



Chamanculo, one of Maputo's oldest neighborhoods, 1969 (Source: 1969 Aerial Survey, Ministério de Coordenação da Acção Ambiental, Maputo)

Age of Concrete: Housing and the Political Imagination in Mozambique's Capital, 1940s to the Present

Please join us for a seminar by **David Morton**
7th August 2017, 11am – 12:30pm

Venue: Urban Futures Centre (at DUT) Steve Biko campus, S2 block on the 4th floor

Abstract: Unplanned areas of many African cities exploded in size after independence, but in Lourenço Marques (today's Maputo) the rapid growth of informal settlement happened a little differently than in many places: it took place for a generation while still under colonial rule. David Morton will discuss the book he is preparing about the making of the city's *subúrbios* and the long struggle to make government acknowledge responsibility for living conditions in these neighborhoods, before and after independence from Portugal in 1975. Special attention will be given to "clandestine" concrete house construction in the *subúrbios* in the 1960s and early 1970s.

Bio: David Morton is an assistant professor of African history at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, Canada. His work has appeared in the edited volume *Geographies of Privilege* (Routledge, 2013), the *Journal of Southern African Studies*, and the *International Journal of African Historical Studies*. He also wrote frequently about architecture and urbanism in his previous career as a journalist.