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recover the rich history of our peopleâ\200\231

Under apartheid the majority of South Africans were written out of history. The story of their past was ignored and distorted.

The University the Western Cape has, therefore, decided to establish on the campus the MAYIBUYE CENTRE FOR HISTORY AND CULTURE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(Mayibuye is a popular slogan in South Africa, meaning "Let it return").

The multi-purpose centre will include:

- * an archive on the liberation struggle in South Africa
- * a museum recalling the apartheid era
- * photographic, film/video and publications units
- * space for theatres, art exhibitions, music, films and other cultural activities.

The aim is that this will be a "living" community- oriented Centre, serving not

Photographs:

Front: Sophiatown - Leon Levson

Inside: Kliptown - Eli Weinberg
(Mayibuye Centre Archives)

only the university but also the broader community and a future democratic S. Africa.

We have had a very enthusiastic response to the new project. The African National Congress and a number of other organisations have given their backing. The United Democratic Front, the United Womenâ\200\231s Congress, the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee and the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement are amongst the organisations who have promised

their official archives. Public figures such as Govan Mbeki, Barney Desai, Peter Hain, Ahmed Kathrada and Brian Bunting have donated personal papers. Perhaps the most significant development has been the acquisition of the entire photographic, film/video and publications collection of the London based International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa (IDAF). IDAF was a nerve centre of the international anti-apartheid solidarity movement, and its collection is the largest of its kind in the world.

Projects of the centre

- * the return of material from exile
- * an oral history project focussing on all aspects of the exile experience
- * an international conference on the history of resistance
- * workshops and activities with community groups
- * publishing, including the UWC Mayibuye History Series.

with compliments | iminqweno emihle
THE MAYIBUYE CENTRE

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"I am immensely honoured by the invitation to become a patron of the Mayibuye Centre... you can count on our full support for the projectâ\200\235.

Archbishop TREVOR HUDDLESTON,
President British Anti-Apartheid Movement

"It is important for South Africans to be aware of their history (the uncensored version) and about the international struggle against apartheid ... I will gladly assist with the task of recovering material.

ENUGA REDDY
ex-Director, UN Centre Against Apartheid

"SANROC is pleased that its papers will finally

find a home on South African soil. We look forward to the long overdue studies on our sports struggle which will emanate from your Centre".

SAM RAMSAMY
President SANROC and NOCSA.

"We wish the Centre every success ... recovering the history of the dispossessed is an integral part of the liberation struggle.

PATRICIA DE LILLE
PAC spokesperson for Foreign Affairs

"The African National Congress warmly welcomes the new project and is happy to give the organisationâ\200\231s whole hearted support to it ... the endeavour to preserve and document the history of all our people, and to correct the distortions of racist, apartheid-inspired "official" history, which has been force - fed for generations to our schoolchildren, is vital to the process of reconstruction in a non-racial, democratic South Africa... we are hoping that the apartheid museum and the liberation archives at UWC will play an important part in the recovery of Sos Africaâ\200\231s past".

SECRETARY GENERAL, ANC.

THE MAYIBUYE CENTRE

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