

Rationale:

If Mamelodi is to succeed as a tourist destination, something must be done about its poor legibility. Tourists, already intimidated by the reputation of South Africa as a crime hotspot, will surely be dissuaded from going into a township if there is a distinct possibility of getting lost.

Moretele Park:

The music festivals in Moretele Park are often chaotic affairs with at least 100 000 people attending twice a year. For the rest of the year, however, the park caters mainly for a small number of recreational users and is very spacious.

The two streams running through the park flood annually, making keeping the river tidy very difficult and also making building below the flood line irresponsible if not carefully handled.

By creating an amphitheatre which is shaped by the existing topography, the event can gain a certain level of formalisation without dramatic impact on the environment. Access to amphitheatre would necessitate a bridge over the river and would thus give access to the slopes of the mountain to park users.



Fig 116: Large crowds can easily fill the expansive lawns of the park



Fig 117: Indigenous trees on the mountain



Fig 118: A wide variety of grass species can be found on the mountain slopes



By taking advantage of the elevation that is gained by climbing the mountain, it is possible to view almost the entire township. As illustrated earlier, various heritage sites throughout the township are being investigated as stops on a potential heritage route. The street layout and a lack of distinguishable hierarchy, however, make the streets quite illegible and thus daunting for the tourist to explore. Beacons which replace street lights outside the various heritage sites provide a possible solution to the legibility as well as provide landmarks that can be viewed from the lookout platform.

“The Eye of Mogale” is envisaged as a lookout point at the base of the cliffs, high up on the mountain, visible from most places in the township, however, there is a legal act that prevents development on the slopes. A lookout point can be provided at the top of the seating area of the amphitheatre which provides good elevation. this platform can double as a position for recording performances. Beacons replacing street lights at heritage sites will be proposed for a dual purpose: that of navigation from site to site at street level and for viewing from the “eye”.