CHAPTER 07

DESIGN SYNTHEISIS

FINAL DESIGN AND TECHNICAL RESOLUTION
FINAL PRESENTATION
REFLECTION
Screen note:

1160 x 1160 x 3mm grey powder-coated custom perforated steel sheet screen fixed to charcoal grey painted 30x30x6 steel equal leg frame bolted with M8 bolts to 100x50x3 steel C section purline welded on site to 80x80x3 steel hollow tube lattice girdler welded to 30x165x46 steel I profile at 4800 centres.

Charcoal grey painted 30x30x6 steel equal leg frame

100x50x3 steel C section purline at every 1200 centres

80x80x3 steel hollow tube lattice girdler

1160 x 1160 x 2mm grey powder-coated custom perforated steel sheet

MR bolts

Section not to scale (Author, 2016)
Design synthesis
chapter 07

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PERCEPTIONS OF THE WEST

1. Urban issue
The discarded landscape of the West
The West is perceived as the ‘backyard’ of the capital city. Large parts of West are misused, underutilised and degraded, which has led to the subsequent disregard of the Western quadrant of the city, especially from private investment.

2. Pretoria West as a Roadhouse
The experience of place is reminiscent of a pastime or a place “disconnected” or “lost in time” (Weenkamp 2013:11). It is dominated by movement and communication and is a harsh environment for pedestrian.

3. The Intermediate space
As a support system for the broader functions of the city and its close proximity to the city, the regeneration of Pretoria West holds the potential to become an essential component to revitalise the city centre.
5. SUBURBAN SCALE

6. PRECINCT SCALE

DESIGN SYNTHESIS
1. Existing

- Old horse stables
- Metro Police Headquarters
- Pilchitch Stadium
- Closed down Municipal Pool and Sports Hall for disabled sport-persons
- Cemetery
- Original Hockey Pavilion
- Open unused fields

2. History of the Site

- 1963
- 1976
- 1991
- 1995
- 2000
- 2004
- 2016

3. The History of the Olympic Games
The intention was to connect the berm with the edge of the site, creating an architectural experience into the site. Two main buildings were placed along the route of arrival of the athlete. These two buildings would facilitate the production and distribution of the textiles. The building closest to the street edge would serve as storage and distribution space, therefore the building was placed with a direct link to the existing parking area. Placing the building along the identified routes (production, community and event), the production and design house becomes a connection between the stadium and the rest of the site, and the route becomes a public connection between the site and the surrounding context.

The idea is to create places where people can meet, randomly or with intent, and where activities of communal interest find place (Shared space. Hertzberger 2013:19). As described by Linda Pollak, “Because boundaries are where things meet” (Pollak, 1999) they can therefore act as thresholds and barriers of social space. Greenuf (2011:32) the proposed routes (that guide the development of site) were laid out to connect the site, with the idea that where these routes crossed, a node could form. Acting as both boundaries and thresholds, his node could, for instance, be a place where production, event and community could form, randomly or with intent.

With the first few iterations it was clear that although the routes connected at various stages, the resultant spaces actually ran parallel to one another and never created a shared space, simply adding more inconceivable buildings in open space and contributing to the current issue. Therefore the routes were iterated to combine various routes in one shared space at the entrance of the event with the intent that the three components of the design (production, event and community) should have equal right to this space. The second design iteration was also questioned in terms of the orientation and the scale of the buildings. The programs for the production spaces, restaurant and call room were reconfigured in the third iteration. The call room and restaurant was combined at the edge of the berm with a warm up area and additional sport fields. The delivery, production and design spaces were relocated to one building facing North East.
THE EVERYDAY AND EVENT
RE-IMAGINING THE URBAN INDUSTRIAL EVENT SPACE OF

PILDITCH STADIUM
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TECHNIFICATION
FRAMEWORK FOR TECTONIC DEVELOPMENT

TECTONIC CONCEPT

1. FOOTING
First, the landscape is manipulated, carved and excavated to allow for continuous spatial experience into the stadium. Similar to the existing stadium, the buildings are heavily grounded in the landscape.

2. ANCHOR
Second, two anchor buildings frame the site and indicate the progression into the site. These buildings create vertical connection lines at points of anticipation and reveal of the event.

3. ANIMATION
Thirdly, the production facility is both a programmatic and physical connection between the two anchor buildings. A light steel structure is draped over the production to serve as a connecting device but also allow for the animation of the event and express the notion of making.

Tectonic Development
The tectonic concept is derived from an interpretation of the physical features of the surrounding elements and context. Built up by three layers, these layers are an interpretation of navigating and connecting (both) the site with the building, and the two buildings with one another.
This dissertation set out to question (and challenge) the mono functional nature of Pilditch Stadium and present opportunity to re-script the open unused space around the stadium.

The rapid industrialisation of Pretoria West renders open public space as vulnerable elements in the urban grain, but simultaneously highlights the importance of these spaces which presents opportunities for integration. Principles of regenerative development theory informed the approach of this dissertation to create public place which is ingrained in existing networks and energies, and belongs to a community of users.

The departure point for the investigation was to challenge the current development trend of Pretoria. The outcome presents an alternative proposal to the multi-nodal mentality towards development.

The proposed macro scale vision presents network developments that integrate the stadium in a collection of existing public and community places. The site development further presents concepts of production, event and community that generate the stadium an accessible component of the collection, bringing new life to the site. The manufacture of sport equipment and clothing is presented as the connecting platform for exchange for ‘the everyday and the event’.
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To my best friend and model builder. Thank you for your relentless love, support and strength.

And to the Maker of all things.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Thank you for renewing my strength and leading my path.
DECLARATION

In accordance with Regulation 4[e] of the General Regulations [G.57] for dissertations and theses, I declare that this dissertation which I hereby submit for the degree Master of Architecture [Professional] at the University of Pretoria, is my own work and has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other tertiary institution.

I further state that no part of this dissertation has already been, or is currently being, submitted for any such degree, diploma or other qualification.

I further declare that this dissertation is substantially my own work. Where reference is made to the works of others, the extent to which that work has been used is indicated and fully acknowledged in the text and list of references.

Danielle Labuschagne
October 2016

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