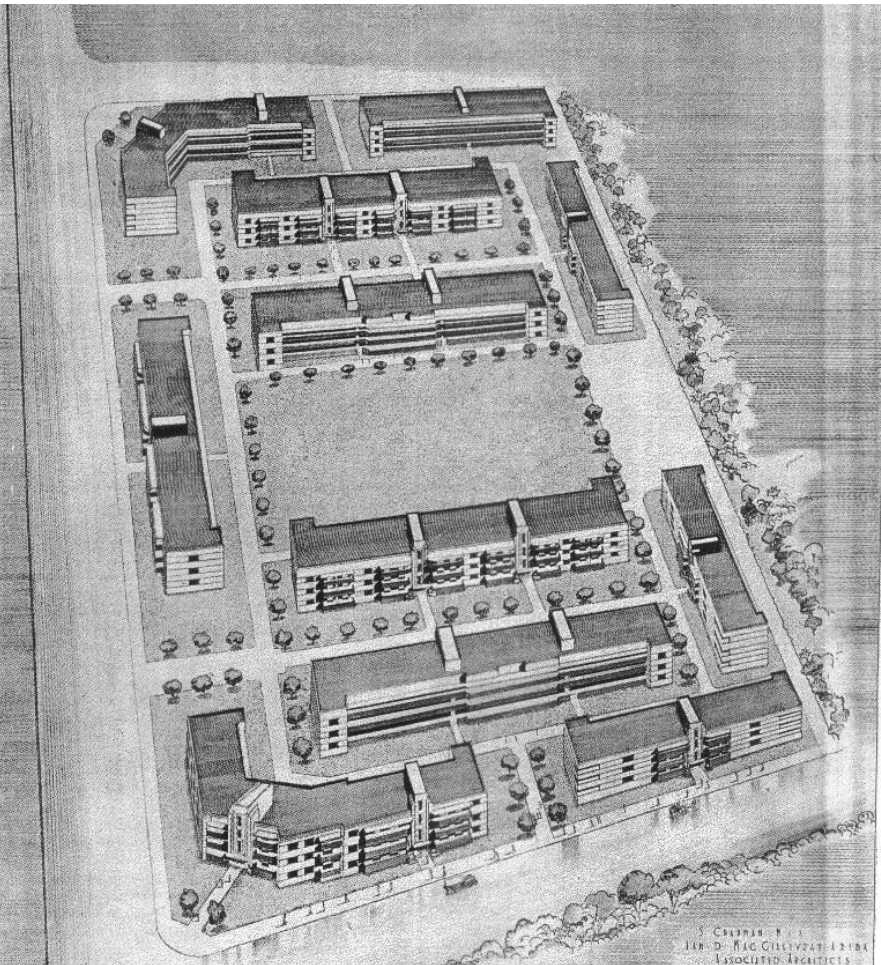


Bloemhof Flats- District Six- 1937

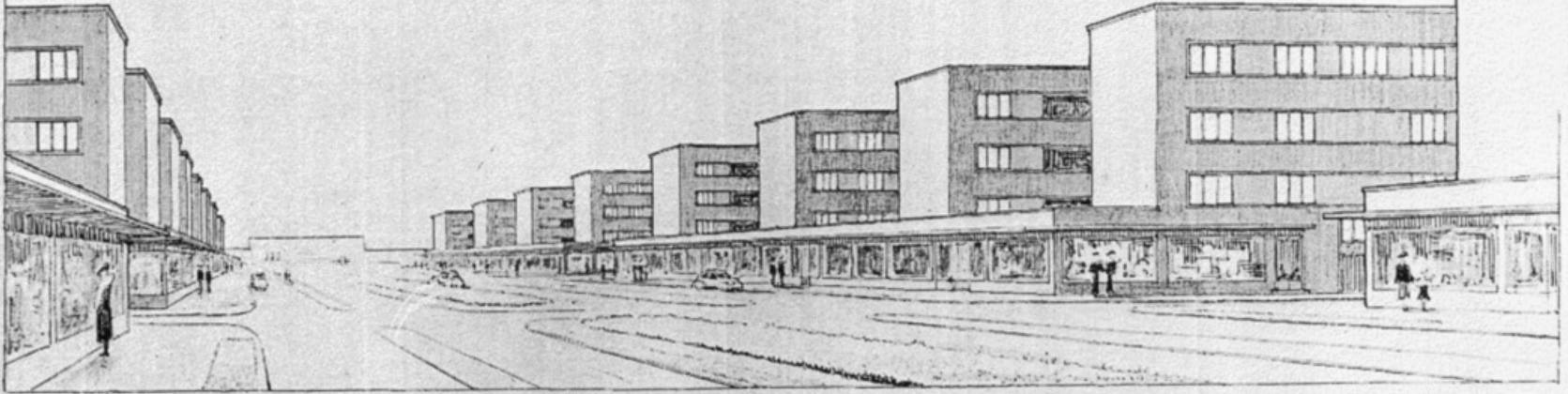


Canterbury- Bloemhof Flats
The built scheme within the context of District 6

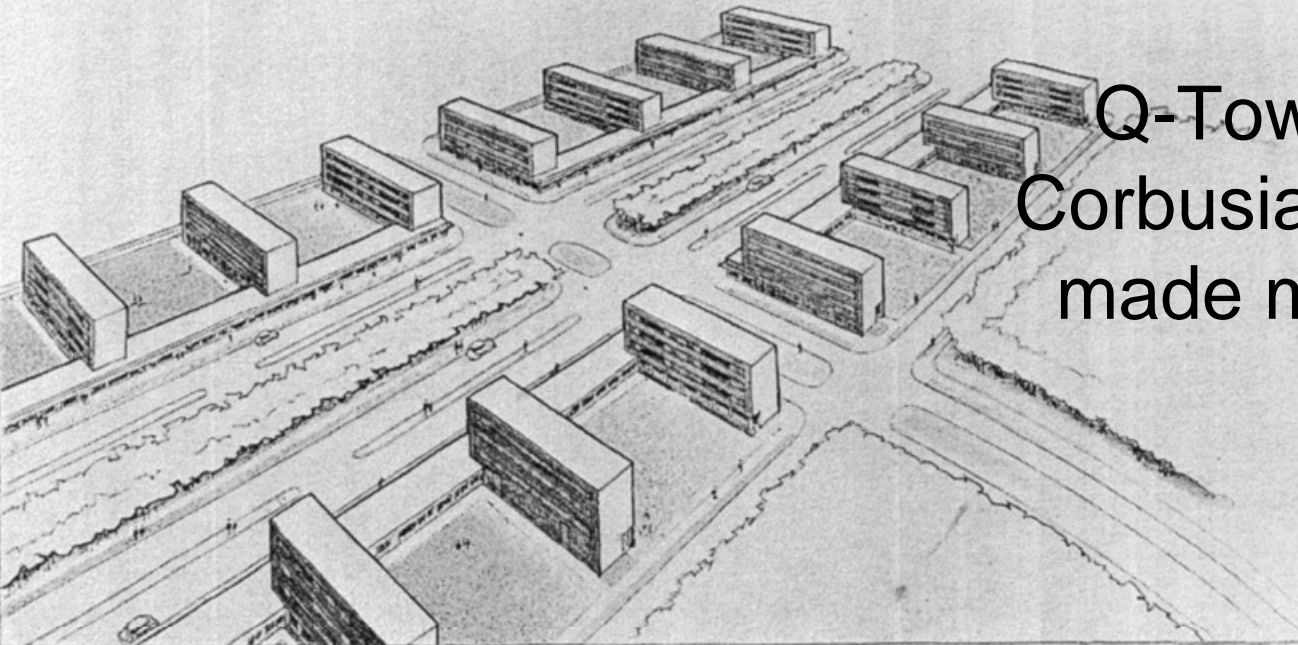
Bloemhof Flats District 6

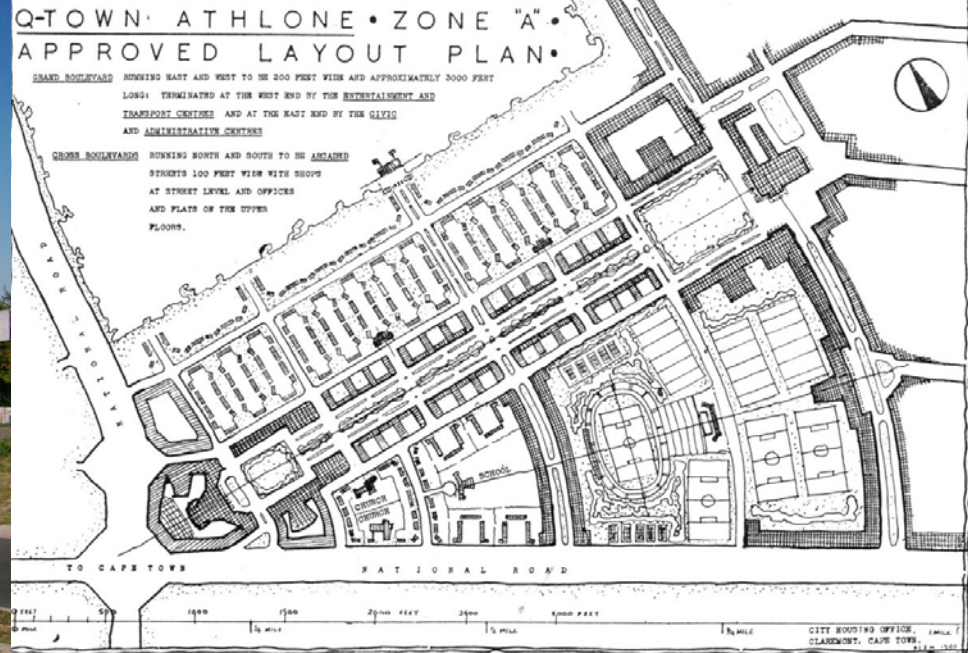


Q-TOWN · ATHLONE · ZONE "A" · MAIN BOULEVARD



Q-Town- the
Corbusian dream
made manifest





Q-Town layout & Residential blocks





Q-TOWN ATHLONE · ZONE 'A' · CROSS BOULEVARD



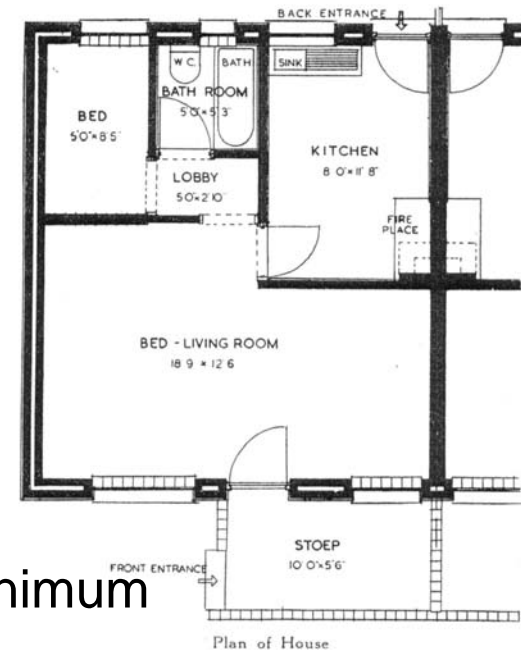
**Schotsche Kloof
Flat Scheme
Bo Kaap**
Plan indicates the portion of
the scheme that was built



Schotsche Kloof Housing



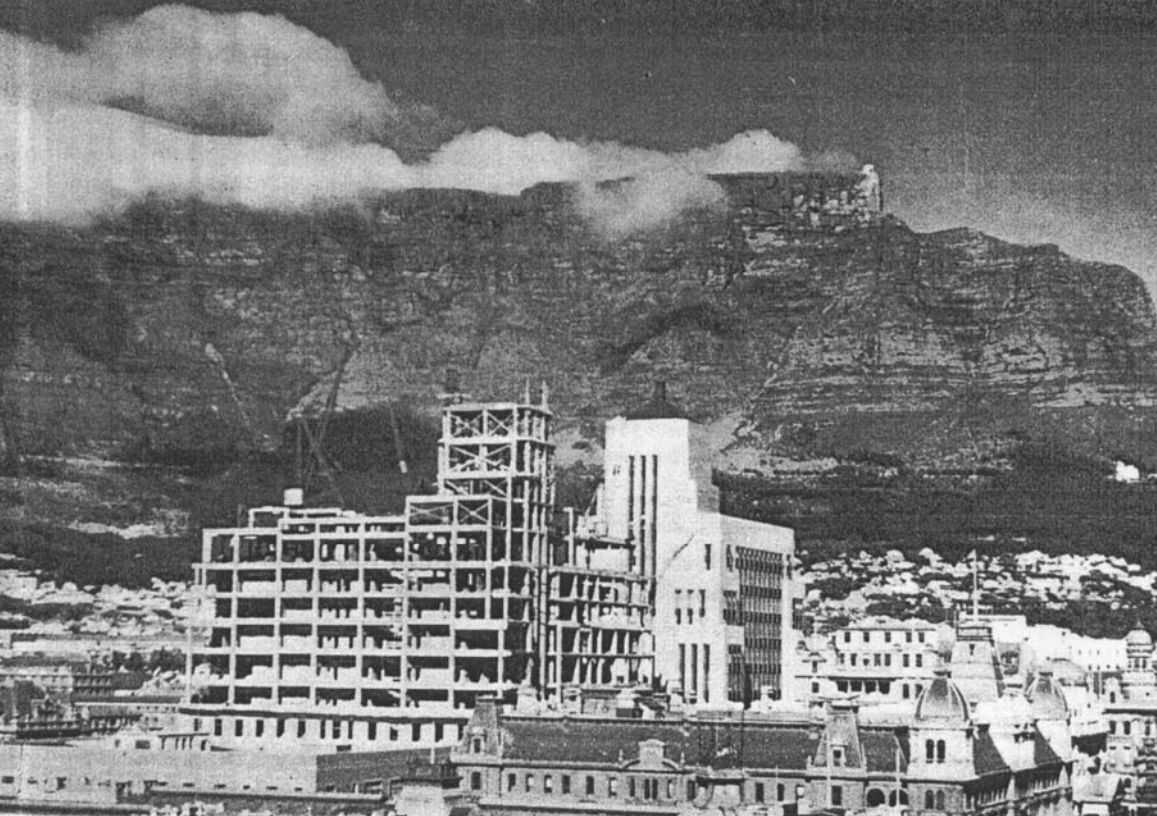
CAPE TOWN HOUSING SCHEME



The existenzminimum

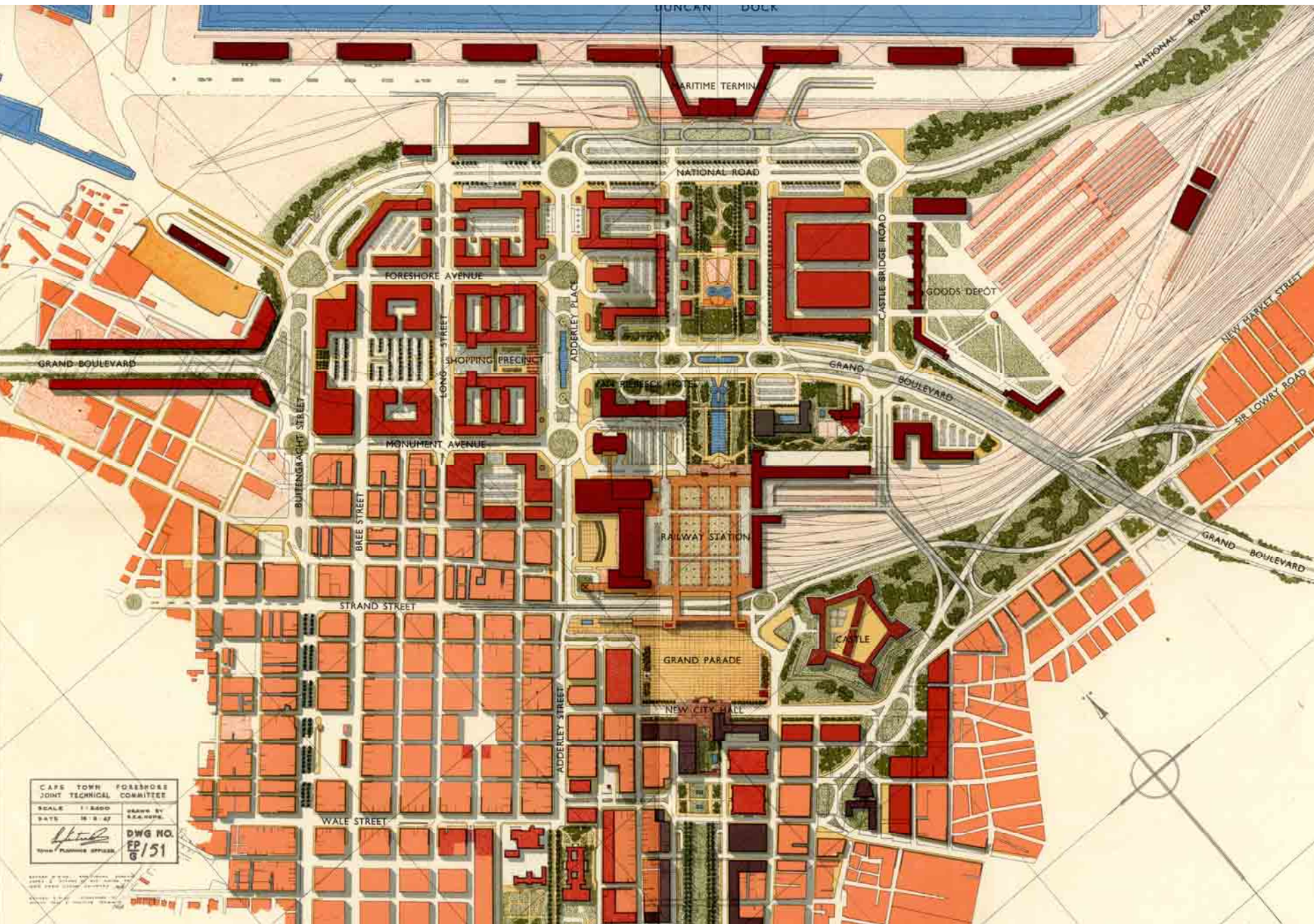






Cape Town in 1940

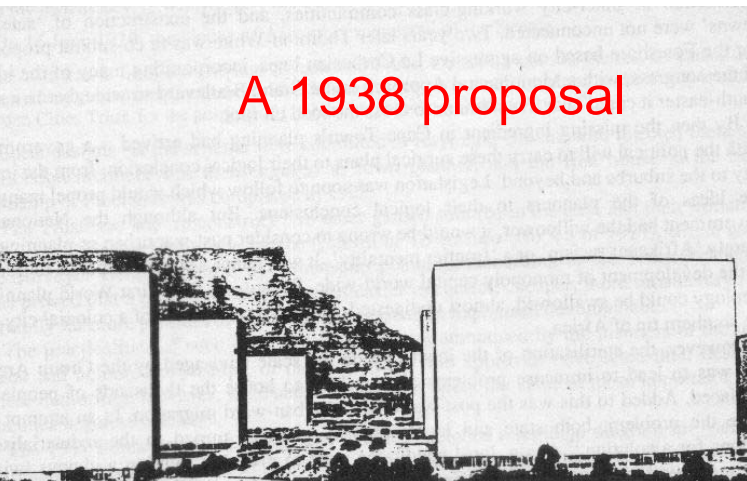
The Foreshore plan of 1947



Creating a new modern city



A 1938 proposal



The modernist dream realised...

