

conclusion

D: Conclusion

The *Interactive* Centre formed the ideal prototype for the 'relate and enhance' methodology that was formulated at the outset of this project. The Centre highlights important principles that can be applied to other scenarios to achieve similar qualities. The project outcome, therefore, is to serve as the means through which a design approach is explored. This approach results in design that enhances the physical and metaphysical aspects of its context and enables the user to relate to his/ her context as an outcome of the design experience.

The design delivers an interior environment that interacts and reacts with a sensitive yet crude external environment. It aims to achieve spatial clarity, which is provided by relationships that form between the 'spaces within space', the spaces and the visitor, and the Centre as a whole in its environment. The 'spaces within space' refer to the rib-

like trademark that is used to good effect throughout the Centre.

This investigation substantiates the importance of considering the context in which a design project is based. The *Interactive* Centre, in this way, serves as a catalyst in the field of design, to enhance the South African public's awareness of conservation by educating them through entertainment. Further research in this field can be of inestimable value to develop interior architecture that harmonises with the exterior environment. The strategic integration of a new design language with the existing aesthetic provides the opportunity to create a safe, interactive, inclusive and appealing Visitors' Centre that will attract visitors to Groenkloof Nature Reserve. The design allows the reserve to become a destination in its own right.