

context analysis

Location and accessibility and site use

site context

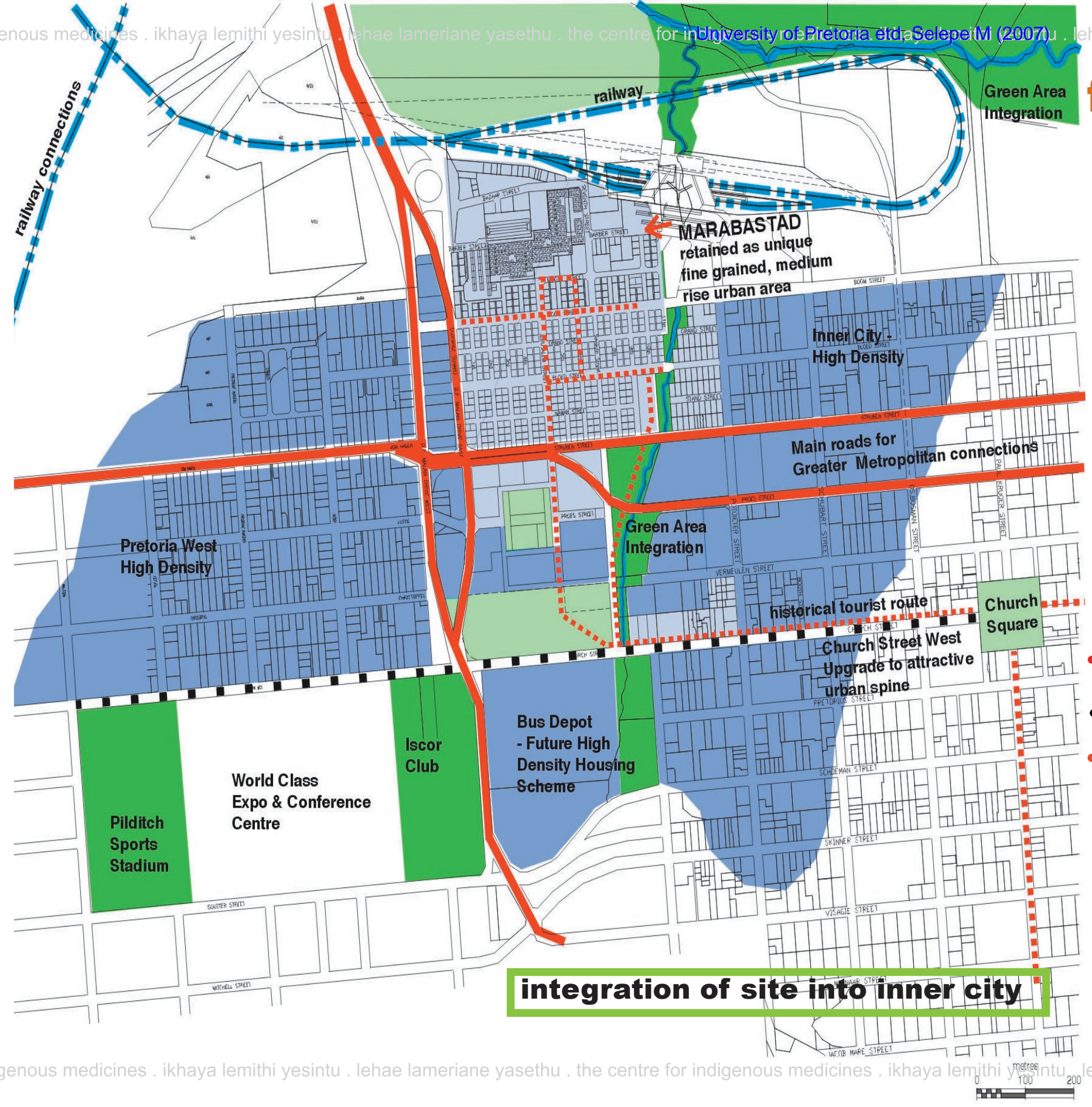


fig.6

- Main roads for greater Metropolitan connections.
- Church Street_west.
- - - Historical tourist route.

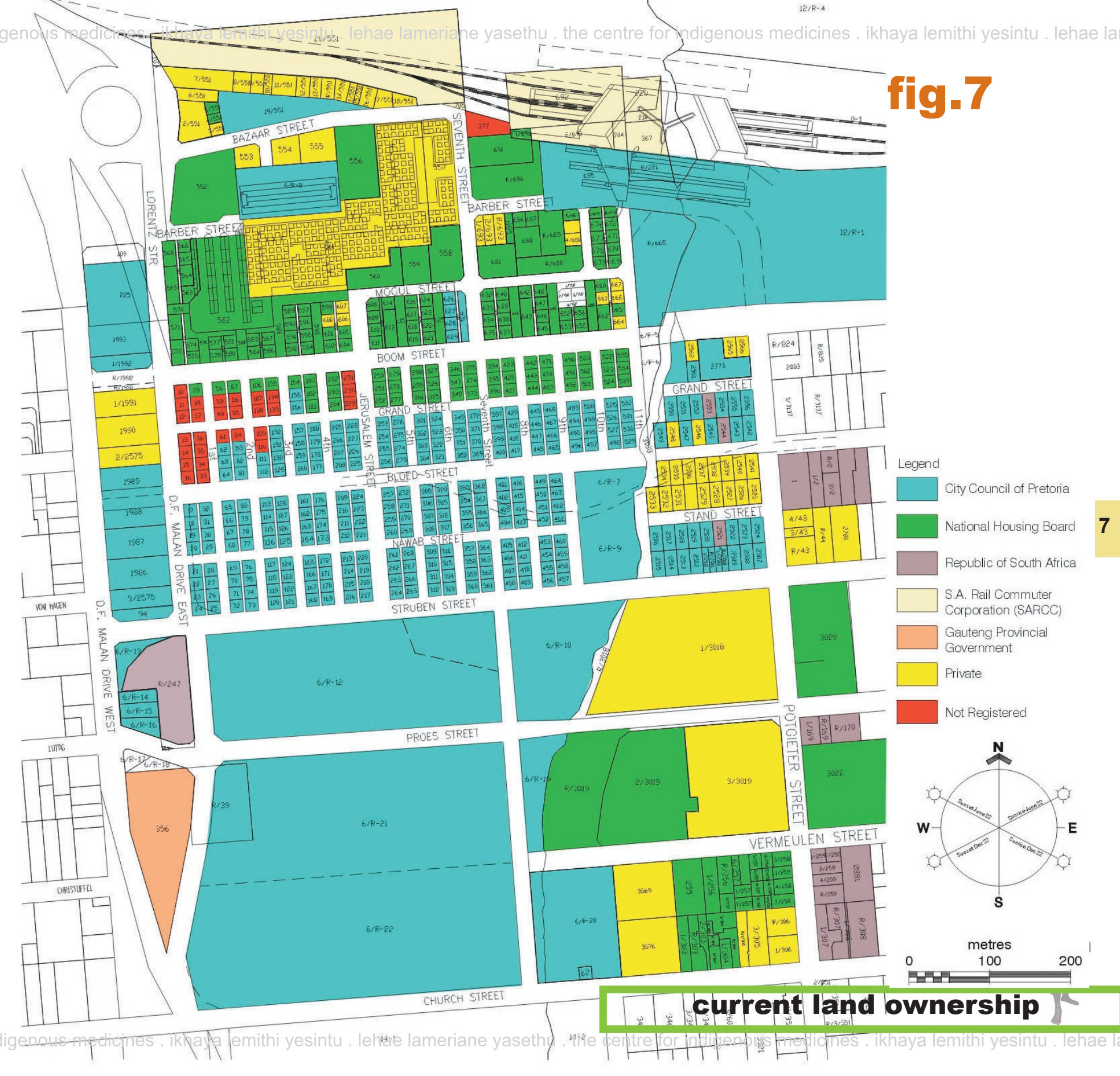
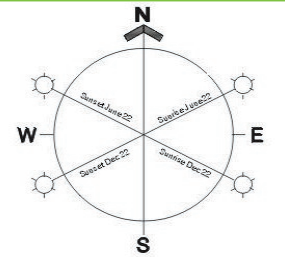


fig.7

current land ownership

context analysis

site context

Physical Dislocation

Marabastad has suffered a history within Pretoria that saw the suburb increasingly strangled and isolated from the city. Currently the area forms an enclave that is physically separated from the surrounding urban fabric by a number of barrier zones on all sides: (Refer to figure 8)

To the south the old cemetery, the municipal compounds, partly used by government departments, and the zone of empty land between Struben and Bloed Streets, part of which forms the PUTCO bus depot.

To the east the canalized Steenhoven Spruit and tracts of vacant land.

To the north the successive barriers of the railway line, the sewage farm, the Apies River and the Daspoot Ridge.

To the west the dual D F Malan roadway enclosing an island housing Technikon Workshops, Government Buildings, some vacant land and a filling station, as well as the Fresh Produce Market to the west of the roadway.

Social Dislocation

The respective communities within Marabastad have, since the origins of the suburbs, been marginalized. At one stage Marabastad was the setting for vibrant community life. The forced eviction of the entire residential population and a large part of the traders from the area has, however, resulted in the destruction of most of the community structures. Only a small portion of traders has remained, while the rest of the former Marabastad population is scattered over the outlying former Group Areas of Laudium, Atteridgeville, Mamelodi, Eesterust and elsewhere.

With the “freeze” imposed on Marabastad over the past three decades the area has degraded into a slum, and it is shunned by most of Greater Pretoria. The traders survive mostly on the patronage of the Black population, many of whom pass through Marabastad, today a major public transportation node, to outlying regions. From a social point of view Marabastad remains marginalized within the Inner City.

fresh produce market



fig.8

