

HERITAGE PLAQUES INSTALLED IN ALEXANDRA

Dec 2010 - Jan 2011

Process



Mould cast and tested



Plaque base cast and tested

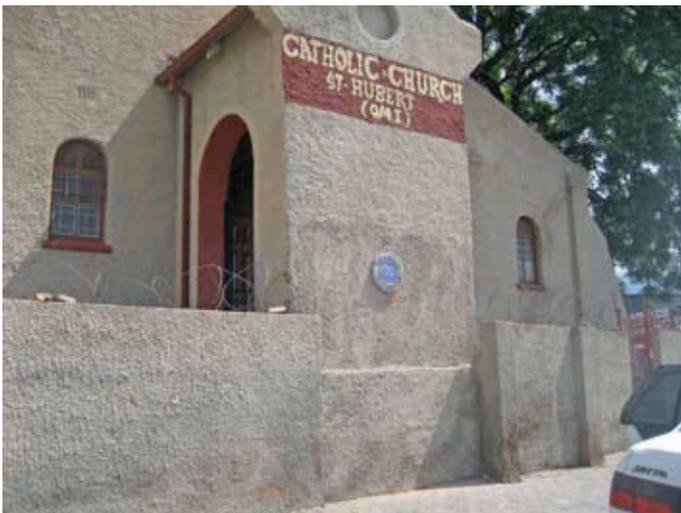


Base installed



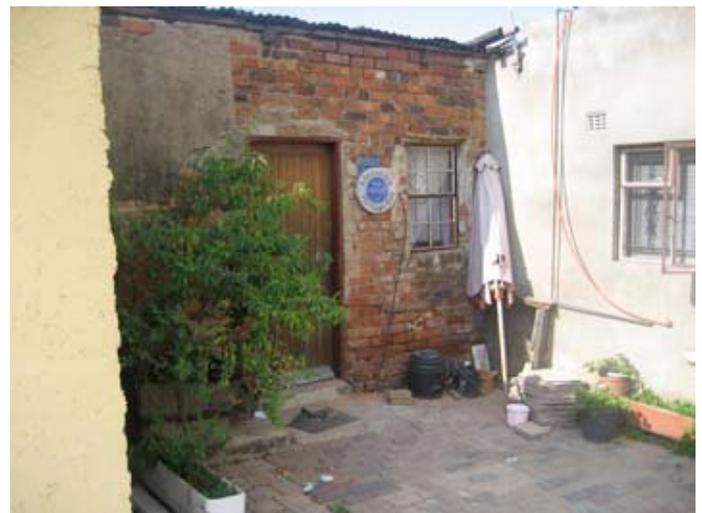
Insert installed and sealed

16 Heritage Plaques installed



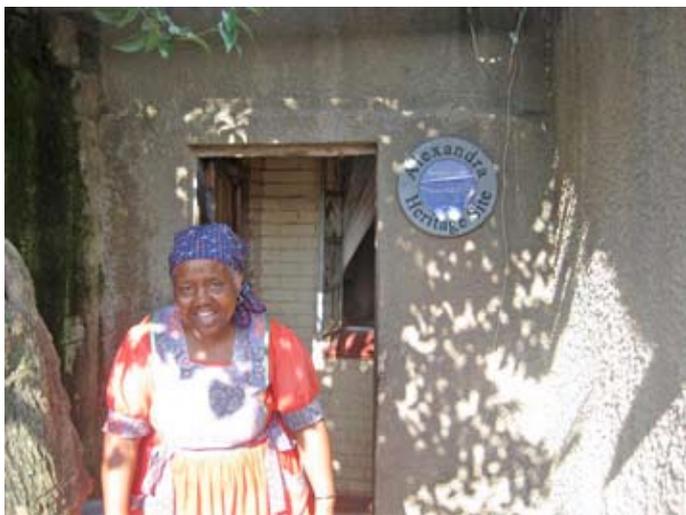
St. Hubert's Catholic Church
(71 1st Avenue)

The first church on this site was built in 1919, and the second in 1930. The Church has long been associated with education in Alex and was used as a venue for meetings during the liberation struggle.



Mandela's Place
(46 7th Avenue)

When Nelson Mandela first arrived in Johannesburg in 1941 from his birthplace in the Eastern Cape, he rented this room for a short while. At that time Mandela, now a global icon, was working as a clerk at a law firm in Johannesburg.



Moses Kotane's Home
(32 11th Avenue)

Moses Kotane served as General Secretary of the Communist Party of South African from 1939 until his death in 1978. Kotane went into exile in 1963, and served on the ANC's National Executive Committee.



Holy Cross School
(2nd Avenue)

Established by the Roman Catholic Church in 1931, this building was expropriated in the late 1960s by the apartheid government, and subsequently occupied by the Alexandra Secondary School and the MC Weiler School.



Kings Cinema
(48 2nd Avenue)

Established in the 1950s, Kings Cinema was for some time the busiest cinema in Alexandra and a venue for performances by local musicians. Kings Cinema was rebuilt after it was bombed by apartheid forces in 1984.



Alexandra Health Committee Building
(95 2nd Avenue)

For the first 40 years or so of its existence Alexandra was administered by the Alexandra Health Committee from this building. It was also home to the Peri-Urban Health Board, which managed Alex from 1958-1973.



Piliso Family Home
(82 3rd Avenue)

The Piliso home is one of the original core houses built in Alex in the 1940s. It was the home of Topsy Piliso, an activist in the 1950s and founder of the Anti-TB Association.



Mbuku 'Joe' Nhlanhla's Home
(34 12th Avenue)

Mbuku 'Joe' Nhlanhla was a member of the ANC Youth League in the 1950s. He returned from exile in 1990 and participated in the negotiations for a peaceful settlement in South Africa. He served as the Minister of Intelligence in President Mbeki's cabinet.



Msomi Gang Headquarters
(69 12th Avenue)

This building was the headquarters of the notorious Msomi Gang, who conducted a reign of terror in the township in the late 1950s.



PLD Hall
(47 9th Avenue)

The first community hall in Alexandra was a venue for political meetings and cultural events and performances. Samora Machel, later to become the president of Mozambique, lived in a room at the rear of the hall in the 1950s and 1960s.



**'Coloured' Church and School
(27 2nd Avenue)**

From the time of its establishment in 1912, homeowners included 'coloureds' and Africans. In the 1960s and 1970s the 'coloured' community was relocated to outlying areas.



**MC Weiler Primary School
(1st Avenue)**

Named in honour of Rabbi Moses Weiler, this building was erected by the United Sisterhood in 1949. The school was independent until forced, after the passing of the Bantu Education Act in 1953, to become a government school.



**African Methodist Episcopal Church
(46 10th Avenue)**

Founded in 1933, the AME Church is a major landmark in Alexandra. The Church served as a place of refuge during the uprisings of the 1970s and 1980s, and was used as a voting station in the 1994 elections.



**The Alexandra Beer Hall
(97 2nd Avenue)**

In the early days of Alex, many women turned to the illicit brewing of beer to make a living. In the 1940s municipal authorities put an end to this, and created beer halls to generate funds to cover the costs of managing the township.



**Anglican Mission School
(44 8th Avenue)**

This is one of the independent schools that provided formal education in the pre-apartheid era. After 'Bantu Education' was introduced in 1953, it fell under the control of the state, despite extensive protest action by the community.

**Amalgamated Primary School
(27, 32 and 34 12th Avenue)**

This school, dating back to 1927, was built by the Apostolic Church. It was established when a number of smaller mission schools joined together to form a single institution, from which secondary education developed in Alexandra.