LEADER OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MSP/241/2217/42



Civic Centre
Glebe Street
Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 1RN

Telephone 01782 404618 Fax 01782 404603 DX 21058 Stoke-on-Trent

Leader
Councillor E. Smith

Dear Colleague,

I enclose a portfolio of information that will enable us to help the townships in South Africa. Inside it you will find a financial commitment over a five year period which amounts to around £10,000 per year, per Local Authority. The funds that are needed can be raised in numerous ways, some of which are suggested inside by Overseas Agencies etc (see list enclosed) and many other such forms. Stoke would also send a young officer in support of the project and hopefully other Major Cities would discuss this idea also.

The recent mission organised by Churches and the ADC proved largely successful. Colin Walton our designated officer from Stoke-on-Trent has delivered reports, contacts and information which is invaluable.

This idea is to capture public imagination and make them aware of the plight of the black South Africans. The role of the Major Cities Group, who are the co-ordinators of this activity with all kinds of technical and professional staff readily available, is to provide 5000 extra homes over a five year period in South Africa with their counterparts.

On 7th and 8th November 1996, Walter Sisulu, a freeman of the City of Stoke-on-Trent is visiting us for the first time. Walter spent 27 years incarcerated along with Nelson Mandela. He is Vice President of the ANC and he has been made aware of a possible initiative concerning housing projects in South Africa and we shall discuss this with him on his visit.

Finally could I urge you to support the Major 11 Cities Initiative - if successful it will achieve media coverage at international level and respect for all involved. The implications are far reaching on a global scale for third world countries with similar housing problems.

Nelson Mandela and future generations of South Africans need our support now - please help.

Colin

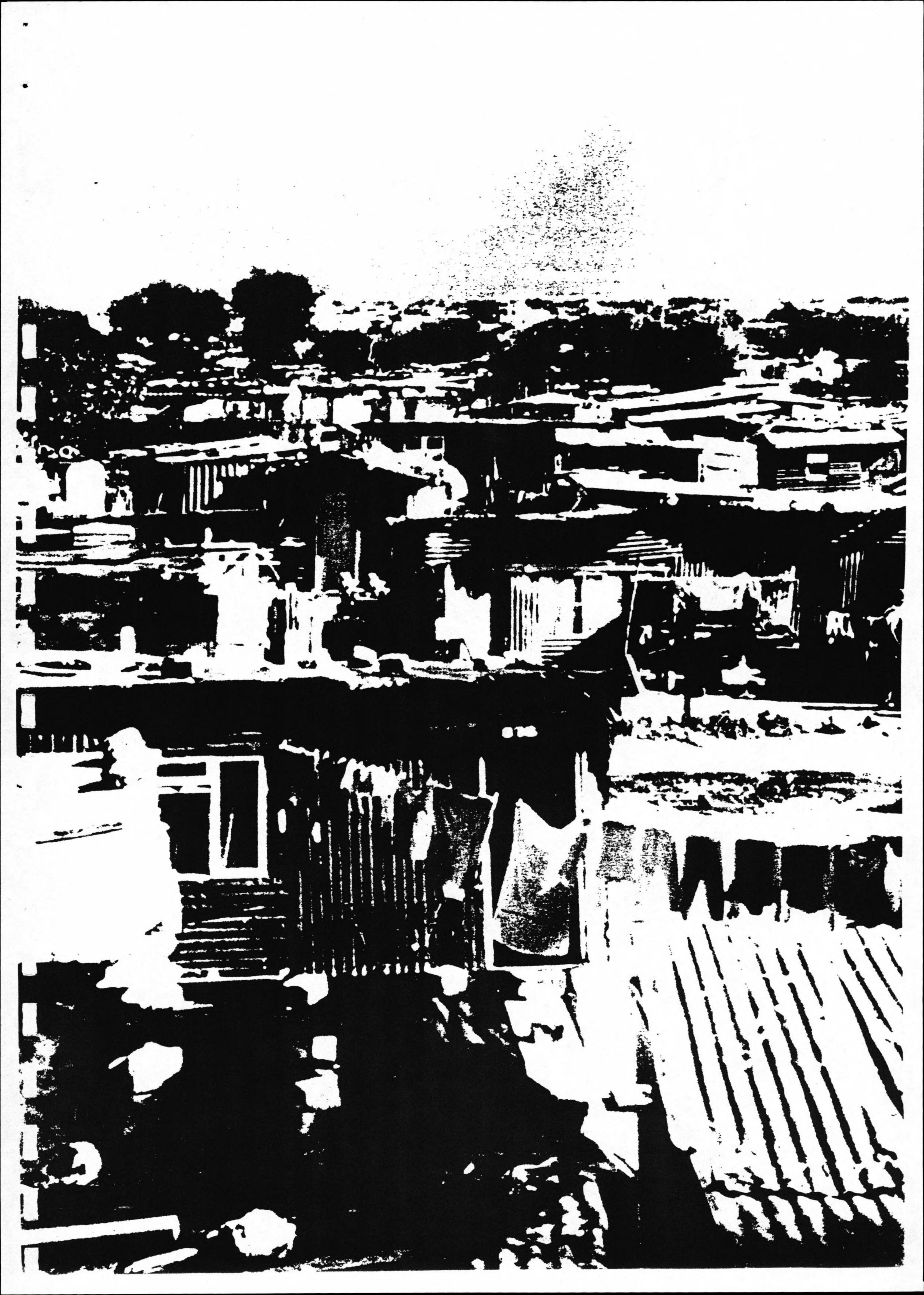
11 CITIES INITIATIVE The problem

Photographic evidence of typical existing settlement living conditions.

Communal water.

No electricity.

No sewerage.



A Proposal Put Forward by The Stoke-on-Trent Council Leader, Councillor Ted Smith.

Project

To Assist the South African Government in maximising their efforts to house impoverished and underprivileged families.

President Nelson Mandela has given approval for the implementation of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (R.D.P.) aimed at addressing the housing needs of people living in settlements and squatter areas. The goal is to build one million houses during the next five years. Also included in the construction programme is the provision of schools, health care facilities (health clinic and ambulance station), police stations, churches, community halls, libraries etc.

Financial resources are very limited. Added to South Africa's burden is the devaluing Rand, which has seen its value drop 30% against the U.S. Dollar since the beginning of 1996.

The following information shows the progress to June 1996 of the Western Cape Intergrated Serviced Land Project, a programme with full presidential, regional and local authority support.

iSLP INFO- SHEET

THE INTEGRATED SERVICED LAND PROJECT

ASpecial Integrated Presidential Project on Urban Renewal

AN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Forty thousand Western Cape families living in the informal settlements and overcrowded backyards of Crossroads, Guguletu, Langa, Nyanga and KTC and surrounding areas will ultimately benefit from the development of the Integrated Serviced Land Project.

The project has been devised to meet the residential needs of low income families in the project area, who qualify for the National Government's Capital Subsidy Scheme. The needs for services and facilities which promote health, education, welfare, employment and recreation are also being addressed.

The new developments of Weltevreden Valley North, Southern Delft and Philippi East are included in the project area and are designed to accommodate some of the families who may have to move when their areas are upgraded.

JOINT INITIATIVE

Spearheaded jointly by communities, RDP Forums, the Provincial Government and Regional and Local Authorities, the iSLP has been designed to plan and then implement strategies for integrated and holistic development that is characterised by community involvement and representation during all phases.

Responsibility for the co-ordination of the project rests with the Provincial MEC for Housing, and housing developments are facilitated by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning of the Provincial Administration of the Western Cape.

The Provincial office of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP), under the Provincial MEC for Economic Affairs, is responsible for facilitating and accrediting the establishment of RDP Forums. The Department has also played an implementing role in establishing participatory structures involved in the implementation of the project.

PRESIDENTIAL LEAD PROJECT

The iSLP's track record of consultation and inclusivity, and its plans for integrated, holistic development have been recognised in its appointment by President Mandela as a Special Integrated Presidential Project on Urban Renewal of the RDP. This appointment was made in 1994 at the recommendation of the Cabinet of the Government of National Unity and the Executive Committee of the Provincial Administration of the Western Cape, after the iSLP's Business Plan was assessed by the national office of the RDP.

CONSULTATIVE FORUM

Development in the iSLP is guided by a structure which incorporates community representation at all levels of policy formulation and decision-making.

The structure comprises a Steering Committee which reviews and agrees policy and monitors development in the project, and a Consultative Forum which provides recommendations and guidance to the Steering Committee.

The central role played by RDP Forums is recognised in this structure, in keeping with the National and Provincial governments' commitment to development that is driven by communities.

BUDGET

The budget for development of the project is R1.2 billion, over five years. A major portion of this budget - R708 million - is allocated towards meeting the residential needs of project communities, while the balance covers capacity building of community members, and health, education, community and recreation facilities.

FUNDING

The National Government, through the RDP, has provided for fifty percent of the project funding. The balance of the budget is being mobilised from the Provincial Administration of the Western Cape (PAWC) line function departments, the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC), local authorities and other sources within the Province.

ECONOMIC NODE

Within the project area is Philippi East, which has been approved as the Fourth Regional Node of the Cape Metropole.

A Structure Plan has been created and development of this area will establish commerce, industry and social facilities near the communities in the iSLP area.

ISLP BUSINESS PLAN

The Business Plan caters for the upgrading of 13 informal settlements, the consolidation of 7 500 already serviced sites and the development of 4 new areas.

The National Government's Capital Subsidy Scheme provides for the costs of servicing and purchasing sites and a contribution towards top structures.

In addition to the residential development of the project area, the programme for providing community facilities includes the building of • 35 Community Halls • 35 Sportsfields • 4

Libraries • Housing Resource & Advice Centres • Seed Capital for Business and Welfare

Projects • Pre Schools • 427 Primary School Classrooms • 276 Secondary School

Classrooms, • a 200-bed Community Hospital • 4 Community Health Clinics to be built and

2 upgraded • 1 Maternity and Obstetrics Unit • 1 Ambulance Service.

STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Development strategies have been formulated to ensure that the project is developed in a way that contributes to the establishment of viable, stable communities; ensures participation of community members in development plans and decision-making; and enhances their capacity. Strategies for Capacity Building, Business Development and Communications have been devised and implemented.

PROJECT MANAGER: MR JAMES SLABBERT PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE WESTERN CAPE

For more information on the iSLP, contact: The Project Co-ordinator Holistic Settlements (Pty) Ltd, 18 Keerom Street, Cape Town, South Africa. Tel.: 021- 24 5509 Fax: 021 - 23 0448 E-Mail: holistic@aztec.co.za

iSLP INFO-SHEET - 1996

ISLP BULLETIN

News from the Integrated Serviced Land Project Issue No 5 June 1996

WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS? iSLP communities choose housing options soon

IRST time home owners in the iSLP will soon face the task of choosing housing options.

During May and early June the identification and registration of people who will move onto the 4 200 sites in the first phases of Southern Delft and Weltevreden Valley North has taken place.

This was done on the basis of agreed-to Site Allocation Principles in each area.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

order promote to transparency and fairness Site Allocation Committees were established to oversee the registration process.

Two important principles were applied in all the areas during the Site Allocation process:

- 1. Families who had been living in the area the longest were considered for sites first.
- 2. Beneficiaries were required not only to be over 21 years of age, but also to have dependents living with them.

After the names were collected they were read out at public meetings.

Lists of the names were also displayed in public places like community halls, clinics and creches so that people who may not have heard them at meetings could check the names.

After this verification process,

the lists were considered to be finalised.

step the was completion of registration forms which make beneficiaries eligible for sites.

REGISTRATION VENUES

Venues for registration were: 1. Guguletu RDP Forum offices for beneficiaries from Gxa-Gxa, New Rest, Kanana.

- 2. Super Shack inside the Ikapa Town Council premises for Polla Park/Fezeka/Waterfront.
- 3. Nyanga Constituency Office for Mpinga Square, Mkhonto Square, Mpetha Square, Black City and Mahobe Drive.
- 4. Samora Machel beneficiaries on site.
- 5. KTC Community Hall for KTC.
- 6. Millers Camp Community Hall for Millers Camp.

Following registration beneficiaries were informed of the dates, times and venues for education beneficiary the programme.

BENEFICIARY EDUCATION

This programme consists of workshops and show days at which people are introduced to the People's Housing Process and taken through the housing options available to them.

this During education programme beneficiaries decide which option they want to follow in order to obtain a house.

PEOPLE'S HOUSING **PROCESS**

The government has committed itself to a partnership with people so that together its vision of houses for all can be realised.

Government's contribution takes the form of subsidies which do not have to be repaid, for those people who qualify for a government housing subsidy.

These subsidies will enable people to have secure ownership of serviced land as well as help them to build houses.

It is estimated that the cost of land and services in the iSLP will leave a maximum of R6 500 towards a house.

The People's Housing Process recognises that people should play a central role in managing how this is used.

Three options are available to people.

PEOPLE'S HOUSING INITIATIVE

The first option is the People's Housing Initiative.

In this option people use their own skills and labour to build themselves.

They also organise can

themselves so that they can benefit from buying materials in bulk and negotiating with contractors for some of the work, if this is needed.

Housing Support Programme Those choosing the People's

Housing Initiative option will benefit from further government assistance in the form of a Housing Support Programme.

This programme will ensure that people have on-site access to:

- Technical advice in planning and orientation of houses on the sites,
- Skills training in construction and making materials like bricks,
- Co-ordination of people's needs to negotiate better prices when buying materials and hiring contractors for some jobs.
- Advice on drawing subsidies and starting savings schemes.

The People's Housing option requires a major effort from people in terms of labour and time. But the rewards are great since people can obtain more house for the money remaining from the housing subsidy.

ASSISTED SELF-HELP

The second option is the Assisted Self-Help one.

Contractors offer Materials Packages and Management Assistance for R6 500.

The materials packages will be displayed at the show villages and contractors will be on hand to explain the services they can offer.

CORE HOUSING

The third option consists of contractor-built units for R6 500.

Show units will be built in show villages in Southern Delft and

• Weltevreden Valley North.

Buyers choosing this option sign a contract with the builder and take ownership of a starter house, after the unit has been completed.

They will have a choice of:

- 4 different single-wall block houses averaging
 15 square metres,
- A cavity-walled (two bricks wide) house of about 14 square metres,
- 3 concrete solid wall houses measuring on average 15 square metres
- 3 fibre-cement timberstructure plastered on the outside - with an average size of 14 square metres,
- A 140 mm wide block wall structure that consists of a toilet and a stoop with one wall, with an overall size of 17,5 square metres,
- A dry-stack house (blocks without cement between them and steel in the corners) of 20 square metres,
 - 2 Everite fibre-cement houses, one consisting of part house, part stoop and measuring 27 square metres in total, and one a complete house of 13,5 square metres,
 - A timber house of 15,2 square metres with fibrecement cladding the timber frame,

- A house made of IBR sheeting with an angle-iron structure, measuring 15,5 square metres,
- A roof on corner posts (size to still be provided)
- An 8-square metre caravan without wheels,
- A semi-circular house made of alloy zinc and measuring 24 square metres.

The units will be small as some of the money also has to be used to pay for the contractor's labour and materials. The advantage of this option, however, is that there will be units built on site for people to move straight into.

ON SHOW

On the Show Days a Housing Support team will answer questions and offer advice.

Only registered beneficiaries should attend.

THE INTEGRATED SERVICED LAND PROJECT - iSLP

Project Manager

Mr James Slabbert Provincial Administration of the Western Cape

Other Stakeholders

RDP Forums
Cape Metropolitan Council
Central Substructure
Tygerberg Substructure

Project Co-ordinator

Holistic Settlements (Pty) Ltd Tel: (021) 24 5509 Fax: (021) 23 0448 or Tel: (021) 34 4121 Fax: (021) 34 9584

INDABA ZASEKHAYA

NEWSPAPER OF THE INTEGRATED SERVICED LAND PROJECT - AN RDP PRESIDENTIAL PROJECT

ISSUE No 3 JUNE 1996

EDITORIAL

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Pioneering People's Housing: iSLP communities poised to build their own house

People have been waiting for this opportunity (to have secure tenure of land and begin building houses) for a long time. If people could build shacks without any help, then they can build much better houses with the help that government is providing."

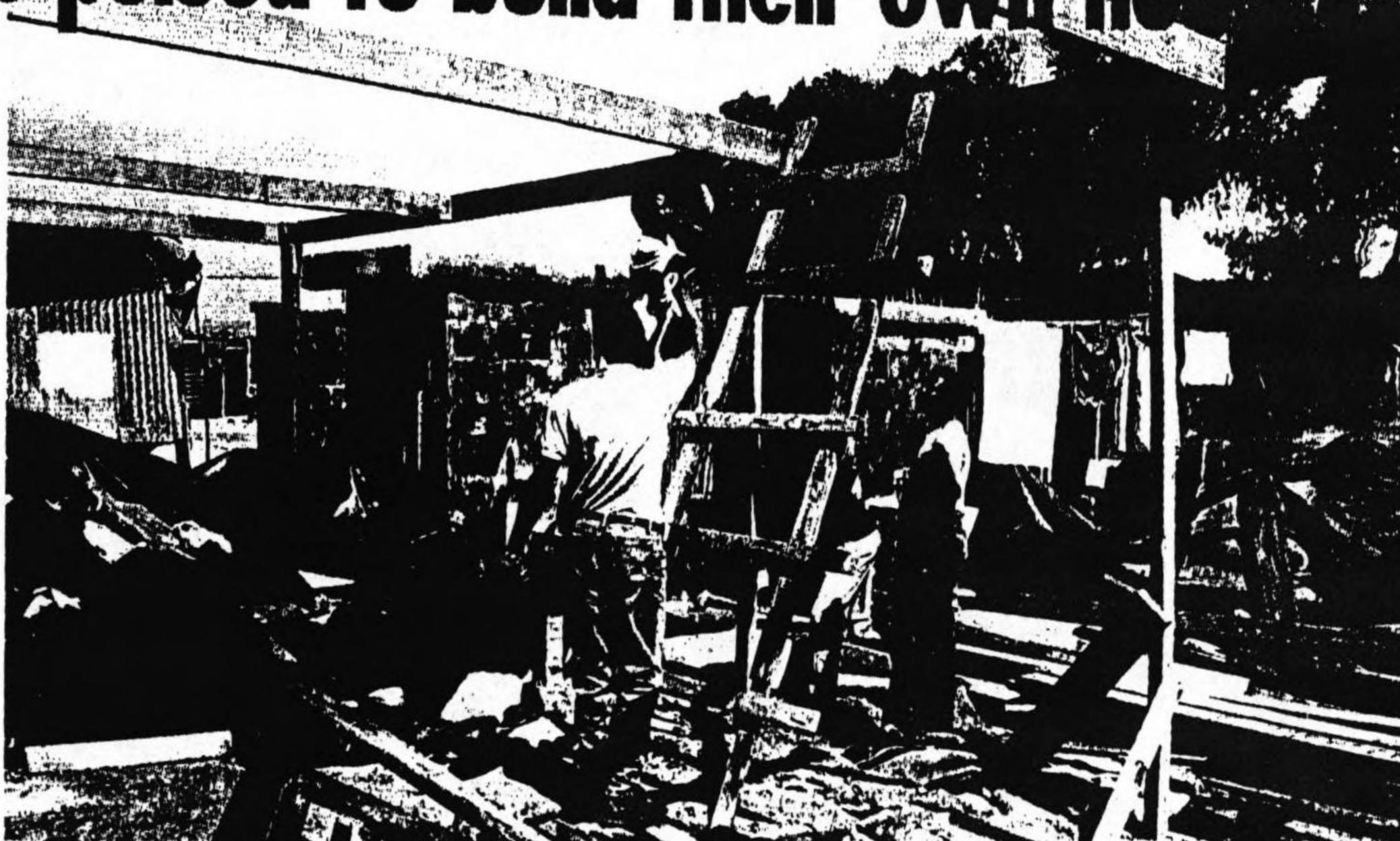
With these words Mr Z Memane of KTC summed up the spirit of the People's Housing Process, a process that both government and communities believe might solve the housing needs in the iSLP.

Mr Memane's comments recall a workshop held with representatives of iSLP communities at the end of last year.

Lalith Lankatilleke, a United Nations
Housing Programme Adviser, asked delegates
What they lived in, who had built them and
how much they had cost.

The common answers were that they lived in shacks, built by themselves or their families and which cost between a few hundred and two thousand rands.

When he asked what difference a government contribution of about R7 000 would have made to their shacks, their



People have always built their own homes - now they will be able to improve on these with support from government Picture: Eric Miller

subsidies to people who qualify for government housing subsidies. But this is only the beginning. It recognises that if people manage the housing process themselves, more can be

negotiate prices with materials suppliers and contractors," remarks Verwey, the iSLP architect and Housing Support Team leader.

; 'now '

Each workshop will accommodate 100 beneficiaries who will have received an invitation in writing.

Workshop 1 will inform people about home ownership, housing options and finance sources like government

mere will be two show days for each area during which the actual marketing will take prace.

Established and emerging building contractors, building materials suppliers and all sectors of the building industry have been invited to submit their ideas for what

the brocess of worksnobbing means mar beobie are far i... informed and prepared by the time they viole the show villages," he says.

Who gets to live in the iSLP

Excitement as the first sites are allocated in Southern Delft and Weltevreden Valley North

In an interview with Mbuyi Nombembe, iSLP facilitator, he spoke of the atmosphere of Lexcitement and expectation in project communities on the brink of moving onto their own sites.

"In my years of facilitating in the iSLP, I have never felt this amount of hope and excitement," exclaimed Nombembe.

"People are getting ready to take ownership of their sites, on which they will build their own homes, including flush toilets and running water.

"Imagine what this feels like if you've been living in a shack on a rubbish dump, with no running water?

"People, even those who are not employed, are happy to pay for electricity and water consumption, knowing that they'll have these services, perhaps for the first time in their lives!"

With 4200 serviced sites being delivered, the

work involved in allocating them to individual families has been enormous. But nobody's complaining.

The hope that it's given to poor people is reward enough for those involved in the process.

Mbuyi recalls how at a public meeting in Gxa-Gxa in May an elderly man stood up and explained how he had moved from squatter settlement to squatter settlement where he had seen much violence and despair.

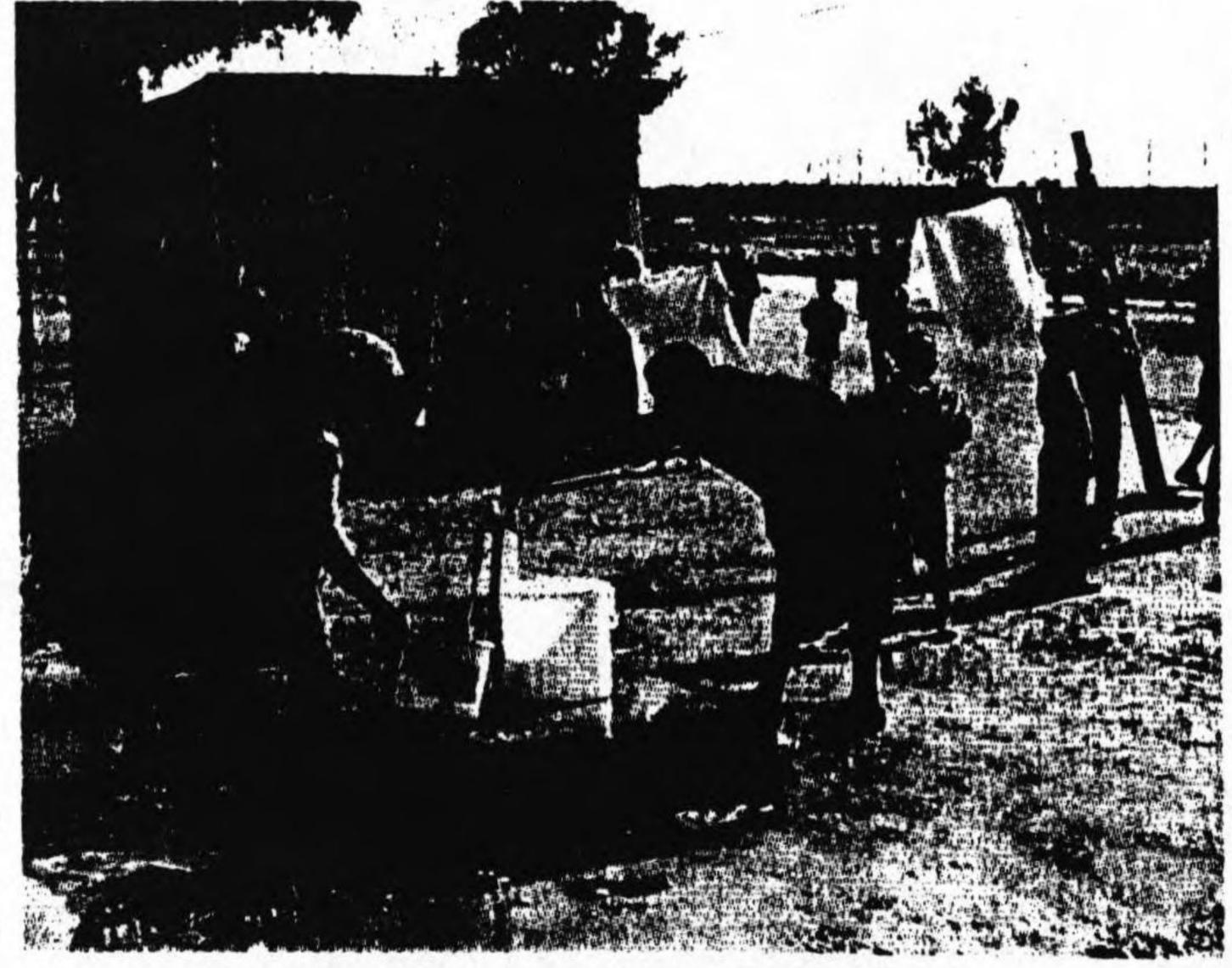
He said he'd heard about the government housing subsidy, but he never dreamt it was meant for people like him, unemployed and poor. In the past he had dismissed talk of government assistance as a cheap scam to win votes. But due to visits from the facilitators and community meetings he was starting to believe

that this could be true.

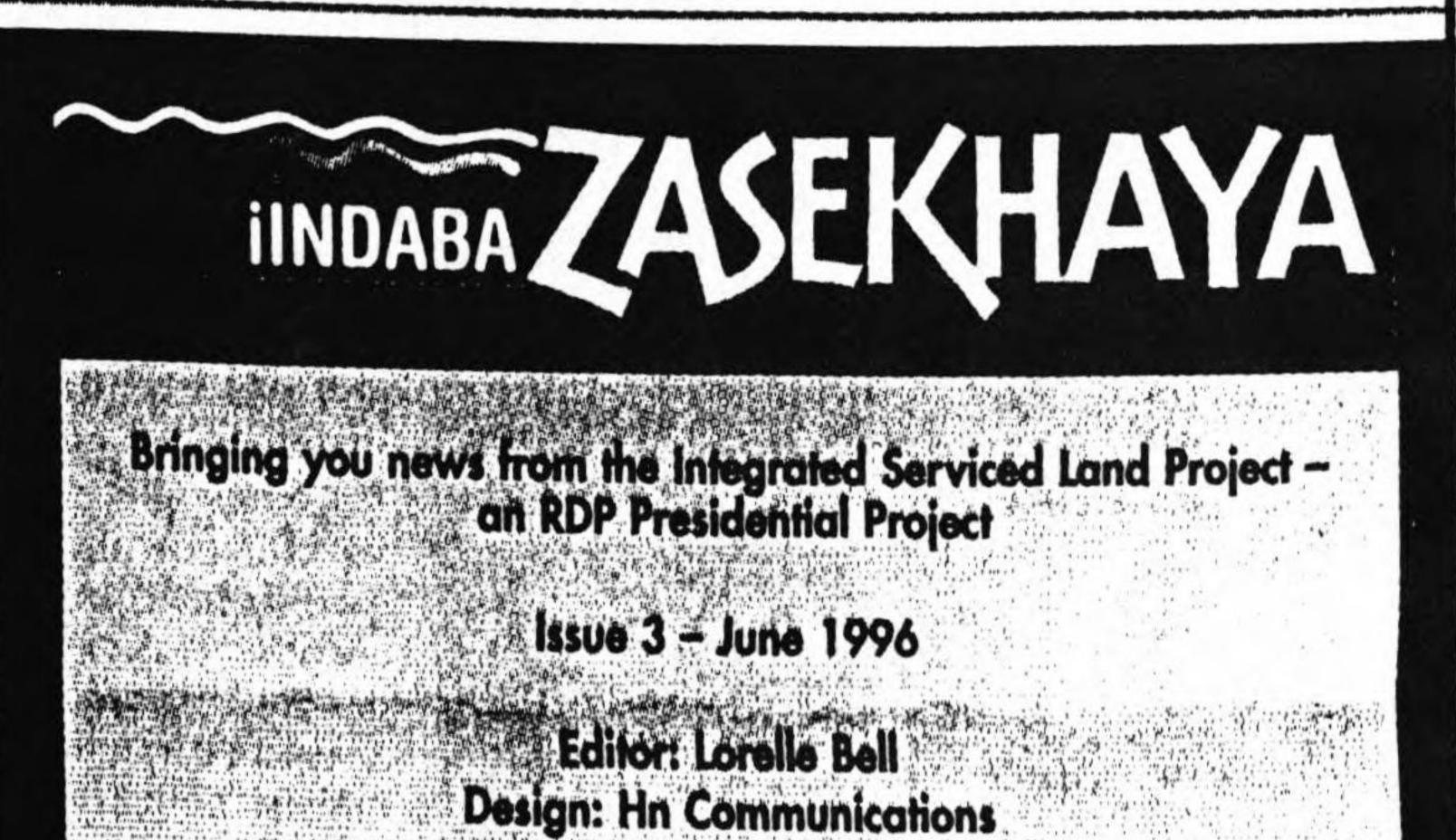
He was looking forward to the day when he would actually start building his own house on a site that belonged to him. Describing this incident Mbuyi says, "It was so emotional, we were all almost in tears. When someone talks with such raw honesty, you begin to feel the enormity of what this means to a poor person."

"At another project committee meeting," Mbuyi continued, "A middle- aged woman from Mpetha Square spoke of how she had been cheated of R6 000 by people who promised sites.

"She said she didn't believe it when she heard us say on radio that people would get sites without having to pay a deposit to get one's name on a list. But after hearing it at the meetina also man bondinaina to bolioms



Shared taps will soon be a thing of the past for Samora Machel residents. Pictures: Willie de Klerk

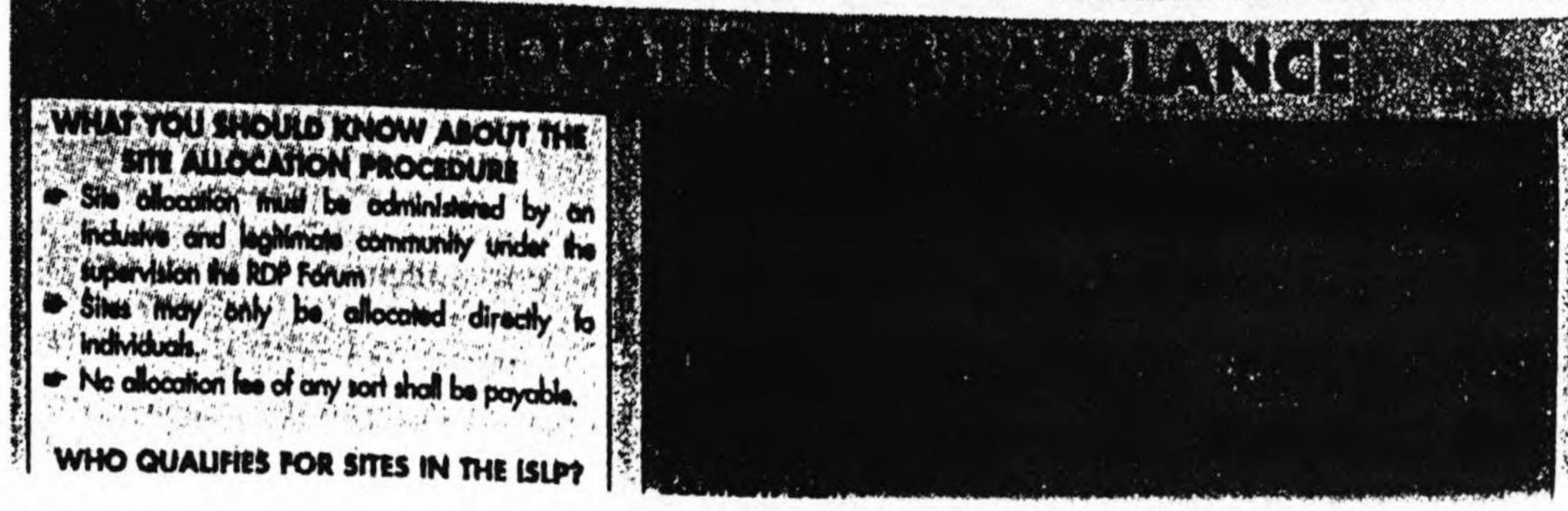


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I .. ould ... delegace moving ironi resistance to the idea of housing themselves, to understanding how much more could be done with access to resources and by managing their own housing needs.

In this way a commitment to a People's Housing Process was born in the project.

Mr Lankatillekė, who has a lot of experience of housing in different parts of the world, says that all over the world the vast majority of poor people build their own

In his opinion, people in South Africa can do this best for themselves, if the government recognises people's abilities and does everything it can to make it possible for them to build.

When 4 200 families take permanent ownership of their plots of land in the first phases of delivery in Southern Delft and Weltevreden Valley North, they will be pioneering a partnership between government and the people to develop houses.

The government does not have sufficient funds to realise its vision that all people should eventually be housed in at least a four-roomed unit. A partnership with the people is necessary.

Government is contributing housing

the housing process themselves more can be ... levec the maney. mu it is pulling systems in place that will help people to build themselves.

SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Housing Support Programmes are being established in the project to give people access

- On-site skills training
- Technical advice
- Assistance in co-ordinating people to buy materials in bulk and hire contractors.
- Building equipment for hire.
- Advice on drawing the subsidies and gaining access to finance.

A Housing Support team will be on hand to provide the assistance.

Members of this dedicated team are Brian Verwey, Nomahlubi Mgijima, Zowie Mazula, Belinda Fortuin, Pat September, Charles Hector, Mike Bell, Shaun Tyatyam and Nelson Diba.

The government will provide a start-up grant for the programmes which will be run from small scale Housing Support Centres.

The centres will be staffed by people paid by the Department of Housing with a grant from the National Department of Housing

"The idea is that the community will organise themselves around the centre, and

families control of the building process themselves. They have to use their own skills and labour to build their homes. This requires a lot of sacrifice, but the rewards are great too. If people organise and build their homes themselves they can save money and will end up with a bigger house. People who choose this option can use the opportunity to empower themselves by learning valuable skills, for example in building houses and

PEOPLE'S EFFORT

The People's Housing Process gives

managing finances. Explaining the philosophy of People's Housing, Verwey, , says, "It is the process of a community getting themselves organised, tap-OWN resources, acquiring skills and moving from expecting government to provide housing to understanding that they can help provide housing themselves."

Extensions to the Guguletu Community Health Centre, formerly the Guguletu Day Hospital, are a triumph for the staff and the community.

Costing R2.5 million, the new buildings will enable the centre to operate 24-hours a day, thereby improving the service it offers.

Community involvement enabled the R250 000 budget to be increased substantially through fundraising.

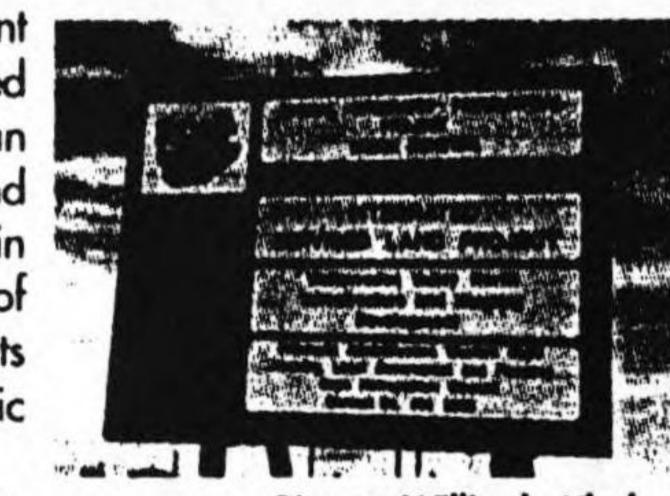
IINDABA ZASEKHAYA



Services being installed in the project. Picture: Willie de Klerk

THE RDP IS CENTRAL TO THE ISLP

The iSLP was selected by President Mandela as a Special Integrated Presidential Project on Urban Renewal of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) in recognition of its track-record of consultation and inclusivity, and its programme of integrated, holistic development.



Picture: Willie de Klerk

RDP Forums play a central role in the Consultative Forum which guides development in the project. Their role ensures community representation at all levels of policy formulation and decision-making, in keeping with the National and Provincial governments' commitment to development that is driven by communities.

The Provincial office of the RDP is responsible for facilitating and accrediting the establishment of RDP Forums. The Department has also played an implementing role in establishing the participatory structures involved in the implementation of the project.

The Proposal

The programme has started.

Resources are scarce, but underprivileged families living in settlements can see that progress is being made.

Councillor Ted Smith's proposal is to help sustain this programme by supplying and maintaining a Speedblock 'concrete batching / block making plant 'complete with Speedblock moulds to the Weltevreden Valley North, Southern Delft and Philippi East Projects.

Speedblock is a unique mortarless hollow concrete block building system that can be assembled by unskilled labour. It will accelerate and enhance the existing building programme.

The Speedblock Plant

Will use local resources and immediately create 100 new jobs.

Will produce 20 million 8" x 4" x 4" Speedblock,

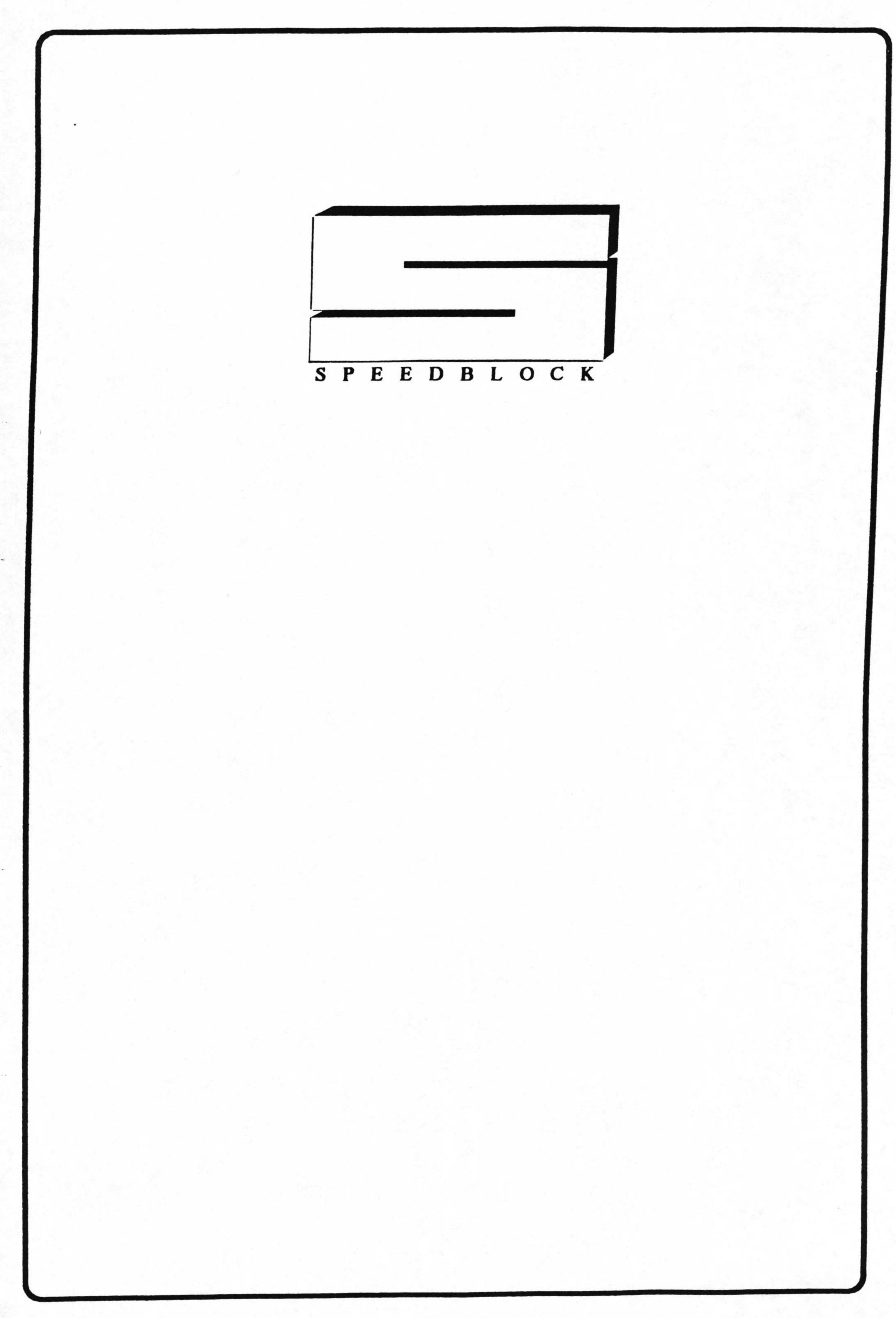
Will produce 20,000 cubic metres of ready mixed concrete.

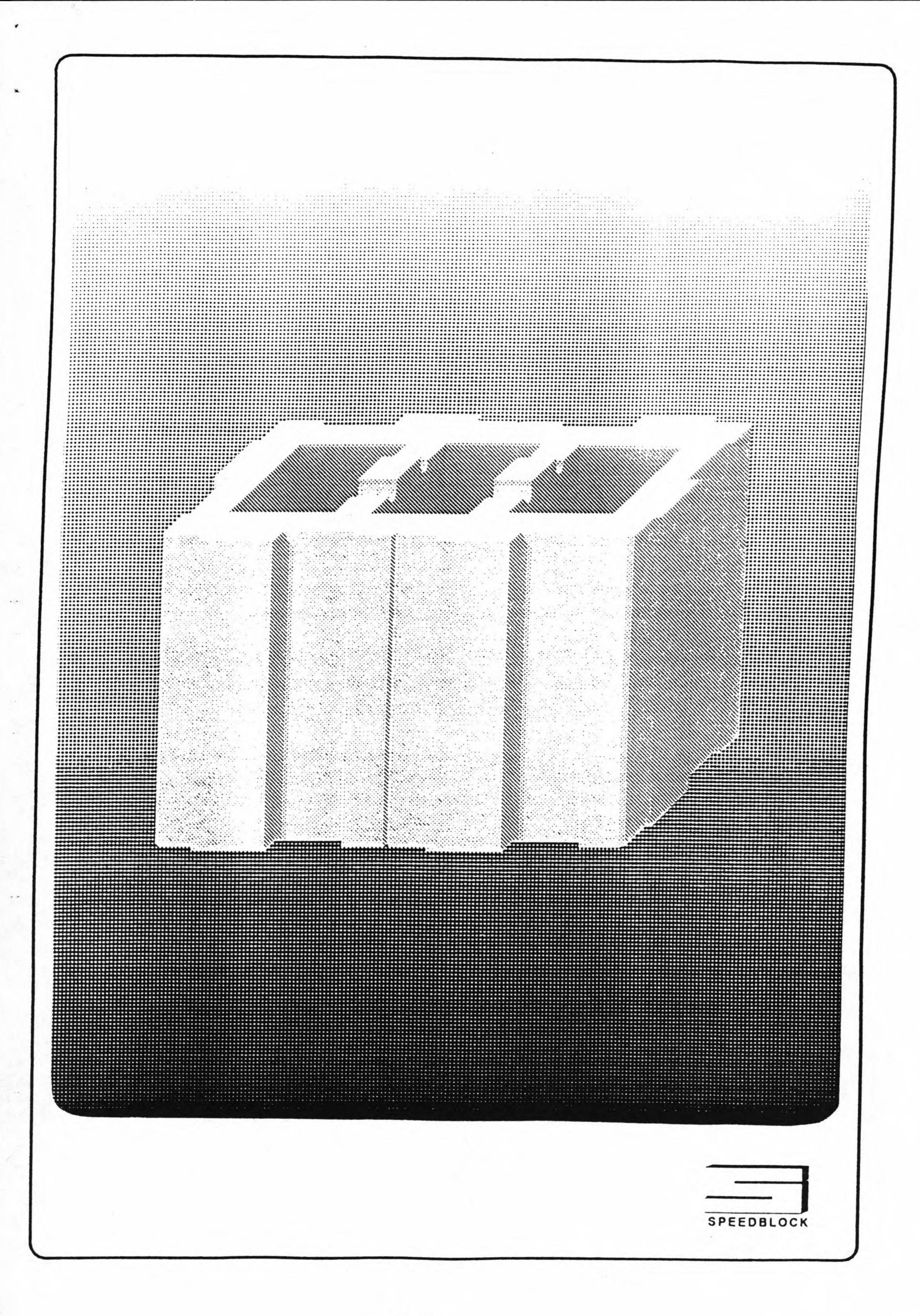
Above figures based upon one 8 hour shift per 5 days, operating over 5 years. (Plants are capable of running double shifts).

Above product will produce approximately 5,000 houses.

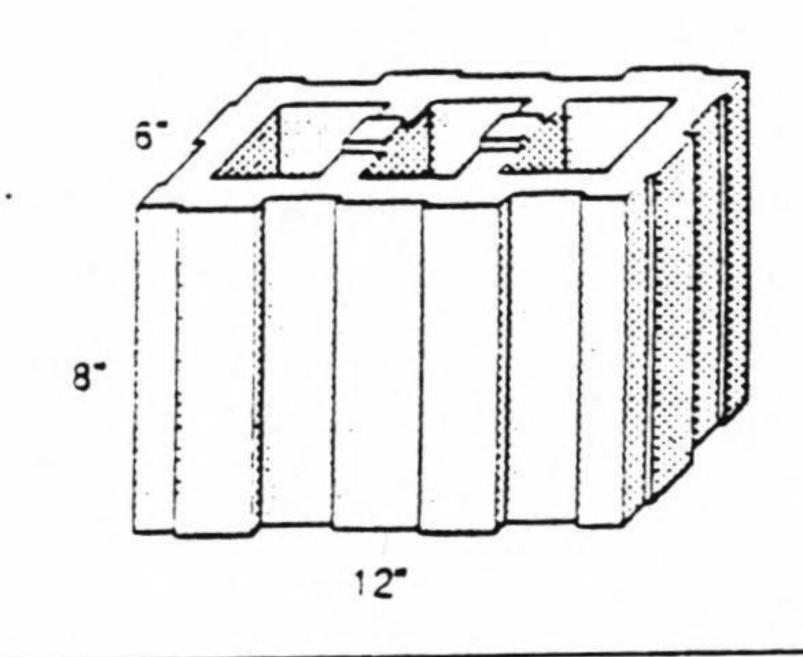
Will encourage the creation of locally related industries. e.g. Window and door manufacturing and distribution

Will stimulate numerous training programmes. e.g. installation of utility services





THE COMPONENTS:



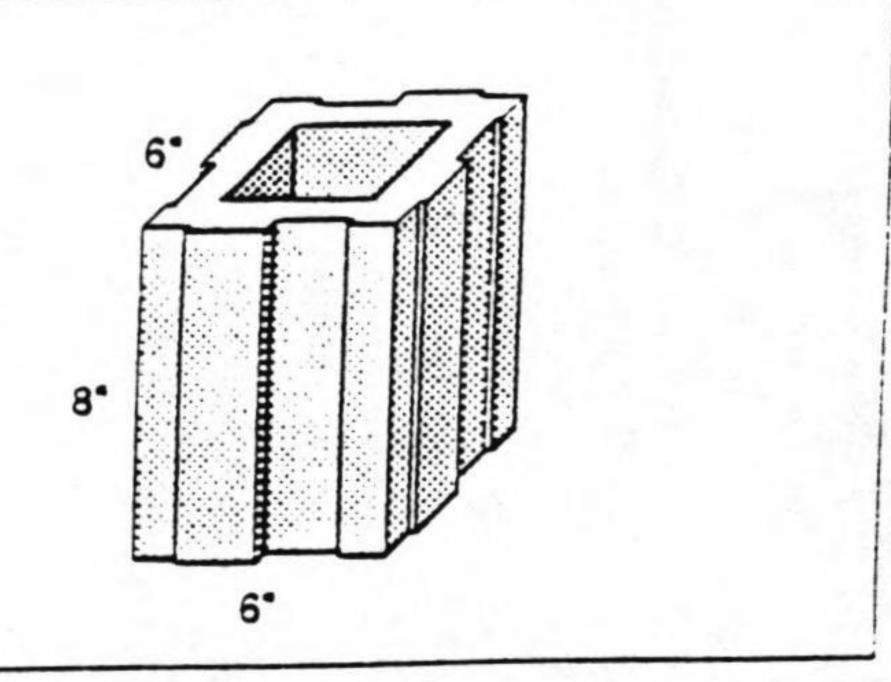
The Full Block

A concrete block that is normally made from sand, aggregates, and coment. Developed so that indigenous materials can also be used. Its unique design makes it a revolutionary building system -- the only one of its kind in the world.

Weight: 26 lbs.

Color: Grey or any other color depending on the pigmentation added during manufacturing.

Surface: A smooth surface is normal, but can be changed depending on the raw material content.



The Half Block

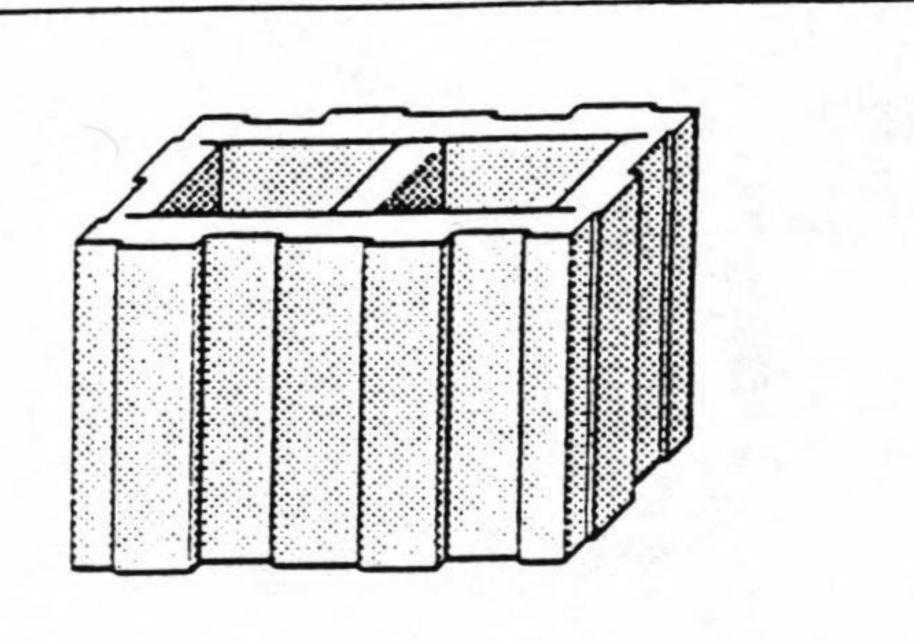
The half block is exactly one-half of a full block and is made with the same process and the same raw materials as a full block.

Weight: 13 lbs.

Color: Grey or any other color depending on the pigmentation added during

manufacturing.

Surface: A smooth surface is normal, but can be changed depending on the raw material content.



The Lintel Block

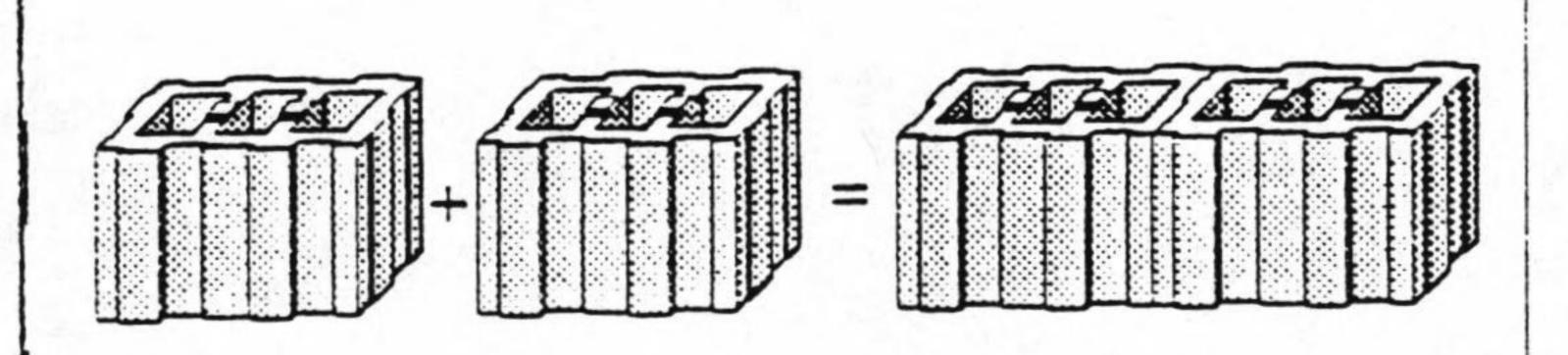
The lintel block is used over door frames and window frames. They are made to any length required, by pouring them full of concrete and binding them together. Lengths are in increments of 6 inches.

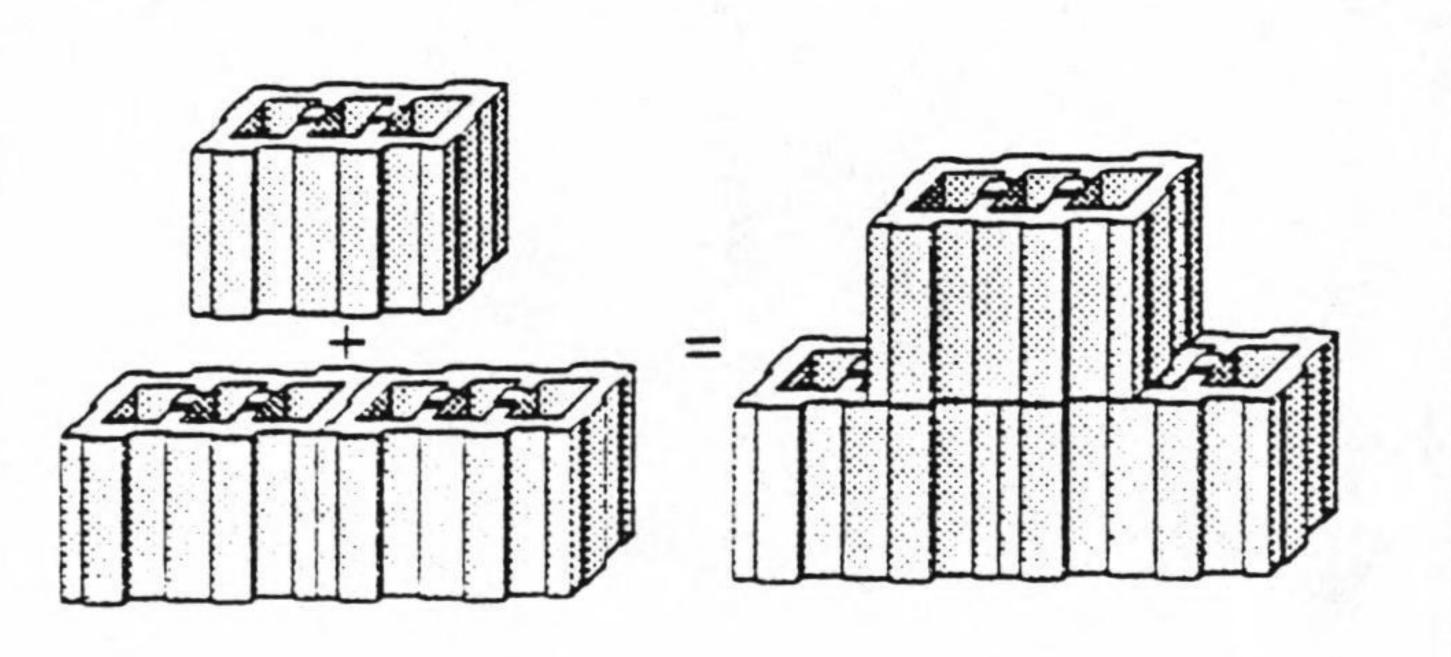
Weight: Variable depending on length

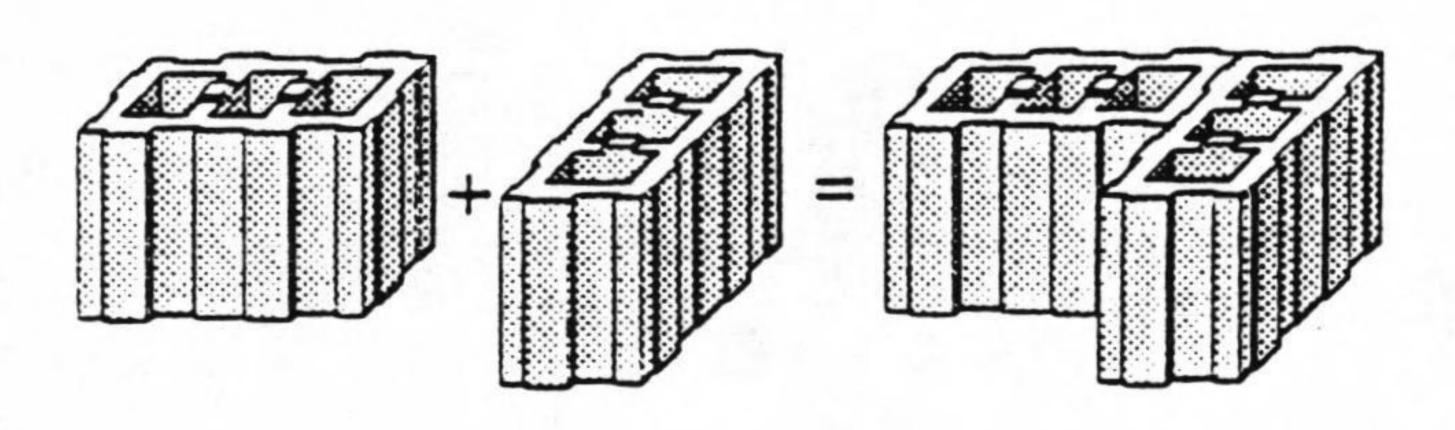
Color: Grey or any other color depending on the pigmentation added during manufacturing.

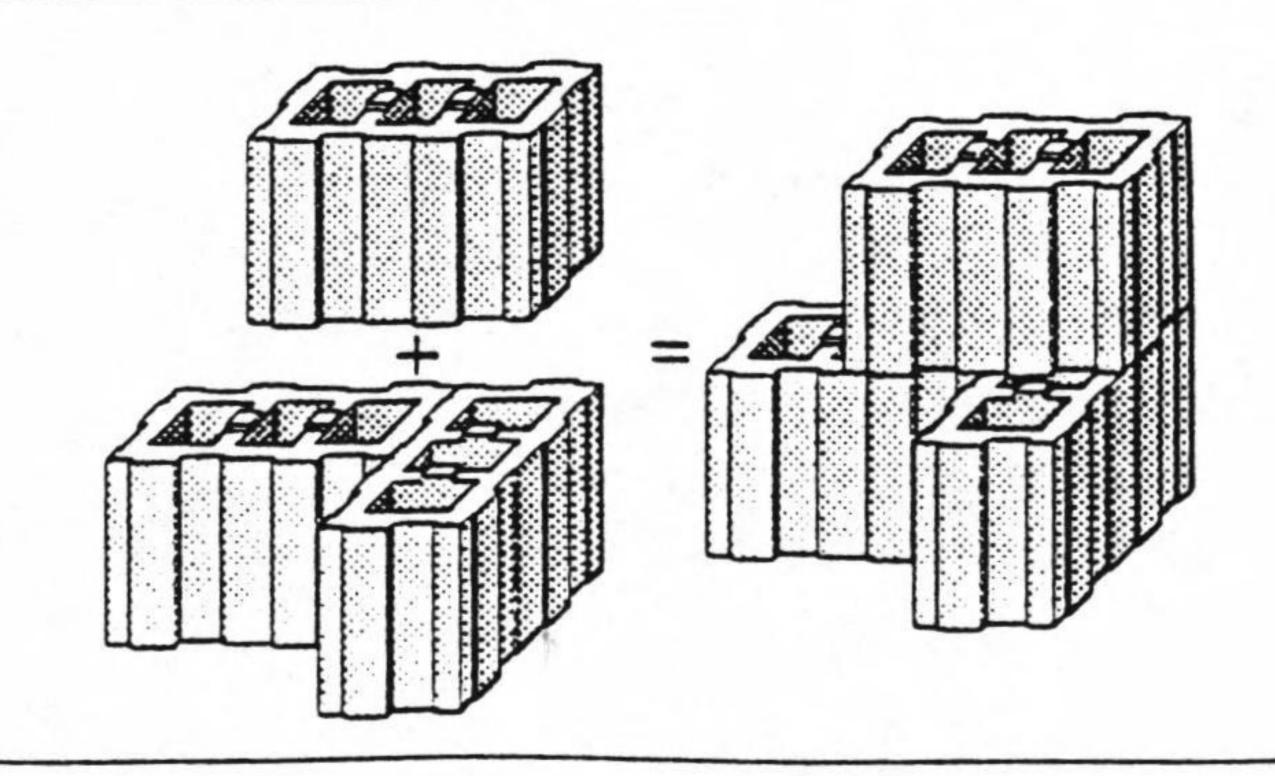
Surface: A smooth surface is normal, but can be changed depending on the raw material content.

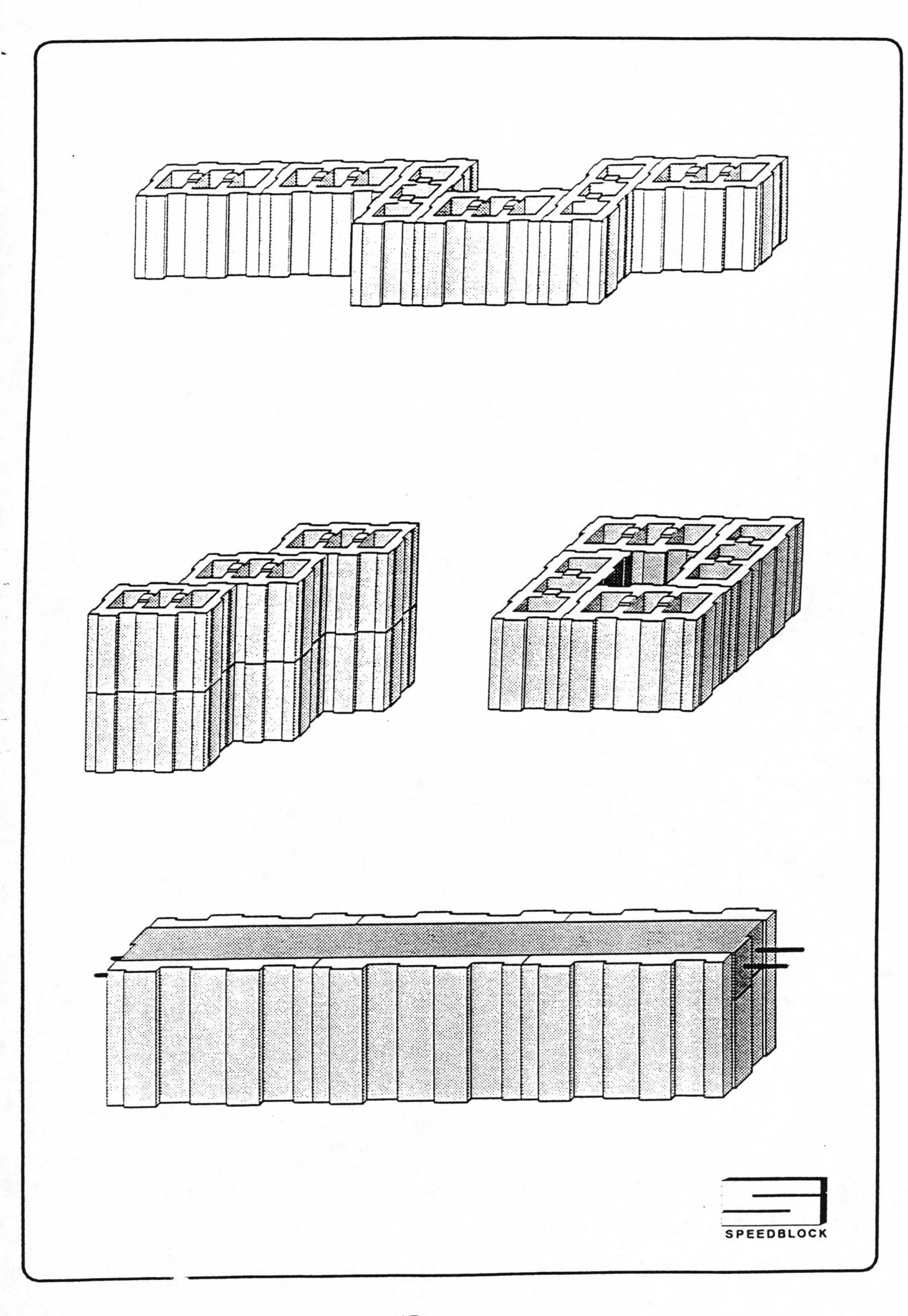
HOW THEY FIT TOGETHER:







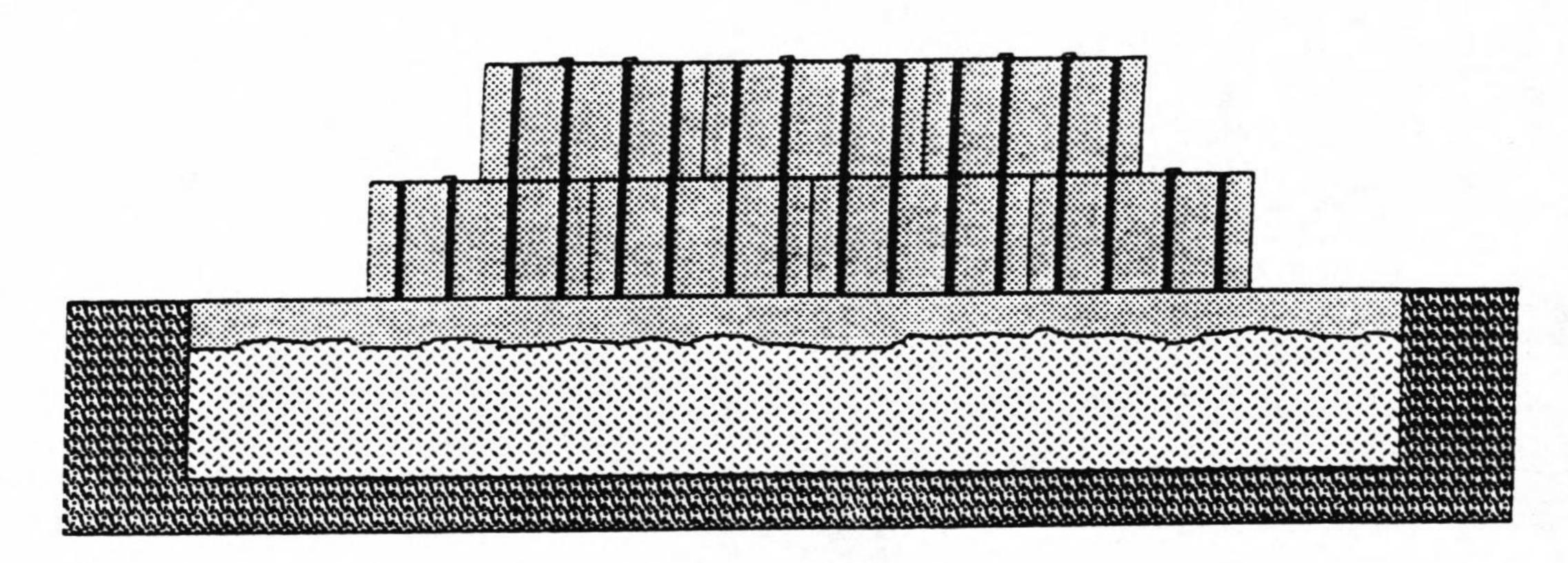




SPEEDBLOCK

The Start.

Regular concrete block or brick walls are usually built on concrete strip foundations or slabs. Speedblock walls are built using the same methods. It is important that the first course of Speedblock is laid level. To achieve this the two most common methods used are a) Form shallow channels in the foundation or slabs where the Speedblock walls are to be built, then pour in the channel a self levelling mortar. b) Lay the Speedblock on a bed of mortar when the second course of Speedblock is placed on the first course, the rest will automatically fit.



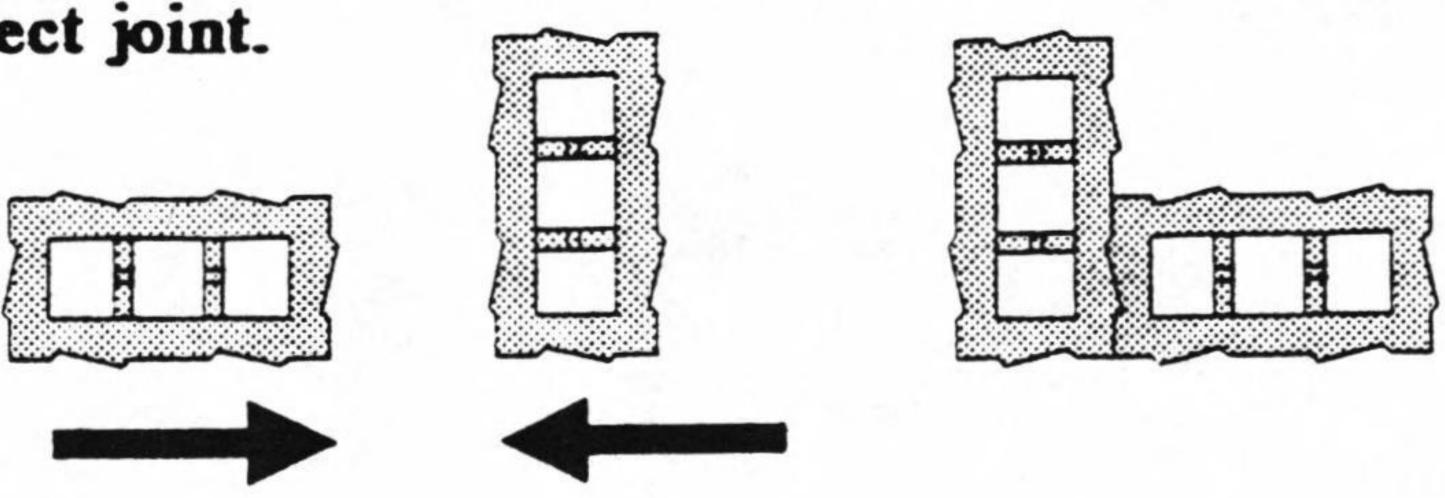
Straight Walls.

Lay Speedblocks end to end with the two producing ears face upwards, making sure there is no loose material between the two interlocking faces then bring the two Speedblocks together tight for the perfect joint. The next course is started by placing a Speedblock between the two protruding ears, all other Speedblocks will fit.



Corners.

Turn one Speedblock 90 degrees and offer the end face to exactly half the side, the face of the second Speedblock bring together tightly to form a perfect joint.





BUILDING WITH SPEEDBLOCK

Skill

No masonry or rendering skills are required to build and render walls with Speedblock.

Versatility

Speedblock's multi-directional ability allows for greater freedom of project design at little extra cost.

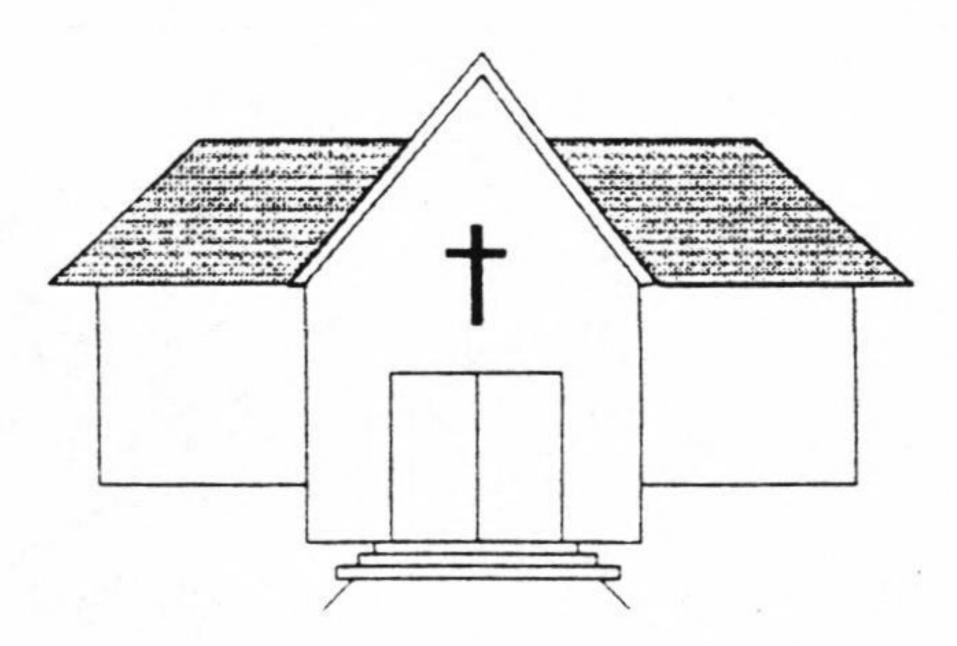
Speed

Speedblock walls go up fast. Speedblock can be laid overhead reducing scaffold lifts. Waiting for mortar joints to dry is eliminated, so building can continue even in adverse weather conditions.

Stability

Speedblock walls are made stable by;

- (i) Pouring concrete down the voids of Speedblock.
- (ii) Structural renders applied to the Speedblock wall surface.
- (iii) Applying adhesive between the joints.
- (iv) By fixing threaded steel rods to the foundations through the voids within the block. This method allows Speedblock to be taken down and reused.



Churches

Waterproofing

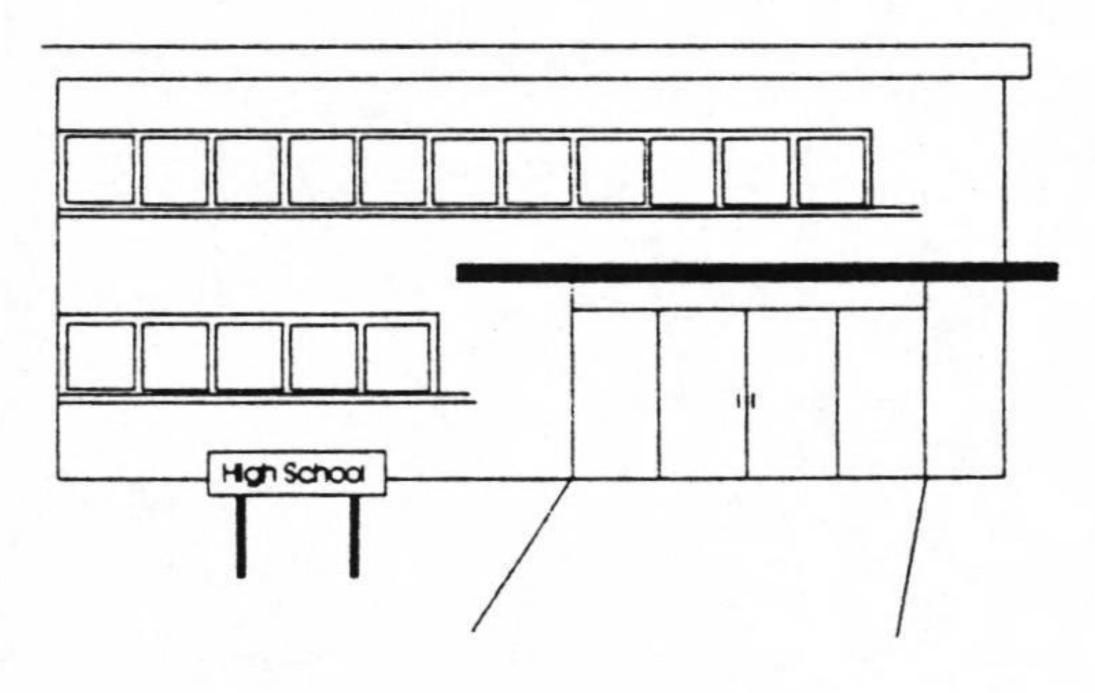
Speedblock manufactured in either dense or lightweight concrete can include a water repellent in the mix design. Alternatively, the Speedblock walls can be treated with sealers, water repellents, paints, rendering or cladding in the same manner as concrete block.

Thermal Insulation

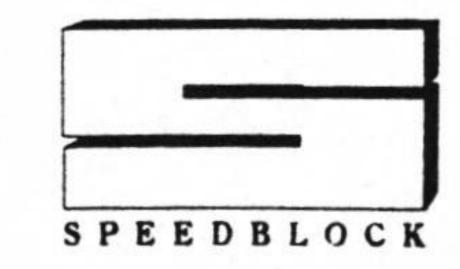
Speedblock walls are straight and will receive thermal board in sheet form, such as expanded polystyrene, rigid polyurethane foam etc. in various thicknesses to achieve local building code thermal insulation requirements.

<u>Durability - Strength - Fire and Sound</u> Installation

These are all well proven qualities that Speedblock inherits from concrete, a tried and tested cost effective building component, produced locally throughout the world.



Schools



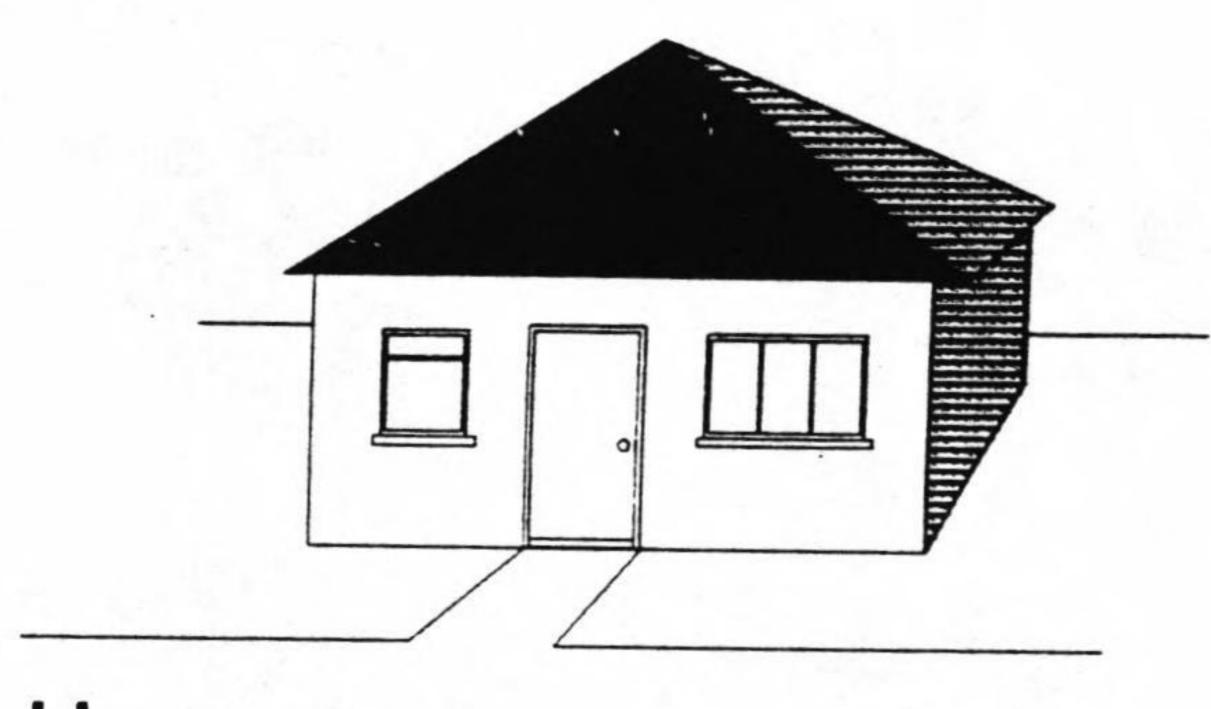
Technological advances and innovative designs have created an interlocking mortarless building system that truly works. Speedblock is a versatile, load bearing masonry unit so well designed that the need for mortar has been eliminated.

The Speedblock building system is a precision engineered family of two basic blocks: the full block and the half block. These blocks provide the perfect medium for party and fire walls, houses, churches and schools, as well as institutional, commercial and industrial buildings. Like conventional methods, the Speedblock offers numerous structural attributes: strength, durability, fire resistance, thermal insulation and sound absorption - but the comparison ends there. Unlike conventional methods, the Speedblock requires no mortar. Instead, the Speedblock employs an innovative interlocking design that has proven to be the most efficient and cost effective building system available today.

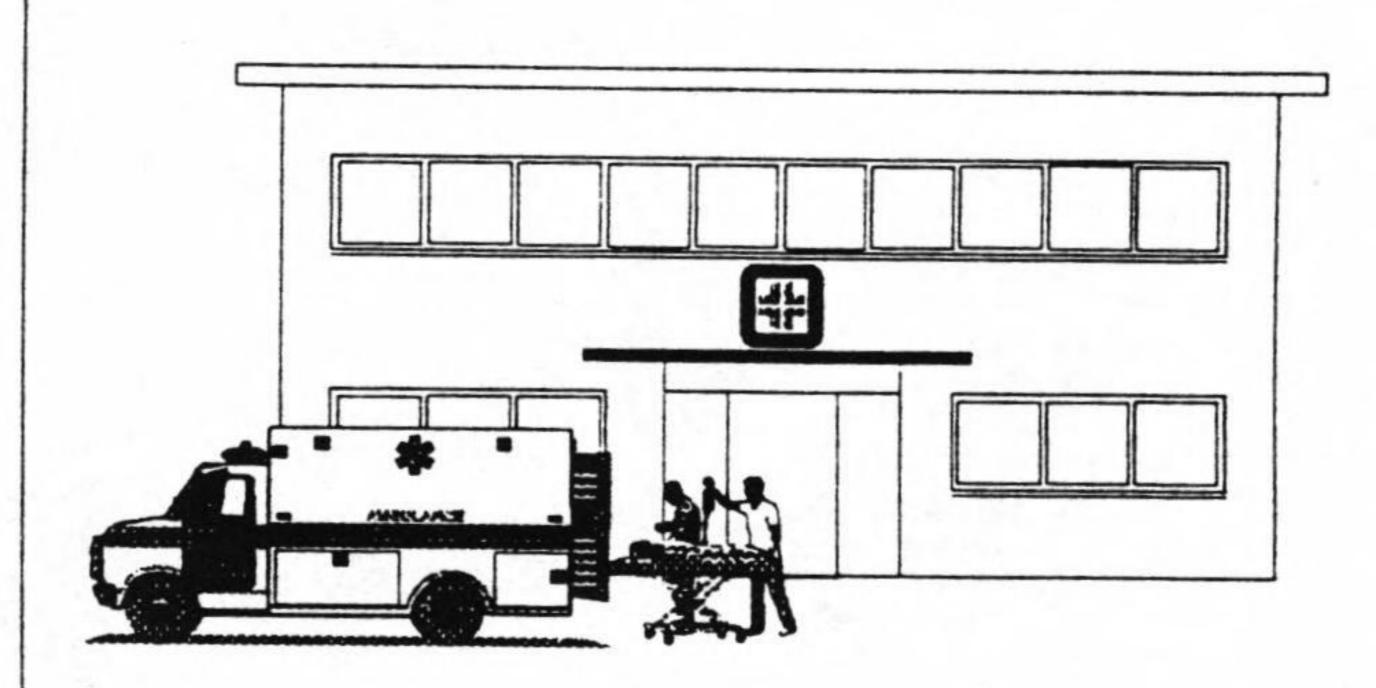
Speedblock, precisionally engineered to fit snugly together within a tolerance of approximately 1/32 of an inch. They require no cutting or sawing, resulting in simplified levelling and reduced construction time. The blocks can be produced in lightweight concrete and meet all ASTI and other authority specifications. A load factor of 1000 lbs per square inch can easily be achieved and can be increased or decreased to specification.

Once the first course is laid and levelled on a mortar bed, Speedblock interlocking blocks can be installed at five (5) times the rate of conventional masonry units. The Speedblock's unique design make it impossible to put them together incorrectly. No time is wasted waiting for mortar to dry or for skies to clear, because with Speedblock construction can continue under the most adverse conditions. Speedblock can be used in the arctic or even under water - it's that versatile!

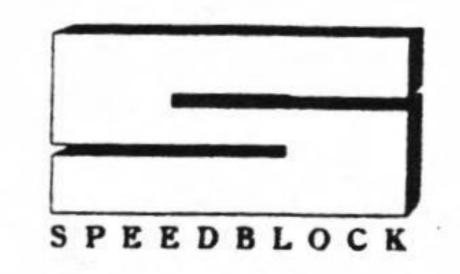
Structural strength can be enhanced by pouring concrete in between the cavities of the blocks. Utilising this special feature, a builder can produce columns, piers, crosswalls, prefinished form work or monolithic structures. For added strength, steel reinforcement rods may be added vertically within the structure. Speedblock can also be bonded with special adhesives. The finished wall may be decorated or finished with standard propriety bonding matrials, cladding, plastering, paint or concrete stain.



Houses



Hospitals



Related Trades

Speedblock is a walling system for use in residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural buildings. It integrates perfectly with related trades. Benefiting most from Speedblock's accuracy are manufactured floors, roofs, windows, doors, kitchens and bathrooms. Rendering and plastering trades saves time and materials. Following trades, i.e. joinery, electrical, plumbing, tilers and painters are all treated in a conventional manner.

Do-It-Yourself

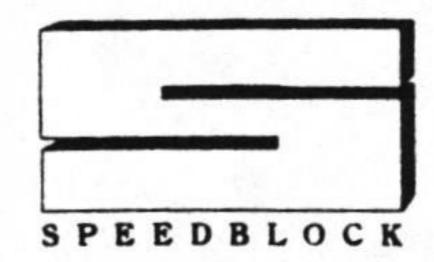
Speedblock is ideal for retaining walls and small utility buildings. Other uses include fence and screen walls, garages, permanent shuttering walls for poured concrete and various garden projects.

Non-Loading Bearing

Speedblock is ideal when used as infill walls with concrete or steel framed load bearing structures. Speedblock buildings can be designed with structural columns and beams integrated within the Speedblock building system.



Industry & Commerce



HOUSING

Building codes for structural walls

No building codes exist anywhere in the world that allows mortarless concrete blocks or bricks to be used alone in structural walls. Speedblock is manufactured to exceed building code requirements for concrete blocks in the world. Like regular concrete blocks, Speedblock is only one part of a structural walls design and will require additional components to meet local building codes for structural wall construction in housing.

For example,

the three main elements for perimeter wall construction in housing are;

- (a) Stability
- (b) Weather Resistant
- (c) Insulation

Stability

Reinforced concrete columns and bond beams within the wall cavities or coating the walls with a structural render are two methods commonly used.

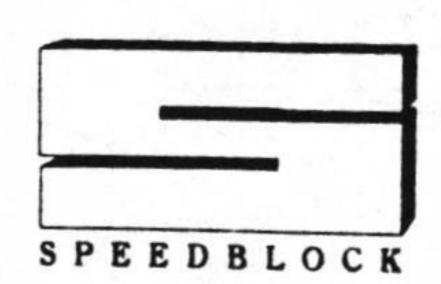
Weather Resistant

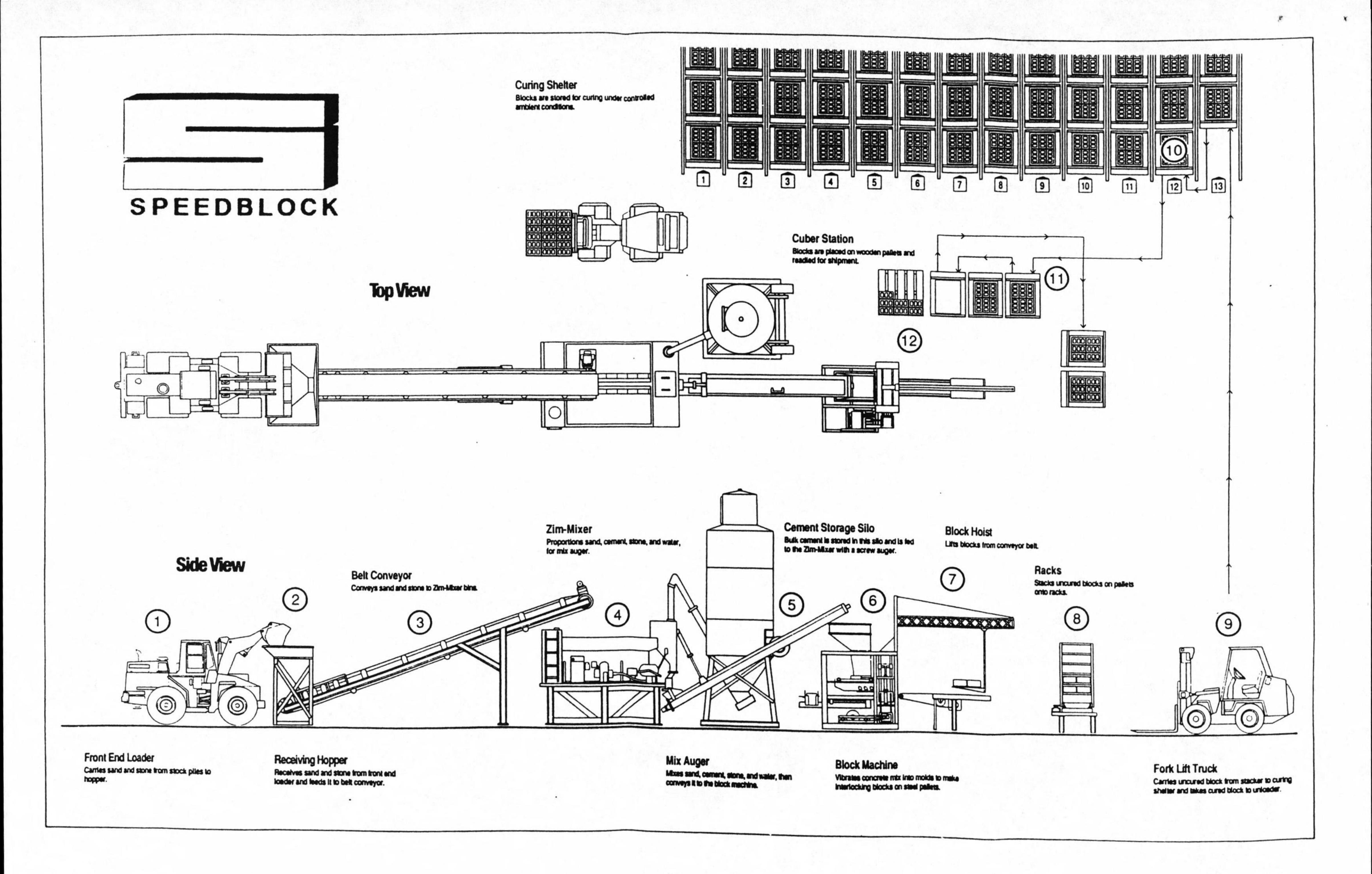
Most structural renders also meet waterproofing requirements, plain concrete faced walls are applied with brand name sealers and chemical water repellents.

Insulation

Requirements vary because of extreme weather conditions, but all insultation requirements can be met using the wide range of materials and products available on the market today, i.e. the mix design of the block using expanded clays, vermiculities, etc. Insulation materials can be placed in the wall cavities or applied in sheet form or sprayed to the exterior or interior walls.

Many houses have been built world-wide using interlocking mortarless concrete blocks.





THE SPEEDBLOCK BLOCK PLANT

Sequence of Operation of a Typical Ultra Block Plant

The raw materials (aggregates, sand, limestone, etc.) are stockpiled in the storage area of the yard. A front end loader keeps the aggregate and sand bins filled as needed. The normal practice is to size the storage bins to hold enough material for an eight (8) hour shift.

The aggregate is then carried to the weigh hopper via belt conveyors. The different materials are separately weighed in the weigh hopper. Cement is stored in a cement silo equipped with an aerator.

The dry weighed aggregates, sand and cement are now carried into the mixer via a pipe or belt. Water is added to the mixer from a separate dedicated water supply. The mixer is equipped with a water distributor manifold for adding water during the mixing cycle. Under normal conditions the mixer runs continuously. The mix is determined by the actual quantity and contents of the mix ingredients.

First, only the aggregates are pumped into the mixer and allowed to mix with water for a predetermined amount of time. After this "pre-mix" cycle, the cement is then added and the materials are further mixed for a predetermined period of time before a final volume of water is added. The amount of water is controlled by accurate moisture sensors that are built into the mixer liners.

The mixed material is now transferred via a screw conveyor to the Speedblock machine. It is poured into the block machine and the correct quantity of material is measured by a material level switch. As soon as the right quantity of material is in place, it is vibrated into the mould to form the Speedblock on

reusable steel pallets. The pallets of uncured blocks are now delivered to the staging area conveyor section. Using a block hoist, the blocks are laced into racks. When the rack is full, a forklift truck picks it up and moves it to the curing shelter.

Next, the forklift truck picks up a rack of blocks that have already cured for twenty-four hours. The rack is carried to the Pallet Stripping and Curing Station. The steel pallets are stripped of block, cleaned and placed into the block machine. The cured Speedblocks are stacked onto wooden pallets ready for shipment.

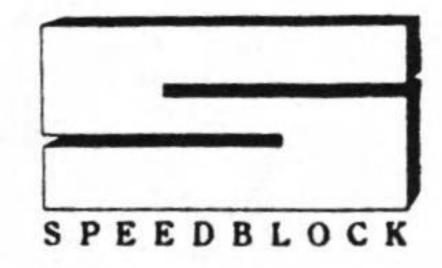
Plant Expandability

As plant requirements grow, expansions and additionals can be made to increase production or enhance efficiency.

Additions might include a second blockmachine, a complete second production line or steam curing kilns.

Plant Life Expectancy

The average plant life should be greater than thirty (30) years. This could be greater or less, depending on the plant location, the maintenance and care of the plant and the particular production components.



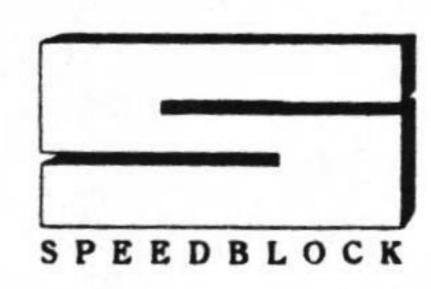
SPEEDBLOCK PORTABLE CONCRETE BLOCK PLANT MODEL 6000S

- * One Speedblock model 30 cubic yards capacity continuous flow batch, plant mounted on steel skids. Complete with 20 ton capacity cement site. One-half cubic yard material surge hopper 30 foot belt conveyor system. All electric.
- * One Speedblock model 30 concrete block machine. Designed to produce three 12" x 8" x 6" full Speedblocks per cycle. Machine includes semi-automatic and manual controls, machine features spring loaded pallet table, spring loaded compression head, electronic height and density control complete with 15 gallon pumping unit. Cooler for pumping unit and special feel drawer agitator. Complete with automatic pallet feeder.
- * Three block gravity rollaway conveyor unit.
- * Electric off bearer handing equipment to transfer green blocks from block machine to steel racks, rigid rail boom, two pallet capacity.
- * 2,500 19" x 14" x 5.16" steel pallets, die punched or sheared with rounded or cropped corners, rerolled to be flat to +/-1/32" to meet Speedblock specifications.
- * 68 36" deep x 70" wide x 60" high steel rack two pallets deep x 3 bay wide x 5 tier high designed to hold 108 full Speedblocks per rack.
- * 70 insulated rack covers 36" x 70" 60" Speedblock designed to increase initial cure process of green Speedblock

- * One diesel front loader.
- * Two diesel forklift trucks, 6,000 lb. capacity.
- * Suggested set of separate parts and tools, 40 item package for the Speedblock batching plant an the Speedblock machine.

This block plant is designed to produce 6,300 Speedblocks per 7 hour shift

Cost of plant F.O.B.



HISTORY (1956-1990)

The Speedblock interlocking, mortarless hollow concrete block building system has evolved through four generations of invention, beginning in 1956 when an english lady in her late fifties build a two-bedroomed bungalow in Surrey using mortarless interlocking concrete blocks which she made by hand in wooden moulds. The property is in perfect condition and lived in today. Her invention required ten different shaped blocks that could not be made on concrete block machines at that time.

Speedblock's inventor, a trained mechanical engineer with thirty years experience in the construction industry, became involved in 1973. Since that time over £500,000 has been invested into research and development resulting in continuous technological and manufacturing breakthroughs in interlocking mortarless concrete block design and three separate patents being granted.

Speedblock has been described as the systems block of the future available today. The complete system consists of one main block and two special blocks. It is made on selected american block machines the conventional way and is today commercially viable.

To date, there are building projects using interlocking mortarless concrete blocks designed in England, Germany, Mexico, Gibraltar, South Africa and the United States of America.



Financial Commitment

To supply and maintain a **Speedblock** Concrete Batching / Block Manufacturing Plant, complete with **Speedblock** moulds for a five year period is estimated as follows:-

Speedblock	Plant .	Supplied Delivered and	Assembled.
		Approximately	£300, 000
Maintenance.			
		year one	£ 40, 000
		year two	£ 40, 000
		year three	£ 40, 000
		year four	£ 40, 000
		year five	£ 40, 000
		total	£500, 000

^{*} figures based upon \$1.55 U.S. to the £

Based on replacement of **Speedblock** Mould wearing parts approximately every 3 months and keeping the **Speedblock** plant serviced and operational.

In these costings there is no provision made for mechanical loading, moving or stacking. This is a positive policy with the aim of utilising local unskilled labour.

Delivery time. 20 -24 weeks F.O.B. U.S.A.

Suggested way forward

A TRUST could be formed and run by trustees, selected from participating cities.

The TRUST could then raise funding to own and maintain the Speedblock plant.

The TRUST could then lend or lease the **Speedblock** plant to a local operator for a period of 5 years to a designated project in South Africa.

The TRUST could monitor the manufacturing and distribution of the **Speedblock**, ensuring quality control and effective usage of the product.

Monitioring

All aspects of the project could be monitored by a collaboration between the TRUST and respected established local organisations. e.g.

Holistic settlements.
South African Local Authorities.
The Council of South African Churches.
Recognised Local Forums

Funding

What is required is a "Brainstorming Debate". Creative input is an essential element.

Here are a few suggestions;-

Grants.

Applications for financial assistance could be made to;-

European Programme for Reconstruction and Development.

African Development Bank.

U.K. Government Overseas Aid.

World Bank.

United Nations Habitat.

Sponsorships.

Local Businesses.

National Corporations.

Educational Institutions

Financial Institutions. etc.

Fund-Raising Activities and Appeals.

Competitions.

Functions.

City Twinning. U.K - South Africa.

Raising awareness through all forms of Media

What can a family expect to achieve by using speedblock?

The following shows photographic evidence of the wall construction of a similar sized house that is being offered to underprivileged South African Families.

Location.

Mexico City.

Labour Used.

Four Unskilled Factory Workers.

Consruction Time.

Six Hours.





