



06

# CONCLUSION

## 6.1 CONCLUSION

This dissertation investigated the physical and theoretical aspects of the reuse of the Meat Board building. The cultural, heritage and architectural significance were reported and implemented in the design. The iconic Modern Movement host building was used as starting point for all major decisions in the dissertation (refer to figure 1.1 for a diagrammatic demonstration). Inspiration was drawn from the original intent of the architect and his original vision for the building. The original architectural intent inspired the character of a cheerful, adaptable and contemporary character of the interior.

The current disconnection between user and building due to an outdated and underutilized interior was investigated. The concept of inhabitation in public space informed design decisions that allow users to identify and associate with the interior. Among others, the use of the synthetic constellation of furniture, the analogy of the hotel that is implemented in the design adds a domestic symbol to the interior character of the proposed intervention. The proposed interior of the Meat Board building is composed of elements and furnishings that are of a human scale and this may help users to claim personal space and easily identify with the space.

The contemporary practice of the collaborative office environment was investigated and the proposed programme for the reuse of the building as serviced office facility may help to attract business professionals and ultimately revive the building. The adaptable nature of the serviced office facility will make the building more resilient to the future user requirements.

## 6.2 CONTRIBUTIONS

- This dissertation demonstrates the key role of the interior design discipline in the process of adaptive reuse in the heritage environment.
- The use of the hotel analogy influenced a range of design decisions and added depth to the dissertation. The use of a typological analogy as design method contributes to the design practice of the discipline.
- The use of mood boards as a visual design exploration tool contributes methodologically to the practice of interior design

## 6.3 RECCOMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

- The theme of inhabitation is deep and complex. It offers a wide range of design opportunities too. Further theoretical research and the exploration of design applications would add value to the body of knowledge of interior design.

- The territorial behaviour of people in a public space can be further investigated to expand the knowledge and application of proximal assemblies in the interior.
- An investigation between old and new with the specification of proximal assemblies in the interior is recommended.
- The conservation of Modern Movement heritage sites consists of complicated physical and theoretical aspects. Modern Movement buildings are often accused as cold, clinical and uninhabitable. This phenomenon poses various opportunities for interior designers to take a normative stance on and to develop unique ways in which the interior can be revitalized.
- The Meat Board building is an icon of the so-called 'Pretoria regionalist style'. Furthermore, it is proclaimed that the sun control louvres on the north façade of the building were the first of its kind, nationally. This occasions an opportunity to develop a reuse strategy for the building in the Environmental Potential research field.

# EPILOGUE

Lastly, I would like mention that this year has been a steep learning curve and I am truly thankful for the experience gained through this degree. The choice of site has brought forward a wide range of design opportunities that stretched my thinking, which I am grateful for. My undergraduate architectural studies influenced my approach towards design as overwhelmingly conceptual but I always felt a need to find design methods and channels of expression that influence how people experience space in reality, but never had the skill or knowledge to do so. This dissertation provided insight into the concept of how people inhabit space - a concept that I will want to continue researching throughout my career. I am eternally grateful for the opportunity that the discipline of interior design poses: a meaningful contribution to the life and wellbeing of individuals.

