

Fig 6-25: Plan of the Donkin Reserve – analysis of elements (Grobler 2005)

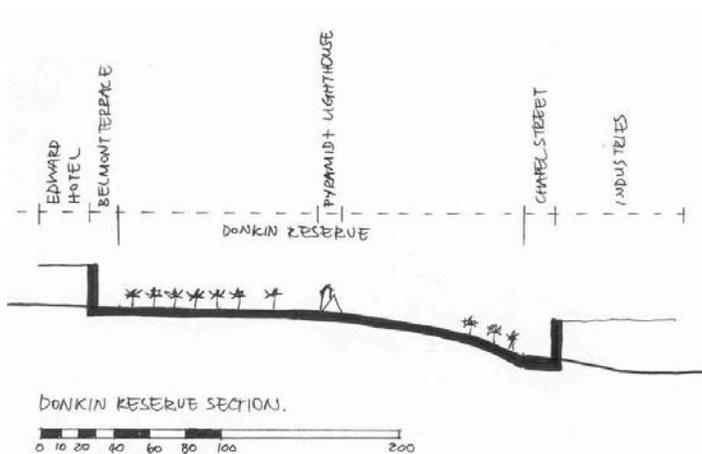


Fig 6-26: Section of the Donkin Reserve – analysis of elements (Grobler 2005)

### 6.5.1 Analysis: Point

Five nodes are identified as points where pedestrian circulation routes intersect. This has the potential for providing opportunities for social interaction. The challenge exists to improve the spatial quality with the existing elements and surface treatments. There are no focal elements to accentuate the nodes as places of importance and participation. The primary node is planted, but that does not add to the quality of the place, as it is isolated and limited in size and character in relation to the rest of the site.



Fig 6-27 and Fig 6-28: Primary node (Grobler 2005)

The Memorial Pyramid and Lighthouse are the two points that are located centrally towards the southern boundary of the site, but not central to the site as a whole. These landmarks serve as focal points to the area and are accessible through the vehicular and also pedestrian routes. Movement around the monuments is accessible to pedestrians only. The landmarks form the implied boundary between flat surface and steep gradient that divides the site between usable and unusable surface areas.



Fig 6-29: Landmarks (Grobler 2005)

Activities can create nodes, regardless of the location as people are grouped together in a space. Passive and active activities are occasionally performed on the site. Active activities are identified on the level western side and it serves as playing field for games, such as soccer. Passive activities are identified as sitting, reading and observing the area which is made possible through the lawns and scattered benches. These benches are not grouped with garden lamps; the orientation is random and does not necessarily face any particular view. Social interaction is not encouraged, as the benches are positioned in isolation and no groupings are provided.

### 6.5.2 Analysis: Line

Edges are identified as line at the Donkin Reserve. The entire western edge and sections of the northern and eastern edges are accessible to pedestrians. This is due to the level gradient of the site in these locations and allows for pathway access onto the site with pedestrians. A no-access boundary is formed by the steep gradient on the southern side and certain sections north and east.

Pedestrian movement paths or axes have been defined across the site as tarred walkways. Circulation opportunities are provided diagonally across the site from all street corners. Intermediate routes are also provided from the straight edges on eastern and western sides, as is vehicular access from the corner of Whites Road and Belmont Terrace. This leads straight to the Memorial Pyramid and Lighthouse and tourism office, where it terminates. Garden lights have been located primarily on the south-western side of the reserve with selected pedestrian walkways, as well as the vehicular path. Inadequate lighting qualities exist at night as only a section of the reserve has appropriate illumination, positioned on the circulation paths. Garden lights are of different designs and no unity is achieved through this element. Palm trees are positioned along three circulation routes emphasizing the path.

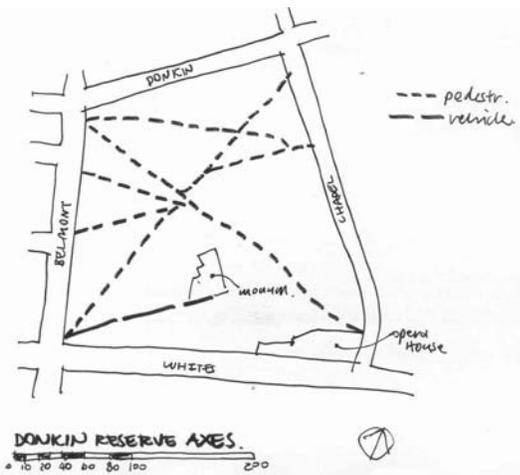


Figure 6-30: Donkin Reserve axes

Adapted from aerial view (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality 2000)

The Donkin Street houses are located on the northern edge of the Donkin Reserve and were built between 1860 and 1880. The houses follow the natural gradient of the road