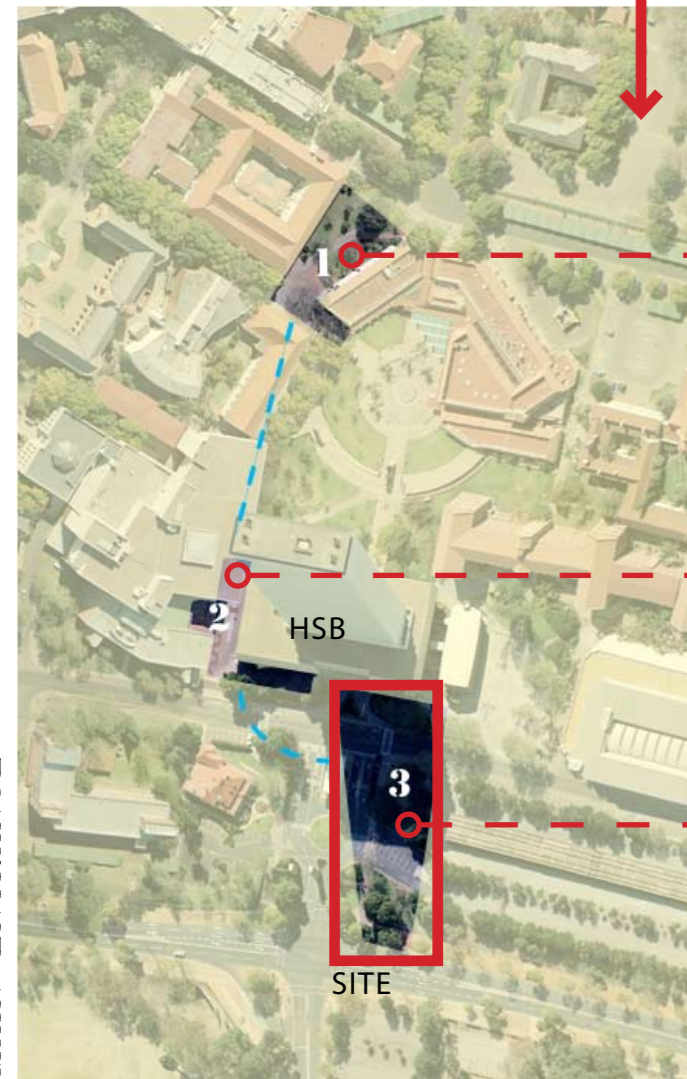


1

SITE LOCATION



1 First choice: between the student centre and the Zoology buildings. Some students use this area between classes to study, eat or socialize.

2 Second choice: between the Academic Information Centre and the Human Sciences building. More students use the space between the AIC and the HSB.

3 Third Choice: between the outside and inside of the university grounds. All students use the entrances to get on and off campus.

2

**SITE ANALYSIS
FRAMEWORK**

The 2008 thesis students' urban framework vision is to re-introduce the University of Pretoria into the surrounding environment. This will be done in phases. The first phase will be to address the Roper Street connection through to Hatfield, making public access through this area more convenient. The entrances to this path will need to be addressed, which is a major intervention. The rest of the phases will consist of compartmentalizing campus in ever diminishing compartment sizes. This will be done until the campus is fully re-introduced into the surrounding context.

This thesis forms part of the first phase. It is concerned with the main entrance to campus. "Gateway" and "front door" were terms assigned to this particular part of the framework. The terminology determines a mind set.

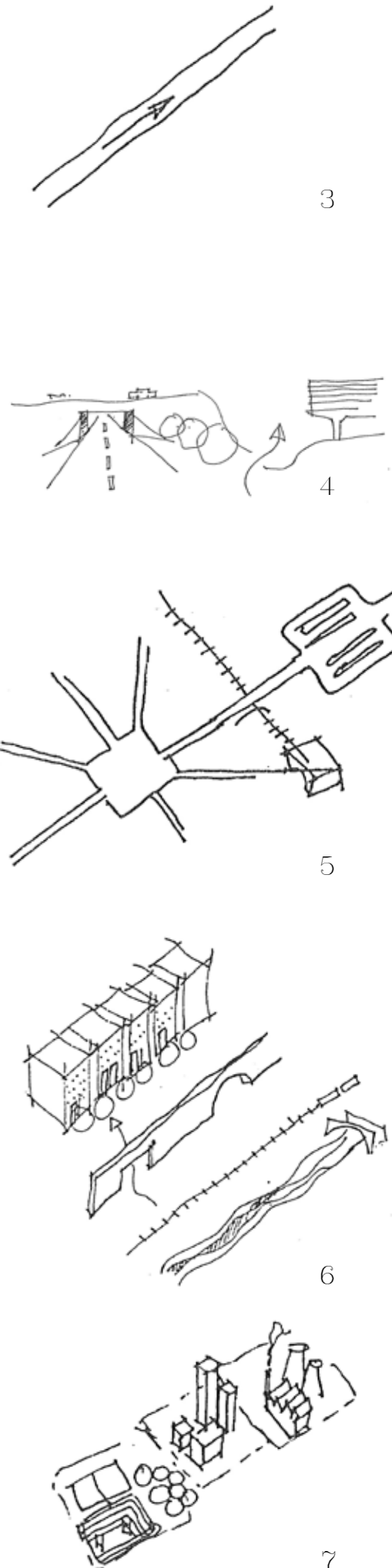
Path: Lynch, K (1960) 'are the channels along which the observer customarily, occasionally or potentially moves. They may be streets, walkways, transit lines, canals, railroads, highways, etc. For many people, these are the predominant elements in their image. People observe the city while moving through it, and along those paths the other environmental elements are arranged and related.'

Gateway: (gateway wiktictionary.org) 'Any entrance capable of being blocked by use of a gate; Any point that represents the beginning of a transition from one place to another.'

Node: Lynch, K (1960) 'are points, the strategic spots in a city into which an observer can enter, and which are the intensive foci to and from which he is travelling. They may be primarily junctions, places of break in transportation, a crossing or convergence of paths, moments of shift from one structure to another. Or the nodes may be simply concentrations, which gain their importance from being the condensation of some use or physical character, as a street-corner hangout or an enclosed square. Some of these concentration nodes are the focus and epitome of a district over which their influence radiates (cores).'

Edges: Lynch, K (1960) 'are the linear elements not used or considered as paths by the observer. They are the boundaries between two phases, linear breaks in continuity: shores, railroad cuts, edges of development, walls. Such edges may be barriers more or less penetrable, which close one region of from another.'

Precinct: Lynch, K (1960) 'are the medium to large sections of the city, conceived of as having two-dimensional extent, which the observer mentally enters 'inside of' and which are recognizable as having some common, identifiable character.'



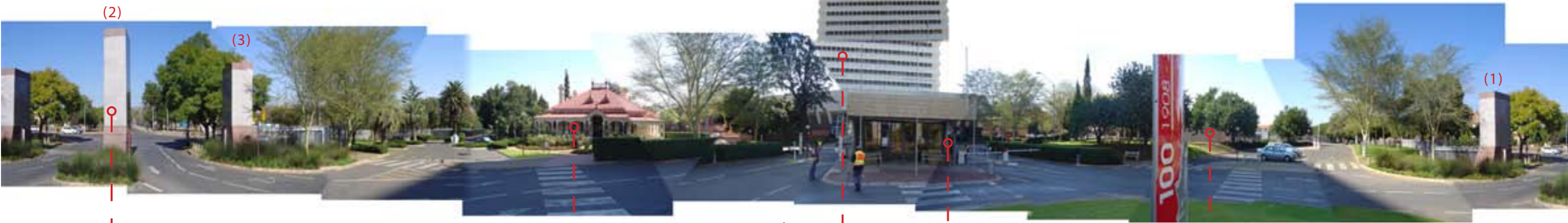
3

4

5

6

7



(2)

(3)

(1)

EXISTING ENTRANCE: MARBLE COLUMNS KAYA ROSA

CURRENT GUARD HOUSE MY SITE
HUMAN SCIENCES BUILDING

The traffic congestion during rush hour is a major problem at the main entrance. The congestion at the entrance is mainly caused by vehicles which need to sign in to be allowed into campus grounds. In addition students needs to be dropped and collected during peak times thus causing even more delays.



(2)

(3)

(1)

(2)

MY SITE



VIEW NORTH TO THE SITE FROM ACROSS THE STREET



VIEW SOUTH AWAY FROM THE SITE, ACROSS THE STREET



TYPICAL APPROACH FROM THE EAST



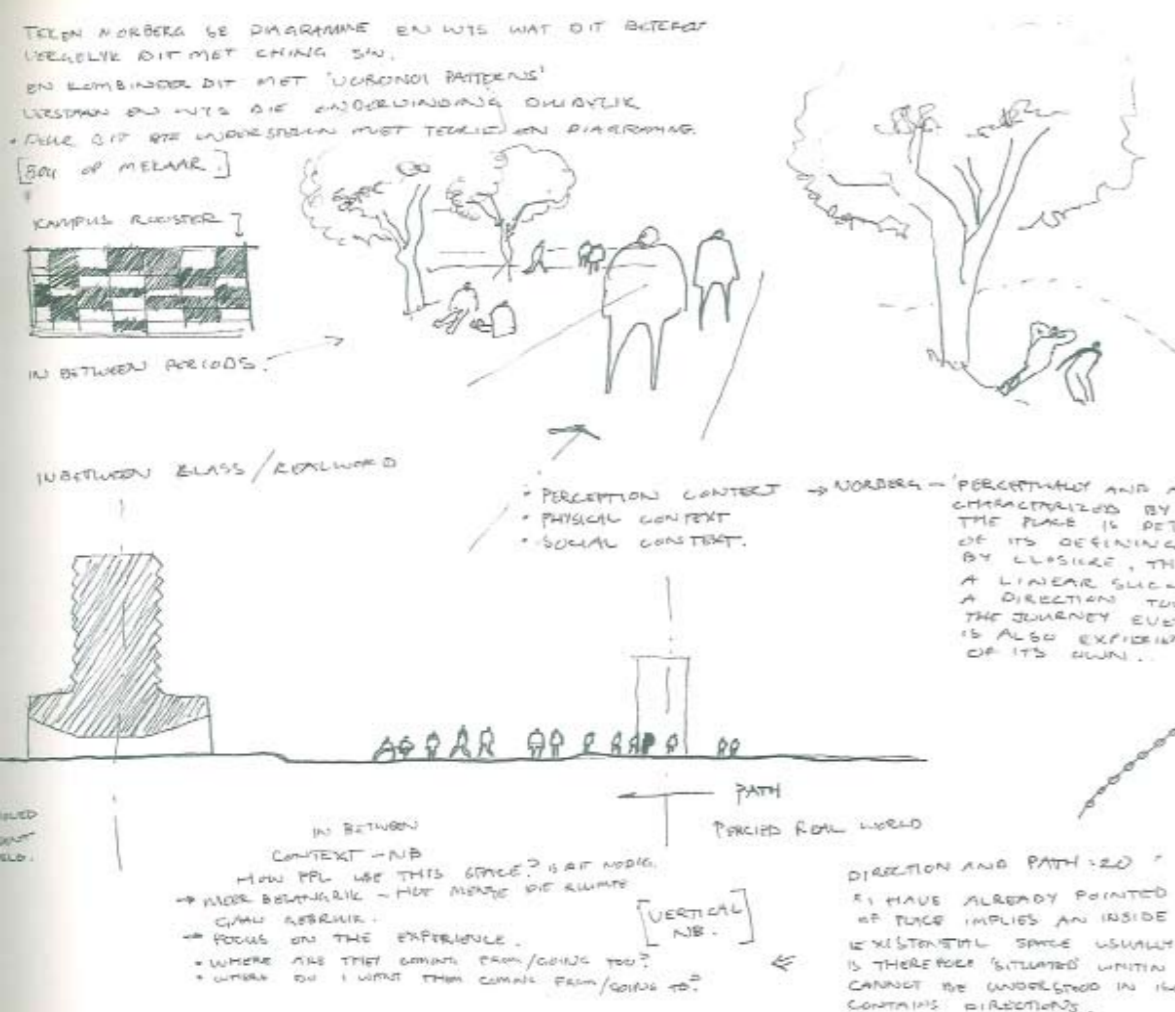
SURFACE PARKING LOT SOUTH OF SITE



PRIMARY SCHOOL FENCE AND FIELD SOUTH OF SITE

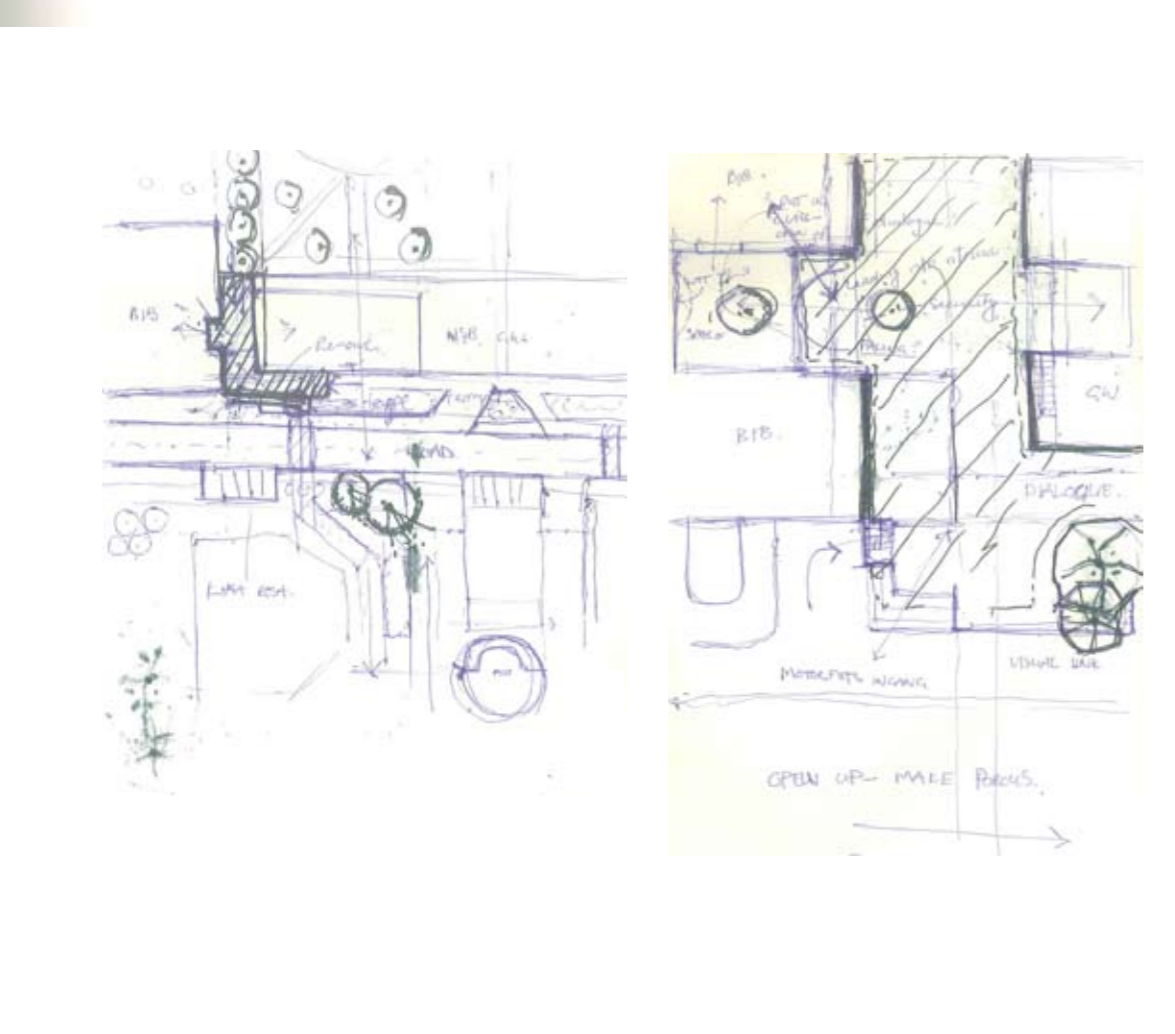
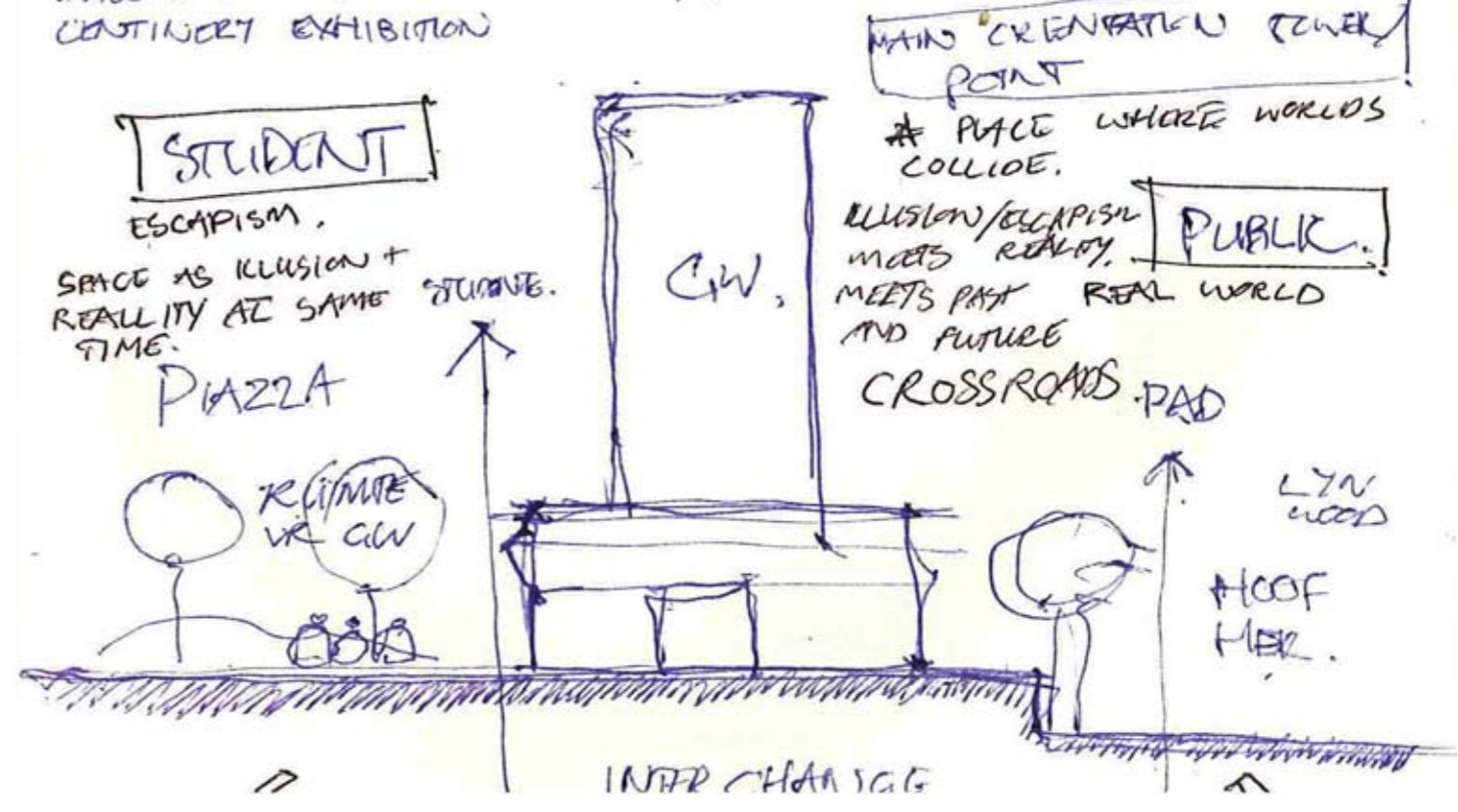


SUBURBAN CONDITIONS TO THE SOUTH-EAST



THE PREMISE

Students are only seen on campus when they are between classes. The "student life" on campus is a conducted during this in between time.

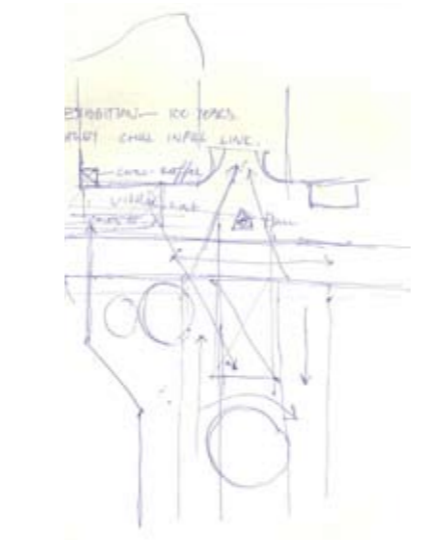


CAMPUS STUDENT LIFE

The main areas where students hang out during this time is around the Student Centre, and also on the grass north of the Human Science Building. North of the Aula there is also a stretch of lawn where students gather. The students sit on the lawn and socialise, study or eat.

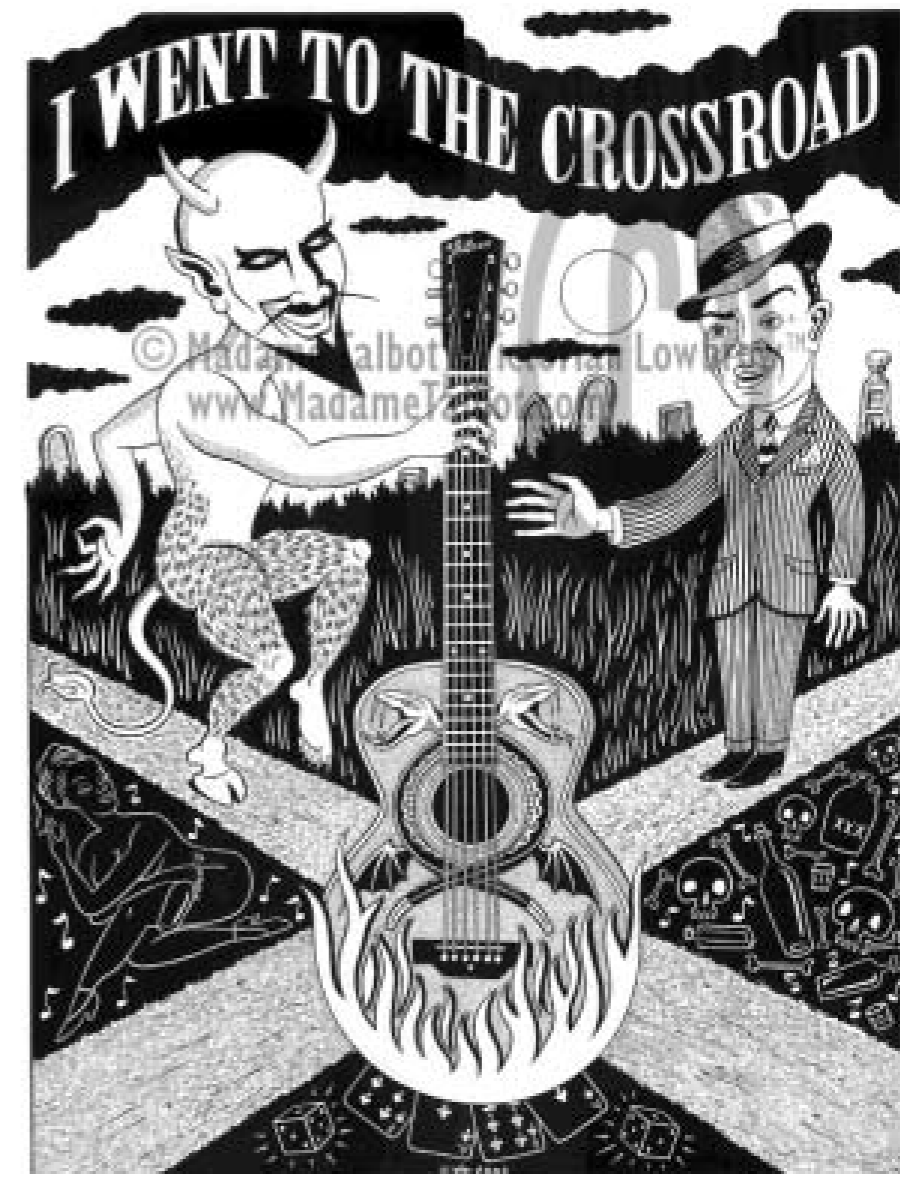
GENIUS LOCI

The campus creates an impression of being removed from the "real" world outside. It seems more relaxed. It provides a relaxed academic environment, conducive to study.



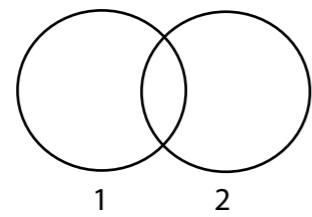
CROSSROADS

(wikipedia: Crossroads) a location 'between the worlds'. Symbolically it can mean a locality where two realms touch and therefore represents liminality, a place literally 'neither here nor there'.

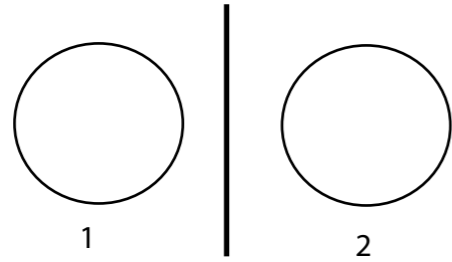


theory

There are 7 (a - f) distinct aspects of the total theory explained graphically on these 2 pages. The 4 stage process will show an investigation into all these aspects, culminating in a design adhering to all these criteria. This has also become the brief for the building.



(b) ethereality between two phases

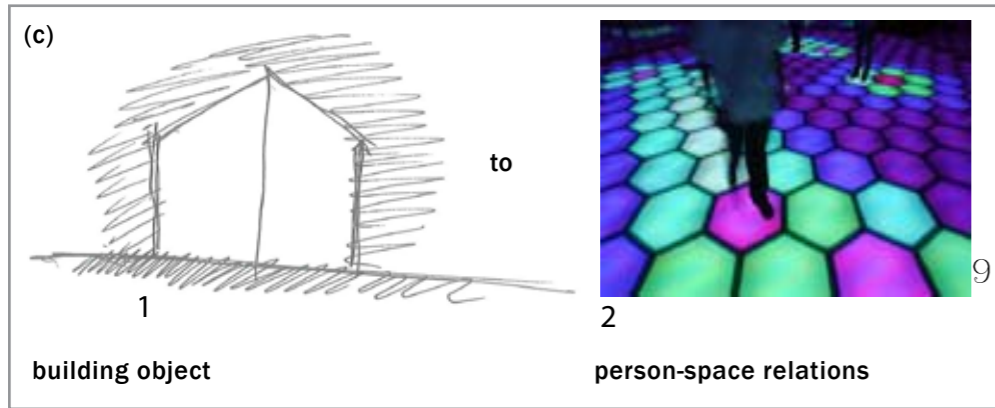


Theory

Smith, C (2000)
(a) Interrelationship of two phenomena

rather than

opposition



theory

Smith, C (2000)
(c) re-conceptualization of architecture from building-object to person-space environment.

(d) Smith, C (2000) 'male' solid + inflexible stereotomic

[Interrelationship of two phenomena]

'female' open-conceptual possibilities tectonic

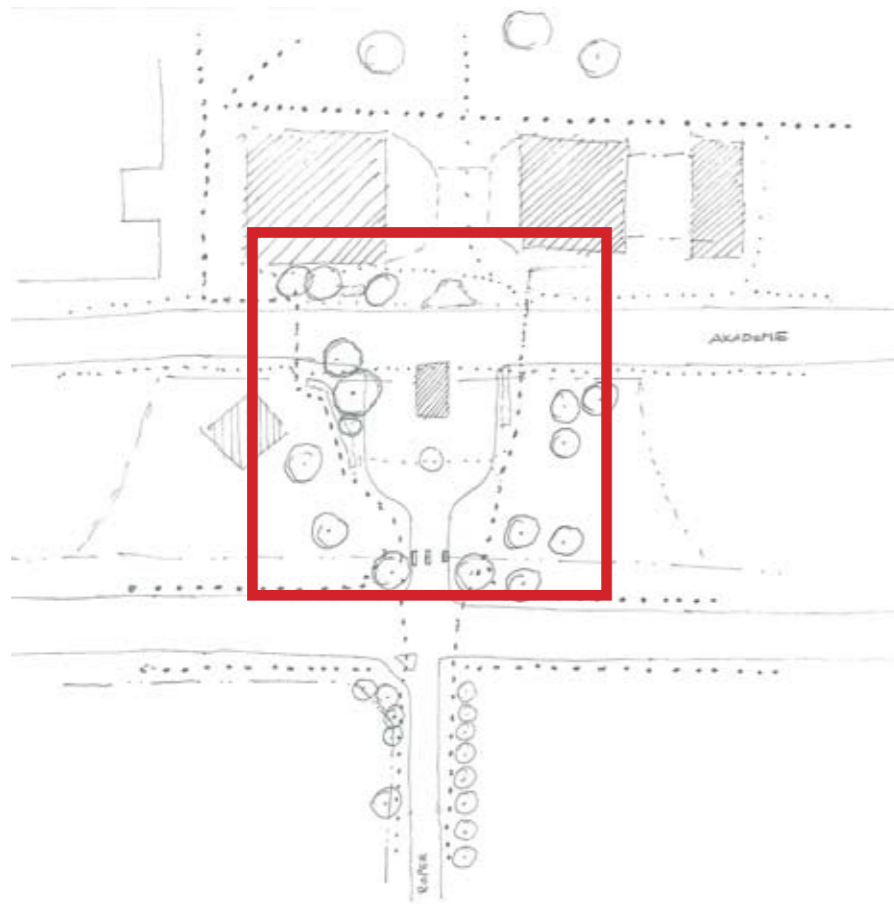


Smith, C (2000) (e) Re-arranging of everyday elements in ways not experienced everyday to create monsters.

(g) thesis + antithesis = syntheses

(f) hybrid

14 15 16

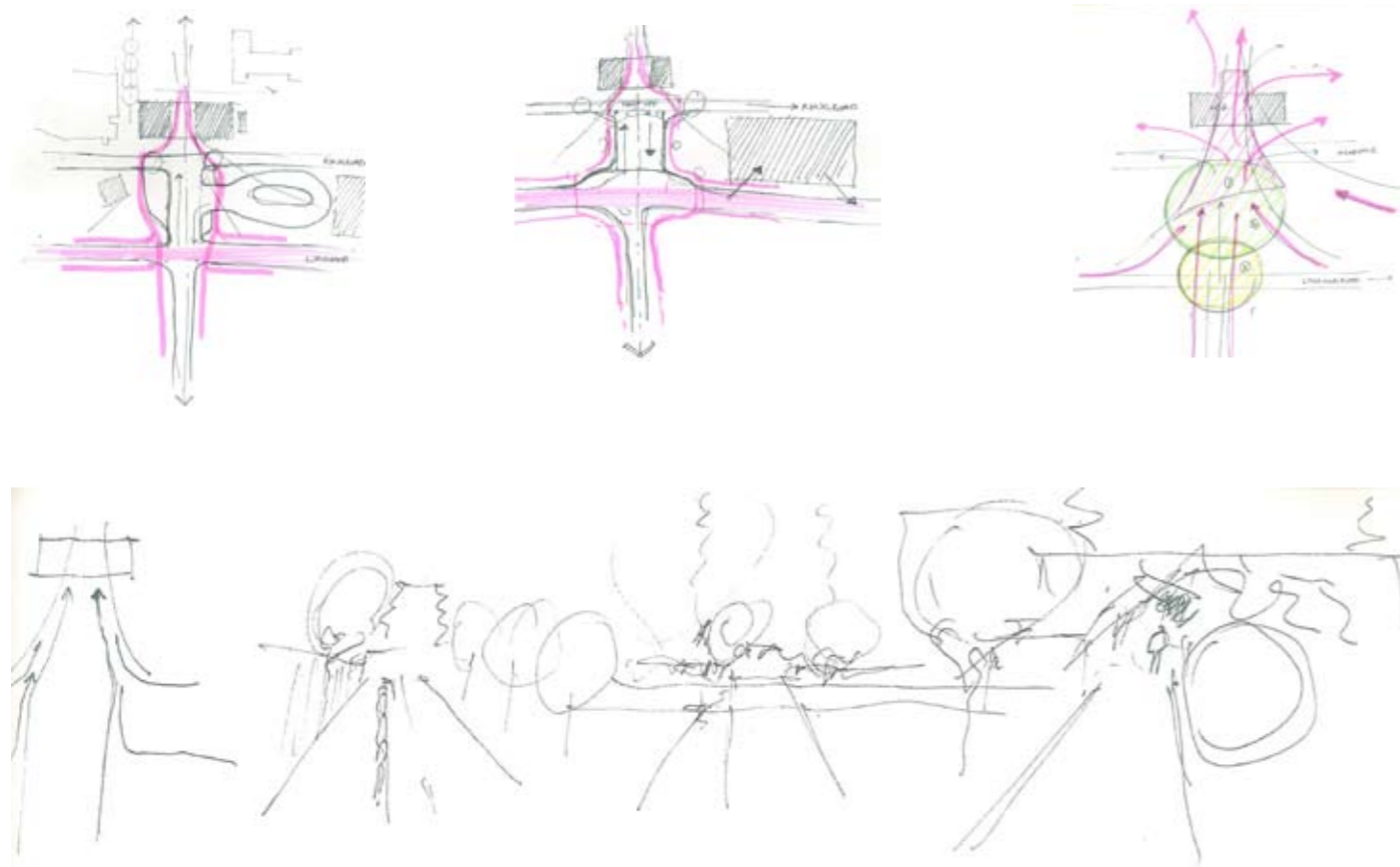


context

From personal experience, after 5 years of entering and exiting through this space as a student, I have realized that there is a repressed spatial experience at the main gate.

When you are approaching the university you know you are going to enter campus. That is your intent, however, there is no progression facilitating the manifestation of what could be an experience, which could make you aware of the university's genius loci.

TYPICAL MOVEMENT PATTERNS OF PEOPLE OVER THE SITE



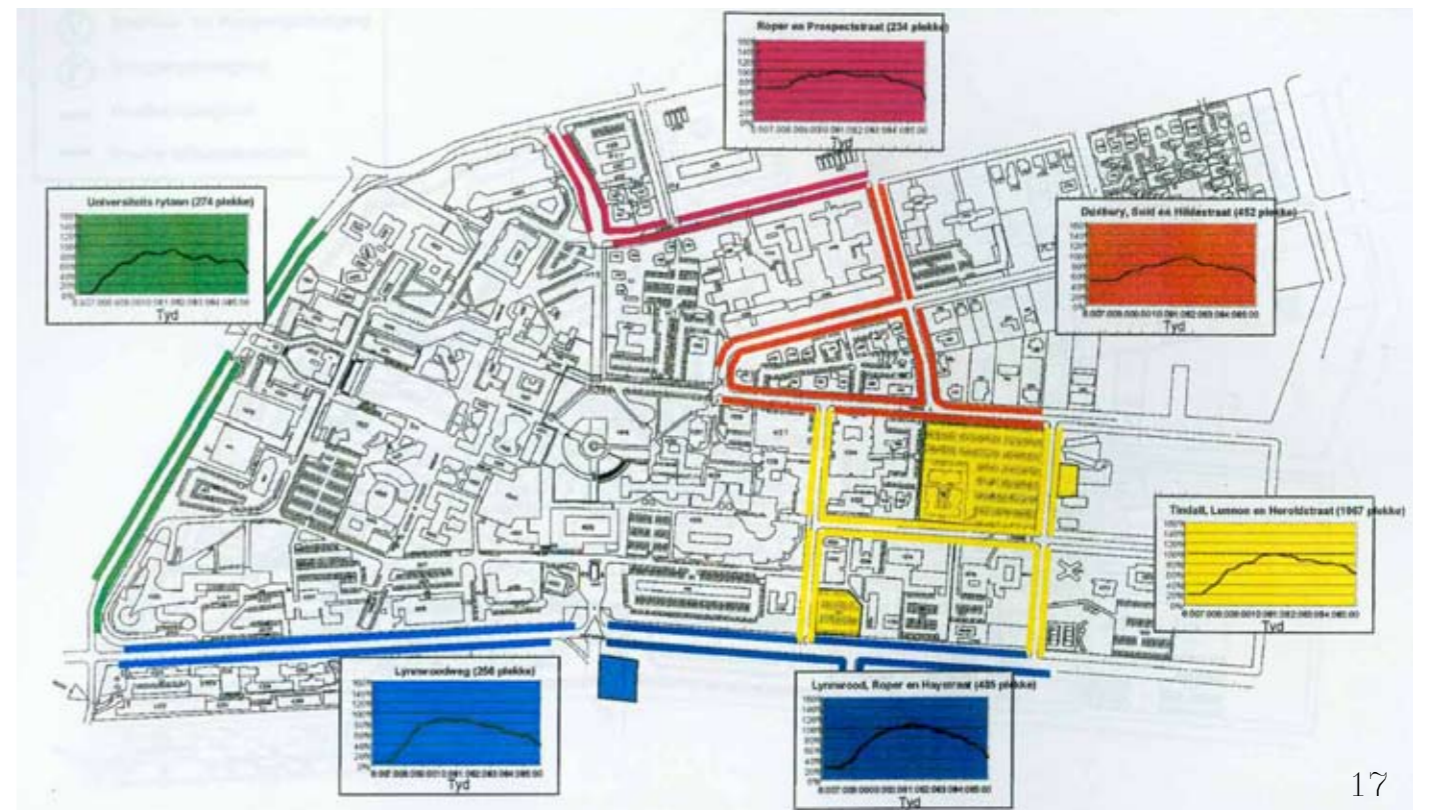
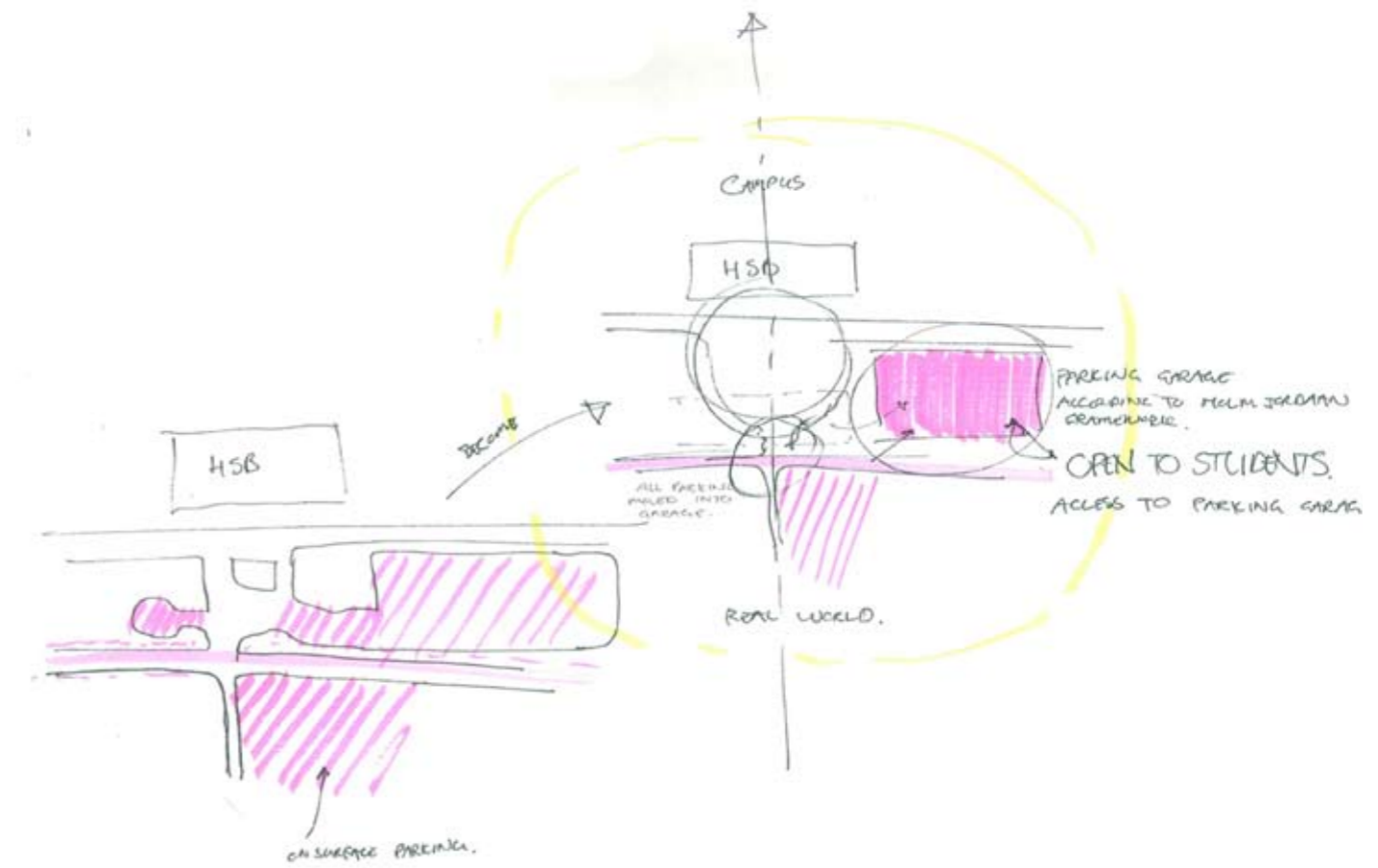
APPROACH TO UNIVERSITY MAIN GATE

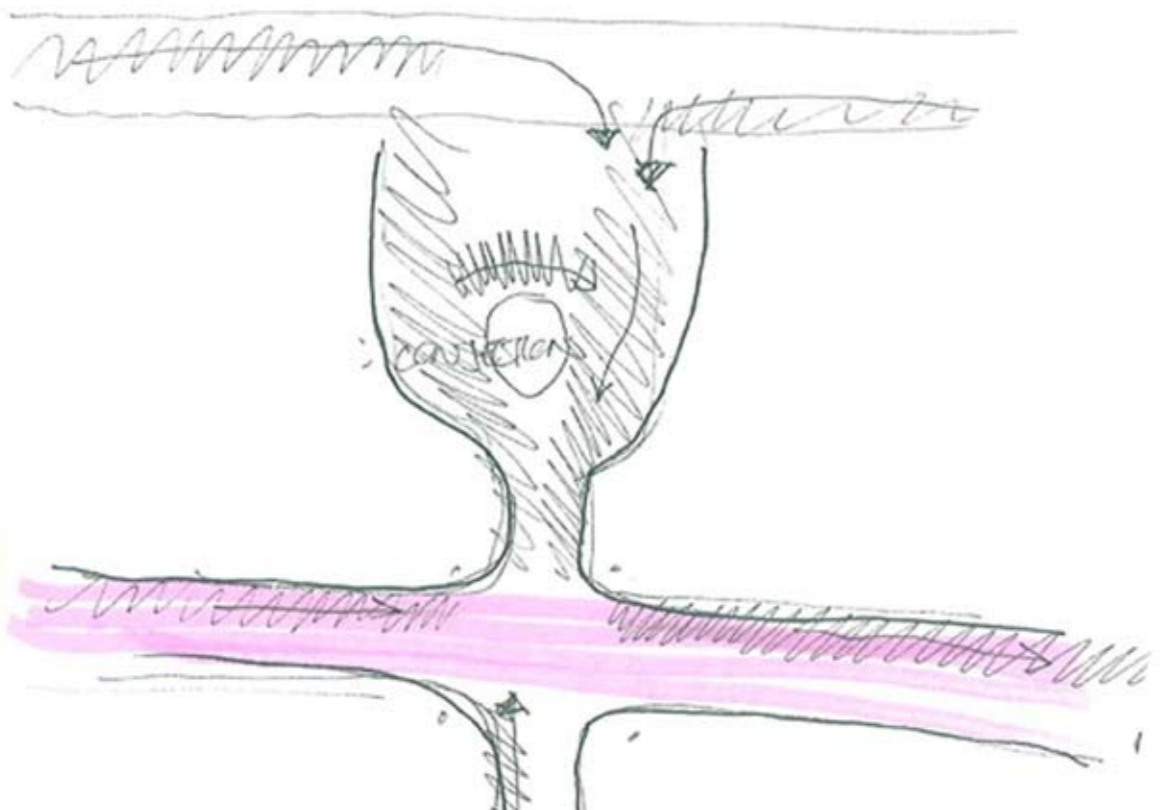
context

The drawings [fig. 17] show the current parking areas around campus. Current surface parking at the main entrance amount to a hundred parking bays.

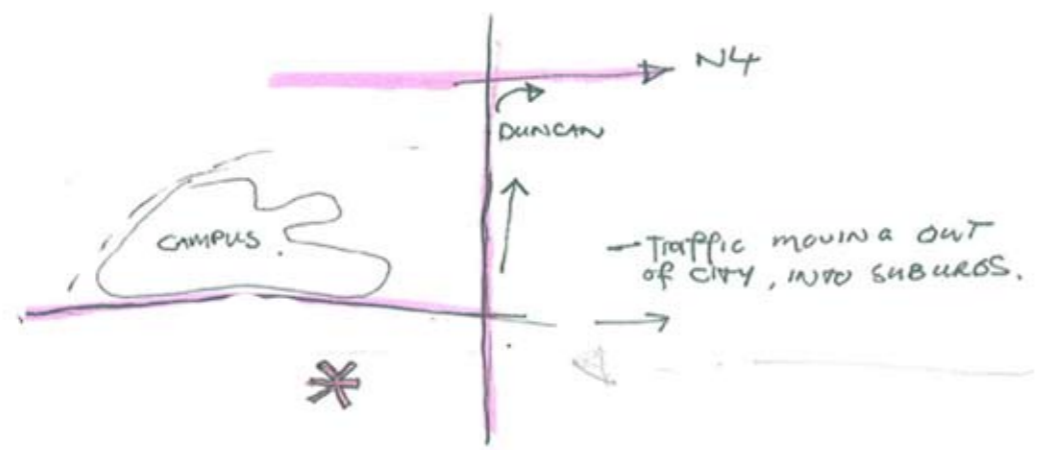
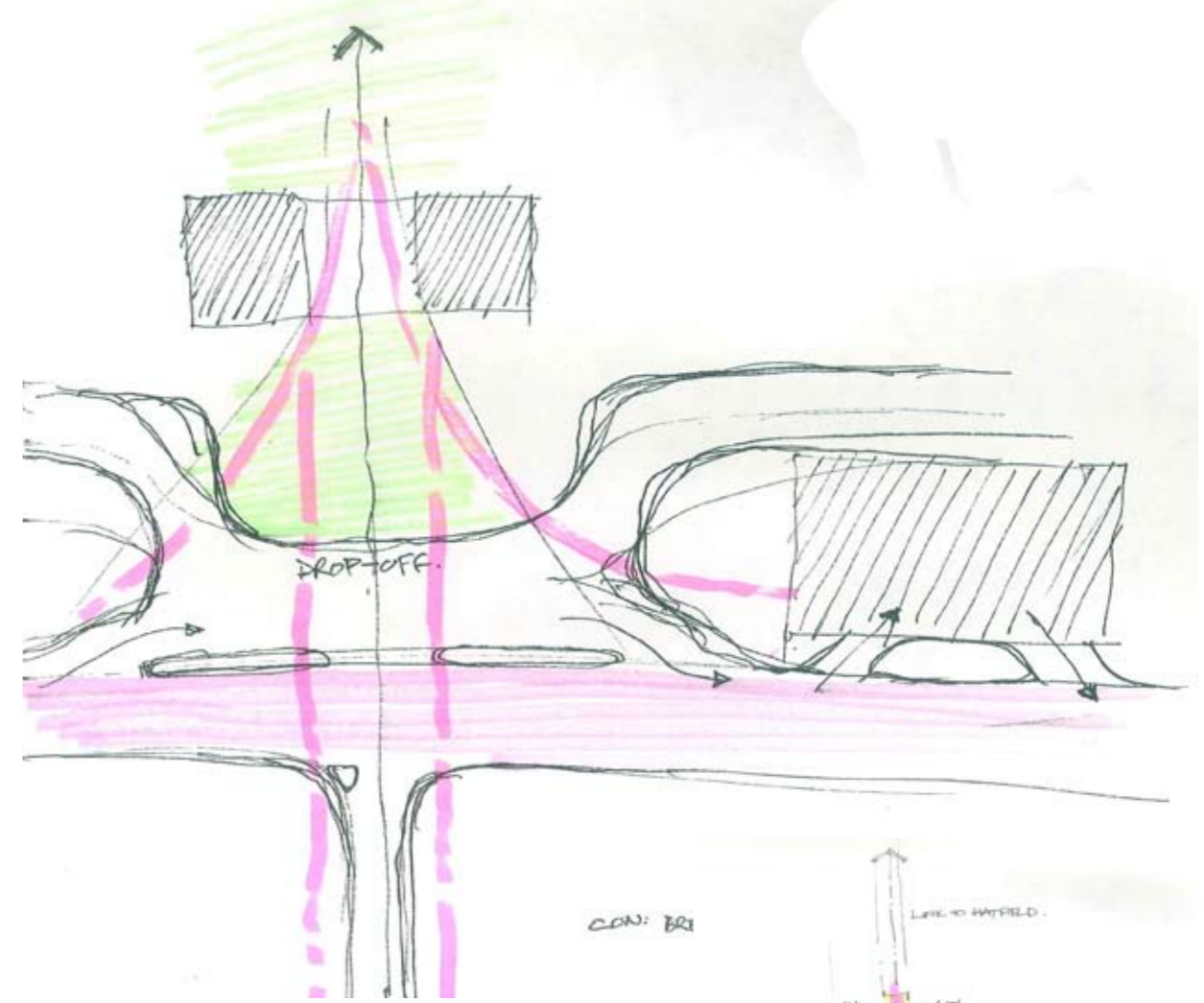
The ARC proposed parkade will have over a 1000 parking spots. Arc Architects is the firm who won a competition for the building of a new parkade at the main entrance.

There are currently +- 400 cars parked along Lynwood Road.

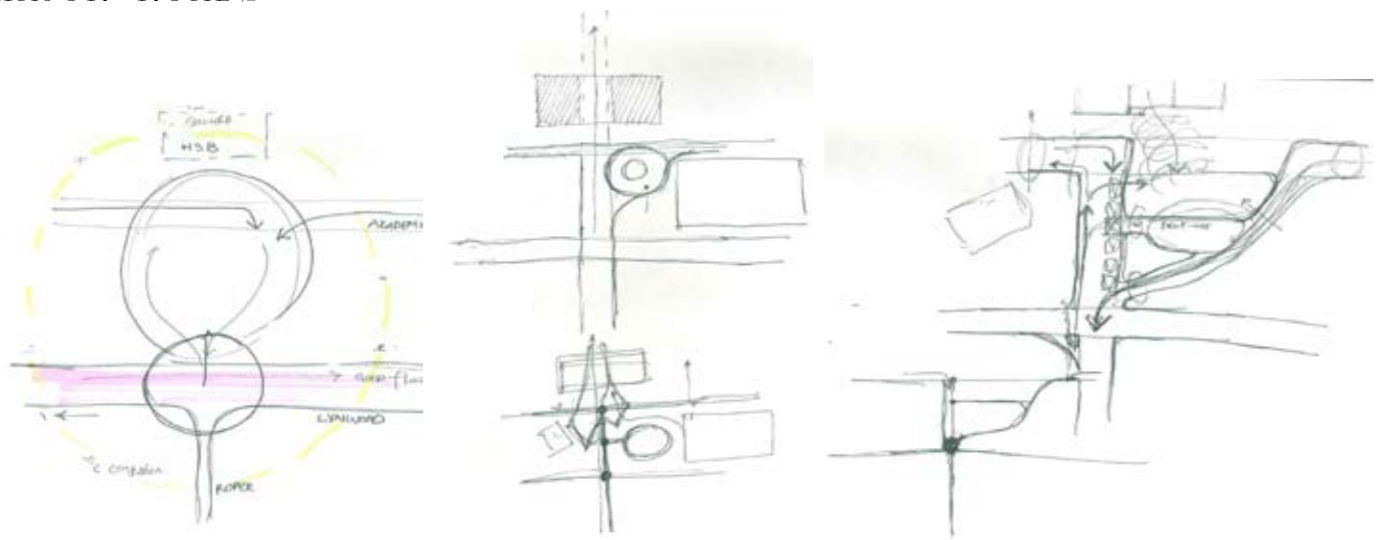




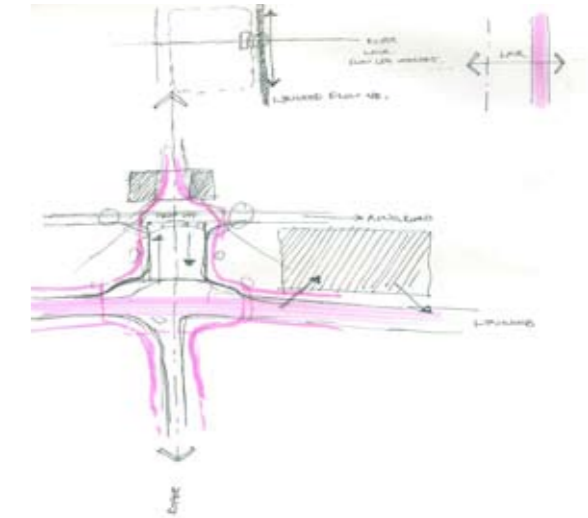
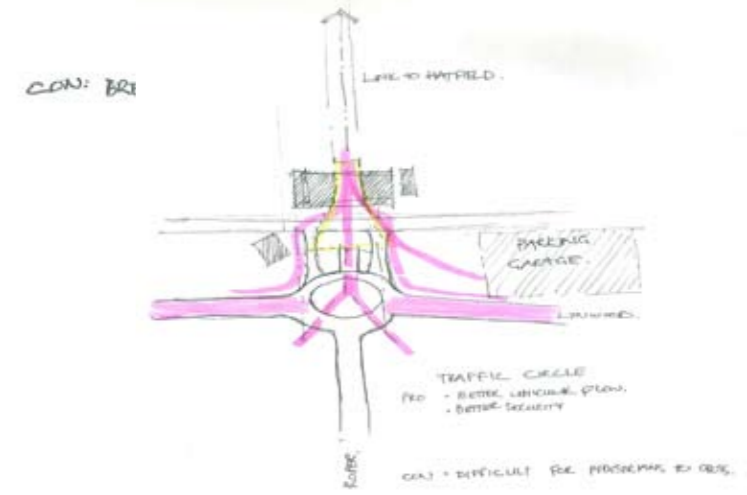
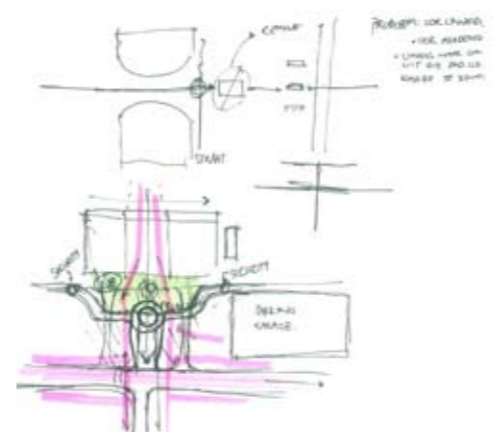
CURRENT TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT FRONT ENTRANCE



MAJOR ROADS



THESE DRAWINGS INVESTIGATE THE CURRENT TRAFFIC CONGESTION PROBLEMS.



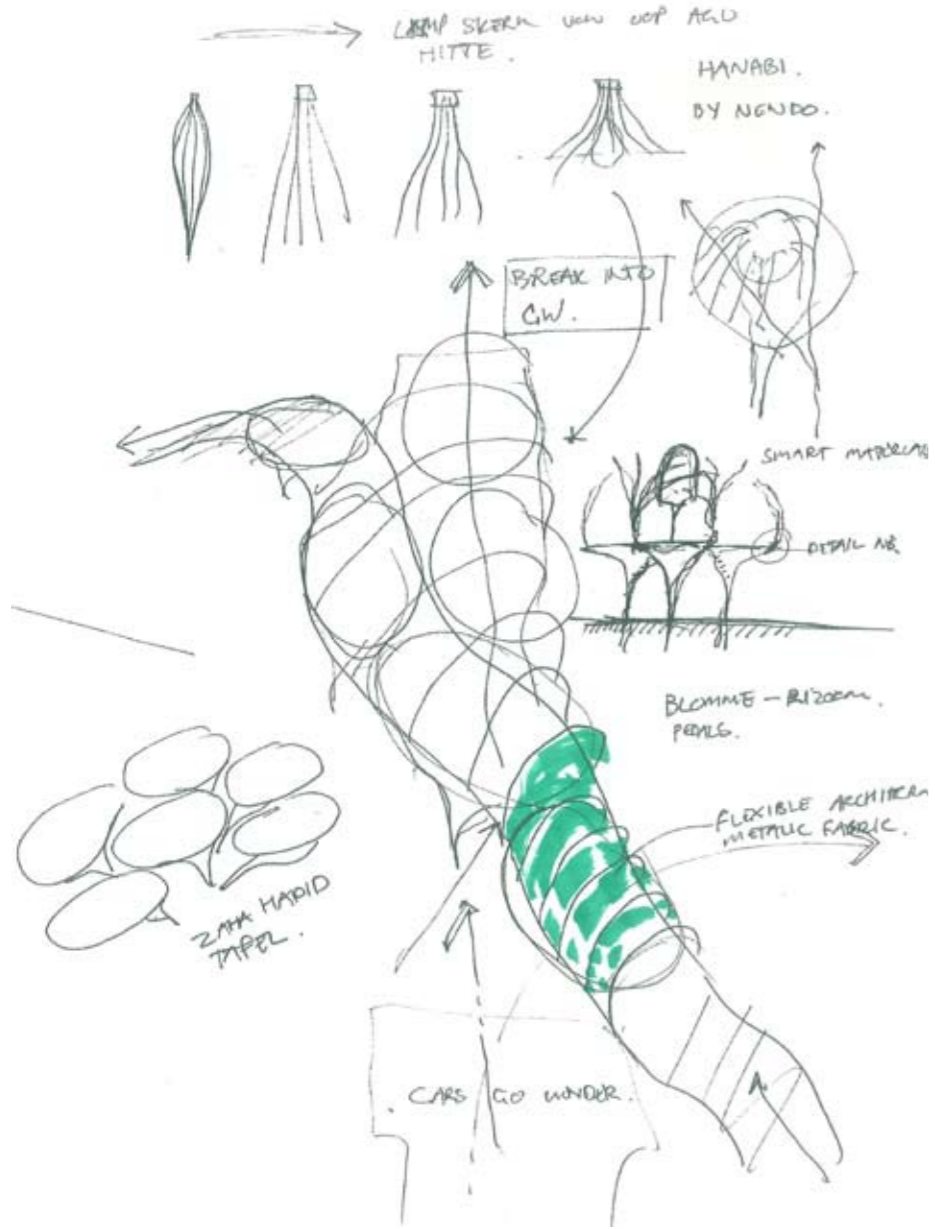
context
The drawing top left shows the current traffic congestion, which is a result of heavy traffic , during rush hour, on major roads leading to the East and North of Pretoria.

Lynwood Road leads out of the CBD.
Duncan Road leads North to the suburbs.
Schoeman Street leads East to the N1.

VARIOUS ATTEMPTS AT SOLUTIONS



18



design
Working with the existing context, the main drive was to create a building which physically captures student life as a dynamic monument.

It is located between two phases, always moving and changing. In relation to the changing students and information on campus. To explore the possibilities of 'ethereality between two phases' (Smith, C. 2000).

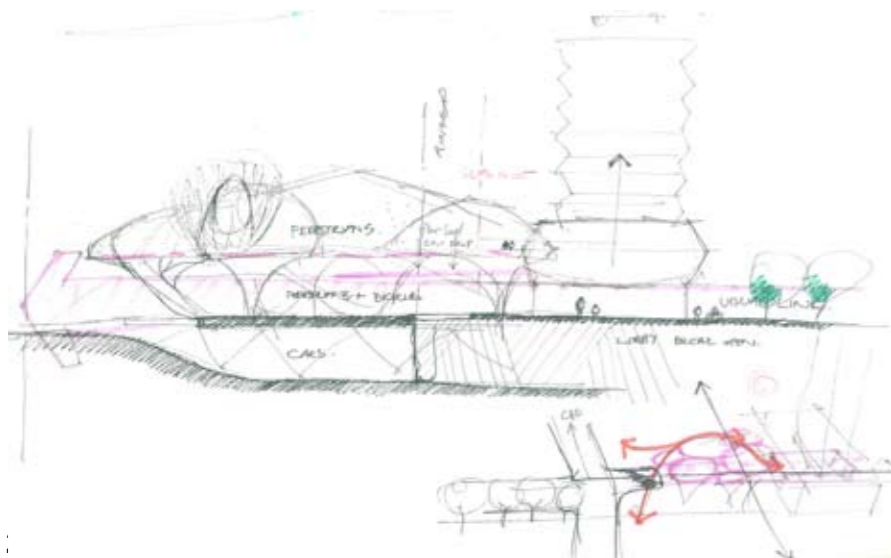
The aim of this exploration was to discover typology which would be relevant to the focus of the design.

The building typologies which were chosen were that of gate house and billboard. The gate house because it's at the main entrance. The billboard, to communicate information and university identity.

The building should communicate information about student life on campus. The students will have a direct influence on what information the building projects.

precedents
Technology which will allow for physical change and movement of the building was investigated. The lamp shade (fig. 18) was found, which is made of memory metals. As the lamp heats up, the heat causes the lamp to shape shift and open up.

This idea could be transposed into becoming a building, in which physical movement and change would occur. This would be driven by student life on campus or activity such as studying or research.



precedent
The Zaha Hadid projects below were influential in terms of form. The Serpentine pavilion [fig. 19] could be the how the gate house will look. The table [fig.20] and its supports could be the way the spacial experiences can be created.



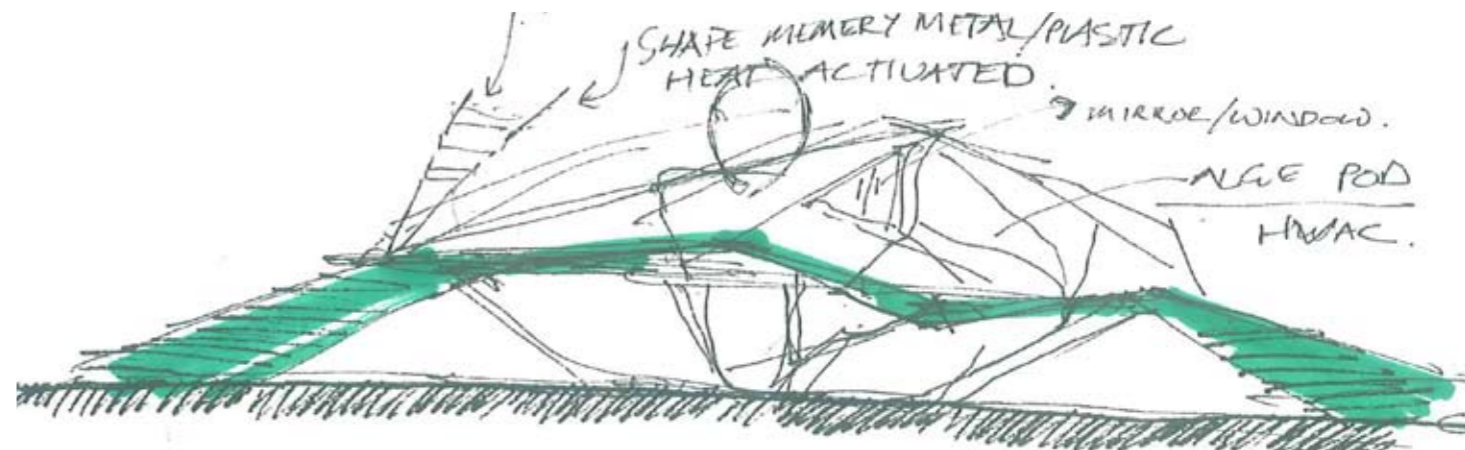
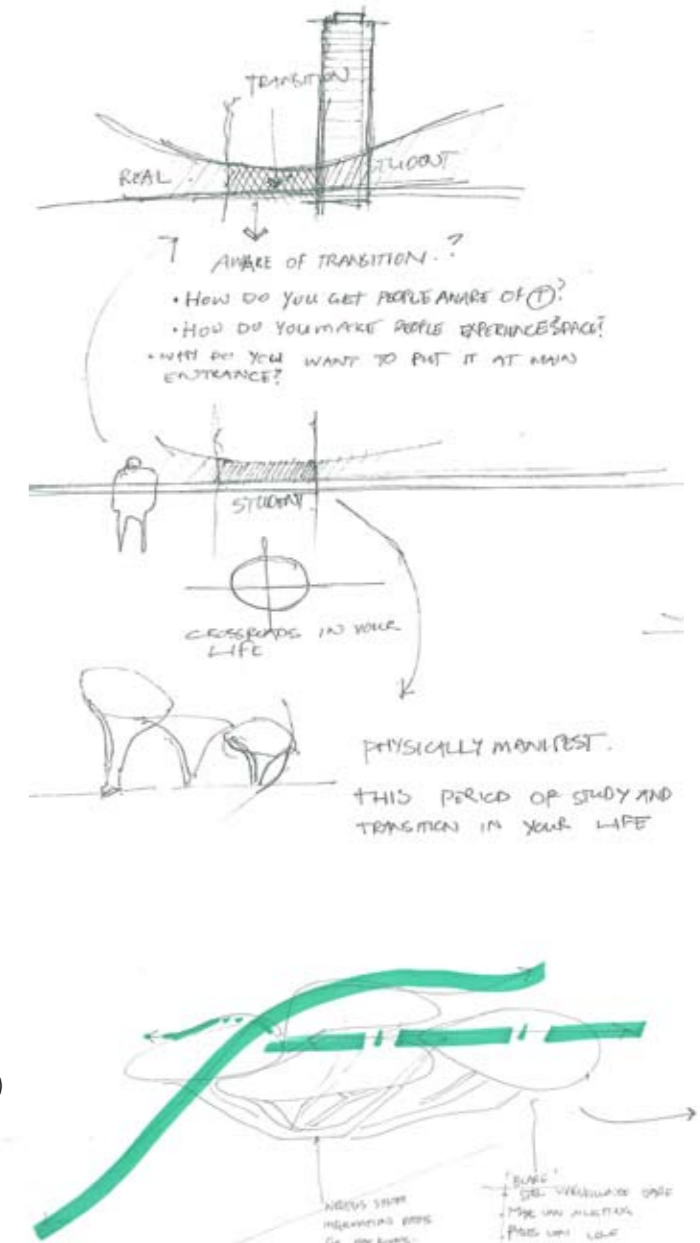
SERPENTINE PAVILION

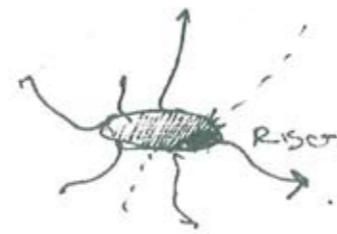
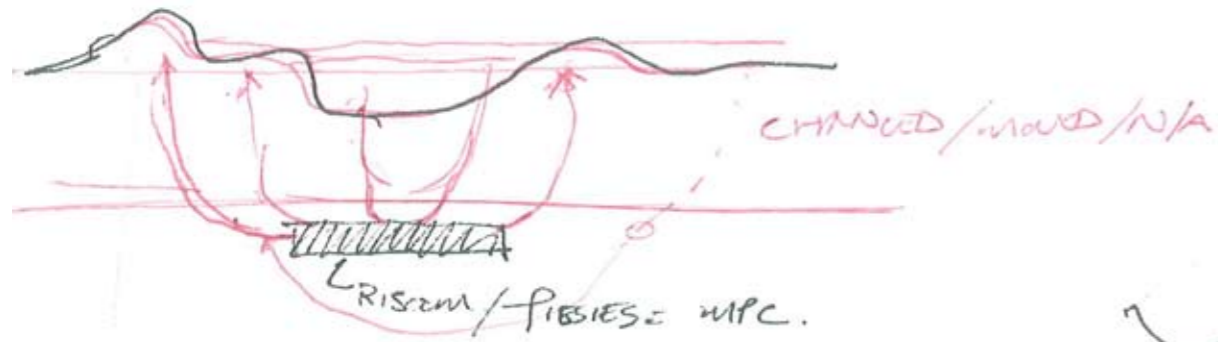
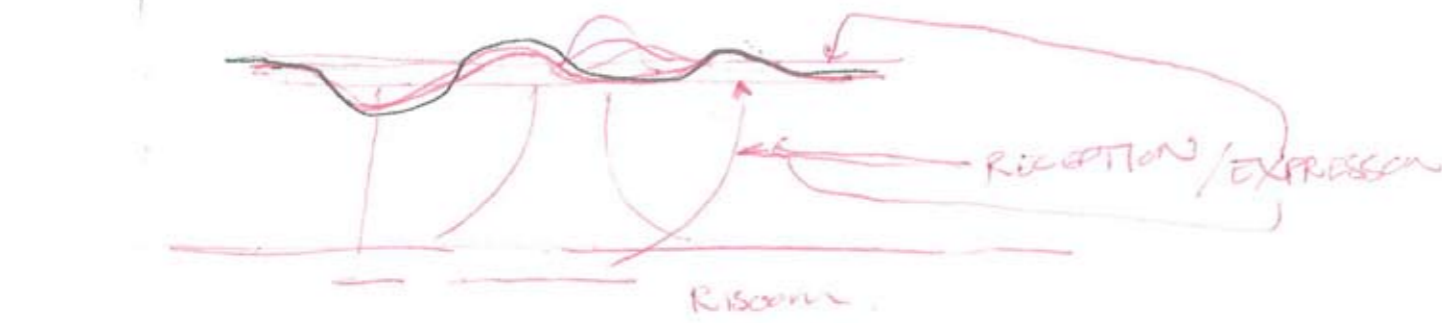


TABLE

19

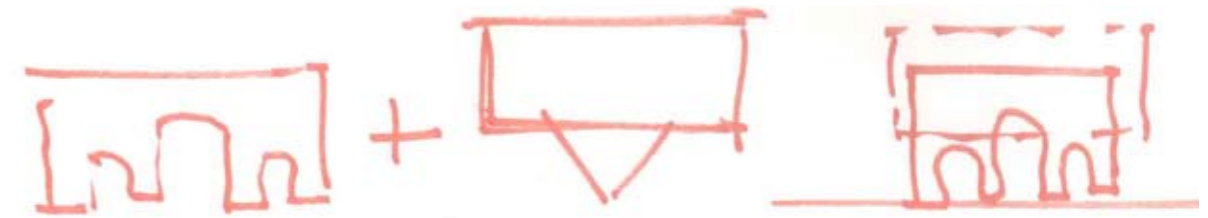
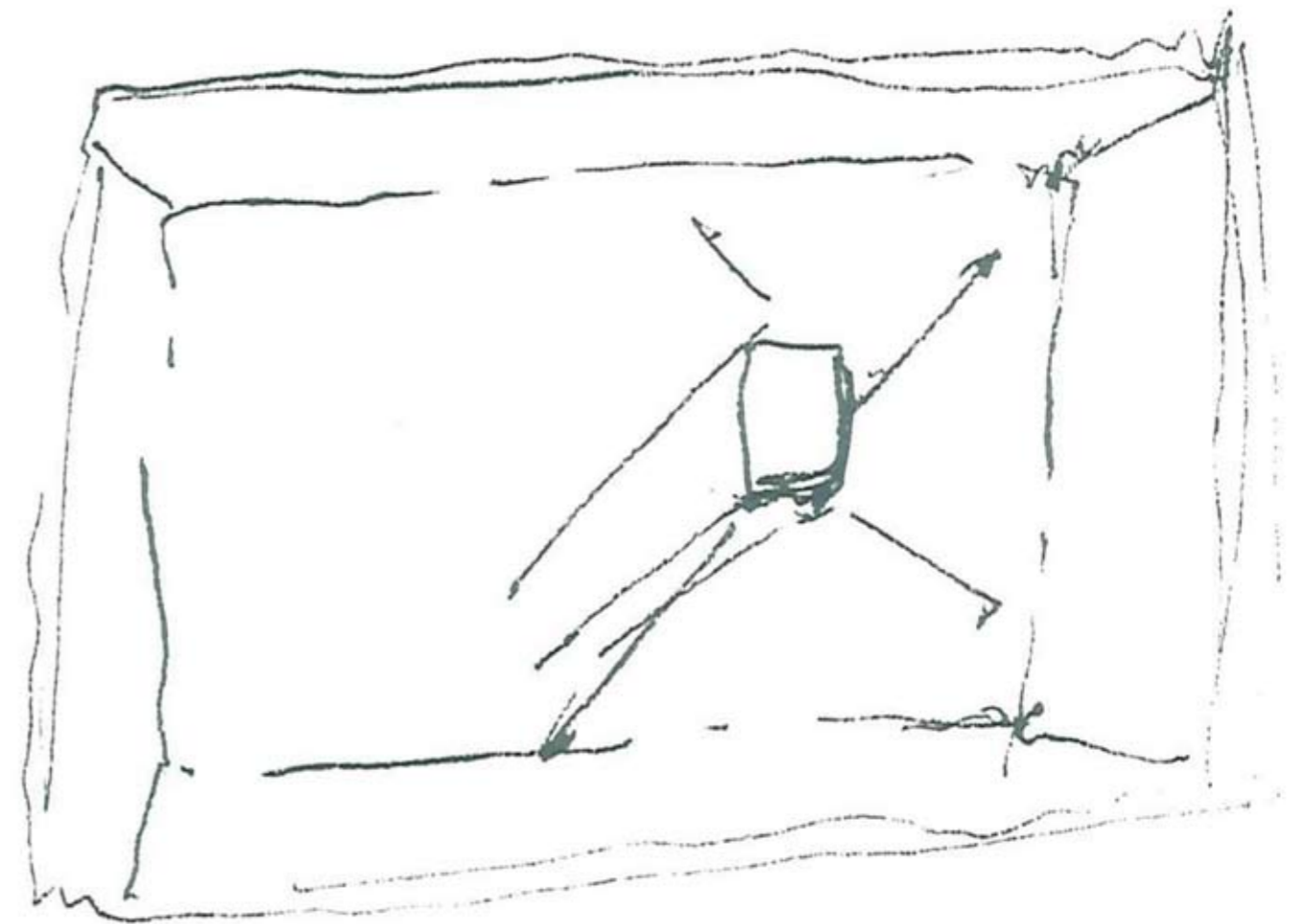
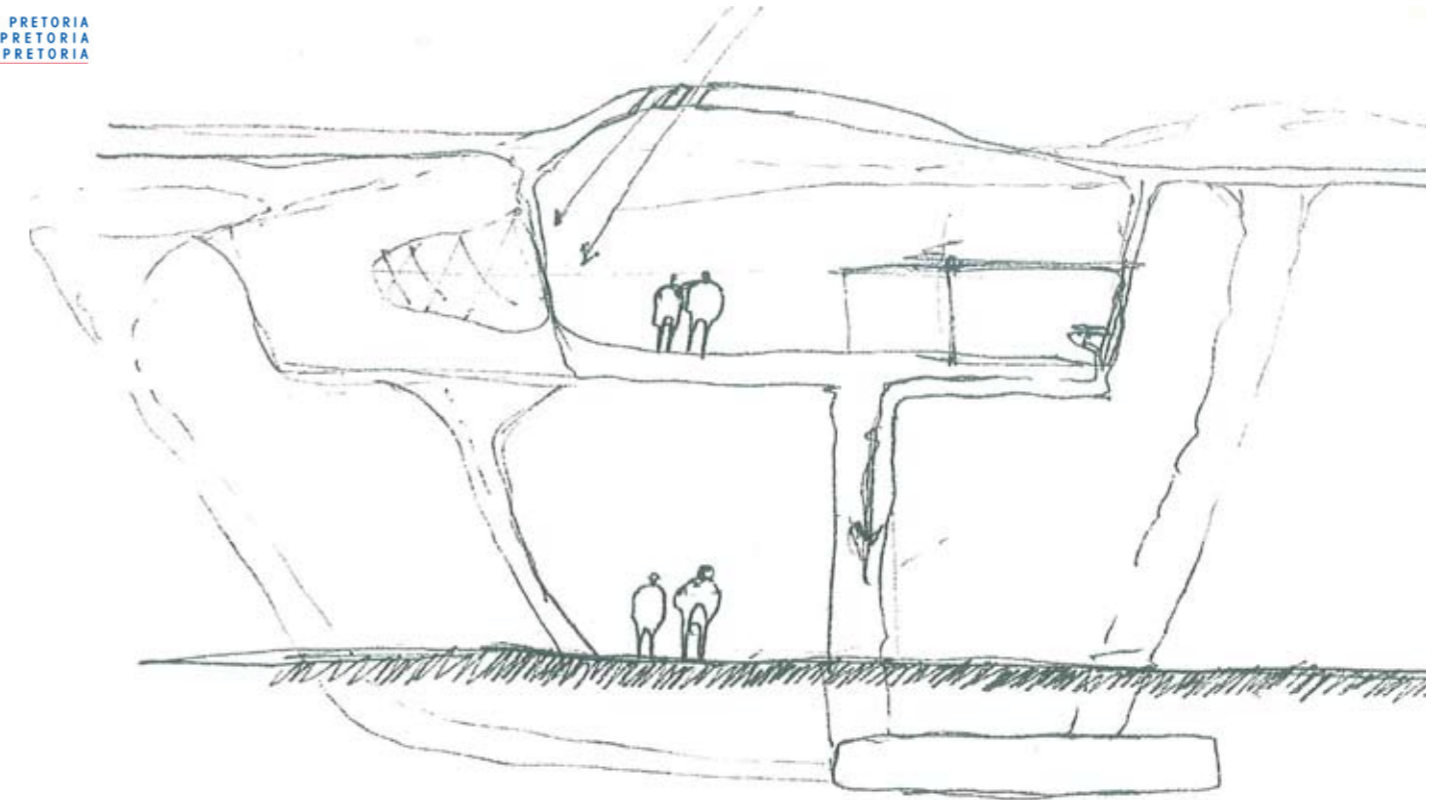
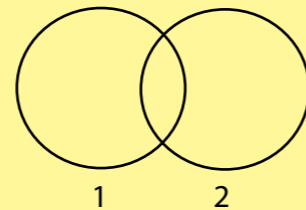
20

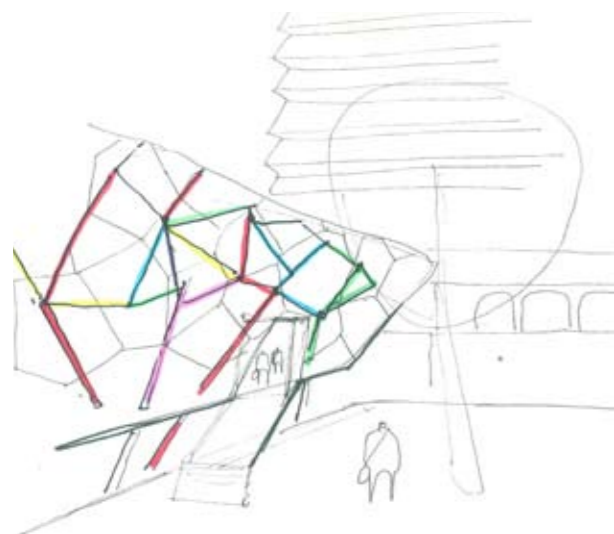
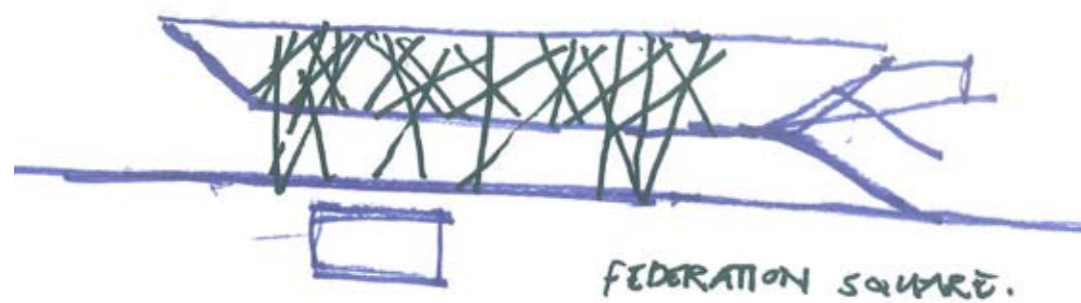




theory

Here the concept creates an interrelationship between the two typologies, a type of hybrid. However, the technical improbability was the deciding factor.

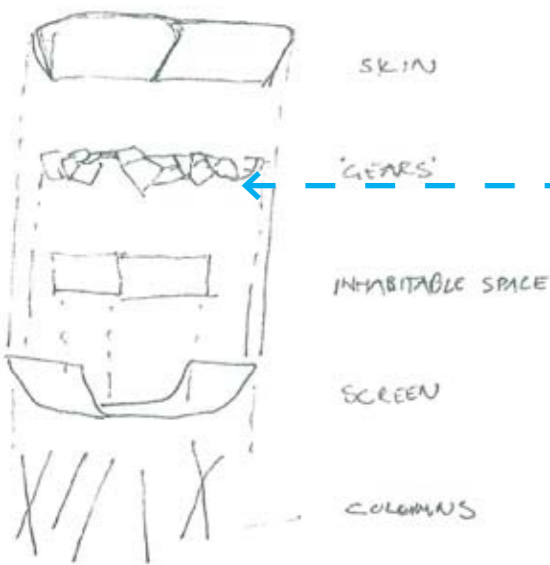




WATCH TYPOLOGY WHICH IS A MACHINE WHICH FOCUSES TIME UPON ITSELF



precedents
Federation Square, Melbourne



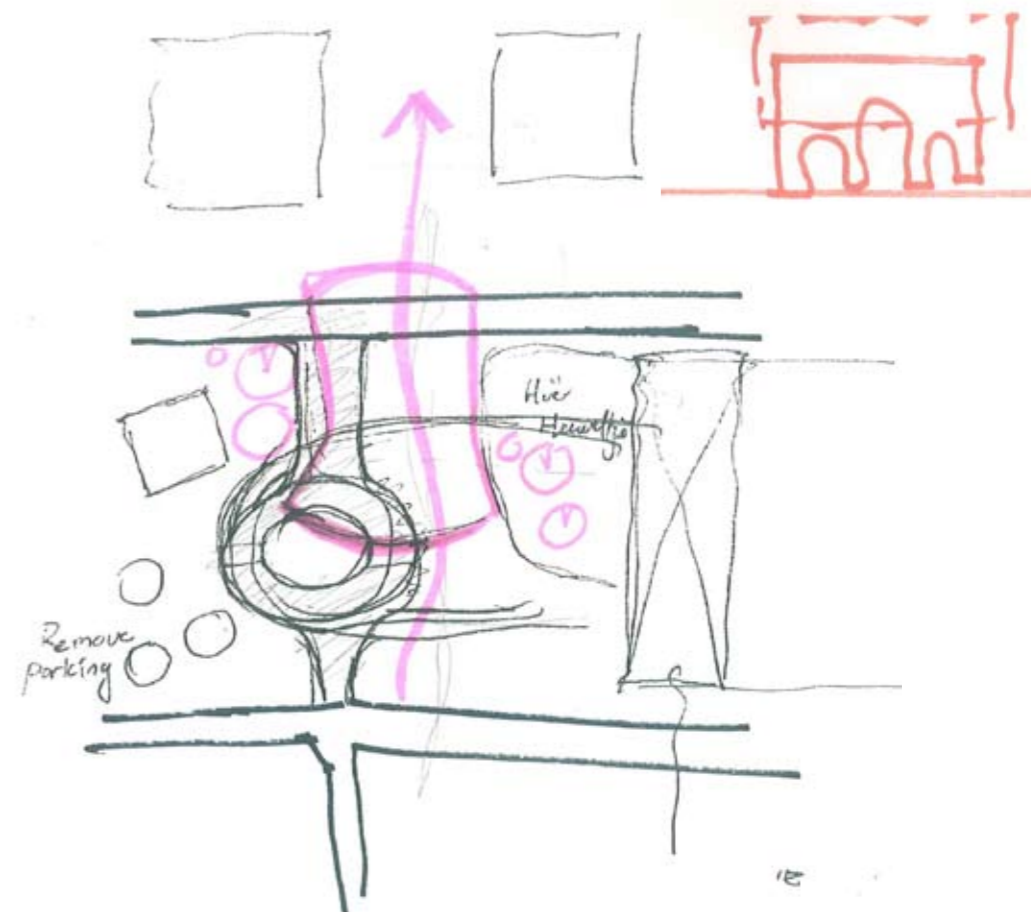
design

The building has become a type of machine, which focuses time upon itself. As the gears move you see how the machine works. This building would then become a machine that exposes the inner workings of the university.

The working of the university includes the amount of research the university is producing and the flow of information and graduates. Thus it exposes the "gears" of the university. The way it would be translated into a building is similar to Federation Square. The triangulated superimposed structure would change colour to represent the different faculties and how they are performing.

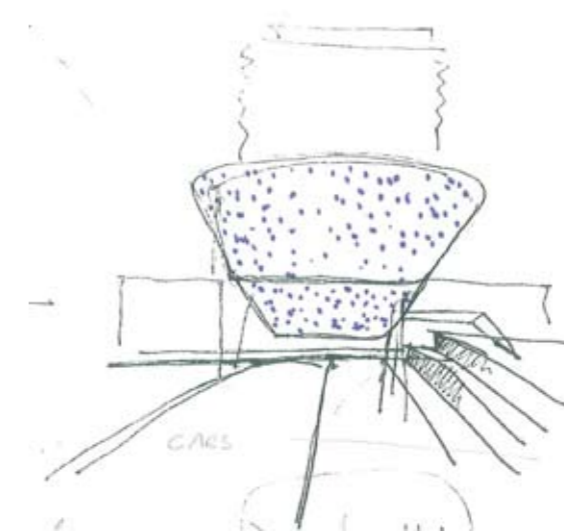
context

The drawing to the right shows the placement of the building in context. A diagram describes the contextual influences as well as the circulation concerns.



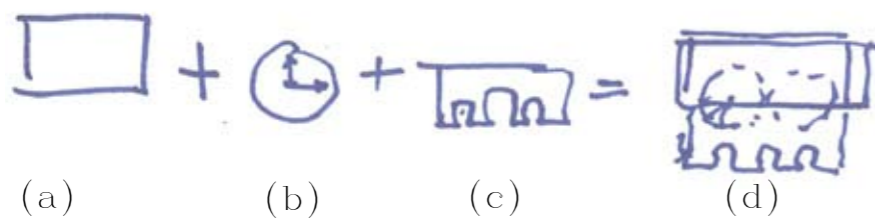
PLACEMENT IN CONTEXT

The vignette shows the spatial implication of the above diagram.



FIRST CONCEPT MAY 2008

CONCLUSION



- (a) INFORMATION
- (b) EXPOSED WORKING OF UNIVERSITY
- (c) ARCHITECTURAL WEIGHT, INHABITABLE 1ST FLOOR
- (d) SYNTHESIS

theory

However, it was concluded that the attempt to create a hybrid by combining even more typologies still fails because of their inherent opposition.

