

Context and Urban structure

Global position.

Locality.

Urban analysis:

Mamelodi is a township sited about 20km East of the Pretoria CBD. It lies parallel to the N4 highway and Pretoria Road (an extension of Church Street). The township is accessible by two main roads, Simon Vermooten and Hans Stydom as well as by rail. Moretele Park is situated approximately 2 km from Tsamaya Road, the main road through Mamelodi. The back of the site open up to the Magaliesberg Mountains. It is surrounded entirely by high density residential development and is accessible by only one main entrance.

Visual analysis:

From an urban analysis point of view, Moretele Park lies outside the somewhat haphazard grid that informs the sub-urban structure of the surrounding area. The main entrance to the park lies at the end of a major road and this road has been recognised in the establishment of the new main axis through the park. Activities are positioned on both



Fig24: Position of the capital city in the country

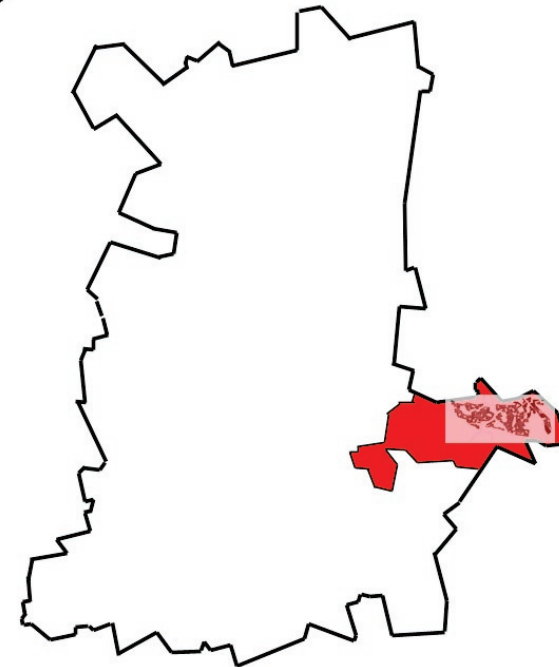


Fig25: Location of Mamelodi relative to the administrative boundary of Tshwane



Fig26: Spatial layout of Mamelodi and park position

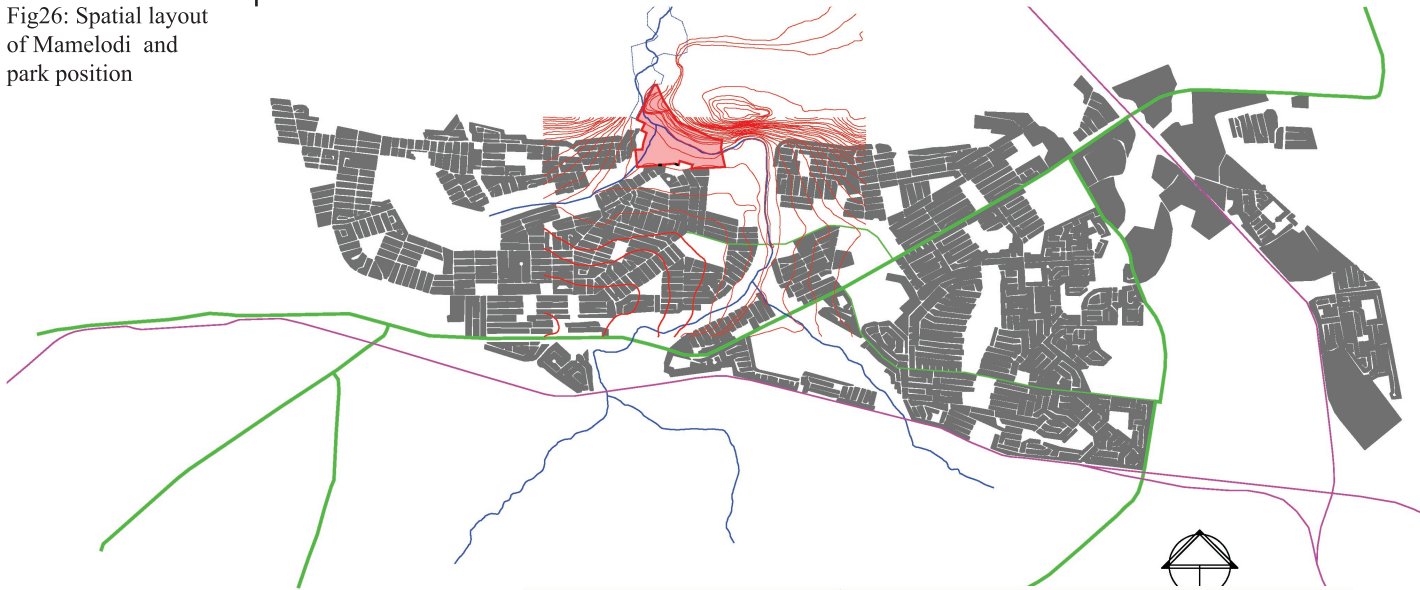


Fig26a: Position of Moretele Park in Mamelodi



sides of this axis effectively making it a spine of activity. Existing recreation areas such as shaded braai areas and the swimming pools and slide lie east of the axis and a large open kikuyu lawn lies to the west.

The axis is continued over the river to the opposite bank where the amphitheatre is proposed. From this point, the user can make his/her way up the slope either directly over rough terrain or via a series of ramps to gain access to higher seating or continue past to the proposed lookout platform, the “Eye of Mogale”.

The platform lies at the base of the cliffs above giving a vantage over the valley below. The entire township, bar a small secondary valley, can be seen from this point.

Beacons which replace street lights are proposed along Tsamaya and other main roads to give reference points from which to view the township. These beacons serve a second function of creating more legible road navigation at street level.

Node points and beacon placement: see adjacent diagram



Environmental investigation

The foothills of the hill behind Moretele Park are filled with indigenous plants, particularly protea trees, “bobbejaan sterte” and a variety of aloes, grasses and mesembs (rock succulents). There are no recorded red data species to be found here. The Pienaars River is littered with pollution washed down from upstream, but a large number of water birds still flourish here: moorhens, bishops, weavers, egrets, herons and geese to name a few. The impact that the proposed intervention will have is negligible in the area. By making people aware of the environment and the natural beauty of the area, upstream pollution and littering should be discouraged to a large extent.

MOMS: “Ideas of the youth”

Moms is an acronym used by some of the Mamelodi youth. It means “mother of music and melodies”. Many young people live in Mamelodi and commute commercial centres for work, however the night life in “Moms” is a bustling affair. Numerous clubs and bars break out onto the streets from shopping complexes and houses and literally hundreds of attendees can be served from a small space. The street is the setting for many a party and gathering. Clubs like



Fig27: Blooming trees on the mountain

Fig28: Small plants among the angular quartzite on the slopes

Fig29: steep slopes provide the necessary angle for seating

Fig30: Bobbejaan Stert

Fig31: the lower, steepest part of the slope has little vegetation

Fig32: the access bridge over the river is a simple steel structure



Fig33: Topography of the park from the South East

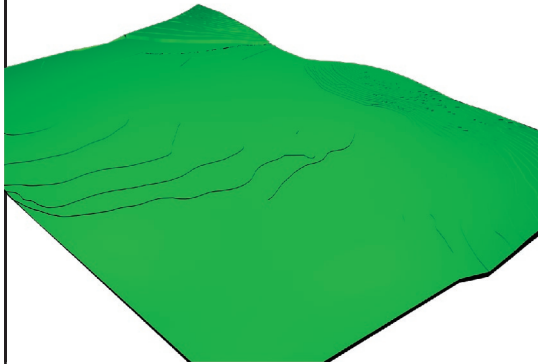


Fig34: Topography of the park from the South West



Fig35: Position of the park against the slopes

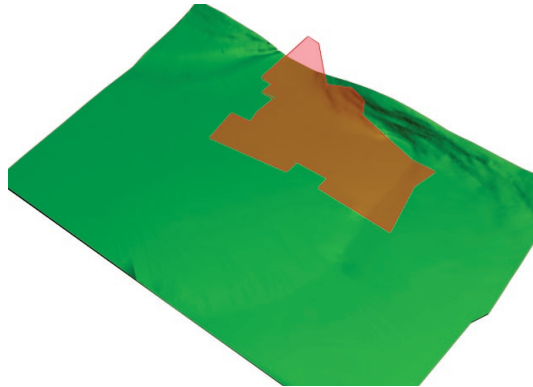


Fig36: Stats SA image showing population density

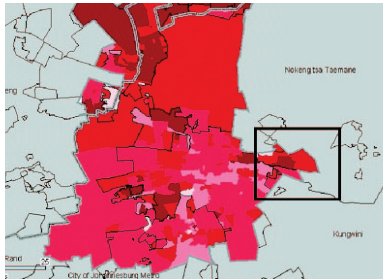
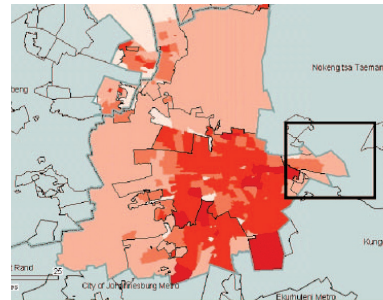


Fig37: Stats SA image showing service delivery



Note that dark implies density in the adjacent images



“Corner Couch” and “Club 69” thrive in the evenings. Local youths made good such as soccer players and businessmen dress to the tee and can often be seen around in the township.

Site analysis:

Topographic study:

Geological information:

See technical chapter

Climatic characteristics:

See technical chapter.

Positioning of building

See Design Development chapter.

Accommodation calculations:

With gatherings in massive numbers at certain times of year, as is the case during music festivals, and much smaller numbers of people throughout the rest of the year, numbers used to determine required accommodation have had to be estimated. Festivals will still have to be catered for by independent organisers where as many as 150 000 people can be expected to attend.

Permanent facilities will include a kitchen which can cater for up to 400 people as a cafeteria kitchen or 200 people as a formal

restaurant venue where more than one course may be required.

Ablutions found around the park will accommodate most day users and a small number of toilets will be provided in the shelter area.

The amphitheatre must be viewed as a facility which can accommodate more people than the current largest Mamelodi venue, the Mamelodi Community Hall which seats up to 2000. The amphitheatre will be designed to accommodate approximately 6000.

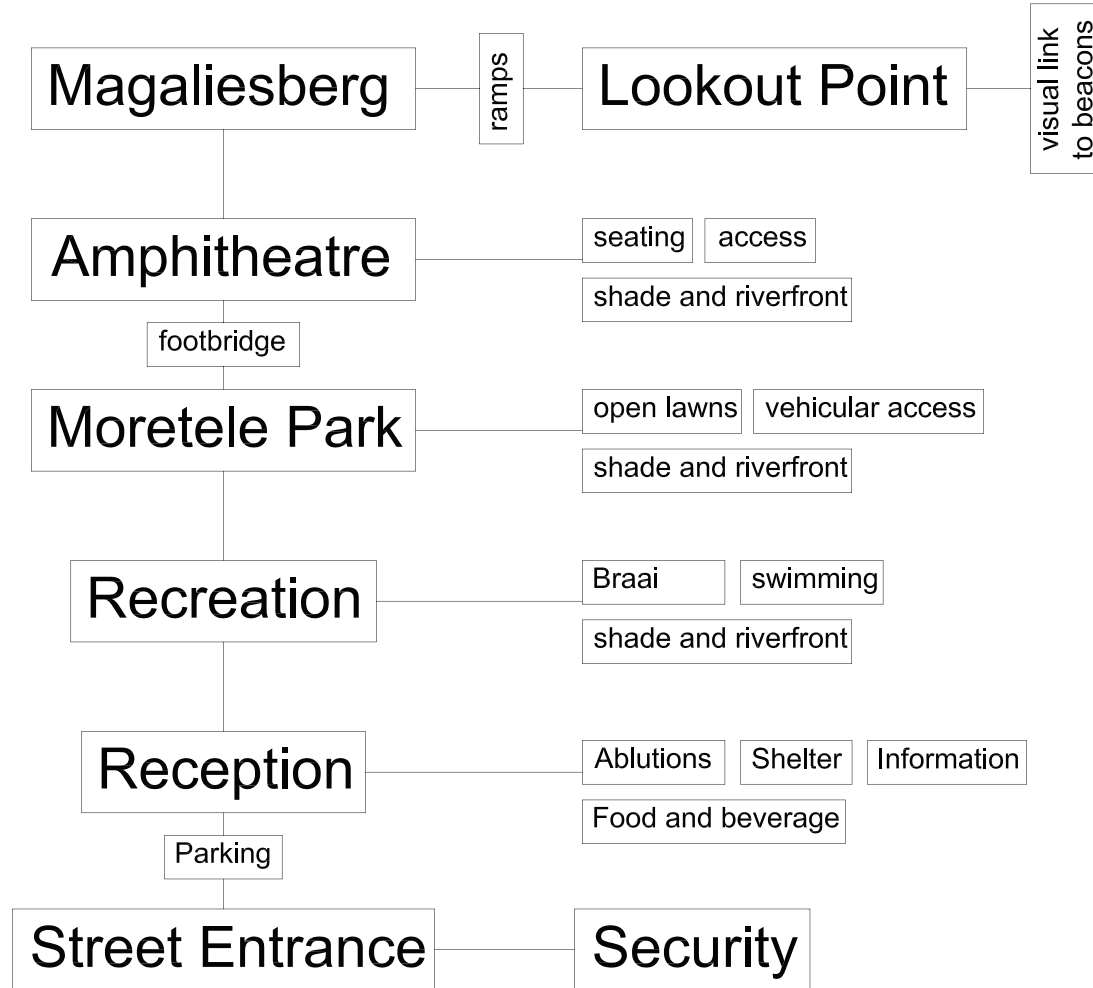


Fig38: Diagrammatic representation of the required program



Fig39: Aerial
Photograph of the
park



Context



Fig40: Park boundary and surrounding urban features



Fig41: Density of use



Fig42: Current layout of park and main activity axis



Fig43: Expected increase in activity concentration if access is provided across river

Context



Fig44: Panoramic view of surrounding mountains



Panorama of surrounding mountains



Fig45



Fig46

Fig51:
Trees
around the
swimming
pools



Fig45: Existing com-
munity hall

Fig46: The water
slide



Fig47

Fig47: Deep shade
along the rivers edge



Fig48

Fig48: Swimming
facilities



Fig49

Fig49: Platform for
water slide



Fig50

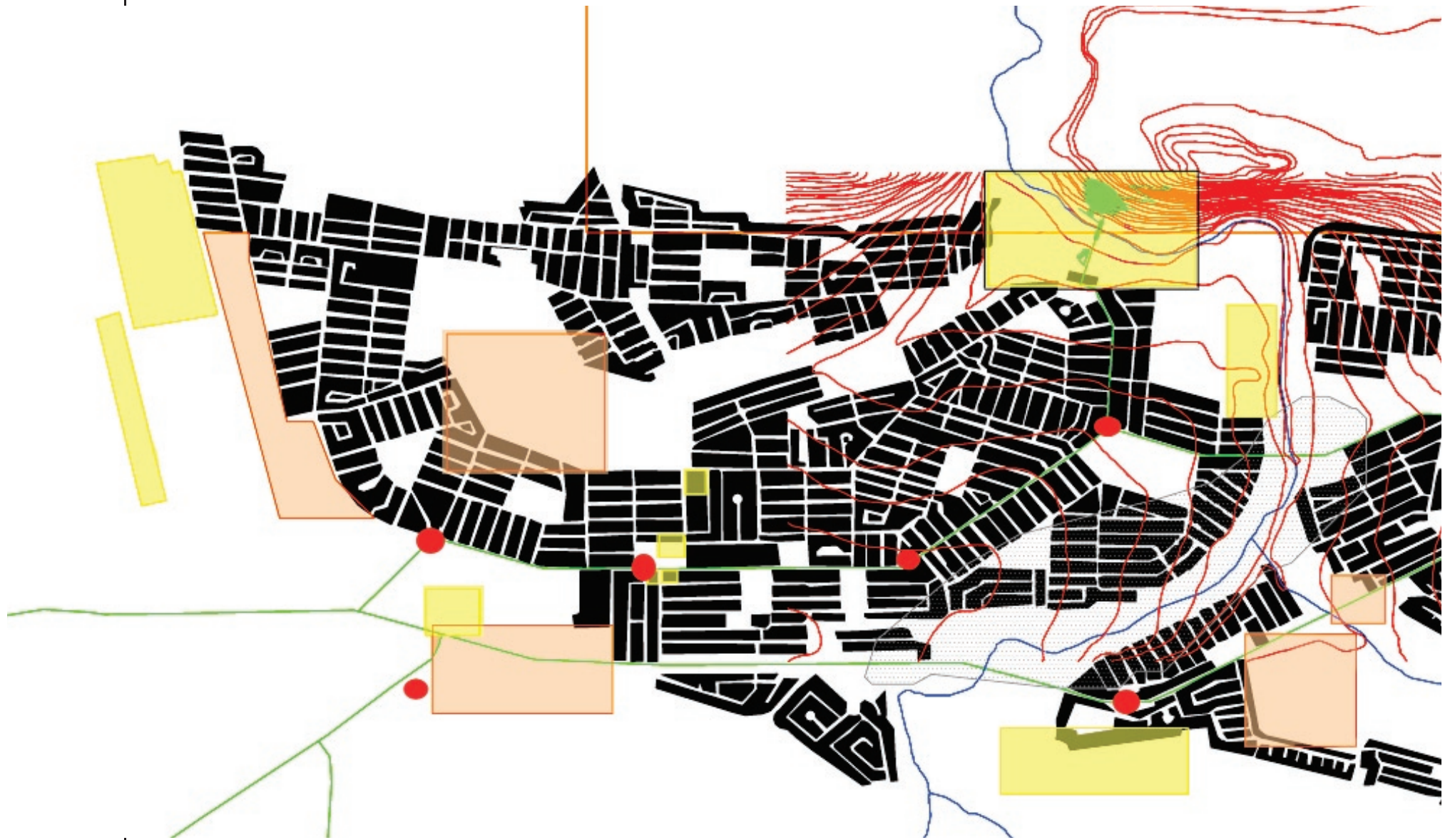
Fig50: View from
platform



Fig51



Local photos



Urban Context

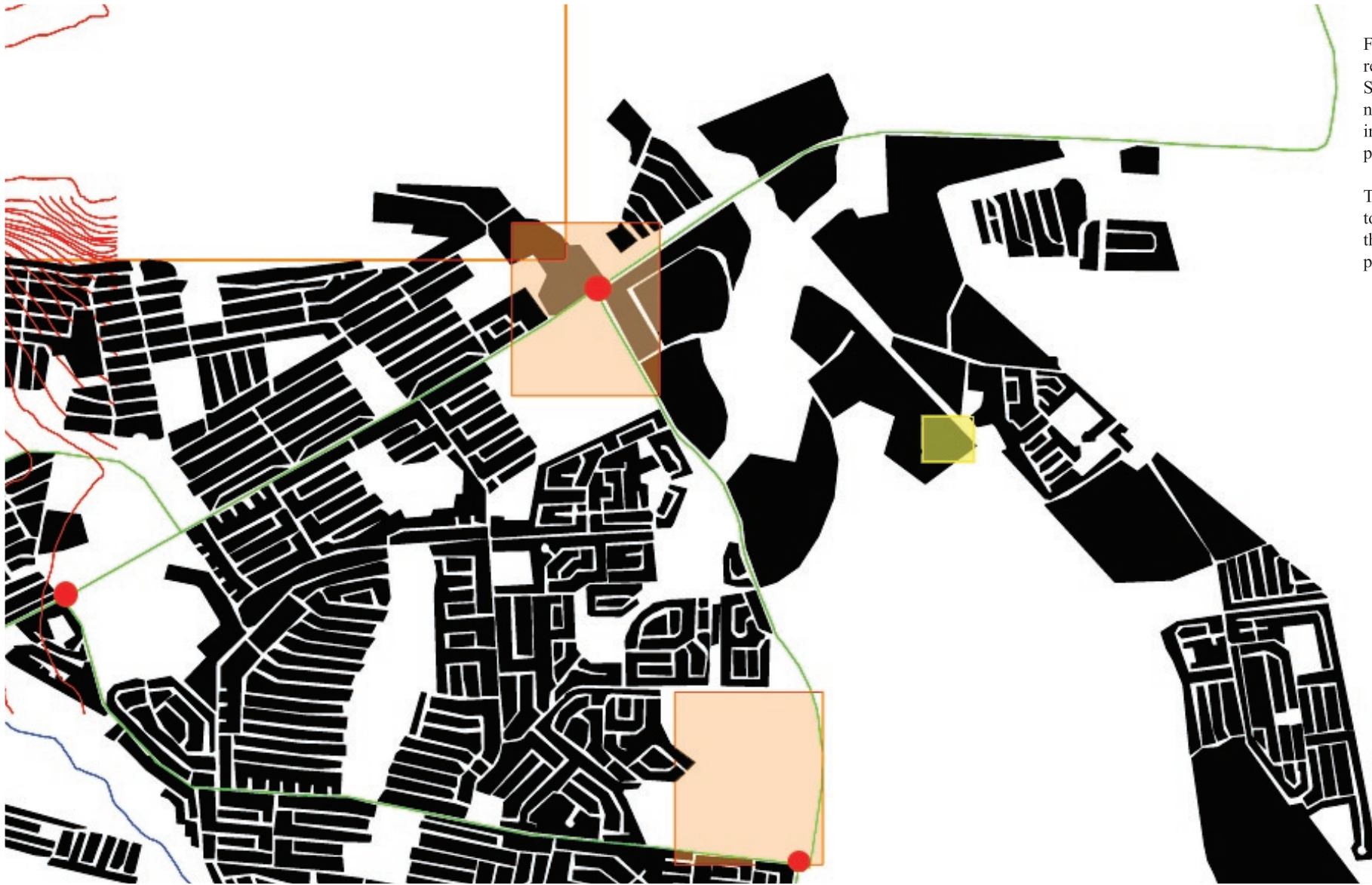


Fig51a: Yellow represents Heritage Sites; orange urban nodes of places of interest; red points the position of beacons

The yellow square, top, centre indicates the position of the park

