

Housing A Nation: Changing Times, Changing Needs

“ Housing is entering a different phase – from one of quantity now you have a problem of quality. Two hundred and twenty thousand units, half sold on the ownership plan. From 1976 – 1980, we are building another 150,000 units, 80% will be sold – 120,000. By then 70% of Singaporeans will be living in HDB towns, new towns. From 1981-1985, we will build another 100,000, we will have 80% of the population, and 9/10 of that will be sold making a total owned by people who live in them to 320,000. Plus HUDC some 3,000, 4,000 units – anybody who is working will have a home and own his home. The problem is what do we do with the one and two-room flats of our poorer days... we will convert the two-rooms into four-rooms... and the one-rooms into two-rooms... This is a qualitative change. ”

Extract of PM Lee's National Day Rally speech,
15 Aug 1976



Source: MOC (now MIC), courtesy of NAS



Source: Designed for Living, 1985

