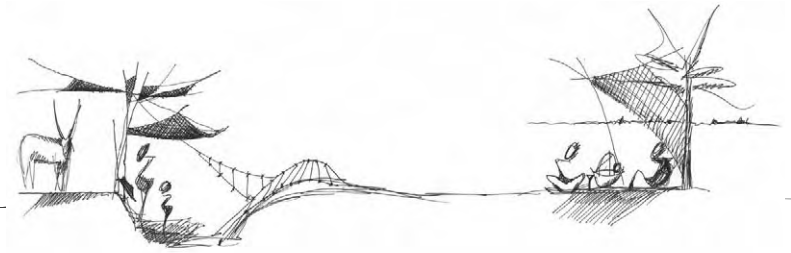

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Foreword.
Enclosures and animal spaces refer to enclosures where captive animals live. Human spaces refer to spaces accommodating human dwelling, education, recreation, or research in these environments. For the purpose of easy reading, the abbreviation IA will refer to the field of Interoir Architecture. The term *animan* will refer to a method of human and animal spatial integration. *Animan* precinct or Parrot *Animan* Precinct will refer to where the integrative spatial concepts are used at the specific enclosure mentioned . The National Zoological Gardens af South Africa (formely known as the Pretoria Zoo) will be referred to as the SA Zoo.

1.1. DISSERTATION IDEA DEVELOPMENT

Currently wild animals and humans live and experience each other in separation. Humans have developed bad attitudes towards captive environments where they believe animals are forced to adapt to our ways. Captive environments need improvement. These places are unexperiential, and unaccommodating to different kinds of people. Visitors do not realise that not visiting means a lack of resources to use to improve animals lives. It is important to visit these places that educate us about animals and our world. Captive environments should advance their contributions of conserving, recreation, education, and research. There is thus a need to add new goals and objectives for advancing these places and how they carry out their principles, and to study a specific area to prove its importance..

1.2. PROBLEM STATEMENT AND BACKGROUND

This project aims to develop new concepts and ideas (*animan* space design) for captive environments, and apply this to an existing Parrot enclosure and its immediate surroundings at the SA Zoo as a sample for alternative environments.

1.2.1. Problem Importance and Relevance.

Man's encroachment in nature has lead to the destruction of the world for economic development. New ideas can create a model for future zoos and captive environment designs. Changing attitudes could bring visitors, money, and therefore animal enrichment. Of specific importance is the improvement of the SA Zoo in South Africa and Tshwane. This is for the animals conservation, peoples' needs, for recreation, education, conservation, research and accommodation. It is therefore important to choose the Parrot enclosure because it is currently uneducative, has minimal recreation value, has poor accommodation and could be better enriching the animals environments. It is important for world zoos, captive animals, children, adults, temporarily/permanently and/or partially/fully disabled people and zoo management.

1.2.2. Delimitations

This project acknowledges that many areas (human and animal) could be improved, however the design focuses on the Parrot enclosure and its' immediate surroundings. A bordering Antelope enclosure will be part of the design, however, only the threshold, and not the whole animal space. There is also currently a secondary Parrot breeding enclosure elsewhere at the zoo. This enclosure will be considered for its function, however it will not form part of the new design.

1.2.3. Assumptions

Incorporated into this proposal is an existing proposal of a Life Science Discovery Centre at the SA Zoo. It will also be assumed that a percentage of the resources set aside for the Centre can be used for the Discovery Haven in the new Parrot *Animan* Precinct.

1.3. Research Methodology and Thesis outline

Firstly, the Context study (chapter 2) will look at the diversity of projects in the field of Architecture and IA, including their contributions to animal space design. In this chapter, an outdoor recreation study aims to highlight the importance of the outdoors Tshwane and South Africa. It suggests that human spaces can be merged with these outdoor spaces into one habitat. Also in Chapter 2, is a study about Zoos' contributions to society, animals and the environment. Zoos' responsibilities regarding conservation, recreation, education, experience, research, community values, and animal enrichment were researched. Zoo evolution and exhibit design were also researched in this chapter. Design elements and principles according to D.K. Ching and Miller were investigated as aspects used in the design of human and animal spaces at the SA Zoo. This chapter enlightens issues that can inform any *animan* design decisions and objectives.

Chapter 3 (Site selection and study) is devoted to the existing Parrot enclosure at the SA Zoo. The site, and its animal and human spaces are assessed to find advantages and disadvantages that can inform its improvement.

Chapter 4 (Design Development) focuses on what human and animal spaces should have and be at the Parrot *Animan* Precinct.

Chapter 5 (Technical Investigation Treatise) discusses and illustrates design decisions used in the final Parrot Ani*man* Precinct, including perspective drawings.

Chapter 6 (Precedents Investigations) analyses precedents used regarding animal and human spaces in captive environments. Following is an examination of precedent lightweight structures. Discovery and educational centres are furhter studied as precedents, as well as playgrounds, amphitheaters and buildings with heritage value. All of these precedents influenced design decisions on conceptual and technical levels.

Chapter 7 (Technical Drawings) includes drawings which will technically illustrate the techtonics of the final design (with the use of plans, section, details and isometric drawings).

Chapter 8 offers a conclusion of design drawings reassessed with Ching's and Miller's spatial design concepts

Chapter 9 is an appendix including information gathered.