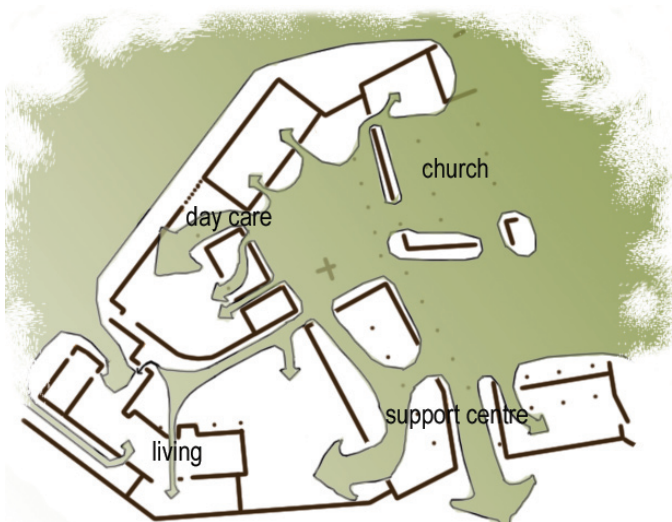


From top :
Fig 78 : Inside, outside and transitional space
Fig 79 : Space flow throughout the centre, indicating the hierarchy from public to private space.
Fig 80 : The outside space flow through to the church space, with the screens and columns indicating the boundary, but not impeding the flow

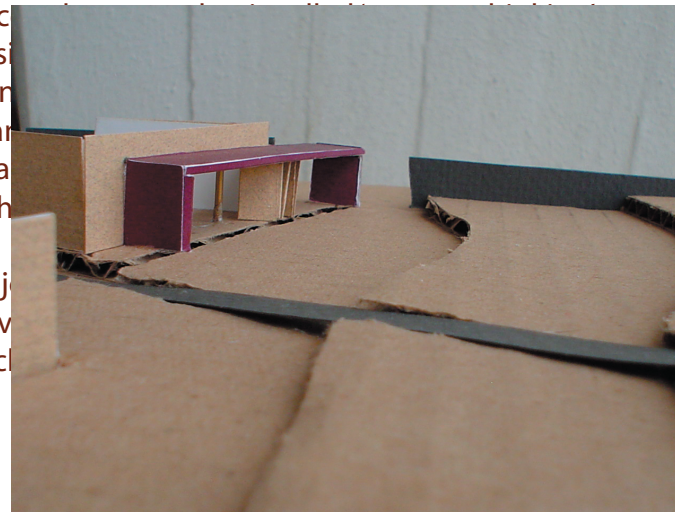


Community facilities and spiritual centers are important components in the functioning of a community, especially in communities short on resources. The responsibility of the designer is thus to create a place with weight within the urban fabric. Utilizing the same laws of Physics which govern the theory of black holes, objects possessing gravitational mass create 'depressions' within the fabric of space, thus attracting smaller objects. The project is designed as a lodestone within the community, with the tower demarcating the gravitational center. The layout is thus arranged around this point, pulling and redirecting elements. Establishing a presence within the community consciousness is supported by the location and visibility of the facility.

Balanced against creating a place with weight is the need to establish an appropriate scale. As a place of safety and support, the scale must never alienate or dominate, but rather comfort and shelter the individual. This is managed by spreading the project out in different components. En masse it establishes a presence within the community, but internally the spaces and different buildings are more human in scale and proportion.

Internal and external connections are integral to place making. The reason being that we use relationships and external references to define ourselves. In architecture, we never understand a space unless we understand its function within the context of the project plays a role in the network of the center with the natural environment.

One of the major challenges in the natural environment is in part to our conditions. The design must establish a presence within the community, but internally the spaces and different buildings are more human in scale and proportion.



University of Pretoria etd – Rheeder, A (2005)



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Regarding the building as a living organism, as Habraken and Lucien Kroll propose(see page 20), requires a shift in architectural perceptions. No longer can a building be considered to be the end product of a process of design. For a building should, at any point in time, be seen as merely a phase in a process of change and, hopefully, growth. But this process will only occur when the users deem a building worthwhile of the effort and cost of redesign, maintenance and growth.

In order to facilitate this process, the facility was designed as a collection of separate structures, to allow greater flexibility in terms of change. Use of the facility was also designed to allow the greatest amount of activities, using the least amount of resources. As it is near impossible to predict all future uses, the design is as flexible as possible in terms of use. These diagrams illustrate the volume and diversity in activities which can take place.

No part of the design should be considered to be perfect and complete. The very nature of life requires a continuous re-evaluation and change. Perfection is a goal, not a reality. The design strive to correspond to this by using irregular shapes, broken planes and bent axis lines. The result is a vibrancy which is not found in the perfect geometry of right angles, parallel lines and perfect grids.



From top left to bottom right:
fig 81 to fig. 91 : use diagrams over time