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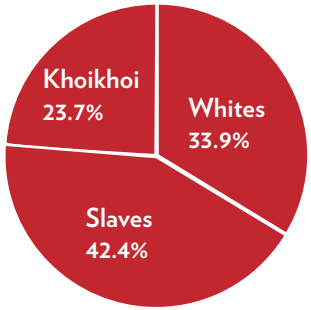
Ashley Mendelsohn Fall 2013 **District Six, Cape Town, SA** DES3332: Critical Conservation: Culture Wars, Context & Conflict

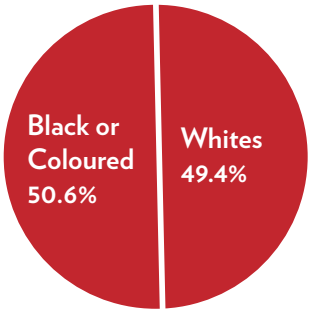
1660 Dutch Colonization

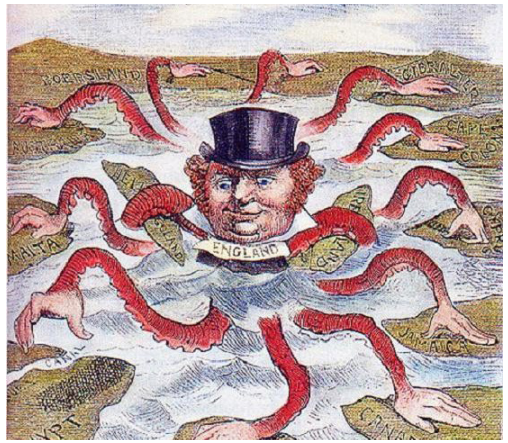
1700



1794 British Colonization

1800





1900

1910 Union of South Africa Created, British controlled

1948 National Party, apartheid regime comes to power

1960 South Africa becomes a republic

1994 Democracy in South Africa

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Dutch Dominant hegemony, 'authentic' inhabitants of the land. Anglo-Boer Memorials: the Dutch colonizers depicted as colonized This identity ultimately resulted in the apartheid regime.

1700

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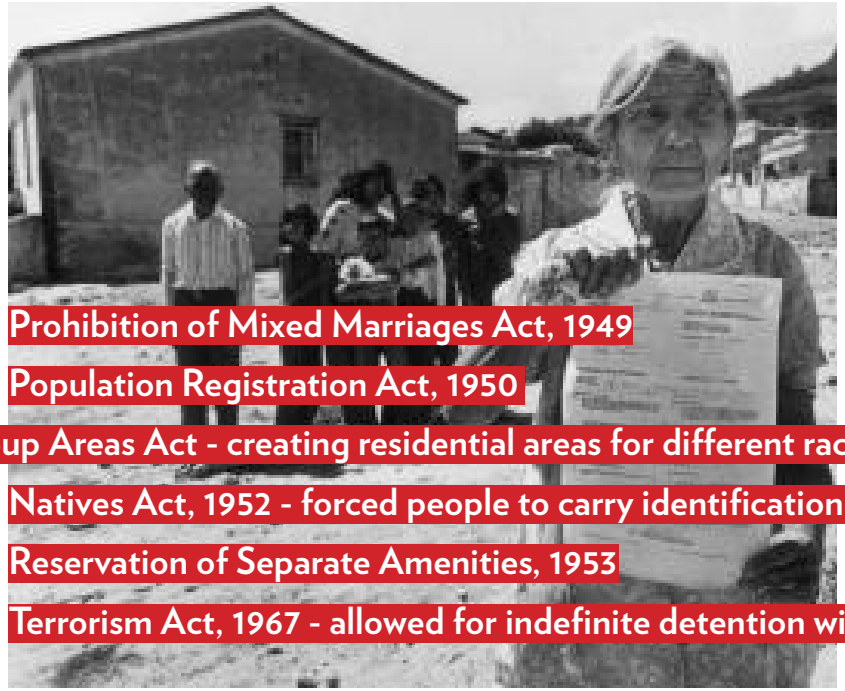

1900

Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act, 1949

- Population Registration Act, 1950

1950 Group Areas Act - creating residential areas for different races

- Natives Act, 1952 - forced people to carry identification at all times

Reservation of Separate Amenities, 1953

- Terrorism Act, 1967 - allowed for indefinite detention without trial

2000

The Apartheid regime implemented massive social engineering legislation, forcing physcial separation between races. The government claimed that their urban renewal schemes were inspired by the work of Le Corbusier.

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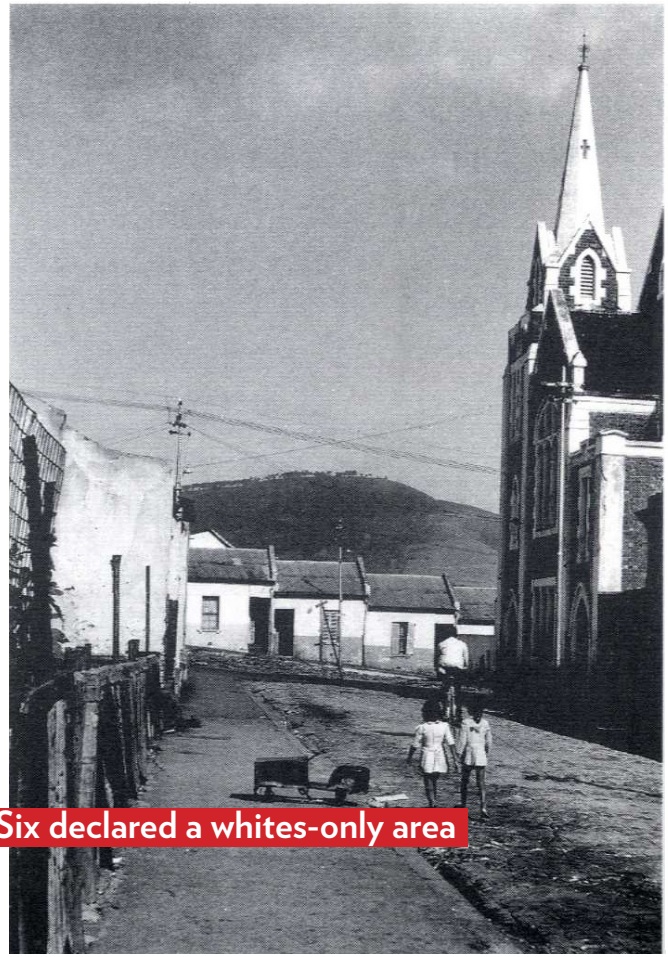
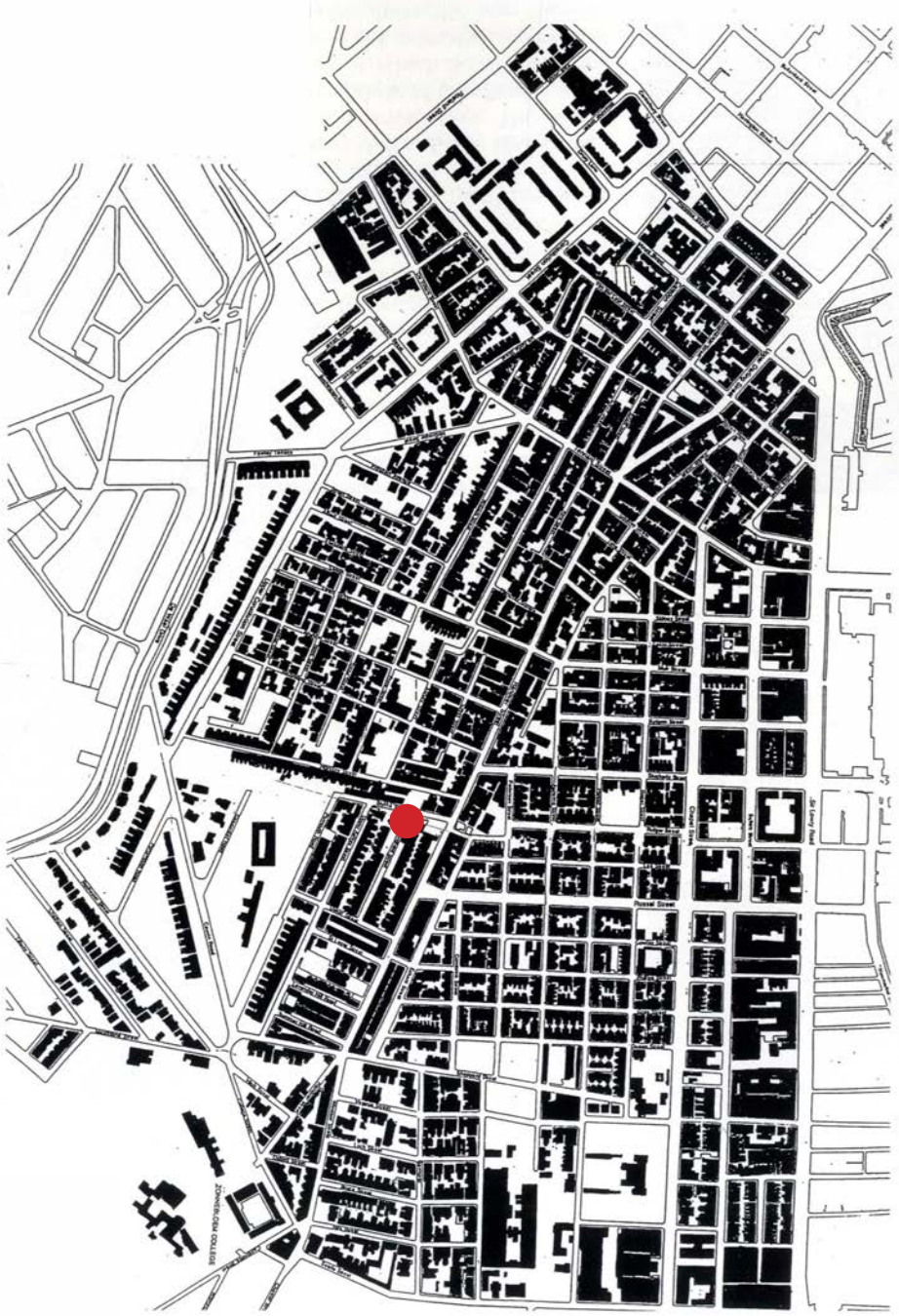


1900

1966 District Six declared a whites-only area

2000



District Six is specifically remarkable due it's long history and prime geographic location within the city.

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The forced removals took 16 years and cost R25 million.
The majority of the district lies undeveloped.

2013 Today, District Six still remains a scar on the landscape

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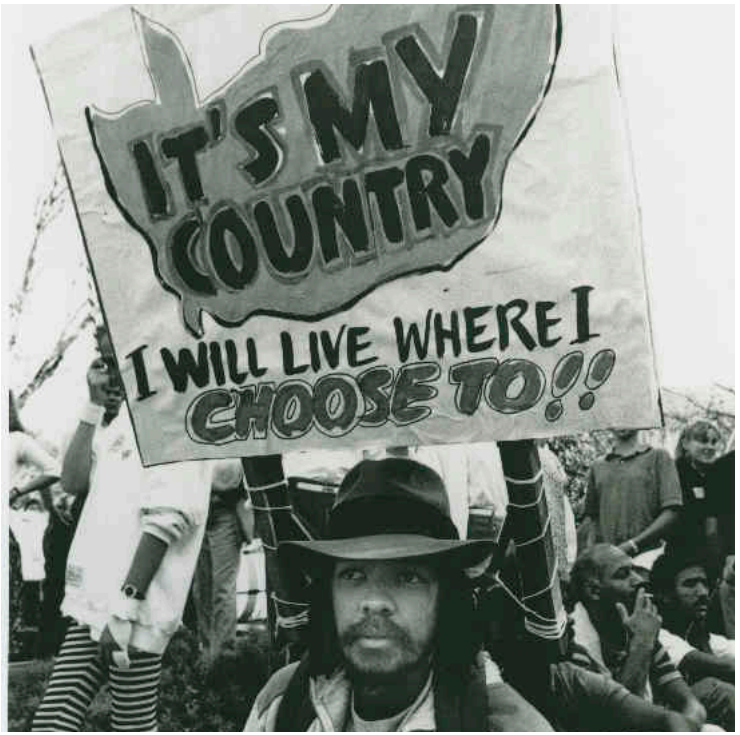
From Protest to Protest

1966 District Six Defense Committee

1979 Friends of District Six

1987 Hands Off District Six



1979 The Cape Technikon Univeristy built. 17 hectre site. Trampled 400 remaining houses and several churches.

1998 Registration time frame forced-removal victims ends. Only 2,500 of the 60,000 from District Six registered

The government tried desperately to develop the blighted area as a whites-only urban showpiece dubbed 'Zonnebloem'. Despite financial incentives, few whites were willing to move in because of the coloured people's fate. The white technical college expedited development.

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District Six

Bonteheuwel 14.3 km

Guguletu 16.6 km

Hanover Park 15.8 km

Mitchells Plain 26.3 km

Lavender Hill 22.3 km

Ramifications of the forced removals are still present today, especially seen in townships; they were intended to be informal settlements, but people have been living in them for decades.

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1998 Registration time frame for forced-removal victims ended. Only 2,500 of the 60,000 from District Six registered

2000

Only two phases consisting of 139 homes have been completed, and some of the flats have been empty for two years. Some of the redevelopment proposals, like 'The Frige' innovation district seem to further entrench legacies of segregation and dispossession.

1700

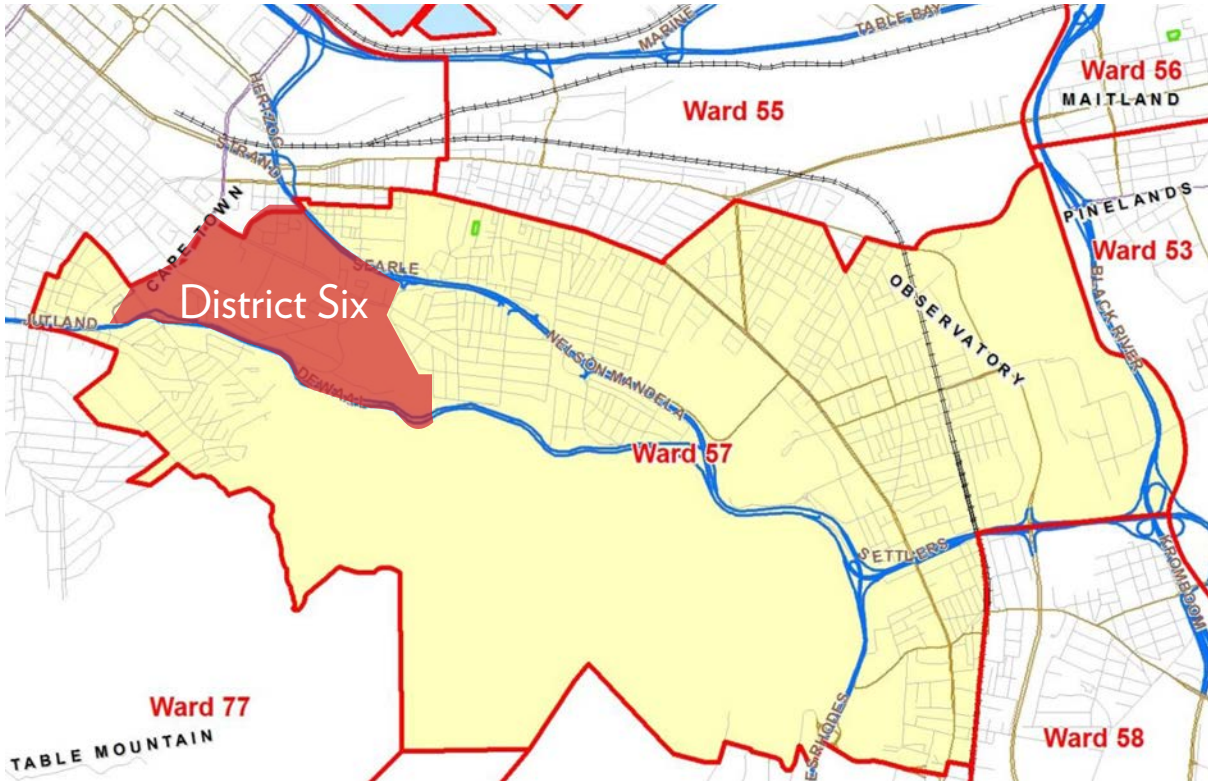
WARD 57

33,076 People
10,202 Households
99% Formal dwellings
12.22% unemployed
41% Higher Education

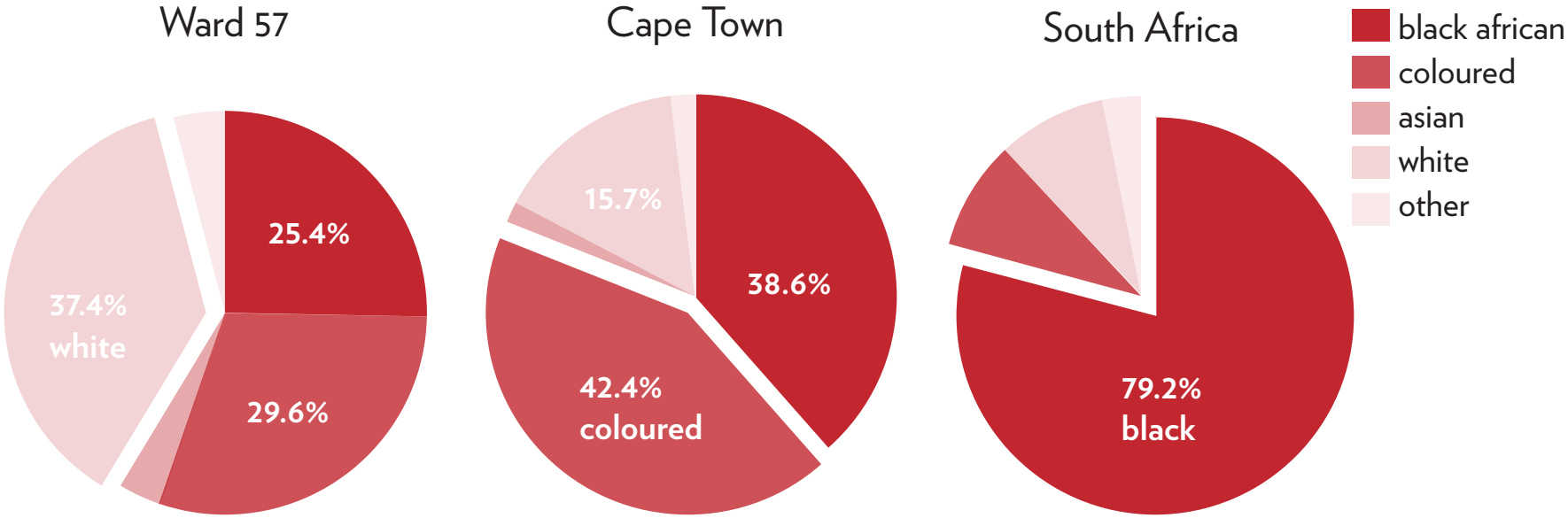
CAPE TOWN

1800

3,740,025 People
1,068,572 Households
88% Formal dwellings
23.9% unemployed
3.7% Higher Education



1900



2000

District Six now lies within Ward 57 in Cape Town, it makes up only a small portion of the ward, but Ward 57's population of 33,076 people is almost half of the population of former District Six.

2011 Census Data

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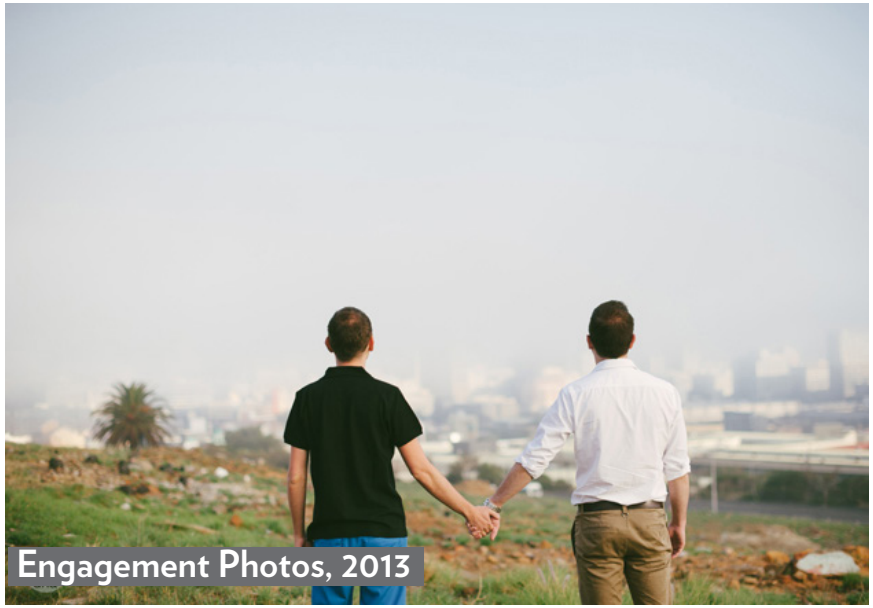

Engagement Photos, 2013

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1994 District Six Museum Founded

The museum is a center for former residents of District Six to critically engage with the memories of their apartheid pasts, for the purpose of remaking the city of Cape Town. Despite their inspiring work. The redevelopment of District Six is contingent upon on the new generation of Capetonians' ability to both critically engage and empathize with the stories of the dispossessed.

2000