

Rhodes Estate

- A. Evans Close
- B. Houghton Close
- C. Camerton Close
- D. Buttermere Walk
- E. Fenton Close
- F. Solway Close
- G. Kirkland Walk
- H. Skelton Close
- J. Carlisle Walk
- K. Myrtleberry Close
- L. Bowness Close
- M. Keswick Lodge
- N. Hayton Close
- P. Parton Lodge
- Q. Crosby Walk



 **Hackney** *Housing*

Short list of names for Rhodes Estate & Rhodes Community Hall

This is the shortlist of names devised through resident participation and Hackney Naming Hub. The shortlist was formed by the Rhodes Estate Naming Panel that considered the resident feedback gathered through consultation and engagement.

This reflects resident feedback where 34% wanted the new name not to represent a person or community, with several referencing the suggestion shortlisted

Option: Dalston Gardens

26% wanting a name that represents the community most impacted by the racist politics of Cecil Rhodes

Option: Celestine Edwards

or

Option: Zenzele (symbolic term, not representative of person)

The final consultation to vote for your preferred name will open after the Mayoral Election

 **Hackney**



Celestine Estate

Celestine Edwards Community Hall

SJ Celestine Edwards (1857/8-1894)

Celestine used his platform as the first known African-Caribbean editor in the UK to confront the white supremacy of Cecil Rhodes and his racist actions in South Africa, and the impact of empire across the globe. Descended from enslaved Africans, Celestine was a renowned anti-colonial activist and anti-racist writer.

Who was he?

Celestine Edwards was born in Dominica, the youngest of 10 children to parents described as 'direct African descents' and liberated slaves.

Edwards traveled and eventually came to the UK where he developed as a lecturer with the temperance movement. As his popularity grew he moved to London as a paid lecturer.

In London Edwards gained a popular following with his soapbox oratory at Victoria Park on wide-ranging subjects from religious temperance, Darwinism, colonialism to racial prejudice.

Edwards joined the Christian Evidence Society and soon became the editor of *Lux*, becoming the first known African-Caribbean editor in the UK, in 1892. At this time he was living at 50 Tudor Road, Hackney. The 1891 census records him as a medical student due to his studies at the London Hospital.

By the time Edwards had taken up the editorship of *Fraternity*, he had established a national reputation and audience as a "defender of persons of colour and as a critic of empire." *Fraternity* brought very graphic news of violence towards indigenous people in America, India and Australia by its colonisers, to an English audience.

In 1893-1894 when Edwards was writing *Hard Truth*, *Fraternity* published a series of articles which broadly addressed Edwards' thinking about the legacy of slavery for race, empire and British culture. *Hard Truth* explored these themes through a dialogue between Christ and Lucifer to explore the impact of slavery, emancipation, and imperialism providing a rare black perspective as a contemporary of Cecil Rhodes.



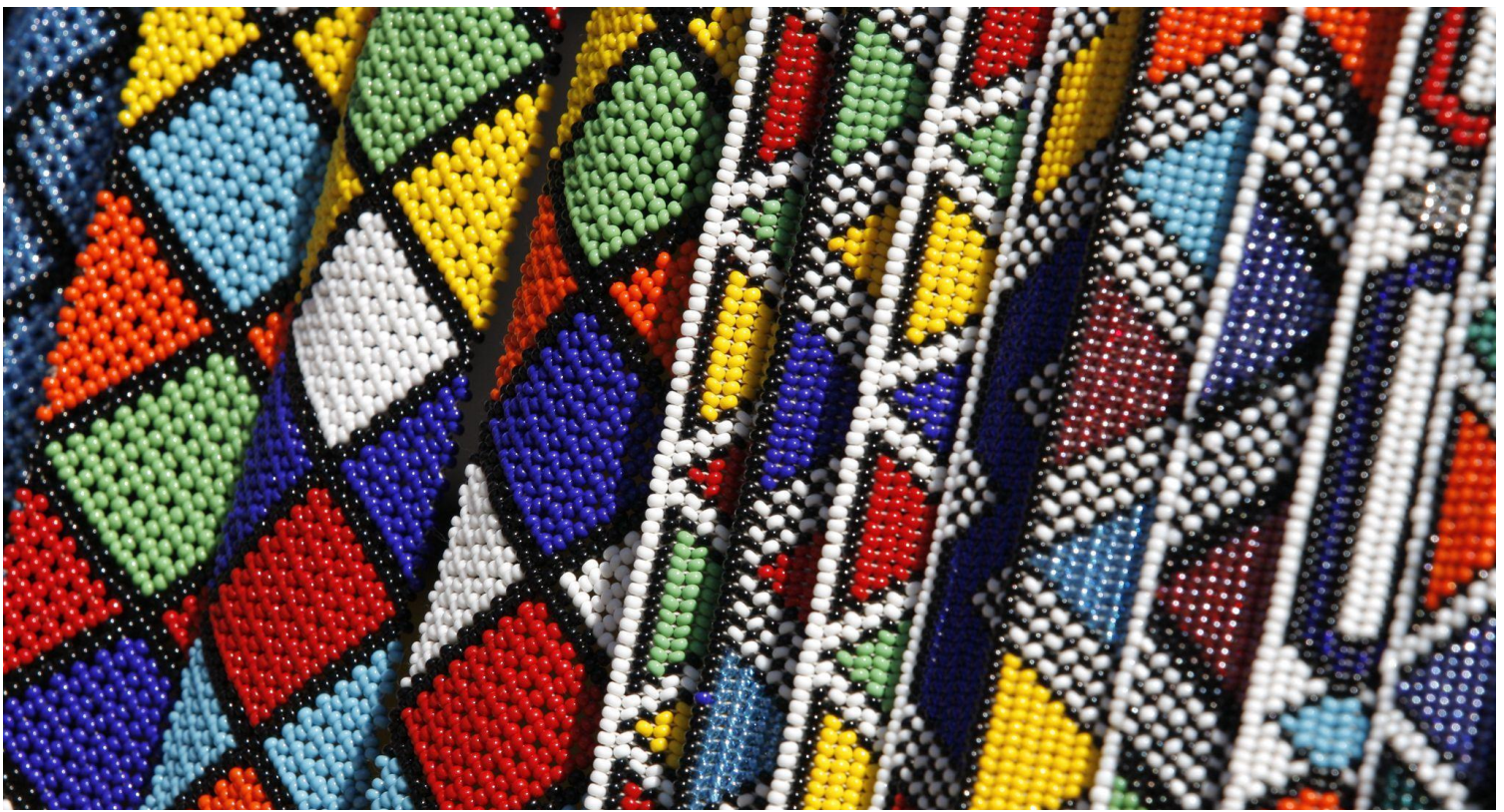
Dalston Gardens Estate

Dalston Gardens Community Hall

Posted in the Naming Hub by a resident on the estate.

“Rhodes Estate is one of the few green spaces in Dalston. I live here and strongly dislike the connection to the Rhodes family name. A new name that celebrates something valuable about where we live feels very fitting to me.”

“It has no relevance to Hackney's history, but hopefully a lot of relevance to Hackney's future as a green and pleasant, tree-filled, beautiful place to live.”



Zenzele *meaning self-reliance*

Zenzele Estate & Zenzele Community Hall

Zenzele is a Zulu word meaning ‘the quality of self-reliance’. Zulu people are a Nguni ethnic group in Southern Africa.

This name is inspired by Betty Nosipho Hiela, a South African artist, living and working in Hackney in late 1990s to c2007. Her traditional beadwork is present in Hackney Museum’s collections, as well as the Black Cultural Archives.

In an oral history recording at Hackney Museum, she describes the term ‘Zenzele’ as meaning ‘do it yourself’ and it was the name of the arts organization that facilitated creative/craft workshops in Hackney that she was associated with.

In South Africa, Zenzele Clubs were established on the Eastern Cape of South Africa in the early 20th century to improve the lives of rural women. This led to empowered movement for which the term became associated.

Cecil Rhodes was a British mining magnate and empire builder in southern Africa, serving as Prime Minister of the Cape Colony from 1890-1896.

He believed that ‘Anglo-Saxon’ people were ‘the first race in the world’, and were superior to people of African heritage. He used political and military force to suppress the indigenous tribes, including the Zulus.

His *British South Africa Company* took southern African territory from indigenous Africans and renamed it Rhodesia. Southern Rhodesia became Zimbabwe on independence from United Kingdom in 1980.