





The following chapter shows the development of the program and the influences that shaped it.

# CHAPTER

Program

8.

The separation of the functions of the Pretoria Magistrate's Court were implemented with the new addition to the south. Thus criminal cases are dealt with in the southern extension while civil matters are dealt within the existing historical building. Since the fire in 2010 all matters have been accommodated in the new extension.

The purpose of this dissertation is to reinstate the function of the civil court in the existing building, while spaces and functions are being expanded to accommodate new developments and standards within the legal system.

Configuration will take place in order to question the order of existing legal spaces and to test new spatial reactions to developments in the legal system. It is therefore the hope of this study that the judiciary can be moved from behind the courts to grant the public greater access to them. The courtrooms are placed back into the public sphere in order to have greater exposure to the public and to remove thresholds before entering.

The existing area schedule of the building is reused, while new spatial requirements will be incorporated in order to bring the court in line with contemporary standards. Finally the study will revisit the way the courts were used in order to revise it, as well as revisit visual and spatial hierarchies of the magistrate, participating legal counsel and the general public.



Figure 8\_1 Old and new court

The program is divided into five distinct parts. In the middle of the building the design aims to create a courtyard that link all the different components of the program to the surrounding urban condition. Left thereof are the civil society offices, where all the role-players in the process of the legal system can serve the public on site. In the middle above is the judicial offices where the magistrates have

their offices and where the process of the court case takes place.

This building are secured and the public does not have direct access to it, although there are visual access from the courtyard. This part is directly linked to the court spaces and the circulation is separated.

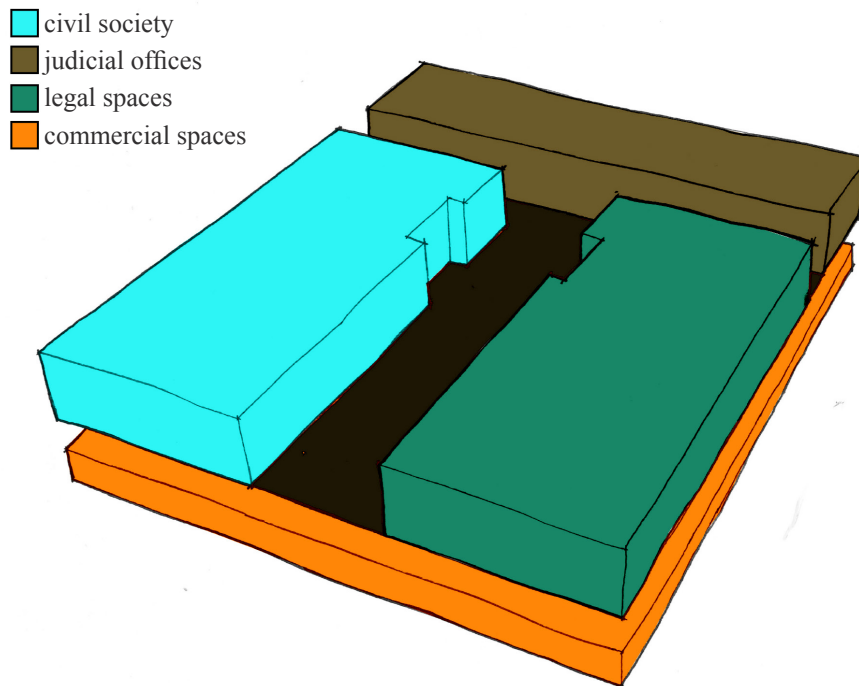


Figure 8\_2 Program division diagram

On the right hand side are the court spaces. Here all the participants of the legal system have equal access to the procedures and rituals. There is also unhindered flow from the courtyard into these spaces. The program here consists of both the traditional legal system as well as innovative justice mechanisms as discussed previously.

Finally the ground floor consists out of unrestricted commercial spaces, where general retail spaces and supporting services can be accommodated. This part of the building is in isolation from the legal spaces, but has access to the inner courtyard. Here the administrative and logistical functions of the court is also located.

Getuig is a public deed in accordance with  
the requirements of the law

22/1/35.



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA  
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.—UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

MAGISTRATSKANTOOR  
MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE

PRETORIA

PRETORIA.

20th. Oct. 1935

The Secretary for Public Works,  
Pretoria.

*CP [Signature]*  
*24/10/35*

ESTIMATE OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

I beg to inform you that the Office requirements for  
this establishment should be as follows:-

COURTS.

Civil Courts	...	...	...	...	2.
Criminal Courts	...	...	...	...	4.
Conference Room (Small Court)	...	...	...	...	1.

OFFICES.

Magistrates. (One of these must be a large office in order that same can be used as a Juvenile Court.)	...	...	...	...	8.
Clerk of Civil Court (This must be a large room)	...	...	...	...	1.
Clerks of Criminal Courts (One of these must be a large size as it must also serve as a Criminal Record Room).	...	...	...	...	8.
Record Room	...	...	...	...	1.
Typist (fair size)	...	...	...	...	1.
Accounts Office	...	...	...	...	1.
Personal Clerk to the Chief Magistrate	...	...	...	...	1.
Marriage Clerk	...	...	...	...	1.
(Waiting Room for Bridal Couples	...	...	...	...	4.
Public Prosecutors	...	...	...	...	1.
Probation Officer	...	...	...	...	1.
Cleaners	...	...	...	...	1.
Tearoom	...	...	...	...	1.
Arrear Record Room (very large)	...	...	...	...	1.
European Interpreters	...	...	...	...	1.
Waiting Room for female witnesses	...	...	...	...	1.
Court Sergeant (to adjoin Cells)	...	...	...	...	1.
Exhibit Room (Very large)	...	...	...	...	1.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cells	...	...	...	...	4.
Road Inspector	...	...	...	...	2.
District Surgeons	...	...	...	...	4.

*I think we should make special provision*

*Sketch Map informally of def magistrates for submission 22/10/35*

*Supers [Signature]*

## EXISTING AREA SCHEDULE

The image left is a copy of the original area schedule of the Pretoria Magistrates Court as issued in 1933 and is available in the national archives.

On the list there are specific spaces shown but not the size of the spaces and thus certain assumptions had to be made as to the exact areas. The assumptions are contained in the table below.

Figure 8\_3 Existing area schedule, South African National Archives, D.P.W 4/448, Part 1

Original Court Area Schedule			
	No. of spaces	m <sup>2</sup>	Floor area
Civil Courts	2	120	240
Criminal Courts	4	120	480
Small Courts	1	90	90
Magistrates Office	8	24	192
Clerk of Civil Court	3	15	45
Clerks of Criminal Court	1	15	15
Record room	1	20	20
Typist	1	10	10
Accounts office	1	20	20
Personal clerk to chief magistrate	1	10	10
Marriage Clerk	1	15	15
Waiting room for couples	1	50	50
Public prosecutors	4	15	60
Probation officer	1	15	15
Cleaners	1	6	6
Tearoom	1	20	20
Arrear Record Room	1	20	20
Interpreters	1	15	15
Waiting room for female witnesses	1	50	50
Court sergeant	1	15	15
Exhibit room	1	12	12
Cells	4	6	24
Road Inspector	2	10	20
District Surgeons	4	10	40
<b>TOTAL AREA</b>			<b>1484</b>

New Peoposed Area Schedule			
	No. of spaces	m <sup>2</sup>	Floor area
Mediation & Pre-trial			
Mediation Conference Room	7	35	245
Meeting Room	14	9	126
Support			
Remote witness room	3	8	24
Volunteers Office	3	9	27
Child witness preparation	3	12	36
Interview rooms	7	8	56
Judiciary			
Associates	3	12	36
Library	1	24	24
Tea room	1	4	4
Utility	1	2	2
Storage	1	6	6
Custody provision			
Custody Control room	1	24	24
Duty Room	1	12	12
Property Alcove	1	4	4
Search Room	1	6	6
Non Contact Interview	2	2	4
Bail Holding Room	1	8	8
Medium Cells	2	10	20
Meal Preps	1	7	7
Staff Shower	1	6	6
Detainee Shower	1	3	3
Staff Amenities			
Lunchroom	1	20	20
Shower	1	6	6
Toilets	1	30	30
Admin			
Registree Counter	1	50	50
Service Counter	1	25	25
Strongroom	1	25	25
TOTAL AREA			836
GRAND TOTAL			2320

**NEW AREA SCHEDULE**

The table left is compiled out of various sources among which are the: *Western Australia Courts Standard Design Brief* (2010), *U.S. Courts Design Guide* (2007) and the *Metric Handbook: Planning and Design Data* (Adler 1999).

Even though the Australian, American and British court systems are represented by these standards, was it valuable to derive the basic spatial principles and sizes.

Thus the table on the left gives this study a broadly defined requirements for the new facilities.

The diagram below is from the ‘Metric Handbook: Planning and Design Data’ and demonstrates general principles on circulation and spatial relationships within the courthouse.

Because South Africa does not have the jury system, the facilities indicated for it will be ignored.

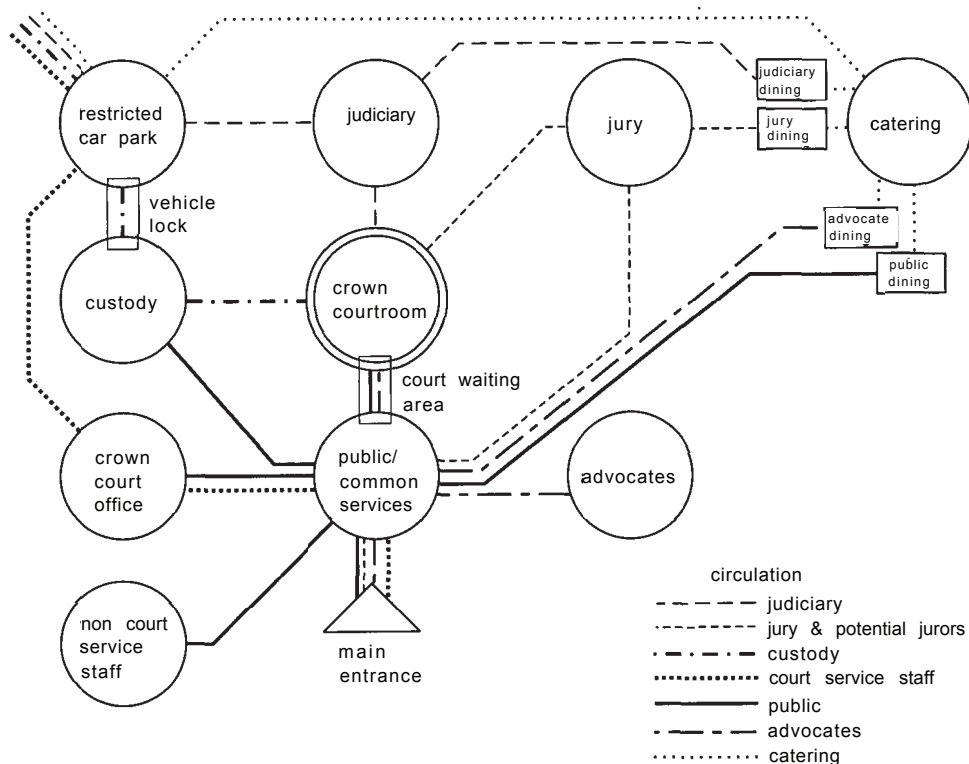


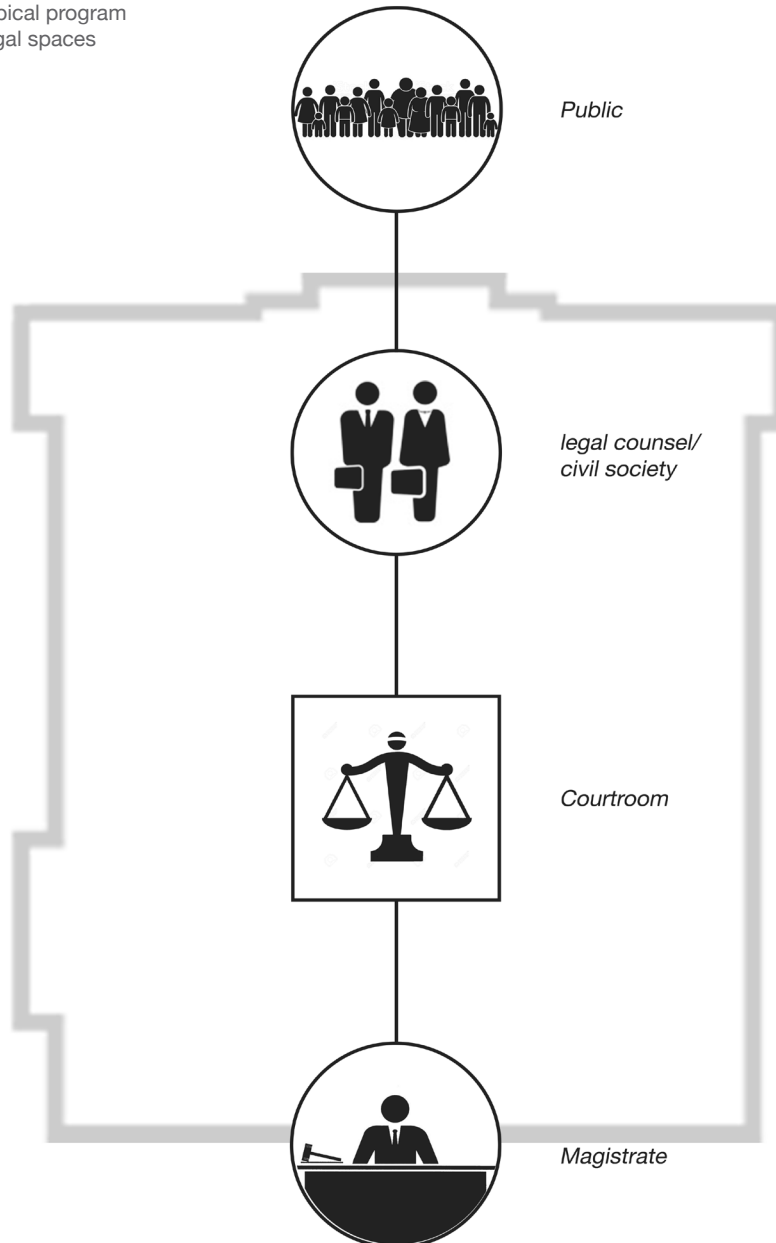
Figure 8\_4 Court organisational diagram, ‘The functional relationship diagram for a Courthouse’  
 In: (Adler 1999:12-3)



The following diagram shows the general diagrammatic spatial and programmatic relationship between the spaces in the legal system. On the one side is the general public and on the other the judiciary. Between the public and the judiciary is civil society, the

legal fraternity and the courtroom which means that the public is always separated from the judiciary and must always use mediators to gain access. This separates the public from justice.

Figure 8\_5 Typical program diagram of legal spaces



The following diagram shows the proposed spatial and programmatic relationship between the public and the judiciary.

together with the judiciary are placed on equal footing and is given equal access to the court. The public has also increased access to the judiciary, even if its just visual.

Here the courtroom are decentralised and the public, civil society and legal fraternity,

Figure 8\_6 Suggested program diagram for the Pretoria Magistrates Court.

