



part three

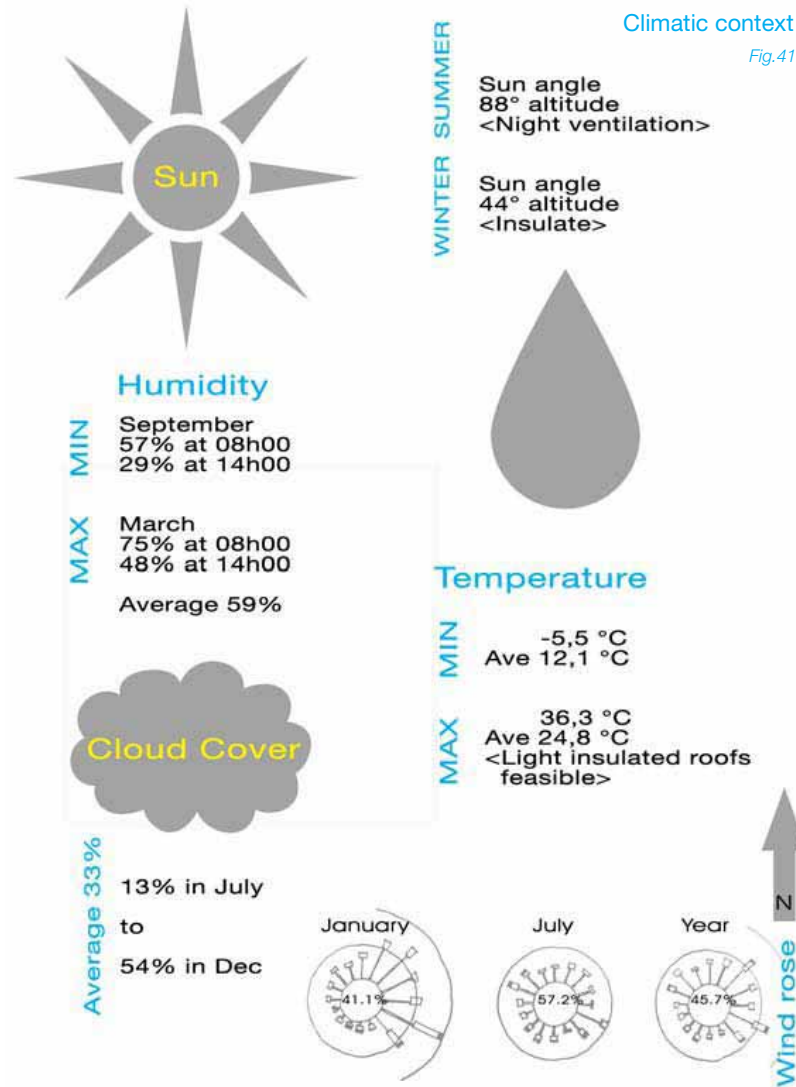
site excavation



# The Differential Model

A differential model, proposed by James J. Gibson, between components of the environment includes these headings:(Lang 1987, 78)

Terrestrial  
Animate  
Cultural



# The Terrestrial Environment

## Buildings in close proximity

Within the historical precinct of campus many historically important buildings are found from different periods of the University's timeline, in the area where the TUC was first started.

This originally limited area is now rich with sensitive structures and proud facades, from many famous architects and styles that stretch from the Neo-Romanesque to Modern designs. These buildings are true jewels of our heritage and of the university's beauty and it is truly the University's treasure.

### 1. Old Arts

Date of Construction: August 1911  
Architect: Percy Eagle  
Style: Cape Dutch and Neo-Romanesque

### 2. Old Merensky

Date of Construction: 15 April 1939  
Architect: Gerhard Moerdyk  
Style: Art Deco, Neo-Classicism, Arts and Crafts, as well as local styles such as Cape Dutch and Regency.

### 3. Club Hall

Date of Construction: 1930 -1936  
Architect: Gerhard Moerdyk  
Style: Neo-Romanesque

### 4. Aula

Date of Construction: 1968  
Architect: Karol Jooste, under Philip Nel

### 5 Marketing services

Date of Construction: 1960  
Bathroom Building.

### 6. Chancellors Building

Date of Construction: 1959 - 1963  
Architects: Meiring Naude and Brian Sandrock

### 7. Theology

Date of Construction: 1951  
Architects: Burg, Lodge and Burg  
Style: Academic Revivalism

### 8. Musion and Amfi-Theatre

Date of Construction: 1960 - 1961  
Architects: Brian Sandrock  
Style: Little Brazilian or Modern Brazilian

### 9. New Meresky Library

Date of Construction: August 1975,  
Architects: Lou, Marais, Marquard and Kuhn

# Physical Context



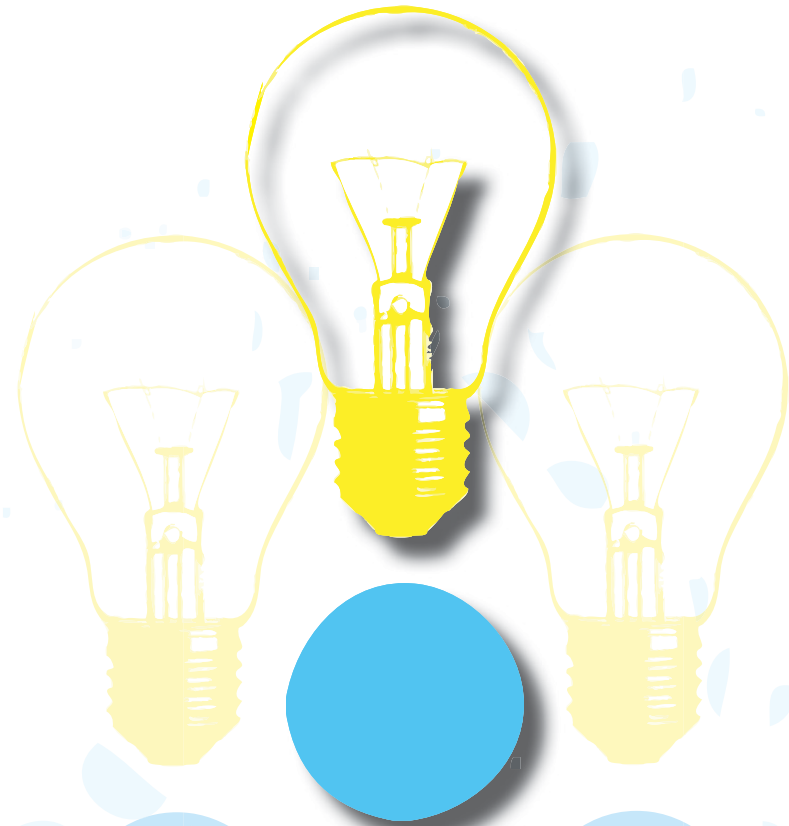


## Cognitive Maps

Urban development is a very large confusing, sometimes monotonous place that is difficult to understand. Subconsciously humans generate a survival mechanism that simplifies the labyrinth of modern society: Cognitive mapping is a mental process where people acquire, code, store, remember and decode information about location and characteristic of the urban environment through which they move. (Lang 1987, 135) Information about a place is remembered either by experience, hearing from someone else or through imagination. This information becomes a guide for structure, appearance, location, uses and values. Thus observing and the understanding of your observation creates a multi-dimensional picture of your surroundings.

### Form

During the 100 year existence of the University, its campus evolved and progressed slowly and is still an ever changing landscape of gardens (edges), squares (nodes), buildings (points), path ways, districts and landmarks (buildings).



# Campus vs Building



## Paths

Student messaging boards in Libri laan



Bridge connecting engineering buildings

## Districts

View of Aula lawn from Mapungubwe Museum entrance



Security desk at Old Arts Building

## Landmarks

Spiral staircase at Marketing building



Main staircase in Musion

## Edges

Southern stone edge of Old Arts building



Arched veranda on upper floor in Old Arts

## Nodes

Outside veranda at Burgundy's restaurant



Information desk at Old Arts



Fig.43



# Sense of place

Character – Sense of place and history (CABE 2003)

1. Aula auditorium
2. Conical sky light - University road entrance
3. Cantelever staircase at Chancellor's building
4. Clock tower on Old Arts building
5. Eduardo Villa sculpture
6. Old Merensky facade
7. Graffiti wall on Old Chemistry building
8. Eduardo Villa plaster relief sculptures
9. Tukkie werf bell tower
10. Musion fountatin

# Distinctive buildings and surrounds



# Special spaces



Fig.45

# Natural Features



Fig.46



# Topography and Services Contexts

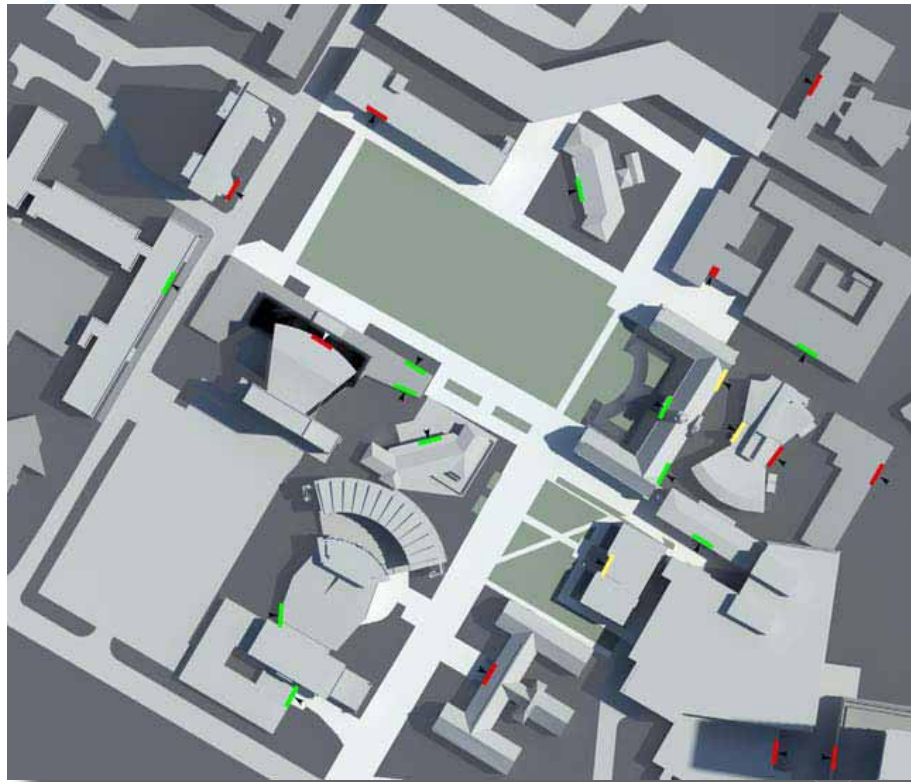
## Water table

Most of the buildings on the campus with basement floors have systems to combat the problems posed by the high water table. In summer months when regular rains increase the height of the water table, buildings like the Old and New Merensky Libraries and the Human Sciences Tower need pumps to remove water from their basements.<sup>3</sup> The water filters through basement and foundation walls throughout the day. Old buildings like the Old Merensky have inadequate waterproofing technology which did not exist 70 years ago, therefore they try to combat severe water damage every summer season. Water collection and water pressure against subsurface structures are serious concerns which need to be addressed.

3 - Interview with Gerhard de Kamper, Eduardo Villa Museum Curator







Points of entry

Fig.48

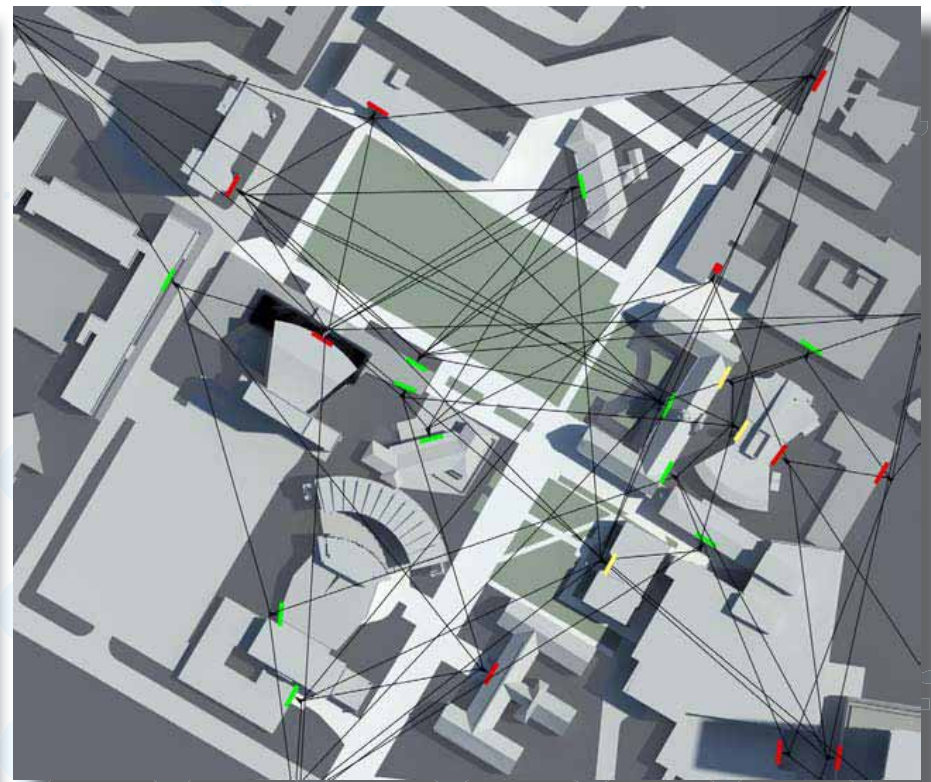


Fig.49

Destination web

Main  
Pedestrian  
Movement

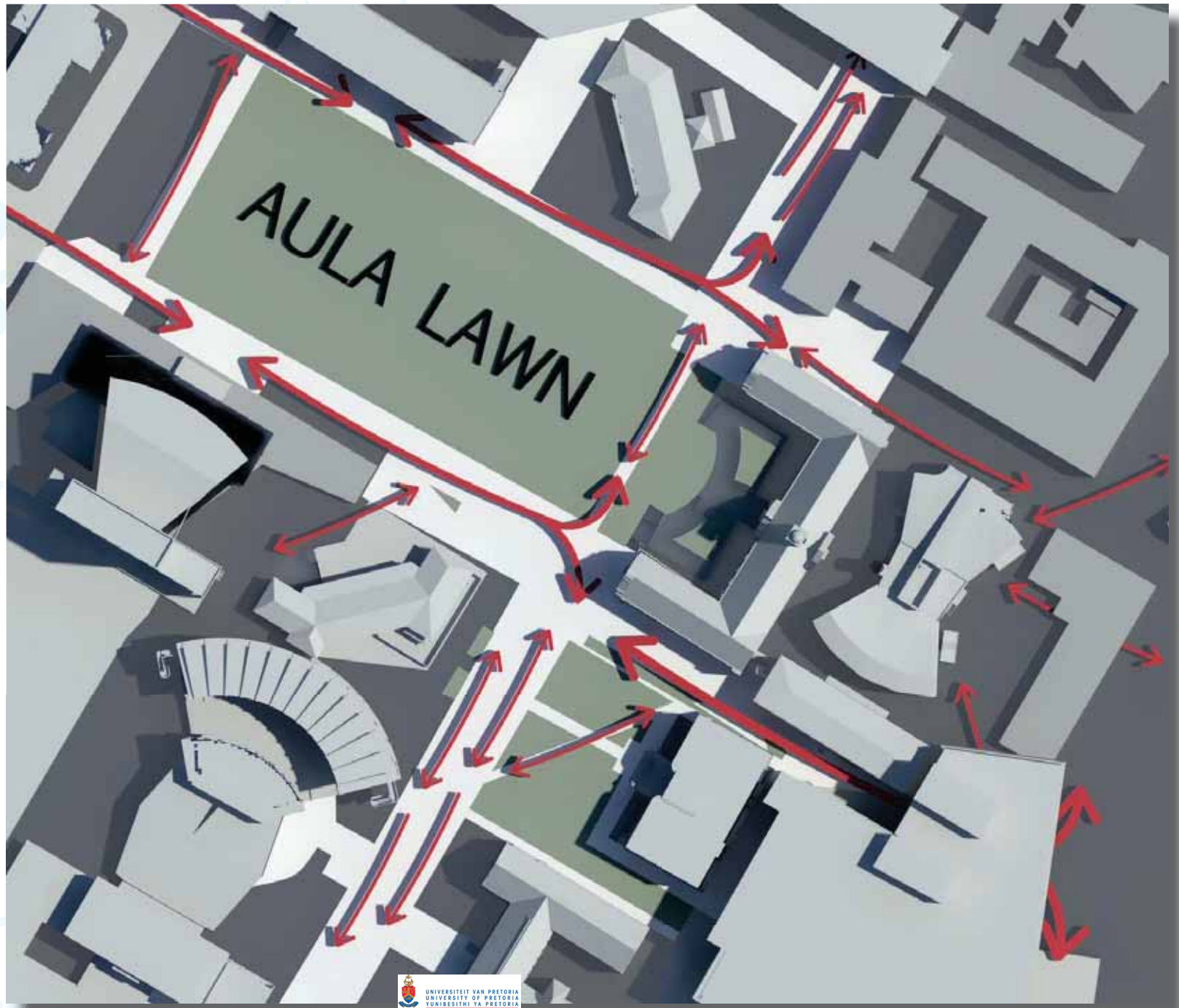
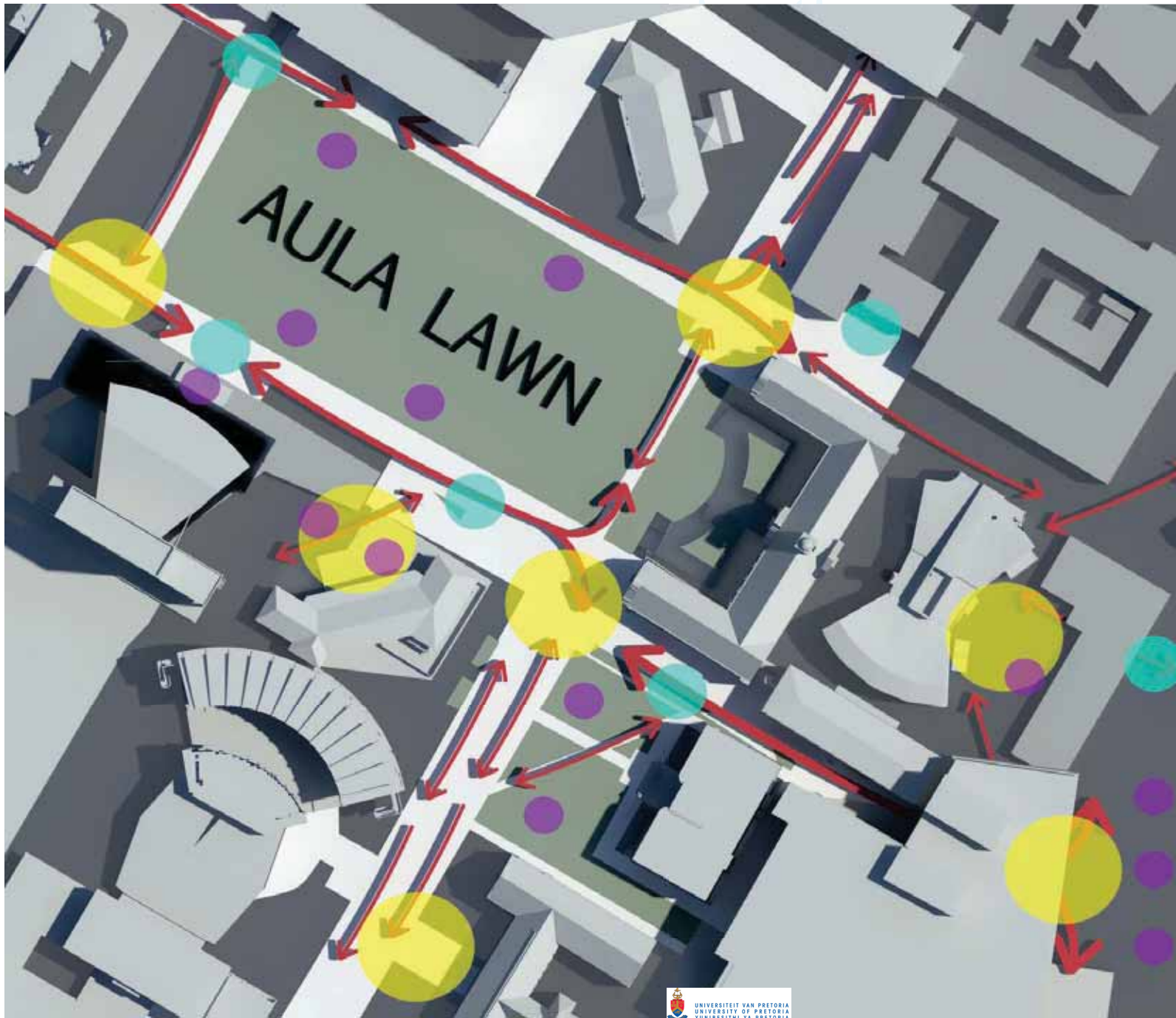


Fig.50

# Student Behaviour Diagram



- Meeting & waiting hubs
- Fast walking
- Conversation & meeting
- Relaxing & studying

# Building Functions

- Restaurant & shops ■
- Administration ■
- Entertainment ■
- Museums ■
- Academic ■

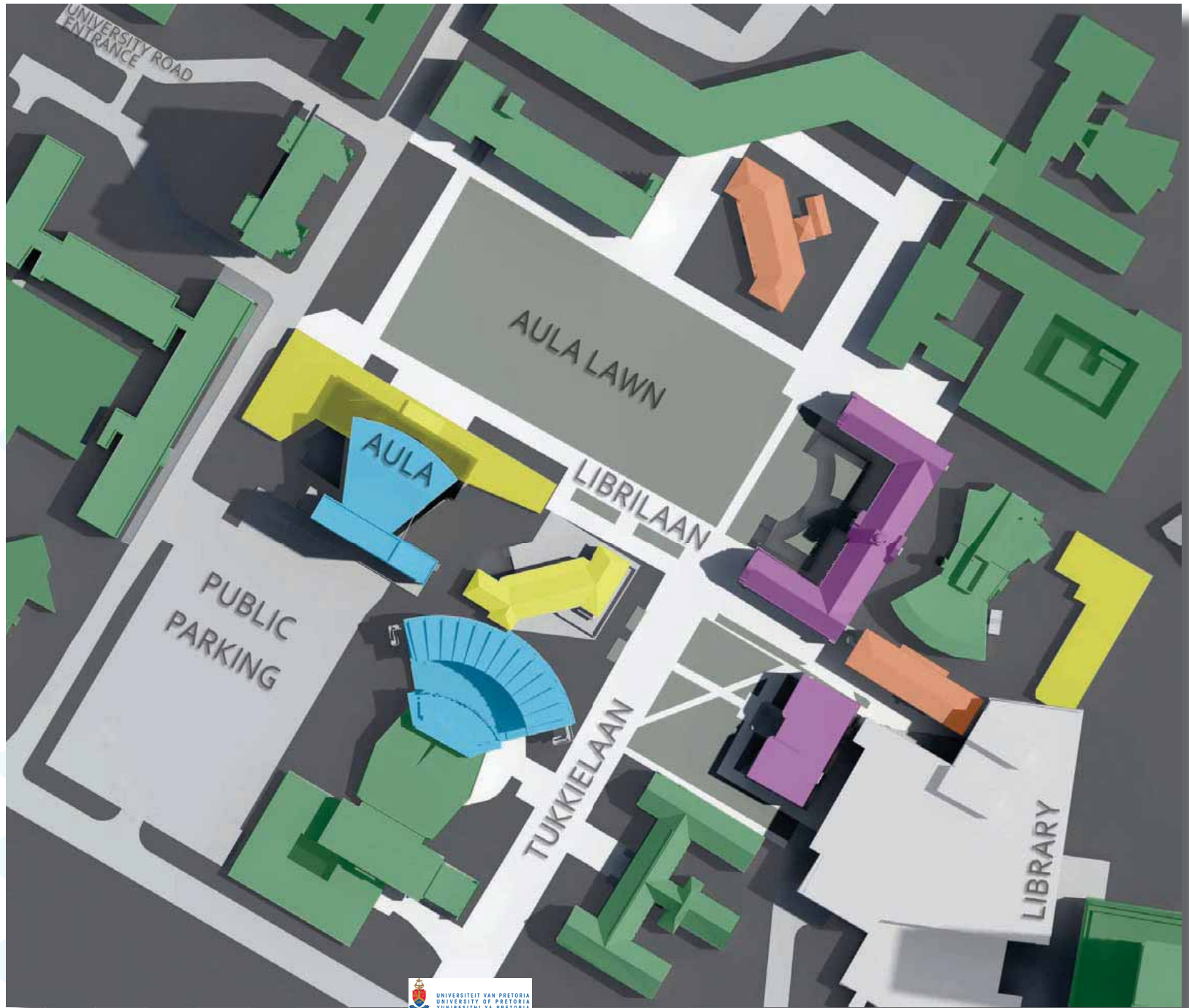


Fig.52

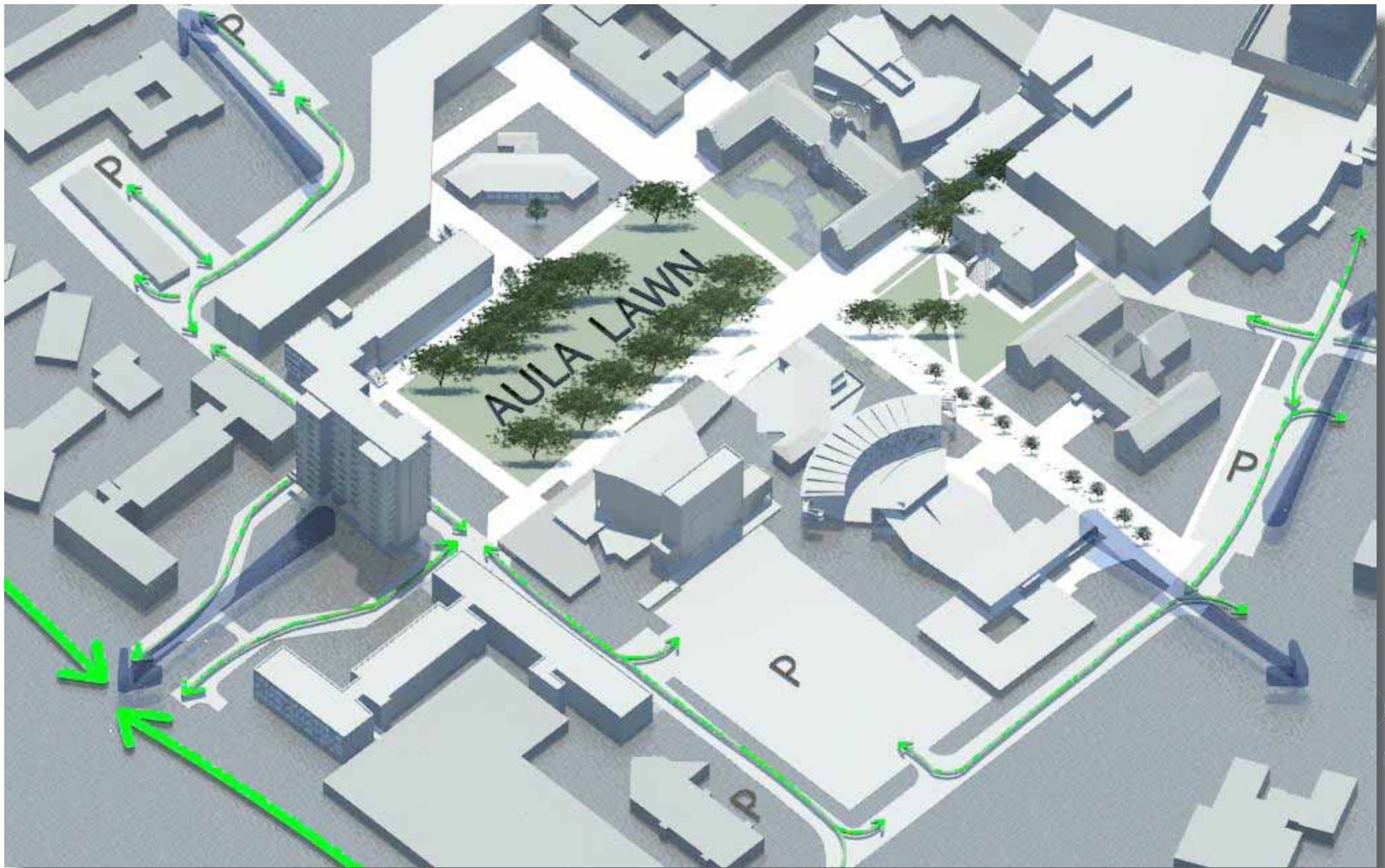


Fig.53

A very long time ago, in 1908 the Transvaal University College was opened in the centre of Pretoria in a delicate little house called the Kya Rosa. In 1910 this Tertiary institution moved to a larger site on the eastern limits of the city and there began the evolution of a first class university located far far away in a picturesque country on the foot of Africa. The purpose was to rival European institutions like the world renowned Oxford University in England.



ARCHIVE  
KYA ROSA 1908



On this new site, the construction of the first building on the new campus began in 1910 and it was to be the Chemistry Building.



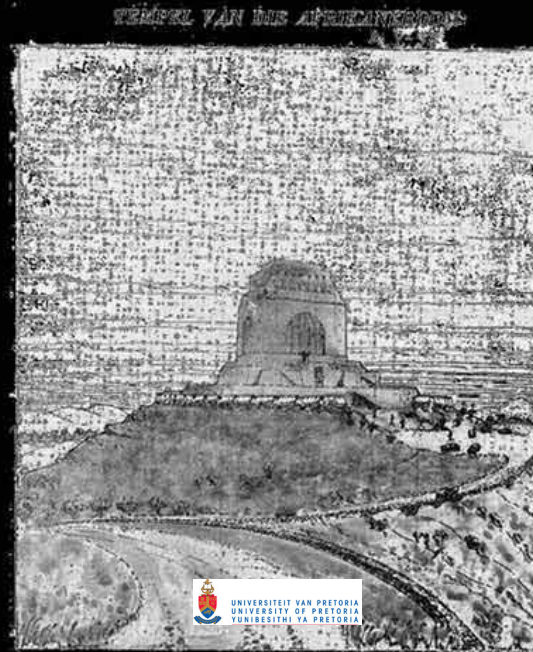
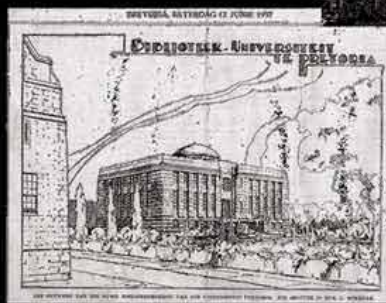
ARCHIVE  
OLD ARTS BUILDING 1911

During construction, a second building project was started, the Arts Building. This building would be much more stately and important structure and would become the landmark of the institution under its own independent people and to the defiance of the European pessimists. It was completed before the Chemistry Building was finished and became the first functioning edifice of the newly formed TUC.

During this prosperous time many buildings were built around the Old Arts including the Mernsky Library which was designed by Afrikaner architectural icon Gerhard Moerdyk. The building was a beautiful addition to the campus (with its surprising African motifs) and had strong ties with Afrikaner traditions due to the direct link to the Voortrekker Monument.

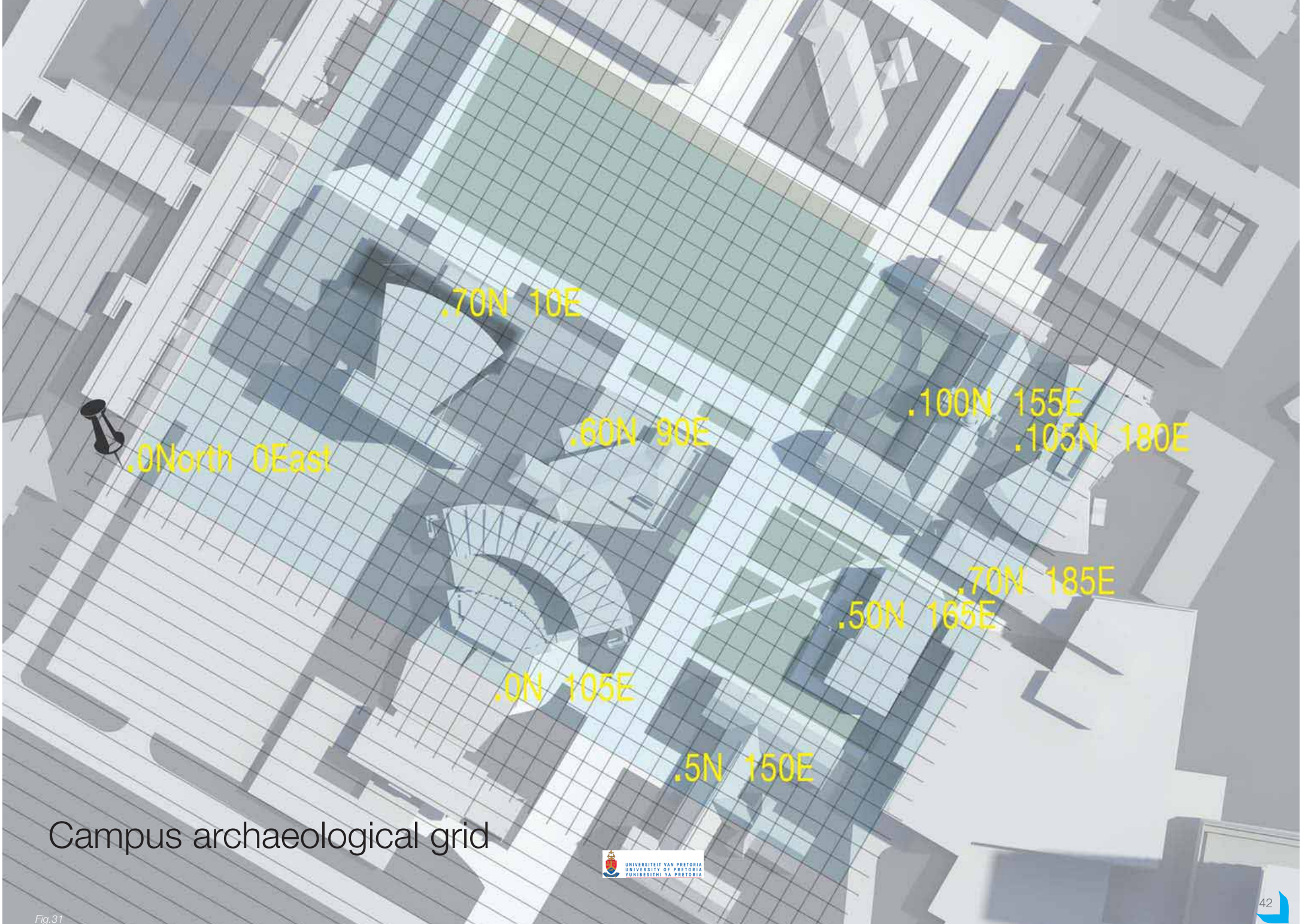


G. Moerdyk.



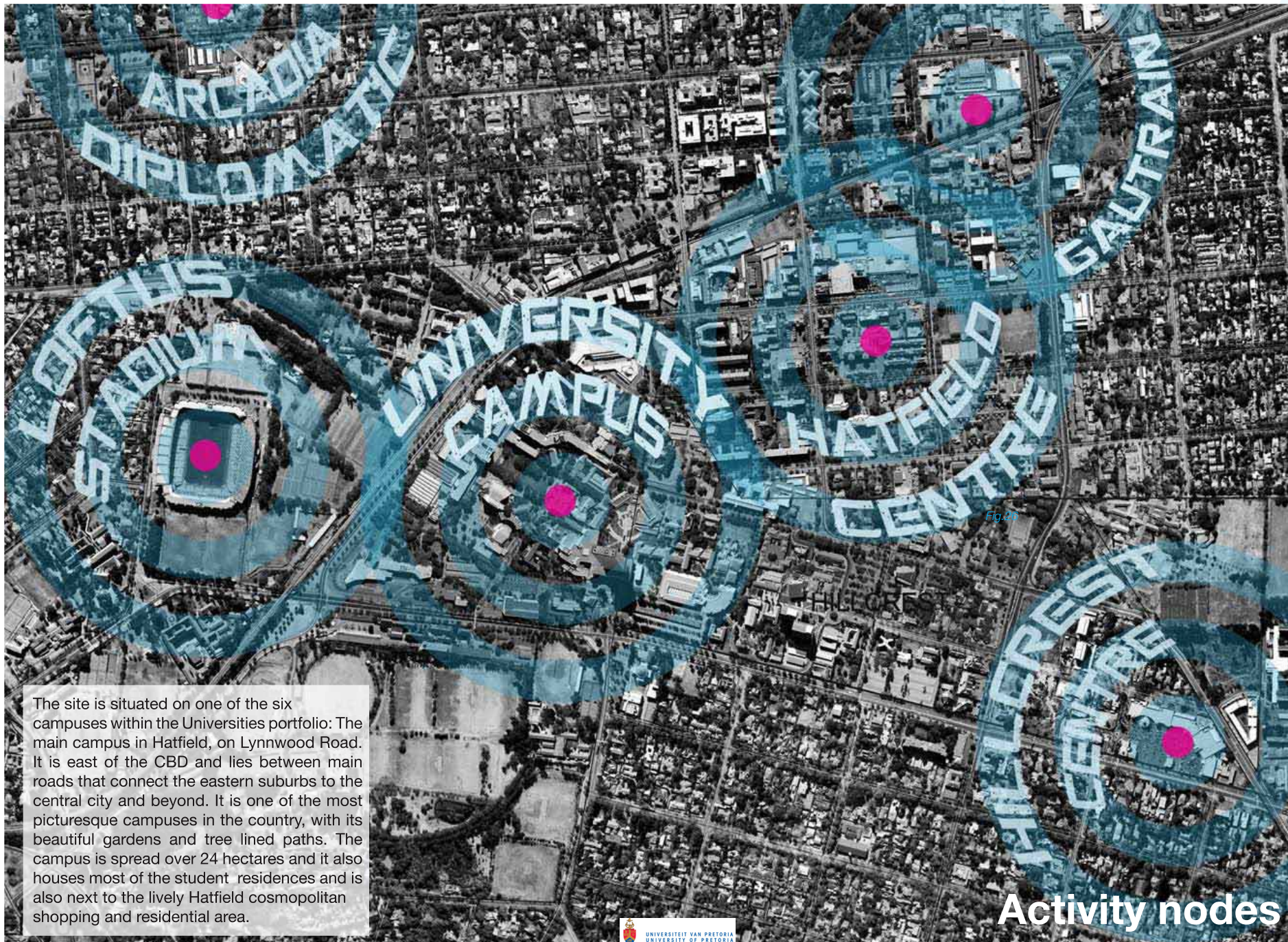
ARCHIVE  
MAINCAMPUS 1960

Many years past and the far far away picturesque African country evolved into an economic and political giant. Now these buildings have found themselves almost a hundred years older and in an alien world. Very little remains of the generation of people who commissioned, designed and constructed them and sadly today's people do not fully understand their existence. Being stone monuments to a forgotten ideal it has become the perfect time for us to explore and to excavate!

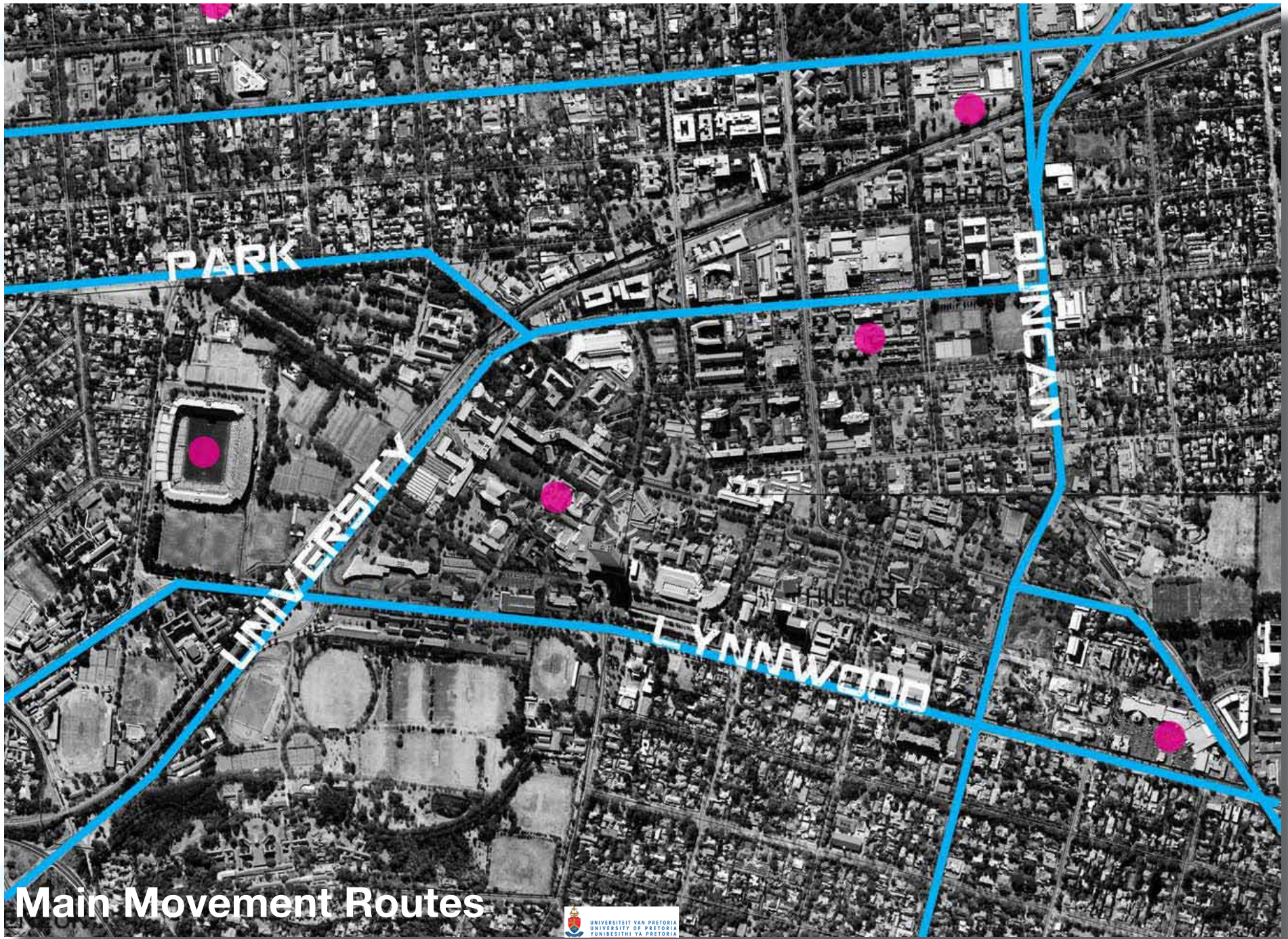


Campus archaeological grid





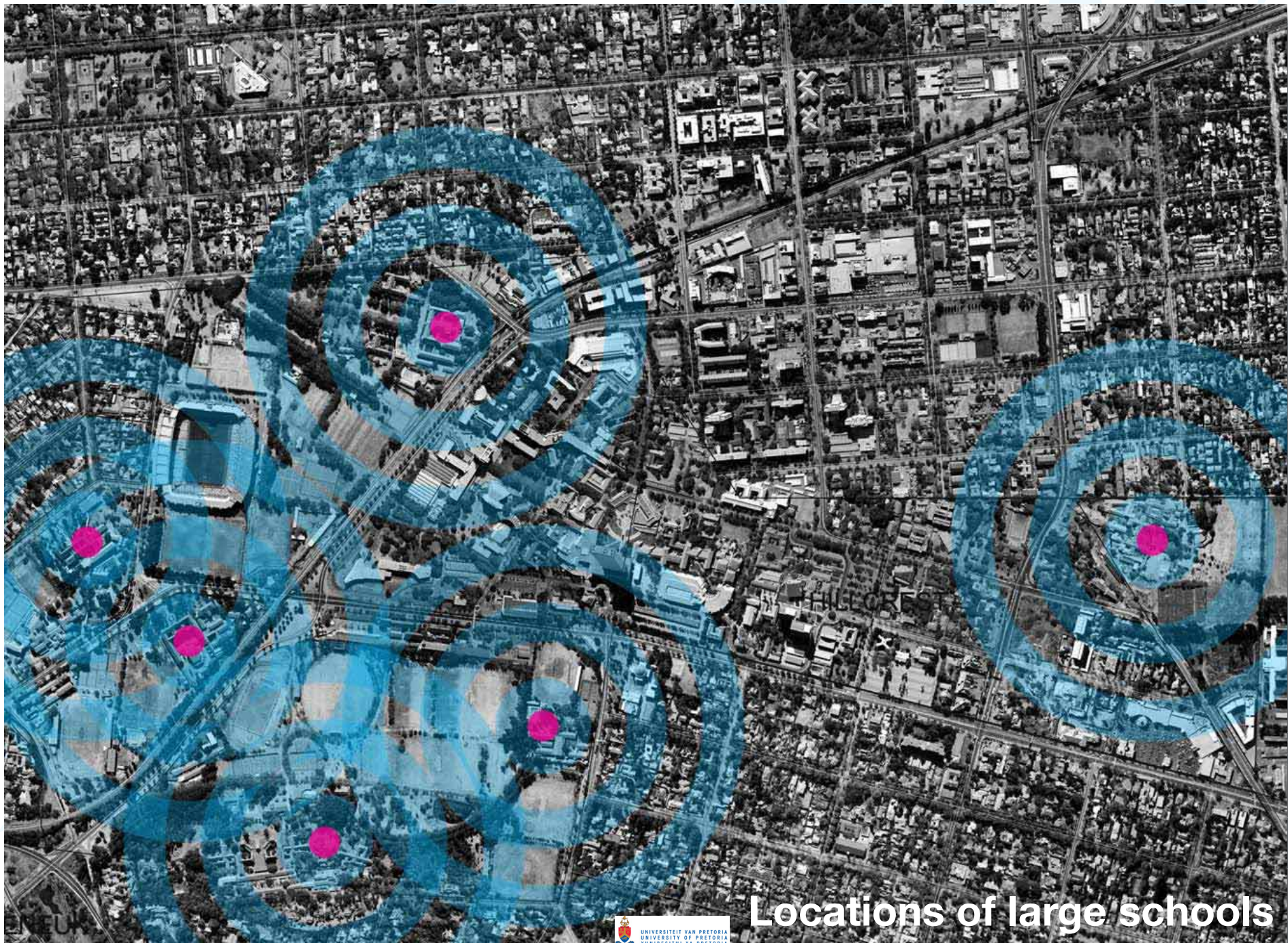
The site is situated on one of the six campuses within the Universities portfolio: The main campus in Hatfield, on Lynnwood Road. It is east of the CBD and lies between main roads that connect the eastern suburbs to the central city and beyond. It is one of the most picturesque campuses in the country, with its beautiful gardens and tree lined paths. The campus is spread over 24 hectares and it also houses most of the student residences and is also next to the lively Hatfield cosmopolitan shopping and residential area.



**Main Movement Routes**



Fig.33



Locations of large schools

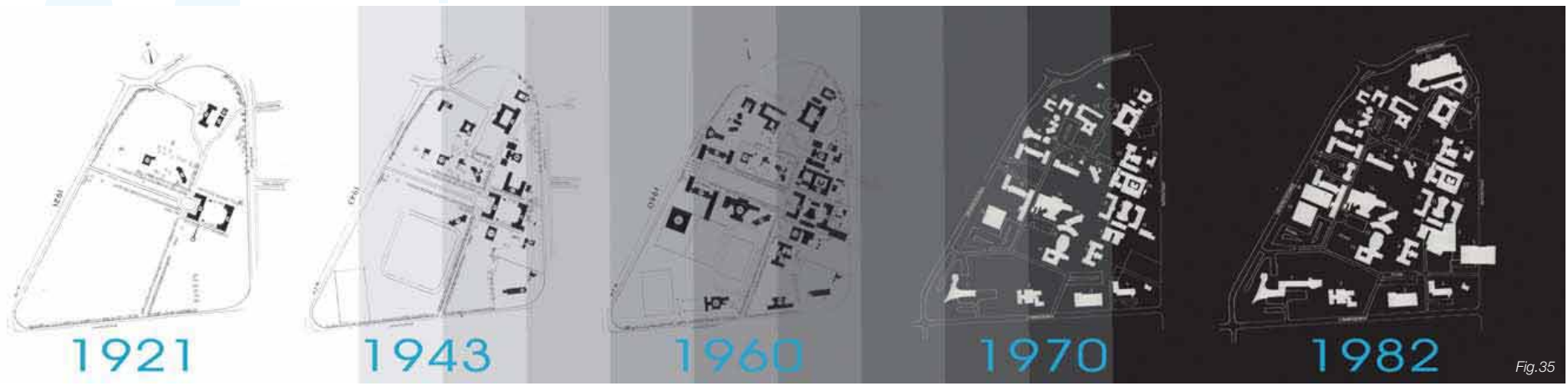


Fig.35

Campus development in 60 years



Fig.36

They do not have to be ornaments they can actually be used

The University's aim is to reawaken the seemingly sleeping giants, Old Arts and Old Merensky. A plan to renew interest and activity in these old buildings are to be set in place. These spaces can be functional and not merely ornamental.

Campus is a well functioning urban system, in fact it is bordering on idyllic perfection. This is because of its controlled growth and early thorough planning and therefore it is actually seen as an island within a greater urban sprawl.

It is an island where pedestrians rule in an idyllic green forest where restaurants and shop districts provide social opportunities for its visitors.

Campus is divided into areas of different study fields, like engineering, arts and economics. These find themselves in very distinctive districts within campus limits and there is an almost playful competition between the districts.

Within these districts the distinctive architectural buildings are not mere objects within campus space – as it may have started to be – but the buildings have become the conveyors of space and the fabric of the campus structure.

# UP Island



