

CHAPTER 5_ Historic and contextual analysis_ Mamelodi

5.1_ MAMELODI HISTORIC TIMELINE

Pretoria was founded in 1855. During that time various black populations were living within the boundaries of the current city close to their employers and in their kraals or settlements.

Set against the Thaba-tsa-ga-Mogale mountain, also known as Magaliesberg. The Moretele River runs along the foot of this mountain. The first people to live on this land were native herdsman and farmers speaking either Ndebele or Tshwane.

The 2nd Anglo Boer war left its trace with *reminisces of trenches* found in and around the area.

Mamelodi developed on the farm Vlakfontein 329 JR. originally owned by Mr. Jansen until 1874 which was then divided into three plots. The three plots were sold off in parts from 1874 to 1949.

In 1890 the railway line: Delagoa bay line, was built to transport goods to and from Maputo, this was later connected to Pretoria station in 1894. Tsayamaya Rd, also known as (Go you are free) and previously known as Ndlazi Rd, bisect the old town. It was then and is still today a major route.

The first railway stop was at Eerste Fabriek. The first factory in the then Transvaal, and Mamelodi was the Sammy Marks Hatherly factory, a glass producer.

As a result of the railway line the council thought it appropriate to develop the then Vlakfontein farm as a "native location".

On 30 October 1945 the Pretoria City Council bought part 2 and 3 for the development of a black urban area for the sum of 18013 pounds.

The first house was built in 1947. It was part of the first housing scheme known as the Traditional Bantu village. The houses were thatched and made in rondawels forming a lapa around the open space. This was however a disaster and the people refused to live in these houses. The scheme was abandoned. This led to the development of the CSIR and NBR councils NE51/9 and NE51/6 sub economic type housing, also known as matchbox houses or four-roomed houses.

In 1954 the Site and service scheme was introduced: it refers to the self help building scheme, owner builder. The majority of Mamelodi East developed in this manner.

The first training school was set up at Vlakfontien industrial school, to educate people in the building of houses.

In 1953 the black township was proclaimed.

Property for Mamelodi East was only acquired in 1960, as the then Mamelodi West was fully occupied and was expanding rapidly to the east.

The group areas act, (people live grouped by age and race group) was enforced and people were removed from their homes as they were re-zoned for coloured and white areas: Eesterus, Riverside, Eastwood etc.

In 1958 the majority of the people were removed from the Lady Selborne area to the then Vlakfontein farm, known as the native location. In 1953 Vlakfontein was formally proclaimed a township. Only people working in Pretoria based on the "dompas" law were allowed to stay in this area, others were removed. Thus making the "township" a labour reservoir for Pretoria. In 1954 Mamelodi was divided into areas named wards based on ethnic origin, ie: Zulu, Sotho, Tshwane etc. for political safety reasons. By 1954, 6000 people were already living at Vlakfontien in inadequate living conditions and by 1987 an estimate of 350 000 people by census in Mamelodi.

The first squatter camp was situated in the current day Mamelodi East. These were people waiting to receive houses, it was called Mandela Village. The first amenity administration committee was established in 1955, it served as rent collection and to listen to residence complaints.

In July 1962 the Vlakfontien / Native location / black township was officially renamed Mamelodi. The meaning of Mamelodi is not exactly known as it has two possible meanings none the less it relates to music: mother of music/joy/melody or harmony, father of whistling.

The first Mamelodi community council was founded in 1977 consisting of twelve seats: two for hostels and ten for wards. The building built in 1977, as Mamelodi was then divided into wards and hostels for living. The establishment or rather development of the community council to the Mamelodi town council came only in 1984.

Vlakfontien was one of the only planned townships in South Africa, planned by a Mr. NT. Cooper. The layout was based on American town planning layouts. The majority of the finance for housing and infrastructure was from the government; however the profits from the beer hall (est. 1954) were used for social needs, ie nursing home and tarred roads. The rent in the township was based on a 30 year lease excluding water & electricity.



Figure. 24
Mamelodi
layout plan
Figure. 25
Mamelodi
housing
Figure. 26
The cooking
brazier is the
"mbaala"



Figure. 27
Viakfontein native
location

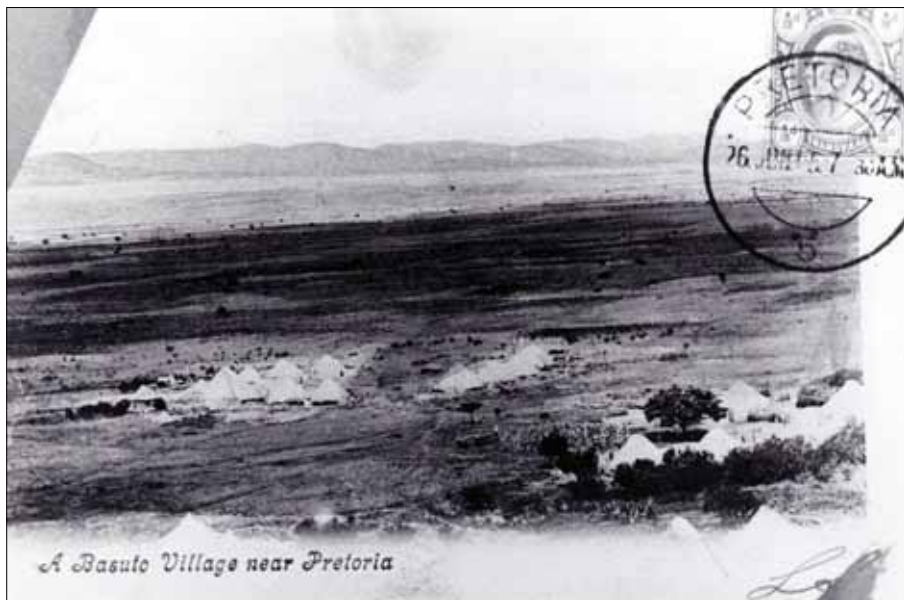


Figure. 28
Mamelodi, Situation in
1961



Figure. 29
Mamelodi,
resident
portrait



Figure. 30
Mamelodi,
students



Figure. 31
The main
street
section T,
1990



5.2_

VISTA UNIVERSITY HISTORY (CURRENT UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA)

Established in 1981, founded in 1982, as a multi disciplinary distance learning campus; institution across the country in rural, peri-urban areas, with Pretoria Mamelodi as main campus “black University” for the “urban black communities” (*J M Kabamba, VISTA Univ*).

It was however imbedded in the negative image of a historically disadvantaged university, with a lack of adequate buildings, equipment, infrastructure, materials, library resources and social amenities. “ The university was mostly concerned with “soft sciences” such as education, sociology and humanities. Lack of adequate government funding placed them under **serious financial pressure**. The 1994 elections changed the outlook on the University and allowed for better funding and restructuring. The main focus of Vista University was on “improving academic and professional qualifications of teachers.”

Vista was focused on a certificate and diploma level of education. The change to a degree based education lead to the **government decision** in 2003 to merge with Universities around the country. Vista Mamelodi campus merged with the University of Pretoria.

According to Mr. Juliano M Kabamba of the University of Vista the University structure was based on distance learning, with a support tutor at the nearest campus to your residence. The campuses were in actual fact learner **support** centres. To note: The main campus, Pretoria hosted the main library service that distributed books to distant learners on their request.

The words of Mr Mzombazi Mboya past campus director of Mamelodi Vista University as published in the July Pretoria News 1998, Clearly expresses the sentiment and vision of the past campus.

“ We want to reposition our institution to work with and for society, and not become an ivory tower shunning the disadvantage community that has given us a home.”

5.3_

MAMELODI EAST, A CONTEXT ANALYSIS

ZONING CERTIFICATE / ZONING NOTES

SEWER AND WATER LINE DIAGRAM

SITE / STORMWATER / PUBLIC GREEN SPACE / COMMUNITY EDUCATION ZONING

SOUTH AFRICAN WEATHER SERVICES CLIMATE STATISTICS

WIND
RAIN
TEMPERATURE
CLOUD COVER

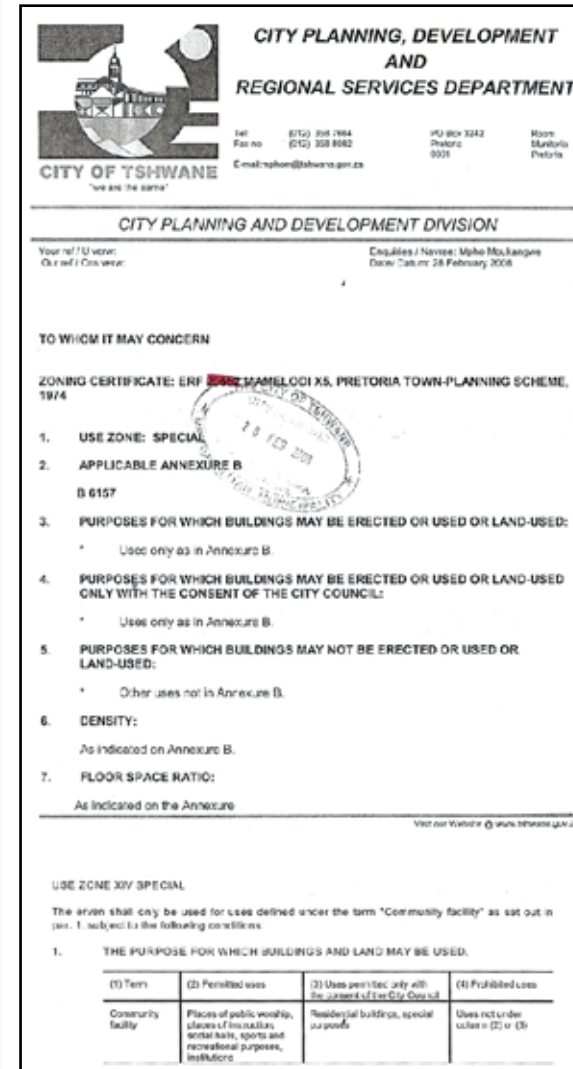
5.3.5

VEGETATION ANALYSIS

5.3.1

ZONING CERTIFICATE

Figure. 32
Zoning
Documents



ZONING NOTES:
As per city of Tshwane planning And development division
ERF:29552 Mamelodi ext x5 (1974)

1. USE ZONE, SPECIAL:
COMMUNITY FACILITIES,
SOCIAL HALLS, PLACES OF
INSTRUCTION, INSTITUTIONS

2. SIDE & REAR SPACE
Minimum free space between
structures to be 1m. Permission that
is granted is valid for life of building
concerned

3. CONDITIONS OF PROPERTY
Storm water to be drained into street
or storm water channel which ever is
most access able and available

Owner shall be responsible for the
maintenance of the entire property





4. BUILDING HEIGHTS
Building height restriction of 2 storeys,
City council does have the right to
allow consent for higher structures.
In note of IDP development this
regulation shall be granted relaxation
and issued as consent.

5. COVERAGE
Building not to exceed 70% of site
area, council has the right to allow a
10% relaxation. of additional coverage



5.3.2

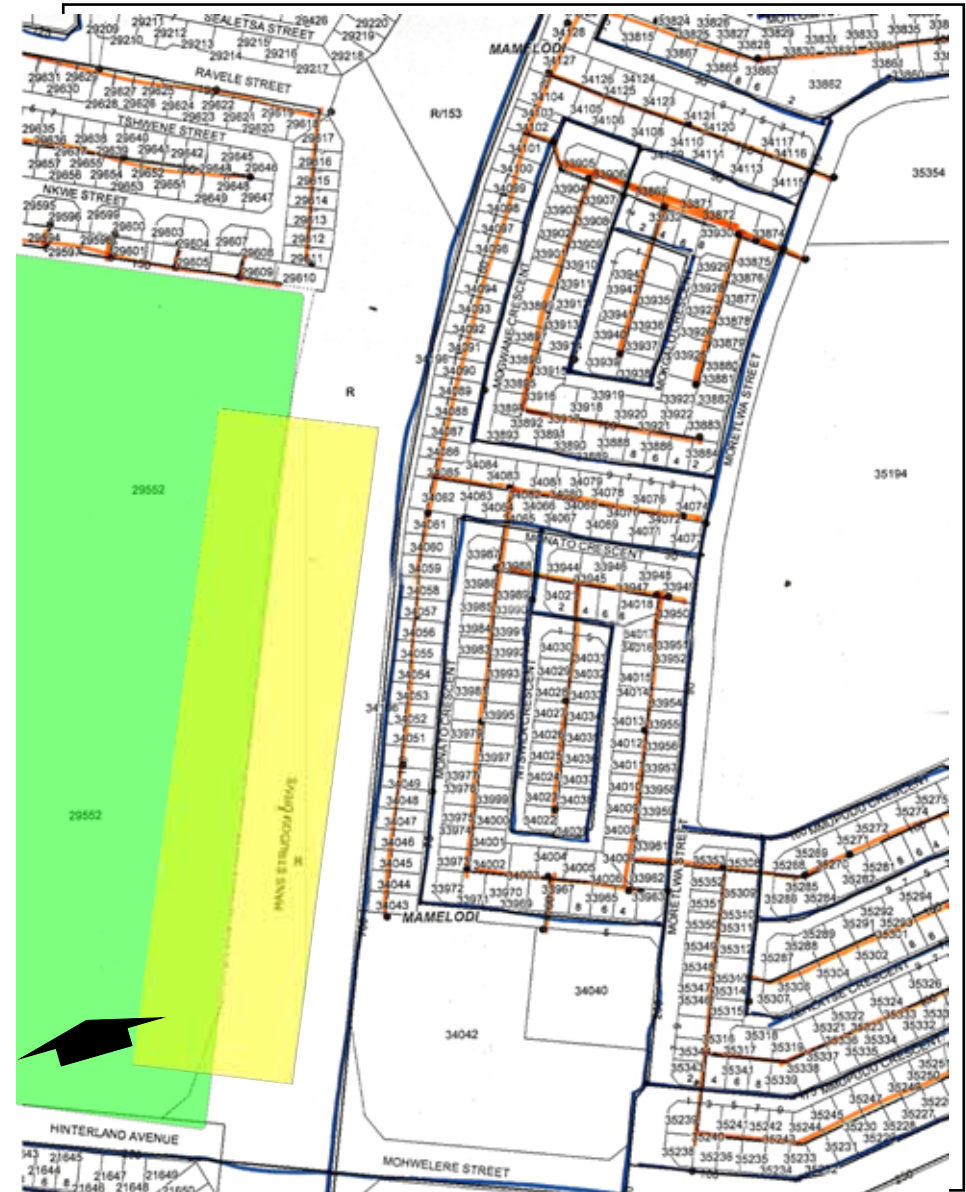
SEWER AND WATER LINE DIAGRAM

-  CURRENT SEWER LINES MAMELODI EAST, SITE AREA
-  CURRENT WATER LINES MAMELODI EAST, SITE AREA
-  TOTAL University of Pretoria MAMELODI CAMPUS SITE
-  DISSERTATION SITE

Note, the dissertation site seen in figure 34 (yellow), water and sewer lines run along western edge and centre of the existing Mamelodi University of Pretoria campus site, lines not seen on diagram.

The diagram issued by City of Tswane water and sanitation division only shows main lines and not internal lines as changed, added and amended by individual owners.

As this is an existing site with infrastructure, the majority of sewer and water lines required for new structures are to be connected to existing. However, eastern border as seen on diagram does indicate main lines, to be used for public infrastructure, toilets, taxi rank etc. As noted under space programming chapter 6



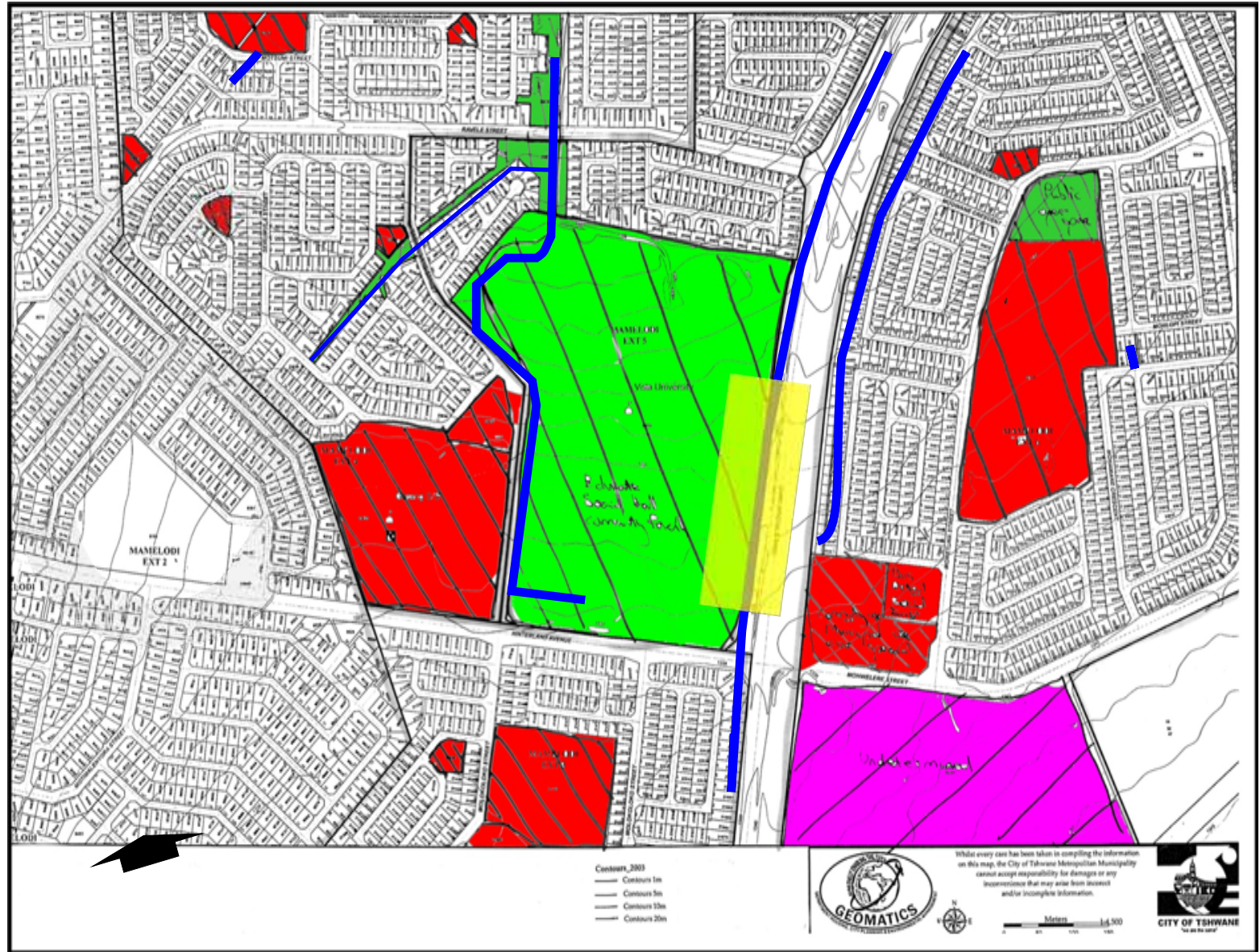
5.3.3

Figure. 34
Site / stormwater / public green space / community education zoning

SITE / STORMWATER / PUBLIC GREEN SPACE / COMMUNITY EDUCATION ZONING

- SITE
- University of Pretoria SITE
- STORM WATER
- GREEN SPACE
- COMMUNITY ZONING EDUCATION ZONING
- UNDETERMINED ZONING

Note: West side and East side of Hans Strydom road have been zoned for housing. However the west side have been developed and can be categorized as formal developed RDP. Housing. But the east side have not been developed, it ranges from mixed developed RDP. and informal shack housing. Thus the representation of formality on this diagram, courtesy of City of Tshwane regional services Department is not accurate. Previous chapter 3, showed a more clear and current indication of status, but not zone.



SOUTH AFRICAN WEATHER SERVICES CLIMATE STATISTICS

Figure. 35. Sunlight Graph

RAIN TEMPERATURE,

SUNLIGHT HOURS, 1993 - 2003 avg JANUARY- DECEMBER
Average Daily Sunshine (hour) Data for station [0513314C9] - PRETORIA EENDRACHT Measured at 08:00

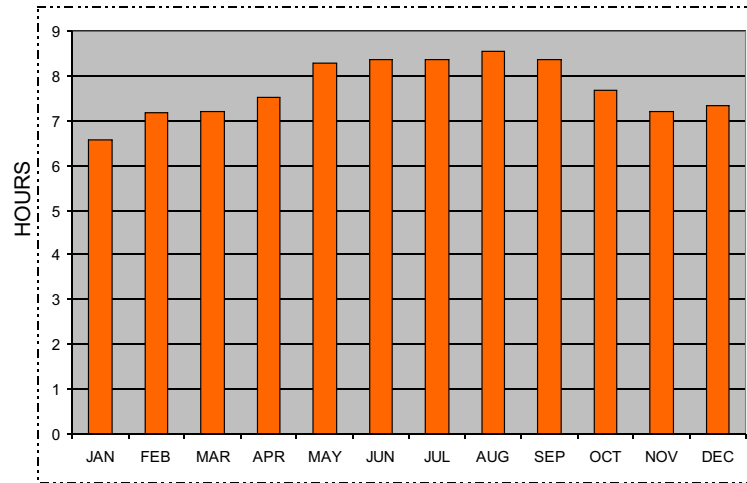
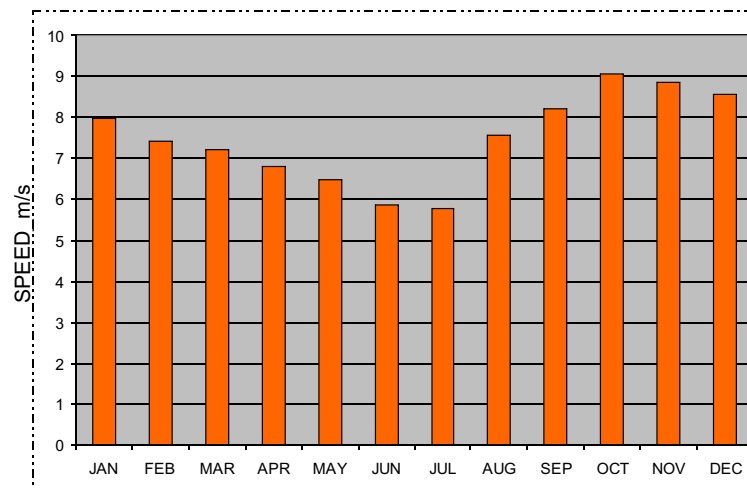


Figure. 36. Wind speed Graph

WIND SPEED, 1992 - 2008 avg. JANUARY - DECEMBER @
Average Wind Gust Speed (m/s) Data for station [0513314C9] - PRETORIA EENDRACHT Measured at 08:00



SOUTH AFRICAN WEATHER SERVICES CLIMATE STATISTICS

Figure. 37. Rainfall graph

AVERAGE RECORDED RAINFALL, 1992 - 2003 avg JANUARY- DECEMBER
Monthly Daily Rain (mm) Data for station [0513465 1] - PRETORIA UNIV PROEFPLAAS Measured at 08:00

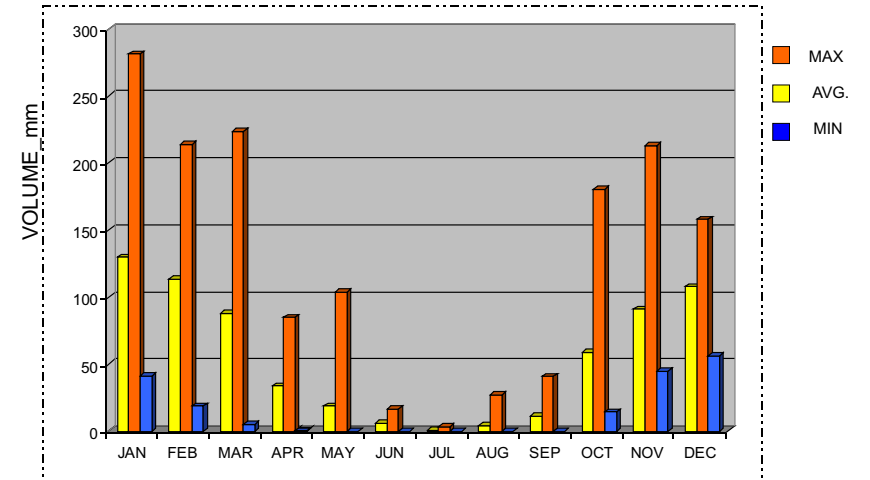
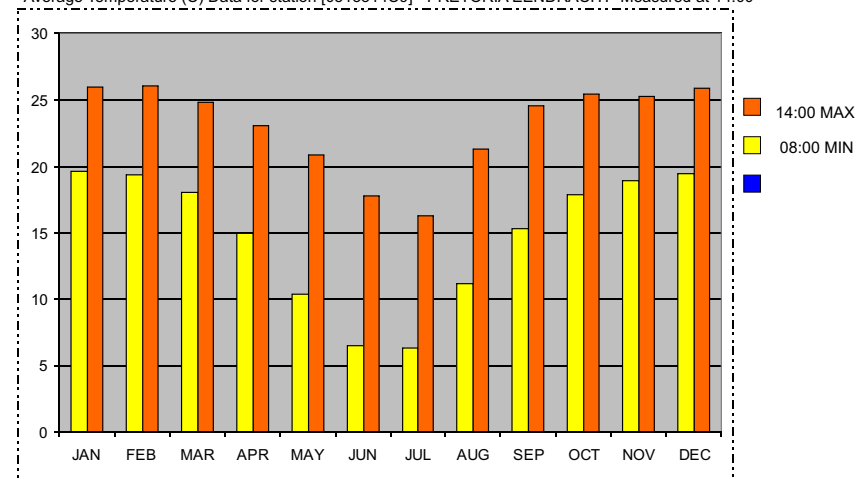


Figure. 38. Temperature graph

TEMPERATURE, 1992 - 2008 avg. JANUARY - DECEMBER @
Average Temperature (C) Data for station [0513314C9] - PRETORIA EENDRACHT Measured at 08:00
Average Temperature (C) Data for station [0513314C9] - PRETORIA EENDRACHT Measured at 14:00



5.3.5

Figure. 40
Vegetation plan
Existing tree layout

VEGETATION ANALYSIS

CURRENT SPECIES ON SITE

TREE1 _ HARPEPHYLLUM CAFFRUM (WILD PLUM)

TREE2_ RHUS KAREE

TREE 3_ COMBRETUM

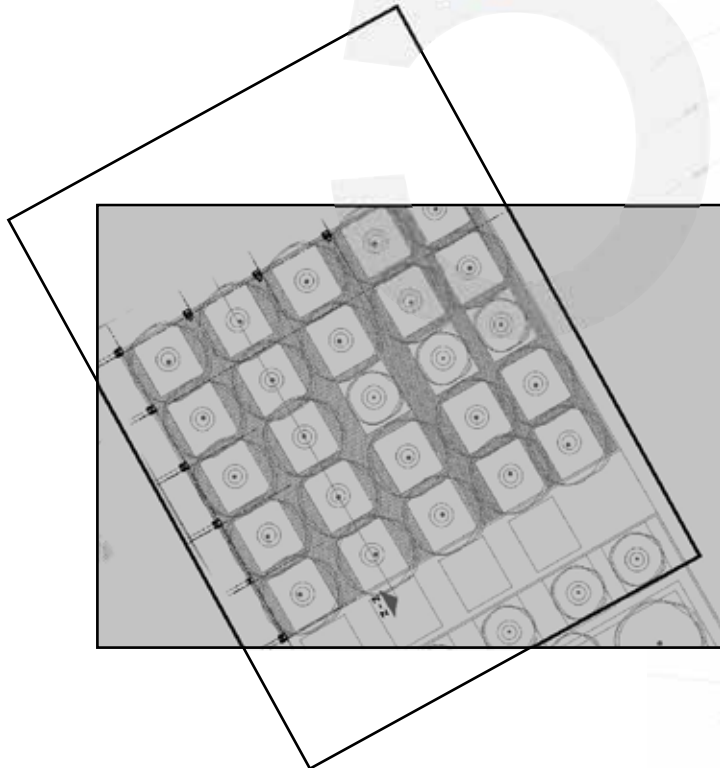
TREE 4 _ ACACIA

SPECIE_ Grass lawns

SPECIE_ Mix small flower

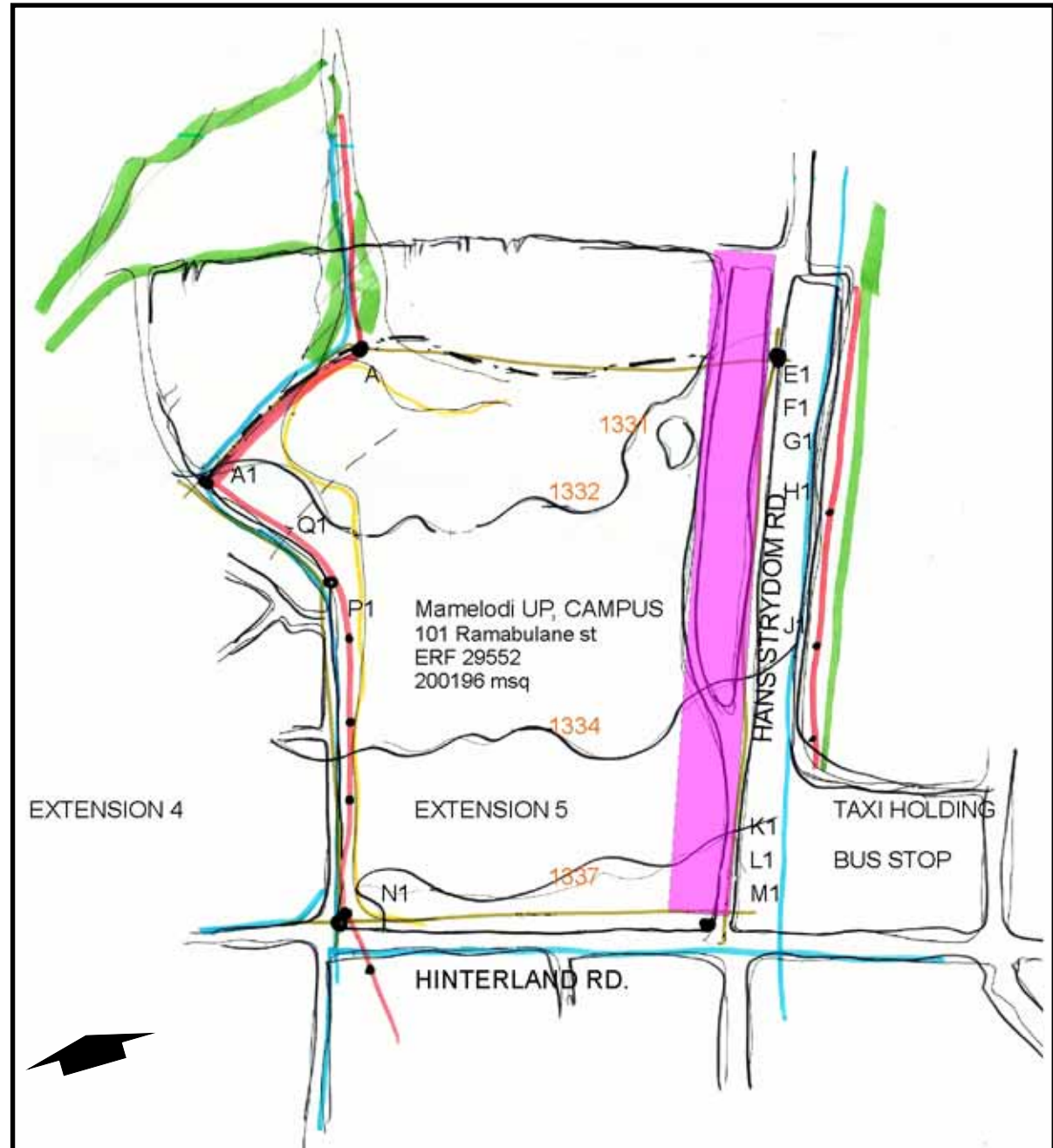
Note: The proposal for future plant species are to add to the existing ecology, thus adding similiar species as noted above.
Additional trees are also required to be evergreen with less destructive root systems as they serve as shading devices for public squares and walkways in large planter boxes, as apposed to built structure, see figure 39 below.

Figure. 39
Public square planter boxes



5.3.6

Figure. 41
Site service diagram



MAMELODI EAST, A SOCIAL SITE CONTEXT ANALYSIS

50m UP STREET,
INFORMAL FOOD STALLS

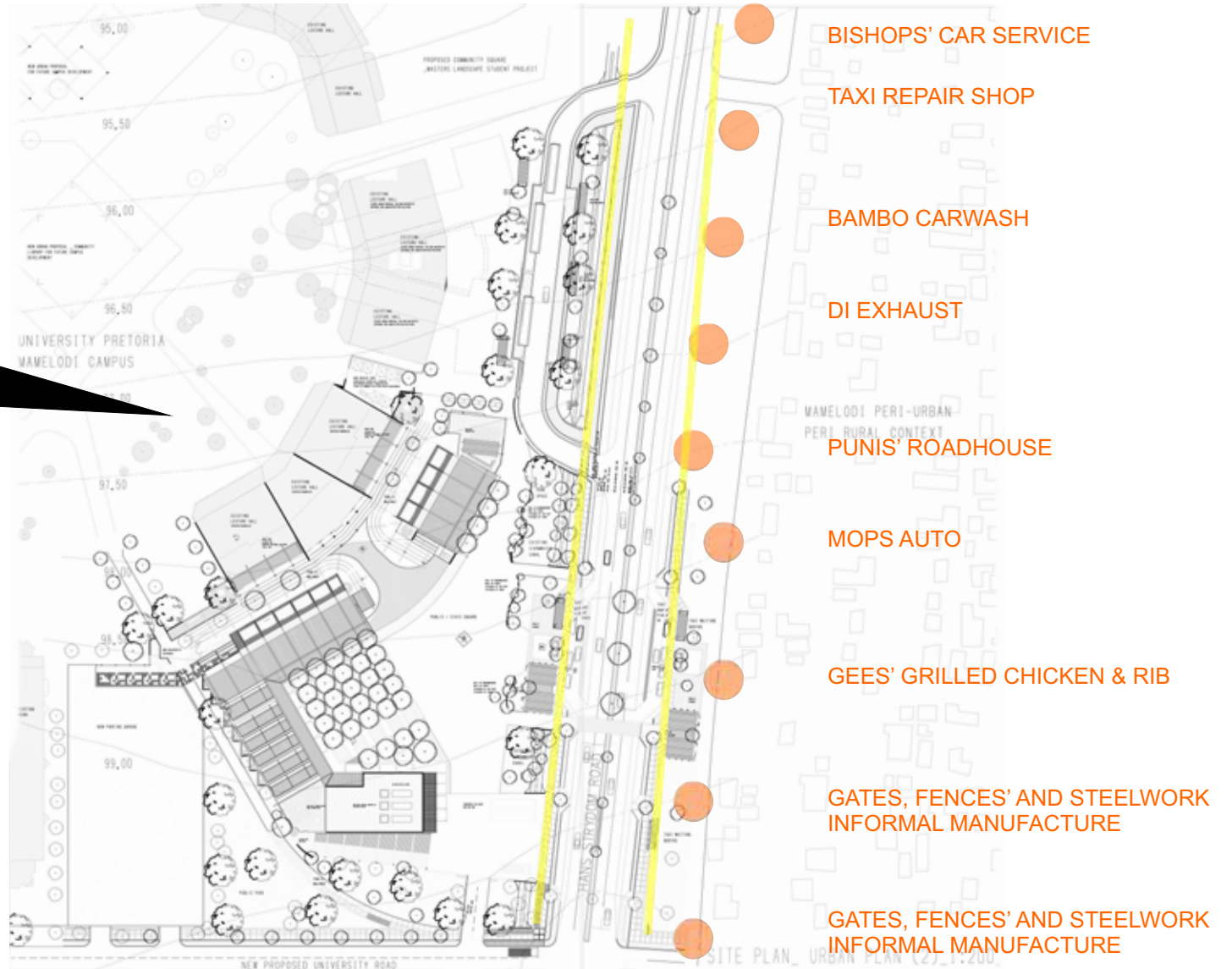
An immediate context, social analyses

Figure. 43a
Site context, current
social activity spine

Pedestrian
Route

Bussiness
Trading

View photo elevation of figures 43b



5.4.1

Figure. 43b
Site context, current
social activity spine
Images



MAMELODI EAST, A CIVIC EVALUATION**_ A BRIEF RECORDED HISTORY TO CURRENT TIME DIAGRAM _**

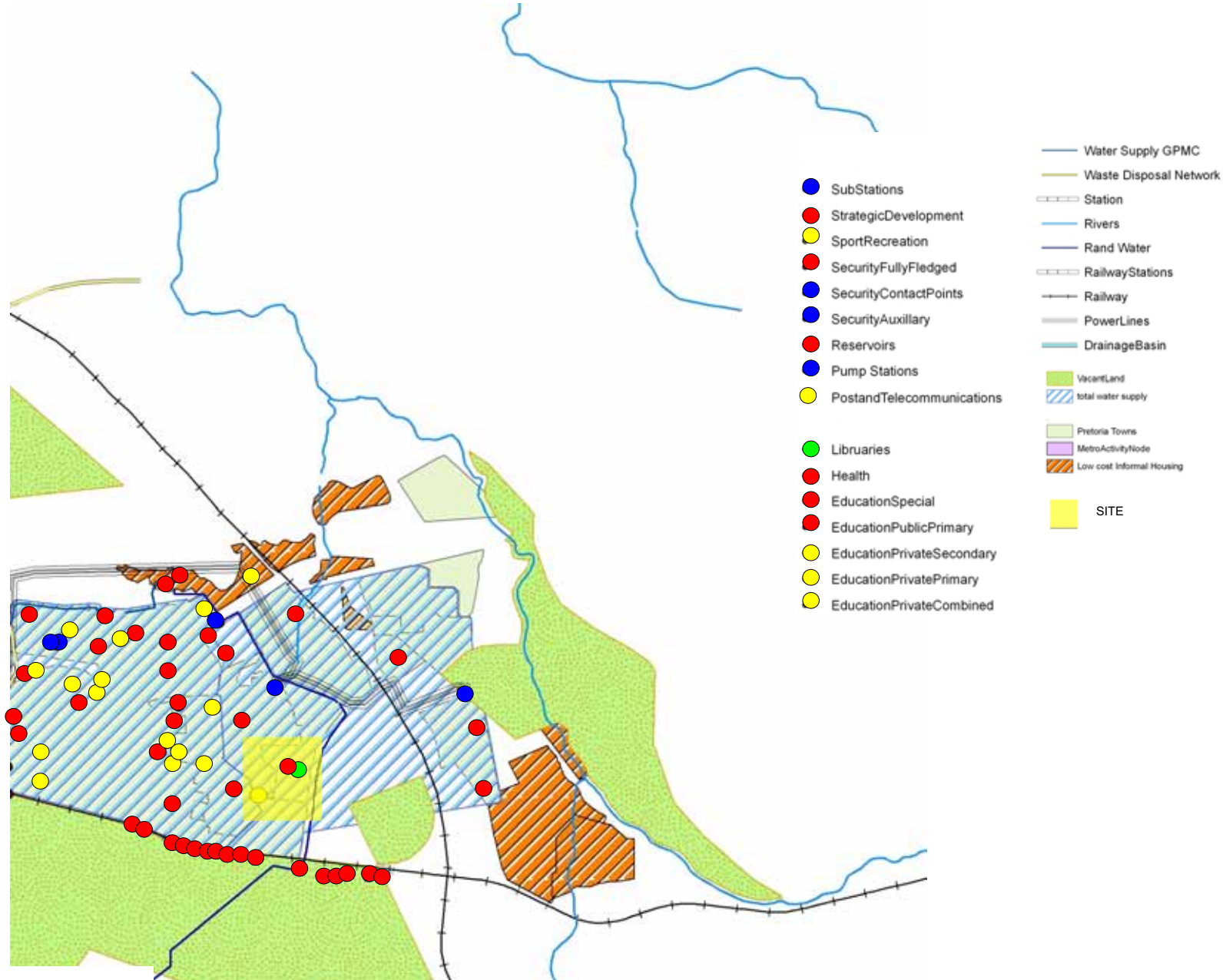
According to the Pretoria Joint committee report by 1954 there was no recreational facilities, shops, police station, shelter etc.

- 1948 1st college: Kkolege ya Bana ba Africa (university if the north): 1st educational institution: closed in 1958, apartheid law
- 1952 1st school.
- 1953 Public library Mamelodi East.
- 1955 The first businesses were only allowed to trade, of which the majority were spaza shops.
- The first clinic: 1955. It was the size of a single house, hence already grossly undersized. It was situated outside town as per the current native law regulation of the day. It was doubled in size and by 1958 moved to another ward were it is still today.
- 1956, 1st school for blacks only: Mamelodi model school later named Gamelodi school, Mamelodi high school was opened; Eersterus community school _ the jam school_; 36 primary schools; 12 secondary schools
- 1957 Magistrate court
- During the 1950's a maternity home was built not by government but by the Vroue sendings bond.
- 1960, 1st police station
- 1962 Putco public transport, the minibus and taxi rank in 1977.
- 1st public cinema in Mamelodi built in 1964
- 1970, 1st major sport recreation facility
- 1976 The Mamelodi cripple care centre was built, the new premises was occupational in 1981 in Mamelodi East.
- 1976 the first clinic and feeding station was built in Mamelodi East.
- 1977 YMCA in Mamelodi East

- 1980 Public Library Mamelodi West.
- 1983 the first SOS children shelter village was built.
- 1983 the first Hauspice was built in Mamelodi East.
- 1983, 1st hospital.
- Two community halls, One in the east the smaller and one in the west.
- Two post offices in Mamelodi
- There are multiple churches within Mamelodi, Zion, Baptist, Anglican Nedgeref, NG church etc.

Various acts of apartheid and the oppressive treatment of black people in South Africa caused riots that played host in Mamelodi Mamelodi East have recognition of people for place names, while Mamelodi West has numbers and digits for areas. The street names and numbers are noted but not used. The areas have connotation and memories, hence they are used more often than the digits, for example:
le: (Khalambazo: the place of the crying axes) fire wood and building eucalyptus.

Figure. 44
CIVIC amenities
Mamelodi
EAST



5.6_

TERTIARY EDUCATION FACTS AND FIGURES

According to Jonathan D Jansen's: *Changes and continuities in South Africa's higher education system 1994 - 2004*. the following statistics, with regards to tertiary education and facilities in South Africa at current

5.6.1

21 Universities - 11 institutions
15 Technikons 5 stand alone, 6 comprehensive (university +technikons merger)
150 tech colleges 50 merged tech colleges
120 colleges of education 2 college of education
306 separate institutions became 72 institution

1990 - 1994 = black universities increased by 37% (+ 28 000 people)

1990 - 1994 = White universities increased by 8% (+ 10 000 people)

1990 - 1994 = 9% black. 13%coloured. 70%white. 40%indian

5.6.2

Representation at tertiary level

- 1994 - 1999 = black increase 80% (+152 000 people)
- 1. black students total 59% off all students at tertiary education,
- 2. black students enrolment decreased by 9% at historical black universities
- 3. Black students enrolment has increased by 138% at historical black technikons.
- 4. Black students enrolment has increased by 100% at historical white English medium universities. (+ 10 000)
- 5. Black students enrolment has increased by 1120% at historical white Afrikaans medium universities. (+ 56 000)
- 6. Black students enrolment has increased by 490% at historical white technikons. (+ 49 000)
- 7. Distance education increased by 492% (+ 55000) 1993 - 1999

5.6.3

Based on the above figures a deduction can be made that an urgent increase in facilitating the growth of the tertiary sector is required, at both university and technikon level.

The perception of past historical black educational universities still has an impact on the number of students attending and the reduction of 9 % of attendance proves this. The Mamelodi campus of Univeristy of Pretoria, is a prime example.

Changing and reshaping this image to a community based university that verges on that of college education is real and required.

The majority of the increased student attendance are to technikons and universities. 490% and 1120% respectively.

The need for successful functioning tertiary education institutions in new towns such as Mamelodi is a real problem as is evident in the overall +-30% increase of black students across the country, now representing 59% of the total number of students in the country.

This does not presume that all black students come from disadvantage areas but statistics show that large portions do however come from those areas.

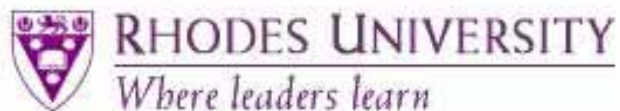
To note, the majority of people in this country is of black ethnic origin and hence it places the onus on the universities in those areas to develop appropriate education system to facilitate current and future learners.



Figure. 45
 A few community
 Engagement affiliated
 Universities
 Pretoria University
 Rhodes University
 Bristol University
 Arkansas University
 Bradford University
 Vanderbilt and Peabody
 college
 Australian Catholic
 University



University of Pretoria

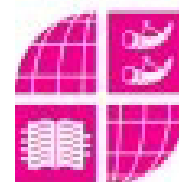


UNIVERSITY
 of ARKANSAS

1871



University of
 BRISTOL



UNIVERSITY OF
 BRADFORD
 MAKING KNOWLEDGE WORK™



ACU National
 Australian Catholic University
 Brisbane Sydney Canberra Ballarat Melbourne



VANDERBILT
 PEABODY COLLEGE



5.7_

NGO PROFILES

The facility hosts Government, Municipal, community and University services. The vision of a incorporating NGO's could make this facility a centre for all needs and development in a developing township.

The concept of bringing major role players together is envisioned to bridge the gap between past segregated service delivery and future development of a community: Mamelodi

The following is a list of possible Non Government Organisations that could benefit in being selected and placed within this area, but more over that the Mamelodi community could benefit from.

- Project Literacy
- Community development resource association
- The Mvula trust
- POWA
- Urban service group
- Ditsela

5.7.1

Project Literacy_ Portfolio:

"This 33 year old business orientated non-government organisation (BONGO) with an annual budget exceeding R50 million and physical reach that includes eight regional offices, has its roots in a Pretoria church where it started out as reading group and social club for domestic workers. Since its humble beginning in 1973, **Project Literacy** has become the biggest adult literacy NGO in South Africa, focusing on the development of well rounded life skills for adults from disadvantaged communities.

Project Literacy has grown enormously under the tutelage of Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Miller, who's been at the helm for almost a decade and argues that to run an NGO, one needs to be driven by a strong sense of social justice.

Since inception, Project Literacy has gone through three distinct phases on its journey from a volunteer driven organisation in the 1970's to a donor dependent NGO in the 1980's to a government reliant BONGO in the 1990's. In the post-apartheid era, Project Literacy is largely tender driven and reliant on SETAs (sector education training authorities) for work."

Project Literacy's transformation mirrors changes in South African society. At the dawn of democracy, like many other NGOs, Project Literacy geared itself to work in partnership with the state and related institutional frameworks. An important feature of this transition was the purposeful professional orientation of the organisation in order to engage with SETAs and compete with the private sector.



5.7.2

Community development resource association

"Building Strong Organisations Building Strong Communities

The Community Development Resource Association (CDRA) was established in 1987. Formed at the height of the anti-Apartheid struggle to support both welfare and development initiatives, it has its roots in a progressive and humanist approach to social justice and change.

Its staff of fourteen are equally divided between development practitioners and an office based team that administers and manages the programmes and activities of the centre. Five members of this well established team have been with the organisation for over 10 years. The organisation has been in operation for more than 19 years and, in this time, it has provided services to over 500 organisations. The work of the CDRA includes organisation development consultancy, training and the facilitation of peer-learning dialogue groups as well as an action-research and publishing programme that shares its learning and thinking more broadly.

Engage with SETAs and compete with the private sector. In 2005 the CDRA re-launched as a "Centre for Developmental Practice", clinching a shift in the emphasis of its work that has been coming for some years. The shift moved the work from more narrowly focused organisation development consultancy, to supporting development practitioners, organisations, institutions and networks in improving the quality and effectiveness of their practice. The CDRA sees its major contribution its real "added value" as helping all parts of a system to see themselves and the roles they are playing and to work with these so that the capacity of the system as a whole is enlarged. Using these terms, "practice" is understood to incorporate, centrally, the particular relationships that any intervener is a part of.

The CDRA judges the success of the interventions that they facilitate not only by what has changed in clients or their environment, but also by what has changed (and grown between) them and those with whom they relate, including their donors, their clients or beneficiaries and their peers. The CDRA places itself in this system of changing relationship and reflect regularly amongst ourselves and with clients on how things are going.

The work of the organisation is guided by this new emphasis on

Practice and includes:

1. Qualitative, reflective OD consultancy that works directly with the lived organisational reality.
2. Accompaniment in the establishment of qualitative learning processes inside of organisations.
3. Training in social development practice.
4. Evaluations and other forms of social research that emphasise reflection, participation and learning with a view to clarifying strategy and improving practice."



5.7.3

The Mvula trust

“Increasing Access to Water and Sanitation Services

Since 2007, when people suddenly realised that we have reached the half-way mark for the **Millennium Development Goals** (MDGs), there has much discussion about whether the government will be able to meet the targets in this regard. As 2008 has been assigned as the International Year of Sanitation, it is prudent that we ask what is being

done by government and civil society, in particular the **Mvula Trust** to meet the MDGs for water and sanitation.

The Mvula Trust, the largest water and sanitation NGO in South Africa and one that works tirelessly to ensure that South Africa does indeed meet the MDG for water and sanitation by 2015.

The Mvula Trust was established in 1993 to improve water supplies and sanitation for disadvantaged South Africans living in rural and peri-urban communities. It has met its mandate in the past 15 years by working to meet marginalised people's need for clean water and sanitation on a sustainable basis.

Since inception, it has supported the development of good practice in the water and sanitation sector by testing and advocating sustainable models for cost effective delivery and management. Mvula Trust Executive Director, Andile Mahlalutye, notes his organisation has played a very important role in assisting government to achieve its goals, in particular the MDG for water and sanitation. He states that, “By 2010, all people's needs for water and sanitation would have been met.”

However, he also notes that before this time actually arrives, “There is a lot that still has to be done for implementation to take place.”

Overcoming the Sector's Challenges

Unlike most NGOs, Mvula Trust does not rely on donors for funds as it generates its own sources of income. Mahlalutye states that, “We fund ourselves through our work.”

Community-Based Approach

Although Mvula Trust operates from a national office in Johannesburg, the organisation has seven regional offices in North West, Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape. With a staff contingency of 80, Mahlalutye acknowledges that his organisation would not be able to have the type of reach that it currently enjoys if it did not work as closely as it does with community projects and community-based organisations (CBOs).

Mvula Trust provides funds for water and sanitation projects working to alleviate the plight of rural people in South Africa. The organisation works closely with CBOs working in the remotest parts of the country. It provides funds to projects and CBOs that assist communities in taking a lead role in mobilising, planning, designing, constructing and maintaining water supply and sanitation facilities.

However, Mvula Trust's ability to fund small communities' initiatives must not fool one into thinking that the organisation has it easier than other NGOs when it comes to generating funds.

Last year, Mvula Trust made ends meet with a budget of R150 million.”



5.7.4

People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA)



People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA) has played a vital role in the emancipation of women in South Africa since 1979. POWA has helped to bring the issue of women's rights into the mainstream public domain by highlighting the abuse of women as an issue that must be tackled by government and greater society.

Although **POWA** has been operational for 28 years, the organisation was only registered as a **Section 21 Company** in 2001. When it was first established, POWA responded to the high levels of violence against women. The organisation has always dealt with the issue both at the ground level providing support to women, as well as at the **policy advocacy level**.

POWA's vision is to create a safe society that does not tolerate violence against women, and where women are powerful, self-reliant, equal and respected.

At the outset, the POWA volunteers offered counselling services to women who experienced domestic violence and sexual harassment. Since then the organisation has grown substantially with the capacity of 42 staff members and 40 volunteers.

POWA has evolved much since then and currently also provides shelters to women based in Gauteng who have been the victims of abuse. It also offers legal advice and court preparation to women who have been abused or raped-, amongst other things.

The organisation confronts the challenges faced by women with the ultimate goal of eradicating violence against women on a continuous basis. To this end, POWA strives to ensure that women's voices are heard regardless of the challenges, whether big or small, that they may face.

Building Skills Capacity to further the Cause

Although POWA was not the only organisation working to ensure that the complainant's voice was heard, it was one of only a few women's organisations that did make a visible stand.

POWA answers this question through its **volunteer programme** which equips the candidates with basic training for specialised skills ranging from clinical counselling, to education and information and research.

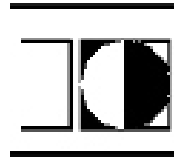
Due to funding challenges, POWA cannot afford to open up provincial offices. Delphine states that the organisation should ideally have regional offices. However this would require an annual budget of approximately R8 million or more as compared to the R5 million raised by POWA in 2005. As a means of correcting this situation, POWA is currently helping six women groups in Limpopo, North West, Northern Province and Mpumalanga with forming organisations that mirror POWA's mandate and philosophy. The ultimate goal is provision of access to service and justice in rural areas.

On a local scale, POWA is hoping to engage with the government more “aggressively” to ensure that all legislation relating to women's rights meets the needs of women.

5.7.5

Urban service group

“ Sustainable Livelihoods in Housing Projects. Established in 1991, the **Urban Services Group** (USG) works in the urban housing field, providing OD (organisation development) support to local institutions rooted in poor communities in the broader PE metropolitan area. A defining feature of its work is its emphasis on social facilitation and education to enhance informed decision-making by community members.



Responding to the need for the support of grassroots social processes, the USG grew out of collaborative discussions between the Port Elizabeth (PE) Black Civics Organisation, the **Kagiso Trust**, **Planact** and a handful of progressive individuals.

Dodging Development Mercenaries to Increase Community Participation
USG's niche focus is community participation. However, the organisation goes to great lengths to ensure that it works beyond local structures to include the broader community in order to expand the general understanding and awareness of specific project issues. This strategy is based on hard earned experience that showed time and again that well placed individuals hijack legitimate public processes for personal gain. According to Felix, there is no shortage of opportunistic individuals who partake in project committees. He contends that these development mercenaries have other ideas about project funding.

Broad Based Housing Programme Doesn't Sufficiently Segment the Poor
Felix also holds the controversial view that the state should stop building houses for the poor as this is not helping them. He argues that the state should locate communities optimally in relation to social and economic opportunities, providing them with basic services and targeted support to substantially improve the quality of their lives while creating the opportunity for them to build their own houses.

Supporting Community Projects as Opposed to Owning Them
According to Felix, community projects must have developmental outcomes. Quoting their involvement in the high density Sakhasonke housing village, Felix submits that USG's role has been to focus on the soft issues, such as the livelihoods strategy of this community.
USG's experience in dealing with livelihoods matters has been extremely challenging to date. The organisation hopes to learn more as it continues to work in the Sakhasonke project. One thing is clear: the success of any livelihoods strategy is based on the formation of partnerships that can deliver wide ranging support to the community.

This also means that the organisation has a modest annual budget of R1.6 million which ensures that it can focus more on programme work and is not consumed by fundraising.

Looking into the Future: Long Term

Finally, in the longer term, USG will continue to stay in the housing sector, but with an emphasis on soft issues such as livelihood strategies. The organisation has also facilitated the establishment of a CBO platform with a number of CBO's it has worked with. The platform's purpose is to encourage peer learning and exchange.”

5.7.6

Ditsela

“ Workers' Education Brings Community Empowerment. Ditsela is not at all easy to define in NGO terms. Essentially an education service provider, 'owned' by the country's major union federations, registered as a not-for-profit Section 21 company, staffed by loyal members of the labour movement - it is a complex organisation. Though, its deceptively simple



mission statement, "to be an innovative succinctly and democratic learning organisation that contributes to the building of a strong labour movement" catches all of this

"Our organisation represents the poor. It is essential their voices remain strong so that we can develop organisations that are sustainable and effective. So that people can be catalysts of change and agents of their own destiny. I like that notion that it's not about waiting for government to do everything. Our government officials must strive to be servants of the people working close to and with the people," argues Govender.

Labour Education Leads as Social Investment

Importantly, Ditsela is arguing for a definition of its work that goes beyond narrow interpretations of workplace impact, and into broader society. Shop stewards or their equivalents take home their knowledge and skills, and share them with their families and communities. Any understanding of justice and rights developed in a workplace setting can be translated into other contexts for the benefit of people outside of the workplace.

Reserving the Right to Question the Hand that Feeds

Managing the long term sustainability of the organisation is no easy task. Ditsela receives the bulk of it's funding from the Department of Labour's (DoL) 'Civil Society Strengthening Fund'. Approximately 70% of funding comes from the Department of Labour, with the rest from Cosatu equivalents in the Netherlands and Germany, and a small portion from user fees.

Govender explains that Ditsela's budget, although expanding exponentially from year to year since the institute's beginnings in 1994, depends as much, or more, on how much money is available in the DoL 'Civil Society Strengthening Fund' as on government and donor support for the organisation.

Ditsela is the creation of the major trade union federations in South Africa: Cosatu and Fedusa. Its central objective is to help the labour movement build its capacity to be able to respond effectively to the challenges it faces. To achieve this Ditsela runs programmes in education and training and provides support for organisational development. Ditsela works through 6 major interlinked pillars.

- Education courses
- Trade union support
- Network
- Research
- Education Resource Centre
- International support and solidarity”

