

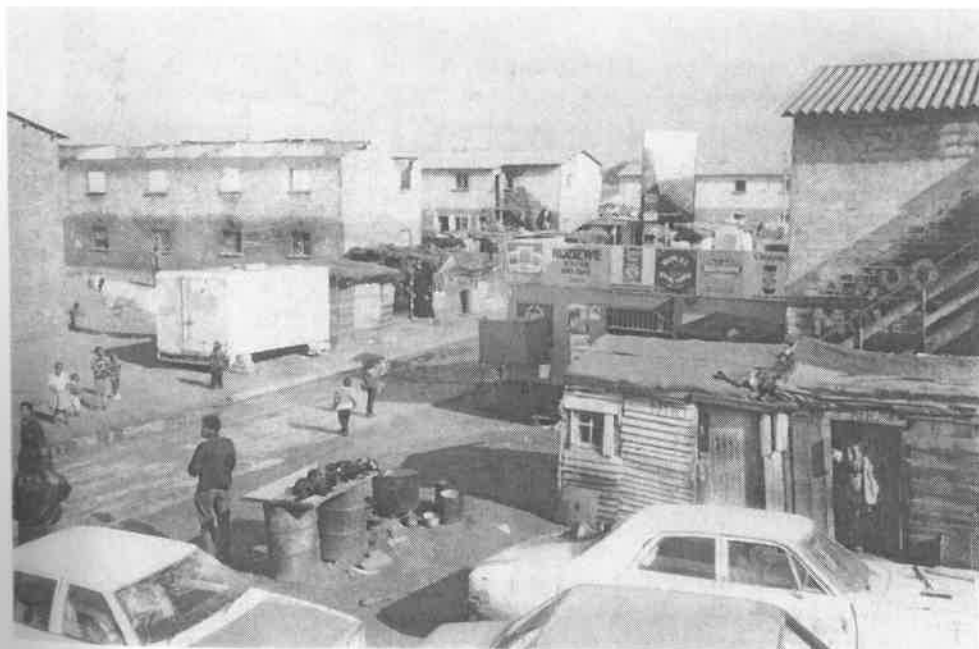


1996, revealing its characteristic mix of order and disorder. It was photographed in August 1985—with its orderly formally constructed houses—has been overwhelmed by the provision of electricity now augmenting the original development.

situation: “A controlled core city and an informal periphery.”<sup>7</sup>

However, been restricted to the metropolitan area, themselves in a second location. *Within* the informal housing has been springing up on often specifically designed to have served between the racial groups as then defined. In an interstitial parcel of land within the city.

Thus shack conglomerations, limited in the peripheral areas, may appear either in the Rondebosch Common, in Milnerton, Cape Town (near the former Beaufort West), in the northern part of the city (near the former Beaufort West), or in small clusters (as in the northern part of the township’s former



Shack infills in Langa. The shacks are officially numbered (N109, N110), are not “illegal,” and have access by right to facilities such as running water, toilets, and cooking facilities in the immediately adjacent barrack sub-unit. The man at center left is selling sheep’s heads for soup-making.

White residential areas. Unthinkable to Capetonians in those years that, say, Rondebosch Common might experience a “land invasion” and become blighted by informal housing.

Is it so unthinkable now? Certainly, it is politically undesirable for the present government to be perceived as bullying poor Black people such as those forced by circumstance to build and occupy shack dwellings. The new situation is thereby rendered rather more complex than that of the apartheid era. What is now likely to eventuate is a patient negotiation among the various interests: government, local residents’ associations from the formal housing zones, representatives of the informal settlers, city officials, and landowners (if germane). It would, conversely, be quite incorrect to assume that the present government would *necessarily* be enthusiastically predisposed to take the part of the informal settlers. The ANC’s primary constituency has