

Kimberley Ex-Pats Newsletter #60 March 2023

Compiled by Geraldine Auerbach MBE, London

The Story of Kimberley? SIR ERNEST OPPENHEIMER GARDENS – and BUST !



THE SIR ERNEST OPPENHEIMER GARDENS – and BUST!

Many of us will remember the opening of the Oppenheimer Memorial Gardens in the new Kimberley Civic Centre of the 1960s. We will have visited, or some of us may even have helped to manage the Art Gallery and act and produce plays at the Civic Theatre. Our Attorneys will have worked in the new Law Courts and several of our families moved to live in the blocks of flats in the area like Mount Curtis and Lyndale Flats.



But what was there before? And what has become of it since?

Now 60 years later, as we look from afar – From Toronto or London, Los Angeles, Tel Aviv or Melbourne – we may be alarmed or concerned to see and think about what is happening to Kimberley right now. This Newsletter looks at the Civic Centre area as a symbol of what may be happening to Kimberley.

Above) are the lush (specially for the arid heat of Kimberley) Sir Ernest Oppenheimer Gardens, and beyond that, De Beers' diamond sorting skyscraper, and (left) is the bust of the great man himself.

Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Kimberley and De Beers



Sir Ernest Oppenheimer came to Kimberley in 1902 as a representative of German diamond merchants, called Dunkelsbuhler. He grasped the enormity of the operation, later in 1917 setting up the Anglo-American company, with American Banker JP Morgan. Eventually in 1929, he was elected Chairman of Rhodes' great company, the **De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd.**

This had been founded in Kimberley in 1888 after the intense battle for amalgamation of all the Kimberley mines under one company – to control the supply

and maintain the viability of the diamond industry. (Read my story of Alfred Beit for this 'nail-biting' period – see link at the end of the newsletter).

Oppenheimer had also been the first Mayor of Kimberley, when Kimberley and Beaconsfield municipalities were joined in 1912. He died on 25 November 1957. This was at the time when Kimberley's bright spanking new Civic Centre was being constructed. The plan was to feature a magnificent garden in memory of Sir Ernest, designed by landscape artist Joanne Pim, as part of the greater civic complex. (Joanne Pim also designed and cared for the Gardens at Mauritzfontein – the Oppenheimer farm and stud, near Kimberley,).

Above we see the Oppenheimer Gardens in the Kimberley Civic Centre in its heyday.



The Memorial Garden included the **Diggers Fountain**.

This depicted five life size miners – one for each of the five great diamond mines of Kimberley (in order of discovery):

1. Dutoitspan
2. Bultfontein
3. De Beers
4. Kimberley
5. Wesselton

Together they are holding aloft an early type of diamond sieve.

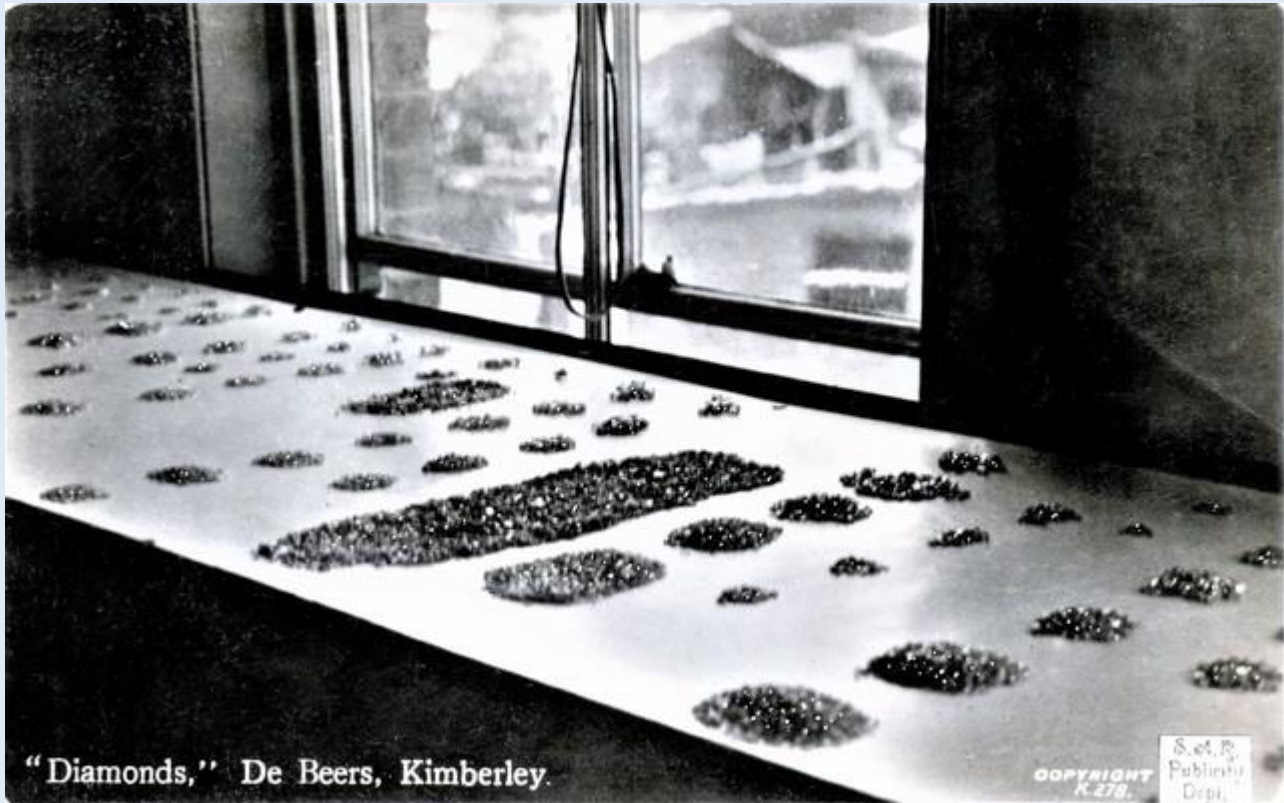
De Beers and Kimberley

Kimberley was one of the world's most productive sites in terms of the number and quality of the diamonds it's mines produced. This lasted for a period of over a hundred years from the 1870s till the end of the 20th Century. Albeit that the diamonds came out of the ground in Kimberley, De Beers controlled the business very tightly and most of it took place behind closed doors, or in London.



The De Beers Head Office was in Stockdale Street, apparently in the original office of Barney Barnato's Central Diamond Mining Company. Other related companies are registered there as well (See the brass plates that I photographed on one of my visits to Kimberley in 1992. (Stockdale Street was quite understandably the first road in Kimberley to be macadamised.)





“Diamonds,” De Beers, Kimberley.

The diamonds were sorted in Kimberley into their various grades and colours. From 1973 this was done in the specially constructed Oppenheimer tower in the new Civic Centre with optimum light coming from the north to help this process. Perhaps they were stored there too – out of the limelight. For many years De Beers did not allow diamond cutting to take place in Kimberley as they did not want diamonds floating about in the city.



De Beers held Diamond ‘Sights’ in Kimberley ten times a year, when selected traders and manufacturers who had been allowed to place their orders, were able to come and see – and purchase their box of rough diamonds from De Beers. Sightholders probably stayed at the Kimberley Club, also closely controlled by De Beers.

The sightholder system dates back to 1934, when Ernest Oppenheimer, introduced the process that was designed to regulate the flow of diamonds. It involved mixing rough diamonds from the various mines under the

company’s control, and setting standard selling prices for each category instead of charging different prices from each producer.

Sights were conducted on a ‘take it or leave it’ basis, meaning that sightholders could not cherry-pick from what was being offered to them. Immediate cash payment was required, and there were no price negotiations. Prices were adjusted upward if market conditions warranted, but they were never cut. During periods of low demand or overproduction, De Beers would add to what became known as its buffer stockpile.

As its zenith, the number of sightholders was more than 350, but when De Beers introduced its Supplier of Choice strategy in 2001, it more than halved the number, and for those that remained, established renewable term limits. In 2009 De Beers relinquished the 'take it or leave it' requirement, allowing clients to defer all or part of their sight allotments. It is believed there are about 80 sightholders at present.

De Beers looked after Kimberley.

De Beers built houses for their white workers at Kenilworth where they planted blue gum trees for shade. They looked after their health, education and welfare. They supplied transport for them and built an Olympic size swimming pool, that could also be used and appreciated by all Kimberley (white) residents. They also built successive golf courses for their staff that the town's golfers could also enjoy. Their Black miners were housed in 'compounds' run by the mines that housed the miners for the duration of their contracts. They were not allowed out into Kimberley itself.

De Beers Consolidated Mines saw to the infrastructure of the city of Kimberley over the decades. Company executives were on the Kimberley and Provincial Councils and became Members of Parliament. I would say that nothing of significance in Kimberley ever happened without De Beers providing the money or the expertise and probably the initiative as well.

De Beers provided 70% of the costs for the Gardens which included commissioning the **bust of Sir Ernest** from Rhona Stern and also the **working fountain dedicated to the diggers**.

The Diggers' Fountain Sculptor, Herman Wald

Herman Wald was born in Cluj, Hungary in 1906, to Rabbi Jacob and Pearl Wald. One of 8 children, he grew up in an atmosphere of old-world Jewish Orthodoxy, in the Chassidic tradition. The Jewish learning which he received from his father and religious teachers left a deep impression on his life and work.

When he became interested in carving shapes and figures, he came into conflict with his father, to whom the religious injunction against graven images was a meaningful issue. So, he continued his carving and modelling in secret. But when his pride in completing the larger-than-life bust of Dr Theodor Herzl, the founder of the modern Zionist Movement, got the better of him, he showed it to his father. The Rabbi, impressed by the work, had to concede his son's talent. He did not oppose Herman when he announced his intention of taking up art studies. He then studied in Budapest, Vienna, Berlin and London.



It was his brother, **Rabbi Dr Marcus Wald**, who interestingly for us, was the **Minister of the Kimberley Congregation from 1935 to 1938** who helped to bring his brother Herman the sculptor out of Europe to South Africa in 1937, where he lived and worked until his death in 1970.

He was commissioned to make many large public works in South Africa eg, the Memorial to the Six Million Jews slaughtered in the Holocaust, at West Park Jewish Cemetery, Johannesburg, below.



Wald made many works for public spaces, homes, synagogues and theatres, mostly by modelling but sometimes carving. He created works that are in collections around the world. Reflecting his origins, his domicile and age, the subject of his works include the Bible, Africa, Jews of Eastern Europe, portraiture, love, the family and anti-war themes.

In 1960, he was commissioned by Harry Oppenheimer for De Beers, to design and erect two fountains in memory of Harry's father, the late Sir Ernest – one in Kimberley, the "Diamond Diggers", for the Oppenheimer Memorial Garden at the Kimberley Civic Centre.



The other for Johannesburg – a study of leaping impala, familiarly known as the Oppenheimer Fountain, in the centre of Johannesburg.

The socialist-inspired image of the ‘Hero Worker’?



The Kimberley work cost of £10 000. The image of the “hero-worker” in this fountain was a well-established sculptural rhetoric in Eastern-Bloc countries like Hungary which fell under Communist rule after World War I, when Herman Wald was still in his early teens. The doctrine of Socialist Realism became the official style of all public sculptures in Soviet Russia under Stalin. It was epitomised by the gigantism of Vera Mukhina (1889-1953). This set a trend that was emulated elsewhere. Someone has written that Wald must at least have been aware of this style through the media. The idealisation of the worker was also a feature of euphoric socialist-inspired imagery in Israel after its foundation in 1948, as is reflected in Wald's ceramic *Chalutz (Pioneer Harvester)* (1953-1954).

While the rhetoric of Wald's *Diamond Diggers' Fountain* could appear to have its sources in official Socialist realism sculpture, the irony is that it celebrates the achievements of high-capitalism in South Africa's diamond mines. The specific identity of the idealised workers represented is highly ambiguous; perhaps deliberately so. Do they represent the white pioneer miners or the many black workers without whose cheap labour the extraction of the diamonds from the depths of the Kimberley Hole would not have been economically viable?



De

Beers also commissioned a twice life size bronze bust of Sir Ernest from the sculptor Rhona Stern, for the Kimberley gardens that bear his name. This was placed on a granite plinth in the middle of a marble colonnade. It was unveiled on 20 November 1962 by Graham Eden, then the Mayor of Kimberley and Member of the Provincial Council. Present at the brief ceremony were Harry Oppenheimer, son of Sir Ernest, and JH "Jim" Joel, the grand-nephew of Barney Barnato (who does not have any statues in Kimberley as far as I know).

So how come there was so much land available in the centre of Kimberley to build these Gardens and all the buildings of the Civic Centre? Was it simply an open patch waiting for development? No, it actually was not!

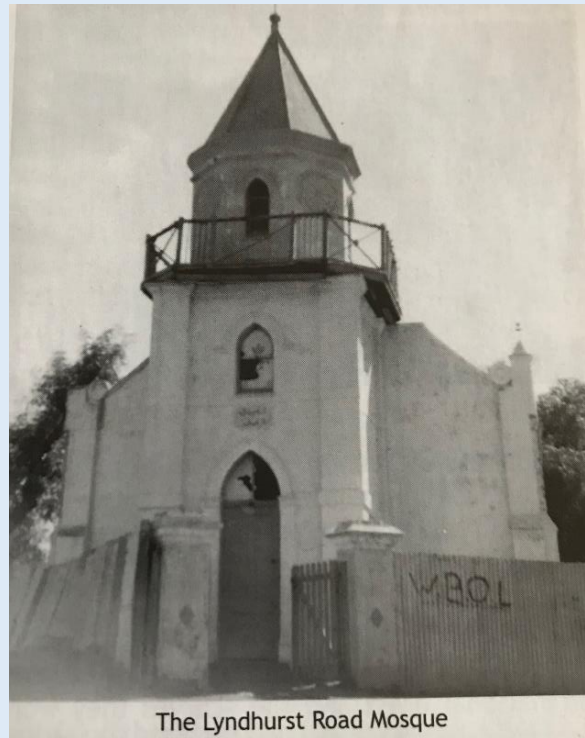
Kimberley's Malay Camp

This land was formerly the historic Malay Camp that existed between Lennox Street, Hospital Road, Lyndhurst Road, upper Bultfontein Road (Dalham Road) and Selby Street. De Beers (of course) owned the land. They 'gave' this land to the **Kimberley City Council in 1939** subject to certain conditions. The Deed of Transfer defined the region of the Malay Camp and obliged on the Council to acquire all the property by 31 December 1953 and to **prepare a plan for development of the region.**



Kimberley's Malay Camp has a history similar to Cape Town's District Six, Johannesburg's Sophiatown and Port Elizabeth's South End. It was a cosmopolitan suburb that had sprung up in the very early days of Kimberley's existence.

There were people living there who claimed descent from Malaya, Java, Bali and Indonesia, and others from Mauritius, Zanzibar and Madagascar. Surnames indicated European



The Lyndhurst Road Mosque

heritage such as the Van Loons whose forebears came from Holland, the von Kratenbergs from Germany, the De Sousas from Portugal, the Mangiolas from Italy and the Contes from France.

There was a thriving social and cultural life in the Malay Camp. As well as 'Malays', there were also Whites, Indians, Chinese, Coloured and Black people living there. There were churches, mosques, Hindu temples and people of many religions living symbiotically together with mutual respect and harmony in this small space. There were Christian schools and the Moslem children attended the Madrassa after school to learn Arabic and read the Koran.

Growing up in the 1940s and 50s I remember **Mookery's**, a shop in Malay Camp up the road from where we lived. I remember going there to buy sweets – those ones that when you sucked away the black outer covering, the colours changed from pink to yellow to green and so on. I can't bring myself to mention the horrible name they had! Mookery's was close the mosque, on the Lyndhurst / Dalham Road corner. A Francis Oats House boarder of Kimberley Boys' High School said that it was their smoking hideout. He said: We could, and did, buy loose cigs there at about 1 penny each. Another person said that it had a back room where we CBC boys would relax with a (herb) beer and an illicit cigarette.

The streets were crooked following the original random layout of the digger's tents. Homes were diverse, from well-made structures to shanties. To outsiders – and also some insiders – it was slum-like in parts, but instead of helping and providing amenities it was left to rot until De Beers gave the land to the Kimberley City Council in 1939 and told them to acquire all property and to prepare a plan for development of the region.

Compulsory clearance of the Malay Camp thus began in the 1940s and 50s and construction of the new civic centre commenced in the following decade. Most of the houses, churches, mosques, shops and other buildings were demolished. The Malay Camp was flattened – ostensibly because it was gazetted a slum and eyesore. The inhabitants of the Malay Camp were re-housed in suburbs on the perimeter of Kimberley. Only one house, a reasonably modern one, remained of the Malay Camp. Bear in mind that this occurred from the 1940s, prior to the better-known Apartheid forced removals consequent on the Group Areas Act, making Kimberley's Malay Camp clearance unique.



This photograph was taken from the top of the Trust Bank building in Jones Street, now Phakamile Mabija Road. It dates to c 1973 and shows the area formerly occupied by the Malay Camp. Note the Oppenheimer Gardens bordered by the William Humphreys Art Gallery, Northern Cape Technical College, Kimberley Theatre and the High Court buildings. On the right is Harry Oppenheimer House still under construction. Contributed by: Robert Hart

The Civic Centre

In its place in the 1950s and 60s grew up the new Civic Centre, with Civic Offices, Law Courts, Art Gallery, Theatre and Fire Station. A huge park and gardens in memory of Sir Erenst Oppenheimer ran through it.

On Mookery's corner, of Lyndhurst and Dalham Roads, grew Lyndale Flats (left) where several of our Jewish community lived in the 1970s and 80s after downsizing from their family houses. These

included Hannah and Jack Frank, Noel and Beryl Kretzmar (pictured below in their flat) Stella Weinberg and others.



Above: Lyndale flats corner Lyndhurst and Dalham Roads

Below: Beryl and Noel Kretzmar in their flat in Lyndale



Governments of Nationalists

As we know the **Afrikaner Nationalists** came to power in 1948. Separate development (Apartheid) was entrenched in law. The Group Areas Act, the Pass Laws, Job Reservation, and other discriminative and restrictive laws were passed. From the 1960s South Africa was in the midst of unrest and with riots and clashes with the police. A state of emergency was declared, leading to the rise of the military wing of the African National Congress. Many Jews left the country. Others were instrumental in supporting the fight against discrimination – at their own peril. In 1994, not 50 years after the Afrikaner Nationalists came to power – the miracle happened – a peaceful transition, by the ballot box to leadership by the **African Nationalists**, under the presidency of Nelson Mandela, a statesman admired by most in his own country, and around the world.

The black majority had a lot of catching up to do and in many cases, they were not really ready for it. The country's infrastructure is suffering. Those in charge are not making enough power for the nation to operate and prosper. There are power outages every day. Not enough water is collected, purified or distributed for safety. Waste is not properly processed. Money allocated for such essential services is going astray into individual pockets on a scale that is unsustainable....

The Jewish Community who had played such a significant role in the commercial and professional life of the city, began Leaving Kimberley in the late 1960s. As children finished school and went to Cape Town or Johannesburg to University – parents often followed. A good move, as most of the children were never to return to Kimberley. Now, in the 2020s, as Leon Chonin has found out in his surveys, the children and grandchildren live in Canada, Australia, Israel the USA and in London.

Now in the 2020s

60 years after the Civic Centre was built on the Malay Camp, I wonder what is happening to Kimberley:



In January 2016 De Beers Consolidated Mines announced that it has completed the sale of Kimberley Mines (all assets, including the tailings mineral resource) to Ekapa Minerals (Pty) Limited – an investor consortium comprising Ekapa Mining and Petra Diamonds Limited. It was De Beers that had sustained Kimberley – what would be the result of this?

In January 2023 De Beers relocated their Sightholder activity – their last contact with Kimberley – to Johannesburg.

In November 2023 De Beers donated the **Harry Oppenheimer House** to the newly established Sol Plaatje University. This is the striking 14 story building (left) that had been specially designed and constructed with angled windows to reduce glare for diamond sorting. It was in use from 1974 for sorting all diamonds mined by De Beers in Southern Africa

The Sol Plaatje University has promised to keep the building's name and dedicate one storey to a diamond museum. In the picture below we see the building and the civic centre in the 1970s in isolation amongst the flattened blocks and crooked streets of the former Malay Camp.

In 2006 a memorial to the Malay Camp

(below) was erected in the middle of the Ernest Oppenheimer Park (ie the former Malay Camp) by the Malay Camp Heritage Association and unveiled by the Premier of the Northern Cape, who said: 'With freedom and democracy came restoration of the right to land, and with it, the opportunity to address the effects of centuries of dispossession and forced removals.'

The inscription reads:

This memorial is dedicated to the people of the Malay Camp who were forcibly removed from this site between 1939 and 1959 Erected by the Malay Camp Heritage Society 18 September 2006. Unveiled by Ms ED Peters premier of the Northern Cape



(To read more about the Kimberley Malay Camp etc see suggestions at the end of this newsletter.)

December 2018: Vandalism in the Oppenheimer Gardens

On 5 December 2018, the Northern Cape gazette issued a statement, “There will be Zero tolerance to all those who have turned the Oppenheimer Gardens into an intolerable place. Already started with drunk drivers and underage consumption of alcohol including drug dealing. A multi-disciplinary effort is underway as we reclaim the city. Due to combined efforts already, the area was quite this weekend. Open fires and illegal road closure will be met head on. This is not a festive season exercise but ongoing action. We seriously considering installing security cameras at the park for the safety of the community” – Sol Plaatje Municipality (sic)

Is this, I wonder, a symbol of what is happening to Kimberley as a whole? To start with, the twice life-size bust of Sir Ernest sculpted by Rhona Stern, the first bronze bust in South Africa to stand in the open, which took seven months to complete – was stolen in December 1988 and presumably destroyed. (But somehow it was replaced later. De Beers?)

October 2020: The Diamond Sieve Stolen

the DFA reported: The diamond sieve or traditional washing pan being held up by the five miners in the Diggers Memorial Fountain – was stolen on Thursday night.



The article said: A part of Kimberley’s heritage has been lost – possibly forever – after the diamond sieve or traditional washing pan (seen above) being held up by the five miners in the Diggers Memorial Fountain – was stolen on Thursday night. Pictures: Danie van der Lith



Municipal spokesperson, Thoko Riet, confirmed on Friday that municipal employees reporting for work on Friday morning noticed that the metal sieve was missing.

“It appears that the metal pedestal of the sieve was stolen on Wednesday evening. However, on Thursday morning the sieve was still there. On Friday morning, the workers found that the sieve itself was also missing.”



Riet stated that the water in the pond surrounding the fountain had recently been drained by the municipality to clean the pond. “The fact that there was no water probably presented an opportunity for someone to steal the sieve,” she stated. On Friday morning, however, municipal workers refilled the pond.

In another article we see the Diggers Memorial Fountain from a new angle, just after the sieve was stolen in October 2020. (Photo: Helena Barnard)



“It is very sad, as this is a part of Kimberley’s heritage that has been destroyed,” Riet said. The statue, which was built in honour of past miners, has been here since 1960.”

October 2021: the area was full of Rubbish

A visitor on Trip Advisor reported in October 2021:

Looking forward to new experiences in new areas I took a drive to these gardens.

What could be a nice green zone in Kimberly is littered with rubbish.

The diamond sieve on the Diggers’ Memorial is missing.

The water feature is full of rubbish.

Until it is cleaned up and restored not worth the visit.

Date of experience: October 2021



In this picture all vestige of the sieve has gone.

Then in September 2022 – More shock horror: The arms were gone!

The figure now beautifully oxidised in bright green but sadly amputated and dislodged from his secure perch, looks forlornly up at his lost sieve



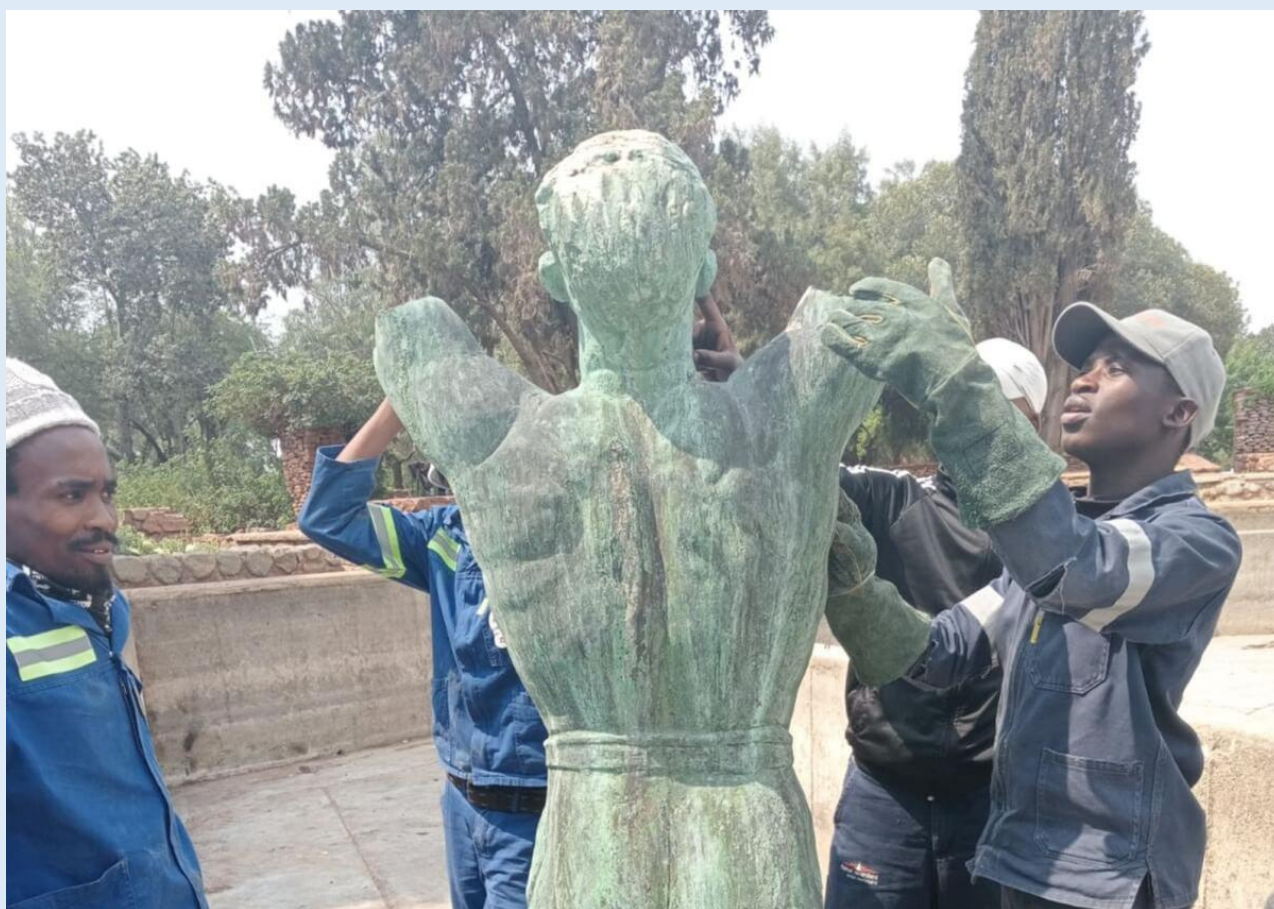
The paper once more reported the sorry story:

Kimberley municipal workers and a contract cleaning team were left speechless on Wednesday morning (28/09/2022) when they found one of the statues of the Diggers' Memorial in Ernest Oppenheimer Gardens missing.

The statue, with its arms and hands chopped off, was found in the moat of the fountain around the memorial.

This incident comes during Heritage Month. In the same week Steve Lunderstedt, local historian, lamented the loss of Kimberley's heritage through theft and vandalism in an opinion piece published in NoordkaapBulletin.

Workers of the Sol Plaatje Municipal Parks and Recreation Department have since locked the heavy bronze statue away.



The statue was one of five life-sized miners holding up a diamond sieve high above their heads. According to a description on the SA History website “their strength and power are seen as they work hard under the weight of the sieve.” The fountain was established to honour the miners, both past and present, who work hard in keeping this important industry alive.

The sieve has already been stolen in October 2020.

Alfred Bassie, acting supervisor of the parks department, says his workers, together with contract cleaners from Phoebe Loff's Phoebe's Green Team, found the statue in the empty moat of the fountain. The moat was cleaned on Monday and Tuesday. “It seems as if the hands were hammered

off. The statue itself could have been manoeuvred off its plinth by constant rocking and swaying, loosening the bolts underneath.

“We have reported the matter to the police. The arms have probably been sold to an unscrupulous scrapyard owner.”

Bassie says a witness claims the statue was removed by three men. They have laid criminal charges with the police over the past few years, but there have not been many convictions thus far. “We are very despondent.” The fountain is also non-functional because of cable theft. As is the case in Queens Park, the lawn cannot be irrigated as electric cables have been stolen.

The park has been invaded by vandals. Lamp poles have been cut to steal electric cables inside, parts of the devil’s fork fence have been removed, stones removed from the stone walls and fires made, blackening the walls. The park is littered with empty beer bottles and other waste left by revellers.

The Sir David Harris bust on the corner of Park Road and Regiment Way was stolen in the past three months, and the plaque a few years ago. Municipal workers searched for the bust after the theft was discovered, but only found parts of it.

The Diggers’ Memorial was designed by Herman Wald, a South African sculptor who was born in Hungary in 1906.

So, has Kimberley come full circle?

In the beginning, Kimberley was a haphazard but energetic multi-ethnic mining camp from the 1870s, with people of diverse races from many countries seeking after diamonds. It was conquered and monopolised by De Beers by 1888 and run as an important outpost of the British Empire. The Malay Camp was swept away in the 1940s and 50s, at the insistence of De Beers, to make a clean new White Civic Centre in the 60s and ‘70s. And slowly, since the 2010s De Beers has pulled up its Kimberley roots. Now the symbol of Kimberley’s history – the beautiful Ernest Oppenheimer Gardens has become the site of vandalism and theft with a municipality that seems unable to resist the inexorable changes. Once more, multi-ethnic communities are claiming these spaces.

Today as the metal is more valuable than the heritage, De Beers, as well as most of the Jewish Community has turned its back on Kimberley and cleared out. Another mining town mined out?

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Kimberley Ex-Pats Newsletter # 60

### **THE SIR ERNEST OPPENHEIMER GARDENS – and BUST !**

**Compiled by Geraldine Auerbach MBE, London, March 2024**

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Further Reading:

Kimberley heritage losses by Kimberley historian, Steve Lunderstedt:

<https://www.news24.com/news24/community-newspaper/noordkaapbulletin/opinion-piece-what-has-been-destroyed-cannot-be-undone-20220927>

Kimberley heritage good news Steve Lunderstedt, local historian, itemises some good news (October 2022) <https://africaunauthorised.com/steve-on-sunday-sometimes-soss/>

Report of June 2015 of the consultants looking into which statues in Kimberley should stay or go! They recommended that Rhodes' Statue could stay as could Ernest Oppenheimer – though painful – as they were key players in the growth of Kimberley, (but they might need to be relocated – maybe that means locked away). But curiously, they said that the Diggers Fountain had to go, as it 'only depicts white mines and does not represent the African miners, who also lost their lives in the mines'. (Really!) see the article from the DFA here: <https://www.pressreader.com/south-africa/diamond-fields-advertiser/20150604/281487864959317>

The Malay Camp has been described as a slum an eye-sore that had to be dismantled and replaced with something better. I can still remember the Malay Camp as a tiny suburb and during my childhood and adolescent years I must have walked through every street a hundred times or more. What I found were people of all races and beliefs living in neat well-constructed houses (except for a few), well dressed and friendly people, probably as highly civilized as any community in any other suburb in South Africa at the time. We are told that families were happy to move to the Floors and elsewhere. Would such contented people who loved their homes and neighbours be happy to move on demand? I still remember vividly how I had to be forcibly removed from the Shannon Street Mosque when we protested at the breaking down of the mosque. The community of the Malay Camp took the lead in building a religious, cultured and crime-free society which was able to compete in every field with the best in the country. **Mr S. Hunter Chairman of the Malay Camp Heritage Association** April 2006

INHABITANTS: Before 1880 the population group of **Malay Camp** was primarily comprised of two distinct ethnic identities, the Malays and the Indians. 1. The Malays established themselves on the Diamond Fields in the 1870s. They were descendants of Malays who were brought to South Africa as slaves or free burghers, from the eastern possessions of the Dutch East India Company after 1652. By 1871, many of them were employed as diggers along the Vaal River. After the discovery of the dry diggings, a small group established themselves on the farm Dutoitspan. By 1877, there were about 600 people residing in the Malay Camp. **Matthews, JW. Incwadi Yami** (published 1887)

The Story of Alfred Beit (and his friendship with Rhodes) by Geraldine Auerbach [Alfred Beit Story](#)

The Kimberley Malay Camp Facebook group [The-Malay-Camp-in-Kimberley-Back-in-die-Day](#) (pictures and chat) **And a Superb Paperback Book** – (see the cover of this book below)

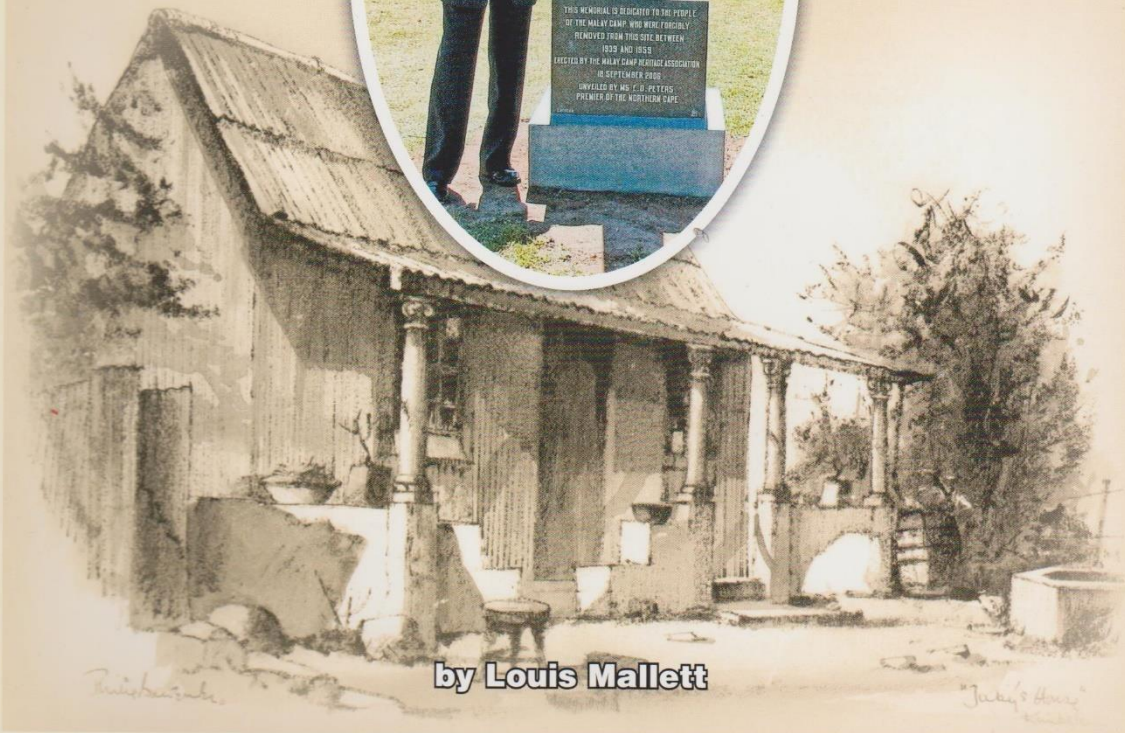
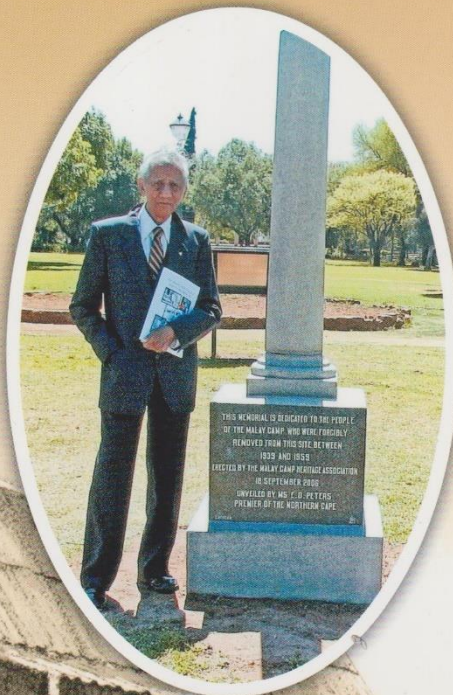
The Malay Camp Kimberley – the book A light-hearted look at the life and activities of folks of all nationalities, colours, cultures, customs, beliefs and religions **by Louis Mallet**. (published and printed in Kimberley) I got a copy from Abe Books: see picture below. Some copies still available from AbeBooks. <https://www.abebooks.co.uk/first-edition/Malay-Camp-Kimberley-Louis-Mallett-Sol/31257084428/bd>

FEEDBACK: Trevor Toubé wrote I was interested to see the picture on the cover of the Malay Camp book. My nanny, Audie [whose real name was Florrie Fritz - Her father was an old-fashioned cobbler who had a small shop at the far end of Jones St.], lived in a house that looked exactly like that. I can remember visiting her mother and sister in it many times when I was small.

His sister Daphne Gillis agreed: You are doing a sterling job of collecting all these memories. I was recently given a big coffee table book about Kimberley to read. Many interesting facts, but none with the human interest of your collections. [Kimberley Jewish Community](#)

THE MALAY CAMP KIMBERLEY

Forceful removal imposed
by the Apartheid Regime



by Louis Mallett