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Chapter 7

Conclusion

The Faerie Glen Nature Reserve is an important open space within Pretoria due primarily to its ecological significance. By providing additional access to the reserve and facilities within it, the importance of the reserve was reinforced both as a public open space and as an ecologically sensitive site that appeals to a broader community.

An understanding of the site through analysis and cultural reading guided the design process to deal with site specific conditions that related to the inherent narrative contained within the landscape. By applying ecological design principles during the design stage, it was possible to use the inherent landscape quality to guide the layout of activities across the reserve and thus maintain its ecological sensitivity.

Based on this layout, social public interventions were made in the landscape in order to make it more appealing to a broader community. These interventions had their logic based in ecological design and this, together with a reading of the landscape narrative, successfully brought an aspect of poetry into the design which resulted in an integration of landscape and designed form thus limiting the visual impact of the interventions on the natural environment.

Landscape narrative was used to create places of memory in the landscape, and thus in totality, a memorable landscape. This was accomplished through an explicit understanding, and experience of the site which allowed the beauty to be unlocked. Memorable places are created through experience of place and the ensuing memories associated with that place. By understanding the inherent narrative and acknowledging the beauty and ecological sensitivity of the site, the experience of place is deepened and thus a memorable and sustainable landscape is created at the Faerie Glen Nature Reserve.

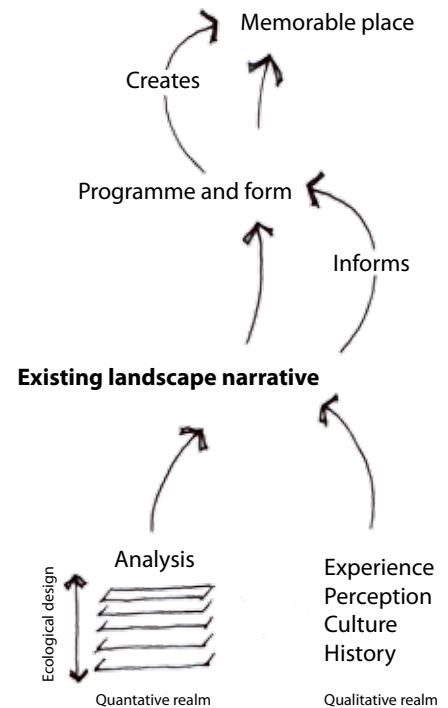


Figure 7.1 Landscape narrative