



5.1// THE CLIENT & PARTICIPANTS

The Heritage Portal

As a volunteer-driven organization, the Heritage Portal acts as mediator in facilitating information related to the collective memory of our South African heritage. Being restricted to online communication only, this portal has proved to be successful in collaborating with individuals and collective organisations in collecting and sharing information. Although it is a noble act of preservation, it needs the support of a bigger network to elevate the importance of our national and global heritage.

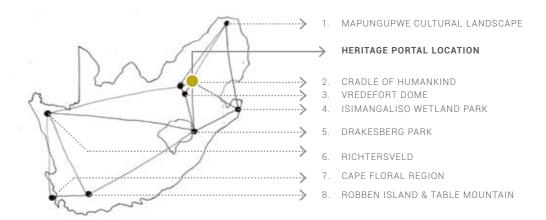
As part of a global mission to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of natural heritage around the world, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) believes in heritage as a gift from the past to the future (UNESCO 2008:5). This gift is not entrusted to selected individual, group or cultural organizations but is rather a valuable universal asset that belongs to an international community, and therefore to everyone.

In 1972, UNESCO introduced the global Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (UNESCO 2008:6). This convention encourages all countries to identify and protect all heritage of local, national and international interest. South Africa has already contributed eight world-class heritage sites that are listed as part of a global heritage community of preservation. These

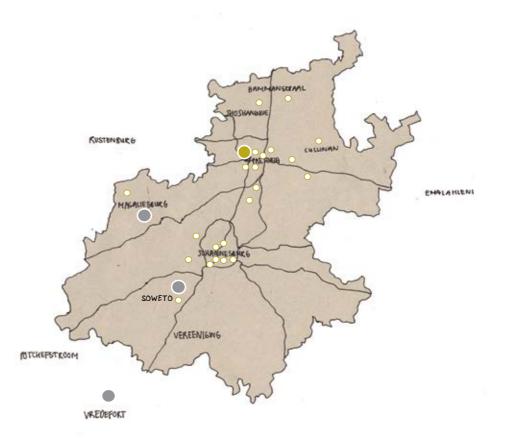
sites are evenly distributed across the country, showcasing the uniqueness of our country through diversification. Given its irreplaceable value to a global audience, the Heritage Portal will facilitate the process of collecting information regarding South Africa's cultural and natural heritage as a touchstone for building on our collective identity.

The client requires a central and neutral platform that would facilitate the process of sharing and engaging in collective heritage through narration. This experiential platform should call on both the national and global heritage communities to not only preserve and restore, but also celebrate our heritage. With emphasis on the experience of place, the story of the site should be carefully narrated across various scales. The programme should facilitate the process of collecting, recording, validating, documenting and exhibiting new information regarding collective heritage.

Using the location of the fort and the adjoining village allows for both a tangible and intangible touchstone that would remind us of our responsibilities as citizens to protect our heritage. It further recognizes the need to reclaim ownership of the abandoned and isolated past, and focus on its rehabilitation into a new memory which encourages a sense of belonging and continuity.



UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN SOUTH AFRICA

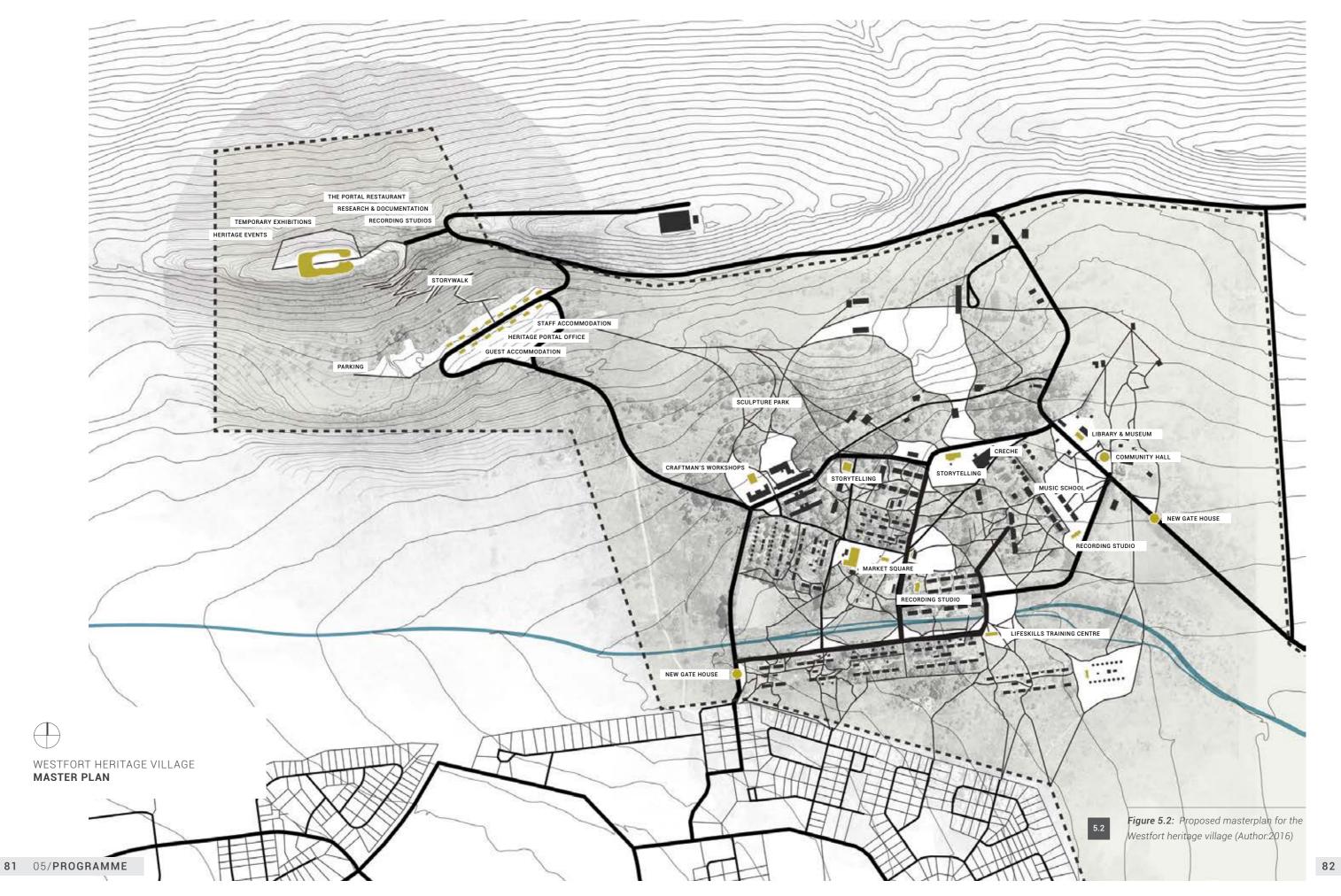


5.1

GAUTENG HERITAGE COMMUNITIES

Figure 5.1: Map of South Africa indicating the 8 UNESCO World heritage sites and the distribution of heritage communities across Gauteng (Author 2016)







5.2// PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

The main intention of the project is therefore to celebrate our collective South African heritage through the experience of narration.

The experience will be narrated according to a series of events, leading up to the pinnacle of the experience, the beacon of continuity. It is also important that these events do not occur in isolation but are rather integrated in the daily routines of the Westfort Village to encourage equal participation and continuity even further.

The five events of narration are the following:

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Event one

Exchange

Upon entering the newly established heritage village, visitors are encouraged to participate in the experience of place. Historical, economic, educational and social interaction is integral in this process to encourage equal participation by all parties.

Event two

Decord

As the visitor progresses through the journey of place, a selection of interventions is dedicated to the recording of new information. The Heritage Portal will be responsible for facilitating formal and informal interviews on site.

Event thre

Validate and document

New-found information is then researched to clarify its value. Heritage researchers facilitate this process by collaborating with the relevant communities. After validation and confirmation, the information is then documented and prepared for exhibition.

Event four

Exhibit

Hosted within the fragile existing ruin, the fort would act as a background to the progression from the past to the present, and hopefully the future. Temporary exhibitions are held within the latter, informing and educating the collective on the value of our continuous South African heritage.

Event five

Celebrate

The fort itself would act as the pinnacle of this experiential narrative journey. Events such as music festivals and seminars will be held in the enclosed courtyard to enhance its former function of protection. A new beacon anchors both the west and our lost heritage as a place of great value.

Figure 5.3: Diagram of stakeholder involvement throughout the program (Author 2016)



Main Intention
TO CELEBRATE OUR COLLECTIVE HERITAGE
THROUGH THE EXPERIENCE OF NARRATION

PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS



THE HERITAGE PORTAL
(Top down)

WESTFORT VILLA (Bottom up) Hosts

SECONDARY STAKEHOLDERS

- 3 PUBLIC WORKS & CITY COUNCIL (Top down)
- 4 UNESCO & TOURISTS (Top down & Bottom up)
- 5 SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENS (Bottom up)
- 6 HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS (Top down)
- 7 HERITAGE RESEARCHERS (Top down)

Site owners

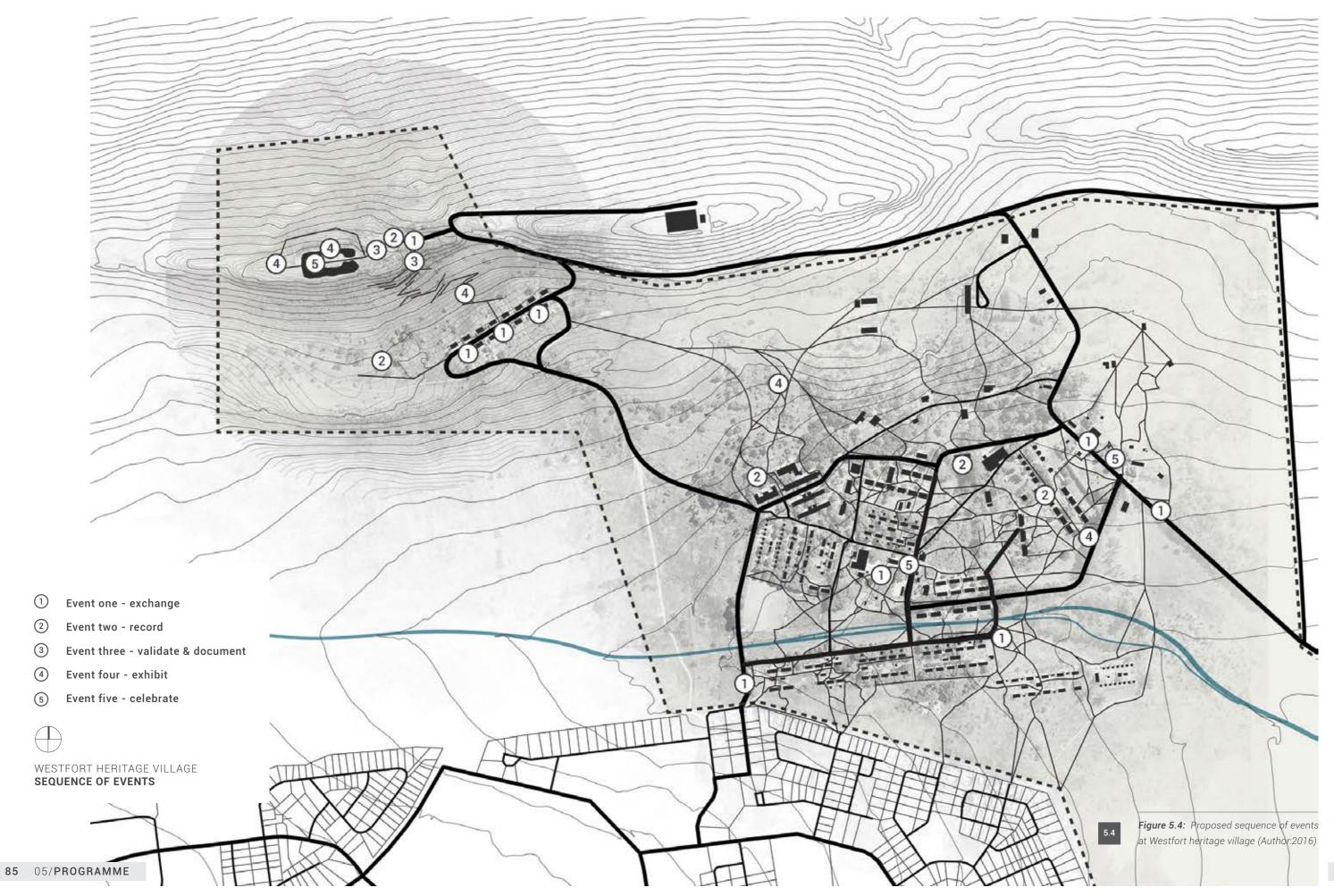
Financiers

Storytellers Storytellers

Story writers

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4



The Heritage Portal

Westfort village

Public works & City Council

UNESCO & tourists

South African citizens

Heritage organisations

Heritage researchers

Event one EXCHANGE

FUNCTION

			m²
1. Gate houses (x2) Ticket office Security check point Ablutions	•	(1 security guard & 1 admin person) x 2 Cashier safe Security monitoring equipment 1 wc, 1hwb, 1 shower (x2)	4 m ² 2 m ² 10 m ²
2. Westfort Library & Museum (Former Post Office)		* Master plan only	
3. Lifeskills training centre (Former School building)		* Master plan only	
4. Westfort market square Restaurants, markets, deli's & shops		* Master plan only	
5. Guest accommodation (14 existing) 2 Bedroom & 1 bathroom Kitchenette & Living area Verandah and shared garden	•	Sleeps 14-28 guests, 3x cleaning staff, 2x gardeners Bedroom furniture, 1xwc, 1xhwb, 1xshower Off-grid energy & water requirements Visual access to Fort & heritage trail	30 m ² 18 m ² 12 m ²
6. Heritage Portal offices Information desk Open plan offices Meeting room Staff kitchenette Storage Cleaning store room Ablutions	•	2x reception, 4x administration, 1x cleaning Reception foyer, waiting area, visual access, Administration, visual access Private, acoustics, visual access Off-grid energy & water requirements Document deliveries & collection Cleaning equipment for accommodation units (Unisex) 3 wc, 2hwb	17 m ² 35 m ² 10 m ² 10 m ² 20 m ² 2,5 m ² 14 m ²
7. Staff accommodation (14 existing) * same as per guest accommodation	•	Sleeps 14-35 Westfort community members	60 m ²
8. The Portal Restaurant Entertaining & seating area Cooking facilities Scullery Cold & dry storage Staff ablutions & washing rooms Refuse	•	6x operation staff, 6x kitchen staff, 2x cleaning staff max 100 guests, indoor & outdoor (shaded with views) water & energy connection, circulation, ventilation wash-up (water & energy connection, storage) walk in fridge & pantry (access & energy connection) 2 wc, 2hwb, 1 shower Service access, ventilation	110 m ² 80 m ² 50 m ² 25 m ² 25 m ² 10 m ²
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The Heritage Portal

Westfort village

Public works & City Council

UNESCO & tourists

South African citizens

Heritage organisations

Heritage researchers

Event two RECORD

FUNCTION

			m²
Music school (Former school hall)		* Master plan only	
2. Craftman's workshops (Former prison block)		* Master plan only	
3. Storytelling (Former Orthodox church)		* Master plan only	
4. Recording studios Informal reflection Group discussions Digital archive Storywalls Service and control room Ablutions	•	2x partially enclosed studios (acoustics, light, comfort) 1x studio (acoustics, light, comfort) 1x studio for digital presentation (visual access, light, acoustics) Visible, waterproof, light Open and accessible (acoustics) (see sanitary installations)	20 m ² 20 m ² 50 m ² 10 m ² 30 m ²
5. Parking Heritage Portal staff Staff Accommodation Accommodation units Visitors Spill over parking (large events)	•	4 bays at office (paved) 2 bays per accommodation unit (28) (paved) 2 bays per accommodation unit (28) (paved) 40 bays (paved) open grassland to accommodate 500 vehicles (unpaved)	50 m ² 350 m ² 350 m ² 500 m ² 6250 m ²
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Event three

VALIDATE & **DOCUMENT**

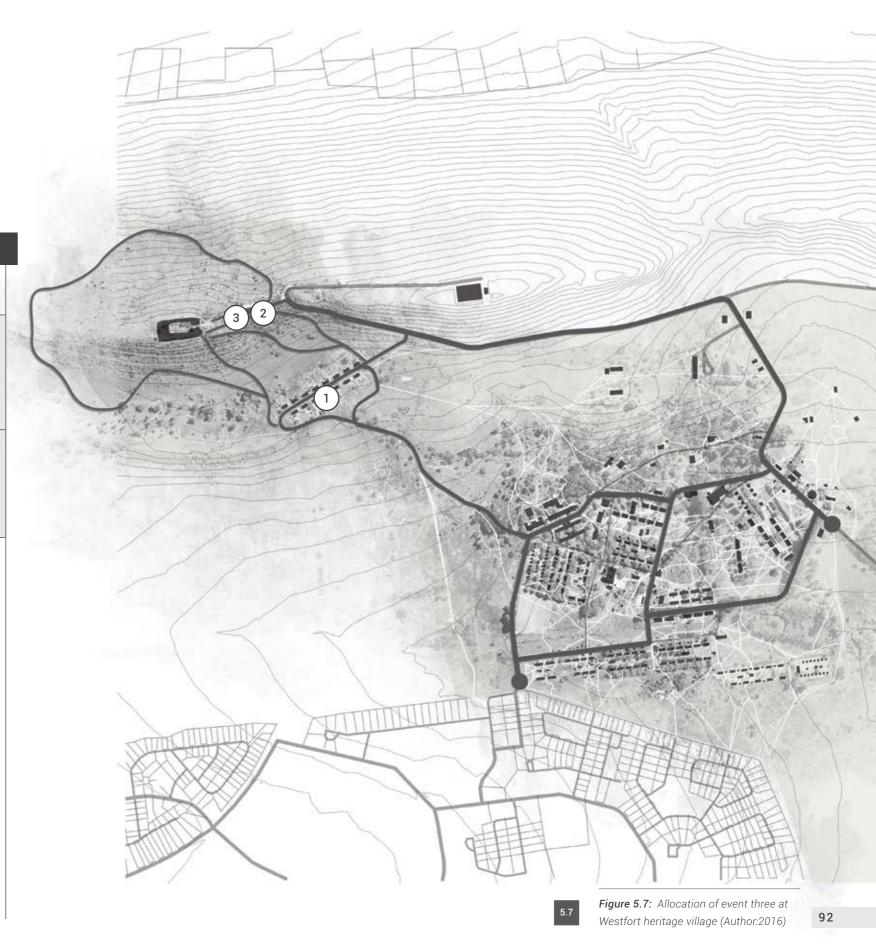
REQUIREMENTS

Westfort village Public works & City Council UNESCO & tourists South African citizens Heritage organisations Heritage researchers

Stakeholders involved The Heritage Portal

FUNCTION

			m²
Heritage Portal offices Information collection & distribution		* see exchange (page ?)	
2. Research & validation * Reception desk * Storage Open plan office Kitchenette Ablutions	•	2 x reception, 8 researchers, 2 cleaning staff, visitors * Receptionist (visual access & circulation) * Information & recording deliveries (access & circulation) Seating, research access & equipment Off-grid energy & water requirements (see sanitary installations)	6 m ² 20 m ² 80 m ² 20 m ²
3. Documentation Discussion rooms & meetings Print room & Exhibition preparation		Seating, acoustics, flexible, informal Digital equipment, storage, workspace	30 m² 45 m²
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The Heritage Portal

Westfort village

Public works & City Council

UNESCO & tourists

South African citizens

Heritage organisations

Heritage researchers

Event four EXHIBIT

FUNCTION

			m²
Local Art gallery (Former Hospital building)		* Master plan only	
2. Westfort sculpture park Exhibition, seating, play		* Master plan only	
3. Storywalk Walking trails Information display Seating Viewing platforms	•	Daily use = 40 users Partially paved surface (waterdrainage) Signage, Landscape integration (waterproofing) Seating, orientation, visibility	1 km walk
4. The Portal Library * Reception desk Information display Reading & seating Archives * Digital research Children storytelling Educational playground	•	Daily use = 40 users (including staff) * Librarian & sales desk (visual access & circulation) Bookshelves (light quality, visual access) Tables & seating (light quality) Exhibition & reading of heritage material (safety, light) * connection with research office Indoor & outdoor options (safety, visual access) Informative landscape integration (safety, visual access)	12 m ² 80 m ² 20 m ² 35 m ² 15 m ² 25 m ²
5. Temporary exhibition rooms Rotating display technology Information display Interactive display		Daily use = 40 users Wall, floor & roof connections (no permanent attachment) Light quality & circulation Digital interventions (energy, acoustics, light	370 m²
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The Heritage Portal

Westfort village

Public works & City Council

UNESCO & tourists

South African citizens

Heritage organisations

Heritage researchers

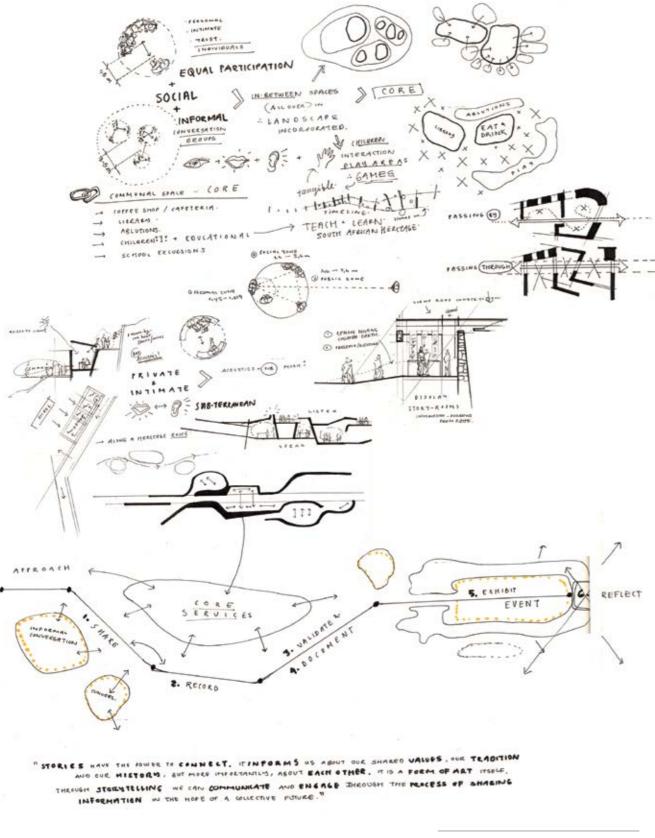
Event five CELEBRATE

FUNCTION

Community hall (Former administration building)		* Master plan only	
2. Market square		* Master plan only	
3. National & local heritage events Performance stage Seating	•	Montly events = 800 users Visual access, safety, acoustics Floor integration (use on demand) (500 removable seats)	50 m 800 m
4. Beacon of Continuity Vertical circulation Viewing platforms & equipment Information display Lighthouse Seating	•	Daily use = 40 users, Montly events = 800 users (median = 60) Stairs & Ramp (Safety & Visibilty) Viewpoints, landscape integrated telescopes (safety) Landscape integrated Artificial light, visibility, materiality Landscape integrated	24 m 450 m
* Sanitary installations Additional ablutions (entrance) Portal Restaurant Portal Offices & Library Fort (large events)	•	Daily use = 60 users, Montly events = 600 users Women (2 wc, 2 hwb), Men (2 urinals, 1 wc, 2 hwb), M.i.p Women (4 wc, 4 hwb), Men (3 urinals, 1 wc, 4 hwb), M.i.p Women (4 wc, 4 hwb), Men (3 urinals, 1 wc, 4 hwb), M.i.p Women (10 wc, 5 hwb), Men (3 urinals, 2 wc, 3 hwb), M.i.p	40 m 70 m 70 m 105 m
* Service deliveries Drop-off & Loading zone General maintenance Kitchen deliveries		Road access, turning circle, circulation Access to services, durability of materials Access, circulation, removal of refuse	
* Service distribution Energy Water Sewerage		Solar PV panels on northern ridge or roofs, battery room Potable water from reservoir, rain water harvesting, grey water French drain, westfort village connection to larger system	







5.10

Figure 5.10: Spatial exploration of programmatic requirements (Author 2016)
Figure 5.11: First design explorations of programmatic requirements (Author 2016)

AND PROCESS OF OHERITAGE VALUE "re-habilitate" SEGREGATED COMMONITY 3 DEGRADED LANDSCAPE "to presence . SHARE HUMANITY'S STOCKES" -> CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PEOPLE creating an invalvable website for future generations. NETWORK - PORTIFICATION - CHTURAL MIRREN - HEATINGE PERMITATIONS - LOST SIMPSPACANCEL - MNESCO "voice of the South Abrain Heritage Cummenty" HERITAGE PORTAL - SA'S ORAL HISTORY / HERITAGE / CULTURAL ONA A STORBFELLING PLATFORM EXHIBIT . CELEBRATE DOCUMENT VALIDATE · TEMPORARY DISPLAY LIBEARS . CONVERSATIONAL VERBAL FORAL T INTERVIEWS HISTORY · EVENTS WORKEHOTS . NETWORK STORED MUSIC NETWORK · MATHERINGS . INFORM DANLE MORE INFO · ACCHIVED EDUCATE . INFORM SOCIAL RITUAL CELEBRATE TRADITION LISTEN LISTEN WATCH WATCH READ READ SHARED PACILITIES ADMINISTRATION , ABLUTIONS , CAPETERIA , PARKING . ACCESS ALLEMMOBATION , HERITAGE EXPERIENCE

WESTFORT HERITAGE VILLAGE

5.11

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5.3// PROGRAMMATIC PRECEDENT

FREEDOM PARK

Location : Pretoria, South Africa

Date: 2008

Client: City of Tswhane

Architect: Gapp+ Mashabane Rose

Architects + Mma

Key words

Heritage narration Heritage Tourism Circulation

Thresholds

As part of Pretoria's regeneration projects, the main intention of Freedom Park is to tell the story of our South African history. By acknowledging the past, this landmark hope to celebrate the achievement of democracy and stand as a beacon of hope for the future (Young 2004:1).

Visiting the site, one is informed of our collective history that dates from the pre-colonial till the Post-apartheid era. In 2014, Freedom Park hosted a first ever storytelling festival. This event wished to bring people together through spritual engagement and entertainment by proffessional storytellers (Daniels:2014).

Although this precedent shows similar approaches to the dissertation proposal in terms of it's programme, it is mainly included as a critique on it's limitations as an inclusive heritage site.

Freedom Park is a national monument positioned towards furthering the rich cultural, historical, political and spiritual needs of the people of South Africa and beyond.

(Daniels:2014)

Given it's mandate to 'further' our collective cultural, historical, political and spritual values, the author's opinion is that it is still perceived as a political monument, static and very isolated. Considering the previous theoretical exploration on heritage value, continuity and experientialism, the success of this dissertation lies in it's ability to transform an isolated heritage monument into an everyday, ongoing dialogue.

Figure 5.12: Elevated view of Freedom Park (Young: 2008)

Figure 5.13: Section and floor site plan of design (Young:2008)

Figure 5.14: Elevated views of the circulation routes and landscape integrated events (Young:2008)



