

# access

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an opportunity platform for Burger's Park Pretoria

Gavin Williams

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an opportunity platform for Burger's Park Pretoria

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Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree Magister in Architecture (Professional), Department of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Interior Architecture, in the Faculty of Engineering, the Built Environment and Information Technology, University of Pretoria.

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## document details

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## project summary

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Programme:	Opportunity Platform - Library and Community Centre
Key Words:	accessibility, inclusive design, library, community centre, Burger's Park, Pretoria CBD, ramps.
Site description:	Adjacent to Burger's Park, Pretoria – underutilised corner site
Client:	Department of Arts and Culture, Library and Information Services
Users:	Residents of Burger's Park precinct, pedestrians passing through the precinct and people from the Pretoria CBD.
Site Location:	Erf 718 Portions 1, 2, 3 and 4, Pretoria
Address:	c/o Andries Street and Visagie Street, Pretoria, South Africa
GPS Coordinates:	25°45'9"S, 28°11'26"E

## field of study

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Theoretical Premise:	The understanding of accessibility in architecture and inclusive design.
Architectural Approach:	An exclusively inclusive approach to the provision of a facility and resources that address the community needs of Burger's Park
Research filed:	Urbanism and human settlements

# abstract

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This dissertation investigates the accessibility of public architecture. The aim is to illustrate the relevance of accessibility in architecture by establishing a theoretical premise and applying it in design.

The theoretical analysis defines inclusive design and examines the relevance of the topic within the South African context. It explores written theory on the topic and how it has evolved. The aim is to understand the implications of an inclusive design approach in architecture and to assess the inclusivity of recently completed buildings. The design investigation explores an exclusively inclusive approach in the design of a public building. The intent is to create a building that is inclusive; one that can be used by all.

Currently, there is a lack of accessible public facilities in the Burger's Park precinct, thus the Burger's Park Opportunity Platform is proposed. The Opportunity Platform is a building that provides and facilitates the necessary resources for a community to prosper. It facilitates much needed community programmes and facilities such as literacy and skills training and access to books, the Internet and other media. The public nature of this building type implies that it is to be used by the entire community, which provides appropriate conditions to explore inclusive design in Pretoria.

The study, through theoretical, empirical and contextual enquiry, provides an understanding of the principles pertaining to inclusive design and how it manifests in architecture.

# plagiarism report

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In accordance with Regulation 4(e) of the General Regulations (G.57) for dissertations and theses, I declare that this thesis, which I hereby submit for the degree Master of Architecture (Professional) at the University of Pretoria, is my own work and has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other tertiary institution.

I further state that no part of my thesis has already been, or is currently being, submitted for any such degree, diploma or other qualification.

I further declare that this thesis is substantially my own work. Where reference is made to the works of others, the extent to which that work has been used is indicated and fully acknowledged in the text and list of references.

.....  
**Gavin Williams**

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thank you

Thank you to everyone who made this journey with me.  
Thank you to everyone that motivated, fed, loved and listened to me.  
Thank you to the music.  
Thank you to God.

This study is dedicated to Phillip Jacques van Zyl, who became a user of this building half way through the year.

# table of content

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document details	vii
abstract	ix
plagiarism report	xi
thank you	xiii
list of illustrations	vi
list of tables	ix

<b>introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 Introduction	3
1.2.1 What is an Opportunity Platform?	3
1.2.2 The three pillars of the Opportunity Platform	3
1.3 Problem statement	4
1.4 Dissertation topic	4
1.5 Research questions	4
1.6 Aim	4
1.7 Assumptions	6
1.8 Site	6
1.8.1 Choice of site	6
1.8.2 Location of site	6
1.9 The client	6
1.10 The design brief	6
1.11 Research methodology	6
1.12 Definitions	6
1.13 Outline of study	7
<b>theory</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1 Introduction	11
2.2 Inclusive Design in Pretoria	11
2.3 Who are people with disabilities?	11
2.4 Models of disability	12
2.4.1 Medical Model	12
2.4.2 Social Model	12

<b>2.5 The rise of Inclusive Environments</b>	<b>12</b>
2.5.1 Barrier-free environment	12
2.5.2 Universal Design	12
2.5.3 Inclusive Design	13
2.5.4 Summary	13
<b>2.6 Unified Design</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>access audit</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>3.1 Introduction</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3.2 What is an access audit?</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3.3 The need for an Access Audit</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3.4 Criteria used for assessment</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>3.5 Buildings that were audited</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>3.6 Audit: Alkantrant Library and Multipurpose Hall, Lynnwood, Pretoria</b>	<b>22</b>
3.6.1 Project info	22
3.6.2 Project description	22
3.6.3 Summary [main findings]	22
3.6.4 Audit	23
<b>3.7 Audit: Constitutional Court Law Library of South Africa, Constitution Hill, Johannesburg</b>	<b>26</b>
3.7.1 Project info	26
3.7.2 Project description	26
3.7.3 Summary [main findings]	27
3.7.4 Audit	27
<b>3.8 Conclusion</b>	<b>29</b>

<b>context</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>4.1 Introduction</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>4.2 Site location</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>4.3 Macro Scale - Pretoria</b>	<b>34</b>
4.3.1 Introduction	34
4.3.2 Pretoria the Post-town	35
4.3.3 Pretoria the fragmented city	36
<b>4.4 Meso Scale – Burger’s Park Precinct</b>	<b>36</b>
4.4.1 Introduction	36
4.4.2 Precinct identification	36
4.4.3 Theoretical background to urban investigation	36
4.4.4 Visual Introduction	36
4.4.5 Urban Mapping	38
4.4.6 Summary	50
4.4.7 Textures of the Burger’s Park precinct	50
<b>4.5 Urban Framework</b>	<b>50</b>
4.5.1 Introduction	50
4.5.2 Problems identified	50
4.5.3 Aims and vision	50
4.5.4 Precinct Proposal	52
<b>4.6 Micro Scale – Site Surroundings</b>	<b>56</b>
4.6.1 Precinct	56
4.6.2 Adjacent Buildings	56
a) A.J.O. Sentrum	56
b) Stellenberg Apartments	57
c) Burger’s Park	57
d) Wesley Methodist Church	58
e) Transvaal Museum	58
f) 455 Andries Street	59
4.6.3 Micro Scale – Summary	59



# precedent

<b>5.1 Introduction</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>5.2 Mount Angel Abbey Library, St. Benedict, Oregon</b>	<b>63</b>
5.2.1 Project info	63
5.2.2 Project relevance	63
5.2.3 Project description	63
5.2.4 Project Analysis	64
5.2.5 Lessons learnt	65
<b>5.3 Peckham Library and Media Centre, Peckham, South-east London</b>	<b>65</b>
5.3.1 Project Info	65
5.3.2 Project relevance	66
5.3.3 Project description	66
5.3.4 Project Analysis	66
5.3.5 Lessons Learnt	67
<b>5.4 Idea Store, Whitechapel, London</b>	<b>67</b>
5.4.1 Project info	67
5.4.2 Project relevance	67
5.4.3 Project description	67
5.4.4 Project Analysis	67
5.4.5 Lessons Learnt	69
<b>5.5 Brandhorst Museum, Munich, Germany</b>	<b>69</b>
5.5.1 Project Info	69
5.5.2 Project relevance	69
5.5.3 Project description	69
5.5.4 Project Analysis	70
5.5.5 Lessons Learnt	70

# 61

<b>5.6 Harare Mixed-use Library, Khayelitsha</b>	<b>71</b>
5.6.1 Project info	71
5.6.2 Project relevance	71
5.6.3 Project description	71
5.6.4 Project Analysis	71
5.6.5 Lessons Learnt	72
<b>5.7 Seattle Central Library</b>	<b>72</b>
5.7.1 Project info	72
5.7.2 Project relevance	73
5.7.3 Project description	73
5.7.4 Project Analysis	73
5.7.5 Lessons Learnt	75

# design development

# 77

<b>6.1 Introduction</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>6.2 Client Profile</b>	<b>79</b>
6.2.1 Main Client	79
6.2.2 Participants	79
<b>6.3 Accommodation Schedule</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>6.4 Design Generators</b>	<b>81</b>
6.4.1 Theoretical premise as design generator	81
a) Social architecture	81
b) Senses and synaesthesia	81
c) Inclusive design theory	81
6.4.2 Site as generator	81
6.4.2.1 Urban Design considerations	81
a) Urban fabric	81
b) Undefined urban edge	82
c) Corner site	82
d) Pedestrian routes not defined and inadequate	83

6.4.2.2 Site conditions	83		
a) Pedestrian activity	83		
b) Vehicular activity	83		
c) Adjacent buildings	84		
d) Topography	84		
6.4.3 Site zoning as generator	84		
6.4.1 Presence of energy and users	84		
6.4.2 Presence of noise	84		
6.4.3 Summary	85		
6.4.4 Programme as generator	85		
6.4.5 Prevalent colours and materials	85		
6.4.6 Views from the site as generator	86		
6.5 Design response process	87		
6.5.1 Initial design response	87		
6.5.2 Revised response	89		
6.5.3 Response 4	90		
6.5.4 Response 5	91		
<b>design</b>	<b>95</b>		
7.1 Introduction	97		
7.2 PARTI diagram	97		
7.3 Inclusive Design checker	97		
7.4 Plans	100		
7.5 Sections	104		
7.6 Elevations	106		
7.7 Perspectives	108		
		<b>technical investigation</b>	<b>119</b>
		8.1 Introduction	121
		8.2 Structure and masonry infill	121
		8.3 Plans	122
		8.4 Sections	126
		8.6 Signage	130
		8.7 Fire Design	130
		8.7.1 General design	130
		8.7.2 Evac-chair	130
		8.7.3 Refugee area	131
		8.8 Materiality	132
		8.8.1 Brick	132
		8.8.2 Interior floors	132
		8.8.3 Mesh components	132
		8.8.4 Outdoor floor finish	132
		8.8.5 Ceramic facade	132
		8.9 Security	132
		8.10 Solar shading panels	133
		<b>conclusion</b>	<b>137</b>
		<b>list of references</b>	<b>141</b>
		<b>appendices</b>	<b>149</b>

# list of illustrations

Chapter 1		
illus. 1.1. Location of proposed site highlighted in red, with main landmarks indicated (Author)	5	
Chapter 2		
illus. 2.1. Diagram indicating the theoretical arguments' structure (Author, Barker et al, 1995 ; Barnes et al, 1999; Design Council, 2010; Holmes-Siedle, 1996; Imrie, 1996; Imrie & Hall, 2001; Karusseit & Gibberd, 2009; Osman & Gibberd, 2000; Passini, 1992; Rayner, 1998; South African Bureau of Standards, 1990)	14	
illus. 2.2. Diagram indicating the conventional approach (double line) and the additional considerations added (Author, Barker et al, 1995 ; Barnes et al, 1999; Design Council, 2010; Holmes-Siedle, 1996; Imrie, 1996; Imrie & Hall, 2001; Karusseit & Gibberd, 2009; Osman & Gibberd, 2000; Passini, 1992; Rayner, 1998)	16	
Chapter 3		
illus. 3.1. Floor plans of the Alkantrant Library and multipurpose hall (Matthews, 2011)	23	
illus. 3.2. Ramp, staircase and steps analysis of the Alkantrant Library (Author)	24	
illus. 3.3a Alkantrant Library Ramp 3 (Author)	25	
illus. 3.4a Alkantrant Library natural lighting (Author)	25	
illus. 3.3b Alkantrant Library Ramp 1, stair 1 (Author)	25	
illus. 3.4b Alkantrant Library artificial lighting (Author)	25	
illus. 3.3c Alkantrant Library Stair 3 (Author)	25	
illus. 3.4c Alkantrant emergency signage (Author)	25	
illus. 3.5a Alkantrant circulation width (Author)	25	
illus. 3.5b Alkantrant counter height (Author)	25	
illus. 3.6 Floor plans of the Constitutional Court with Law Library indicated (Author)	26	
illus. 3.7a Law Library Ramp 1 (Author)	27	
illus. 3.7b Law Library Ramp (Author)	27	
illus. 3.7c Law Library Stair (Author)	27	
illus. 3.8 Law Library ramp and stair analysis (Author)	28	
illus. 3.9a Law Library counter (Author)	28	
illus. 3.9b Law Library counter (Author)	28	
illus. 3.10a Law Library entrance signage (Author)	29	
illus. 3.10b Law Library emergency signage (Author)	29	
illus. 3.10c Law Library glare problem on floor (Author)	29	
Chapter 4		
illus. 4.1 Exploded map of South Africa with Gauteng indicated in red (Linx Africa, 2010)	33	
illus. 4.2 Map of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality with Pretoria indicated in red (Linx Africa, 2010)	34	
illus. 4.3 Map of old Pretoria town as drawn by du Toit in 1859 (Allen, 2007)	34	
illus. 4.4 City section outline of Pretoria through CBD (Author, after Google Earth 2011)	35	
illus. 4.5 City section outline of New York through CBD (Author, after Google Earth 2011)	35	
illus. 4.6 Collage. Visual introduction to Burger's Park precinct (Author)	37	
illus. 4.7 Figure ground drawing of central Pretoria indicating study area: Burger's Park precinct (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	38	
illus. 4.8 Urban Mapping. Building functions (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	40	
illus. 4.9 Urban Mapping. Parking quantities (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	41	
illus. 4.10 Urban Mapping. Daytime pedestrian activity (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	42	
illus. 4.11 Urban Mapping. Night time pedestrian activity (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	43	
illus. 4.12 Urban Mapping. Edge and barrier conditions (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	44	
illus. 4.13 Urban Mapping. Boundaries and nodes (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	45	
illus. 4.14 Urban Mapping. Public transport; existing routes and proposed BRT routes (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	46	
illus. 4.15 Urban Mapping. Public transport; Gautrain bur routes (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	47	
illus. 4.16 Urban Mapping. Analysis; Strengths, weaknesses and threats (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	48	
illus. 4.17 Urban Mapping. Analysis; Opportunities (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	49	
illus. 4.18 Collage; Textures of the precinct (Author)	51	

illus. 4.19 Urban Framework. Urban problems within precinct (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	53	illus. 5.6a Brick exterior (Asensio, 1997)	65
illus. 4.20 Urban Framework. Urban design proposal for precinct (Burger's Park Framework 2011)	55	illus. 5.5b Interior of Natural lighting 3 (Good, 1997)	65
illus. 4.21 Site surrounds. Site highlighted in red, adjacent building and street names indicated (Author)	56	illus. 5.6b Exterior of aisle window (Good, 1997)	65
illus. 4.22c A.J.O Centre. Physical barriers indicated with red (Author)	56	illus. 5.5c Exterior of Natural lighting 3 (Good, 1997)	65
illus. 4.22a A.J.O Centre. Eastern facade from site (Author)	56	illus. 5.6c Exterior of aisle window (Good, 1997)	65
illus. 4.22b A.J.O Centre. Eastern facade from site (Author)	56	illus. 5.7a Peckham Library function grouping (Author)	66
illus. 4.23c Stellenberg. Physical barriers indicated with red (Author)	57	illus. 5.8a Peckham Library public interface (Author)	66
illus. 4.23a Stellenberg. Eastern facade from site (Author)	57	illus. 5.7b Exterior of Peckham Library (Deacon, 2010)	66
illus. 4.23b Stellenberg. Eastern facade from site (Author)	57	illus. 5.8b Volumetric of Peckham Library (Author)	66
illus. 4.24c Burger's Park and sidewalk. Physical barriers indicated with red (Author)	57	illus. 5.9a Corner approach of Idea Store (Allison, 2006)	67
illus. 4.24a Burger's Park. Statue of Pres. Burger (Author)	57	illus. 5.9b Elevation of Idea Store (Author)	67
illus. 4.24b Burger's Park. Playground area (Author)	57	illus. 5.11a First floor plan of Idea Store (Allison, 2006)	68
illus. 4.25c Wesley Methodist Church. Physical barriers indicated with red (Author)	58	illus. 5.10a Facade design of Idea Store (Allison, 2006)	68
illus. 4.25a Wesley Church. Sidewalk main entrance (Author)	58	illus. 5.10b Interior facade design of Idea Store (Author)	68
illus. 4.25b Wesley Church from Visagie Street (Author)	58	illus. 5.11b Fourth floor plan of Idea Store (Allison, 2006)	68
illus. 4.26c Transvaal Museum. Physical barriers indicated with red (Author)	58	illus. 5.12a Counter design of Idea Store (Allison, 2006)	68
illus. 4.26a Transvaal Museum. West facade (Author)	58	illus. 5.12b Sketch of recessed counter of Idea Store (Author)	68
illus. 4.26b Transvaal Museum. Back entrance for disabled persons (Author)	58	illus. 5.13a Main signage (Allison, 2006)	69
illus. 4.27c 455 Andries Street. Existing structures on the site (Author)	59	illus. 5.13b Lobby signage of Idea Store (Allison, 2006)	69
illus. 4.27a 455 Andries Street. From the South (Author)	59	illus. 5.15a Corner and urban fabric response of Brandhorst Museum (SauerbruchHutton, 2011)	70
illus. 4.27b 455 Andries Street. Northern edge (Author)	59	illus. 5.14a Fixing method of ceramic tubes (Author)	70
Chapter 5		illus. 5.14b Facade of Brandhorst Museum (SauerbruchHutton, 2011)	70
illus. 5.1 Ground floor plan of Mt. Angel Abbey Library (Asensio, 2002)	64	illus. 5.15b Photo of corner with entrance away from corner (SauerbruchHutton, 2011)	70
illus. 5.2 Section of Mt. Angel Abbey Library (Asensio, 2002)	64	illus. 5.16 Cooling and heating strategy in the Brandhorst Museum (Hausladen & Tichelmn, 2010)	70
illus. 5.3a Section of Natural lighting 1 (Author)	64	illus. 5.18a Community mosaic artwork at Harare Library (Cooke, 2011)	71
illus. 5.3b Interior of Natural lighting 1 (Author)	64	illus. 5.17 Main circulation space with brick paving, and natural lighting from saw-tooth roof clere storey windows (Cooke, 2011)	71
illus. 5.3c Exterior of Natural lighting 1 (Good, 1997)	64	illus. 5.18b Children's library and play area (Cooke, 2011)	71
illus. 5.4a Section of Natural lighting 2 (Author)	64	illus. 5.19a Interaction between square and library (Author)	72
illus. 5.4b Interior of Natural lighting 2 (Good, 1997)	64	illus. 5.20a Gathering space with informal seating arrangement (Cooke, 2011)	72
illus. 5.4c Exterior of Natural lighting 2 (Good, 1997)	64	illus. 5.19b Photo of Harare Library main entrance (Cooke, 2011)	72
illus. 5.5a Section of Natural lighting 3 (Author)	65	illus. 5.20b Main counter with dropped down section and artwork (Cooke, 2011)	72
		illus. 5.21a Interior of computer space lit by natural light (Cooke, 2011)	72
		illus. 5.21b Sketch showing natural lighting from above (Author)	72

illus. 5.22a Exterior view of Seattle Central Library (OMA, 2011)	73	illus. 6.7 Drawings indicating distance required to retain winter sun in Stellenberg Apartments (Author)	84
illus. 5.23a Floor signage part of floor material (Seattle Library, 2011)	73	illus. 6.9 Sketch showing sidewalk manipulation by the use of the ramp (Author)	84
illus. 5.22b Seattle Central Library (OMA, 2011)	73	illus. 6.10 The prevalent colours; Colour analysis of Stellenberg Apartments and A.J.O. Centre (Author)	85
illus. 5.23b Counter signage on the main desk (Seattle Library, 2011)	73	illus. 6.11 Possible views from the site (Author, after Google Earth 2011)	86
illus. 5.24a Gathering space with formal seating arrangement (OMA, 2011)	74	illus. 6.12b Model 1. floor plans (Author)	87
illus. 5.24b Reading and small gather spaces (OMA, 2011)	74	illus. 6.12a Model 1. Volumetric model (Author)	87
illus. 5.25a Gentle ramp spiral with book stack arrangement (OMA, 2011)	74	illus. 6.12a Model 1. Section (Author)	87
illus. 5.26 Ramp spiral used for Dewey numbering system, housing book stacks and other functions (OMA, 2011)	74	illus. 6.13a Model 2. Corner approach (Author)	88
illus. 5.25b Gentle ramp slope easily navigated to level surfaces (OMA, 2011)	74	illus. 6.13d Model 2. Floor plans (Author)	88
illus. 5.27 Floor plan. Ramp spiral used on level 5 to 9. (Author, after OMA, 2011)	75	illus. 6.13e Model 2. Section (Author)	88
illus. 5.28 Section. Ramp spiral used on level 5 to 9 indicated. (Author, after OMA, 2011)	75	illus. 6.13b Model 2. Volumetric model (Author)	88
		illus. 6.13c Model 2. North Elevation (Author)	88
Chapter 6		illus. 6.13e Model 2. East Elevation (Author)	88
illus. 6.1 Programme distribution in the Burger's Park Opportunity Platform (Author)	80	illus. 6.14a Model 3. Corner approach (Author)	89
illus. 6.2a Existing Urban fabric along Andries Street (Author)	82	illus. 6.14b Model 3. Floor plans (Author)	89
illus. 6.2b Proposed patchwork to urban fabric along Andries Street (Author)	82	illus. 6.13c Model 3. Volumetric model (Author)	89
illus. 6.3a Existing condition; Lack of urban edge and corner definition (Author)	82	illus. 6.15a Model 4. Floor plans (Author)	90
illus. 6.3b Proposed urban edge and corner treatment (Author)	82	illus. 6.15b Model 4. Volumetric model (Author)	90
illus. 6.4a Corner response; Internal courtyard (Author)	83	illus. 6.15c Model 4. Section (Author)	90
illus. 6.4c Corner response; lower level recessed (Author)	83	illus. 6.15d Model 4. Perspective (Author)	90
illus. 6.5 Sidewalk in need of upgrading and vegetation overgrowing fence (Author)	83	illus. 6.16a Model 5. Corner approach (Author)	91
illus. 6.4b Corner response; external courtyard (Author)	83	illus. 6.16b Model 5b. Floor plans (Author)	91
illus. 6.4d Corner response; corner recessed (Author)	83	illus. 6.16c Model 5a. Volumetric model (Author)	91
illus. 6.6a Busy sidewalk after school day (Author)	83	illus. 6.16d Model 5a. Sectional perspective (Author)	91
illus. 6.7 Drawings indicating use of facades for building identification and signage (Author)	83	illus. 6.16e Model 5a. corner approach (Author)	91
illus. 6.6b Busy sidewalk with inadequate path (Author)	83	illus. 6.16f Model 5b. Volumetric model (Author)	91
illus. 6.8 Slope of site is negated by the use of ramps (Author)	84	illus. 6.16d Model 5b. Interior view of lobby (Author)	92
		illus. 6.16e Model 5b. Northwards up the ramp (Author)	92
		illus. 6.16f Model 5b. View from the reading space, B.J. Vorster Tower in the distance (Author)	92
		illus. 6.16g Model 5b. Longitudinal section (Author)	92
		illus. 6.16h Model 5b. Southwards down the ramp (Author)	93
		illus. 6.16i Model 5b. Interior view over atrium (Author)	93
		illus. 6.16j Model 5b. Sidewalk interface (Author)	93
		illus. 6.16k Model 5b. East Elevation (Author)	93



Chapter 7			
illus. 7.1 Revised PARTI diagram (Author)	97	illus. 8.9. Lobby signage render (Author)	130
illus. 7.2 Ground floor plan 1:500 (Author)	100	illus. 8.10. Lobby signage elevation (Author)	130
illus. 7.3 Floor legend: Ground floor (Author)	100	illus. 8.11 Fire design: 45m to exits, fire exits indicated (Author)	130
illus. 7.4 First floor plan 1:500 (Author)	101	illus. 8.12 Evac-Chair model 300H ((Evac-chair, 2011)	130
illus. 7.5 Floor legend: First floor (Author)	101	illus. 8.13 Evac-Chair Stand (Evac-chair, 2011)	131
illus. 7.6 First floor plan 1:500 (Author)	102	illus. 8.14 Evac-Chair in place with cover (Evac-chair, 2011)	131
illus. 7.7 Floor legend: Second floor (Author)	102	illus. 8.15 Evac-Chair signage and notification (Evac-chair, 2011)	131
illus. 7.8 Third floor plan 1:500 (Author)	103	illus. 8.16 Refugee area for a wheelchair user during an emergency, with evac-chair in viewing range (Author)	131
illus. 7.9 Floor legend: Third floor (Author)	103	illus. 8.17 Fire light Satin with flush joints (Author)	132
illus. 7.10 Longitudinal section (Author)	104	illus. 8.18 Rubber floor colours (Rubaloy, 2011)	132
illus. 7.11 North elevation (Author)	106	illus. 8.19 'Lamelle' mesh (Rubaloy, 2011)	132
illus. 7.12 East elevation(Author)	107	illus. 8.20 Concrete pavers (Author)	132
illus. 7.13 Southern approach (Author)	108	illus. 8.21 Ceramic finish and typical colours (SauerbruchHutton, 2011)	132
illus. 7.14 Northern approach (Author)	108	illus. 8.22a Principle of sizing horisontal shade panels (CSIR, 2008)	133
illus. 7.15 Under the ramp (Author)	108	illus. 8.22d Render of panels in winter: allowing sun to enter space (Author)	133
illus. 7.16 Sketch showing Corner with screen (Author)	109	illus. 8.22b Upstand beam and balustrade with horizontal solar shade screen on 3rd floor (Author)	133
illus. 7.17 View towards Wesley Methodist Church (Author)	110	illus. 8.22c Slab edge detail, with horizontal solar shading screen on roof top level (Author)	133
illus. 7.18 View towards B.J. Vorster Tower from the reading room (Author)	111	illus. 8.23a Balustrade, ramp and seating detail (Author)	134
illus. 7.19 Interior view of stacks (Author)	111	illus. 8.23b Balustrade, ramp and seating detail (alternative) (Author)	134
illus. 7.20 Lobby signage (Author)	112	illus. 8.23c Handrail detail and decision (Author)	135
illus. 7.21 North wing service staircase and delivery entrance (Author)	112		
illus. 7.22 View over atrium from west (Author)	113		
illus. 7.23 Sketch showing approach from the south; Burger's Park side (Author)	114		
illus. 7.24 Sketch showing atrium with colour ceramic screen through eastern fenestration	116		
illus. 7.25 Sketch of ramp and atrium with filtered light from skylights (Author)	117		
Chapter 8			
illus. 8.1 Reinforced concrete structure (Author)	121	table 2.1 Assessment of users' needs, most important highlighted and common factors indicated (Author)	17
illus. 8.2 Ground floor plan 1:500 (Author)	122	table 5.1 Peckham Library accommodation schedule (Author, after Tower Hamlets Borough Council, 2011)	67
illus. 8.3 First floor plan 1:500 (Author)	123	table 5.2 Idea Store accommodation schedule (Author, after Allison, 2006)	68
illus. 8.4 Second floor plan 1:500 (Author)	124	table 7.1 Inclusive Design responses with the 5 categories of disability (Author, after Author, Barker et al, 1995 ; Barnes et al, 1999; Design Council, 2010; Holmes-Siedle, 1996; Imrie, 1996; Imrie & Hall, 2001; Karuseit & Gibberd, 2009; Osman & Gibberd, 2000; Passini, 1992; Rayner, 1998; South African Bureau of Standards, 1990)	99
illus. 8.5 Third floor plan 1:500 (Author)	125		
illus. 8.6 Longitudinal section (Author)	126		
illus. 8.7. Cross section 1:200 (Author)	128		
illus. 8.8. North Elevation 1:200 (Author)	129		

## list of tables