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The arts and entertainment

Sculptor adds style to Johannesburg's face lift

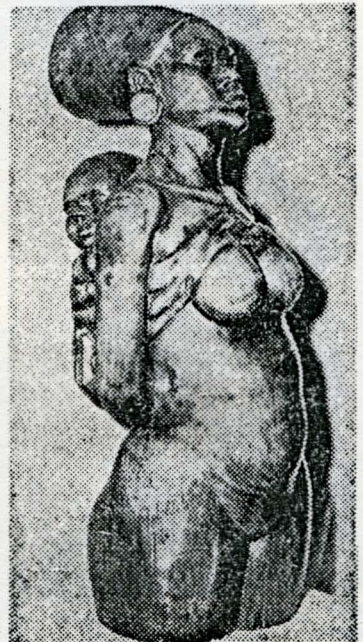
By the Art Critic

OLD Johannesburg, blitzed by demolition, will soon be replaced almost entirely by new buildings, and old red brick by concrete slabs. Its metamorphosis is of importance to painters and sculptors.

To painters, however, the realization may come, too late, that bits of 19th century Johannesburg are worth recording both from the picturesque (meaning paintworthy) and from the historic angle. A revival of interest in the adornment and relief of austere modern architecture, with carved and moulded panels and figures, brings sculptors into the picture of new Johannesburg.

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Herman Wald is one sculptor whose gifts are being put to a practical as well as an aesthetic purpose in this way. In his studio the other day I saw a series of decorative figures backed by giant plaster scallop shells, which will disguise the lighting apparatus of a new cinema in Jeppe Street. A horse, to stand under a large horseshoe is another commission he is completing for the entrance of another building.



Herman Wald carved this impressive figure, which stands more than four feet high, from a trunk of blackwood which he obtained from the Kruger Park area.

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