Sustainable Identity: crafting a nation through monuments

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the making of Kenya
Nairobi

crafting a nation through monuments
identity: territorial or cultural?
space or place?

location
monuments
interpretation

Architecture, City + Sustainability Department of Architecture & Building Science-UoN
CBD City Square location

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7th East Africa Regional Exhibition and Workshop, 2016
location

City Square
Colonial Monuments

Queen Victoria  1906
African War Memorial  1928
King George V  1935
Lord Delamere  c. 1940s
King George VI  1956

colonial era (c. 1900 – 1963)
Queen Victoria 1906

colonial era (c. 1900 – 1963)

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African War Memorial  1928

colonial era (c. 1900 - 1963)

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King George V  c. 1937

colonial era (c. 1900 – 1963)
King George VI  1956

colonial era (c. 1900 – 1963)
Lord Delamere 1940s

colonial era (c. 1900 – 1963)
colonial identity: summary

• colonial discourse
affiliate new country to
British Empire
Post-Colonial Monuments

Queen Victoria 1906
African War Memorial 1928

King George V c. 1937
Lord Delamere c. 1940s
King George VI 1956

Jomo Kenyatta 1964
Jomo Kenyatta 1973

Post-colony 1st republic (1963-78)
downing King George V  1963
Jomo Kenyatta 1964

post-colony, I (1963 - 1978)
Jomo Kenyatta 1973

post-colony, I (1963 - 1978)
postcolonial identity 1: summary

• birth of a nation
Post-Colonial Monuments

Jomo Kenyatta 1964
Jomo Kenyatta 1973
Peace, Love, Unity 1983
Nyayo monument 1988

post-colony 2nd republic (1978-2002)
Peace, Love, Unity fountain 1983

post-colony; II (1978 - 2002)
Nyayo Monument  1988

post-colony; II  (1978 - 2002)
postcolonial identity 2: summary

- search for cohesion
Post-Colonial Monuments

Jomo Kenyatta 1964
Jomo Kenyatta 1973
Peace, Love, Unity 1983
Nyayo monument 1988

Dedan Kimathi 2007
Tom Mboya 2011

post-colony 3rd republic (2002-2013)
Dedan Kimathi 2007

post-colony, II (1978 – 2002)
Tom Mboya 2011

post-colony, II (1978 – 2002)

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postcolonial identity 3: summary

- going back to founding ethos
Thank You

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