

New Museum

Intersections Intersected:

The Photography of David Goldblatt

All works are exhibition prints made using archival ink, and appear courtesy the artist, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, and Howard Greenberg, New York.

Extended object labels compiled and written by David Goldblatt.

Third Floor



The Docrats' lavatory, Fietas, Johannesburg, 17 March 2003.

The Johannesburg suburb of Pageview, known to residents as Fietas, was declared under the Group Areas Act a zone for Whites only in 1956, when it was largely populated by Indians. After a long and bitter struggle against the proclamation, the forced removal of Indians took place in 1976-77 and their homes and shops were destroyed. However the water tank and lavatory of the Docrat family home on 23rd Street were supported by a concrete structure that front-end loaders were unable to topple. So it stands, to this day, among the houses built for Whites.

AIDS



Grahamstown, Eastern Cape, in the time of AIDS, 13 October 2004.
98.5 x 124cm



Entrance to Lategan's Truck Inn on the N1 in the time of AIDS, Laingsburg, Western Cape, 14 November 2004.

98.5 x 124cm



The first day of spring at Lategan's Truck Inn on the N1, Laingsburg, Western Cape, in the time of AIDS, 1 September 2006.

98.5 x 124cm



The cashier and her counter in the municipal offices, Suurbraak, Western Cape, in the time of AIDS, 22 July 2004.



JOIN! OUR CLUB for only 12.94 a month and receive over 13 family benefits including a funeral plan, Ellerines, Beaufort West, in the time of AIDS, 14 March 2007.

98.5 x 124cm



MB Fast Food & Takeaway, Alexandra Township, Johannesburg, Gauteng in the time of AIDS, 14 September 2006.

98.5 x 124cm



BHJ, Richtersveld, Northern Cape, in the time of AIDS, 25 December 2003.

98.5 x 124cm



Christmas decorations at Port Nolloth, Northern Cape, in the time of AIDS, 28 December 2003.
98.5 x 124cm



Ronald Miller watering his garden, Smid Street, Middelburg, Eastern Cape, in the time of AIDS, 24 November 2004.
98.5 x 124cm



Entrance to Lwandle Township, Strand, Western Cape, in the time of AIDS, 9 October 2005.
98.5 x 124cm



Public lavatories on Lansdowne Road, Khayelitsha, Cape Town, in the time of AIDS, 16 May 2007.
98.5 x 124cm

SELECTED COLOR PHOTOGRAPHS



The shopfront of Prof. DA Tsowedh, African and Arabic Herbs, Fochville, North-West, in the time of AIDS, 10 May 2008.



The farm Frenda, near Warden, Free State, 4 May 2002.
98.5 x 124cm



Overflow at Hytkoras, Namaqualand, Northern Cape, 30 December 2003.
98.5 x 124cm



Swerwers, between Beaufort West and Loxton, Northern Cape, 18 September 2002.
98.5 x 124cm

A family of Nomadic sheep shearers and farm workers, also known as *karretjie mense* (people of the little cars), trek through a semi-desert region, the Karoo. Their remote ancestors, the San and the Khoi, hunted and roamed freely in these parts; now the *swerwers* (wanderers) live mainly in the *gang*, the roadsides between farm fences.

TRIPTYCHS



Missing!!! C&B Hiring and Décor, Voortrekker Road, Parow, Cape Town, Western Cape, 26 March 2006.
Triptych
188 x 80cm



Ugqirha Wisintu Dr. Paul, (traditional healer), Hofmeyr, Eastern Cape, 4 August 2006.
Triptych
188 x 80cm



On Justisie Straat, Philippolis, Free State, 19 October 2006.

Triptych

Paper size: 85 x 293cm



Andy Kula washing his clothes, Whittlesea, Eastern Cape, 7 May 2007.

Triptych

Paper size: 85 x 293cm



...AND THE SHERIFF KNOCKING...CONDITIONS APPLY, Oudtshoorn, Western Cape, 19 February 2006.

Triptych

188 x 80cm



Miernes D/Winkel, Lotta Cash Cash Loans, Piet Retief Street, Sutherland, Western Cape, 16 November 2007.

Triptych

85 x 293cm



From left to right:

*The Synodal Hall of the Dutch Reformed Church, Orange Street, Cape Town. 16 August 1986.
The Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church in session, Orange Street, Cape Town. October 1965.
The demolition of the Synodal Hall of the Dutch Reformed Church, Orange Street, Cape Town, 25 April 2007.*

Triptych

The Synodal Centre in Cape Town was at the core of the *Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk* (Dutch Reformed Church), which was intimately connected ideologically and in the politics of power with the apartheid government. Developers have taken over the site and are converting the Centre into a hotel, lofts, and shops.

BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS



In the Alexander Street Park, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, 1972.

Image size: 50.8 x 50.5cm



She said to him, 'You be the driver and I'll be the Madam'. Then they picked up the fender and posed, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, 1975.

Image size: 50.5 x 50.5cm



Richard and Marina Maponya, Dube, Soweto, Johannesburg, January 1973.

Image size: 55.5 x 55.5 cm



Lulu Gebashe and Solomon Mlutshana, Mofolo Park, Soweto, Johannesburg, January 1973.
Image size: 55.5 x 55.5cm



Freda Fleischman and her father, Highlands North, Johannesburg, 1973.
Image size: 50 x 50cm



Woman with her dog, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, 1972.
Image size: 50.5 x 50.5



Wilson Chauke with his sons, Talent and Task, Xihlephwe Informal Settlement, Alexandra, Johannesburg, 12 October 2006.
Image size: 64 x 50.5cm



A house-painter at home with his family, Pretoria Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, January 1973.
Image size: 59.5 x 50.5cm



Fixing a puncture on a coal merchant's cart, Tladi, Soweto, Johannesburg, 5 November 1972.
Image size: 50.5 x 54.5cm



Dancers, Jabulani, Soweto, Johannesburg, 1972.
Image size: 51 x 52cm



Backyard, Vrededorp, Johannesburg, 1977.
Image size: 56 x 56cm

NO IMAGE

Shop assistant, Orlando West, Soweto, Johannesburg, 1972.
Image size: 88.7 x 98.8cm



Dr. and Mrs Buchalter, Cyrildene, Johannesburg, November 1974.
Image size: 55.5 x 59.9cm



*Those who once met will meet again, (The bed in Mrs Velley Phakati, whose husband had gone away),
2365B Emdeni Extension, Soweto, Johannesburg, August 1972.*
Image size: 56 x 56cm



Man with an injured arm, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, June 1972.
Image size: 50.5 x 50.5cm



Schoolboy, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, 1972.
Image size: 56 x 56cm



Newsboy, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, 1973.
Image size: 56 x 56cm



Watchman, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, June 1972.
Image size: 55.5 x 55.5cm



Young man at home, White City, Jabavu, Soweto, Johannesburg, 1 October 1972.
Image size: 50.5 x 50cm



Young man, Chiawelo, Soweto, Johannesburg, September 1972.
Image size: 56 x 56cm

NO IMAGE

A not-White family who were illegal residents of Hillbrow, Johannesburg, which was a Group Area for Whites, in bed on a Sunday morning, August 1978.
Image size: 100.5 x 67.5cm

Fourth Floor

PAIRS



Mother and child in their home after the destruction of its shelter by officials of the Western Cape Development Board, Crossroads, Cape Town, 11 October 1984.

44.5 x 56cm

The shelter was a framework of Port Jackson brushwood staked into the loose sand of the Cape Flats and covered by plastic sheets. Neatly, without touching the contents of the home or its occupants, a team of five overalled Black men, supervised by an armed White man, lifted the entire structure of frame and plastic skin off the ground and placed it nearby. Then they pulled off the plastic, smashed the framework and threw the pieces onto a waiting truck. Hardly a word was spoken. While they could legally destroy the wooden framework, they were forbidden, by the quirk of a court decision brought against the state seeking to prevent these demolitions, from confiscating or destroying the plastic. So it was left where it fell. Then the convoy – a police Land Rover, the truck with the demolition squad and broken wood, and a Casspir – moved towards the next group of shelters. For a while the woman lay with the child. Then she got up and began to cut and strip branches of Port Jackson bush to make a new framework for her house. The child slept.



Mother and child, Vorstershoop, North West, 1 June 2003.

98.5 x 124cm



Garden and house, 24 Station Way, Calvinia, Northern Cape, 5 October 2003.

98.5 x 124cm



Mrs. LC Rall, widow and farmer, in her cattle kraal, Marico Busveld, North-West, 1964.
46 x 30.5cm



Crosses in protest against and commemoration of farm murders, Rietvlei, Limpopo, 19 June 2004.
98.5 x 124cm

To protest against and commemorate some 1,400 farm murders between 1994 and 2003, local farmers tied 1,500 crosses to farm fences along the N1 highway near Polokwane in 2003. But the National Roads Agency ordered their removal since they were tied to the outside of the farm fences and were therefore within the NRA's property where "advertising" is prohibited. A farmer then donated a piece of ground and new crosses were erected at Rietvlei, overlooking the N1, on June 16, 2004. Now celebrated as Youth Day, June 16, 1976 was the day on which the children of Soweto began their uprising against apartheid.



After their funeral, a child salutes the Cradock Four, Cradock, Eastern Cape, 20 July 1985.
44.5 x 56cm

Members of the Security Police assassinated anti-apartheid activists Fort Calata, Matthew Goniwe, Sicelo Mhlauli and Sparrow Mkonto – the Cradock Four – on June 27, 1985. Thousands attended their burial, witnessed by large contingents of police and soldiers gathered on the hills behind.



The graves of the Cradock Four, Cradock, Eastern Cape, 14 October 2004.

98.5 x 124cm

The assassinated Cradock Four were anti-apartheid activists of the United Democratic Front and Cradock Residents' Association. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission refused amnesty to their murderers, Eric Alexander Taylor, Gerhardus Johannes Lotz, Nicholas Jacobus Janse van Rensburg, Harold Snyman, John Martin van Zyl, and Hermanus Barend du Plessis. Thus far, no one, including the superiors who ordered the assassinations, has been prosecuted for the crimes.



Monuments celebrating the Republic of South Africa (left) and JG Strijdom, former prime minister (right), with the headquarters of Volkskas Bank, Pretoria, 25 April 1982.

98.5 x 124cm

Pretoria's old market square was given over to the installation of these nationalistic structures and an opera house in the early 1970s. The "four fiery ... horses, with every muscle stretched in a bundle of energy and power" celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Republic of South Africa. Strijdom, the former prime minister, militant protagonist of *baasskap* or White supremacy, and advocate of Afrikaner leadership in a republic free of British liberalism and empire, died in 1958. He is commemorated by a 12 foot (3.6-metre) head. Volkskas, the financial institution set up to foster Afrikaner wealth and penetration into finance and industry, was the sole tender for the only business site on the proposed Strijdom Square. At about 3 a.m. on May 31, 2001, forty years to the day after the Republic of South Africa was declared, the sculpture of Strijdom's head fell through its supporting floor into the parking garage below and was smashed. There was no sabotage, no triggering event. Two homeless Black people sleeping nearby were slightly injured. The then-mayor of Tshwane (the new name for the Pretoria municipality under the democratic regime), Smgangaliso Mkhathshwa, said: 'The monument was one of our most prominent landmarks and a work of art. It is always a sad day when an irreplaceable artwork is lost.'



Mother and child, Nelson Mandela Square, Sandton, Johannesburg, 8 March 2005.

81 x 105cm

For the teenagers of the city's elite northern suburbs, many of whom live in walled estates, this square has become a favoured place to hang out. Since it is protected by the property company's security officers, parents probably regard it as safe. Many of the children of those suburbs have never been into the city centre, which is seen as highly unsafe.



The Berg-en-Dal Monument, Dalmanutha, Mpumalanga, December 1983.
98.5 x 79cm

Commemorated here are 60 men of the South African Republic Police who died at this place on 27 August 1900 in a critical battle against overwhelming British forces in the Anglo-Boer War. The sarcophagus under the monument holds their bones.



Berg-en-Dal Monument and Sarcophagus, Dalmanutha, Mpumalanga, 24 June 2005.
98.5 x 124cm



Funeral with military honors for two White conscripts, Boksburg, Gauteng, 18 June 1980.
49 x 47cm

A funeral for two boyhood friends who went to school together in Boksburg were drafted into the same unit of the South African Army, and were killed in the same action against SWAPO insurgents on the Namibia-Angola border.



Graves of two White conscripts and a memorial to members of the South African Army who died in the struggle against anti-apartheid forces in the mid 1980s, municipal cemetery, Villiers, Free State, 24 August 2005.

98.5 x 124cm



Suburban garden and Table Mountain, Bloubergstrand, Cape Town, 9 January 1986.

44.5 x 56cm

The *Standard Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa* comments about this area: "... the entire coastal belt from Bloubergstrand to Melkbosstrand (a distance of about 13 kilometres) has been proclaimed a White group area."



Our summer garden and ADT, Fellside, Johannesburg, 9 January 2006.

98.5 x 124cm



Frankfort Resettlement Camp with lavatories, Ciskei (now Eastern Cape), 12 July 1983.

44.5 x 56cm

The people of Mgwali in the Eastern Cape were farmers whose lands had been given to their ancestors in 1857 as a reward for their loyalty to the Crown during the frontier wars, in which Britain dispossessed the Xhosa of the bulk of their territory. By 1983 the Mgwali community had grown to some 5,000 people. They had schools, shops, a church, a clinic, cultivated fields, good water, dams, livestock, and some grazing. That year they were informed by the government that they were a "Black spot" and would have to move to a "closer settlement camp" that had been set up for them twenty-four miles (forty-five kilometres) away, at Frankfort, in the "independent state" of Ciskei. The camp had a new school, a clinic, a water reservoir, and some 1500 long-drop lavatories. Aside from a few wooden shelters it had no houses, no land for cultivation or grazing,

and was many kilometres from the nearest concentration of industry. The fields in the background were not part of it.



Remains of long-drop lavatories, Frankfort, Eastern Cape, 22 February 2006.

Archival pigment ink on cotton rag paper

98.5 x 124cm

The people of Mgwali strongly resisted their removal from their ancestral lands to the Frankfort resettlement camp here, and the government eventually allowed them to stay at Mgwali. The local populace stripped the lavatories at Frankfort of usable materials, and all that now remains of the scheme are some 1,500 anatomically shaped holes in the veld.



Kite flying, Near Phuthaditjhaba, Qwa Qwa (now Free State), 1 May 1989.

44.5 x 56cm

The man of this house worked as a driver for one of the factories at Industriqwa [sic], the cluster of factory buildings in the background. Previously he and his wife had worked for a White farmer until they were told that they were no longer needed. Industriqwa was an official Industrial Development Area to which government tried to lure industrialists to create jobs for the huge number of unemployed people in the Qwa Qwa Bantustan, which, according to a government publication, was "The small Country with the big concessions." The concessions included: allowances for relocation of the plant; housing of key personnel; training of labour; 40 percent rebates on rail and road transport; reduced electricity charges; preferences on government tenders; ten-year subsidies of interest on investments in plant, debtors, etc; refunds of 95 percent of wage bills, with a maximum of \$13.70 (R110) per worker per month for seven years; and refunds of 75% of factory rentals for ten years. Notwithstanding these lures, there were many empty factories and very few jobs in Qwa Qwa.



*Bungee jumper, Bloukrans, on the border of the Eastern and Western Cape, 25 April 2006.
98.5 x 124cm*

This jump –710 feet (216 metres) – is said to be the highest in the world.



*A farmworker's house, Sonop, Winburg, Free State, 24 August 1986.
44.5 x 56cm*

The relief on this house probably affirms this family's roots in the neighbouring mountain kingdom of Lesotho, home of the revered and tough Basotho pony.



*Remains of a children's game and incomplete units of a housing scheme that stalled, Kwezinaledi, Lady Grey, Eastern Cape, 5 August 2006.
98.5 x 124cm*

The stones marked out "households" in a children's game called *onopopi*. The houses were part of an effort by the municipality to accommodate people living in shacks. Eight years after approval the scheme had stalled.



KTC squatter camp, Cape Town, September 1984.
44.5 x 56cm

Many of KTC's inhabitants were "illegals," people without government permission to live in Cape Town, who had come there in search of work having fled the destitution of their homes in Transkei, the apartheid "state" for Xhosa people.



Squatter camp, Woodstock, Cape Town, 22 August 2006.
98.5 x 124cm

The shacks were sandwiched between the grass of an old railway property and the N1 highway into Cape Town. In that narrow strip of no man's land known as the *gang*, the passage, the squatters probably thought they were safe from eviction; they were "nowhere." The men were said to be foreigners, most of them unemployed and without permission to be in the country. They were said to be "dangerous," "violent." Wanting to photograph their encampment and seeking their agreement, I hired Freddie, a "fixer" who spoke some Swahili and was highly recommended by my colleague, Guy Tillim. Together one morning we walked carefully across the grassy space between the railway lines and the shacks. Carefully because the ground was scattered with turds; the squatters had no toilets. We asked to speak to the captain, the leader, and were directed to the shack of a man named John. In Swahili Freddie explained that I wished to photograph from a distance and that no individual faces would be featured in the photograph. Permission was granted.

Rain spoiled the first attempt. On the second there was a lot of wind, but Freddie and I sheltered the camera with our bodies and I managed a couple of sharp exposures, although they were too long to stop the movement of the early morning traffic on the N1. There had been complaints of an increase in crime in the area, and on November 26, 2006, police and officials of the Department of Home Affairs made an early morning raid on the settlement. More than 200 Tanzanian men were arrested and their shacks destroyed. Whether they were deported or whether some at least bought their way out of it, as many do who lack the right papers, I don't know. Women who had been living with the men, some for four years, went back to their families and to other squatter camps. One said, "I fell in love with a Tanzanian and even though life was rough, at least we were like family and shared everything." (*Cape Times*, 27 November 2006).



Graves of the Griquas, Philippolis, Free State, 27 August 1986.
44.5 x 56cm

“The Griquas were Coloured men and women. They were descendants of early Afrikaner frontiersmen; of the remnants of Khoisan tribes, hunters, gatherers, and pastoralists; of escaped slaves from the wine and wheat farms of the southwest Cape; of Free Blacks from the colony who could find no acceptable place for themselves in it; and of African tribesmen, detached from their tribes by war or by choice. They formed a community which attempted to discover what their role in South Africa was, or if there was none, to create one for themselves. In the end they could not do this.”

- Robert J Ross, ***Adam Kok’s Griquas: A Study in the Development of Stratification in South Africa*** (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1976).



Monument to the arrival of the Griquas, Mount Currie, Kokstad, KwaZulu-Natal, 4 May 2007.
98.5 x 124cm

The Griqua leader, Adam Kok III, and his people camped here in 1863 after trekking for two years across the Maluti and Drakensberg mountains, having abandoned their capital, Philippolis, and their farms in the Free State. They did this to escape the encroachment of the Boers and annexation by the British. They established their new capital, Kokstad, nearby and called this East Griqualand. It was annexed by Britain in 1873.



The Cross Roads People’s Park, Oukasie, Brits, North West, 22 November 1986.
44.5 x 56cm

“People’s Parks” made their appearance in some Black townships in 1985. Created from scrap materials, they were among the very few structures to emerge spontaneously during the years of

apartheid as an immediate and yet symbolic expression of popular resistance and hope. Typically the parks had benches, tables, sculptures made from found materials, and symbolic artillery, pointed, invariably, at the local police station.

This park was in Oukasie, a township threatened with removal. People had been invited to move “voluntarily” to Letlhabile, a resettlement camp in the Bophuthatswana Bantustan. But whereas Oukasie was a couple of miles (three or four kilometres) from places of work, the new area was more than thirteen miles (twenty-five kilometres) away. And once they moved into Bophuthatswana, which was supposedly an independent state, people could lose their South African citizenship and the right to work in South Africa. The government exerted great pressure on residents to make the move. But most of them resisted and were eventually allowed to stay. The police and army destroyed the People’s Parks during the State of Emergency of 1986-89.



At Kevin Kwanele’s Takwaito Barber, Lansdowne Road, Khayelitsha, Cape Town, in the time of AIDS, 16 May 2007.

98.5 x 124cm.

Next to the crossed rifles on the De Wet gravestone was the inscription “*Die lewe was liefde*” (Life was love).



A baby in its crib in a rooming house, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, March 1973.

47 x 47cm

Densely populated Hillbrow was then a Group Area for Whites. In terms of the apartheid laws, only people classified as “White” in the population register could live there – aside from duly registered Black servants who lived in “locations in the sky,” that is, servants’ quarters on the roofs of apartment buildings. Hillbrow is now (in 2009) almost entirely occupied by Blacks.



Anna Boois, goat farmer, with her birthday cake and vegetable garden, on her farm Klein Karoo in the Kamiesberge, Northern Cape, 20 September 2003.

98 x 123.5cm

Anna Boois was one of fourteen people – all women – who had been given land in this area under a government scheme. About a year after this photograph was taken her source of water dried up and she abandoned her farm and went to live in Garies, the nearest village.



The sideboard, Randburg, Johannesburg, 1974.

Image size: 55.5 x 56cm

“Intersections Intersected: The Photography of David Goldblatt” is organized by Fundação de Serralves, Museu de Art Contemporânea, Porto, Portugal and presented by the New Museum, New York. The exhibition is curated by Ulrich Loock, Curator, Fundação de Serralves, Museu de Art Contemporânea. Its presentation at the new museum is organized by Richard Flood, Chief Curator, New Museum.