





















The dissertation investigates the potential of a fragile approach to industrial heritage in the City of Tshwane.

Second place

The approach from the start of the project is for the interventions to undulate between moments of primary and secondary positions (De Sola`- Morales 1987: 621-623). The in-between spaces, like the atriums and connections to the existing buildings, are given prominence over the rest of the building. The main entrance is essentially located between two shed structures.

Ultimately, the location for the building intends to frame the public park between the existing structures on the site.

Recovery, evolution and transformation

Strategies aimed at incorporating urban resilience are applied to the design (Peres). The site evolves to suit the changing context of the city, from a predominantly underutilised industrial program to a place that engages the public in industrial training opportunities.

The EPWP Hub accommodates the introduced program, with the intent of recovering and expanding the utility in the existing workshops.

The old electric workshop is preserved as a ruin and is thus transformed into a recreational garden.

Value

The value of the context is not understood as an aggregate of characteristics, but instead as a resource of possible informants. The contextual proximity of the identified instances increases their value.

An emphasis on the preservation of

previously neglected histories is placed by considering the change on site as part of a continuum. Instead of making a deliberate distinction between 'old' and 'new', the project is rather emphasising that this is merely the next step in the narrative of the remaking of the workshops.

The attitudes and strategies employed exist on a scale between conservation and preservation, between demolition and restoration (Barker 2020: 144).

The EPWP Hub is a palimpsest of historical and new technologies influenced by the context, and to some extent constructed by the environment itself.

To Change

The mediation between the existing industrial heritage and the revitalised industrial utility of the buildings is approached as an opportunity to highlight moments of historical significance as the development of skill.

The DPWI has historically been involved with developing skills in the country, specifically concerning vocational training.

By extension, the implementation of the Extended Works Program continues this legacy. By implementing a basic training facility within the context of industrial heritage, a meaningful layer of access to knowledge is provided.

The public walkway that connects with the inner city provides direct access to work opportunities.

The change to the landscape is appreciated

both as a palimpsest of historical events and as recovering green infrastructure. Like an archaeological dig, the making of the bioswales and basements uncover glimpses of the lost heritage on-site. The invasive shrubs and grasses are replaced with local alternatives, encouraging the process of recovery.

The progression of technology over the last century is showcased side-by-side. The complex narratives of the making of the city become accessible to the public that is responsible for the making of the city.

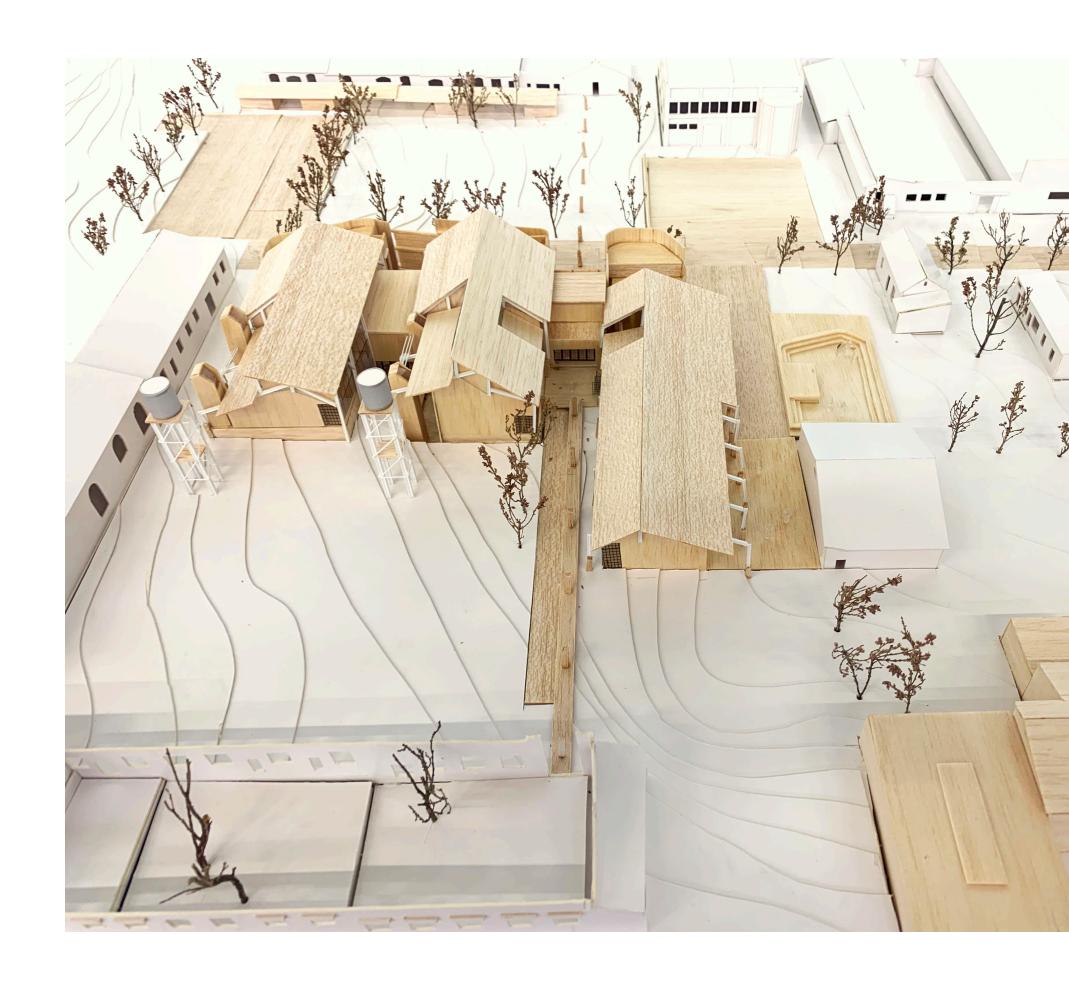
In time

As with the existing workshops and warehouses on the site, the significance of the EPWP Hub will run its course. The building will eventually become redundant in its current form and would need to evolve under the pressures of its context. This suggests that parts of the building will eventually be taken apart and reused somewhere else in the city.

The steel portal frames and roofs are the easiest to repurpose. These will be disassembled and used in different projects elsewhere. The standard window frames will be ideal to reuse as it is transported and installed with ease. What remains are the concrete floors and the brick walls. With further development of the site, these elements will form part of new interventions, leaving only traces of the EPWP Hub behind. Eventually, the interventions will become just another layer of palimpsest on the site (Machado 1976: 48-49), with only a 'recollection of the architecture after it has been' (De 'Sola Morales, 1987: 623).















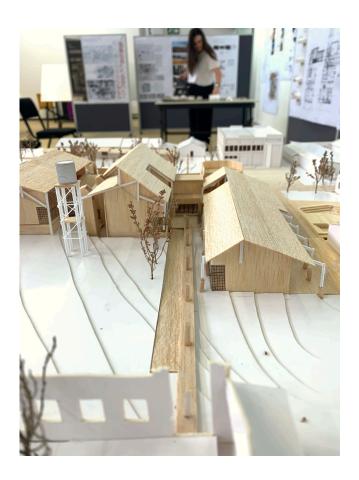
















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