



Services delivered



CITY OF CAPE TOWN ISIXEKO SASEKAPA STAD KAAPSTAD

THIS CITY WORKS FOR YOU

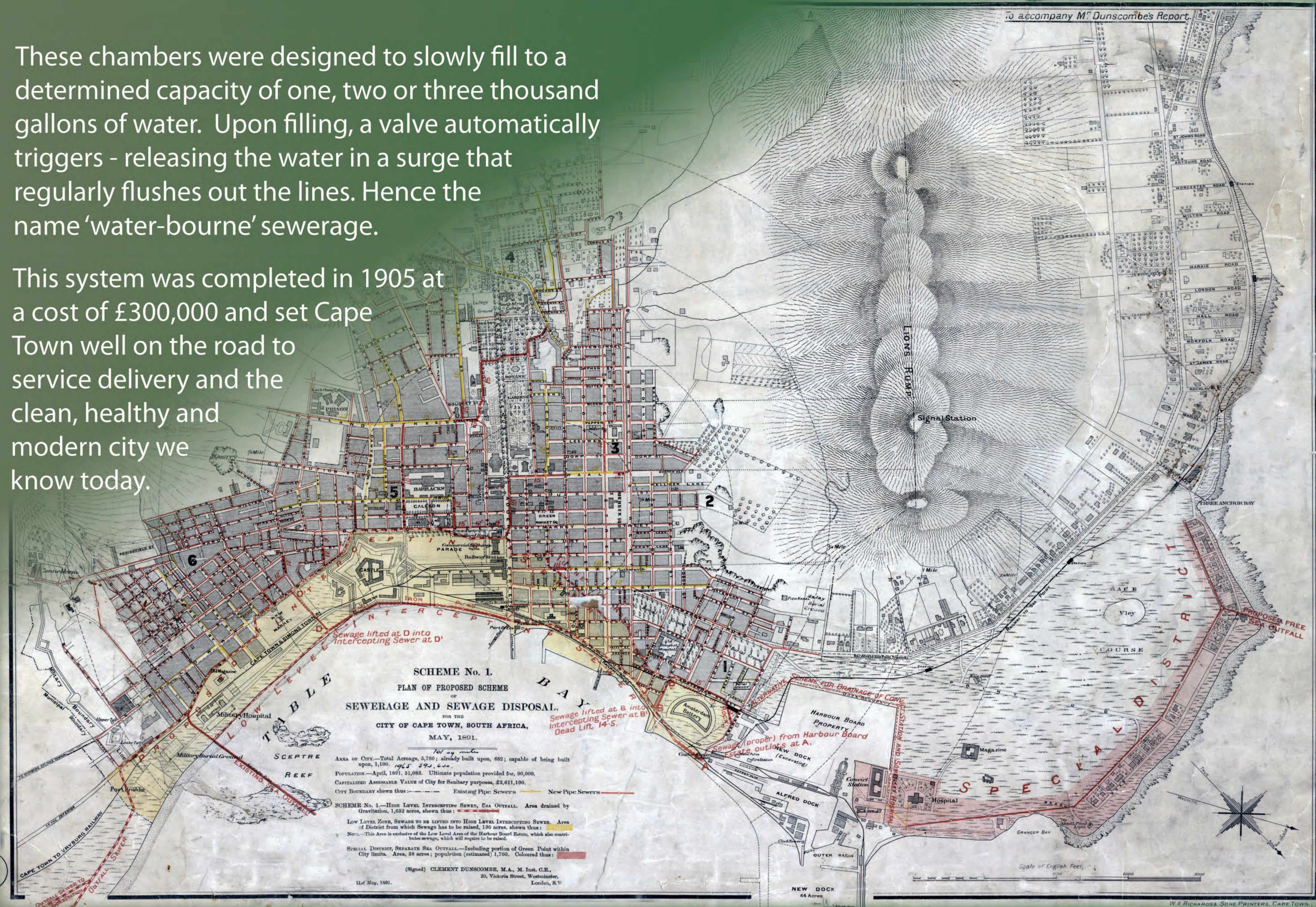
Even with the Dunscombe plan in hand, work would not begin for another four years on this project as the demand for water again exceeded supply.

During the winter rains of 1891 water flowed freely down the Disa stream via the Woodhead Tunnel and pipeline to Molteno Reservoir. But while this initially met the city's needs, it soon became apparent that to ensure a supply of water over the dry months of summer each year, a storage reservoir was needed further up Disa Gorge. To achieve this, work began on the Woodhead Reservoir in 1894 and the Hely-Hutchinson Reservoir, above it, in 1898.

In 1895, Mr. T.W. Olive, was appointed City Engineer and in the expectation that these envisaged storage dams would ensure sufficient water resources, work began on the Dunscombe scheme. For the next ten years over ninety miles of sewer lines were laid - in many cases in tunnels cut through solid rock - all leading to the present outfall near the Green Point Lighthouse. This resulted in a sewerage system so excellent in design and construction, that but for extending the Green Point outfall further out to sea and maintenance, it remains essentially the same and in use to the present day.

These chambers were designed to slowly fill to a determined capacity of one, two or three thousand gallons of water. Upon filling, a valve automatically triggers - releasing the water in a surge that regularly flushes out the lines. Hence the name 'water-bourne' sewerage.

This system was completed in 1905 at a cost of £300,000 and set Cape Town well on the road to service delivery and the clean, healthy and modern city we know today.



Integral to the Dunscombe system are strategically located flushing chambers such as the brick structure found at this corner of Bay Road and Bill Peters Drive.

