The Tshwane Inner City Development and Regeneration Strategy, 2005 compiled by Gapp Architects and Urban Designers describes the Tshwane City Vision as “…to become the leading international African capital city of excellence that empowers the community to prosper in a safe and healthy environment.” [p.5]. This includes clearly defining the city, and establishing it as a place of excellence. The inner city is demarcated as urban core for the City of Tshwane Municipality and maintains its importance and strategic position [p.8]. The development determined, is that of “catalytic intervention” [p.14].

The significance of the city is to be announced by defining the gateways into the city. From the south, the gateway is marked by green spaces and an impressive natural setting. The northern entry point already defined by the strong natural setting. However this may be enhanced by a landmark or capital symbol development. The possibility of linking the eastern and western part of the ridge with a landmark is considered.
Landmark developments are similarly proposed for the eastern and western entrances.

Paul Kruger Street and Church Street comprise a monumental grid as axes of expression. These axes must be articulated to reflect the capital city image. Along the axes, government buildings should be clustered around public squares. These ‘People’s Squares’ should be designed as high quality celebrations of our heritage and culture, each unique in character.

All government buildings are to be developed within the inner city, especially around significant public places and along axes. The Inner City Strategy proposes the establishment of an Inner City Operational Task Team that will manage all capital investment and other operational aspects. This task team with further encourage future partnerships between local and national government, encouraging participation from the private sector. They will attract and facilitate investment, liaising between the Department of Public Works and Public-Private Partnerships.

fig. 8.2 proposed city movement network
fig. 8.3 erf layout and numbers for site block
Special street project

Elizabeth Kruger

A special project has been launched to improve Paul Kruger Street in the central parts of the city and the Mooi.

The project, which is the brainchild of students from the Tukkies department of town and regional planning, was announced to the community at an open day and exhibitions in front of the Old Synagogue and the Pretoria Station.

The project is supported by the Pretoria Inner City Partnership and the City Council of Pretoria.

Improvements are planned for the area between M. H. Fourie and M. Strong streets adjacent to the Zoo, the area surrounding the Pretoria Station from the station itself to Jacob Maritz Street and around the old Synagogue between Proes and Struben Streets.

The aim of the project is to develop a strategic framework for the gradual upgrading of Paul Kruger Street into an urban space suitable for a capital city.

The street must be developed to reflect the rich history of Pretoria as well as the future and accommodate a wide variety of activities.

It must also be a pleasant environment for pedestrians and a street that accommodates the needs of both businesses and residents of the area.

"Paul Kruger Street has been chosen on the basis of its important historical role in the development of Pretoria and its visibility as a gateway into the city, its future role in public transport and its tourist attractions.

Resident can also have their say about the improvement of Paul Kruger Street.

People can phone Marinda Schoonraad on 082-391-9440, Prenath Velayatham from Mondays to Wednesdays on 420-1180, Albrecht Herholdt at the Inner City Partnership on 308-7906 and Machtel Erasmus at the City Council of Pretoria on 308-4604.

fig. 8.4 an article from a local Newspaper indicating intended upgrades to Paul Kruger Street, 2002
Buildings, identified on and around the site, as being of heritage value, are to be preserved. These buildings are to be appropriately renovated and new programmes assigned. The new functions of the buildings will ensure their continued use.

01. 229 Boom Street, erf 845/1
This is a single storey building, originally designed as a residence. It is identified by Le Roux as being of the Late Victorian/Edwardian style. It is a component one of three similar structures, on erf 3135 [demolished] and erf 847 [discussed below]. Architectural elements are relatively well preserved, however, the building is currently inhabited illegally, and is in a state of disrepair. Within the project it is to be proposed that the building be renovated and equipped as a restaurant building on the public square. Existing plans for building not available from Municipality.

01. Andries Street, erf 847
This single storey is similar in style to the building on erf 845/1 described above. It is currently in a well-maintained condition, though some architectural elements of the building may have been spoilt through renovations. This building is proposed to house a creche within the new development of the square.
This double storey building used to house the ZAR Cultural History museum. However, through lack of maintenance the museum has had to close. The Pretoria Zoological Gardens are the current owners of the building, and there are plans to renovate and re-open the building as a Life Science Museum.