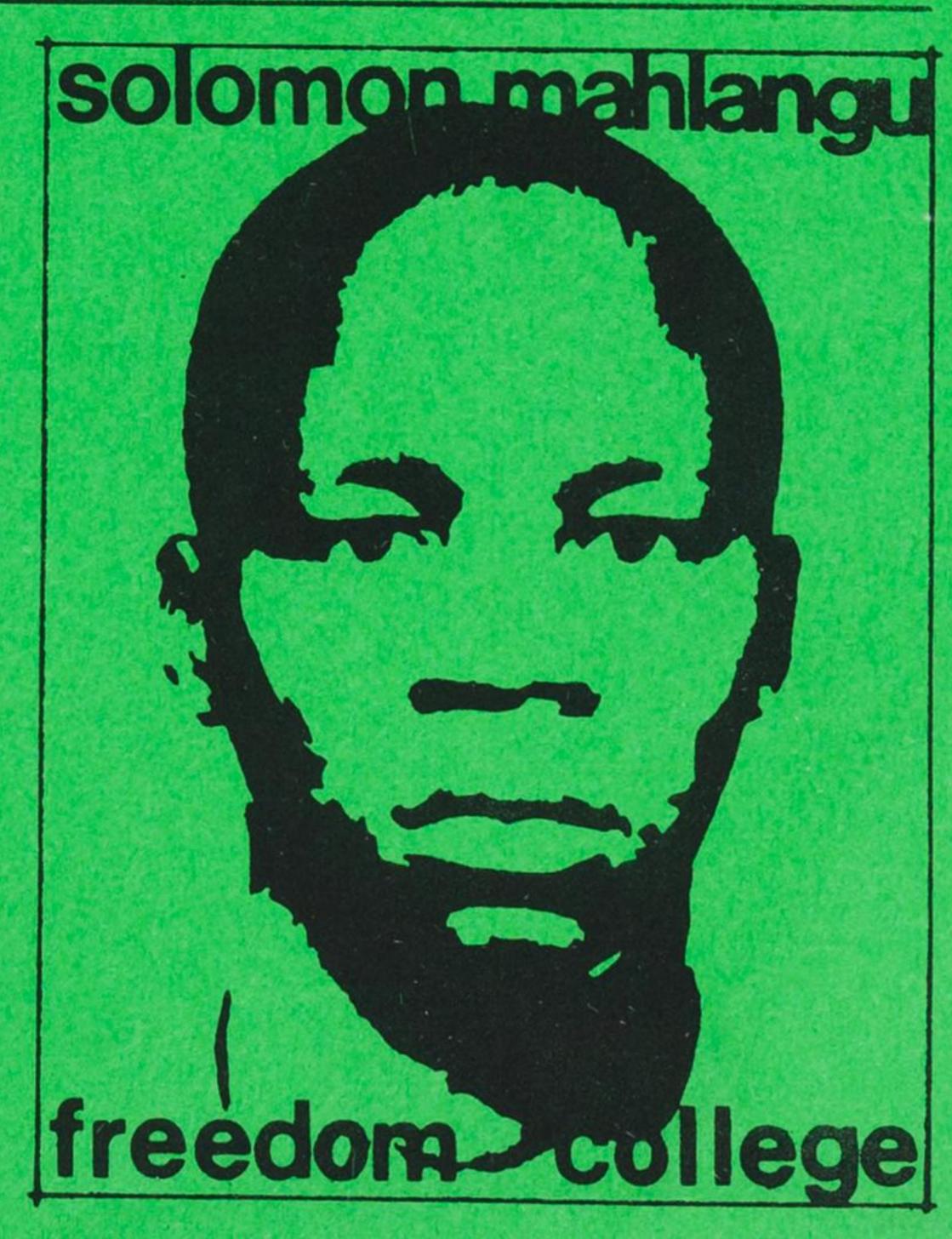


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A.N.J. (5) A.V. BULDING PROJECT





# PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1980

## INTRODUCTION

- 1. INCEPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT
- 1.1. Commencement of Work
- 1.2. Production towards Completion
- 1.3. Skilled Personnel and Outside Assistance
- 1.4. Problems of Design
- 2. CONSTRUCTION ACHIEVEMENTS AND SETBACKS
- 2.1. Targets for 1980
- 2.2. Achievements in 1980
- 2.3. Setbacks in 1980
- 3. FUTURE PLANS
- 4. PRIORITIES FOR 1981
- 4.1. Budget Estimate for 1981
- 5. APPEAL FOR AID
- 5.1. Conclusion by Alfred Nzo, Secretary General

## INTRODUCTION

On June 16, 1976, the struggle against »Bantu Education« which had taken various forms from the time of the adoption of the BANTU EDUCATION ACT in 1953 erupted in mighty demonstrations in Soweto which spread rapidly throughout the country. These protests indicated to the racist regime, that the oppressed people were no longer prepared to tolerate inferior education, or indeed the whole system of apartheid. In reply to these peaceful student demonstrations, the racist police used bullets, teargas, truncheons, brutal torture and imprisonment. Those who have since left the country, bear witness to this cruelty.

As the student unrest continued, the racists changed the name Bantu Education but not the

content of this inferior education system. Nothing has changed.

The policy of apartheid means that the black people, especially the African people, must forever be oppressed and kept in servitude. To this end the education system has been vital to them.

Education for Whites is an education which prepares them for all the privileges in life. The white child has the right to a superior education. More money is spent on the schooling of a whithe child as opposed to the amount which is spent on the education of the black child, especially the African child. The latest figures show that 620 Rands are spent on every white child while only 43 Rands are spent on every black child.

White children are educated in such a way as to enable them to step into any profession or trade. The black child, however, is either under-educated or without any educational qualificati-

ons.

Education for Blacks is not free nor is it compulsory. Out of the low wages that the parents earn, they have to pay for school uniforms, books, school fees and stationery. Education for Whites is free and compulsory.

Since the student unrest began, many thousands of our youth have left the country. Those who are fortunate enough to receive scholarships, are studying in other parts of the world. Many require basic secondary schooling and to overcome this problem, the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College has been established.

The African National Congress of South Africa believes that our children must be educated and not »domesticated« in the way that is intended by Apartheid »gutter education«. At SO-MAFCO the children will be given every opportunity to develop to the best of their ability to enable them to take their rightful place as future citizens of a new South Africa.

To this end the African National Congress of South Africa is already putting into practice

what is set out in the Freedom Charter on education. The Freedom Charter says -

- that the doors of learning and culture shall be open to all.

- that education shall be free, compulsory, universal and equal for all children.

The ANC education policy is totally geared towards producing a new South African who will be dedicated to serve the interests of the whole of South Africa.

Though much remains to be done, SOMAFCO has already made great strides and about 300 pupils are attending lessons at the school. Their number is growing daily as more and more young people continue to leave the country.

Facilities are also being given to children of primary school age and the Charlotte Maxeke Residential Creche and Nursery School has been set up. This will ensure that our children get

good schooling at an early age.

At present in South Africa many of our small children are left in the care of older children or aged grandparents, while both parents go out to work. In many cases these older children and grandparents need care themselves. We also have the situation where these parents are away working, and in many cases it is the black mother who is nanny to the white child to whom she gives tender loving care, while her own child is unattended.

A large under-educated labour force is created by this system of apartheid, most of which is dumped in the Bantustans when it is no longer needed to keep the wheels of white South Africa's industry turning smoothly. Mothers with children, the aged, and the unemployed are left in horrible conditions in these squalid Bantustans where the soil is so barren that it is humanly impossible to eke out a subsistence. Under these conditions they are viturally left there to starve.

The twin evils of apartheid, the Pass Laws and Migrant Labour System, separate families who suffer untold misery. Under these circumstances, the children are always the most disadvantaged because they do not get the basic needs with which to grow and develop properly.

The racist regime wants to create the impression that changes are being made in South Africa to make apartheid more palatable. But while there is no talk of the complete eradication of the whole racist system nothing changes. We are still faced with the hated pass laws, migrant labour, starvation, oppression and exploitation. Apartheid cannot be made better. It must be destroyed.

The struggling people of South Africa, under the leadership of the African National Congress, are working hard to rid the country of the cancer of apartheid. The struggle will continue until we have taken power and can live in a country free from apartheid, racism, oppression and exploitation. The struggle will continue until we have true democracy and peace.

Our School Building Project at Mazimbu is an important part of that struggle.

# 1. INCEPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

As a liberation movement at war, it has not been possible for us to adhere to the pattern that is normally followed by at building project. Namely, a detailed brief from client to architect; a feasibility study including sketch plans and cost estimates; client approval; architect's preparation of detailed construction drawings; employing a contractor; commencement of construction and so on.

The urgency imposed by our situation, that is young people pouring out of South Africa and the need to provide immediate facilities for accommodation and schooling, led to the demand on those of our cadres entrusted with the construction task to find radical ways of expediting the process.

#### 1.1. Commencement of Work

Thus late in 1977 our Project Manager, a qualified engineer, together with a small group of experienced ANC construction workers moved to the site donated by the Tanzanian Government. Contact was made with a Danish volunteer architect and a German volunteer engineer, both working in Morogoro at that time. A series of meetings followed, during which the vision of the project was clarified and alternative schemes considered. Draft plans were prepared and submitted to NC Headquarters.

While these initial meetings were taking place, arrangements were also being made for the establishment of temporary water and power supplies in preparation for the coming construction. Existing buildings were renovated to accommodate workers, students, stores and offices.

Also during this period (1978), ANC educationists throughout the world were entrusted with the task of formulating an educational policy, preparing syllabi, recruiting teachers, and so on. The Treasury Department was assigned the mission of mobilising aid and support for the task ahead.

In October, 1978, the ANC Education Council met a Mazimbu. Among the many decisions taken was the approval of the overall site plan and the existing, more detailed plans of the dormitory units.

On 8 January 1979, the 67th anniversary of the founding of the African National Congress, the first foundations for Dormitory Unit 1 were laid. The plans for this unit were far from complete and the pattern of »design and build« was set - a pattern which will no doubt continue till completion of the Project - with design work struggling to keep one step ahead of construction.

In this respect tremendous thanks must go to our donors who have demonstrated unflinching confidence in the ability of the ANC to implement a construction programme with such a radical approach.

In September 1979 the first Dormitory Unit, though incomplete, was given over to the school administration to provide the school's nucleus for accommodation and classroom space. One block has been converted for use as classrooms, library, office and staff preparation room. The remaining two blocks serve as student hostels.

Unfortunately, conditions in this unit are far from satisfactory at the moment. Each family unit of 50 m², which was designed for eight students, now houses 16 - 20. This has been unavoidable since our young people have been leaving South Africa in large numbers and there are no facilities for them elsewhere.

With resistance escalating in South Africa, the influx to Mazimbu continues. In an effort to cope with this increasing accommodation problem, it will certainly become necessary to use tents as additional classrooms or for hostel space.

# 1.2. Production Towards Completion

In October 1979 objectives for the project were summarised in a document entitled »ANC School Building Project Description« and targets for the coming years were set. It became obvious that a massive increase in production was needed if the project was to be completed by 1985.

This was reflected by the targets set for the year 1980 which represented a production increase 400% over the 1979 production. It is estimated that a 300% increase has actually been achieved.

#### 1.3. Skilled Personnel and Outside Assistance

Throughout this period our professional capacity has grown in the Technical Department as in other spheres. The volunteer Danish architect, who has remained full time with the project from mid-1978, was joined at the beginning of 1979 by an ANC member who is also an architect. Two other ANC members assist in the drafting and design office.

To meet the high production goals we have set ourselves, adequate numbers of trained supervisors are crucial. One of our students doing third year Civil Engineering, temporarily took command of the site until the arrival in 1980 of two volunteers - one Dutch and one Danish engineer - who now share site supervision. Out student has now been able to return to his studies. The present site supervision has been strengthened by the recruitment of three Tanzanian fore-

men. Undoubtedly our output could be further increased with the addition of more supervisory staff.

From the outset we have been building up a core of skilled tradesmen working under the site supervision and leading the team of site. We now have skilled welders, electricians, carpenters, joiners, plumbers, and so on, drawn from our own ranks as well as from volunteers from abroad.

There is considerable expertise within our team. However, where expertise has not been available to us we have sought it outside. Many individual expatriates, sympathetic to our cause who have been working in Tanzania have come forward to assist us in their own time, and of particular value has been contributions to the structural design (calculation of the structural reinforced concrete of the column/beam structure) and to the electrical engineering of the Dormitory Units.

As part of a UNDP assistance to the project, funds were allocated for technical cooperation with the Ardhi Institute in Dar es Salaam and programmes worked out which integrated long term planning work with the students' project work. Thus planning on the library and Cultural Centre has commenced, a measured survey of the existing village and factory has been undertaken, a bill of quantities for the dormitory units has been prepared and a feasibility study for the vocational training centre has been completed.

In addition to the assistance from those mentioned above, there have been many other firms and individuals, too numerous to mention, who have contributed time and advice to the ANC since this project was initiated.

Norplan A/S, a Norwegian consultancy firm, was engaged by us in 1978 to help with physical planning and design on water reticulation, sewerage, roads, drainage, power supply and street lighting. This is work of a specialised nature which we were not in a position to undertake ourselves. Norplan's research resulted in a Preliminary Design Report detailing proposals for at total sewerage system and a reticulation plan for water and main electricity supply. This firm is currently working on contract documents for the above-mentioned infrastructure. Work will commence as soon as possible when a donor can be found.

#### 1.4. Problems of Design

The dynamism of the project places unusual demands on the design team. Apart from coordinating the work of the consultants mentioned above the pressure from the building site is difficult to keep pace with. New building can only be started when foundation plans are ready and then the race is on.

For this reason, and also to streamline work on site, standardisation of construction details is a major objective. Thus only two basic construction methods are employed: column and beam, or sand-cement blockswall. Roof trusses, window and door frames, fixtures, and so on, are all standardised and prefabricated in the workshop. It is also planned to prefabricate concrete slabs for paving as well as sinks, ironing tables and other items.

Feedback from the workshop and building site contributes to the simplifying of construction details.

Efforts to standardise proved unsuccessful with the attempt to design a »universal house« which could accommodate a large family plus one or two single people sharing; or a large number of single people sharing. This effort was brought about by the pressure to start building Dormitory Unit 1 (which includes four staff houses) in January 1979. Reports from the staff indicate that this does work well and plans are on the drawing board for a small family house and a six-bedroom house for single people sharing.

An unusually high level of input regarding the formulation of policy for the project has fallen on the design team in consultation with the Project Manager.

Consultation with the relevant ANC departments does take place and similarly all basic plans are approved.

However, the dynamism of the project has forced the people on the spot to undertake a great deal of research. For instance, design work on the Children's Centre commenced before the Women's Secretariat had finalises their concept. Questions such as: Would the centre be wholly or partially resiental? How many children were expected to attend? - etc., are even now difficult to answer and decisions and assumptions have had to be made to enable the project to continue.

# 2. CONSTRUCTION ACHIEVEMENTS AND SET-BACKS

## 2.1. Targets for 1980

The following construction progress should have been seen in 1980: completion of Dormitory Unit 1; virtual completion of Dormitory Unit 2; two-thirds completion of Dormitory Unit 3; completion of two classroom blocks; staff housing; commencement on the construction of the Hospital and Children's Centre; commencement of construction of the Vocational Training Centre; phase one of the renovation of the Village.

It will be noted that some items were completed more or less on schedule; others were late; some were not initiated.

#### 2.2. Achievements in 1980

Since the beginning of the project, contruction has commenced on more than 35 structures. Many of these were initiated in 1980.

#### Unit 1

As mentioned previously, the dormitory blocks of Dormitory Unit 1 were handed over to the school administration late in 1979 although much of the finishing work remains to be done. The community hall of this unit will reach completion early in 1981. Food preparation, dining facilities, recreation and laundry rooms will then be available for use. Four staff houses attached to this Unit are now complete.

#### Unit 2

At the beginning of 1980 construction of the four staff houses of Dormitory Unit 2 was begun and they are now complete and occupied. Excavation for the remainder of the Unit began in May. Three blocks are roofed, with interior work still remaining to be done. It is estimated that Dormitory Unit 2 will be completed in June 1981. The columns of the Dining and Community Hall are up and work will proceed when reinforcement steel becomes available.

#### Unit 3

Construction has also been commenced on Dormitory Unit 3. Internal sewerage and water have been completed, the foundations of all three blocks are ready, and slabs for two of the blocks are cast. The community hall is presently being excavated and digging is soon to start for the staff houses attached to this Unit.

#### Classrooms

Construction on the first two classroom blocks began early in 1980. Structural work has now been completed on both blocks. The walls are up on Block 1 and roofing is under way. The first four classrooms in these blocks will be available for use in the first quarter of 1981 and the second four in June 1981. The setting out of the next two classroom blocks has begun.

#### Additional Staff Housing

Our programme for 1980 envisaged contracting out one Dormitory Unit. To simplify supervision of the contract it was decided to continue ourselves with the construction of the Dormitory Units and to contract out six staff houses instead. These will be completed by May 1981.

## Hospital

Excavations are complete for the hospital. Further construction will be completed when the plans have been modified.

#### Workshops

The first workshop of the Vocational Training Centre has been built, and is being used temporarily as a central warehouse for supplies. Eventually, it is visualised that this building might be used to house the Tailoring and Leatherwork shops of the Vocational Training Centre.

## Renovation of Village

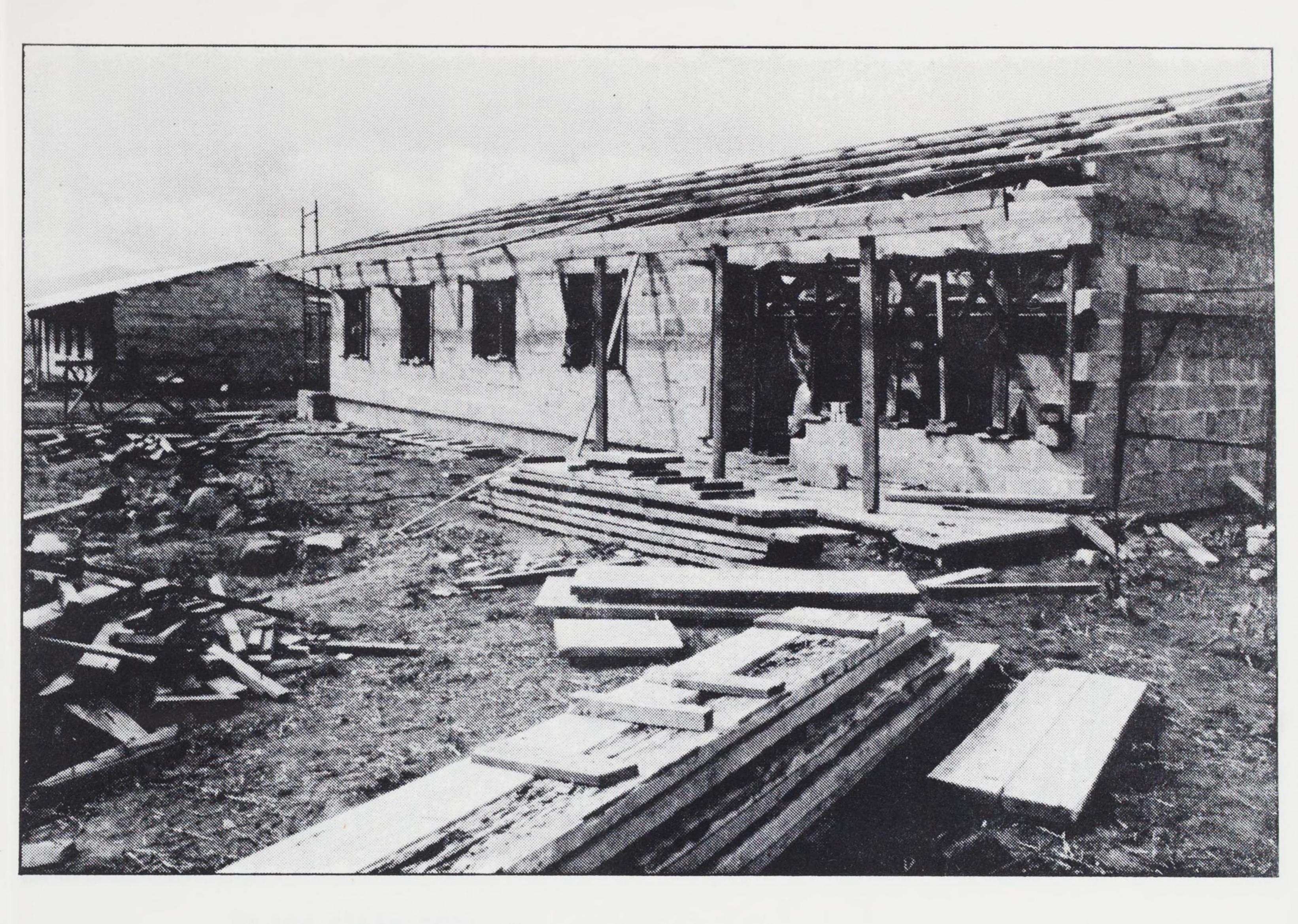
Plans for this are being drawn up at the present time.

#### Carpentry Workshop

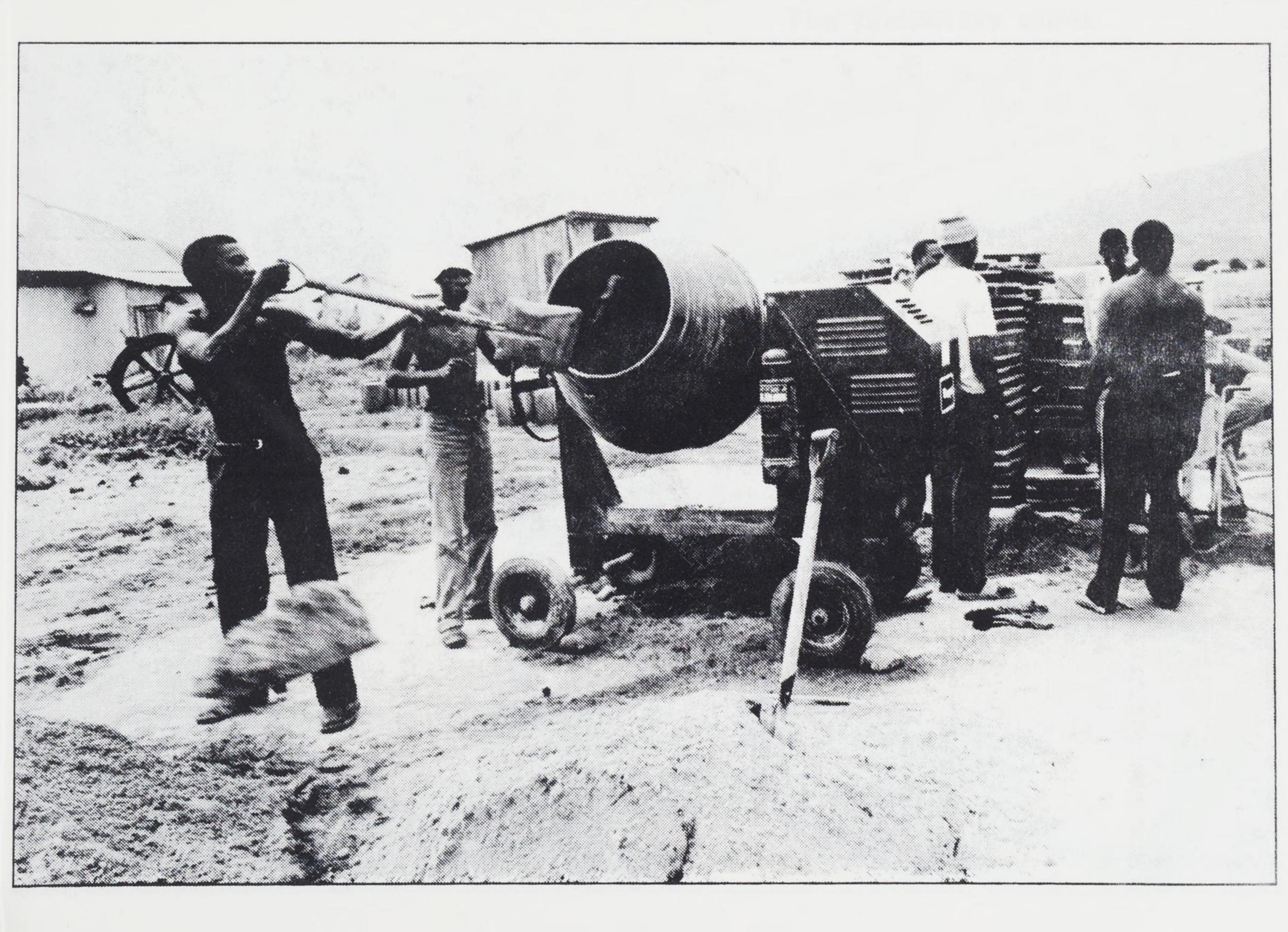
The old sisal factory is being adapted and renovated while in use as a carpentry workshop. This workshop is now critical to our progress on the building site.

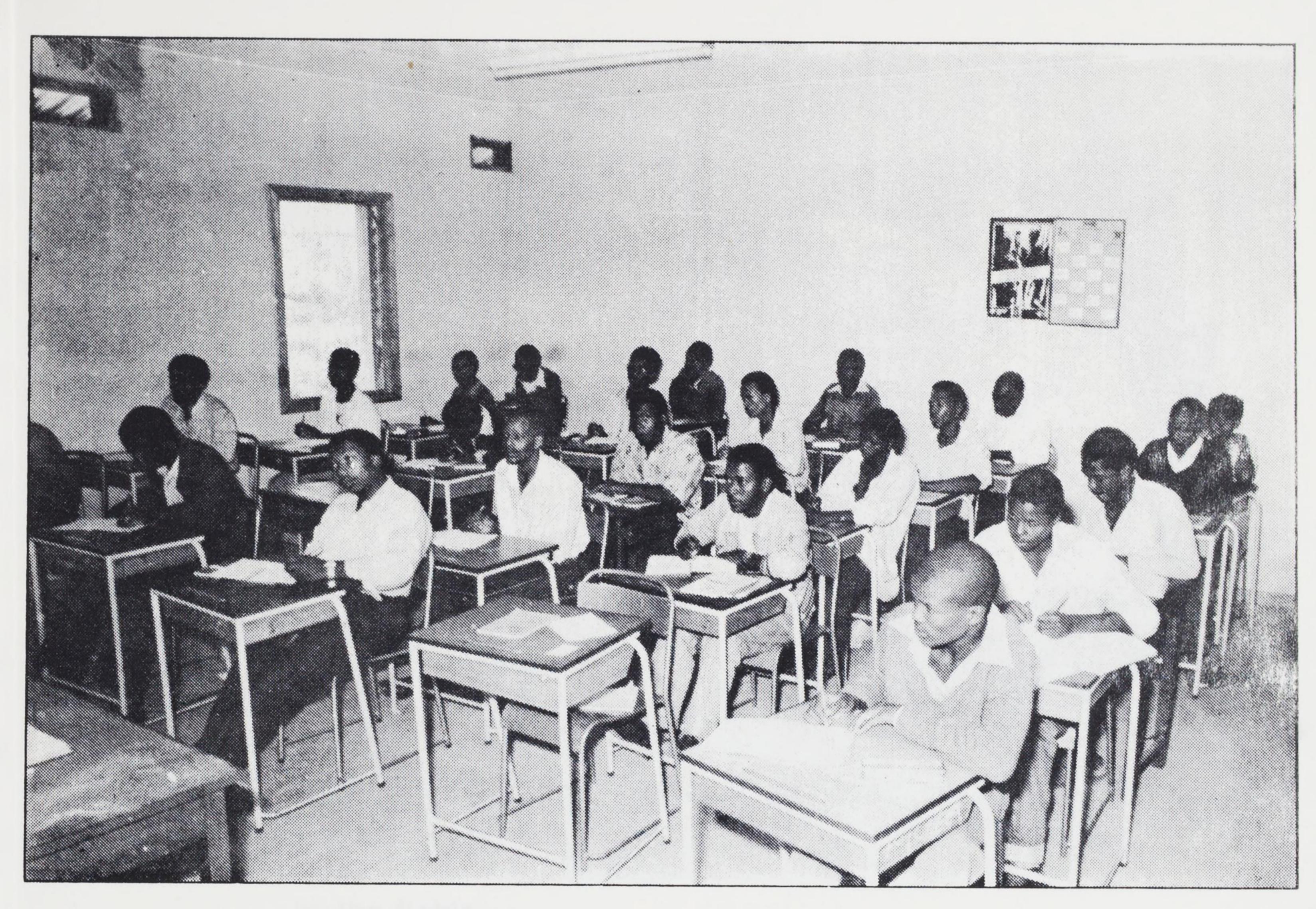
#### 2.3. Seet-Backs in 1980

The delays can be attributed to three basic problem areas: changing priorities; shortages of skilled personnel; shortages of materials.



On the building site





In the classroom

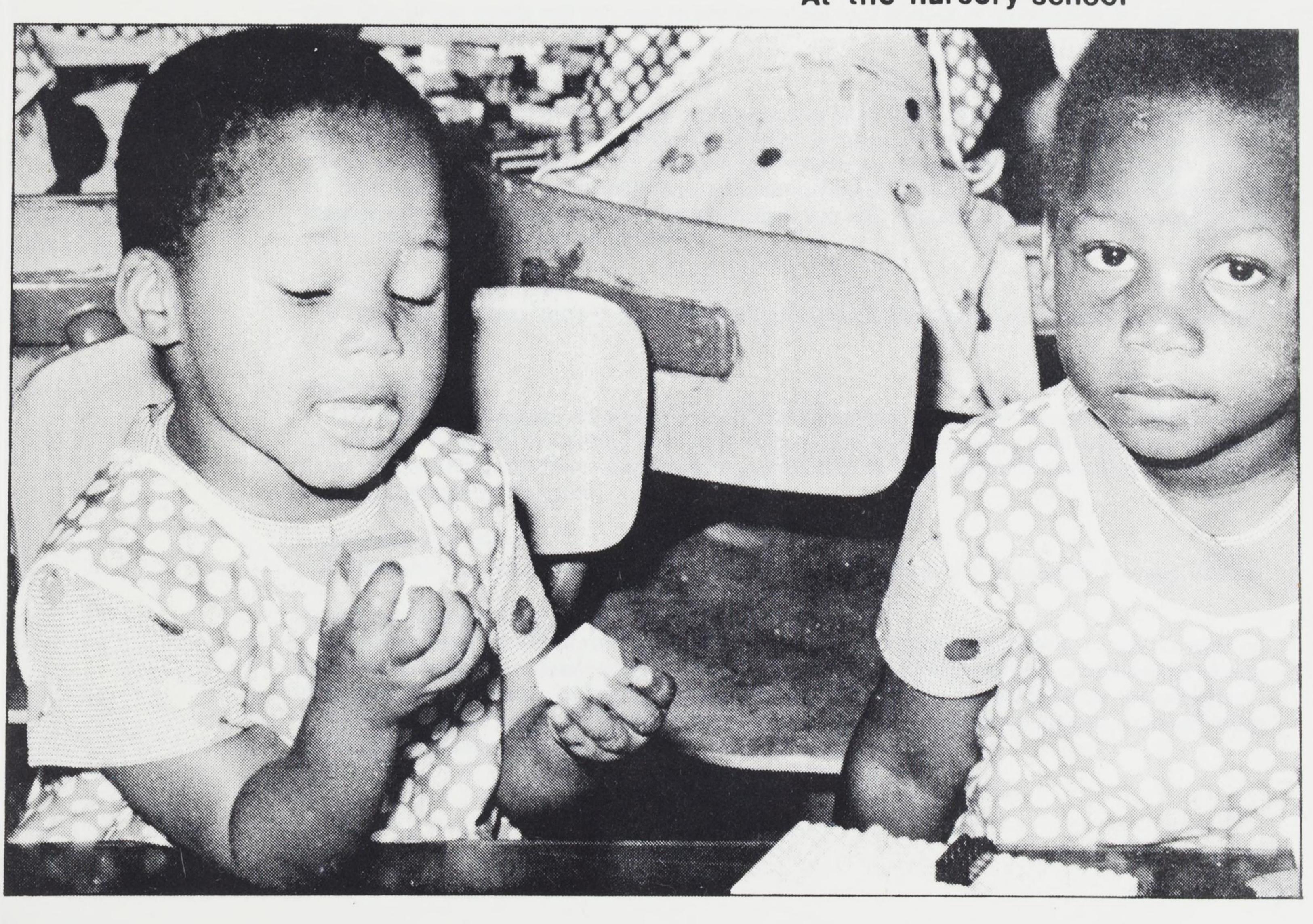
The temporary clinic





In the fields

At the nursery school



2.3.1. Changing Priorities

One major reason for delays to the original programme has been caused by new priorities which emerged as a result of the tremendous increase in the population. To meet the demands of this development much time, energy and material was spent in the course of this year in improving and erecting temporary services and on permanent structures not foreseen in the 1980 programme. Wherever possible the project management is striving to utilise permanent structures for temporary needs rather than build temporary structures.

Water supply

In 1979 piped water was made available to the Mazimbu community by installing water tanks and pumping water from the Ngerengere River which flows nearby. This was an improvement over the previous situation, whereby the water was trucked in in barrels. The water is still not pure and must be boiled before use. A filtration tank and chlorinating unit are currently being built to ensure an adequate safe supply of water for the community until such time as Mazimbu can be linked with the Morogoro town water supply.

Sewerage

As the planning of the general sewerage system is not yet finalised (Norplan), it has been necessary to build temporary septic tanks and soak pits for each Unit.

Food Supply

Provision has been made for the storage and distribution of monthly and daily supplies as well as for a temporary butchery, both of which will suffice until the construction of the main supply unit.

Farming

The poultry section has been expanded by the addition of two more poultry units. This makes a total of three, housing 600 layers and 1000 broilers. Building is in progress for 180 m² extension to the piggery, consisting of slaughter and feed preparation rooms. These units ensure that the ANC community can be supplied with eggs, chickens and pork - items which would not otherwise be available in the diet due to their high cost on the local market.

Production Requirements

Timber sheds, comprising a total area of 1000m<sup>2</sup> are under construction. These will serve as storage space which will protect the timber being seasoned from adverse effects of sun and rain. One of the sheds will be used to pre-assemble roof trusses in preparation for use on site.

Workshops

A small tailoring and dressmaking workshop has been built. This currently has a staff of six who produce all the community's sheets, towels, curtains, and so on, uniforms for the nursery school children and alterations to clothing from solidarity groups abroad. The workload is heavy, thus necessitating the establishment of a tailor shop at this time. Plans are under way for the erection of a large tailoring factory which in time will also become a commercial proposition as well as meeting the needs of Mazimbu.

Student Food Preparation

It was imperative to expand the temporary student kitchen due to the greatly increased student population.

Photo Laboratory

Also nearing completion is a temporary photo laboratory which will be used for training and will give the capacity to develop and print films on the spot, therefore enabling us to respond more readily to request from supporters the world over for photographic coverage of Mazimbu in various stages of progress.

Urgent Housing Needs

A house for our volunteers has also been built. This is close to the Vocational Training Centre.

Temporary Nursery and Primary School

We have begun to extend and renovate an existing old building to meet the urgent needs of between 80 and 120 nursery and primary school children. This should be completed in March 1981, and the facilities provided can easily be adapted later for use as a centre for relaxation.

These numerous and varied projects have all contributed to drawing materials and staff away from the programmed work.

## 2.3.2. Shortage of Skilled Personnel

Despite the increase in personnel over the past year progress on the building site is still hampered particularly by a lack of well-trained and skilled artisans, capable of working independently and of supervising their trades. Some of the skilled ANC members with years of experience are excellent craftsmen but are poorly educated. Some are even illiterate and cannot read a plan.

Many have been delegated for training at institutions in Tanzania and abroad and will eventually rejoin and strengthen the project.

## 2.3.3. Material Shortages

#### Cement

A problem that has plagued us since the beginning, has been the chronic shortage of cement. The site requires approximately 20-30 tons per week. The promise of 20 tons per week from the factory in Dar es Salaam is inadequate for our requirements and even this small amount is not always forthcoming. In response to urgent appeals we have had two shipments of 100 tons each from the German Democratic Republic, 60 tons from Holland, and 100 tons from Czechoslovakia has just arrived. These have proved invaluable in contributing to progress this year. However, these are not regular shipments and shortages continue to retard our progress.

#### Electrical Cables, etc.

Stocks of electrical cables, hardware, plumbing equipment, tools, and so on, are often unavailable for greater or lesser periods. Items such as paint, chipboard and reinforcement steel often go into short supply, which means considerable increase in costs; or they disappear from the market altogether, causing further delays. The unpredictability of these shortages is a complicating factor which makes long-term planning and purchasing extremely difficult, but efforts are being made to minimise the problem by importing those items which can be identified as constantly in short supply.

#### Joinery Products

In the past much of the joinery work was contracted out due to our lack of capacity in this area. This resulted in late deliveries and poor quality workmanship. The erratic supply of doors and window frames which contributed to earlier delays has been overcome by the establishment of our own carpentry workshop. The workshop is now producing all the frames and doors for Dormitory Unit 2 and the classrooms, etc., and will continue to do so for subsequent units and houses. They are also manufacturing the wood fittings such as wardrobes, kitchen cupboards, etc. This workshop will be expanded even further, pending the arrival of ten more woodworking machines to supplement the five existing ones. Production will then include furniture - beds, tables, chairs, shelving and so on - required by the school and staff. When the school project is complete, this workshop, part of the Vocational Training Programme, can be converted to the making of goods for the open market, thus contributing to the upkeep of the complex.

## 3. FUTURE PLANS

## 3. Future Plans

It is evident that the cost of building such a project is high, as will be the running costs of the complex. Taking into consideration supplies, transport, electricity, maintenance and other expenditures, a conservative estimate of annual running costs could well be in the region of 30,000,000 Tanzanian shillings - about \$4,000,000. This figure represents twice the annual construction costs during the peak years ahead, 1981-1982 - and does not allow for inflation. International support for our project has been overwhelming and our very existence has been dependent on the generous solidarity of governments, volunteer agencies and support groups. For this we are deeply grateful. However, it is our goal to be as self-supporting as possible. This is fundamental both to our education policy and to the overall policy of a people's organisation at war. We have set ourselves the following aims:

Self-Sufficiency: Towards this end, we have already begun to establish the machinery which will eventually enable us to produce for ourselves what we need, or provide funds for those items which must be purchased.

Our Agricultural Unit is one example. As stated previously, pork, chickens and eggs are now produced. The vegetable garden is supplying part of our requirements and will eventualle be expanded to fill all our vegetable consumption needs. Fruit trees have been planted and will soon bear fruit, another important addition to the diet. We also have acreage under maize, sorghum, beans and sunflowers, and are planning for dairy farming to commence in the near future.

Workshops, also outlined above, will include a Cobblery shop which will undertake the work which otherwise would have to be paid for in the town. Capentry as well as Joinery workshops will provide for our own needs and also earn from the local market. Various other cash enterprises are being investigated and will be implemented if proved feasible.

Student participation: The students have a large part to play in this programme of self-

sufficiency. Every ANC document dealing with education and the school programme emphasises student partipation in manual and productive labour. This is hardly surprising for an organisation fighting a system based on elitism, a system in which the effects of Bantu Education must be actively combatted by our own education system. The direct educational benefits derived from participation in the production process, particularly by a youth who have previously been denied access to that process, has readily been recognised by South African educationists. Student participation has already begun, albeit on a small scale. For instance, at the time of the last harvest, classes stopped for a week while staff and students alike went into the fields to help reap the maize crop.

Vocational Training: Relevant both to self-sufficiency and to the further development of the students themselves, is the introduction of the vocational training programme, which will be expanded in the future. Instruction is at present being offered in carpentry, bricklaying, electrical installation, welding, motor mechanics, painting, tailoring and agriculture. As personnel and material resources become available, it is hoped to include other skills, i.e. plumbing, joinery and cobblery. Students receive both theoretical and practical instruction. As far as possible, given their capacity, they take part in actual production with the site teams.

# 4. PRIORITIES FOR 1981

It has become clear that the need for certain buildings is now urgent.

Dormitory Unit 4. Since it is unlikely that the influx of students will diminish, it is hoped this year to commence work on Dormitory Unit 4.

Accomodation. In order to house our young mothers as well as the people living in Morogoro, work on the conversion of the village is due to start in February.

Science Blocks. In view of the urgency expressed by the teaching staff for laboratory facilities, science blocks will be started in 1981.

Primary School. This was originally scheduled for construction in 1983. At present the school is housed in a room of one of the existing residences of the old sisal plantation. Thirty children are registered with three teachers. A further fifty children in this age group are schooling in Morogogo and Dar es Salaam, waiting to come to Mazimbu when facilities exist for them. Because of their desperately overcrowded conditions, the building of this school may have to take precedence over others programmed for 1981.

Children's Centre. The Children's Centre is also due to begin this year. Plans are being finalised and construction is due to commence in March. The Centre will cater for eighty creche children and one hundred and fifty nursery school children. In the meantime 38 mothers and 48 children up to the age of three years are living at the Charlotte Maxeke Residential Creche, a rented house in Morogoro. A temporary ANC nursery has also been set up in Morogoro to care for children in the 2½-6 age group. The nursery school is organised on a daily basis, with 43 children attending and a staff of eight. This nursery will soon move into the renovated house at Mazimbu.

#### 4.1. Budget Estimate for 1981

In October 1979 cash flow for 1981 was estimated based on the construction programme (see ANC School Building Project Description).

At that time building costs in Tanzania were just under two thousand Tanzanian shillings (\$200) per square metre. (Ministry of Planning and Education, Tanzania).

Over the past year costs have spiralled and inflation is presently running at a rate of 2½% per month with building expenses approaching four thousand shillings (\$400) per square metre.

Our original 1981 budget envisaged a total outlay of seventeen and a half million Tanzanian shillings (\$1,700,000). Although our construction programme has altered, the bulk of the work to be undertaken remains much the same. Some of the effects of inflation will be offset by our intention to import much of the building hardware. Because most of the construction is undertaken directly by ourselves our construction costs per square metre are lower than on the open market. However we will require an estimated minimum of twenty million shillings (\$2.000.000) during 1981.

# 5. APPEAL FOR AID

The boldness of this ANC project has fired the imagination of all who oppose apartheid and its final success continues to depend on the continued financial, moral and material aid received from sympathetic governments, voluntary agencies and support groups throughout the world. The needs are great and varied.

We appeal to all who share with us the vision of a future free and democratic South Africa to contribute as generously as possible towards the completion of this exciting and important pro-

ject.

Please help us in order to ensure that our children and youth in exile shall have every opportunity for an education that will fully equip them for the tasks that lie ahead. When victory is achieved, the major work of building and consolidating an independent state will only be possible with a highly skilled, trained and educated people.

#### 5.1. Conclusion

The African National Congress and the struggling people of South Africa, are fully aware that the development of a new education system for a new South Africa would not have been at this stage if it were not for the material and moral support that we enjoy from all our steadfast supporters. For this we shall always be grateful.

We hope for the continued support from all progressive mankind until such time that we have completely destroyed that apartheid regime and taken power. We are confident that our Donors will respond to our cause with the inspiration, the courage, the determination, and devotion to

freedom.

Yours in the struggle in the Year of the Youth

A. NZO Secretary-General African National Congress (SA)

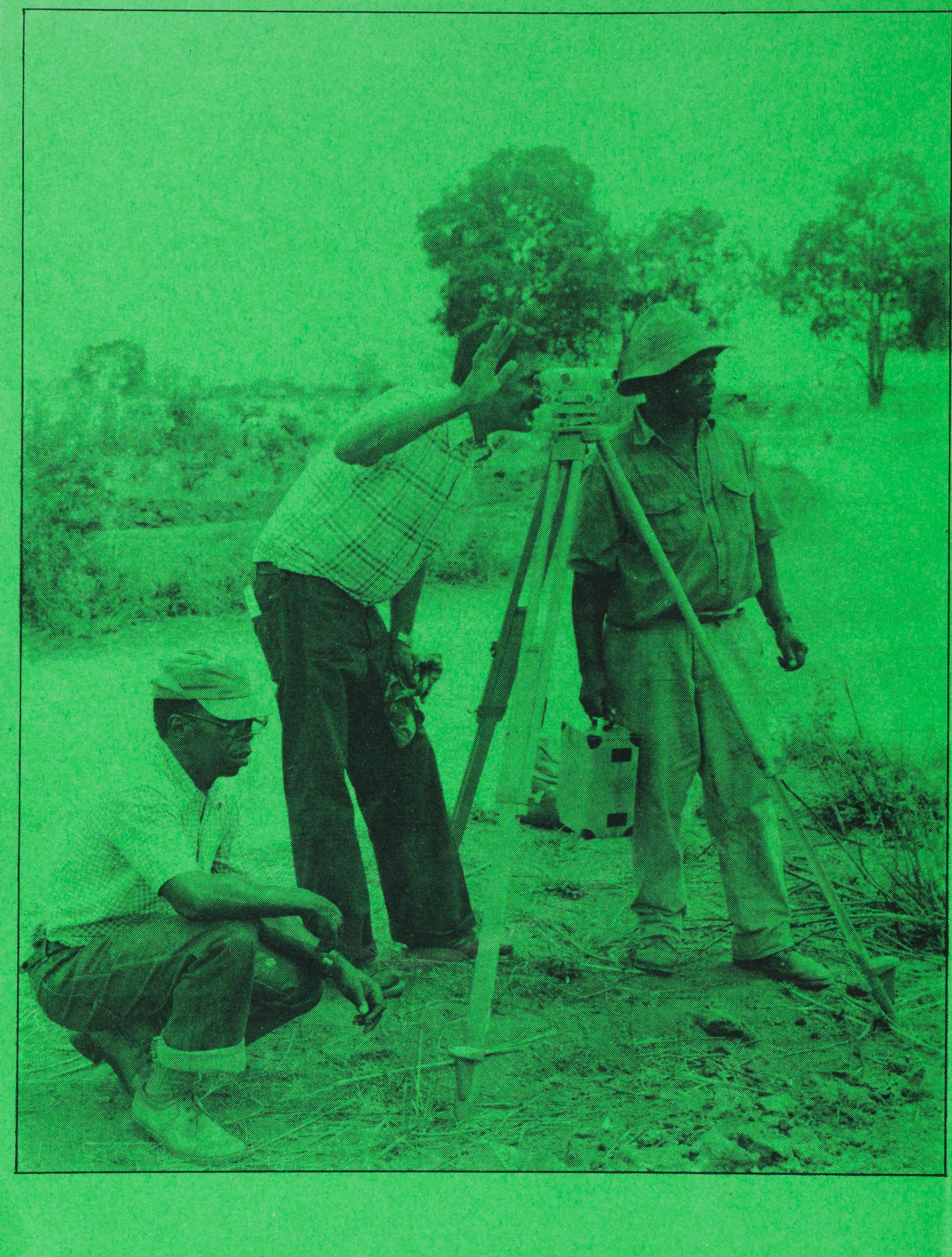
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