



CHAPTER 07
CONCLUSION AND REFERENCES

The Game of Diminishing Returns dissertation aims were to provide an architectural solution to the pollution contained in slime dam no.7, of the Cullinan mine.

The chosen site served as the main driver for the projects intentions. Due to this; a comprehensive understanding was required of the sites history, community structure, problems associated with the process of mining diamonds and international rehabilitation & remediation strategies. The aforementioned research led to the investigation of relevant architectural theories and relevant international architectural precedents.

The Game of Diminishing Returns focuses on finding a symbiotic relationship between rehabilitation of nature and rehabilitation of man. The design of The Game of Diminishing Returns was primarily based on rehabilitation strategies for the site and programmatic strategies for the rehabilitation of community identity. The architectural programme proposed would serve not only as a new binding agent for the Refilwe community, the existing identity would disappear should the mine close, but also enable the use of Slime Dam no.7's contents to foster a new community identity through agriculture.

The architectural design was based on principles of temporality of structure and permanence of programmatic effect. The use of structures which could eventually be relocated and anchoring materials which would eventually disintegrate, leaves the site free of permanent alteration. The lasting effects of the architecture comes in the form of site rehabilitation and renewed community identity.

The use of onsite materials to construct architecture enables a haptic interaction with the site and reduces the carbon footprint of the architecture drastically. The construction technologies; taught to and used by; the community, would serve as a new skillset and possible job creation.

The ultimate goal for The Game of Diminishing Returns would be for the theories, research and architectural design to make a positive impact, not only on the Refilwe site, but on various other mining sites. This would be achieved through both the research produced by the laboratory programmes and the success of the architectural design.

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In accordance with Regulation 4(e) of the General Regulations (G.57) for dissertations and thesis, I declare that this thesis, which I hereby submit for the degree Masters in 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 submitted for any such degree, diploma of 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.

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