Changing Space, Changing City
Johannesburg after Apartheid

Edited by Philip Harrison, Graeme Gotz, Alison Todes and Chris Wray

As the dynamo of South Africa’s economy, Johannesburg commands a central position in the nation’s imagination, and scholars throughout the world monitor the city as an exemplar of urbanity in the global South.

This richly illustrated study offers detailed empirical analyses of changes in the city’s physical space, as well as a host of chapters on the character of specific neighbourhoods and the social identities being forged within them. Informing all of these is a consideration of underlying economic, social and political processes shaping the wider Gauteng region.

A mix of respected academics, practising urban planners and experienced policymakers offer compelling overviews of the rapid and complex spatial developments that have taken place in Johannesburg since the end of apartheid, along with tantalising glimpses into life on the streets and behind the high walls of this diverse city.

The book has three sections. Section A provides an overview of macro spatial trends and the policies that have influenced them. Section B explores the shaping of the city at district and suburban level, revealing the peculiarity of processes in different areas. This analysis elucidates the larger trends, while identifying shifts that are not easily detected at the macro level. Section C is an assembly of chapters and short vignettes that focus on the interweaving of place and identity at a micro level.

With empirical data supported by new data sets including the 2011 Census, the city’s Development Planning and Urban Management Department’s information system, and Gauteng City-Region Observatory’s substantial archive, the book is an essential reference for planning practitioners, urban geographers, sociologists, and social anthropologists, among others.

Philip Harrison is the South African Research Chair in Development Planning and Modelling within the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand. He is also a member of the South African National Planning Commission. He has authored a series of books on tourism in South Africa, and has also co-authored/co-edited two books relating to urban planning and urban development.

Graeme Gotz is director of research at the Gauteng City-Region Observatory. His academic focus includes city development and urban renewal, urban economic development, as well as governance and institutions.

Alison Todes is Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. She has been involved in several policy development processes in local, national and international arenas. Alison has researched and published extensively in the field of urban and regional development and planning.

Chris Wray is a senior systems analyst/manager at the Gauteng City-Region Observatory. He is also a registered Professional GISc practitioner with over 17 years’ experience in the GIS profession. His research interests include urban spatial data analysis, modelling and visualisation, Web GIS and g-government.
Changing Space, Changing City
Johannesburg after Apartheid

CONTENTS
Preface
Cartography

SECTION A: THE MACRO TRENDS
1 Materialities, subjectivities and spatial transformation in Johannesburg
   Philip Harrison, Graeme Gotz, Alison Todes and Chris Way

2 The ‘thin oil of urbanisation’?
   Spatial change in Johannesburg and the Gauteng city-region
   Graeme Gotz, Chris Way and Brian Mubiwa

3 Poverty and inequality in the Gauteng city-region
   David Everett

4 The impact of policy and strategic spatial planning
   Alison Todes

5 Tracking changes in the urban built environment: An emerging perspective from the City of Johannesburg
   Peter Ahmad and Herman Pienaar

6 Johannesburg’s urban space economy
   Graeme Gotz and Alison Todes

7 Changes in the natural landscape
   Maryna Storie

8 Informal settlements
   Marie Huchzemeyer, Aly Karam and Miriam Maina

9 Public housing in Johannesburg
   David Everett

10 Transport in the shaping of space
    Mathetha Mokonyama and Brian Mubiwa

11 Gated communities and spatial transformation in Greater Johannesburg
   Karina Landman and Willem Badenhorst

SECTION B: AREA-BASED TRANSFORMATIONS
12 Between fixity and flux: Grappling with transience and permanence in the inner city
   Yasmeen Dinath

13 Are Johannesburg’s peri-central neighbourhoods irredeemably ‘fluid’?
   Local leadership and community building in Yeoville and Bertrams
   Claire Bénit-Gibbou

14 The wrong side of the mining belt?
   Spatial transformations and identities in Johannesburg’s southern suburbs
   Philip Harrison and Tanya Zack

15 Soweto: A study in socio-spatial differentiation
   Philip Harrison and Kirsten Harrison

16 Kliptown: Resilience and despair in the face of a hundred years of planning
   Hilton Judin, Naomi Roux and Tanya Zack

17 Alexandra
   Philip Harrison, Adrian Masson and Luke Sinwell

18 Sandton Central, 1969–2013: From open veld to new CBD?
   Keith Beavon and Pauline Larsen

19 In the forest of transformation: Johannesburg’s northern suburbs
   Alan Mabin

20 The north-western edge
   Neil Klug, Margot Rubin and Alison Todes

21 The 2010 World Cup and its legacy in the Ellis Park Precinct: Perceptions of local residents
   Aly Karam and Margot Rubin

22 Transformation through transportation: Some early impacts of Bus Rapid Transit in Orlando, Soweto
   Christo Venter and Eunice Vaz

SECTION C: SPATIAL IDENTITIES
23 Footprints of Islam in Johannesburg
   Yasmeen Dinath, Yusuf Patel and Rashid Seedat

24 Being an immigrant and facing uncertainty in Johannesburg: The case of Somalis
   Samadia Sadouni

25 On ‘spaces of hope’: Exploring Hillbrow’s discursive credoscapes
   Tanja Winkler

26 The Central Methodist Church
   Christa Kuljian

27 The Ethiopian Quarter
   Hannah le Roux

28 Urban collage: Yeoville
   Naomi Roux

29 Phantoms of the past, spectres of the present: Chinese space in Johannesburg
   Philip Harrison, Khangelani Moyo and Yan Yang

30 The notice
   Caroline Wanjiku Kihato

31 Inner-city street traders: Legality and spatial practice
   Puleng Makhetha and Margot Rubin

32 Waste pickers/informal recyclers
   Sarah Charlton

33 The fear of others: Responses to crime and urban transformation in Johannesburg
   Teresa Dirisuweit

34 Black urban, black research: Why understanding space and identity in South Africa still matters
   Nqobile Molaza

Contributors
Photographic credits
Acronyms
List of plates
List of figures
List of tables
Index

OTHER TITLES ON JOHANNESBURG FROM WITS UNIVERSITY PRESS

ORDERING INFORMATION:
Africa: Blue Weaver, Tel: 021 701 4477, orders@blueweaver.co.za
UK & Europe: +44 20 7240 0856 www.eurospanbookstore.com
North & South America: Toll-free: (800) 888 – IPG1 (4741), orders@ipgbook.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.witspress.co.za; Tel (+27 11 717 8700), info.witspress@wits.ac.za