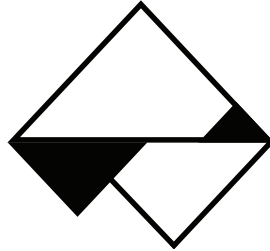


# JUST[I]CITY

*- mediating difference in the relationships between space, man and justice -*

*Batatu Bahle Qwabe*





*Batatu Bahle Qwabe*  
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Aristotle argues justice is reflected in our daily conduct and gains meaning through connections with the '*polis*' (city state), society and political authorities. (Gavrielides, 2013) Furthermore, he perceives justice as a dual concept; justice is both a moral/internal and a material/external concept. Reducing social dissimilarity and attaining common wealth are the key devotions of justice.



**PURPOSE:**

Submitted in fulfilment as part of the requirements  
for the degree of Master of Architecture (Professional).  
MArch(Prof). in the faculty of Engineering,  
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**UNIVERSITY:**

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University of Pretoria  
South Africa  
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**DEGREE:**

Master of Architecture (Prof)

**COURSE COORDINATOR:**

Dr Arthur Barker

**STUDY LEADER:**

Johan Swart

**KEYWORDS:**

mediation, rehabilitation, reconciliation, restorative justice,  
social justice, spatial justice, transformative constitutionalism,  
participatory democracy, Constitutional Hill, Hillbrow

**PROGRAM:**

*“Dispute Resolution Centre”* for a Community District Court

**SITE LOCATION:**

Constitutional Hill Precinct  
11 Kotze Street,  
Braamfontein,  
Johannesburg

**COORDINATES:**

26°18'91" S  
28°04'25" E

**THEORETICAL PREMISE:**

Theories of spatial justice and restorative justice are synthesised as to formulate an appropriate premise for the regeneration of urban and social decay brought about by the shift in political power and the urban periphery condition.

**ARCHITECTURAL APPROACH:**

The exploration of social support services as a means of re-imagining the potential of post-apartheid public architecture to restore the ideals of democracy.

## PART

# 00

## PREAMBLE

Architectural discipline is a profession where reason is founded on understanding, this investigation aims to present a logical and compelling argument. This document serves as not only a design informant but also as a record of the overall design process. The composition of this book illustrates the narrative of the project.

The theoretical discourse is assembled as a the core argument for the project. In an article format it guides the reader through the various historical, contextual, theoretical and precedential informants of the design process. In this part the article frames justice in the past and present in order to postulate about the state of justice in the future.

The section aims to understand the contingent issues of justice and how they interrelated in the manner in which they contribute to satisfying the virtue of justice, and how the lack thereof, may result in injustices in the spatial, social, and judicial realms. The proposed architecture is presented as a response to the identified issues of spatial, social and judicial justice. The design and technical resolution forms several principles that contribute to the argument of post-apartheid democratic architecture. The project as a result proposes justice as a mandatory discourse that can be achieved in and around Hillbrow and Constitution Hill.





“

Man in motion toward the world and toward his like. A monument of aggression, which leads to enslavement or to conquest; a moment of love, a gift of self, the ultimate stage of what by common accord is called ethical orientation. Every consciousness seems to have the capacity to demonstrate these two components, simultaneously or alternatively.”

Frantz Fanon

*Black Skin, White Masks*





Fig. 01: Exaggerated rebellion against injustices in Johannesburg.



## PART

# 00

## ABSTRACT

North-east of Braamfontein in Johannesburg lies what used to be an oppressive prison precinct which experienced almost a century of South Africa's political history. Recently after the introduction of democracy it became a 'beacon of hope' what is more commonly known today as Constitution Hill. It hosts the highest court of our democratic nation, the Constitutional Court. A stone's throw away, Hillbrow. It is a stigmatized neighbourhood plagued by crime and urban squatting and urban decay.

This dissertation addresses the ongoing disparities within a continuum to achieve justice. It is assumed that by restoring this unwanted neighbourhood of Hillbrow, the light of Constitution Hill may enlighten this dark part of the city to become a part and productive a contributor to a just city.

The Dispute Resolutions Centre will act as a mediator in resolving some of the injustices that face South Africa today, through the procedures of restorative justice. The intention of the project is to fulfill the virtue of justice within the area of the home of the constitution of our democracy.



**“Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of  
things not seen”**

**HEBREWS 11:1 ESV**

---



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Makolele Khoza, Helga Fernandez, Sipiwe Semelane, Mpho, Chrisna Du Plesis and Patsy McDonald for helping make this project a reality.

God, for being omnipresent in my life.

## TERMINOLOGY

[*definitions*]

### RESTORATIVE JUSTICE:

*“a process whereby all parties with a stake in a particular offence come together to resolve collectively how to deal with the aftermath of the offence and its implications for the future.” –T. Marshall*

### REHABILITATE:

*(v) 1 to help someone to live a healthy, useful, or active life again after they have been seriously ill or in prison  
 2 to make people think that someone or something is good again after a period when people had a bad opinion of them*

### RECONCILIATION:

*(n) 1 a situation in which two people, countries etc. become friendly with each other again after quarrelling  
 2 the process of finding a way that two beliefs, facts etc. that are opposed to each other can both be true or successful*

### JURISPRUDENCE:

*(n) the science or study of law*

### PERIPHERY:

*(n) the edge of an area*

### TRANSFORM:

*(v) to completely change the appearance, form, or character of something or someone, especially in a way that improves it*

### PARTICIPATORY:

*(adj) a participatory way of organising something, making decisions etc. is one that involves everyone that will be affected*

### VEIL:

*(n) something that hides the truth about a situation*

### SATELLITE:

*(n) a country, area, or organisation that is controlled by or is dependent on another larger one*

### JUDICIAL:

*(adj) relating to the law, judges or their decisions*

### HYBRID:

*(n) something that consists of or comes from a mixture of two or more things*

(Longmandictionary, 2003)



# POSITION

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Fig. 02: The scales of justice.

# JUSTICE<sup>1</sup>

[a brief history]

## Justice<sup>1</sup>:

'From the Latin word *'jus'* is the Greek equivalent is "*dikaion*", which meant 'observant of the custom rule'. (Gavrielides, 2013)

- 1.SYSTEM OF JUDGEMENT the system which people are judged in courts of law and criminals are punished.
- 2.FAIRNESS fairness in the way people are treated
- 3.BEING RIGHT the quality of being right and deserving fair treatment
- 4.Justice has been done/served, used to say that someone has been treated fairly or has been given a punishment they deserve.  
(Longmandictionary, 2003)

The notion of justice dates back to the 14th century during the Homeric period. In addition, historic sources have proven that the concept of justice was first framed through the legislation of Solon, Dracon and Cleisthenes. (Gavrielides, 2013) However, Gavrielides argues it was not until Plato and Aristotle's work that the general concept of justice was developed.

For Plato, justice is a moral and essential virtue, constructed by wisdom, self-discipline, and courage; while Aristotle argues justice is reflected in our daily conduct and gains meaning through connections with the *'polis'* (city state), society, and political authorities. (Gavrielides, 2013) He also perceives justice as a dual concept; justice is both a moral/internal and a material/external concept. Reducing social dissimilarity and attaining common wealth are the key devotions of justice.

*"... [J]ustice is often thought to be the greatest of virtues, and neither evening nor morning star is so wonderful; and proverbially in justice is every virtue comprehended..." Justice and virtue, Aristotle said "are the same but their essence is not the same; what, as a relation to one's neighbour, is justice is, as a certain kind of state without qualification, virtue ... If, then, the unjust is unequal, just is equal, as all men suppose it to be". –Aristotle*

In his analysis he places justice at the top of the values pyramid, although other ethical standards (such as compassion, mercy, generosity, benevolence) may be important, they are supererogatory rather than mandatory.

The term "justice", for Aristotle, is not merely a value; justice also means obedience to the law. As a result he suggests that the law should control the whole range of human (social and civic) life. He concludes that in being just one is then lawful and fair, and on the other hand the unjust is unlawful and unfair. (Gavrielides, 2013)

In a general sense, justice is a moral and inherent standard. It has a general connotation and aims at a moral assimilation of the individual and their community. It is formed at a utopian level and symbolizes absolute equality. With all turns of injustice, the unjust person is assumed to benefit while the victim is assumed to suffer loss. It is the duty of the judiciary to rectify inequality by imposing a penalty that takes away the wrongful gain. Justice is a zero-sum equation where neither party gains nor loses.

In a more definite sense, justice is materialist and social rather than abstractive. In that sense, justice is defined as definite, aiming to decrease social inequities, but also to achieve the citizens' wellbeing. This is a form of social justice employed in everyday social and economic life. It permits equality in exchange and fairness in the sharing of the good.

# JUSTICITY

*[elasticity of justice]*

In order to grasp, critique, and later appropriate the main realms of justice, justice must be clarified. Justice is a metaphysical exercise that manifests itself through its keepers into our physical environment. It is said that justice is political, economical, social and judicial which is learned through reflecting on our contemporary matters. (fig. 03:i)

The latter proved to be inter related, as justice can be achieved when they are in harmony or the participants may experience an injustice when there is one in deficit. Achieving harmony is a complex exercise, due to the fact that there are many secondary and tertiary influences which result from the amount of people involved, their understanding, capabilities etc. Due to this complex nature of achieving justice, it becomes necessary to delimit the focus and the extent to which justice can be achieved in the area to be identified.

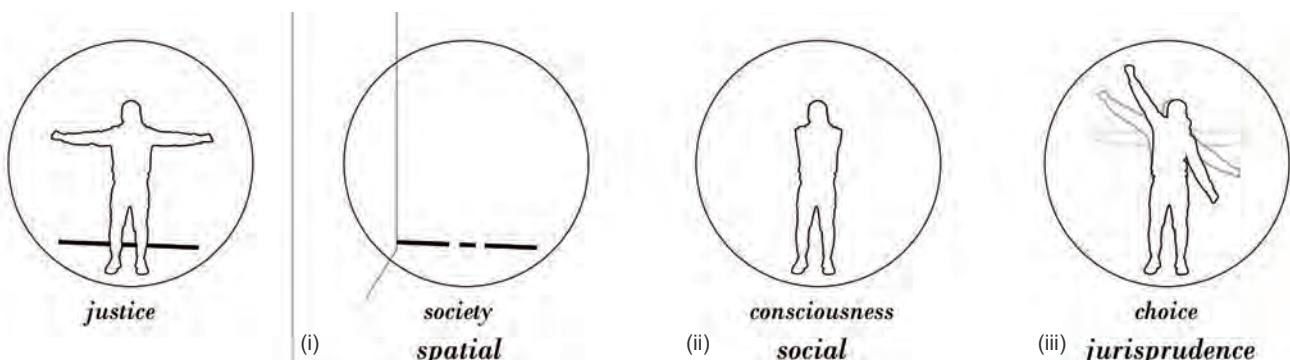
Three influences were identified as the fundamental contributors to justice as a change where one affects the other.

Firstly, scientifically we are constructed by matter which varies from the vastness of the universe to the smallest neuron and atoms. The Pauli exclusion principle deduced that two bodies cannot occupy the same space at the same time (Faizi, et al, 2017). Similarly with people, Lefebvre refers to this notion as political space. People usually dependant on the environment in which they live in, and in turn, it depends on us for its sustainability. When other individuals seek to occupy or take from it, the users may be in conflict. This idea refers to spatial justice and how bodies could coexist or be in despair. (fig. 03:ii)

Secondly, people comprise of different characteristics amongst which is leadership and fellowship. Similarities can be drawn from animals as they have alpha males. Similarly not everyone can lead therefore people follow and serve a leader and in return seek protection - justice. These productive relationships lend themselves towards the idea of social justice. (fig. 03:iii)

Lastly, the growth of participants necessitates a governing or an accepted standard of living as the leaders can't serve or protect all individuals at the same time. This would also introduce more leaders, whom would also need a governance or an accepted way of relating to one another. History has proven these principles repetitively. The accepted standard of living is what we refer to as law, human rights and the highest of all in our country the Constitution. (fig. 03:iv)

There is no life without space, no peace without coexistence, and no coexistence without consensus. Each man within every community or 'society' is a 'conscious' body that can deliver their 'choices' in order to achieve or defer from justice. It is this sole responsibility that we must hold dear for in its absence there can be no peace nor sanity. (Fig. 04)







**Fig. 03:** *(opposite)*  
Influences of Justice  
(Author, 2017)

**Fig. 04:**  
A just society through man.  
(Author, 2017)

*This part seeks to unpack the project in a succinct understanding of both the conceptual and practical problems that frame the study. The site is briefly discussed*



Fig. 1.1: Photomontage looking over the Constitutional Court.

# PART

# 01

*[introduction]*

*- urban decay as a result of a shift in political power -*



## BACKGROUND

*[current status]*

The background to the investigation of this dissertation is a critical reflection of the political influences that have had spatial, social, and judicial consequence over time leading to the 21st Century. In the 17th century the British colonised various parts of Africa including Southern Africa. Territorial wars took place over ownership of this resourceful land. Two centuries later the Afrikaners followed suite creating more boundaries and borders, which have had physical and psychological implications on its victims.

The “fall” of Apartheid gave way to Democracy, which one can argue, that is the only political condition that is faced with the condition of assimilation and reconciliation. This constitutes the rectification of the historical consequences and a reconditioning of the present in order to build a sustainable future.

There is a distinct disconnected ‘grey area’ that exists between the past of the nation and the present due to previous political systems. An investigation of how they intersect is necessary (Fig. 06).

The struggle to understand, accept, and therefore adapt appropriately to the current social status is a day to day battle for all individuals of South Africa and other previously colonised countries internationally.

Systems and programs have been put in place to assert this condition of social disparities, some have been successful and some less so, among which is the application of the Roman-Dutch laws for justice. Could a reinterpretation of the vernacular means of justice propose a better model for the current South African contemporary urban context?

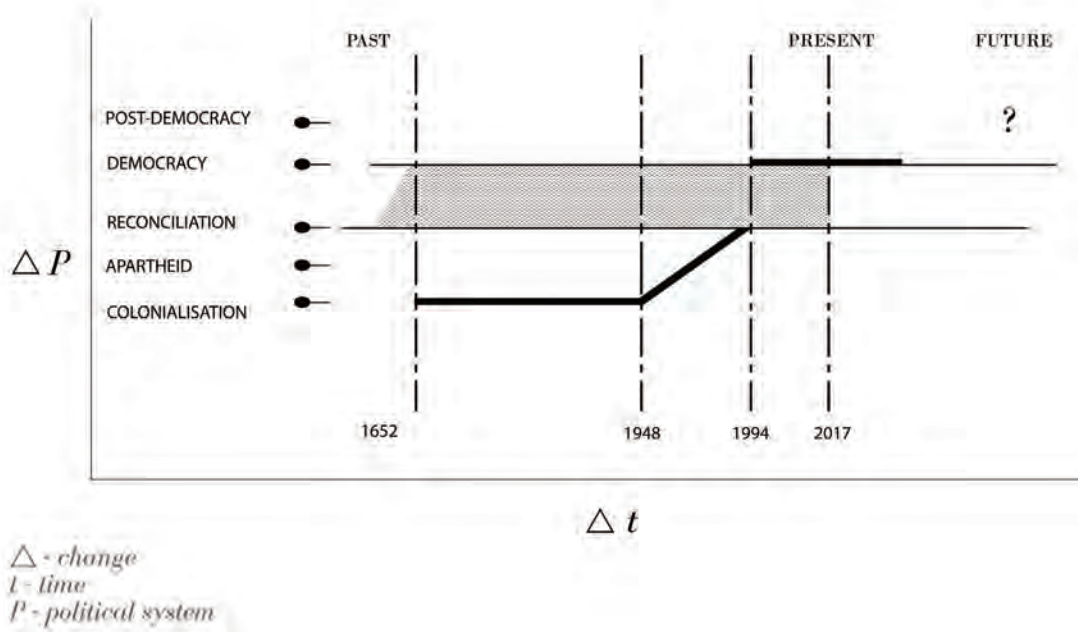


Fig. 1.2: Change of political systems over time in South Africa.



## PROBLEM STATEMENT

This dissertation is guided by the overarching issue of a lack of social support services as a result of a shift in political and economic power. The intention is to transform underutilized spaces as a framework for Post-Apartheid Public Architecture which is aimed at addressing the injustices that stem from political systems and the ill implementation of democratic ideologies.

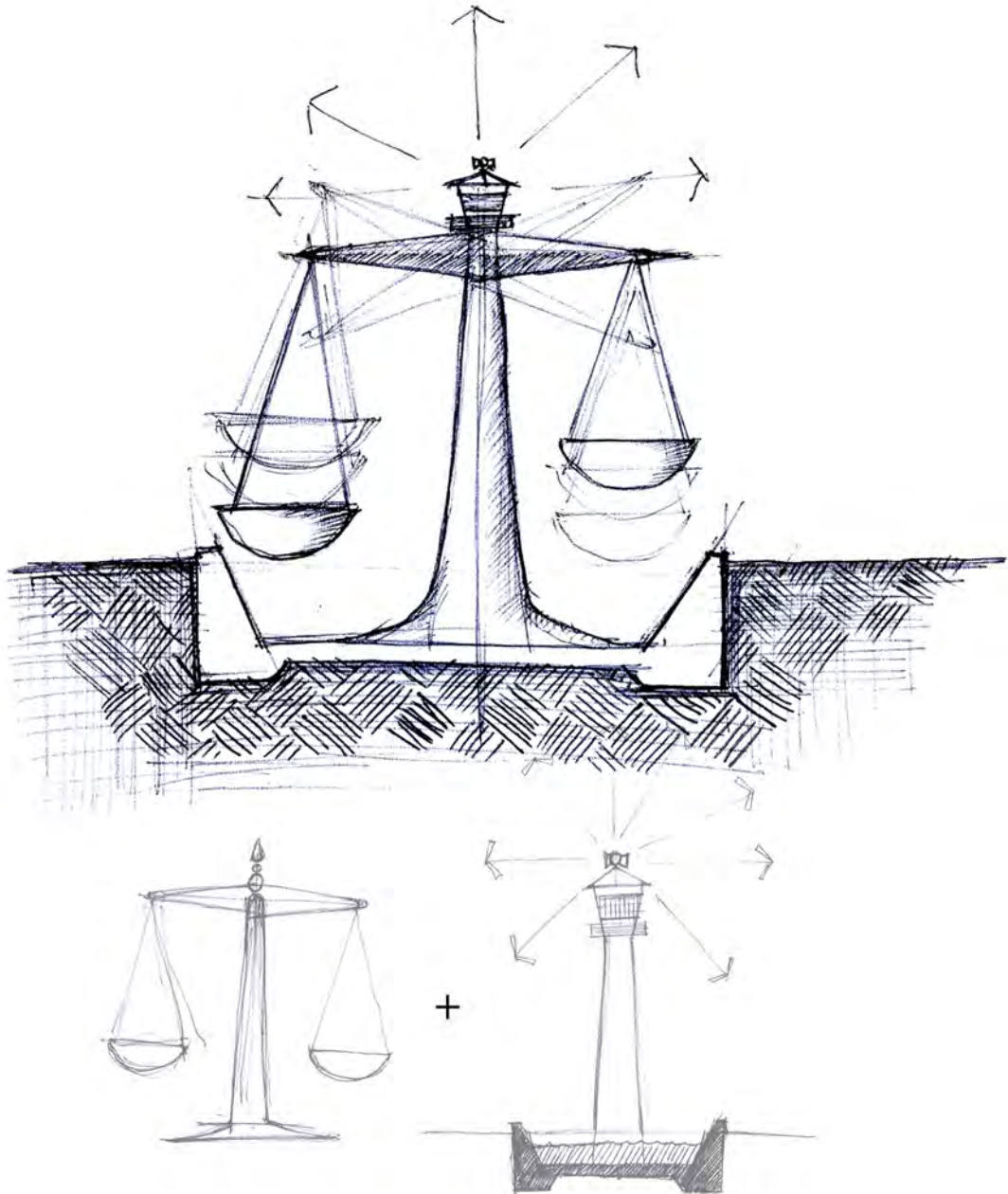


Fig. 1.3: Change of political systems over time in South Africa.

[general issue]

The Constitution of South Africa has been adopted as supreme law, on which the Republic is founded on. Its intention is to heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice, and fundamental human rights. This foundation also suggests equality of all citizens in a democratic and general society; therefore, it intends to improve the quality of life for its people.

The above describes a set of ideals that the South African democratic system aims to achieve; however, the current day society of South Africa today offers a different reality that opposes the Constitution in many ways. Issues of socio-economic classes, race, gender and social disintegration still persist.

The order of Democracy versus its reality are questioned and the implementation of the ideologies thereof. Could justice be achieved through a cohesion of the latter?

The shift of power and wealth in cities is a concern for the contemporary city. This results in urban decay, and in some areas, unsafe environments that were once havens to their users. Johannesburg used to be the heart of the economy of South Africa, until it became overcrowded, as a result, businesses moved to Sandton and other surrounding areas.

Parts of the city, especially the periphery have become parasitic and they are generally associated with degeneration through which a negative

.This disconnection and degeneration is prominent in the Constitution Hill precinct and its surrounding areas namely Hillbrow.

A veil of deceitful justice is in the study area. Truthfully, the condition of injustice is greater than the boundaries that the site is restricted by, it's a National matter. There is a polar relationship between the symbolic Constitutional Hill and the real living conditions of Hillbrow. The civic precinct consists of formal institutions that represent freedom and equality, on the other hand Hillbrow is resilient in its informal nature of illegal occupation creating a sense of instability, and arguably oppression, as a result of the lack of spatial justice in the spaces they occupy.

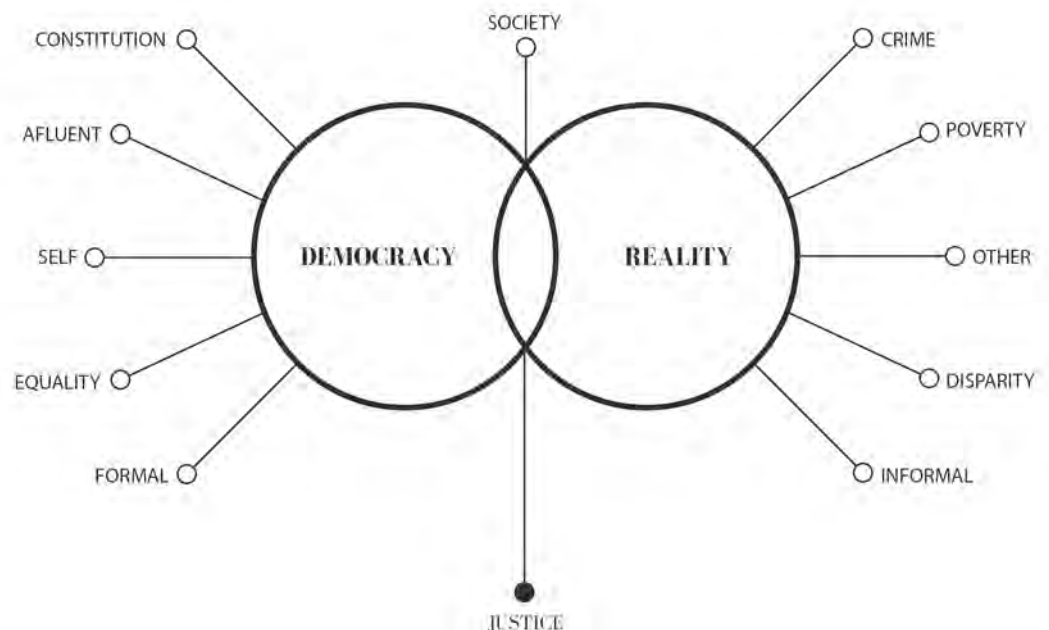


Fig. 1.4: Democracy versus reality in South Africa.



*[general intention]*

Inverting these conditions would suggest a judicial system that aims to satisfy the people and remove the issues of selfness-(judiciary) versus the otherness (people) therefore mending a unified society.

However, Hillbrow's location in the city and proximity to the major tertiary education facilities along with the Constitutional Court (which is said to be symbolic of democracy and human rights of the new nation), allows the area to have latent social service potential. The civic precinct and neighbouring areas can be included within the structure and social interventions of the city, as it did prior to the introduction democracy

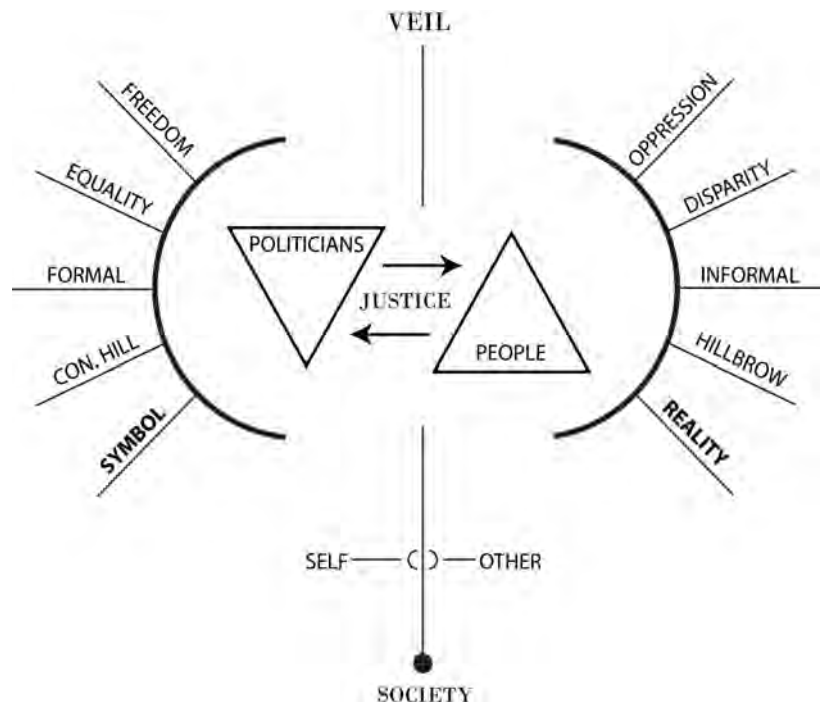


Fig. 1.5: The inversion of power to achieve justice

*[urban issue]*

The lack of positive social support services has had antisocial results that affect the larger city. These deficiencies can be argued to be one of the contributing factors of antisocial behaviour in Hillbrow.

Hillbrow has been associated with crime ever since the introduction of democracy, a change in tenure, and the high influx of foreign nationals moving into the area. This has caused a stigma and exclusion of the area from the urban social structure of the city, and as a result, has left it unattended.

The symbolized notion of Constitution Hill offers a polar condition to the Hillbrow, which is located to its immediate west. If Constitution Hill is aimed at serving the people, is it not supposed to have a tangible influence towards its neighbours? This question aims to highlight the lack of spatial justice between Hillbrow and Constitutional Hill.

Fig. 1.6: Diagram for general intention for the site.



[urban intention]

Pretoria street in Hillbrow has become the central business district for Hillbrow. It hosts several supermarkets, food franchises, and other recreational facilities which are mostly open beyond the standard working hours.

Principles of defensible space and the prevention of violence through urban upgrading, serves as a great opportunity that could improve the livelihood of the street (as public space), which could become an invitational platform for economic and cultural exchange.

Extrapolating the positive existing programs would not only improve the existing context, but also formalize the programs as permanent and productive contributors for the neighbourhood.

Hillbrow is occupied by the city's marginal lower class, creating a pulsating energy of semi-formal commerce on the adjacent streets. Over time, the outer lanes of these streets have grown to accommodate the presence of informal transport, such as the mini-buses formally regarded as the South African taxi association.

However, the lack of positive ownership and territoriality of the site has allowed for the internal fabric to decay. The intent of this dissertation on an urban level, is to extrapolate the existing positive conditions to animate the site and establish an awareness of social services through which justice can be served.

This would offer an urban environment that is conducive for reinvestment and greater livelihoods of its inhabitants.

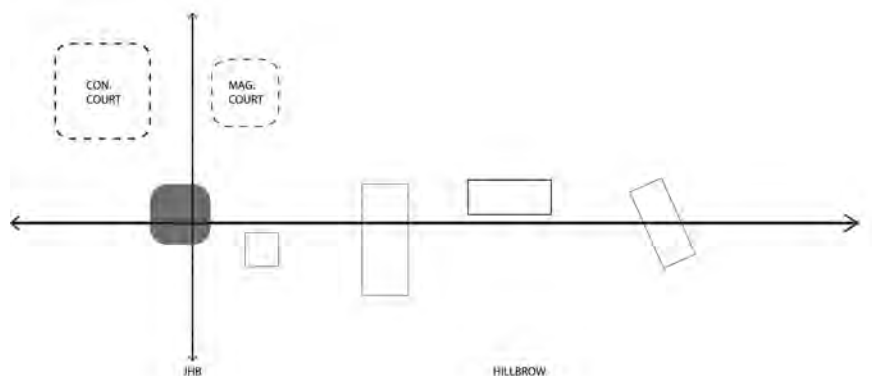
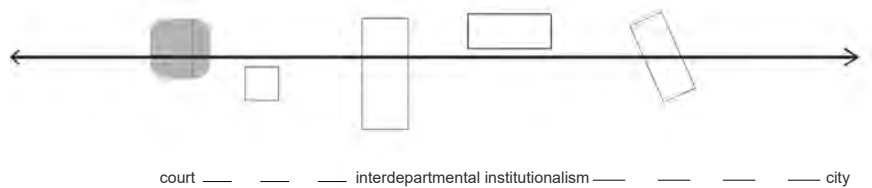


Fig. 1.7: Diagram for urban framework intentions

*[architectural issue]*

After the establishment of the Constitutional court on the study area the site was renamed, Constitutional Hill. Several principles were to be fulfilled by the precinct namely (see figure: 1.8 below)

- A global beacon for human rights, democracy and reconciliation, driven mostly by public participation.
- A vantage point that gives us an understanding of our society in transition
- A 'lekgotla' where people meet

to talk to one another and celebrate their diversity

-A gateway from which to explore Johannesburg and its diverse tourism attractions

-A sustainable mixed-use development of inner-city Johannesburg

-A world-class tourist destination that will draw tourists from around the

country and the world (Constitution Hill, 2017)

This dissertation aims to understand and question: how well are these intentions being fulfilled, if they have been fulfilled at all?

How does the precinct address the nature of decaying inner city fabric and at the same time, contribute to the existing socio-economic disparities which plague our contemporary society?

*[architectural intention]*

Democracy instigated the current site of the Constitutional Court with specific aims and principles. The existing site conditions refrain the public from conductively interacting with the building, a physical and programmatic re-connection must be established in order to enhance the existing site conditions through regeneration. Social, economic and environmental infrastructures can provide the means capable of satisfying current and extrapolated demands of the immediate urban context

The author shares the principles proposed by the Constitutional Hill committee to achieve a post-apartheid expression of identity in architecture.

## RESEARCH QUESTION

How, can the rethinking of Post-Apartheid Public Architecture, as referred to by Noble, restore spatial justice between Hillbrow and constitution Hill?

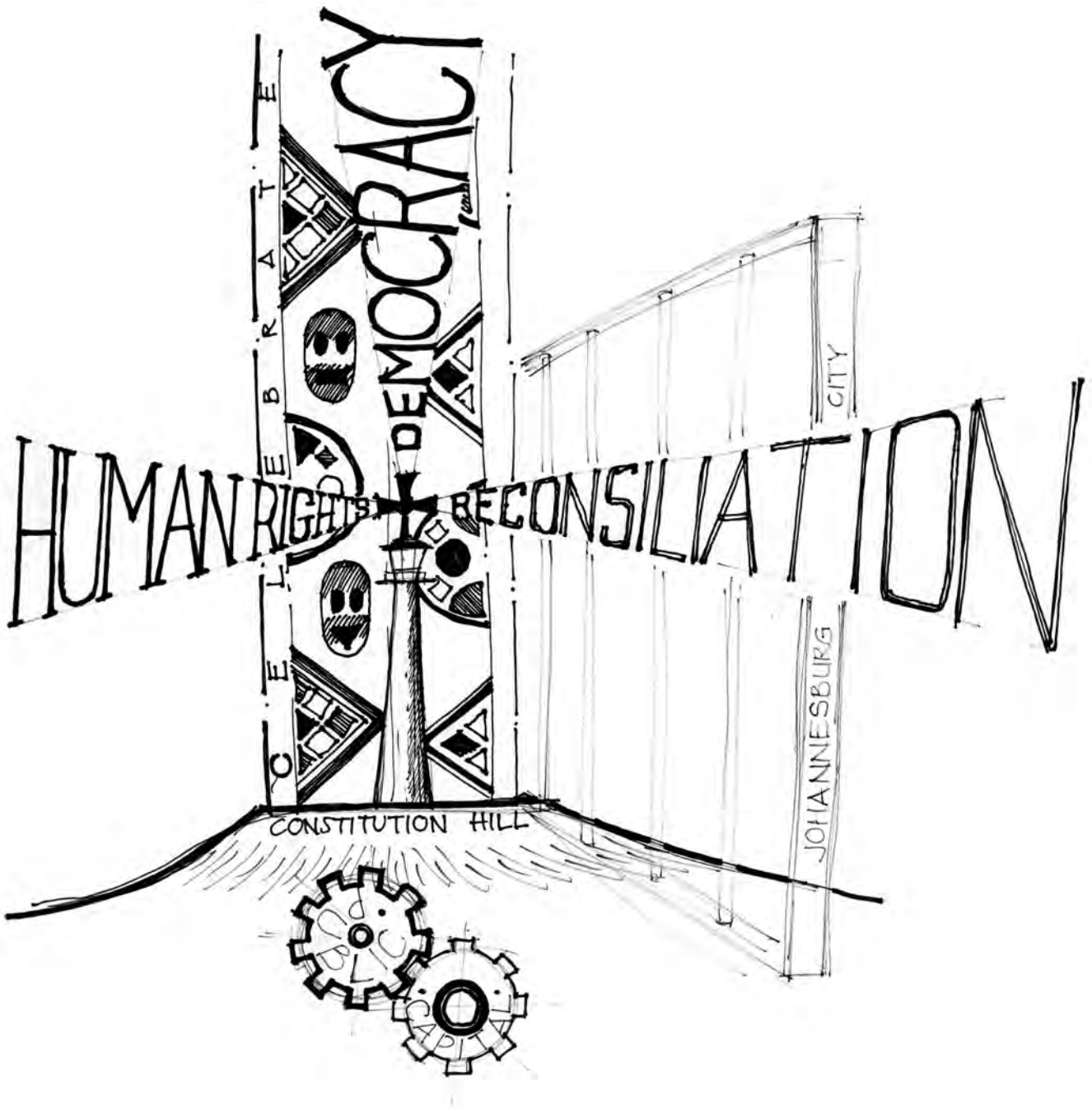


Fig. 1.8: Concept diagram of the principles of the Constitutional Court.





*This part seeks to unravel the contribution towards the architectural discourse through coherent theoretical arguments. A conceptual continuum is between the past, present and a proposed future is investigated.*



Fig. 2.0 Above; Looking into Pretoria street and the proposed site in this study



## PART

# 02

*[ theoretical premise ]*

*- Justice, beyond the Constitutional Court -*







Batatu Qwabe

**B**

Belonging<sup>1</sup>,  
Being<sup>2</sup>, and  
Becoming<sup>3</sup>

Beyond the  
Constitutional Court

*This Article uses a conceptual continuum of the past and present to postulate a future of South Africa with regard to social, spatial and judicial justice through public architecture. ‘Belonging’ investigates how conflicting groups have fought for ownership, power and their identities. ‘Being’ critiques the current state of the nation and the relationship that the government has with the public with a question of the fulfillment of the ideals of democracy through Post-Apartheid Public Architecture. ‘Becoming’, steps away from the present by re-imagining the future in a new liberal context through reapplying participatory democracy in social relationships, spatial justice and in transformative constitutionalism in order to achieve the Platonic ‘just city’.*

*‘Beyond’ refers to both the physical building and the ideas that were applied to the home of the Constitution (Fig. 01).*

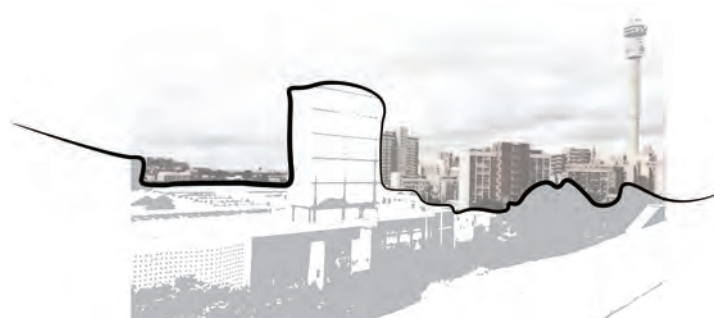


Fig. 2.01 Above; Focusing beyond the Constitutional Court

**Belong<sup>2</sup>**

*1 if something belongs somewhere that is the right place or situation for it.  
2 if you feel you belong in a place or situation, you feel happy and comfortable in it, because you have the same interests and ideas as other people.*

*(Longmandictionary, 2003)*

Nature seeks simple intrinsic relationships in order to maintain its survival. Similarly, it is natural for people as social beings to seek the ideal of belonging. Association and identity are major contributors to a sense of belonging. In order to fulfil the necessity of being ‘part of’ something that is bigger than oneself could be defined by politics, religion, belief, culture, nationality, economic class, race, gender and often the ethnic group, especially amongst native nationals. These notions of belonging have an equal or greater potential to alienate.

Prof A Mbembe argues that ‘belonging’ deals with the symbolic representation and nation building for the new city where the emerging heritage and memory are enlisted as ‘urban generators’ and “ownership” refers to interventions that contribute to social inclusion and recognition of the citizenship and creative practices of the previously disenfranchised” (Morojele, 2006) There is an inherent transitional terrain between

“belonging” and “ownership”. A sense of ownership innately gave the colonists and apartheid persecutors the feeling of belonging. The opposite is true for the original inhabitants of the land because their ownership was a result of belonging to the land. These two conflicting conditions have other determinants which may be regarded as secondary influences to the latter; namely; power, history, and identity. After colonization, during the Apartheid era, the British and the Boers found common ground and thereafter formed a union that is symbolically represented by the monument on the hill, the Union Buildings in Pretoria. With every change in authority, the country has had judicial, spatial and extreme social changes. With the almost recent introduction of democracy, one should inquire; what spatial construct does democracy require to fulfill its ideals of reconciliation and human rights?

Noble’s point seems to be that new architecture representative of the ideas of democracy has mostly been designed by white architects, in addition he suggests that these designers have been asked to adopt an African agenda in design. (Noble, 2011) In response to his argument one should enquire the identity and authenticity of the “white African” as they shape the aesthetic and expression of democracy. He places emphasis on how all South Africans are being

questioned of their collective belonging. (Noble, 2011:1) In other words, we should consider if the face of democracy should be painted by the offspring's of the oppressors. This way of thinking results in understanding, to whom does democracy belong to and their identity thereafter. Frantz Fanon's *Black Skin, White Masks* endeavours to question the post colonial identity. (Fanon, 2008)

The Apartheid system institutionalized racial segregation and discrimination to divide and conquer non-whites. It is also notorious for the way it successfully conscripted architecture and urban planning in its grand socio-spatial project. (Morojele, 2006) Large open spaces "buffer zones" which were no less than 100m in width, were located between communities, along natural features and spines for movement such as highways or rivers. These buffer zones were particularly fashioned to ethnically separate the non-white people under their allocated group area, (franco frescura, 2017) which was often located on the periphery of the city. This practice of town planning increased travelling distance and the time spent on the road commuting to work. The spatial injustice led to,

an extension of social injustice. The economic bracket widened even further. Individuals with unknown diseases and criminals were treated similarly, cast in prison far from civilisation. Furthermore ,the education system called 'Bantu Education' that was offered to natives was of a elementary standard.

Coloured political comedian Trevor Noah describes his childhood walks with his black mother: he felt like a bag of weed because she would have to let him go whenever they were walking in public in the presence of law enforcement. He adds, it was only acceptable if she was dressed as a helper. (Trevor Noah: Freaking Me Out, 2017). Interracial marriage was banned by the Apartheid Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act of 1949, therefore, he (Trevor) was illegal. (Noble, 2011) One can argue that generational oppression has resulted in a psychological conditioning which Biko pointed that "*The greatest weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the minds of those whom they oppress.*" which he successively suggests that the "black man" requires mental emancipation. (Biko, 1987) Scholars later refer to this notion as decolonisation.

Earlier this year at a tribute lecture to the late O.R Tambo held at the University of South Africa, Professor Mamdani argued: "*If the first globalisation was of colonization, then the second one can be said to represent its antithesis, decolonization...*" (8th Thabo Mbeki Day Lecture, 2017) This was primarily related to the protesting students rise for the decolonisation of tertiary institutions.

There is a perceptual disconnected 'grey area' that exists between the past and the present of the nation due to previous political systems. Colonization and Apartheid were both oppressive regimes Democracy is the first to suggest unity. (see Fig. 2.02). Democracy proposes a discontinuation of injustices, but rather, towards a just state for all.

Inter-sectionality

The rise of globalization has led to an increase in migration to cities and immigration into the country. Borders are of increasing concern for working people more than businesses. Businesses are often pro-immigration due the advantage

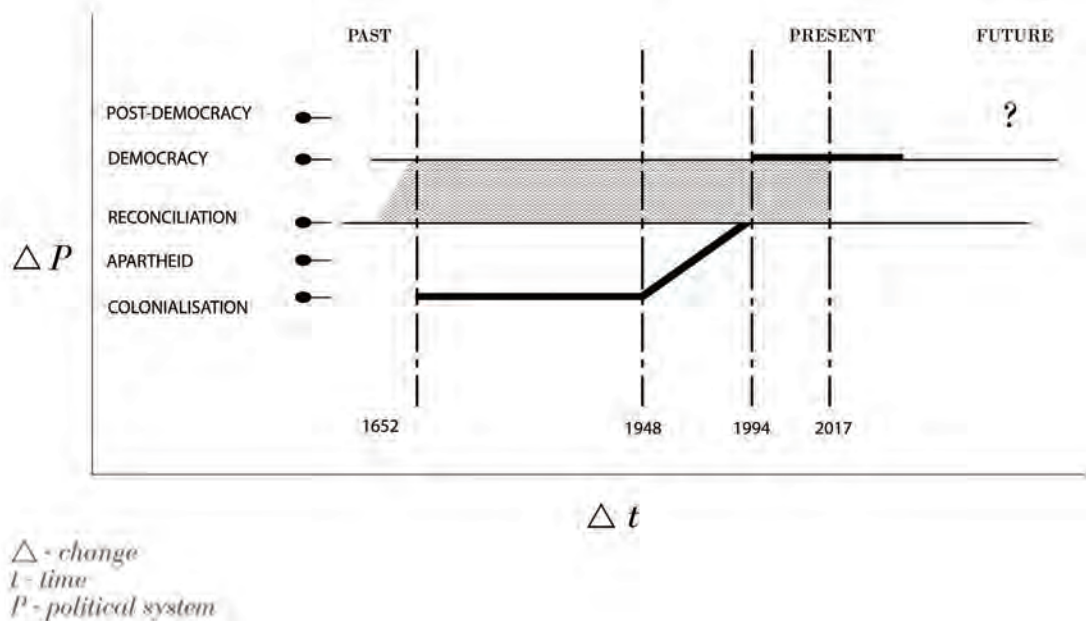


Fig. 2.02 Bottom Left; political system changes over time.

Fig. 2.03 Opposite Top; Photo-montage of existing conditions in Johannesburg.

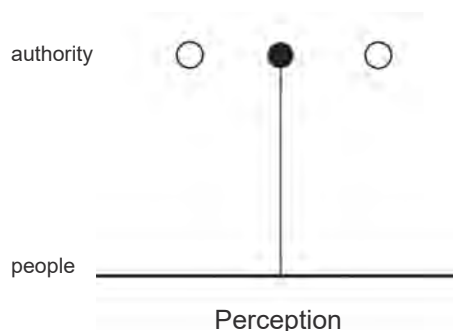
Fig. 2.04 Opposite Bottom; Perception



of cheaper labour, and workers are commonly anti-immigration due to claims of their opportunities being taken. These borders have direct influence to national sovereignty and citizenship all in the name of human rights. Mamdani critiques the implementation of human rights with regard to how every advance in the minimum wage and in social benefits is an advance limited only to citizens and permanent residents. (8th Thabo Mbeki Day Lecture, 2017) This struggle for economic freedom forms part of the core reasons for the periodic xenophobic attacks that have occurred in this country. This reinstates the issue of mental boundaries as natives have conventional assumptions about nationality with citizenship which ironically does not apply to white foreign nationals (Yuval-Davis, 2011) because they identify other natives as immigrants and neglect to evaluate caucasians. According to the Pauli exclusion principle, two bodies cannot occupy the same space at the same time (Faizi, et al, 2017). On the same note with reference to people, Lefebvre refers to this as the Politics of Space in which he investigates the space/ politics relationships, starting with the politically directed representations and how they contribute to its production. Historic wars in the country are exemplary in the politics of two or more bodies trying to occupy the same space simultaneously. Scholars reflect on his work by concluding that in a situation that people have to share space there must be an order or way of relating, therefore, a political space.

It has been suggested that a culture of authority has made people highly dependent on it, as a result one could argue that people are not yet capable to use the law as an instrument to enhance their lives. (Langa, 2006) This has lead to people being dependent on democracy to provide for all their necessities and sometimes even their privileges. Leading into the present, this dilemma has resulted in a further increase in the social and economic gap between the politician and the people as depicted in the previous political systems (Fig. 2.04). The culture of top-down authority is persevering beyond political change. Can an authority serve a nation that it is disconnected from or is it only a perception?

The latter briefly describes the current social condition of unsettled intersections between the various identities of South Africa. Democratic ideologies suggest a sense of belonging to all the citizens and visitors of South Africa - it suggests a better way of 'being' than that currently exists.



## Being<sup>2</sup>

- 1 *come into being/be brought into being to start to exist,*
- 2 *a living thing, especially a person,*
- 3 *literary the most important quality or nature of something, especially of a person*

(Longmandictionary, 2003)

The essence of democracy proposes unity, equality, and justice for all, which directly contradict the order proposed by Apartheid. The Constitution is the doctrine that which was founded upon Democracy, it suggests how the citizens should relate and prescribes how the country should be. Langa prescribes an Epilogue to understand the Constitution, also known as the Post-amble which describes the Constitution as providing;

*“a historic bridge between the past of a deeply divided society characterised by strife, conflict, untold suffering and injustice, and a future founded on the recognition of human rights, democracy and peaceful co-existence and development opportunities for all South Africans, irrespective of colour, race, class, belief or sex”.* (Langa, 2006; 3)

These ideas propose an equal distribution of socio-spatial interventions that would enable previously disadvantaged individuals and the privileged to be reconciled in order to achieve restitution.

**Table A.** Opposite *Top*; Image name or title (CorrectionalServices, 2017)

**Table B.** Opposite *Middle*; Image name or title (CorrectionalServices, 2017)

**Table C.** Opposite *Bottom*; Regional Crime Statistics (StatsSA, 2015)

To most previously oppressed individuals democracy came with many complex possibilities that most still struggle to understand and apply today. Affirmative action was to economically empower black people that were victims during the previous political regime. Its implementation and practice have resulted in the few connected politicians and associates being empowered more, if not alone, as compared to the larger populous. On the other hand, people have applied and received grants, rural development housing, financial aid for tertiary education through National Student Financial Aid Scheme etc. by using edited credentials and other falsified documentation. Does this constitute as a crime, and if so, what would criminal justice suggest?

The criminal justice system had several major changes that suggested better possibilities and living conditions for inmates. The death penalty was abolished in 1995, just over a year since democracy came into effect. During this time the Prison Service was separated from the Department of Justice and renamed Correctional Services. As suggested by the name, criminal punishment was no longer about punishing the offender or criminal but to rectify and restore them in order to assimilate them back into society. Certain categories of offenders were to be dealt with within the community rather than inside prison through “a system known as non-custodial “correctional supervision”.” (CorrectionalServices, 2017)

This would simultaneously and cost-effectively deal with offenders and overcrowding.

### Retrospection

The comparative tables A and B, depict the prison population rate to the prison population total. The prison population rates have considerably dropped in the most recent years. One can assume that the majority of the people that were arrested during the period before 1995 were non-white due to pass by-laws and other petty crimes. Even though Table B may be a good indication of improvement in the Correctional Services department, South Africa internationally falls under the top ten for prison population with a jail occupancy of 138.6% (BBCNews, 2017). This is directly related to the rate of crime and which subsequently affects the state of social justice within the country.

In the Correctional Services Budget Vote Speech, 2013/14 Minister Sibusiso Ndebele indicated that “each inmate costs the taxpayer R9 876.35 per month...” (Sibusiso Ndebele, 2017) In relation to the recent “Fees Must Fall” protests, research indicates that the average tertiary course at accredited institutions of higher learning in South Africa is between R30 000 to R35 000 per year and R100 000 for registration, meals, study material, and accommodation. (Bevan, 2016)

Table C depicts cities and neighbourhoods with the highest

crimes. Gauteng has four high crime areas which are widely spread out compared to three areas in Western Cape that are in closer proximity.

The last of the top ten highest crime areas in the country also belongs to Gauteng, Hillbrow. Its inclusion may be of concern, Hillbrow has one of the smallest surface areas compared to the other neighbourhoods or city centres. (see Fig. A.7 in annex A)

<b>Prison population trend</b> (year, prison population total, prison population rate)	1965	71 948	362
	1970	90 310	411
	1975	94 220	374
	1980	101 883	409
	1985	109 408	396
	1990	109 971	327
	1995	118 205	301
	2000	171 462	394

Table A

<b>Prison population trend</b> (year, prison population total, prison population rate)	2000	171 462	394
	2002	178 998	396
	2004	187 640	403
	2006	150 302	318
	2008	165 840	342
	2010	163 312	328
	2012	158 165	310
	2014	154 648	288

Table B

Precinct	Province	Number Crimes
Mitchells Plain	Western Cape	19499
Cape Town Central	Western Cape	17785
Johannesburg Central	Gauteng	14606
Durban Central	Kwazulu-Natal	13735
Honeydew	Gauteng	12889
Kraaifontein	Western Cape	11939
Park Road	Free State	11489
Pretoria Central	Gauteng	11444
Phoenix	Kwazulu-Natal	11206
Hillbrow	Gauteng	10933
<b>Total</b>		<b>135525</b>

Table C



South African city centres and some neighbourhoods are plagued by a high crime rate amongst which a neighbourhood that once was affluent during Apartheid, Hillbrow. A brief history of Hillbrow may begin to describe how this neighbourhood ended up in its current condition (Fig. 2.05). Hillbrow and its surrounding areas went through their shift in identity shortly before 1994 and then complete change was seen afterwards. Can one say Democracy is responsible for the fall of such neighbourhoods? One other area that experienced an identical transformation is Sunnyside in Pretoria.

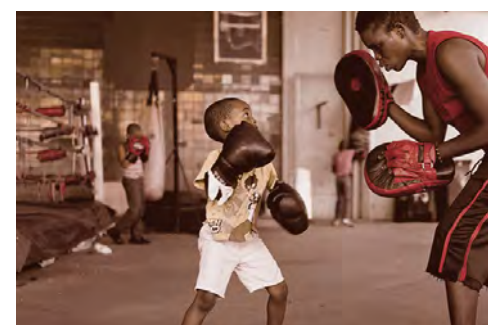
Before democracy a “whites only” community inhabited the area during which the art-deco architectural style was extensively celebrated.

The turn in power resulted in the residents relocating to the northern suburbs. A deficit of residents introduced an influx of new people of all races and most recently, international immigrants (Fig. 2.06). As a result of the shift in political and economic power, and illegal occupation and livelihoods have proven consequential to the area.

The high-rise residential towers are overcrowded through illegal occupation. *“The current occupants show no intention for permanence as they use these buildings as thoroughfares to their ultimate aspirations”* said Lieutenant Dlamini (SAPS, 2017). This has resulted in a lack of ownership and coherence within the immediate community. Additionally, the urban decay poses anti-social living

conditions that have created a disconnection between Hillbrow and the rest of the city.

It is worthy to note that through providing access to productive amenities such as the boxing gym (Fig. 2.07) below, these spaces can educate, discipline, and protect its users which would inherently improve the area.





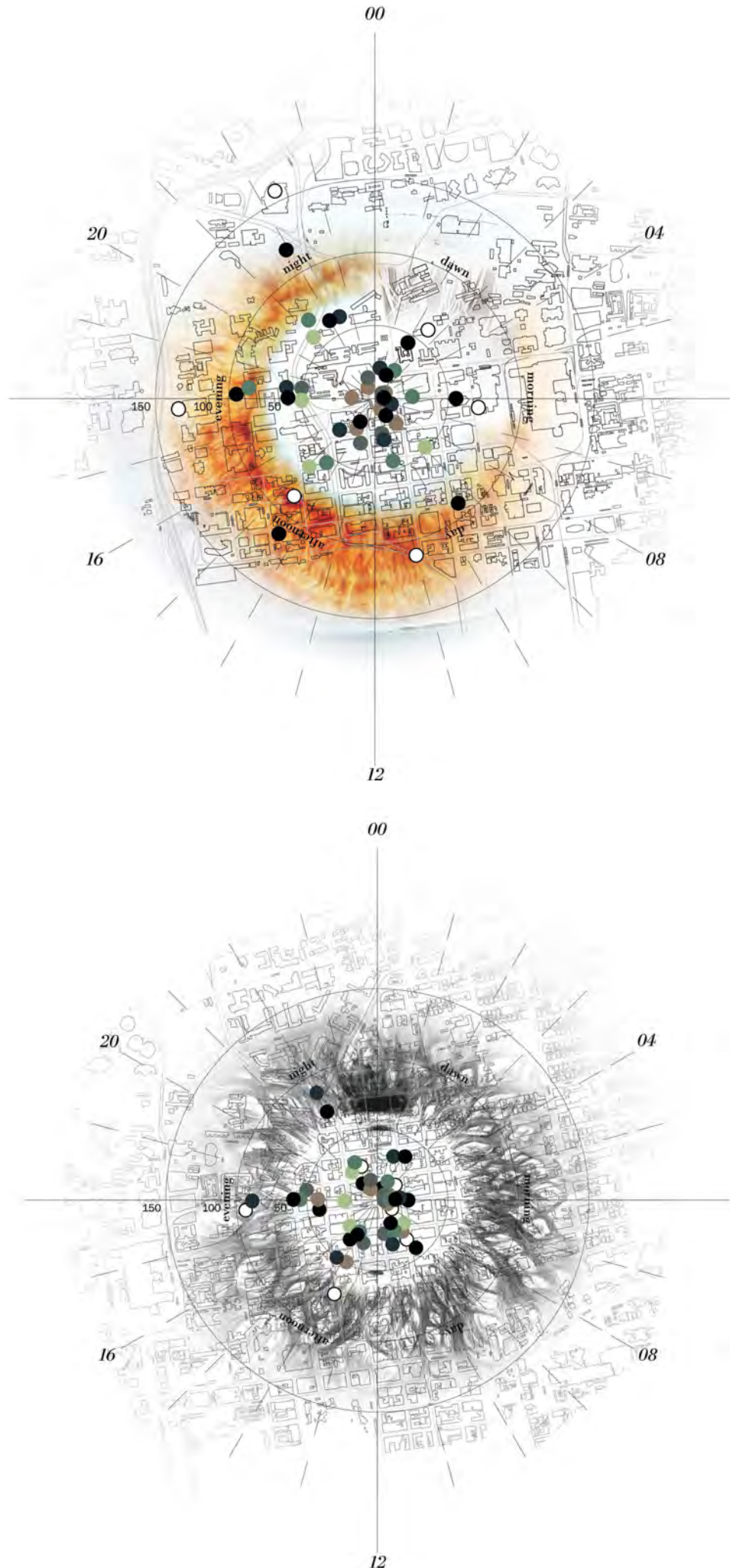
**Fig. 2.05** Opposite Top; Polluted Alley in Hillbrow (Boyer, 2015)

**Fig. 2.06.** Opposite Middle; Displaced Homeless People in Hillbrow (Rossouw, 2015)

**Fig. 2.07.** Opposite Bottom; Boxing Club in Hillbrow (Quarmyne, 2016)

**Fig. 2.08.** Above; Braamfontein crime rates

**Fig. 2.10.** Hillbrow crime rates



## Indefensible Space

Crime report sheets from the Hillbrow police station indicated that the most common crimes (Fig. 2.08) in Braamfontein are: theft out of a motor vehicle, general theft, malicious damage to property and common robbery. These are crimes that most people can barely defend themselves against. All citizens are vulnerable to these offenses as they occur in public spaces such as a park, traffic light, shopping centre, and the sidewalk. These spaces become indefensible as a result of the lack of territoriality and their universal condition to serve all its users.

The Hillbrow police station report also indicated that majority of these crimes are committed during the week. Lt. Dlamini suggested that the targets are employees and students from around the area. (SAPS, 2017)

The most common crimes in Hillbrow (Fig. 2.09) are: common robbery, common assault, assault with the purpose to inflict grievous bodily harm and theft out of motor vehicles respectively. These types of crime indicate a behaviour that is due to an ill social condition as opposed to a lack of resources such as food, or jobs.

In conclusion Lt. Dlamini suggested that the individuals responsible for the crimes committed in Braamfontein are some of the residents of Hillbrow. (see Fig. A.6 in annex A)

This area is the epitome of a polar condition of how an oppressive authority (apartheid) could shape a haven whilst serving an elite minority of a community, and how the transfer of power to democracy can be overwhelming, resulting in negligence of such prospering neighbourhoods sidelined by other issues.

There was a continuous rise of migration to occupy the old affluent neighbourhood of Hillbrow after post-democracy. When the owners moved out, management and control decreased which gave opportunity for the dwellers to either sublet or live with higher numbers of people than the prescribed amount. This increased the pressure on the services but decreased rent. Building owners gradually became exhausted by the maintenance and upkeep of their property. Slowly one by one they sold or abandoned their property for it was also difficult to attend to through the new laws that protect financially unsuitable residents (Toyab, 2016). The neighbourhood was ungoverned. Soon immigrants occupied the buildings as the rent was cheaper or free in most cases. Fighting for survival, inhabitants resorted to

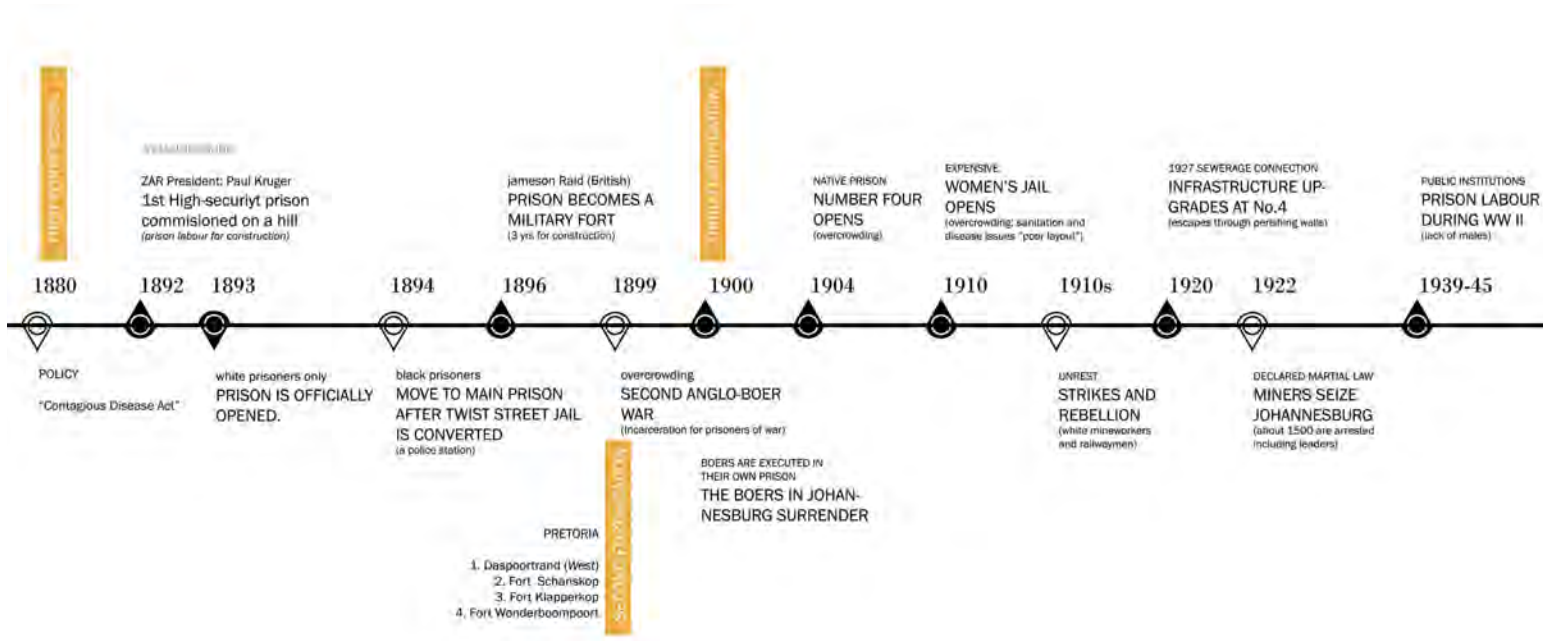
antisocial means of acquiring the everyday necessities, in light of the negative effect of Democracy in the area. It is intrinsically important to realise the positive contribution it has made. It is said that the need for democratic monuments, museums and commemorations of great leaders and historic events post the 1994 elections was a necessity, once the new government was in place. The new home of the constitution, the Constitutional Court precinct was to be located approximately 50m from the boundary line that marks the borders of Hillbrow.

### Political Space

The new building is located a stone's throw away, north of the first high-security prison in Johannesburg (Fig. 2.12) which was commissioned by Paul Kruger in 1892 (ConstitutionHill, 2017). Its strategic position was to overlook central Johannesburg and to intimidate the mineworkers that worked in the area. This guardhouse-like positioned prison was to only accommodate white prisoners as segregation laws suggested white superiority over the non-whites. Black prisoners were only

transferred here later when their prison was demolished to build a hospital. The transfer implicated a sectioning of the 'white' prison. (ConstitutionHill, 2017) In 1896, the prison became a military fort during which a British group attempted to overthrow the government to take over Johannesburg and later Pretoria. (ConstitutionHill, 2017) Resistance to these threats led the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) to a fortification on the hills, as a result, ramparts were built around the prison. The ramparts and other military facilities took 3 years to construct. The fort was finally established in 1899, to accommodate prisoners of war and political leaders that opposed the ruling government (Noble, 2011).

The prison would later witness over a century of South Africa's political history such as the Anglo-Boer war at the turn of the century, the expansion of the prison to accommodate black women and more men, holding political leaders of the treason trial, the prisoner population drop from 4000 to around 1500 due to a breakout of typhoid, the youth caught in Soweto Uprising, and the construction of the Constitutional court. (ConstitutionHill, 2017)

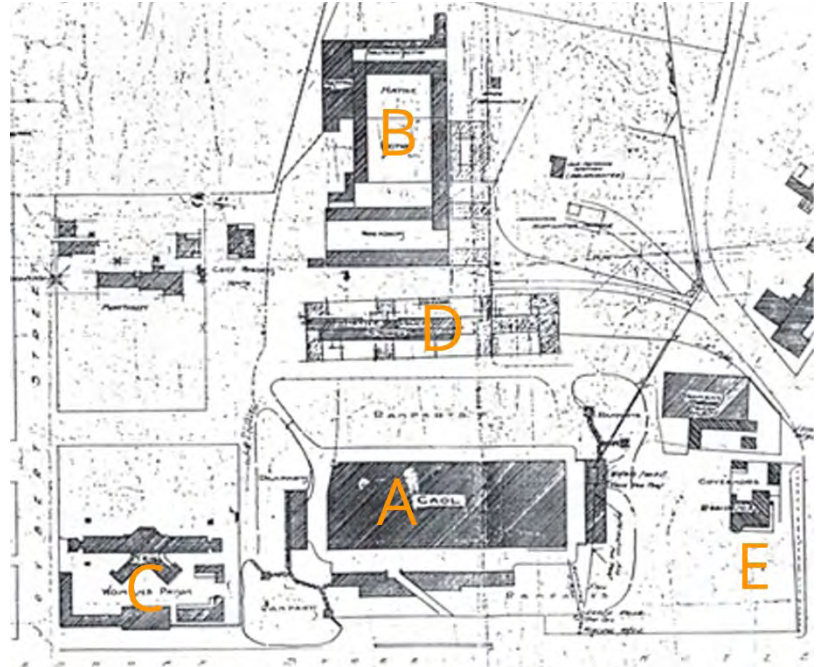


**Fig. 2.12** Bottom; Timeline of the Constitutional Court.

**Fig. 2.13.** Above; Historic site plan of the prison precinct (adopted from the conceptual spatial design by Urban Solutions).

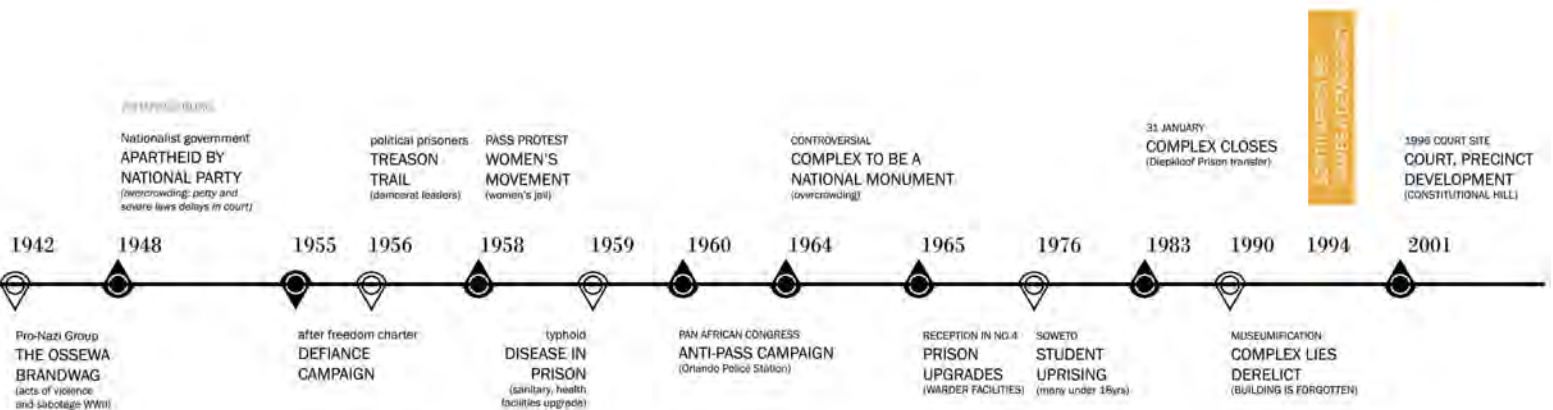
Various charges were accommodated here for; petty crimes such as the pass laws. Prominent cadres of the anti-apartheid struggle such as Oliver Tambo, Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Joe Slovo, Lilian Ngoyi and Ruth First were incarcerated here. Students that participated in the Soweto Uprising were also incarcerated here, for some it was an illegal exercise because they were minors. The prison was overcrowded and the rate of arrests continued to rise which required another prison to be build. Small structures were built for this urgent demand but a permanent solution was needed. (ConstitutionHill, 2017)

Located a stone's throw away from the Fort's ramparts to the north the "Native prison" prison (Fig. 2.13), named Number Four (B) and a later addition called Five, were the resolution to the increasing demand. This prison was renowned for the way the prisoners were unfairly treated. Two additional buildings were also erected during this period, the prison for women (C) and the awaiting trial block (D). Even in these

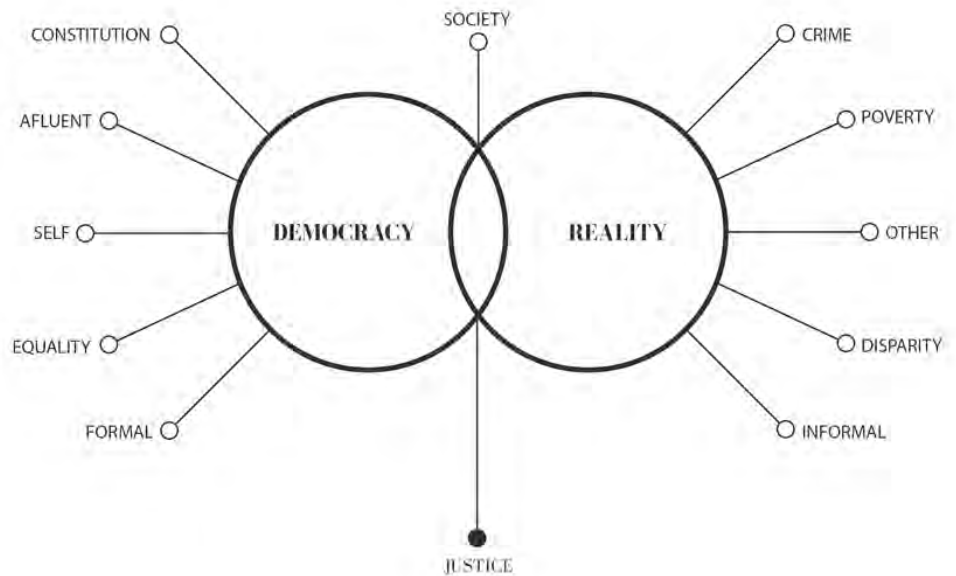


buildings overcrowding, sanitation and diseases became the main difficulties. (ConstitutionHill, 2017) The governor of the prison precinct lived in a smaller building, not too far from site (E). (see Fig. A.15 in annex A)

- A) Old Fort / Prison
- B) Number Four
- C) Women's Gaol
- D) Awaiting Trial Block
- E) Governor's House



**Fig. 2.14** Left; Image from an exhibition at Prison Number Four  
**Fig. 2.15** Right; Democracy versus reality  
**Fig. 2.16** Opposite; Phot-montage of the urban renewal.



## Con[stitution]

Nelson Mandela signed the new constitution of South Africa into law three years later after the liberation of the country on the 4th of February in 1997. In fear of retribution the National Party enforced commitment to the future constitutional principles. (Noble, 2011) ANC wanted to uphold an international standard of constitutional principles whilst many parties and a large portion of the populous wanted the opposite in the form of revenge. The alternatively suggested undemocratic solution led to several negotiations through Multi-party Negotiation Process and CODESA. (Noble, 2011) Finally through CODESA an Interim Constitution was put in place to constrain the content of the following democratic constitution. The Interim Constitution established Constitutional court of South Africa as a new legal authority which had to ensure that the Final Constitution complied with the 34 principles, and would rule supreme over all constitutional disputes. In response to the latter, one can argue the current constitution is a convict to its predecessors (Fig. 2.14).

In the climate of a new democratic society, an international competition was initiated in 1997 for the design of the new court building and the immediate precinct. The precinct would house other statutory institutions such as the Human Rights Commission, Commission and Gender Equality and lastly an innovative complex of museums sites and heritage. (LeRoux, 2006) It is unconfirmed as to when the police station and the magistrate's court were built across the road of the constitutional court to the east. More government institutions have been built around this precinct such as the Hillbrow recreational centre and the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality building. This is a contemporary utopia for governing institutions.

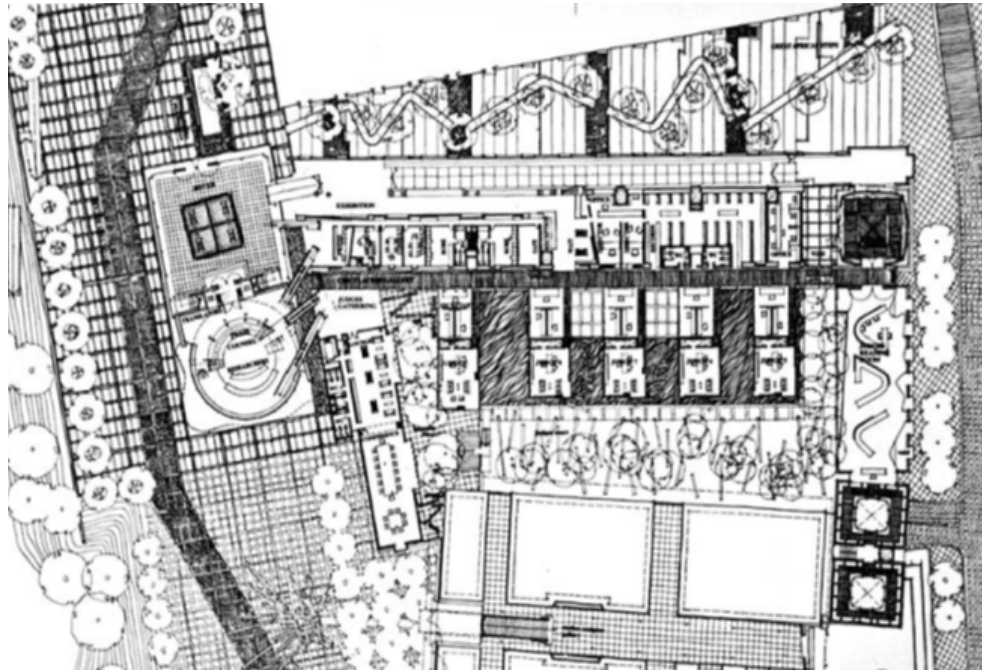
In light of these human rights and gender equality government institutions, one can almost imagine ideal surrounding neighbourhoods that benefit directly from the "beacon of Democracy" precinct. The immediate neighbourhood of Hillbrow does not

benefit from the supporting formal institutions and the contrary is true for Braamfontein because it is home to some of the employees that work in immediate vicinity (see Fig. A.20 in annex A). It has been said that some policemen work for the drug lords and pimps of the Hillbrow community. (Pillay, 2013)

With the background of the above, one may conclude that the implementation of democracy with regard to Spatial Justice, Social Justice, and Judicial Justice, Hillbrow has had a cosmetic transformation that requires rethinking and rehabilitation. Images above depict the urban upgrade that was part of a framework for the court. Essentially they introduced more trees, bins, sculptures and parking spaces to support a picturesque aesthetic for the "beacon on the hill". Majority of the proposed freedoms have been applied symbolically resulting in a less effective quality in reality. South Africa's polar condition of the symbol of democracy versus its reality requires a critical rethinking in the light of realizing a Just society.



**Fig. 2.17** Left; Insignia of the Constitutional Court. (Noble, 2011)  
**Fig. 2.18** Right; Ground floor plan of the Constitutional Court  
**Fig. 2.19** Opposite Top; Design exploration of the court chamber and the foyer. (Noble, 2011)  
**Fig. 2.20** Opposite Bottom; Edge condition at Constitution Hill.



## The Competition

The choice of site for the Constitutional Court was a result of both its symbolism and past which would maintain a positive contribution to the day. The establishment of the building was to begin with an international competition that many bodies would participate and adjudicate the results. Amongst the organisations were a competition steering committee (CSC), the Constitutional Court, Department of Justice, Arts, Culture and Technology - the Greater Johannesburg Metropolitan Council, and the National Monuments Council was also involved. (Noble, 2011) The competition was promoted by the Department of Public Works with the first meeting on the 22nd of January 1997. (Noble, 2011) This interdepartmental intervention portrays precedent to how the government should work in a democratic country.

The jurors made it clear that they were looking for something new, something 'uniquely South African'. (Noble, 2011) Fundamental ideas were questioned in rigorous debates, questions such as: what is an African Architecture in the context of a contemporary court, should African identity be linked to style, to certain types of form, to climate or materials, and so on?

## A New Court

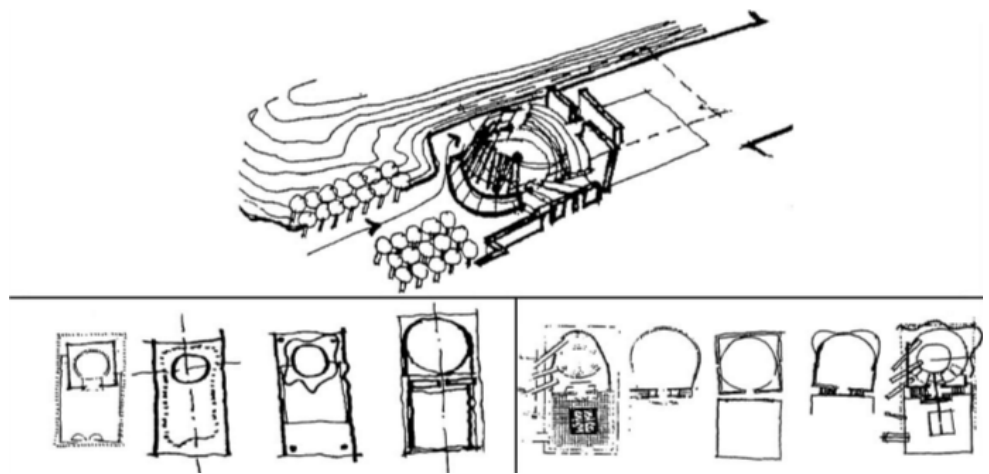
Nelson Mandela's words laid foundation to the construction of the court. He believed Constitution Hill will stand "as a beacon of light, hope and celebration. Its physical foundations will rise above horrid memories of torture and suffering which once were perpetrated in the dark corners, cells and corridors of the Old Fort prison." (Noble, 2011) Mandela's words establish a parallel relationship between the prison and the court, similarly with injustice and freedom. The eleven judges were continuously involved in the development of the court as they identified that it would need a new public identity. Faced with this artistic challenge they approved the new insignia which symbolically and aesthetically contrasts the old coat of arms which was representative of a racist authoritarian leadership. (Fig. 2.17)

The finalists for the competition included Pearce Partnership who collaborated with GAPP Architects, Justin Snell, Planning and Design Consultants, Holm Jordaan and Holm's and the winners of the competition OMM Design Workshop and Urban Solutions. Noble argues the winning scheme was the richest because it combines essential traits of the other four approaches to "iconic symbolism". His analysis concludes that it has a distinctive fragmented appeal, one which is carefully adjusted to the particularities of the location and symbolizes the pluralistic requirements of the brief. Along with the proposal

a written manifesto was submitted elaborating on the intentions and informants of the design. The text commences with a discussion on democratic urban space: '[t]he way cities are designed either invites normal human interaction or restricts it. The OMM explain:

*"[g]rand dominant monuments are only needed to represent victories of war, exclusively in the face of threat to an unpopular social system, economic or elite social power, or the unattainable - places of God or the gods. The constitution, and therefore its houses and precinct, have nothing in common with any of these situations."*

Noble argues these words demonstrate a critique on the conventional symbols of power, to the dethroning of the exclusive colonial type monument, towards a more transparent and welcoming inclusive edifice. The placement of the court becomes exemplary in achieving these ambitious goals. (Fig. 2.18) Other submissions had screened the chamber by protecting it behind imposing walls, hid it next to the ramparts, or otherwise expose it to public view without direct access or urban connection. The winners combined the main foyer from the Constitution Square with the court chamber as one volume with a direct physical and visual link to the exterior therefore with the public. (Fig.2.19)



The written report highlights a continuation of space with the surrounding environment, *'[p]ublic space in the building is continuous with the urban public context', as well as reflected in the plan, 'contours from the ground merge with the contours of the building'*. (Noble, 2011)

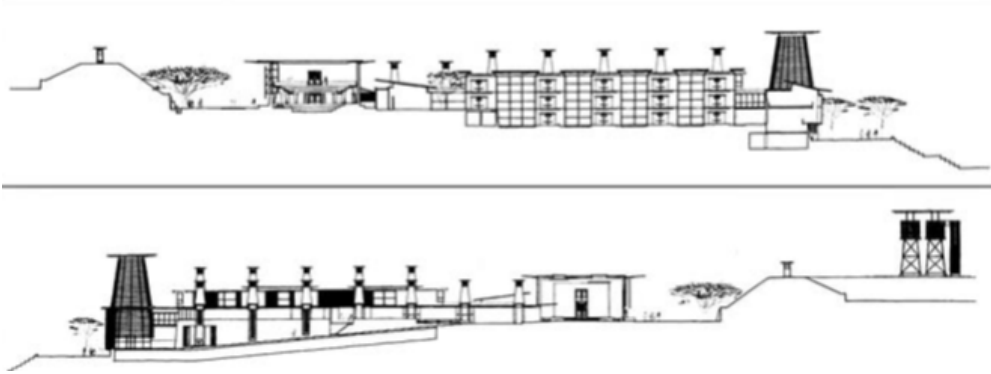
Chosen materials here are used to blur the boundaries between the exterior and interior surfaces. Essentially, the argument is that, through linking the main court chamber to the Constitution Square they linked the court to the rest of the city because of the Constitution Square's public nature. However, this grand public space becomes exclusive to the pedestrian as their main access comes from the east (Hillbrow) which confronts the rear of the court, which has the main entrance is on the west. On the western edge of the Constitution Square there are super-basements which are phase one of a multifunctional building framework. (Fig. 2.20) These concrete structures form a hard edge against the street as the rear end of the court. (see Fig. A.17 in annex A) From either one of the surrounding streets one has little or no orientation towards where the main entrance is, the "Towers of Democracy" form intuitive landmarks in the Constitution Square which are contrasted with the Library tower further north which has the insignia, this lessens the effect as invitational devices into the building. (Fig. 1.1)

This condition may have been deliberate due to the fact that one of their intentions was to create a grand experience of space as oppose to the Eurocentric grand monument which is celebrated from a distance

The production of space in this building has various links to rural architecture. The the building has a disaggregated mass which makes reference to the settlement patterns of the Nguni and the Tshwane tribes. The main court space and foyer employs the idea of a traditional court under a tree where justice is open and participatory. (Niekerk, 2015) This analogy is celebrated almost directly in the foyer space. The roof is filled with randomly positioned skylights of various sizes and depths to achieve the effect of being under a canopy of trees. (Noble, 2011) One of the leading jurors judge Sachs, a judge at the Constitutional Court, spoke highly about the implementation of the analogy of the tree and stated that it was one of the prominent features in his assessment. This volumetric play with light becomes much more apparent when one is observing the

observing the roof from the ramparts adjacent to the building (see Fig.1.1). The library tower has a frame-like construction that emulates the traditional African weaved baskets or hats, the same language is used for the air duct chimneys along the rest of the building. The screens light filtering effect was derived from traditional basket weave and trees alike. The architects employ materials inspired by the immediate context of prisons by having cage-like screens in the building which are reminiscent of the prison cells.





## Dignity

Several members of the jury were concerned with the proposed transparency because it was in contradiction with the image of seriousness for the building. (Fig. 2.23) Competition submission perspectives depicted a space that would host informal trading behind the court chamber which would form part of the Hillbrow-pedestrian entrance. (see Fig. A.16 in annex A) At this point one may argue that this would have been appropriate, and it would have offered an important and necessary interface to the now very isolated edge of the court. One judge mentioned that his concern was that the edifice was becoming ‘bioscope-like’, in the sense that it would lack dignity and that court proceedings could be interrupted by onlookers (Noble, 2011). Another juror emphasized that even though it represents the people, it still needs to have a powerful image which a building of its stature requires (Noble, 2011). Unfortunately, these concerns resulted in the noticeable loss of the court chamber’s tectonic and highly transparent and organic nature and the space became more exclusive through its replacement with more stereotomic box-like construction. (Fig. 2.22)





**Fig. 2.21** Opposite Top; Elevations of the Constitutional Court (Noble, 2011)

**Fig. 2.22** Opposite Middle; Photo-montage of the Constitutional Court

**Fig. 2.23** Opposite Bottom; Design exploration submission render by OMMUS (Sanders, 2000)

**Fig. 2.24** Above; The Great African Stairs at the Constitution Court.

**Fig. 2.24 Bottom;** Exhibition space at the Constitution Court.(Noble,2011)

**Fig. 2.24**

One suggestion was to swap the location of the court chamber with the library, in order to create a processional route terracing down to the point of the destination. The architects stood stern against this due to their manifesto for democratic space (Noble, 2011). The result, is a lack of persuasion to explore the rest of the building as one reaches their final destination at the point of entry. The terracing stairs (Fig. 2.25) that lead to the library protrude beyond the building to form the “African Stairs” (Fig. 2.24) a public space that is meant to have active human activity. The expressed journey to the library culminates with an almost disappointing space in that it lacks a celebratory space as suggested by the promenade and the circulation tower above.



### Light on the Hill?

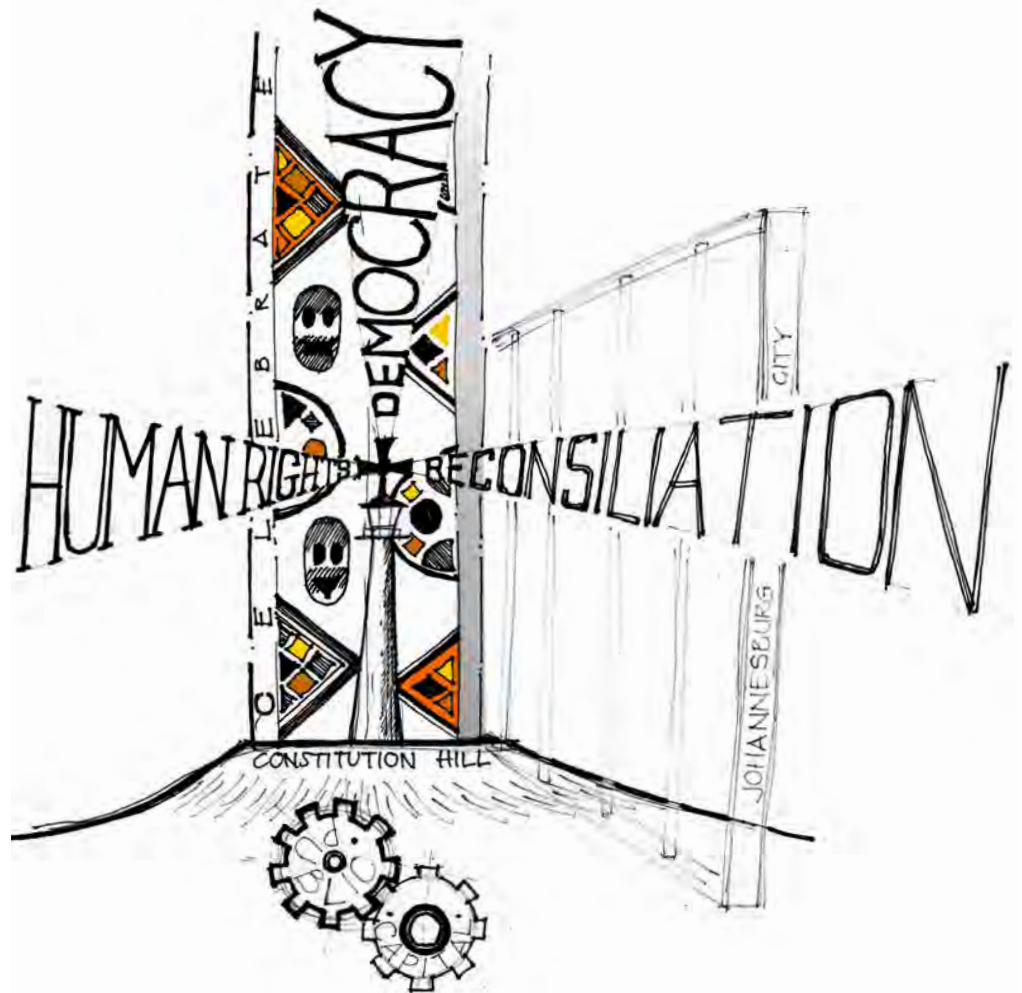
The court building aims to express identity in architecture. It has been hailed as the first major post-Apartheid building in alongside other buildings like the Mpumalanga Legislature, Walter Sisulu Square of Dedication, Freedom Park etc.

OMMUS argued defining a contextually and culturally responsive architecture, spatial composition, and experience is privileged above overt references to recognizable African architectural form. In this regard their proposal deserves credit and provides a framework which allows for varied interpretations and applications.



**Fig. 2.24** Above; Conceptual principles of the Constitution Hill

**Fig. 2.25** Opposite; The exchange of justice



In its intentions and execution it can be summarised as:

The re-conceptualization of modern African space based on the fundamentals of indigenous belief systems from which it may be argued that space, time, and material are inseparable and infinite. Ownership of space, time and material is universal (i.e it should belong to everyone). Commodification and limited ownership should be contested. From this premise five design strategies were proposed by OMMUS:

-To reconsider primary urban movement systems in which the orthogonal represents function and economy. This should be displaced by an “organic” approach which favours the importance of experience above expediency.

-To reconsider the nature, role and conceptualization of objects associated with movement routes. This refers to edge conditions and thresholds between spaces. Edge conditions should be articulated as habitable

divisions.

-To reconsider the nature, role and conceptualization of objects associated with movement routes. This refers to edge conditions and thresholds between spaces. Edge conditions should be articulated as habitable transitional space rather than abrupt divisions.

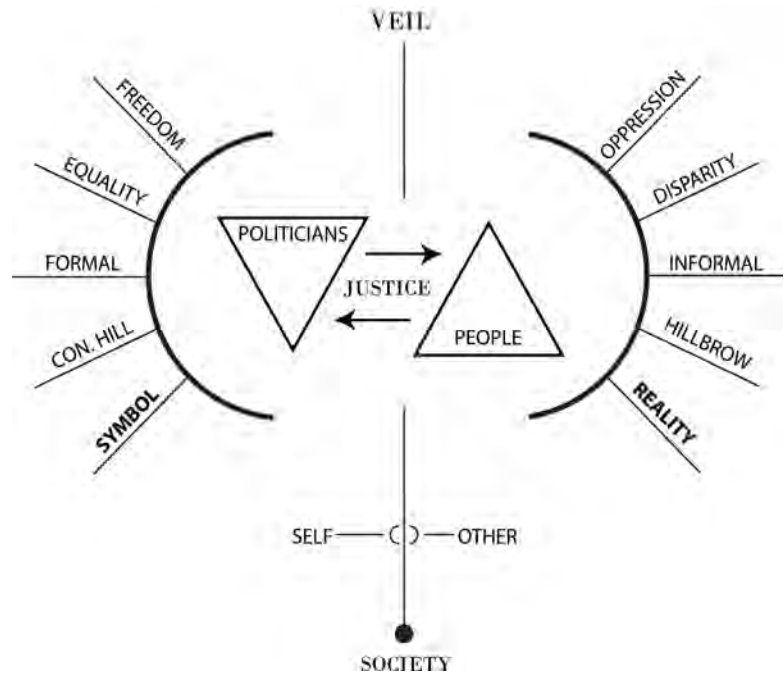
-To reconsider the nature, role and conceptualization of space between objects. Route as space and place which celebrates the ritual of movement as equally important to arrival. This may also be interpreted as equality between programmed and un-programmed space

-To reconsider the nature, role and conceptualization of territoriality. This refers to the relationship between public and private space. Here the distinct difference between a Western and African perspective is important. In the latter space is always public unless designated as private. The opposite applies in the Western tradition following on an ownership economy.

From a design perspective the articulation of threshold and the blurring of distinct boundaries become important and the establishment of in-between spaces where territory and ownership can be negotiated or contested.

The building deserves merit in some regard. On the other hand, the translation of these intentions is thin in the final building, the initial proposals intended to do more for the public. A public market was to facilitate a civic orientated facade.

On approach from the north, it looks colonial in its heavy mass which defies the idea of a transparent democracy and knowledge. The library façades allow very little interaction with the exterior. One may argue about issues of security and access, simultaneously one should also consider whom and why they should be kept out especially with the judges living on site. Visual and physical accesses differ extremely, in this case, they were treated equally. The illusion of justice must be removed.



## Unveiling Justice

A veil of deceitful justice is eminent in the study area. The issue of justice is evident beyond the boundaries of the site, it's a National matter. More recently it's become clear that we may be heading towards a system of Tyranny as our current president uses duress to maintain his power. The politician has become authority over the people.

There is a polar relationship between the symbolic Constitutional Hill and the real living conditions of Hillbrow. (see Fig. A.11 in annex A) The civic precinct consists of formal institutions that represent freedom and equality, on the other hand, Hillbrow is resilient in its informal nature of illegal occupation creating a sense of instability and arguably oppression as a result of the lack of freedom in the spaces they occupy.

Inverting these conditions would suggest a judicial system that aims to satisfy the people and remove the issues of self (politicians) versus the other (civilians) therefore mending an

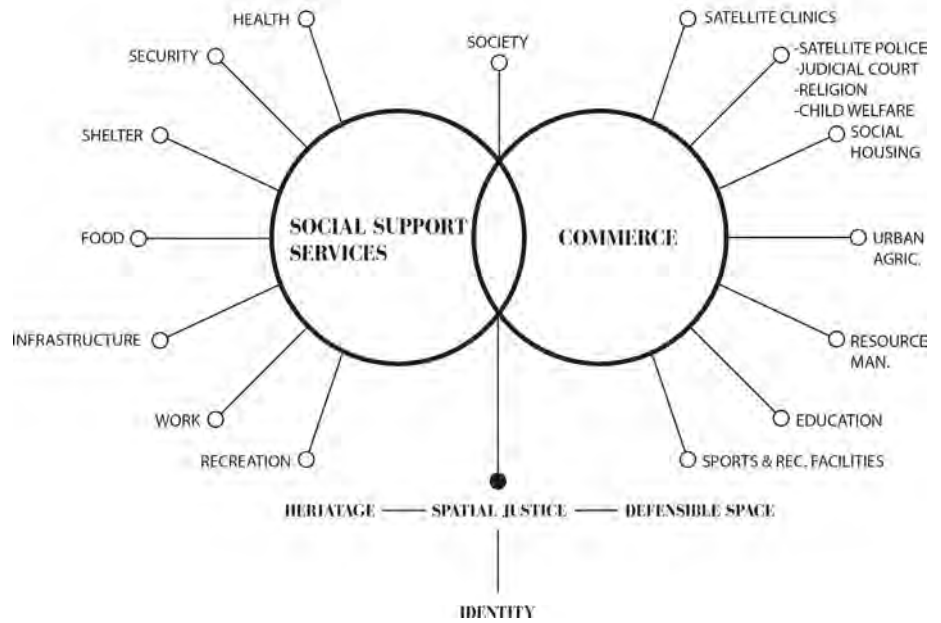
adjudicated society.

However, its location in the city and proximity to the major tertiary education, government institutions, and facilities along with the constitutional court, recognizes the area to have latent social support services potential that would respond to the issues of the people. (see Fig. 2.25) The symbolic and physical connection of the politicians, judiciary, and the residents of the city, would offer opportunity to unveil the issues of the top down effect in the assertion of power. Through social support services this proposal would create a rare opportunity where the distinct polarities of self and other are blurred in order to create a democratic unified society.

Fig. 2.24 Above; Social Support Services

Fig. 2.25 Opposite; Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading

Fig. 2.26 Opposite Bottom; Interception



## Social Support Services

It has been argued that enabling is far better than provision, for enabling is more sustainable over time. The study area has highlighted its disparities over an understanding of the mapping and its people. The lack of positive social support services has had antisocial results that affect the larger city. These services can influence the livelihoods of the inhabitants in order to enable them and decrease the ever increasing antisocial behaviour.

With the capitalist climate, it has become almost impossible to maintain a decent standard of living without taking part in the economic field of exchange. In response to the above, the resulting questions are as follows:

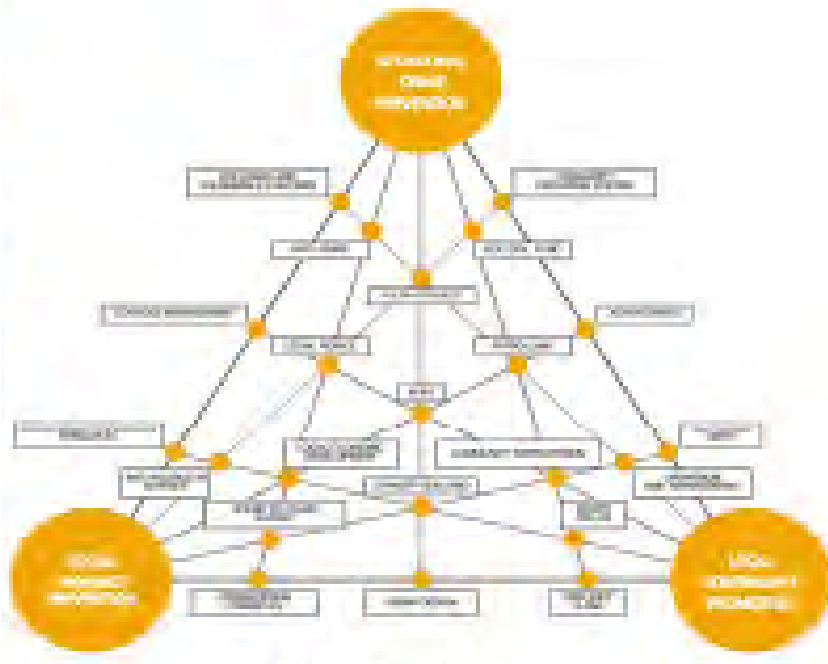
- How would social enablement have a direct influence to the economic enablement of the urban city dweller?
- Could it have any implication on the heritage of the urban fabric?
- How can it assist achieve spatial justice in order to enforce the emergent identity a post-apartheid city.

The site location offers latent social support services potential, that is

appropriate for an urban alliance by connecting it to associated amenities through an interconnected system, physically and through program, in order to enhance the existing site conditions through restoration, social, economic, and environmental infrastructures. This can provide means capable of satisfying current and extrapolated demands of the immediate urban context.

Pretoria Street in Hillbrow has become the central business district for Hillbrow. It hosts several supermarkets, food franchises and other recreational facilities which mostly are open beyond the standard working hours. One can argue that it is these amenities that are contributors to the location of the crime hot spots.

Principles of defensible space and the prevention of violence through urban upgrading (VPUU), serves great opportunity that could improve the livelihood of the street as public space, which could become an invitational platform for economic and cultural exchange.



Extrapolating the existing programs does not only improve the existing context but also formalizes the programs as permanent positive contributors for the neighborhood.

This would create a framework that would employ the five principles of defensible space namely: surveillance and visibility, territoriality, defined access and movement, image and aesthetics, physical barriers, maintenance and management.

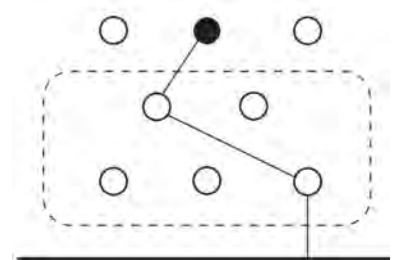
Hillbrow is occupied by the city's marginal lower class, creating a pulsating energy of semi-formal commercial activity on the sidewalks. However, the lack of positive ownership and territoriality of the site has allowed for the internal fabric to decay. The intent of this dissertation on an urban level, is to extrapolate the existing positive conditions to animate the site and establish an awareness of social services through which justice

would be served in order to create an urban environment that is conducive for reinvestment and greater livelihoods of its inhabitants.

### Departmental Cohesion.

In order to organize and to create order in the government, several departments and ministers have been assigned to address matters in their specialised fields. This pragmatic approach has been successful in its most part but has resulted in departments behaving as independent organisations or silos, although still serving one government. One has witnessed several instances where the required assistance was not satisfied due to the one department unaware of who should be responsible for the particular type of matter. On other occasions people are bounced around several times before they are assisted. This soloing practice must be challenged.

The aforementioned proposal intends to employ an interdepartmental managing strategy between the proposed social support services. The introduction of intermediary institutions or organisations would further assist in dealing with Hillbrow's requirements in a more direct therefore, effective manner.

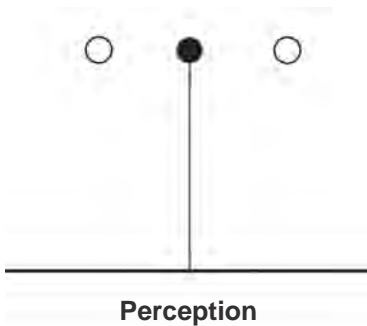


Interception

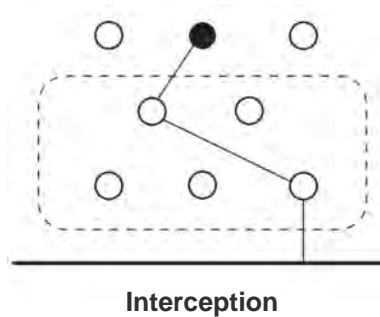
**Fig. 2.27** Left; Authoritative disconnection from the people

**Fig. 2.28** Middle; Intermediate institutions for the public

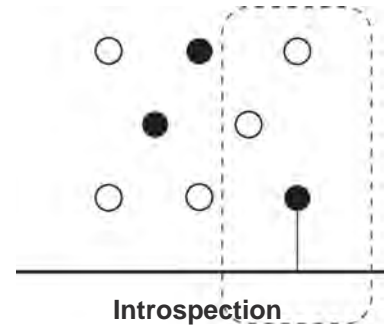
**Fig. 2.29** Right; Direct resolution with immediate institution



The disconnection of the authority and the people creates a perceptual condition in which the authority enforces their power to maintain equality and harmony. Should individuals that do not have a genuine understanding of the people and their living conditions be allowed to place judgement upon them?



Society's living conditions that are influenced by different variables, would imply a specific standard of understanding in order to resolve them. Would having more institutions that deal with particular matters directly suggest a better resolution?



The exercise of examining and observing one's mental and emotional processes contributes to self-realization. Assistance can improve the subject to offer a better diagnoses and therefore resolution thereafter. Synthesis of the aforementioned would serve as prognosis in order to commit

## Towards Democratic Space. (MANIFESTO)

- It contradicts spaces of colonial decent, therefore it is not oppressive neither limiting. One must be connected to its uses and have a sense of ownership to the space.
- It is inclusive to a just socio-political Constitution) and economic system.
- It has or develops positive relationships with its environment, neighbours and its users.
- The public space in the building is continuous with the urban public context which could possibly respond to the existing topography
- It succumbs to the notion of transparency and a layering in history and adaptive program
- One has liberty of movement; to stand, sit, linger, chat or move on
- It does not represent nor is it a space of God or the gods
- Materials blur the boundary between the exterior and the interior
- It does not celebrate the individual but the diversity in unity therefore, expresses the same levels of diversity and range of experience as in our natural, cultural and social environments.
- It is a counter-monument - it does not present domination or power but in some regard a silent victory of sorts (an overcoming of oppression, a triumph)
- Suggests a reconstruction of the state of Society as follows:
  - the redistribution power and resources along egalitarian lines
  - eradicates systemic forms of domination and materialist disadvantage based on race, gender, class and other grounds of inequality
  - it develops opportunities which allow people to realise their full human potential within positive social relationships
  - suggests a social and economic transformation

“FOR AS LONG AS POLAR REALITIES EXIST, THE VIRTUE OF DEMOCRACY  
WILL ALWAYS BE HOLLOW.”

## Becoming<sup>3</sup>

*Becoming: 1 to begin to be something, or to develop in a particular way*

*2 to be suitable for someone or to look attractive on them,*

*3 what became of...? /whatever became of ...? Used to ask what has happened to someone or something, especially when we have not seen them for a long time, neighbourhood*

*(Longmandictionary, 2003)*

As response to the analysis and research, this section postulates a different reality that is critical of the existing issues but sensitive of the latent potential of the area and greater city. The proposal will utilise the latent potential as identified previously, as the primary resource.

Principles of spatial justice and prevention of violence through urban upgrading serves great opportunity that could improve the livelihood of the street as public space, which have the potential to give an invitational platform for economic and cultural exchange.

## Social Space

Lefebvre (1991) argues, social space is not a space that exists solely to enclose social occurrences like a container. Rather, it is a composition that results from the interaction with the social public realm, which in turn defines space accordingly. According to Tayob social space refers to the relationship between the physio spatial and the socio public realms. (taken from Lefebvre's ideas of social space-). Soja (2009:2) proposed three principles that spatial justice is defined by. Firstly, we must accept that we are all social beings in which this notion is spatially translated in our environment. Secondly, understanding that space socially produced, therefore it can be socially challenged and changed. Lastly, the spatial qualities of the routine have the capacity to shape social circumstances, and the inverse as true.

## SPATIAL JUSTICE

Workers, students and general civilians have re-discovered addressing their social injustices through space. This practice has become prominent throughout the South African Political landscape. When the Pik-it-up employees went on strike for a salary increase, workers polluted the streets and public departmental buildings leaving the Johannesburg city centre undesirable to its occupants and visitors. Across the country, students vandalised and burnt tertiary institutions

as a cry out to the government that had promised free education as part of the key principles of democracy. The larger populous has taken part in blocking roads, boycotting work and striking on public intersections to reinforce the 'vote of no confidence' towards the current president Jacob Zuma. We have witnessed space being occupied and destructed to express social unity and its values of oppression, in conclusion, the re-claiming of space to express a new social identity. Consequently, an understanding of space and social injustice may assist in determining spatial justice.

Lefebvre (1991) referred to the relationship between social being and space as social space. Edward Soja theorized concepts of Spatial Justice in his book Seeking Spatial Justice (2010). He makes reference to David Harvey (1973) and John Rawls (2003) who similarly have literature that focus on social injustice. Spatial justice explores these concepts holistically in order to provide a noticeable theoretical lens through which one can comprehend space.

Edward Soja's theory of spatial justice is a result of the concepts of spatiality, social being and justice. The combination of the above allows us to understand their distinct relationships. He argues spaces that emerge from the relationship between social justice and its spatial dimension can be considered as either just or unjust. This lends itself to exploring justice from a critically spatial perspective. Thinking spatially about social justice can enable fundamental in being involved more



spatial practitioners to uncover unjust circumstances within our environment. This knowledge would serve to be fundamental in being involved more effectively, thus in creating spaces that are just, fair and democratic within the polis.

Through this theoretical lens we are able to situate our entire being – physically, mentally emotionally – into understanding and experiencing what factors are influencing the production and definition of space in specific context.

Sarah Basset translated the concept of spatial justice as a method to analyse and understand existing spaces. She begins by separating it into three subsequent categories; spatial power, spatial claim, and spatial linkage. She defines spatial power as the communities “*ability to succeed in or contribute to space*”. Spatial claim is the communities ability to “*live, work and experience space*” and lastly, spatial linkage is the communities ability to “*access and connect to and with other spaces*” in and around their community. These principles lend themselves to ideas of defensible space towards better neighbourhoods

## DEFENSIBLE SPACE

In 2005, the Western Cape government developed a partnership with the German Development Bank, City of Cape Town, and participating communities, to develop the Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading.

In a nutshell, the approach focuses on crime and violence prevention on three levels or realms: Firstly, the physical and spatial environment which is referred to as situational violence prevention, secondly, the involvement of the community, which contributes to the prevention of social violence and lastly, the institutional and political environment which focuses on local governance promotion. All these approaches fall under an overarching approach of participatory democracy which is contingent on community involvement (Entwicklungsbank, 2010).

Situational violence prevention aims to address the physical dimension of the society so as to reduce crime, violence and the fear of crime through improved infrastructure, urban planning and design. Firstly, design responses would be specific to the identified communities and crime hotspots during which the community would be consulted. Provision of socio-economic public infrastructure would improve the functionality of the city. Secondly, smaller programmes would be employed to support local authorities in setting up -the operation, and the maintenance thereafter. It is seen as imperative that the local population and business participate in shaping their environment. Lastly, smaller site specific interventions would inspire individual safety and facilitate the population to associate itself with the identified area. (Entwicklungsbank, 2010) These interventions include all social support services mentioned previously, including sidewalks, urban parks and

commercial centres. Social violence prevention improves matters that are a result of social interactions. Non-governmental organisations and other co-operations that deal with social issues such as providing legal services for victims of domestic abuse are one of the cornerstones for this area. Secondly, larger community education would support dialogue between family and family health care units. Lastly, small to medium financial education projects would assist the participants fund raising for small upgrading projects.

Local governance promotion, is clear in its definition as suggested by its title. It aims at making principles of good governance a standard. This approach aims at strengthening the capacities of local authorities for conflict, crime, sensitive planning, operation and management of public and community amenities therefore increasing accountability through transparency. The cooperation between the State, civil society, private businesses, and reinforcing inter-departmental cooperation, hosting legitimate, elected structure and leaders in neighbourhoods would contribute to the virtue of justice. Lastly, and most importantly land tenure and property by slum dwellers would be developed through a clear framework for land rights. (Entwicklungsbank, 2010)

The aforementioned realms of obtaining justice are interrelated as the one would need influence from the other to achieve or fulfill any requirement.

## Criminal- Justice

The conventional system in a criminal case is that, the state is against an accused person who has defied the law in some regard, and therefore deserves punishment. This process is also known as a punitive system. (Tshehla, 2004) The legal procession begins with the state proving the case against the accused and results in the accused being punished, if found guilty. To his or her detriment, the victim does not feature in trial unless as a witness to save the state's case against the accused. In other words, the state in this case acts as the victim. In that sense, crime is a violation of the law, as the offender has committed a crime against the state. Inherently, this neglects the relationship between the victim and the offender. Although the interests of the victim are taken into account in sentencing, the general trend is that is to dispose of the matter by simply imposing a reciprocal penalty that fits the crime. Very little concern, if any, as to the resulting consequences of the reciprocity action may occur.

Critics argue that the conventional penal justice is result of a few common questions: 1) who committed the crime? And once proven 2) what punishment would be retributive to the offense? Marshall argues little attention is paid to the fact that not only the state's interests are affected but always if not often, relationships are broken. (Tshehla, 2004) In regard to this, one can argue that the conflicts do not belong

can argue that the conflicts do not belong to the state, rather they belong to the primary parties involved, as a result, they are responsible for their resolve, with the condition that the state should facilitate the procedure. Restorative justice responds to this notion radically by suggesting that the case is made less of a public matter for the state but rather a private matter between the individuals involved. This approach has a potential problem. Safeguards in the conventional system may be negatively affected. These safeguards are procedural in nature, for instance, the objectivity of the decider, as well as the exposing of the applicant to flexible sentences that may respond more to harm as opposed to culpability. (Tshehla, 2004) In response to the latter, one proposes procedural integrity as opposed to the abolition of the whole punitive criminal justice system, through which there would be synthesis, with more victim oriented approaches. Opposing theorists have argued the proponents of the justice systems in question, McEvoy summarises this debate by stating:

*“... a vigorous debate has been carried on for some time between desert theorists, who value virtues of due process and proportionality above all else, and restorative justice proponents who see these principles as at best the unrealisable ideals of a failed formal justice system. Protagonists on either side of this “standards” debate and the parallel debate on the effectiveness of the two systems seem destined to talk past each other to a large extent.*

*The terms of the two philosophies of justice are non-commensurable. Desert theorists accuse restorative justice of not being able to ensure proportionate outcomes: but proportionality is not one of the key values of restorative justice ... Similarly, restorative justice evaluations generally claim higher participation satisfaction, and of course this is not a core value for conventional criminal justice.” -K. McEvoy*

Until recently, South Africa has been exempt to this form of tug-of-war concerning the two justice models. (Tshehla, 2004) In 2000, the United Nations produced the Vienna Declaration, in which leading governing agencies, non-governmental organisations and other notable institutions of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, proposed an establishment of common principles through using restorative justice procedures in dealing with criminal matters. (Tshehla, 2004)

Previously, restorative justice was qualified and seen as inferior and an informal type of justice practiced by native South Africans. This changed rapidly after democratic laws formalised this type of justice under the lower court's jurisdiction as the Chief's and Headman's Courts. These courts would address cases that occur under chiefdoms and kingdoms that are under inheritance or traditional ownership.

## RESTORATIVE ROOTS

“There is no single definition of restorative justice, although a central feature of any definition includes some notion of repairing the harm caused by crime and restoring the parties to the state of wellness or wholeness which was disturbed by the criminal act” – Robert Cormier

Gavrielides argues that restorative justice values were grounded in the traditions Ancient Greek and Roman civilisations. Similarly, South African native Kingdoms and Chiefdoms practiced restorative justice before the actual term appeared in literature until the 1970s. Amongst the Nguni tribes this practice was traditionally named Ubuntu, notably prominent in Africa. Ideologies of governance and justice usually comprise of two elements: the theoretical and the practical. The theoretical aims to highlight the importance of the involved parties to remedy the impairment done. In this paradigm, crime is recognised as not merely a violation of the law. Then practice aims to implement these normative assertions. (Gavrielides, 2013)

Broadly, there are two approaches to restorative justice. The first being abolitionist restorative justice, as described by its name, it would serve as a complete alternative to the current criminal justice system and the second more of a complementary to the criminal justice system. (Tshehla, 2004) The first is widely based on European school of theory which argues that the criminal justice system has failed the people because the state steals the conflict and often neglects the victim by focusing on punishing the offender. The second is described as Anglo-American, this one has found favour in the United Nations. It is a both a

critique of the first in that it argues that the first school is over-individualised and denies the ‘public interest’ of a crime. This premise is a response to the fact that Zehr, one of the founders of the abolitionist school, sees conflict as a private matter between individuals and therefore leaves the state (public) interest out of it. (Tshehla, 2004) Tshehla argue South Africa favours the intermediate ground between the two methods. Skelton describes the third scenario as that the restorative justice approach is linked to and interdependent with the formal criminal justice system.

### A Process

The author recognizes Restorative Justice is an approach to justice that aims to encompass all persons to a criminal encounter and others affected by the impairment (victims, offenders, families concerned, community members, and government representatives) in collectively identifying the ills, needs, and necessities. This is done through accepting responsibilities and making restitution it encourages reconciliation.

Restorative Justice views crime that has been committed against the victim and diverts the focus to repairing the impairment that has been committed against the victim and the immediate community. It has confidence in that the offender also needs assistance and strives to identify what needs to change to prevent similar occurrences in future.

Conventional Justice Processes are challenged by Restorative Justice in a few but very important areas. Conventional Criminal and Civil Justice Processes position the victim and

offender as oppositions, which are expected to remain submissive whilst all the important decisions are made by essentially disconnected professionals. (judges, lawyers, social workers, correctional officers etc.) see (Fig. 2.27) On the other hand, the Restorative Justice approach is that the victim and offender are part of the process and the required programme as the key decisions are taken are influenced by them.

Scales of involvement may vary due to the results of the crime which vary from victim offender mediations, conferencing and circles. Mediations involve a meeting between the victim and offender guided by a trained mediator. With the guidance of the mediator, the victim and offender begin to resolve their conflict and construct their own approach to achieving justice regarding their particular crime. In addition to the above, Conferencing programmes also include more participation of families, police, community support groups, social welfare officials and lawyers. Circles move beyond Mediation and Conferencing to involve the community in the decision making process (see matrix on page 96).

Crimes like robbery or assault would remain between the culprit and victim; spousal or family rape and child abuse would include family members and friends; kidnapping, drug trafficking and prostitution affect the livelihood of the community therefore the directly and indirectly affected parties would be involved. In each scale bracket dependant on the crime committed-, more agents and professionals would be involved accordingly. It is in this process that the proposed intervention will address issues of criminal justice.

MEDIATION

CONFERENCE

CIRCLE

**AGENTS:**

VICTIM  
OFFENDOR

MEDIATORS

**AGENTS:**

VICTIM  
OFFENDOR

VICTIM & FAMILY GROUP

- FRIENDS
- KEY SUPPORTERS
- POLICE
- SOCIAL WORKER
- CONSULTANT
- SCHOOL
- RESOURCE OFFICER
- COUNSELOR
- CASE WORKER
- INDIRECTLY AFFECTED

**AGENTS:**

VICTIM  
OFFENDOR

DIALOGUE, PEACE & SENTENCE

- FRIENDS
- KEY SUPPORTERS
- COMMUNITY MEMEBERS
- JUDICIAL OFFICERS / JUDGES
- PROSECUTORS
- DEFENSE COUNSEL
- POLICE
- COURT WORKERS

**CRIMES:**

- COMMON ROBBERY
- THEFT OUT OF A MOTOR VEHICLE
- ROBBERY WITH FIREARM
- ROBBERY WITH A WEAPON OR INSTRUMENT
- GENERAL THEFT
- SHOPLIFTING
- HOUSE BURGLARY
- ROBBERY AT BUSINESS PREMISES

**CRIMES:**

- FAMILY**
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
  - CHILD CARE
- VICTIM**
- DRUG / SUBSTANCE ABUSE
  - SEXUAL ASSAULT
  - RAPE (RELATIVE)
  - COMMON ASSUALT WITH INTENT TO INFLICT GREIVIOUS BODILY HARM
  - BUSINESS ROBBERY
  - MALICIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

**CRIMES:**

- BURGLARY
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE
- OFFENCES UNDER DRUG USE
- UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF FIREARM & AMUNITION
- CRIMEN INJURA
- KIDNAPPING
- DRUG TRAFICKING
- PROSTITUTION
- ROBBERY WITH FIREARM
- RAPE

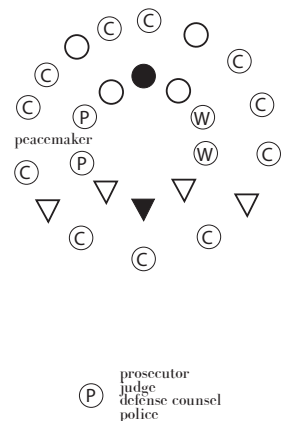
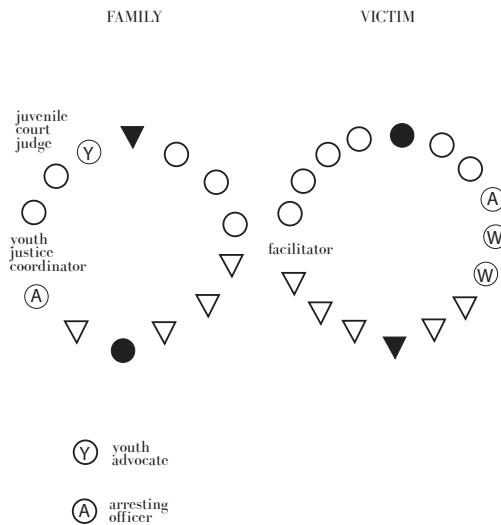
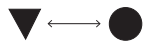
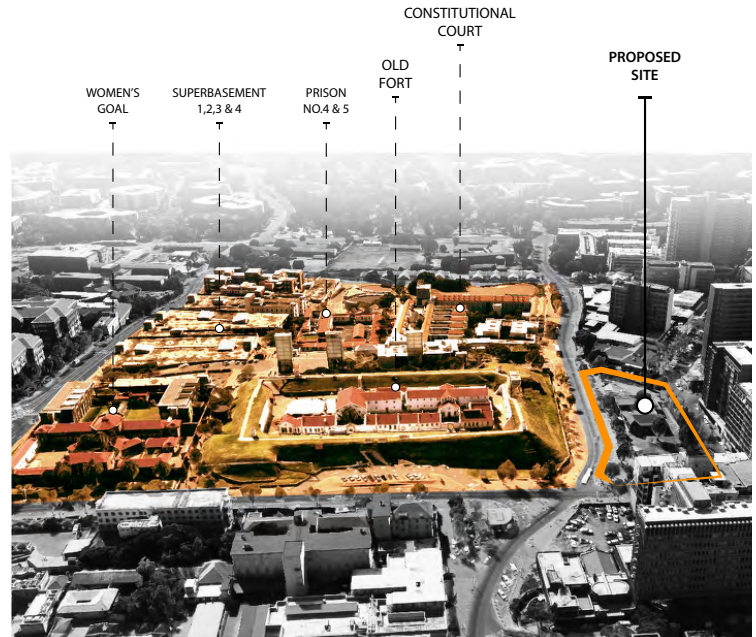
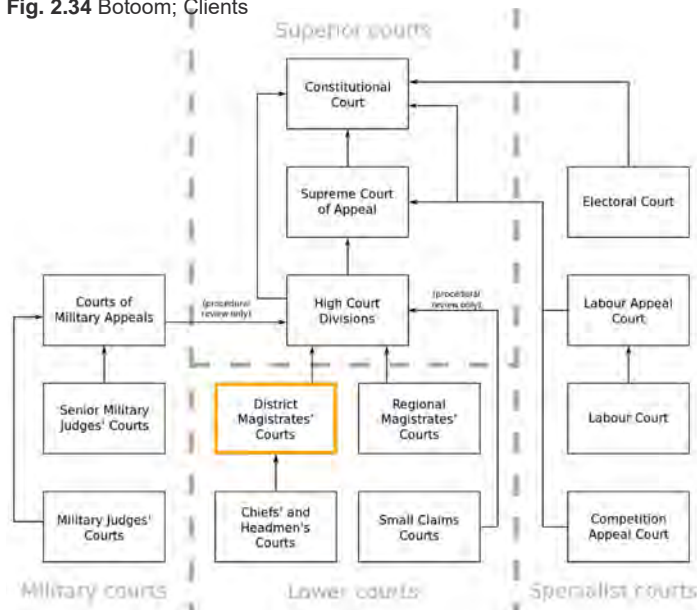


Fig. 2.32 Left; Hierarchy of courts in South Africa  
Fig. 2.33 Right; Proposed site  
Fig. 2.34 Bottom; Clients



### Animation

The program is a dispute resolution centre which would influence a larger spectrum of people by assisting them to deal with their issues before incarceration. This would function under the jurisdiction of a district magistrate's court as one of the lower courts. Its contribution to the established government institution precinct would sediment itself onto the existing fabric, existing in cohesion. Its primary purpose would be to transform its immediate society spatially, socially, and through the judiciary.

It would serve as the new home for Transformative Constitutionalism as suggested by Langa. This is a place where the community practices Restorative Justice and uses the Constitution as an instrument to enhance their lives. Supplementary facilities would aim to passively address the causes and the sources of conflicts as opposed to the oppressive nature of a prison. The users would be emancipated of an

oppressive authority, enabled socially, economically and intellectually. This intervention at its worst would be an alternative justice system and at its best, a true beacon of Democracy.

### Client

The primary clients are the civilians or Hillbrow and the surrounding areas. This intervention is contingent on participatory democracy. The community would be the main stakeholders, as they will be entrusted to determine their own fate. Assisted by trained personal, a) leaders appointed by the community can take upon the role of the judiciary. b) The youth, can be educated and trained for a positive contribution to their environment. c) Displaced people or refugees would be administered into better living conditions and enabled to develop a healthy standard of living. The proceedings that take place here would be administered by the police and adjudicated by the Constitution Court

and other private legal institutions.

The proposed site a result of the identified issues, analysis and critique of the current criminal justice system. It is located between the ramparts of the Old prison at Constitution Hill and the high-rise buildings of Hillbrow. It lies almost completely bare with a small house that used to be the Governor's residence. Today it is used as a Displaced people's centre, which facilitates social housing for homeless citizens and refugees. Over the years the building experienced a fire from which it was successfully restored with a few additions to the northern end to accommodate for the requirements of the new program.

Towards the north it is linked to the recreational centre which currently occupies another heritage building of a similar architecture. A large yard separates Kotze street from the building towards the South. This space serves as the main entrance into the site.



a)



b)



c)

**Fig. 2.30** Opposite Top; Urban framework sections

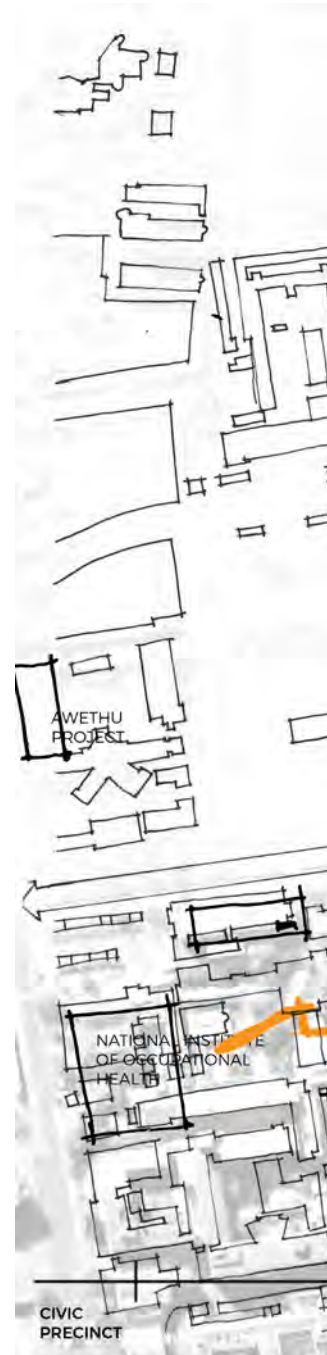
**Fig. 2.31** Opposite Bottom; Urban framework plan

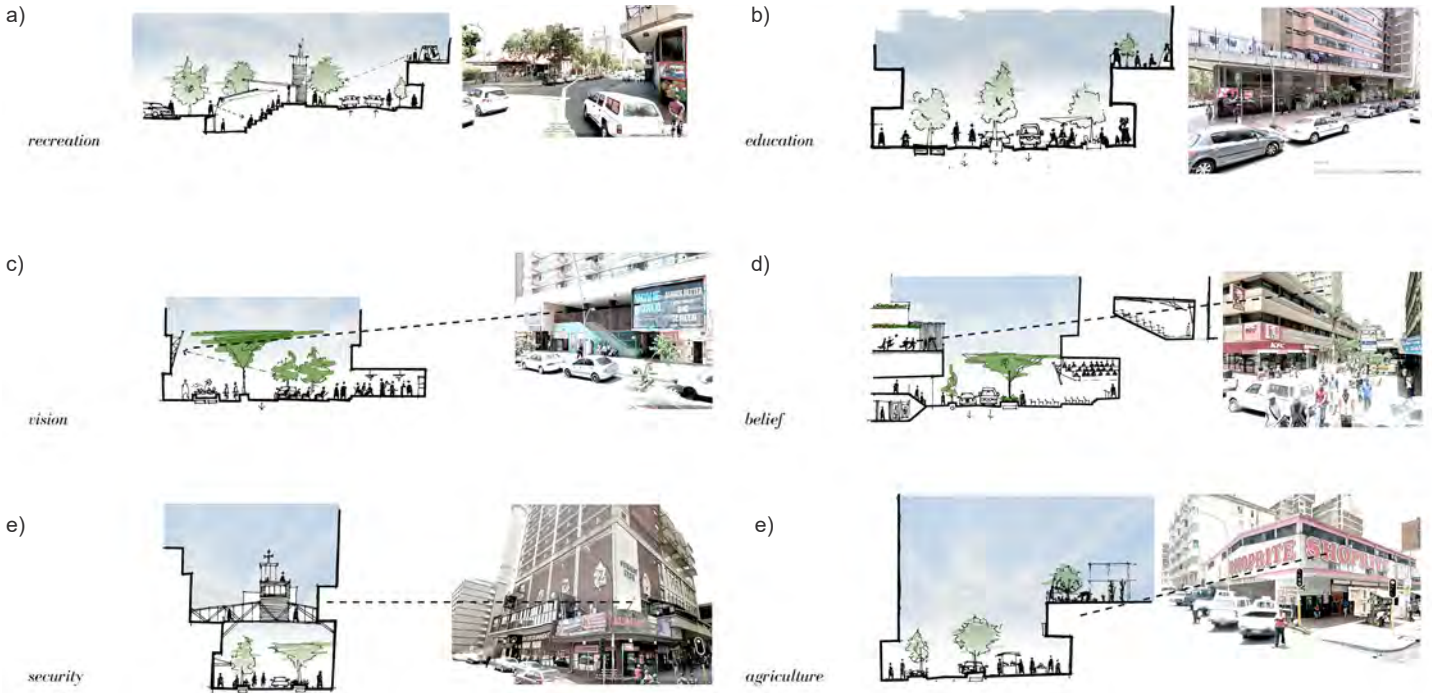
## Urban Relationships

The crime statistics lead to a thorough investigation and understanding of why the identified nodes are susceptible to crime. Along the identified hotspots (see Fig. A.11 in annex A) are facilities that work around the clock namely, taverns, restaurants, 24hr supermarkets etc.

The Urban Framework Proposal (see Fig. B.1 in annexure B) aims to feed off the existing programs and nodes but channel the energy to create a more productive environment. (see Fig. A.12 in annexure A) For example:- a) the existing recreational centre is exclusive of the public due to a high fence and the conservative heritage response. The proposal suggests a more participative interface that the public can access, first visually then physically it would become the entertainment hub for the youth. b) The neighbouring high-rise buildings have large plinths that are currently used as spaces for washing lines for the entire apartment block. The lack of green spaces in the area, requires a rethinking of any and all open spaces. This space can accommodate a small playground for

the residents or the students at the daycare centre on the first floor. c) The tavern and restaurant here have an old cinema block across the road, the aim here would be to use the old billboard as the screen, and the tavern, as the sitting area to watch the movies. This would create positive overnight occupation of the active street of Hillbrow. d) A church was once in the dilapidated building across the 24hr supermarket. Through reinstating the church the area could be ethically and morally restored therefore, associated with 'goodness'. e) Above summit, an adult store and strip club, which is suspected for laundering drugs, human trafficking and prostitution, a satellite police station would have 24hr surveillance which would work in hand with the crime research facility to be established later. f) Shoprite a supermarket located at the end of Pretoria Street defines the end of the urban framework. The shallow pitched roof could be reconstructed to be flat in order to accommodate for an urban agricultural farm that would accommodate for subsidized food security, street vendors, and local restaurants.



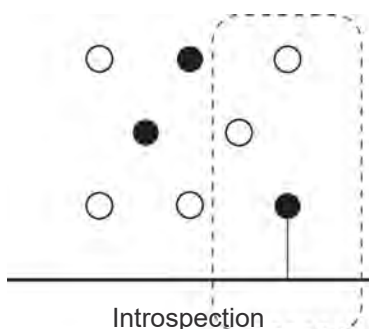


## Urban Reconciliation

The procedures of restorative justice were spatially interpreted for the urban development framework (fig. 2.36). In the personification of Constitution Hill and Hillbrow, Constitution Hill was identified as the offender and Hillbrow as the victim. The border line of Hillbrow which originally marked the Raandjeslaagte farm portion (see. Fig. A.2 in annex A), is identified as the line of conflict. Establishing a physical and programmatic connection between the two areas would mediate them. Constitution Hill would have to share its expertise.

Through employing the same approach the site would communicate with its neighbouring building by introducing suggested or common spaces in connection to their programs. This passive linkage of programs and the urban fabric would increase the sites occupancy therefore creating a conference between building and programs that were previously disconnected.

Once the urban relationship has been established, a hierarchy of nodes organizes the core spaces along the site orientation to optimize the available space. These nodes would serve as the “court chambers” for dispute resolution. The first, towards the north is for recreation, which connects to the recreational centre. This space would deal with “*medium*” victim conference procedures which would be

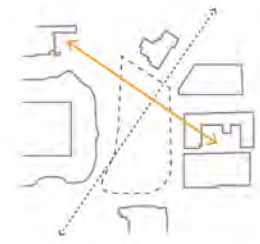


supplemented as with public debates, discussions and performances.

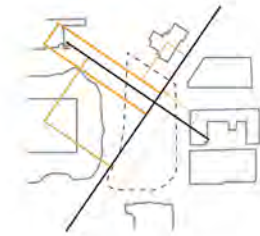
Secondly, a large public square served by a restaurant, would suggest peace and unity through this neutral program that brings people together. This approach relies on Hertzbergers theory of ambiguous or un-programmed spaces. Above the square and restaurant, the smallest court space that deals with private and often family conference proceedings.

Lastly, on the southern end of the site -, the gateway into Hillbrow. The largest court chamber would receive people from different walks of life through an informal public square in front of a transport interchange. This court chamber would address circle proceedings that affect the community at large. Social and economic restoration would take place simultaneously.

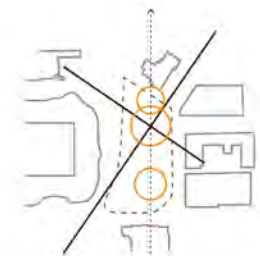
At the point that which the intersection occurs, above the restaurant the intervention is extrapolated vertically into a ten story building that hosts counseling spaces from large to small and individual sessions per floor. In a world where generalizing issues and increasing globalization and global warming. Spaces that pause to analyze, contemplate and transform modern day society are contingent to progress and our survival. (Fig. 2.35)



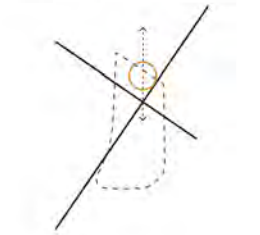
MEDIATION / connect



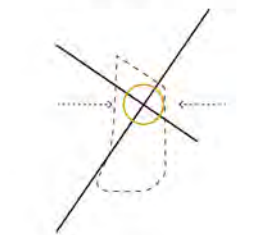
CONFERENCE / communicate



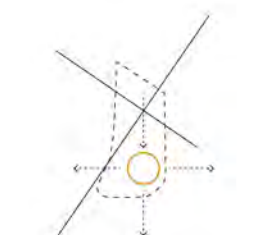
CIRCLES / node



DIALOGUE / recreation



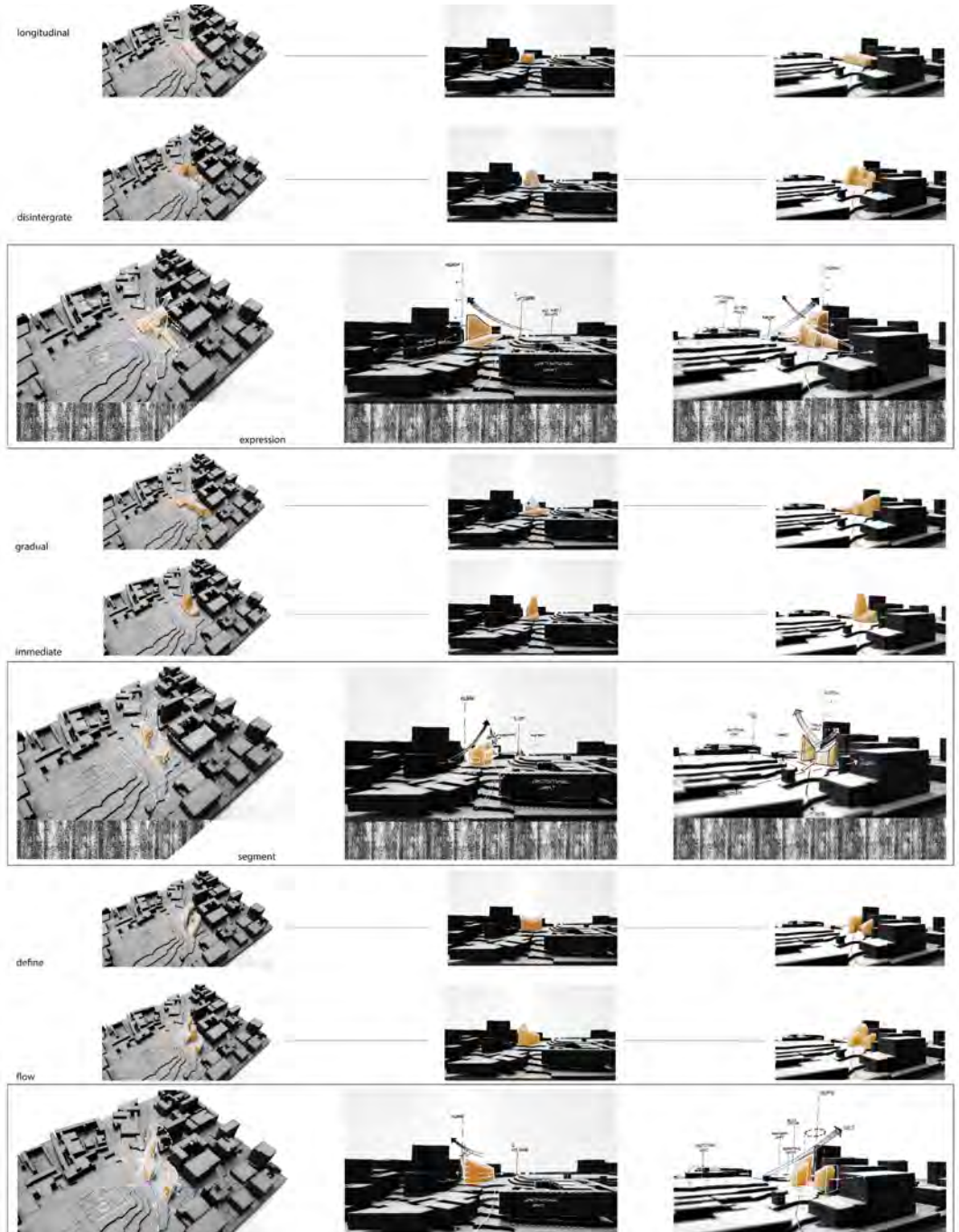
PEACE / reconciliation



SENTENCE / restoration



Fig. 2.35 Opposite Left; Introspection  
Fig. 2.36 Opposite Right; Urban concept  
Fig. 2.37 Above; Formal exploration



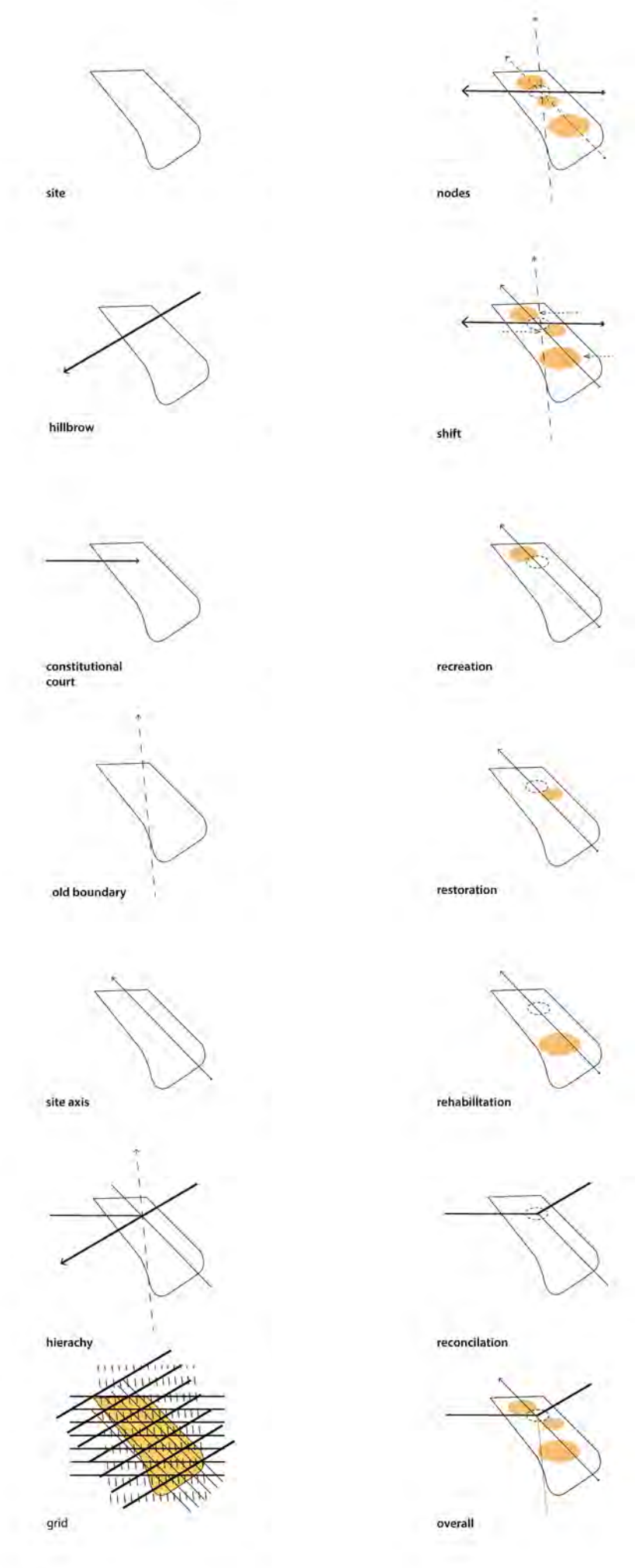
## Formation.

The three dimensional exploration of the mass of the building was to find an appropriate urban scale (Fig. 2.37). The ramparts of the Old prison soar approximately seven metres above ground. which is insignificant to the high-rise apartment blocks across the road. A mediation of scale is necessary see Fig. A in annex A).

Unobstructed by any high building towards the north the building must ascend towards Hillbrow and descend towards the north and west. This principle along with the landscape would relate the edifice to an appropriate human scale. Symbolically, it transform from the past into the new.

This intervention founded on principles that acknowledge its surroundings. Its location and mass would make the opposite true, its users would be raised to observe their surroundings. (see Fig. B.2 in annexure B)

**Fig. 2.38** Left; Proposed site access hierarchy  
**Fig. 2.39** Right; Urban concept  
**Fig. 2.40** Opposite Right; Architectural concept



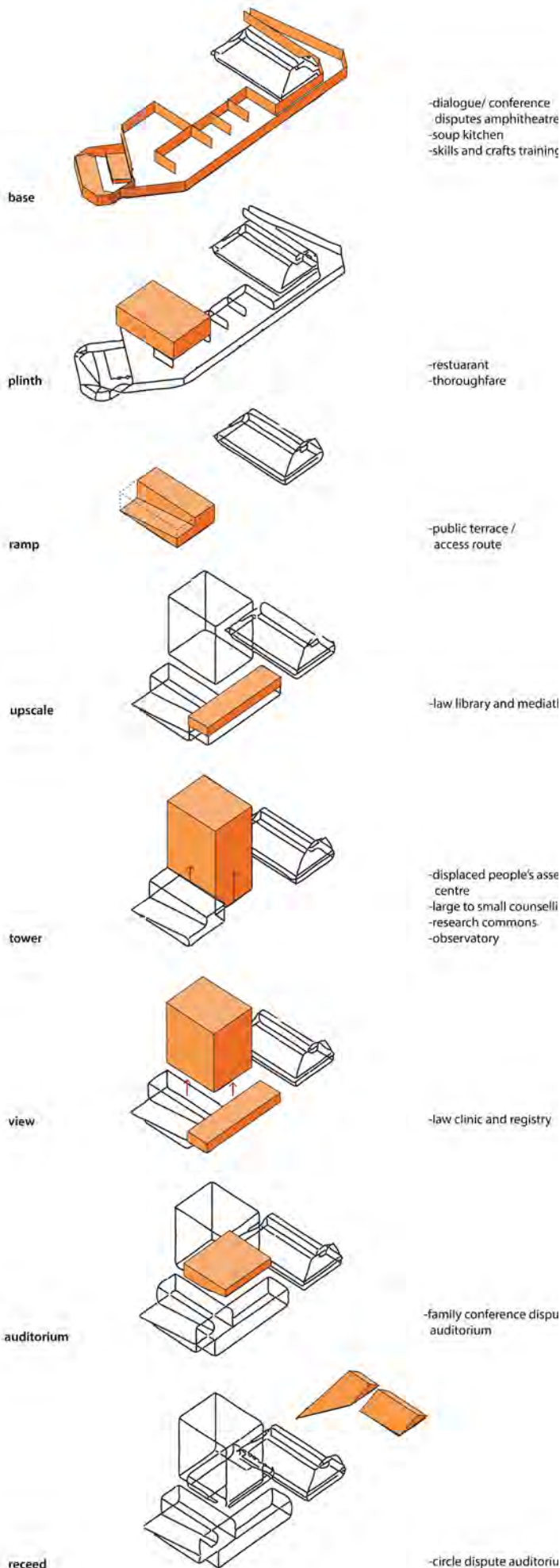
Perspective

Formal explorations were made in order to understand the right response in terms of the connecting urban spaces and movement in and around the site. (see Fig. A.26 in annex A)

Important access points were identified in hierarchy (Fig. 2.38), the primary being for the Hillbrow pedestrian, secondary, the judiciary of constitution court, tertiary, the pedestrian from the city and lastly the inherent axis of the site. These paths traverse the site, each of a different width according to its hierarchy. They invite various individuals cohesively. Their intersection is celebrated through program and space.

Nodes that are related through program to the adjacent buildings or sites would stitch and mould the intervention into its context (Fig. 2.39). Each approach has a direct response to the specific types of users through having a civic threshold from all ends. The access routes culminate at the core of the building where people of different stature would meet; the offender would meet the victim, the politician - the homeless, the community leader - the visitor and the performer - the person with the actual experience.

This reconciliatory space winds up by connecting to the sky through a tower with counseling spaces and roof gardens that facilitate privacy and healing.



## Public Architecture

The proposed site has an existing heritage building which currently serves as a Displaced People's Assessment Centre. The building used to be the residence of the Governor of the old prison.

The first intervention on the site is the basement which accommodated the dialogue dispute amphitheatre and recreational performance hall, the soup kitchen/cafe and the skills and crafts training workshops (Fig. 2.40). On the ground floor it aims to give a warm welcome to the residents of Hillbrow through a public ramp that uplifts the residents towards Constitution Hill then into the law clinic which has a public library with related content. Next to the ramp is the reception and restaurant, a neutral program that brings people from all walks of life together. The restaurant is spills out to a public square underneath the tower of reconciliation and the family conference and disputes auditorium. The public square is linked to the Governor's house.

The Governor's house is proposed to serve as the administrative centre for the site. In front of it is the largest public dispute resolution centre for sentencing. It is linked to a vibrant informal market which feeds of the transport interchange that receives people from the city and West on Kotze Street.

Fig. 2.41 Above; Iteration two render

## Towards a Just City

The application of using the reconciliatory principles of restorative justice spatially creates a unique condition where spatial justice is achieved from an urban scale down to the architectural interpretation.

The proposed intervention is situated within a larger urban framework, as the grand node that would facilitate issues of justice between Hillbrow and Constitutional Hill. Through program and space it bridges the existing gaps that exist between the two areas. Careful consideration has been given to the accessibility of the site to its users.

**This proposal is a postulation to question the current implementation of symbolism versus its reality. It questions what should the Beacon of democracy be and who should it be for, the people or the people that enforce justice?**

**Lastly, it aims to shape itself through an understanding of how the oppressed and the oppressor relate, the victim and the offender, all to effectively gain a true collective identity that projects beyond the wounds of our past, and the confusion of the present.**

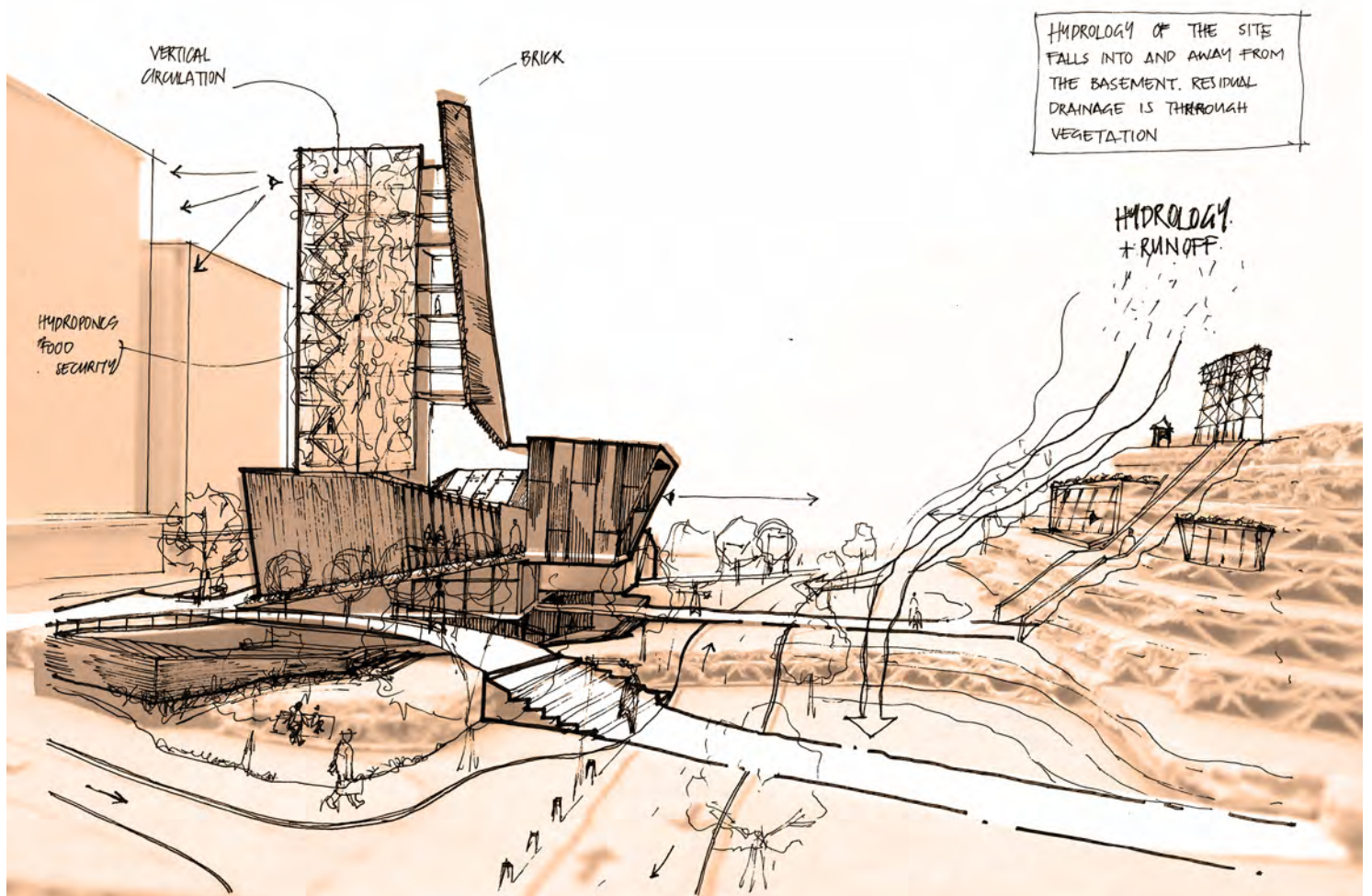


Fig. 01. Above; Focusing beyond the Constitutional Court (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 02. Bottom Left; Image name or title (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 03. Opposite Right; Collage of the Constitutional Bridge (Author, 2017)  
 Table A. Top Right; Image name or title (CorrectionalServices, 2017)  
 Table B. Middle Right; Image name or title (CorrectionalServices, 2017)  
 Table C. Bottom Right; Regional Crime Statistics (StatsSA, 2015)  
 Fig. 04. Opposite Top; Polluted Alley in Hillbrow (  
 Fig. 05. Opposite Middle; Displaced Homeless People in Hillbrow (  
 Fig. 06. Opposite Bottom; Boxing Club in Hillbrow (  
 Fig. 07 Top Left; Braamfontein crime rates (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 08. Bottom Left; Hillbrow crime rates (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 09. Top Right; Symbolism versus Reality (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 10. Top Left; Annotated precinct model (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 11. Bottom Left; Aerial of the Constitution Hill precinct (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 12. Above Right; Constitution Hill conceptual diagram as the “Beacon of Human Rights, Reconciliation and Democracy” (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 13. Above Left; Removing the fail on justice (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 14. Right; Authoritative disconnection from the people (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 15. Middle Right; Intermediate institutions for the public (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 16. Bottom Right; Direct resolution with immediate institution (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 17. Above Left; Support Services for economic enablement (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 18. Opposite Top Left; Density Deficit (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 19. Opposite Top Right; Inherent buffer zone (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 20. Opposite Middle Left; Way finding through landmarks (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 21. Opposite Middle Right; Existing programs and crime hotspots (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 22. Opposite Bottom Left; Re-linking Constitution Hill and Hillbrow (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 23. Opposite Bottom Right; Proposing new programs to alleviate crime (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 24. Opposite Top; Sections along proposed nodes. (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 25. Opposite Bottom; Urban framework nodes and section lines (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 26. Opposite Left; Form development (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 27. Right; Proposed site access hierarchy (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 28. Far Right; Proposed node placement (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 29. Opposite Left; Architectural development (Author, 2017)  
 Fig. 30. Bottom; Conceptual sketch of the

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*This part seeks to unpack the contribution towards the discourse through coherent theoretical arguments. A conceptual continuum is between the past, present and a proposed future is investigated.*

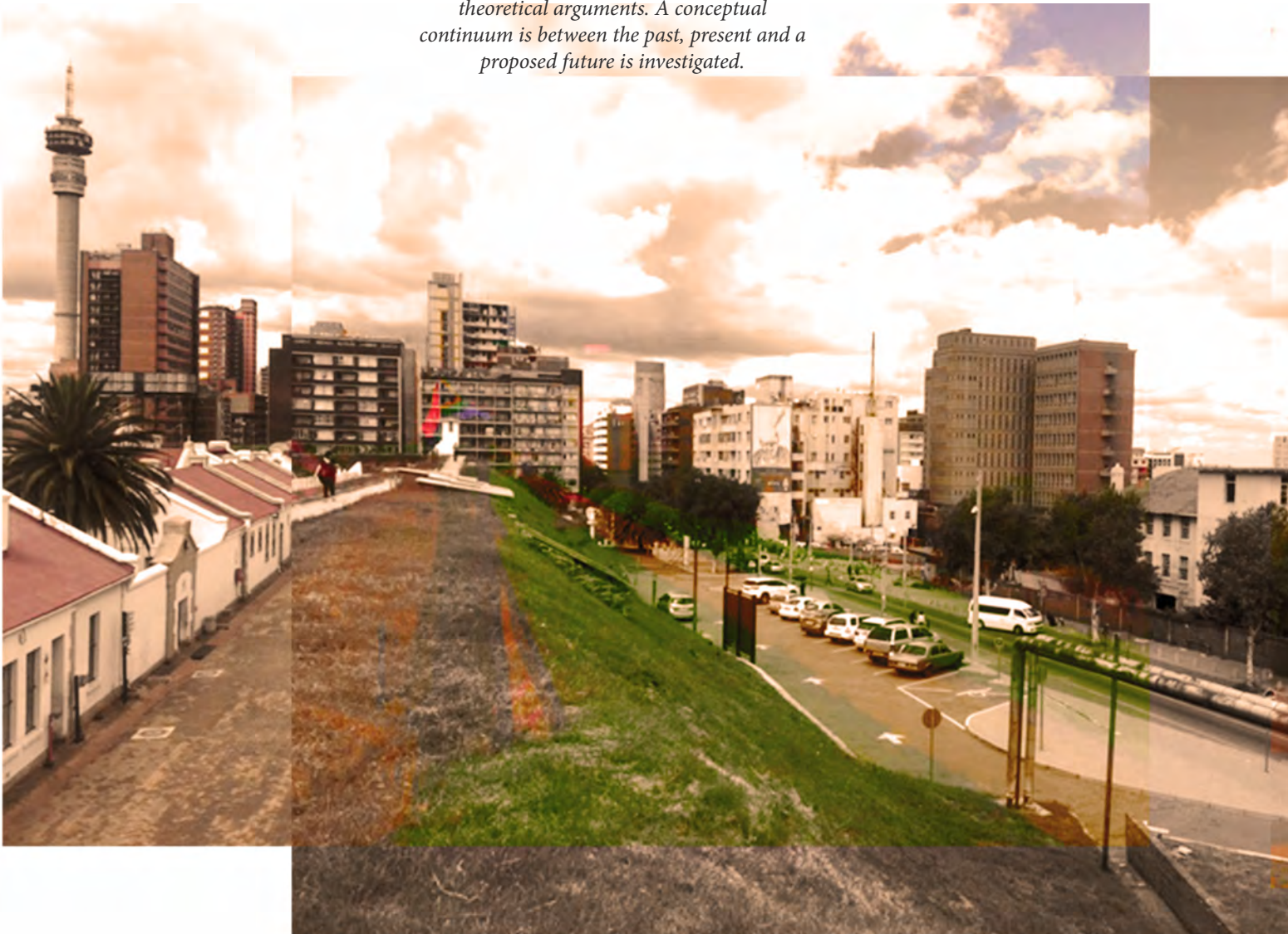


Fig. 2.46 Above; Site photo-montage



## PART

# 03

*[ design development ]*

*- discovering transformative architecture -*



## TOWER OF JUSTICE

The conceptual diagram below aims to depict the intentions that the building aims to fulfill. It should be building that facilitates justice between the two identified areas through public participation. The scales are currently unbalanced with Constitution Hill weighing more than Hillbrow. A transfer of power to the civilians would restore justice to the populous.

Through this process, the building may become a space for democracy, human rights and reconciliation, as indicated in the diagram for the architectural issue. This building would be a beacon of hope, justice, and democracy.

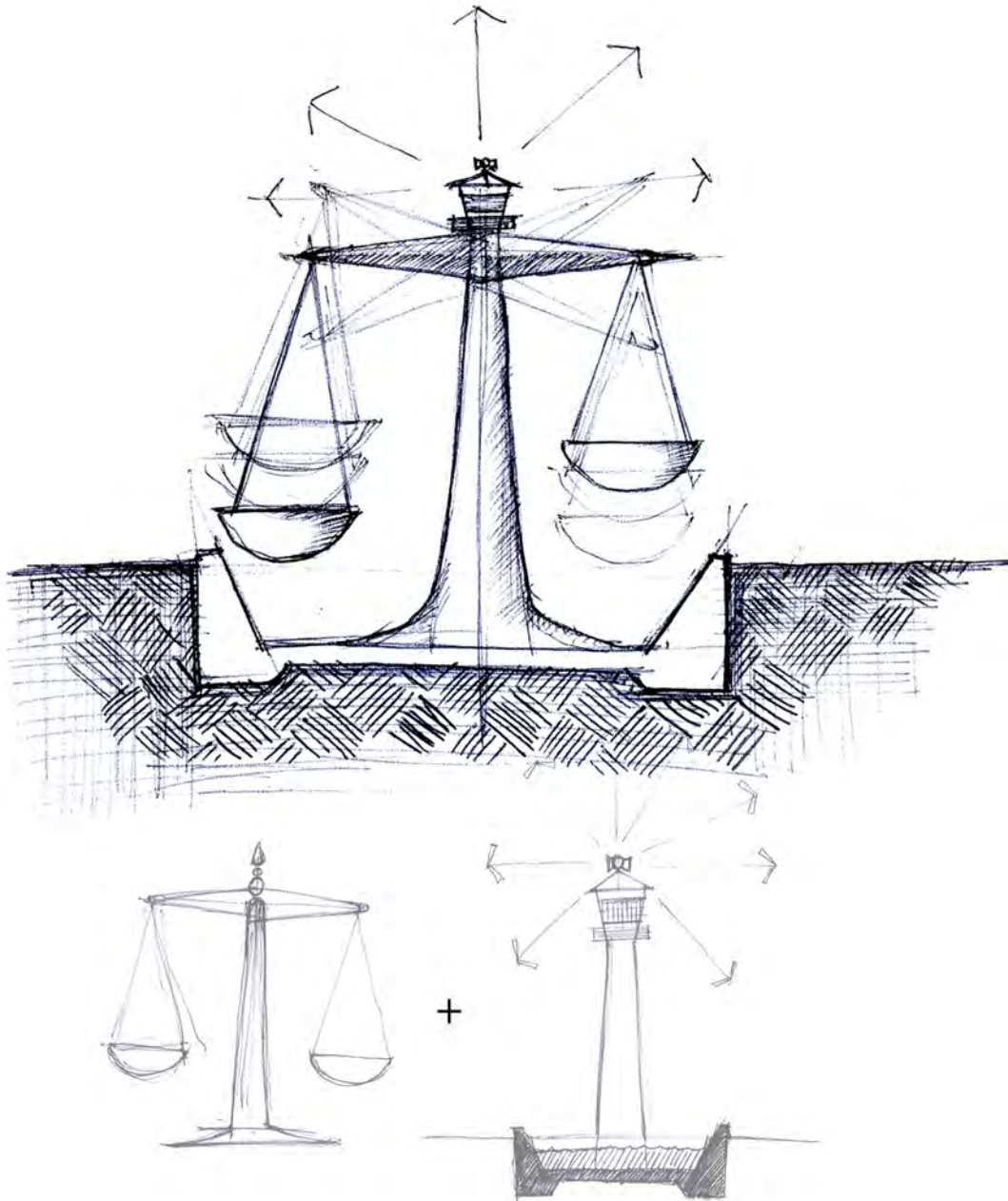
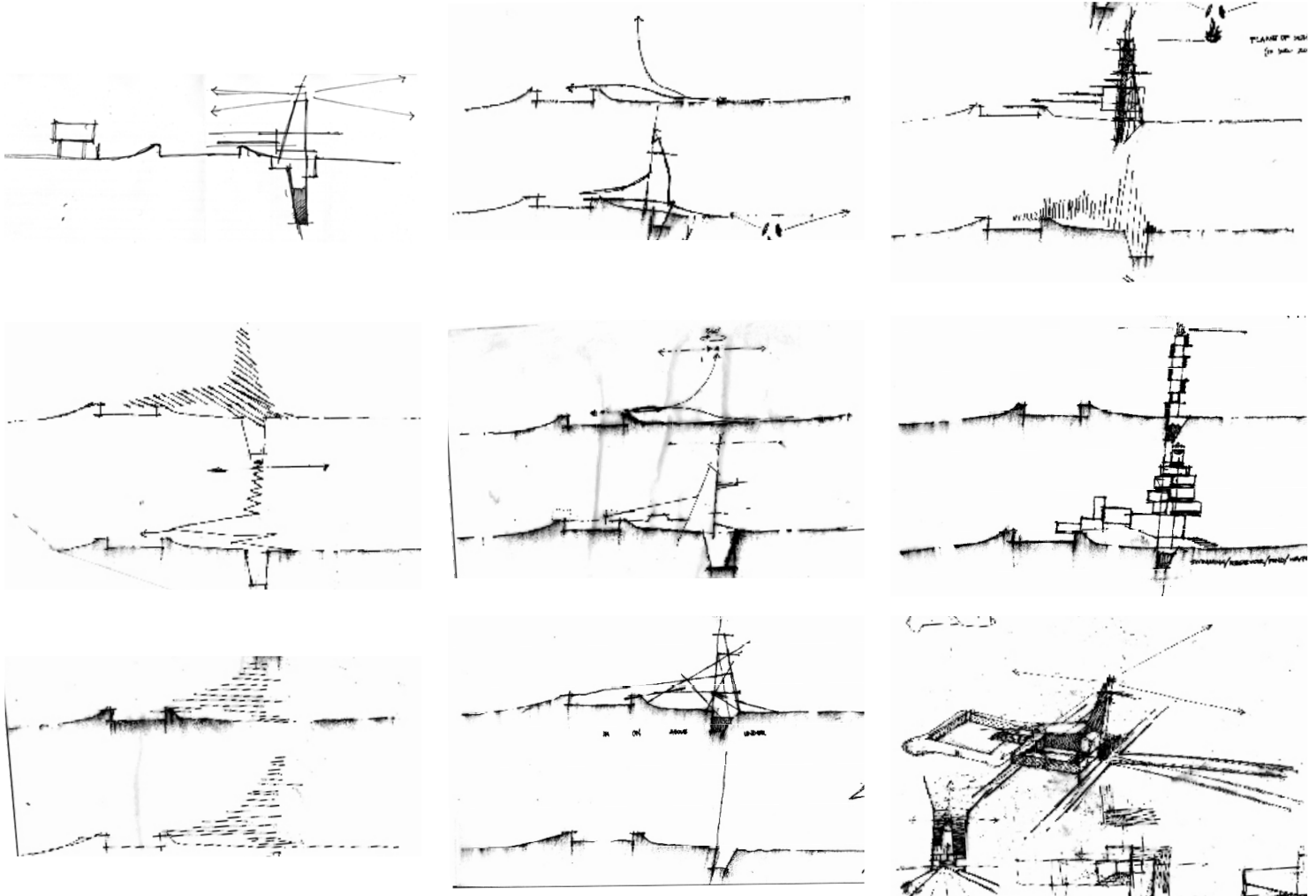
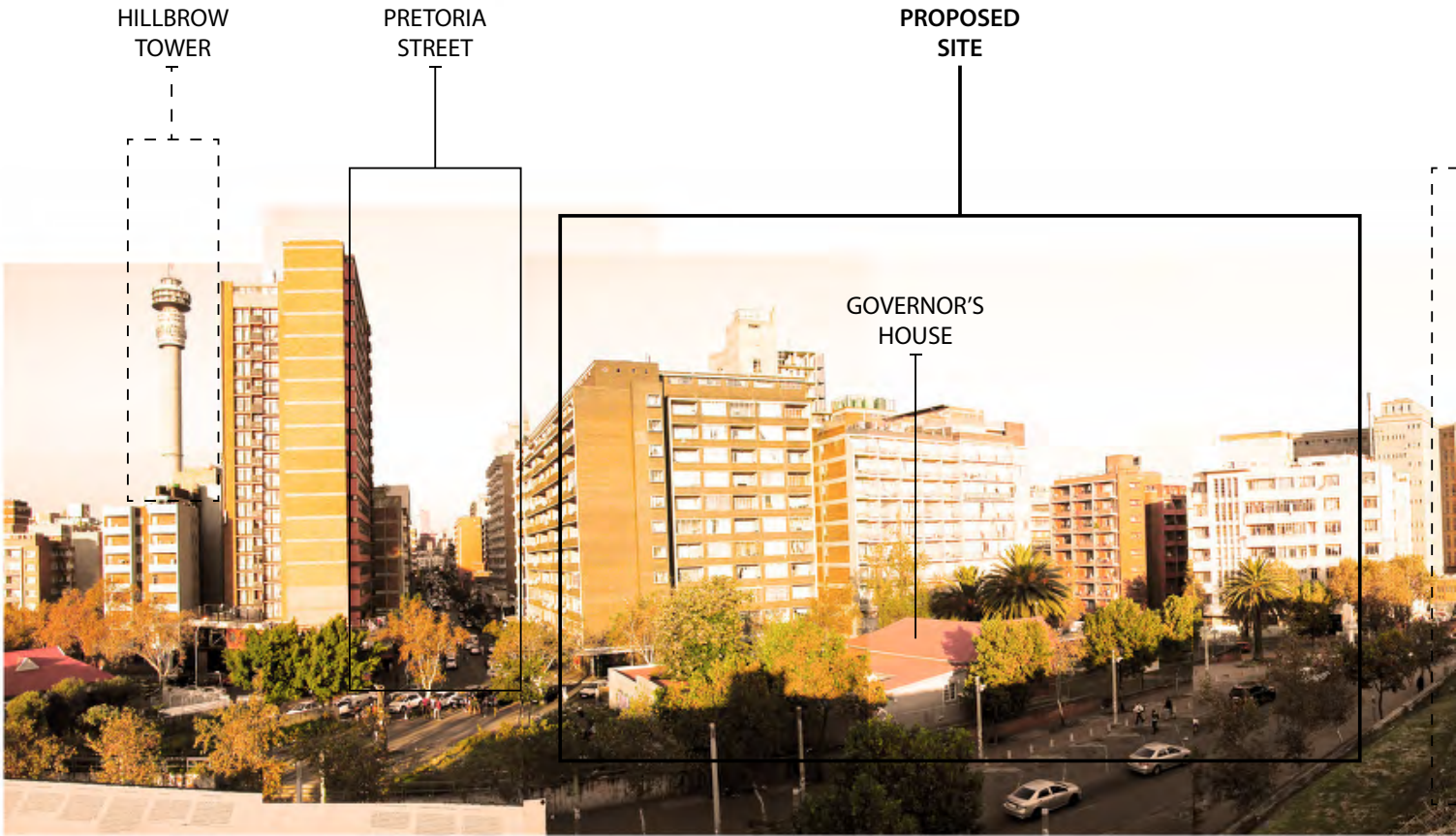


Fig. 2.46 Opposite Above; Concept sketch  
Fig. 2.47 Opposite Above; Concept sketches

*[concept sketches]*



*[proposed site]*



PROPOSED SITE PANAROMA



OLD FORT  
RAMPART

OLD FORT  
PRISON

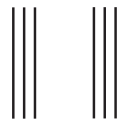


DISPLACED PERSON'S  
HOUSING



## COURT SPACES

Derived from the medieval Anglo-Norman 'parler' (to speak), parliament was initially used to describe the improvised assemblies where philosophers and noblemen exchanged their views on social and political issues. Today one can trace connections and differences between cultures of assembly. "It is in these spaces that ideas about society's future are brought together and faced". (XML, 2016) From the 11th century parliament became the main political space. It is the place where different political positions confront one another and at best, a collective exchange of ideas (XML, 2016). One may assume with differences between countries, cultures, and traditions, there would be a wide range of typologies. In fact the opposite is true, it appears there are five typologies Fig. 2.48 that shape the assembly hall: the opposing benches, which are derived from the medieval royal court, the neo-classicist semicircle, of the 19th century states of the European nation, the horseshoe which is the hybrid of the two, the more rare typology is in the form of a circle and finally the classroom, which usually found in dictatorial countries (XML, 2016). It is suggested that this is due to colonisation and globalisation thereafter. A vast amount of civilisations were dictated by European rule, descendants of the Greek, which resulted in the rest of the world practicing politics in the same way. Locally, the latter is truer than other countries as we use a hybrid of the British and the Dutch laws for our own Constitution.



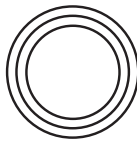
opposing benches



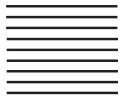
neoclassicist semicircle



horseshoe



circle



classroom

Political processes have changed significantly and have become increasingly complex. Shouldn't the architecture that envelops them adopt the same notion? In the 19th century, the parliament was the centre of political decision making. Recently political decisions occur across a variety of places, ranging from economic councils, to transitional

organisations, back-room deal-making and our current President has recently proven that they also happen "overnight". XML argues that this shift has reduced the importance of an assembly hall into the "symbolic confirmation of decisions that have often already made elsewhere". (XML, 2016) This epidemic has been indicated continuously by our governing parties during the State of the Nation Address procedures, XML is of the opinion that parliament has been forced to function as the theatre.

In response to the above court rooms have adapted to the similar notion. It has been proven that court rooms have not adapted to their countries, cultures, and traditions until recently with the Constitutional Court of South Africa. As a result, the proposed intervention aims to have assembly halls that rethink political congregation through innovating the existing typologies by expressing the national identity, the procedure of restorative justice and that expressive of the contemporary social, economic and technological transformations. XML describes three interlocking principles in which he describes the contributors to the hollowing of plenary hall;

*i. Parliaments have responded to the increased complexity of politics by adding more and more meeting rooms to their building complexes. This furthered the hollowing out of the central hall, whose interior remains sacred and fixed. Today, television*

**Fig. 2.48** Opposite Above; Types of parliament spaces

*cameras register debates in vast empty halls, conveying a sense of political absence rather than urgency.*

*The desire to shift the focus back to the general assembly – to allow this space to be adaptable to different forms of political congregation and confrontation - opens up the potential of architecture. The comparison of parliaments reveals a taboo on having flexible forms for congregation within the assembly hall itself, leading to displacement of crucial debates to back-rooms. How can parliament, through architectural experiments with settings, reclaim its centrality? Can architecture reflect the current political processes instead of those of the past?*

*ii. One of the most visible transformations outside the walls of the assembly has been driven by technology. Developments in mass media – from radio at the end of the 19th century to television in the 20th century – extended and transformed the space of political debate outward. Parliaments tried to respond by inviting the press into their halls as an audience, broadcasting their proceedings to the masses. But this is hardly enough, now that media and technology have radically modified speeds and distances within society.*

*If digital technology, big data and shorter feedback loops can rapidly change the inner workings of societies, it also affects the space of the parliament. Voters can communicate directly with members of the parliament in their seats in parliament, complex*

*data is immediately accessible, sensitive information can be leaked or surveilled.*

*Intensely focused in tradition, parliamentary proceedings have clung to rituals shaped by the speeds of the era of the horse-drawn carriage. Instead of working with the potential of these new developments, parliaments tried to rewire the old by introducing technology into the architecture in the most invisible way possible – subsuming changes in the media technologies, rather than thinking through their consequences.*

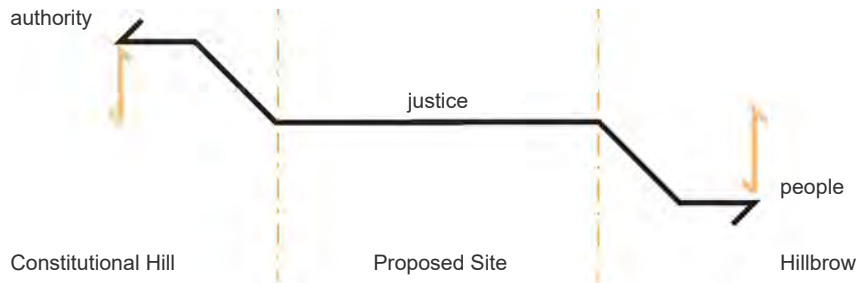
*iii. Parliaments originated as representations of centralised power, the dominant typologies are tied to the creation of an image of unity. In the 19th century, the semicircle aimed to bring consensus to warring factions. These typologies survive as visions of the past, but nations can no longer remain inwardly orientated, as their Parliaments must increasingly negotiate the nation's role within the globalised world.*

*Architecture made parliaments a platform for collectively, but Neo-Classical references has lost their resonance. How can architecture generate new references that connect to the contemporary societies? Can architecture help parliamentary politics overcome an incomprehensible ritual of the past? (Ibid)*

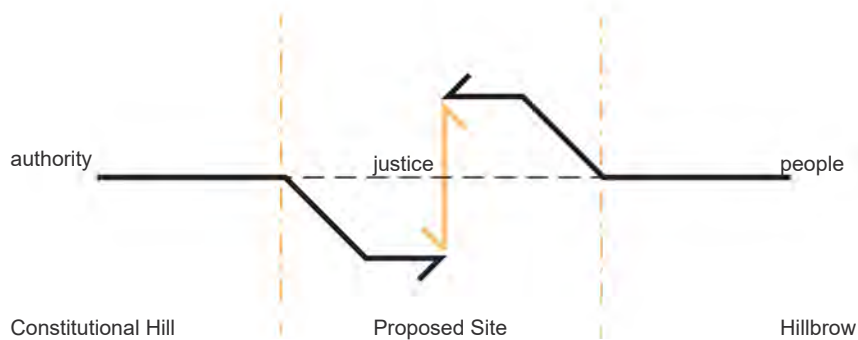
The issues and concerns raised by XML are argued to satisfy the same notion for court chambers. The court chamber has become a space where the state uses its authority to implement justice, as identified before in the critique of criminal justice. People still feel disconnected to these institutions that shape their laws and as a result their way of living. It is suggested that the exclusive nature of court buildings limits public participation but caters mainly for the authority, practitioners and the litigant. Justice is a public endeavour.

The three dispute chambers aim to satisfy XML's three principles on Plenary hall. Public participation will be suggested on both the Victim Conference chamber and the Circles Chamber on the ground floor. For the Family Conference disputes chamber which is on the first and second floor, less public participation would take place there but only the involved parties and supporters would be involved due to the fact that this space aims to deal with more private matters-, as indicated in the restorative justice matrix.

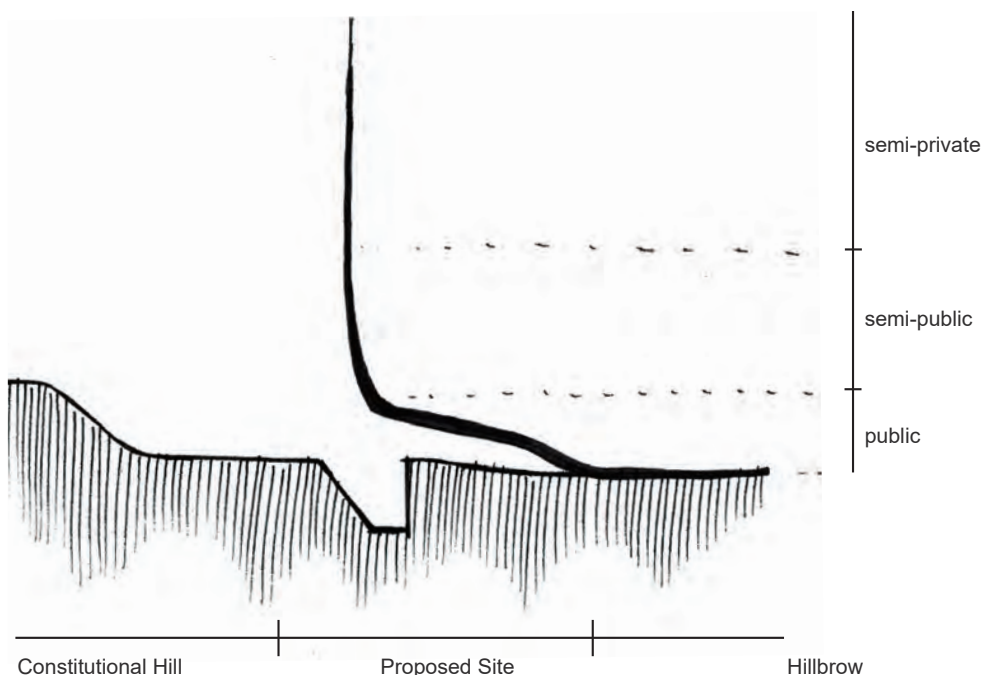
## DESIGN INFORMANTS



The general, urban issues (see Fig. A.20 and A.22 in annex A) were translated into a diagram to illustrate the current state of South Africa in terms of spatial, social and judicial justice. As argued in the previous chapter, the authority is above the law and justice. The civilians are dependent on the authority through which they do not receive the necessary requirements to enable them for a sustainable and better standard of living. This current notion of injustices must be challenged.



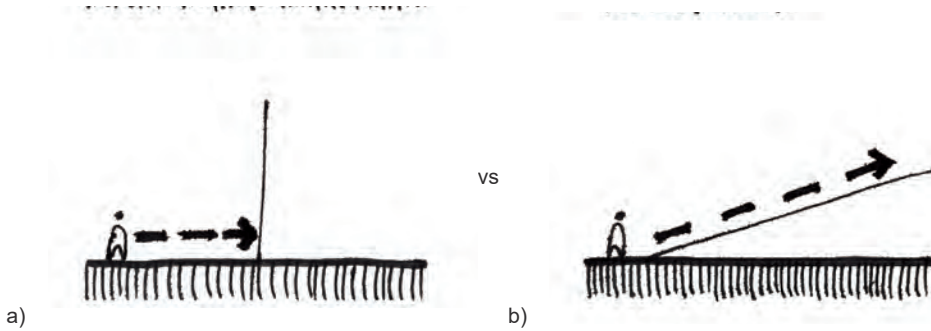
Democracy suggests a culture of participation through which people are enabled to achieve and improve their standard of living. This notion is usually referred to as "for the people by the people". The ideal maintains that the authority which is voted for by the people ought to serve the people as they require them to and that they are acknowledged as the primary stakeholders of all procedures. The diagram on the left aims to enforce the ideals proposed above through the architecture.



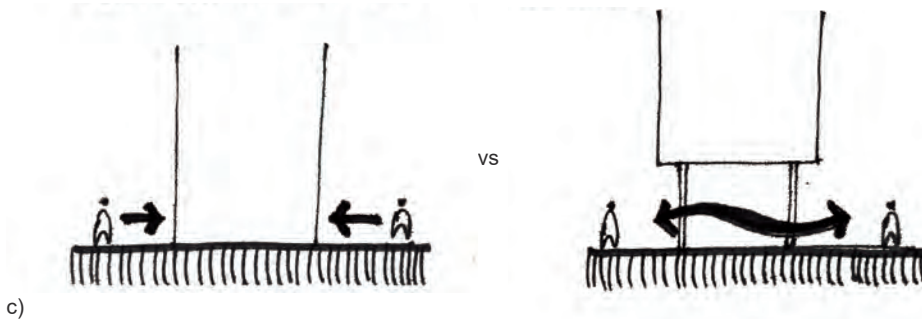
The conceptual diagram on the left aims to illustrate the spatial translation of the intentions highlighted in the previous diagram. The residents of Hillbrow would ascend onto a terrace that directs the users to a viewing platform towards Constitution Hill. Thereafter they would continue into the building, beginning with the law clinic and law library as semi-public spaces, and then further away from the ground into the tower, ascending through the various scales of counseling until the observatory on the roof of the tower. The politicians would occupy dispute chambers that are submerged into the ground to address the issues of the people. This proposal would spatially invert the positions of the authority versus the people as a tangible contest of the current state of justice.



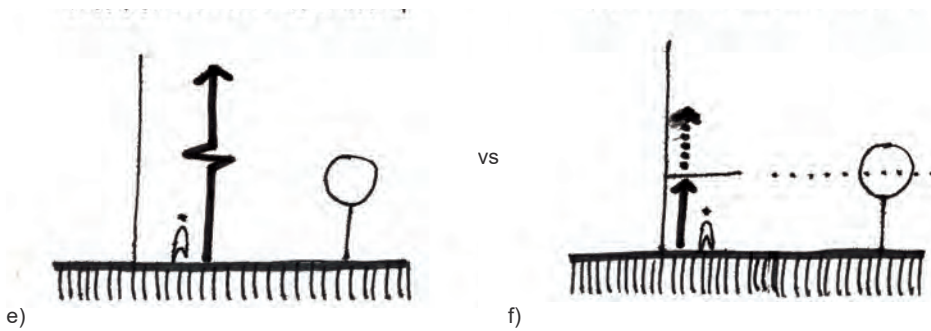
## DESIGN METHODOLOGY



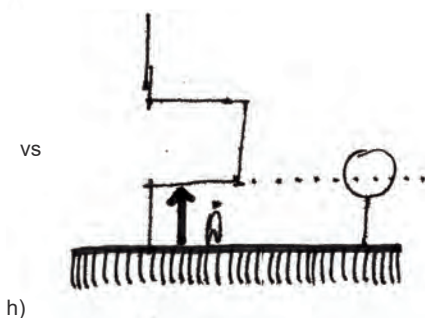
The people and the authority are identified as two polar entities that require different spatial needs physically which can be translated symbolically. The authority a) would be received by an overpowering facade to contest their current position of power. The people b) would be gradually removed from the ground to emphasize the proposed notion of enablement.



Paths that traverse the site intersect underneath the proposed tower. This space contradicts the common practice of a tower being on a plinth which is exclusive to its users but rather, c) becomes a public square in which people have the liberty to meet, speak, pass, or observe one another.

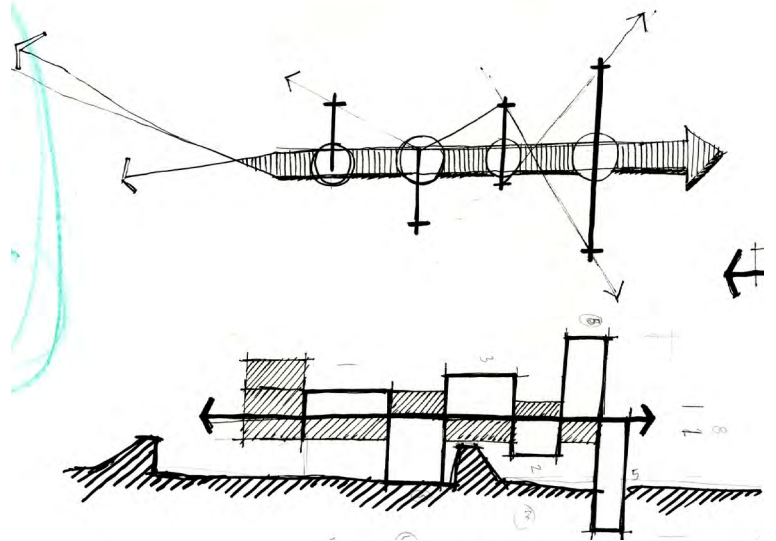
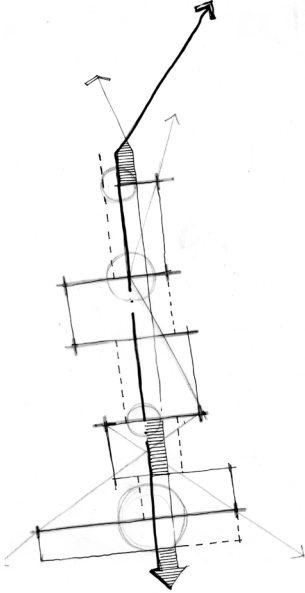


Thresholds between the streets and the building have been realized as links between public and semi-public spaces, the un-programmed and programmed and nature versus man-made. Diagram e) depicts the current practice around Hillbrow. Covered entrances have been identified to acknowledge the human scale into the building even though there is a continuation of space towards the sky f). The last option h) is taken as the best scenario, in that it also acknowledges the human scale by decreasing the scale of the building. It creates horizontal focus as opposed to the previous two. In the overhead podium one can maintain a connection on the street and the space above the podium can serve as a balcony or a roof garden space.



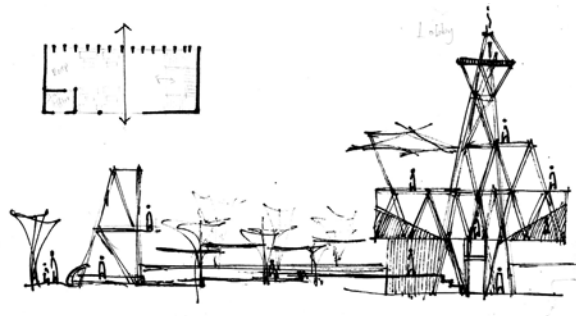
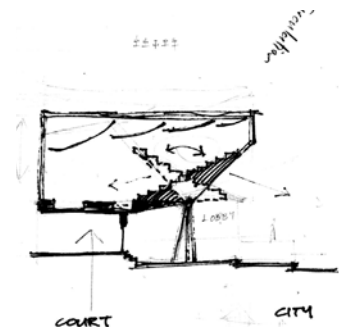
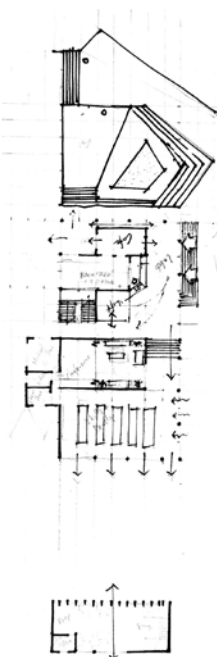
APRIL: *Arthur's workshop*

- Movement
- Connection
- Volumes
- Theory
- Form
- Heritage



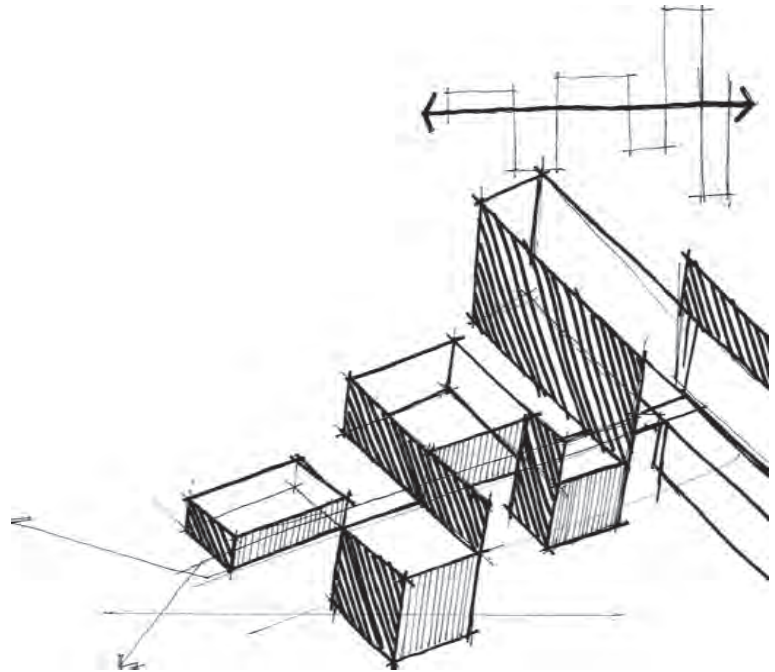
MAY: *Concept one*

- Scale
- Language
- Spatial composition
- Structure
- Landscape
- Dispute chambers
- Heritage



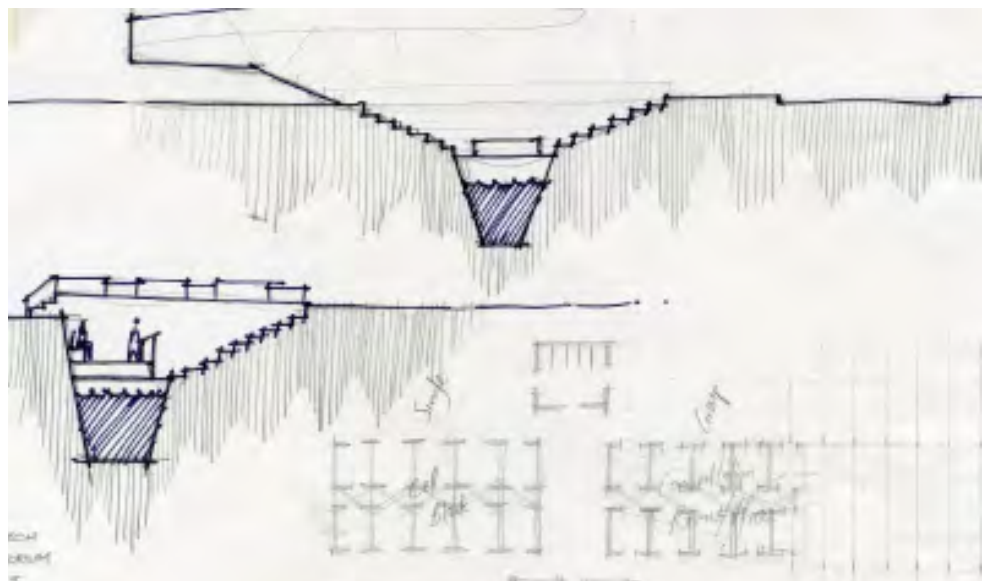
*[Arthur's workshop]*

- +Once the site was chosen an intuitive abstract response was explored
- +Movement from Hillbrow to Constitution Hill was prominent
- +The architecture would vary in size and volume along a single movement route
- +The plan was translated into a section leading to the first proposal of contour manipulation
- +The proposed volumes would get smaller towards Constitution Hill
- +The building formed a bridge over the road into the Old prison/Fort.



*[concept 1]*

- +A language for a tower was established
- +Roof gardens and elevated observation points were
- +Preliminary spatial organisation options are made as the initial response to the urban and architectural concept
- +Existing trees are proposed to be moved or kept in their original position
- +The court chamber in the tower has an adjustable seating that links to the outside amphitheatre
- +Roof gardens for a continuation of the ground above ground

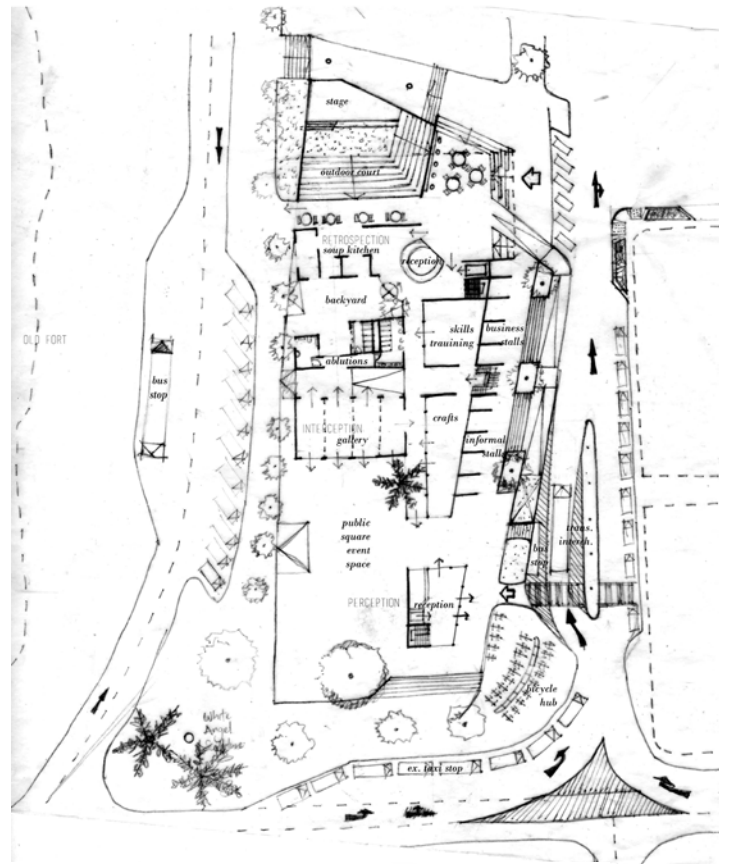


### MAY: *Concept two*

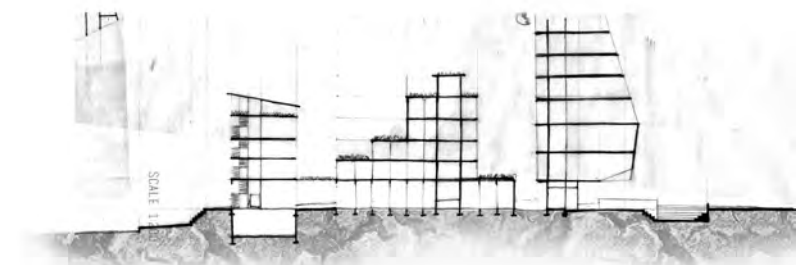
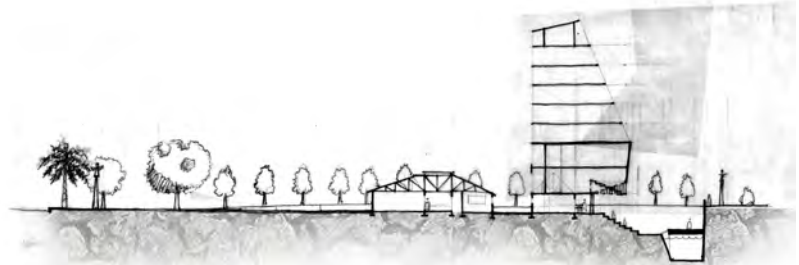
- Scale
- Form
- Spatial composition
- Structure
- Landscape
- Dispute chambers
- Heritage

- +The scale of the project is unclear due to the program not being well defined
- +Possible volumes and architectural language are explored
- +Preliminary spatial organisation options are made as the initial response to the urban and architectural concept
- +Existing trees are proposed to be moved or kept in their original position
- +The court chamber in the tower has an adjustable seating that links to the outside amphitheatre
- +Roof gardens for a continuation of the ground above ground

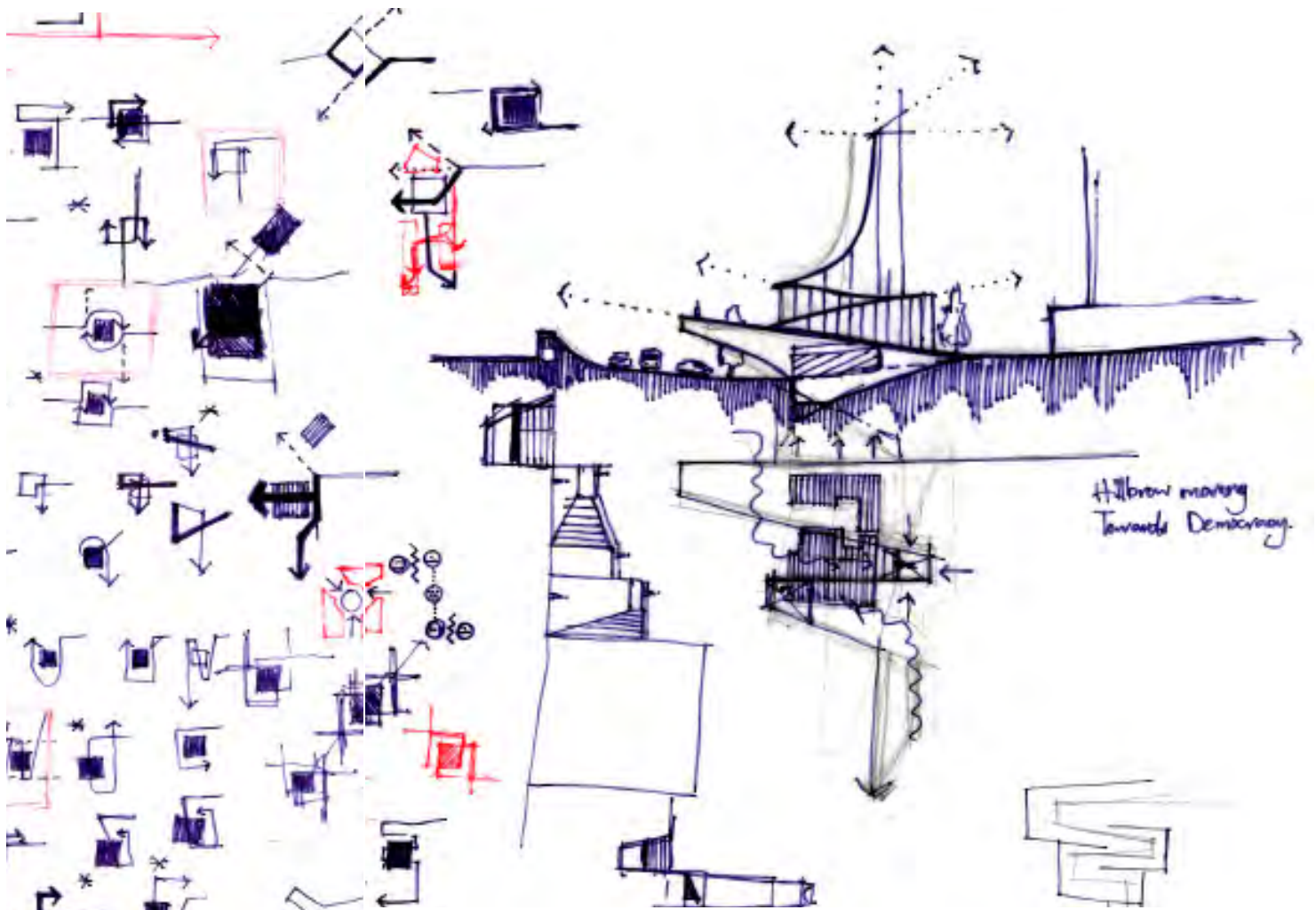
RECREATIONAL CENTRE



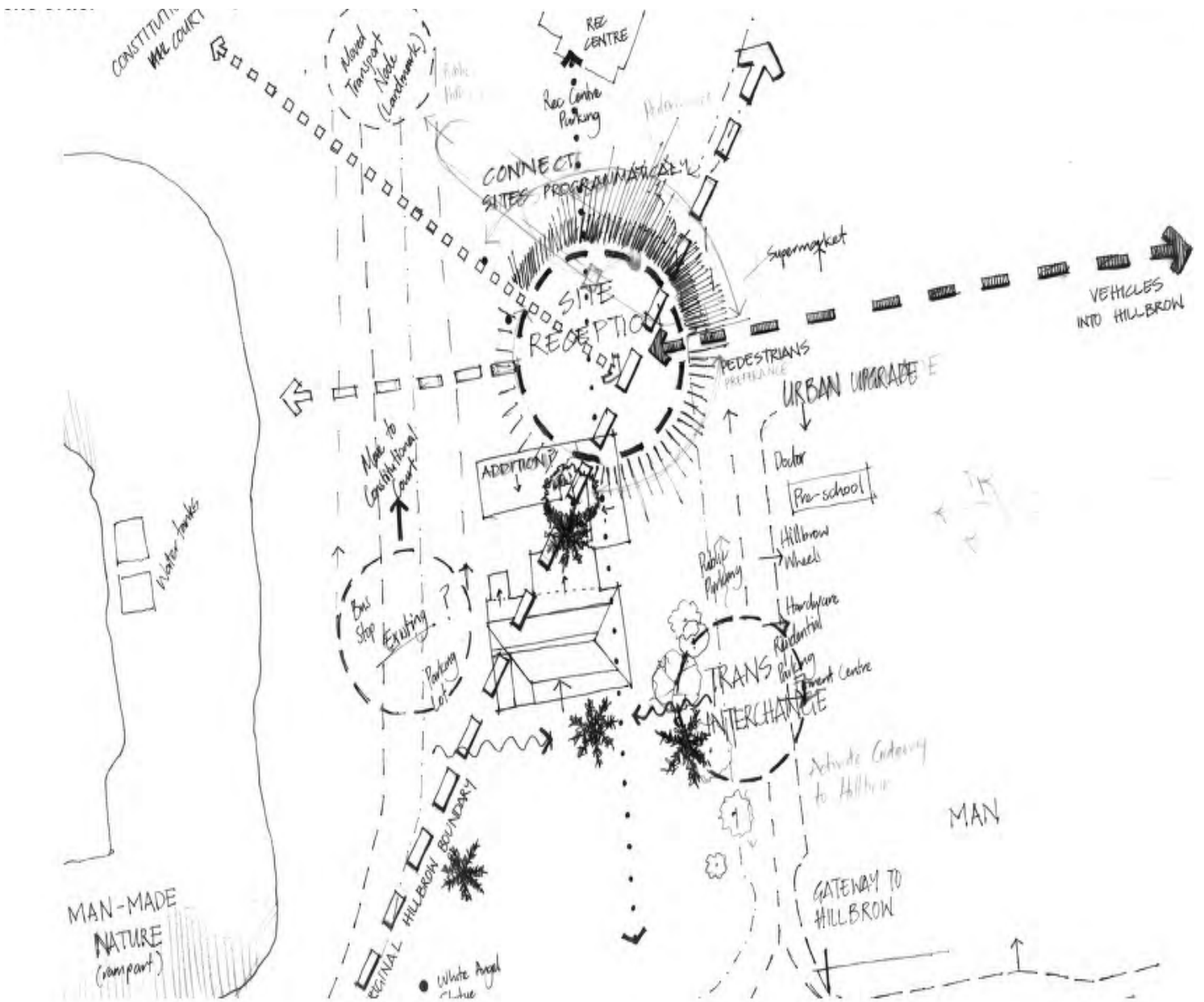
SCALE



[concept two]

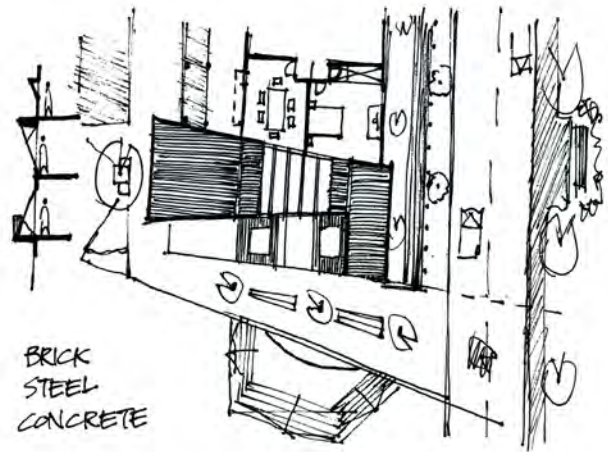
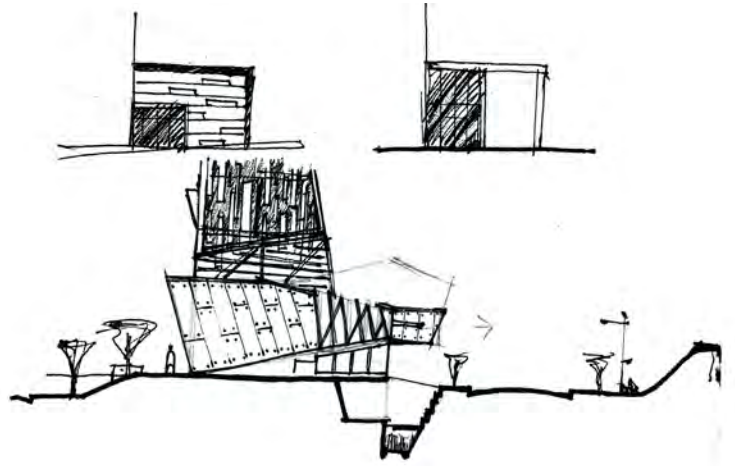


[site development]



iteration 4

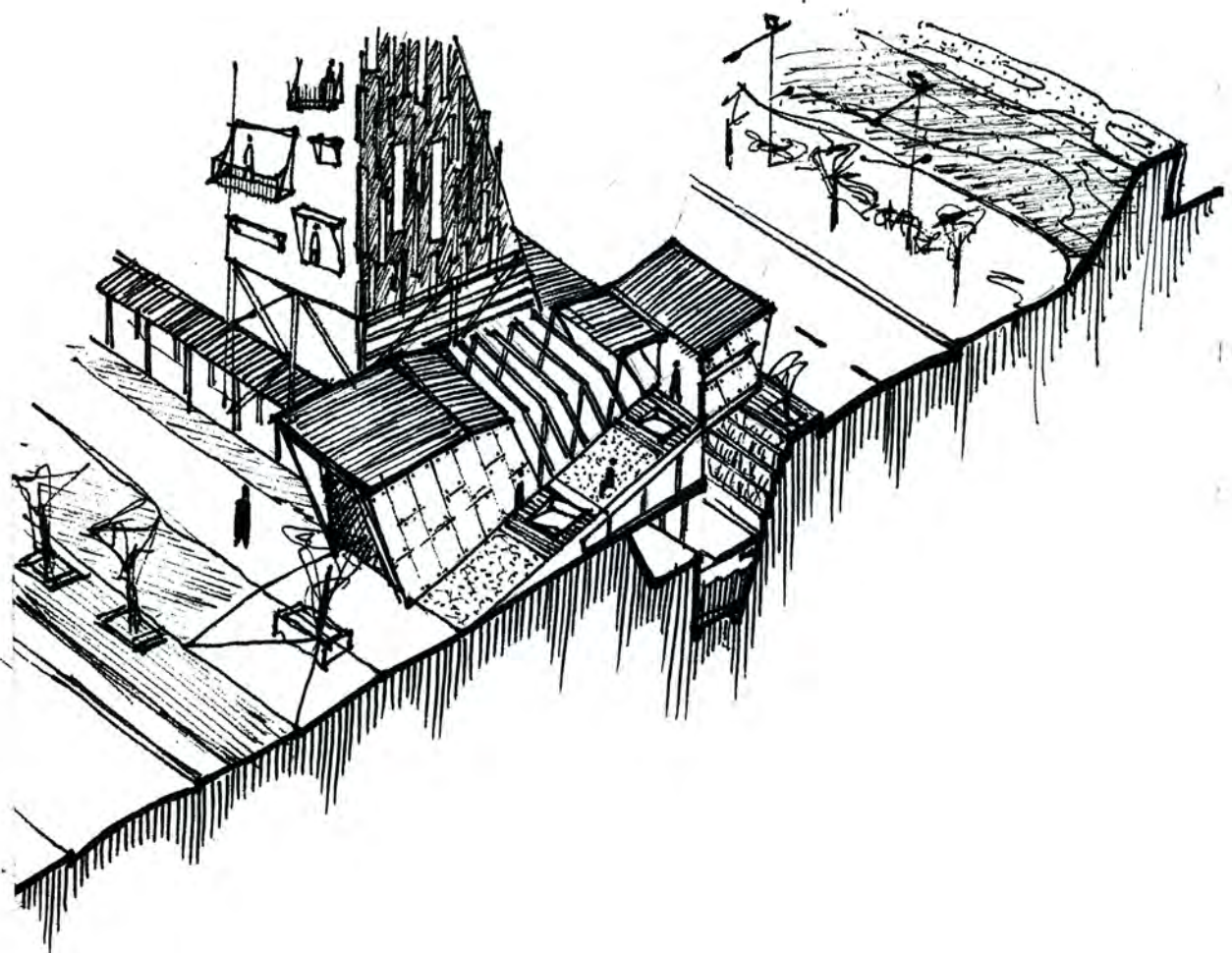
[concept three]



BRICK  
STEEL  
CONCRETE

MAY: *Concept three*

- Threshold
- Form
- Materials
- Structure
- Landscape
- Dispute chambers
- Sub-basement level



### JUNE: *Iteration one*

- Grid
- Zoning
- Volumes
- Structure
- Envelope / Façades
- Narratives
- Heritage

+The urban concept was interpreted into a grid, to express the contrast between Hillbrow and the Constitutional Court.

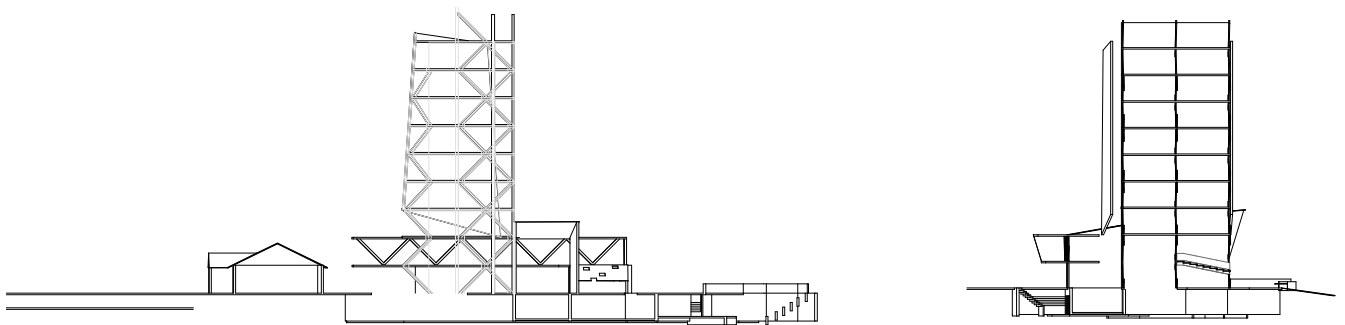
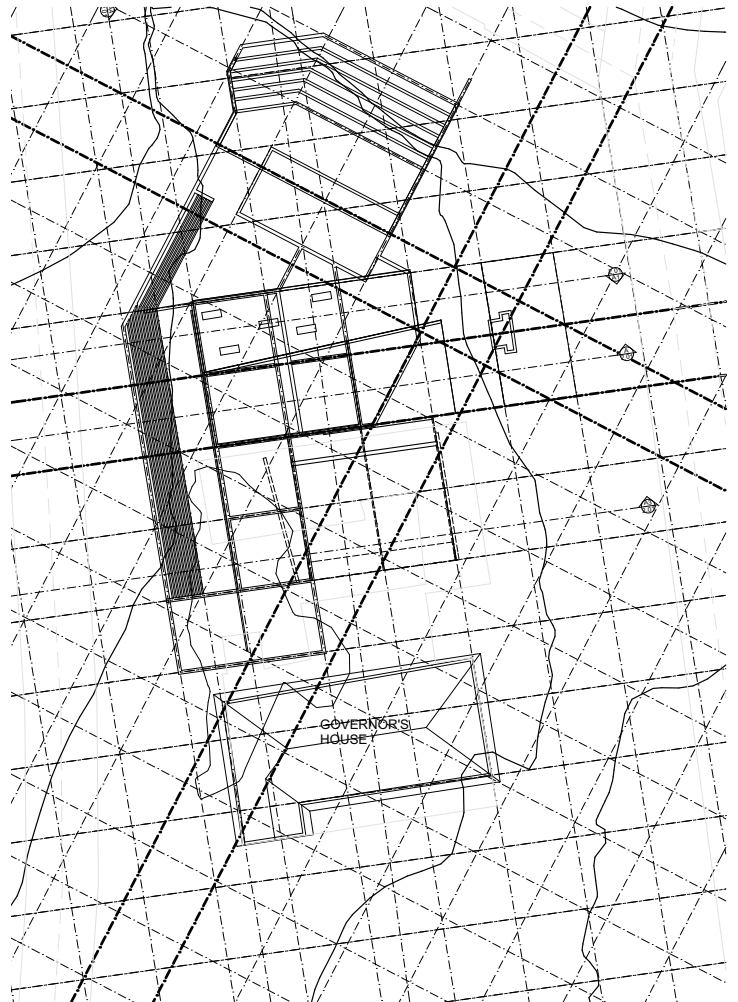
+Program zoning was to explore relationship between the proposed site with the existing context and the human scale with the tower.

+The access onto site was to refer to the various users and their approach.

+The intervention onto the heritage building was to be light and limited to the intersection it has with the proposed path.

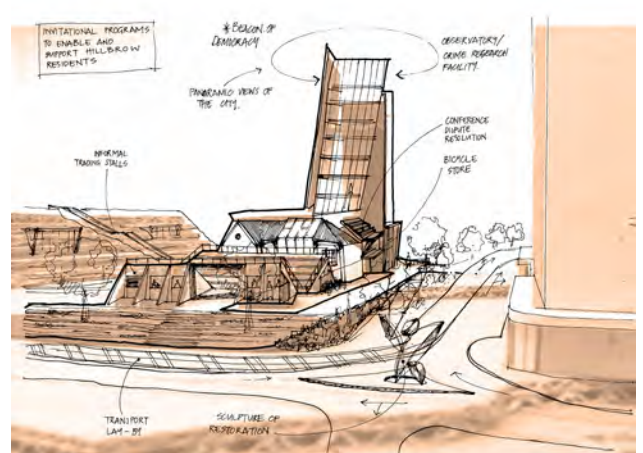
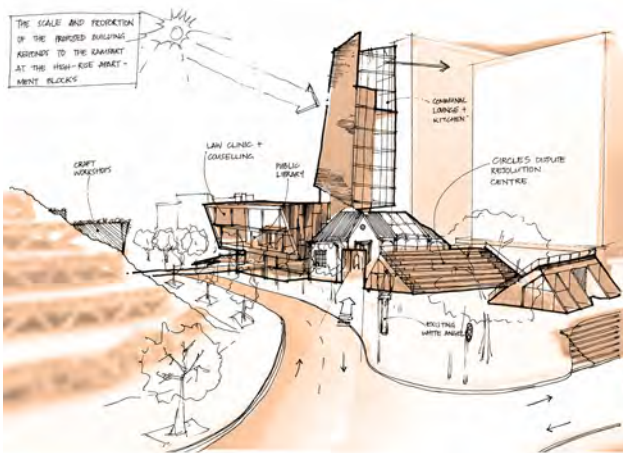
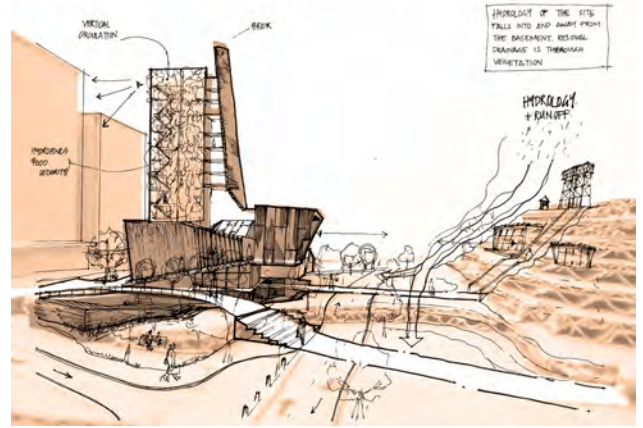
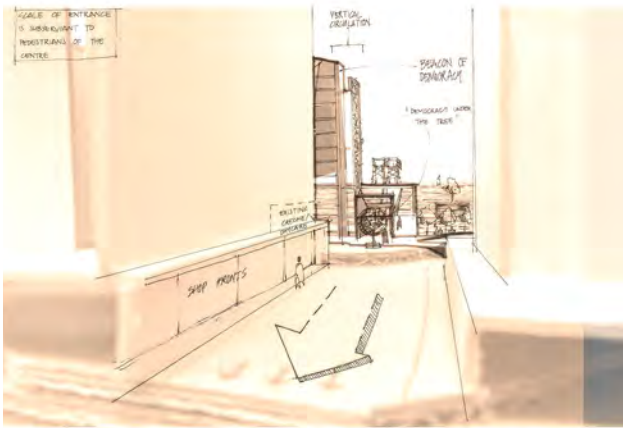
-The circle chamber was to close to the heritage building.

-The ramp did not accommodate special access





[iteration one]



### JULY: *Iteration two*

- Path Hierarchy
- Ramp
- Basement access
- Vertical circulation
- Dispute chambers
- Special access
- Heritage

+The width of the paths into the site were to suggest their hierarchy in comparison to one another as depicted in the architectural concept.

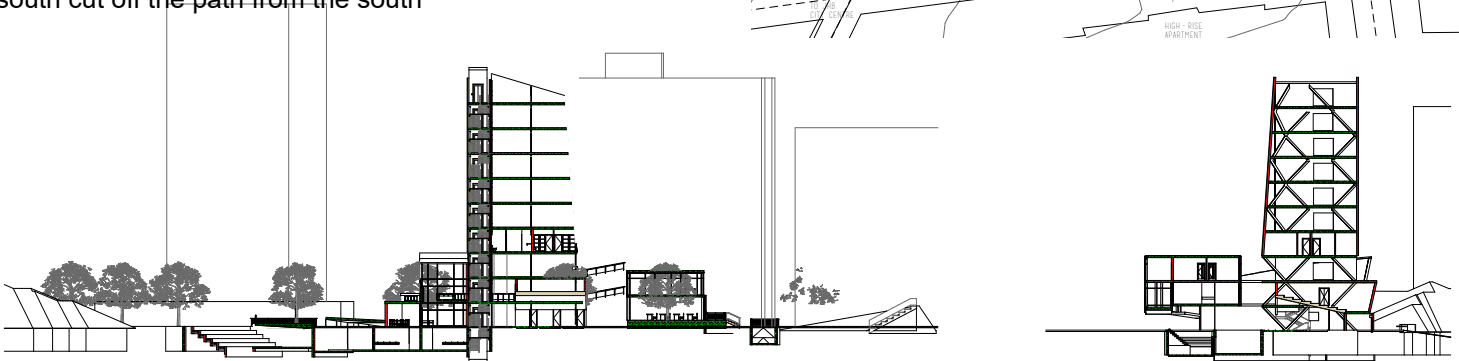
+The ramp was made to accommodate wheelchairs

+The position for vertical circulation was established behind the green screen on the north. It would offer view to the north towards Parktown and onto Pretoria Street in Hillbrow.

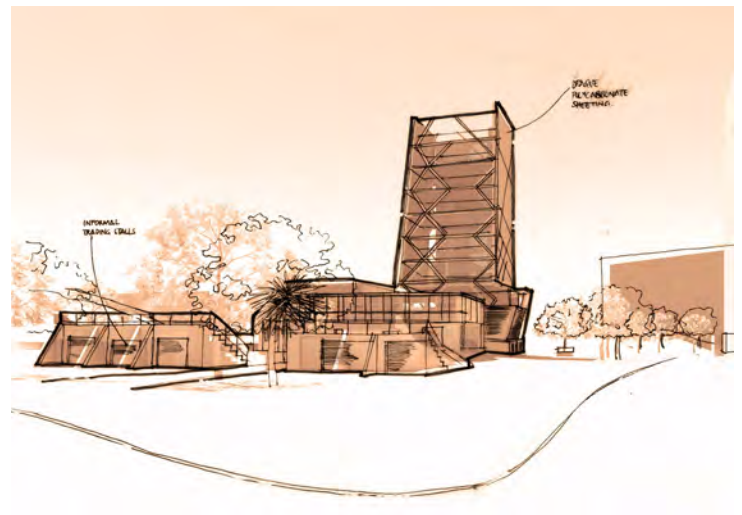
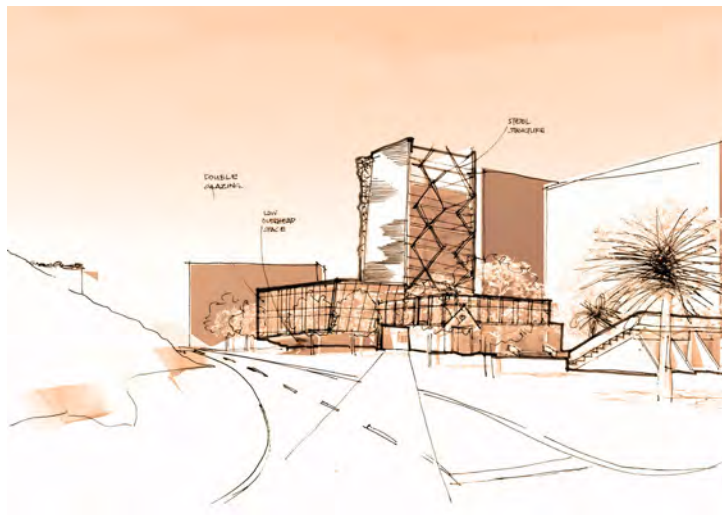
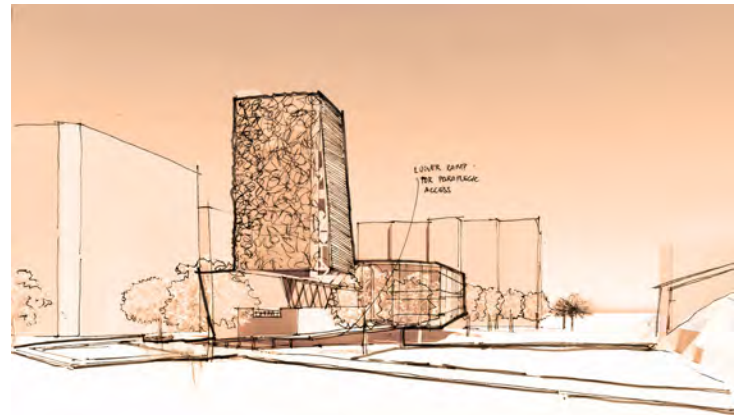
+The circle dispute chamber was recessed from the heritage building and extended on the west edge.

-The roof of the heritage building was removed and it was replaced by a light glass structure

-The access into the basement from the south cut off the path from the south



[iteration two]



### AUG: *Iteration three*

- Public ablutions
- Ramp / terrace
- Basement access
- Landscape
- Dispute chambers
- Special access
- Heritage
- Vertical circulation
- Exhibition
- Public squares
- Restaurant

+Public ablutions were established to support the restaurant and the adjacent public square

+The ramp became a public terrace with seating and stairs.

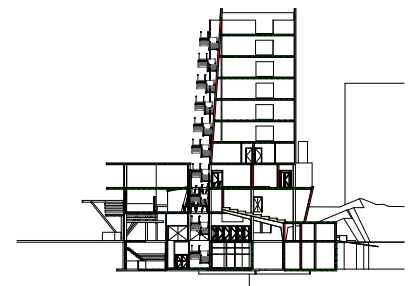
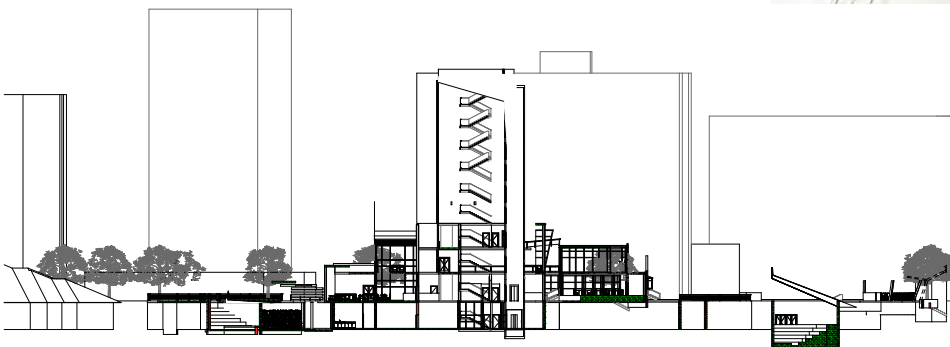
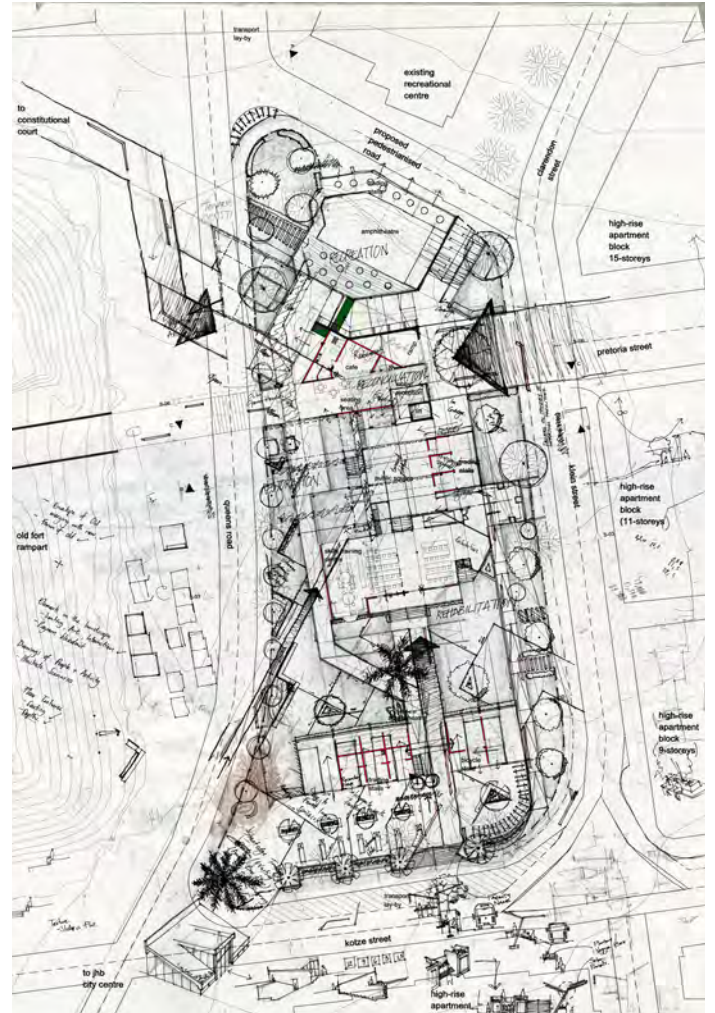
+The sub-basement access connects to the proposed path.

+The landscape was articulated to serve the programmed spaces

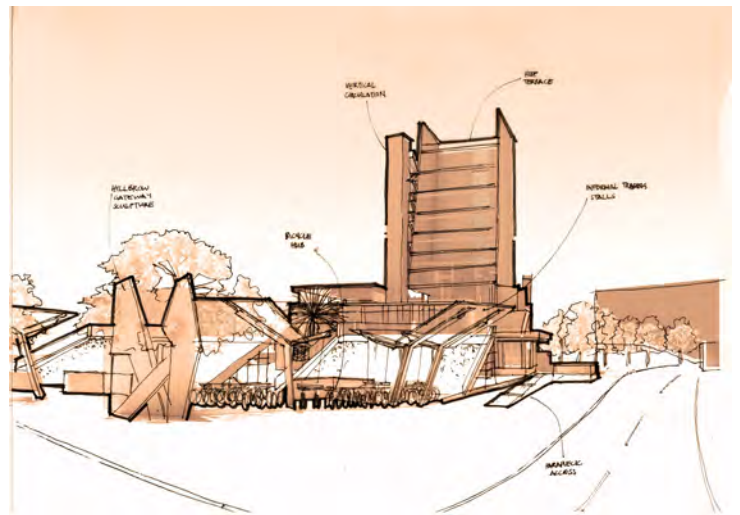
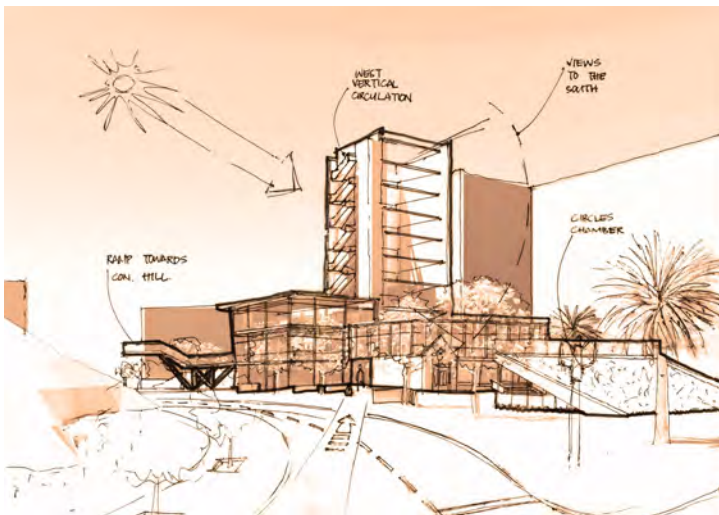
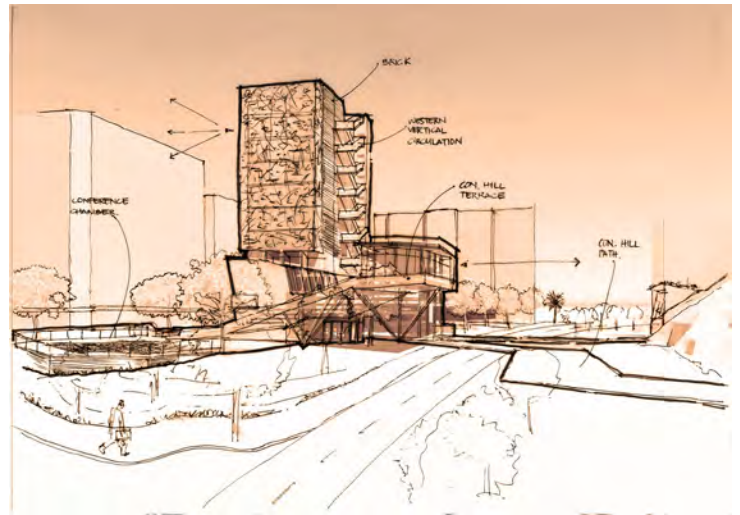
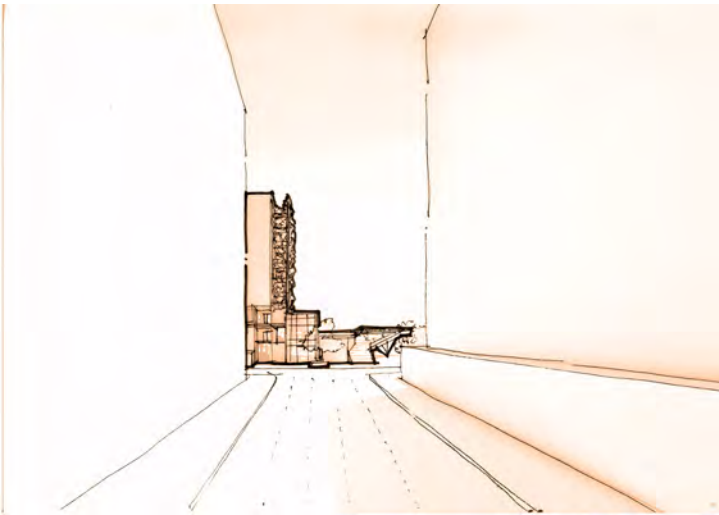
+The circles chamber was submerged into the ground and made larger with supporting spaces. A clerestory received light from the north.

+The glass box on the heritage building was recessed to differentiate old and new better

+The public square next to the transport interchange was developed to become part of the site



[iteration three]



### SEPT: *Iteration four*

- Tower floor area
- Thoroughfare
- Restaurant
- Ablutions core
- Dispute chambers
- Structure
- Heritage

+The tower did not have enough area to accommodate the proposed program and the required services, therefore it was enlarged

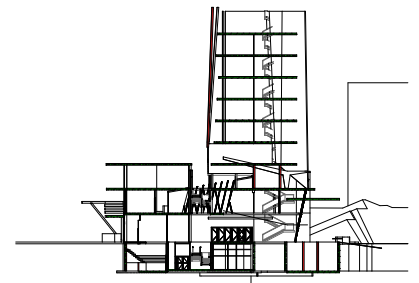
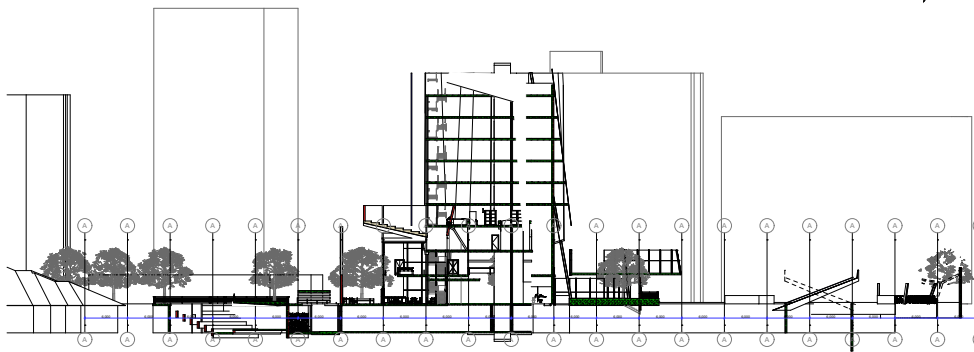
+A direct thoroughfare was established from Hilbrow through the site to Hillbrow as the main access route and a continuation of Pretoria Street

+Public ablutions formed a concrete core for the tower

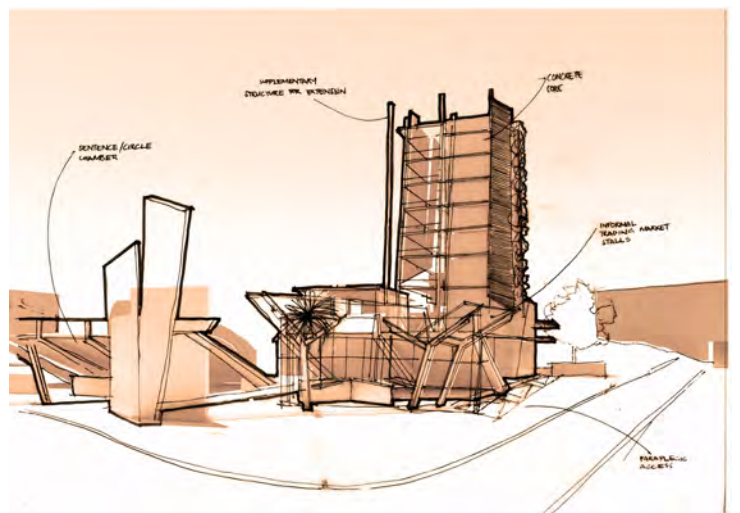
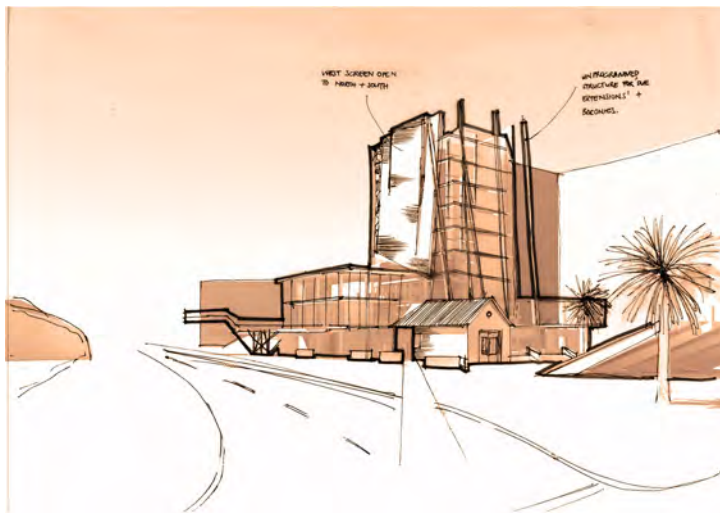
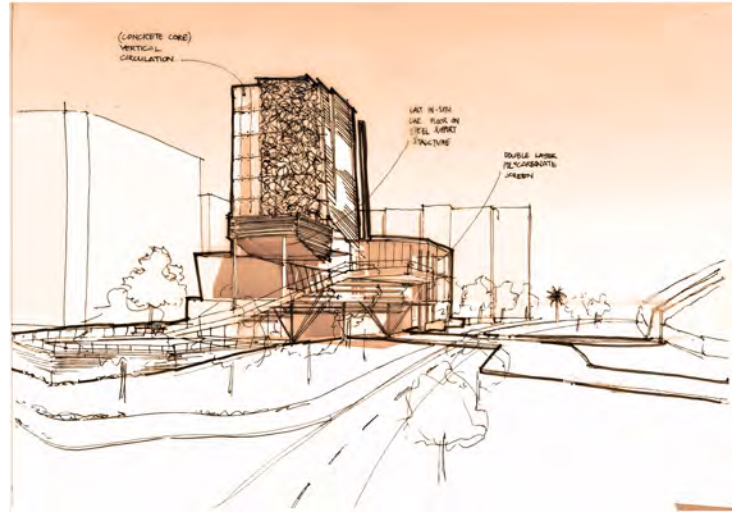
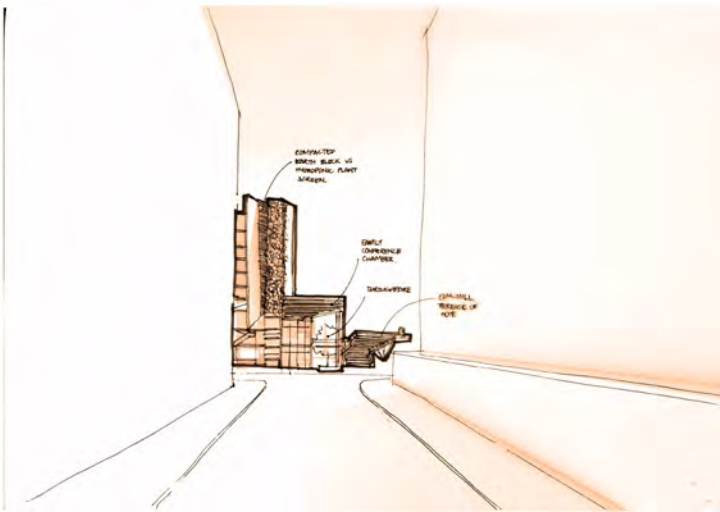
+The structure was extended further through the heritage building for possible extensions in the future

+The roof of the circle chamber was rotated to receive the public from the south end of the site

+The glass box over the heritage building was made narrower and it protruded over the heritage building



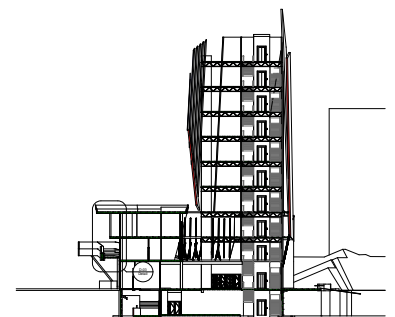
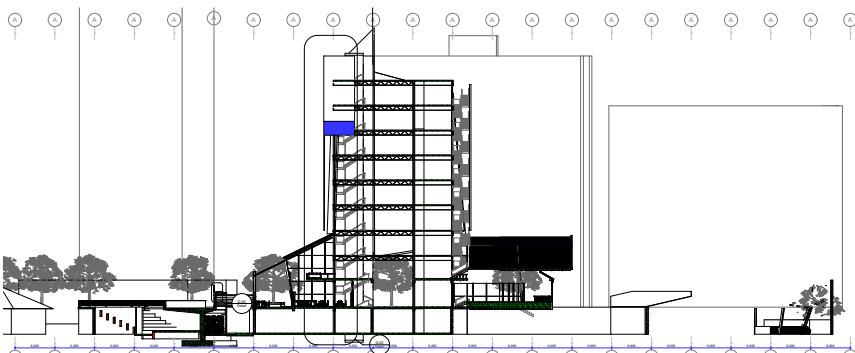
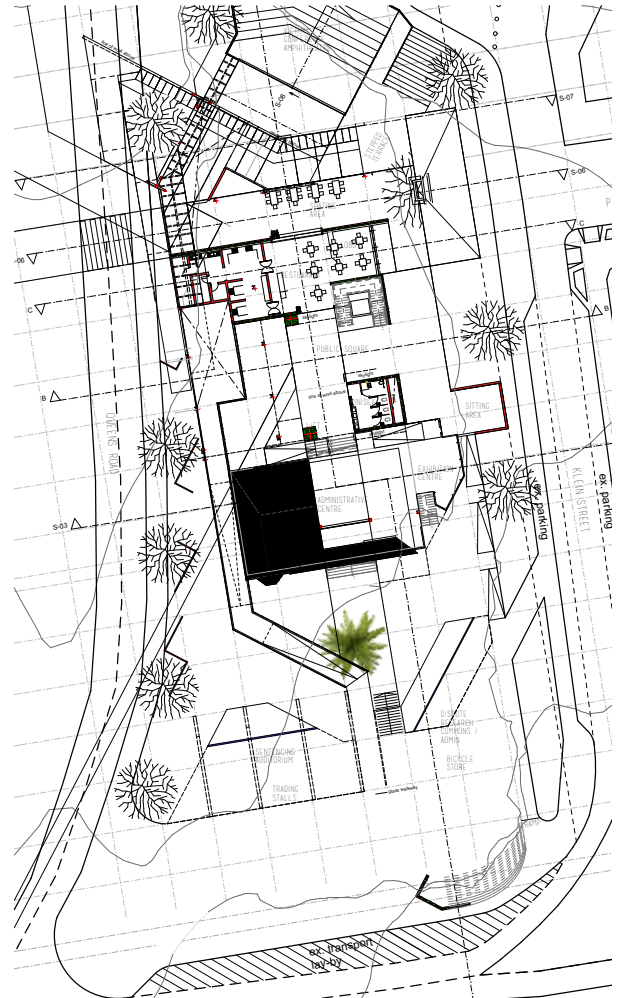
[iteration four]



### OCT: *Iteratiuon five*

- Sculptural quality
- Ventilation
- Ablution core
- Water catchment
- Shading screens
- Restaurant roof
- Materials
- Dispute chambers
- Heritage

- +The sculptural quality was restored through using screens that extend away and beyond the height of the building
- +The vertical circulation and ablutions core form the concrete cores to brace the structure from wind
- +The proposed materials would contrast other building in the immediate context
- +The form of circles chamber was made to accommodate more people
- +Old bricks would be used to screen the new addition on the heritage building
- +The vertical circulation would form a extractor shaft to ventilate the tower
- +The ground floor area would be used for water catchment into bioswales to cleanse the water



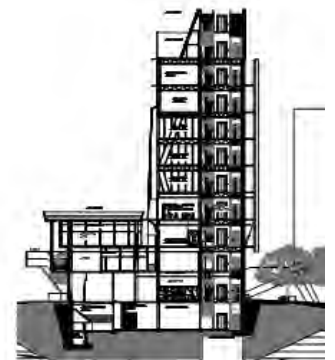
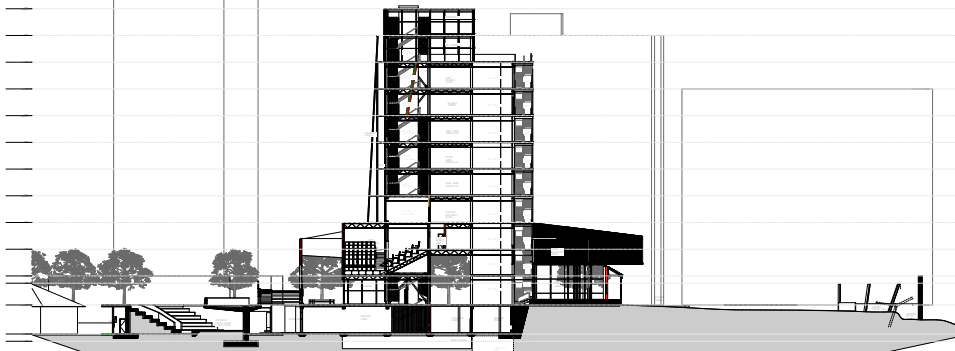
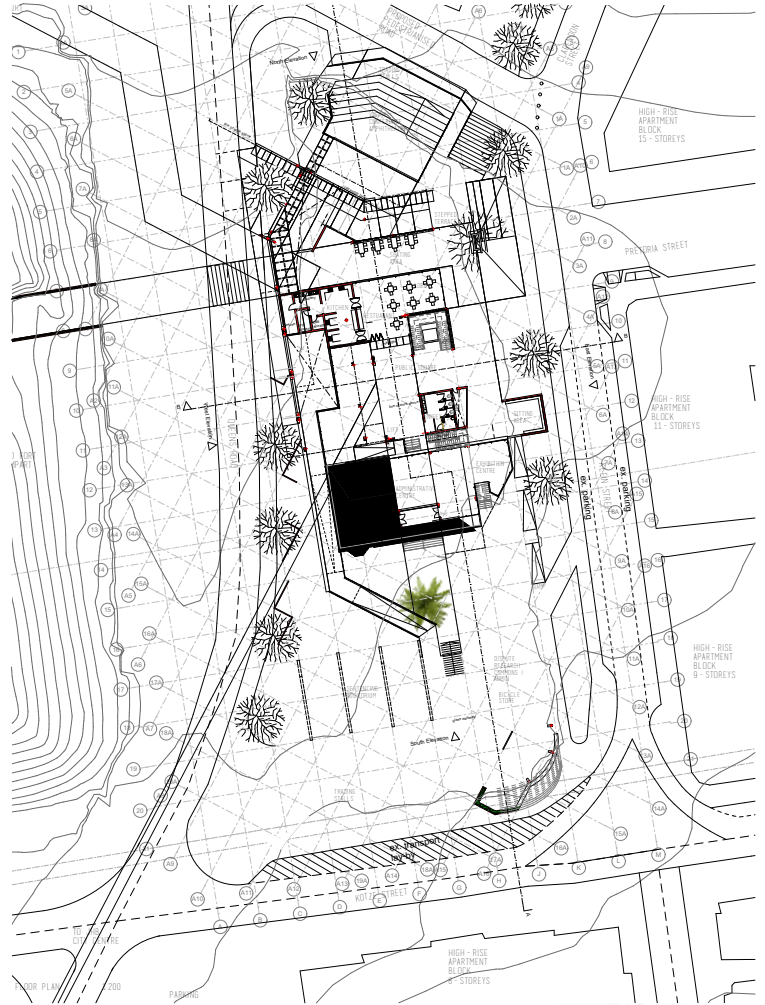




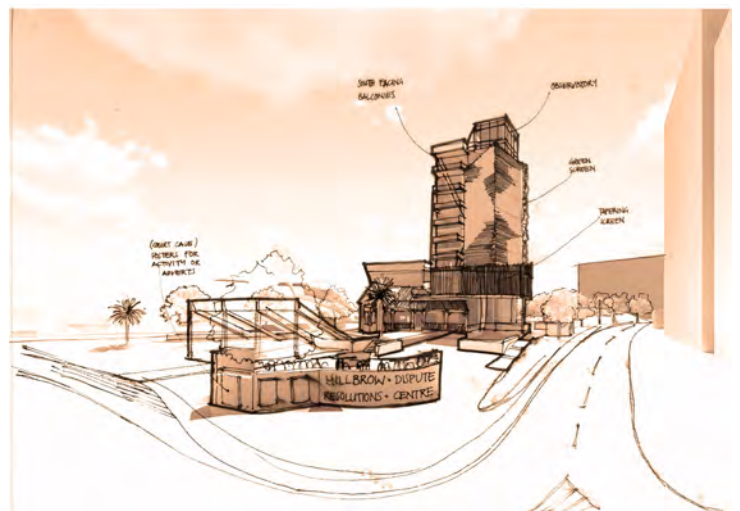
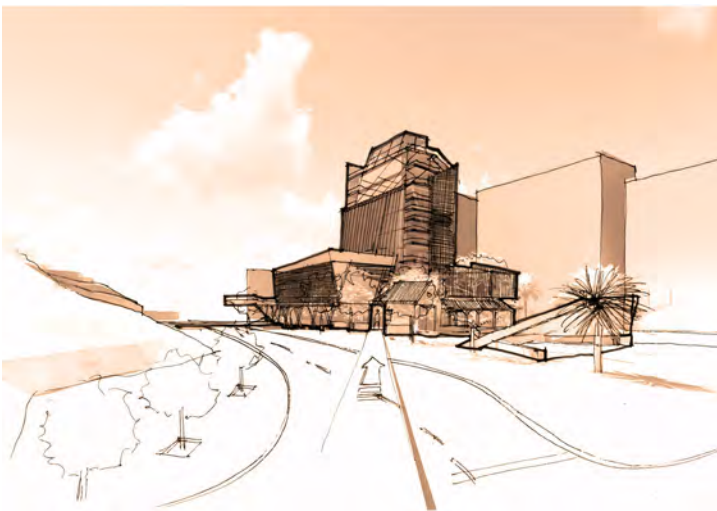
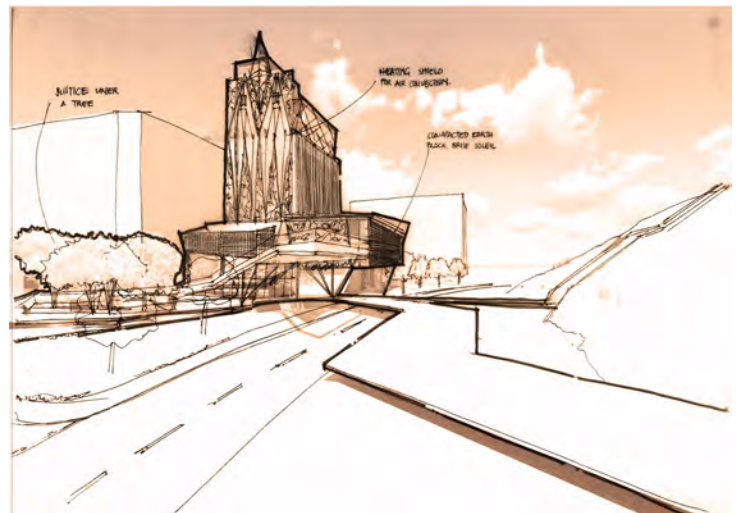
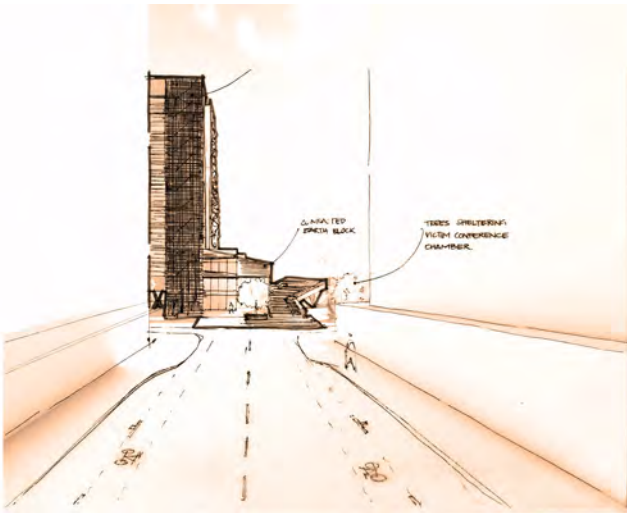
OCT: *Iteration six*

- Structure
- Fire response
- Shading screens
- Observatory
- Materials
- Dispute chambers
- Heritage
- Ventilation / cooling
- Water catchment
- Waste Sorting
- Bio-digester

- +The structure changes to steel construction
- +Fire hose reel ducts and other fire systems are employed in the building
- +The shading screens assist further in shading and ventilating the building
- +The observatory is extended for further accommodation
- +The conference chamber forms the roof for the restaurant
- +A hybrid ventilation system is introduced assisted by the coolth of the ground and the water reservoir
- +A small area of the duct is partitioned to take different types of waste in the tower into the waste sorting area in the basement
- +The organic waste in and around the building is used to feed the bio digester

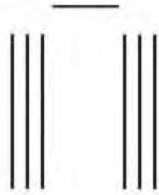


[iteration six]



## COURT CONCLUSIONS

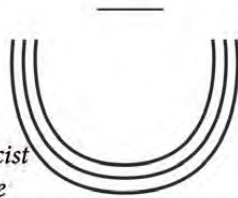
*opposing benches*



derived from medieval royal court

- signifies a clash of opposing parties
- exclusive viewing points
- exclusive

*neoclassicist sem-circle*



19th century states of the European nation

- signifies a unity in an audience
- good viewing points
- inclusive

*horseshoe*



hybrid of the two above

- signifies mediation between opposing parties
- fair viewing points
- inclusive

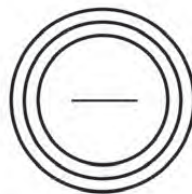
*classroom*



found in dictatorial countries

- signifies authoritarian power over audience
- fair viewing points
- oppressive

*circle*

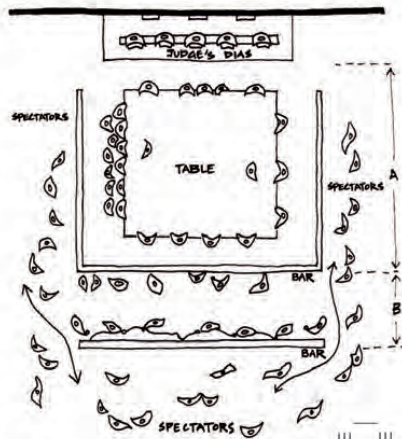


found in democratic countries

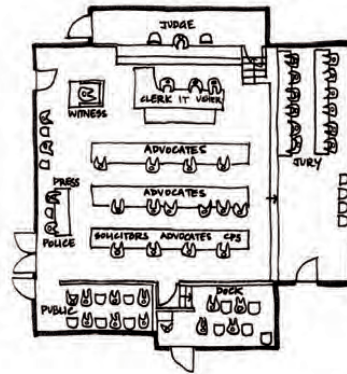
- signifies equality and balance of power
- equidistant viewing points to subjects
- democratic

# COURT COMPOSITION

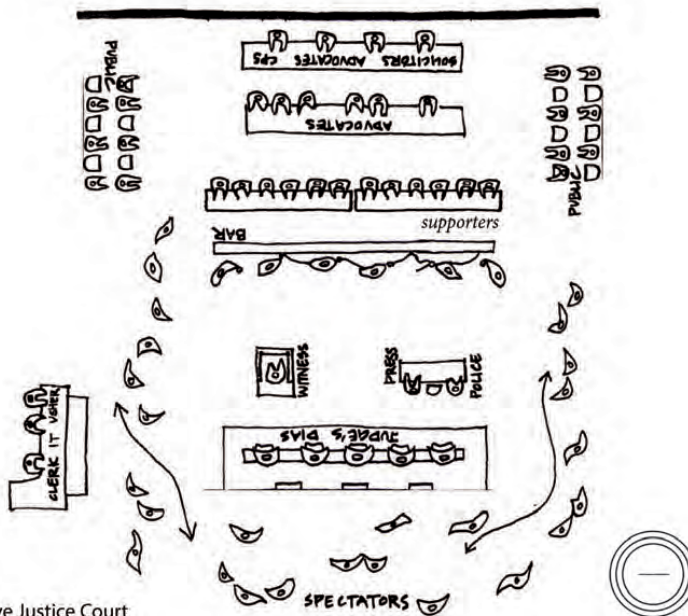
[ proposal for restorative justice ]



17th century Court (Hattingh: 2016)

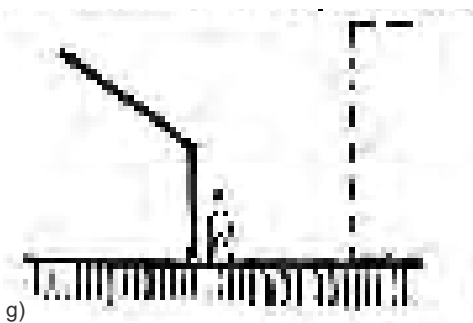
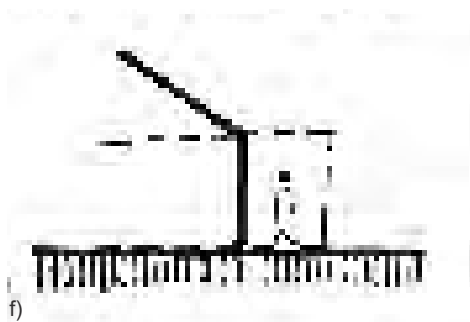
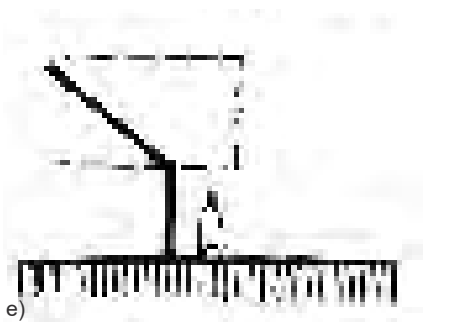
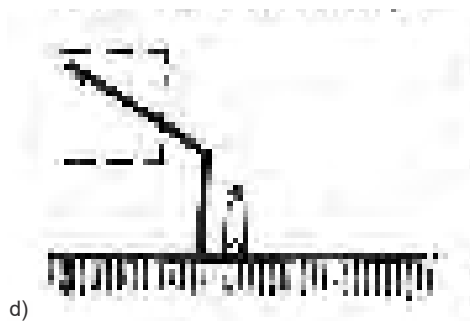
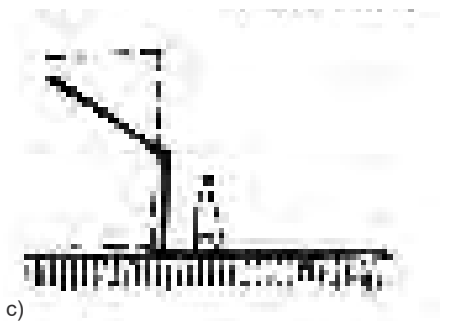
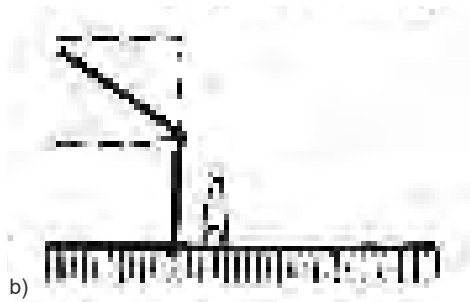
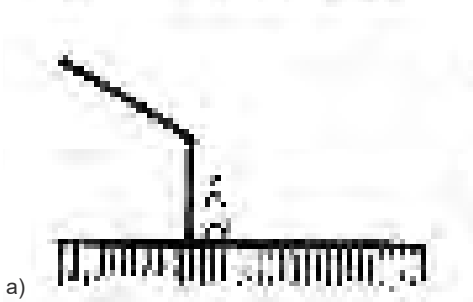


Contemporary Royal Court (Hattingh: 2016)



Proposed Restorative Justice Court

## HERITAGE RESPONSE



Machado's point seems to be that the contemporary jargon uses in describing the process of remodeling existing buildings neglects one of the core aspects of remodeling, "*which is characterised by formal intervention upon existing form*". Furthermore, he argues that it disenfranchises the old practice of remodeling which is as important as the practice of architecture itself. (Machado, 1976)

In addition to the above he suggests words like palimpsest as more descriptive of the process of remodelling. Palimpsest with regards to writing during the classical and medieval times suggests a removal of the old in order to make way for new text. (Machado, 1976) He uses this analogy of rewriting to describe how this principle of layering can be applied to architectural drawings and lastly the formal translation.

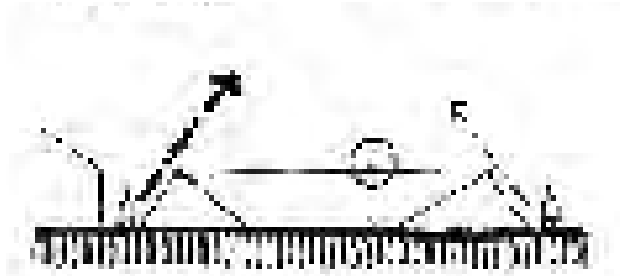
In light of Machado's theories, the latest function of the heritage building is changed, "*a new plot is composed out of old words...*". (Machado, 1976) This response to the existing building is not new as it has changed from being the governor's residence to being abandoned building and currently a displaced people's centre. During this process additions and alterations took place in and around the building.

The remodeling of the Governor's house was implemented through a series of design interventions (*diagrams a) to f)*). It aims to create a rich coexistence

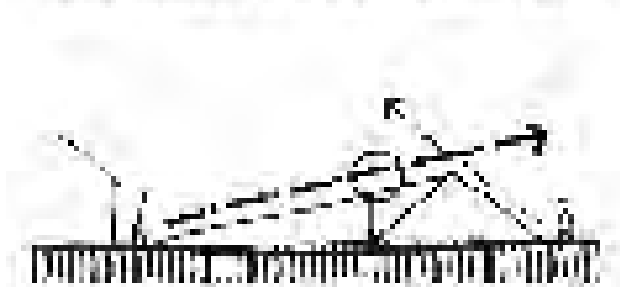
of vocabularies of the past and the present as it was done with the awaiting trail block for the Constitutional Court building.

The final response is a result of understanding the various applications of palimpsest on the building. It is a sum of five approaches; as illustrated in the diagrams b), c), e), f) for the program in and on top of the building and lastly g) for the Circles Dispute chamber in-front of the existing building.

The final position of the Circles Dispute chamber aims to create an open space that one can appreciate the old to the new. The submerged space acknowledges the old behind it and invites the public in front of it (*diagram g) iv*).



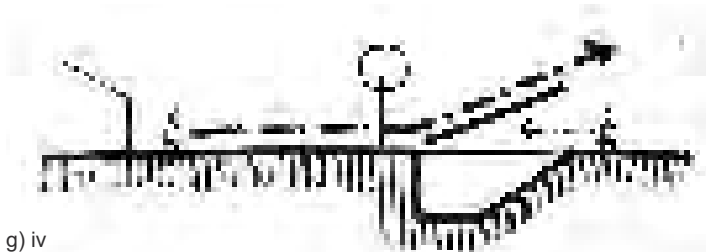
g) i



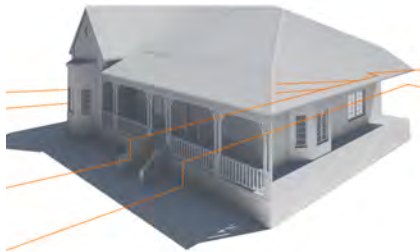
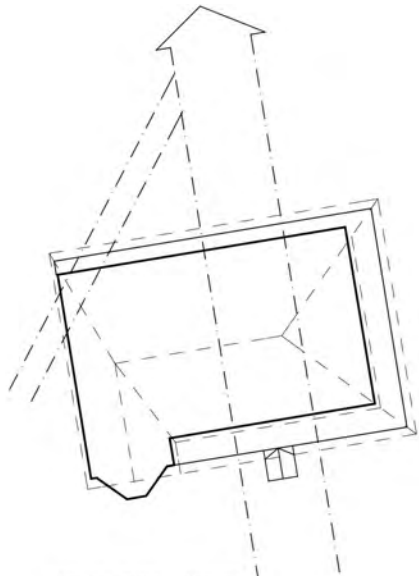
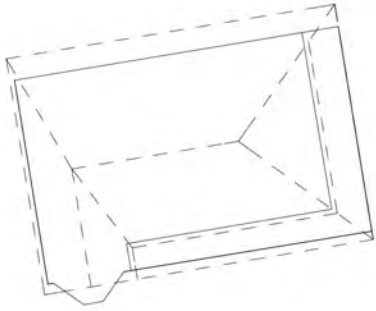
g) ii



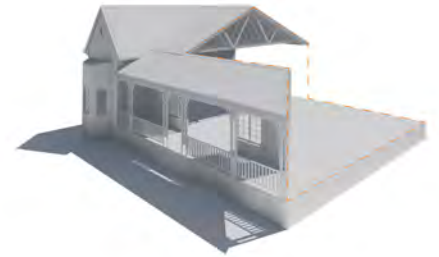
g) iii



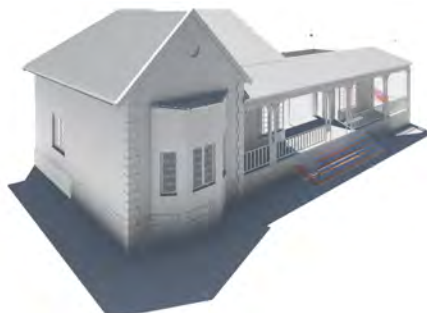
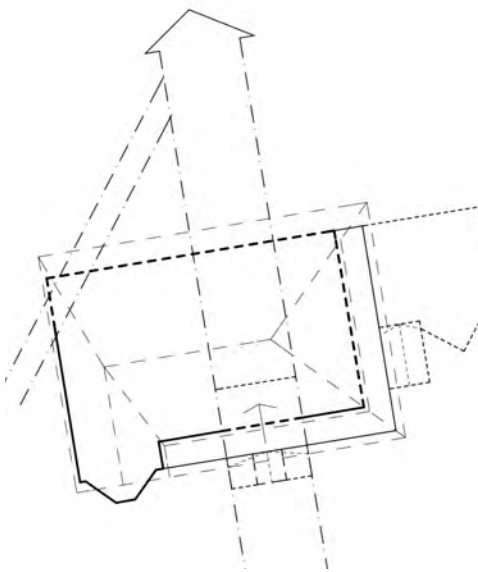
g) iv



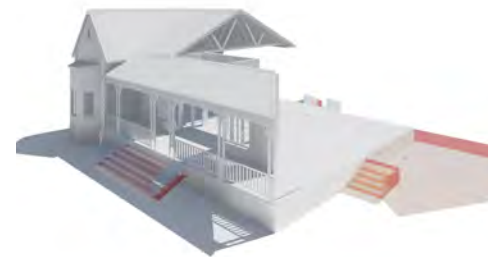
-mark access routes through existing building  
-place temporary structure to support existing facades and roof



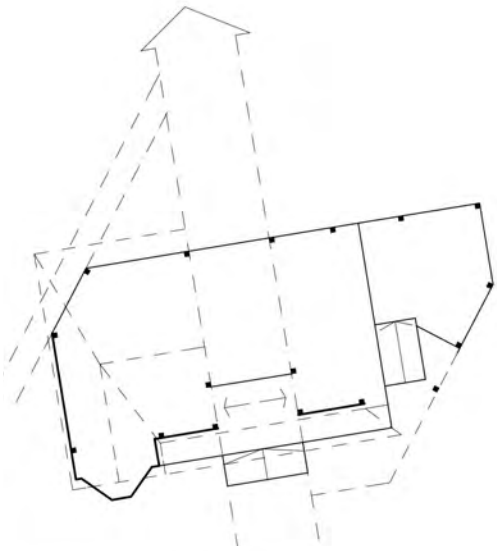
-demolish marked portions,  
N.B. remove existing bricks sensitively in order to reuse removed bricks later



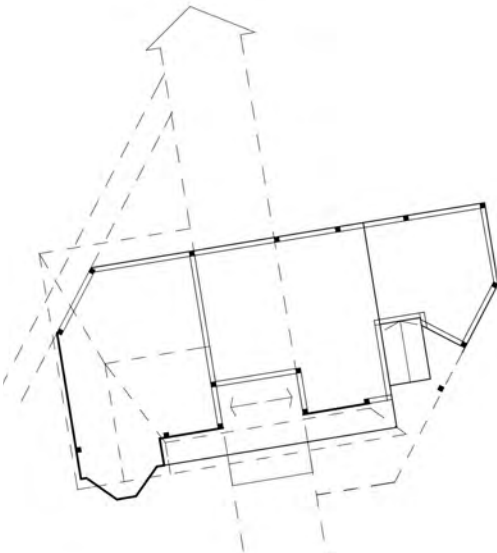
-construct substructure for addition (exhibition) and stairs



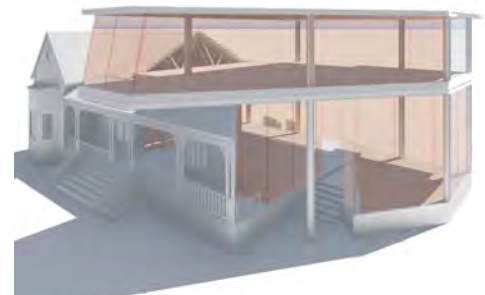




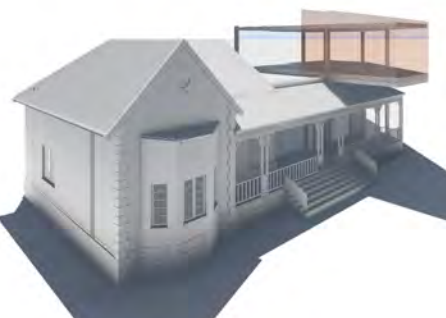
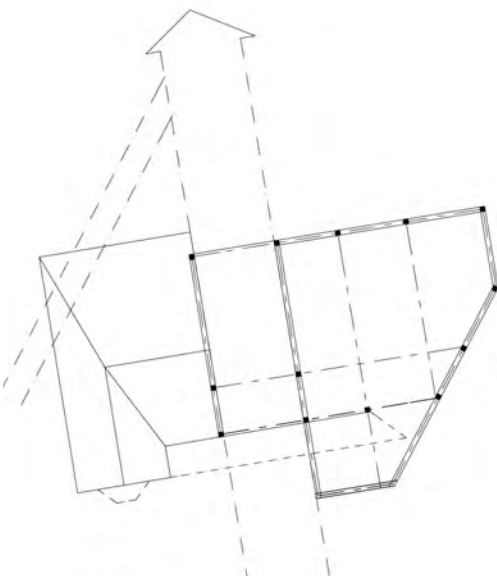
-replace temporary support structure with steel columns to eng. spec.



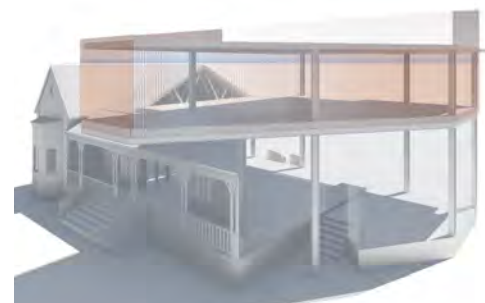
-place precast slabs on beams and cast screed to floor finish



-infill openings with structural glass panels as per specified detail



-weld steel bar profiles onto lower and upper beam on the first floor



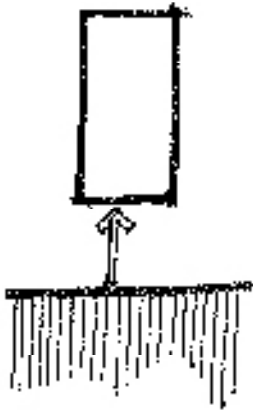
-place and fasten old bricks between steel bar columns as per detail

-weld steel bars between larger steel bar columns

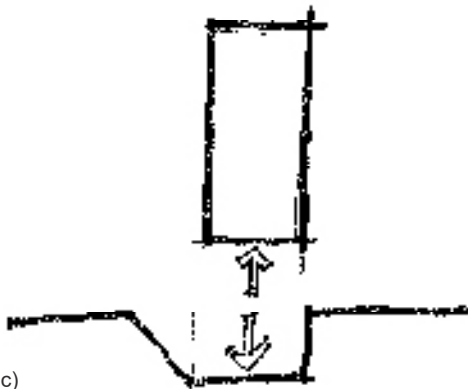
## DESIGN CONCLUSION



a)



b)

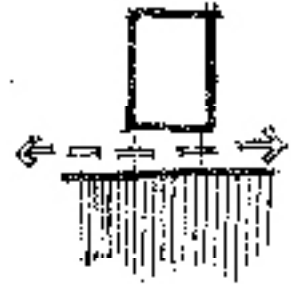


c)

The towers of democracy are literal and physical beacons at Constitution Hill a). Once they were the vertical circulation of the Awaiting trial block of the native prison Number Four. A light steel structure was built against the old brick cores and a glass box was added above as the remnants of the historically oppressive building. The principle of acknowledging the past, changing the current condition in faith for a better future is interpreted literally here.

The proposed intervention holds similarities and some contrast to these hybrid towers. Like the glass box the proposed building appears a light structure above the ground b) and it offers a series of vertical circulation planes in and around the building. It acknowledges its site as previously oppressive c) but aims to lead a better future. On the other hand, the proposed building hosts several layers of empowering programs that help people gain retribution and restores the relationships that were broken through a criminal offence.

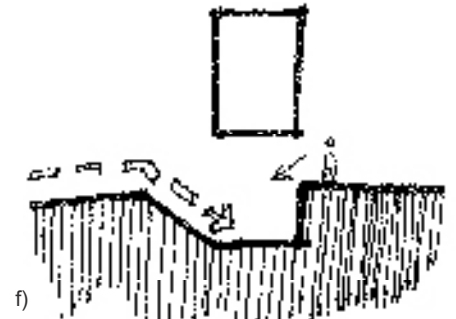
Users of different backgrounds and expertise on the site are united through various access points d). The site is occupied in, on and above the ground e). The authority fulfils its role of being subservient to the people f) and the people regain their position of being enabled by their appointed leadership g).



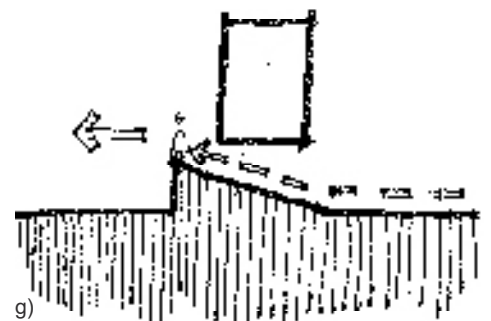
d)



e)

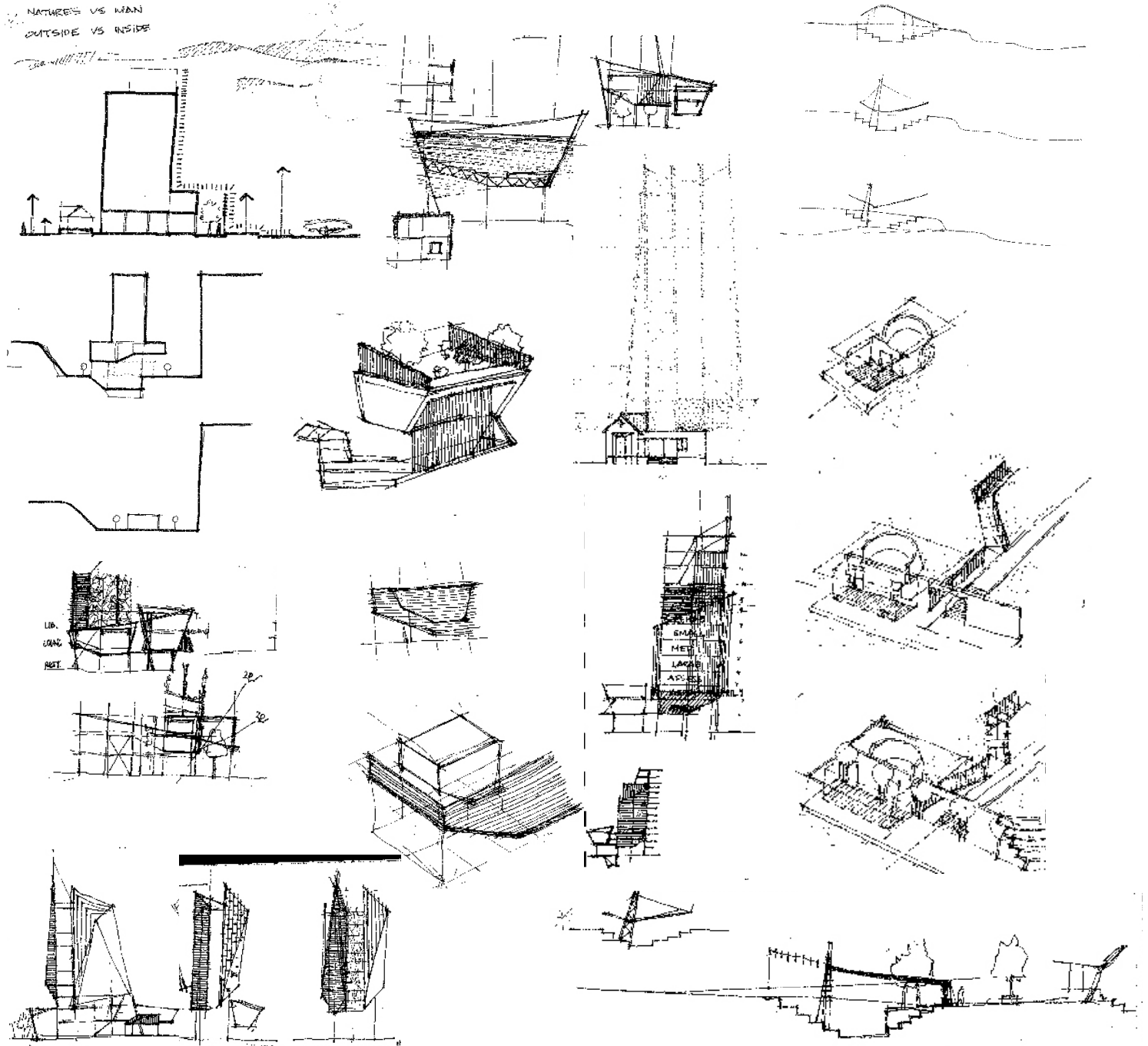


f)



g)

*[spacial exploration]*



*This part seeks to contextualize the practical issues mentioned previously. Three scales are considered; urban, precinct and site. Several informants are gathered to resolve the issues further.*



## PART

# 04

*[ technology ]*

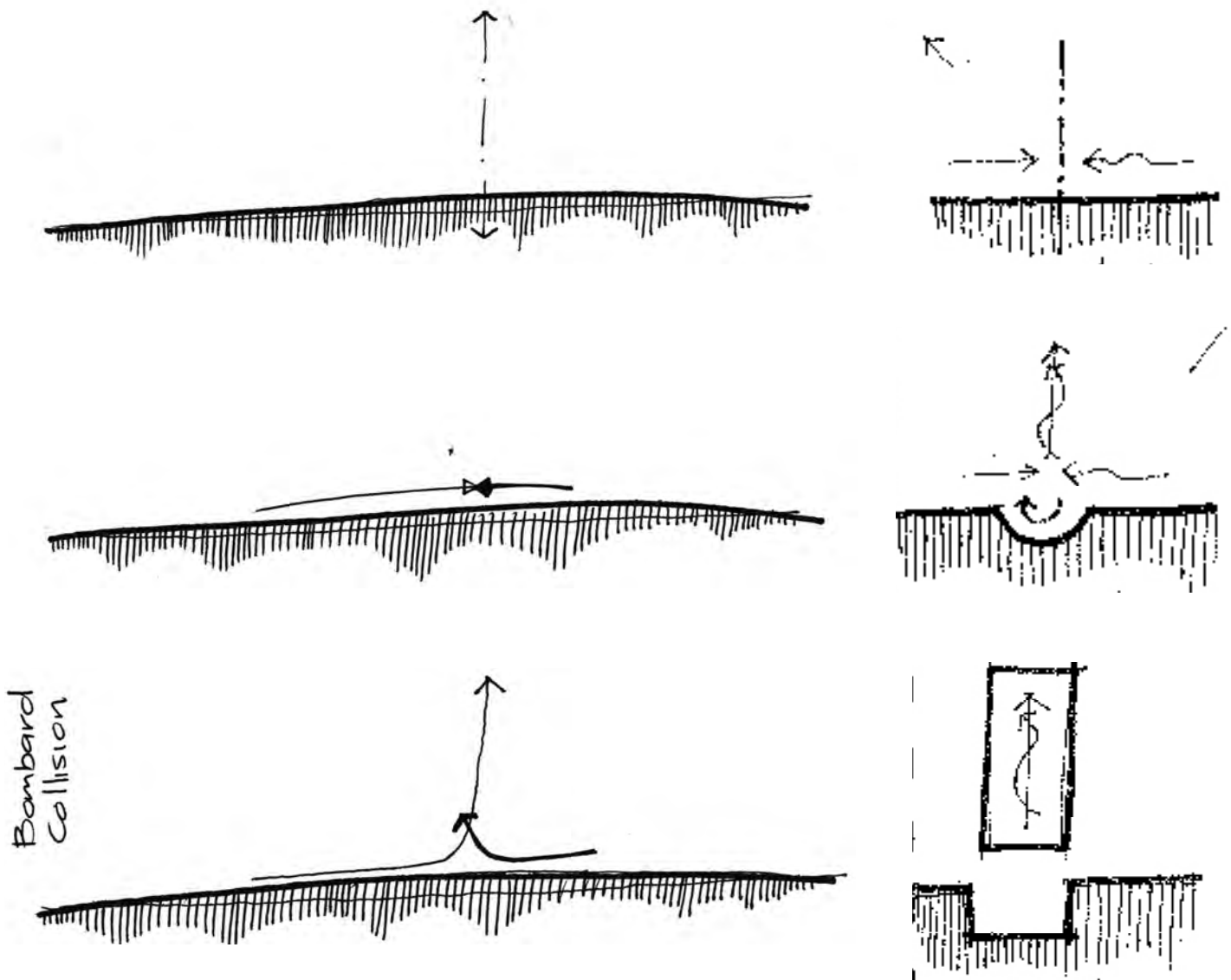
*- urban decay as a result in the shift of political power -*



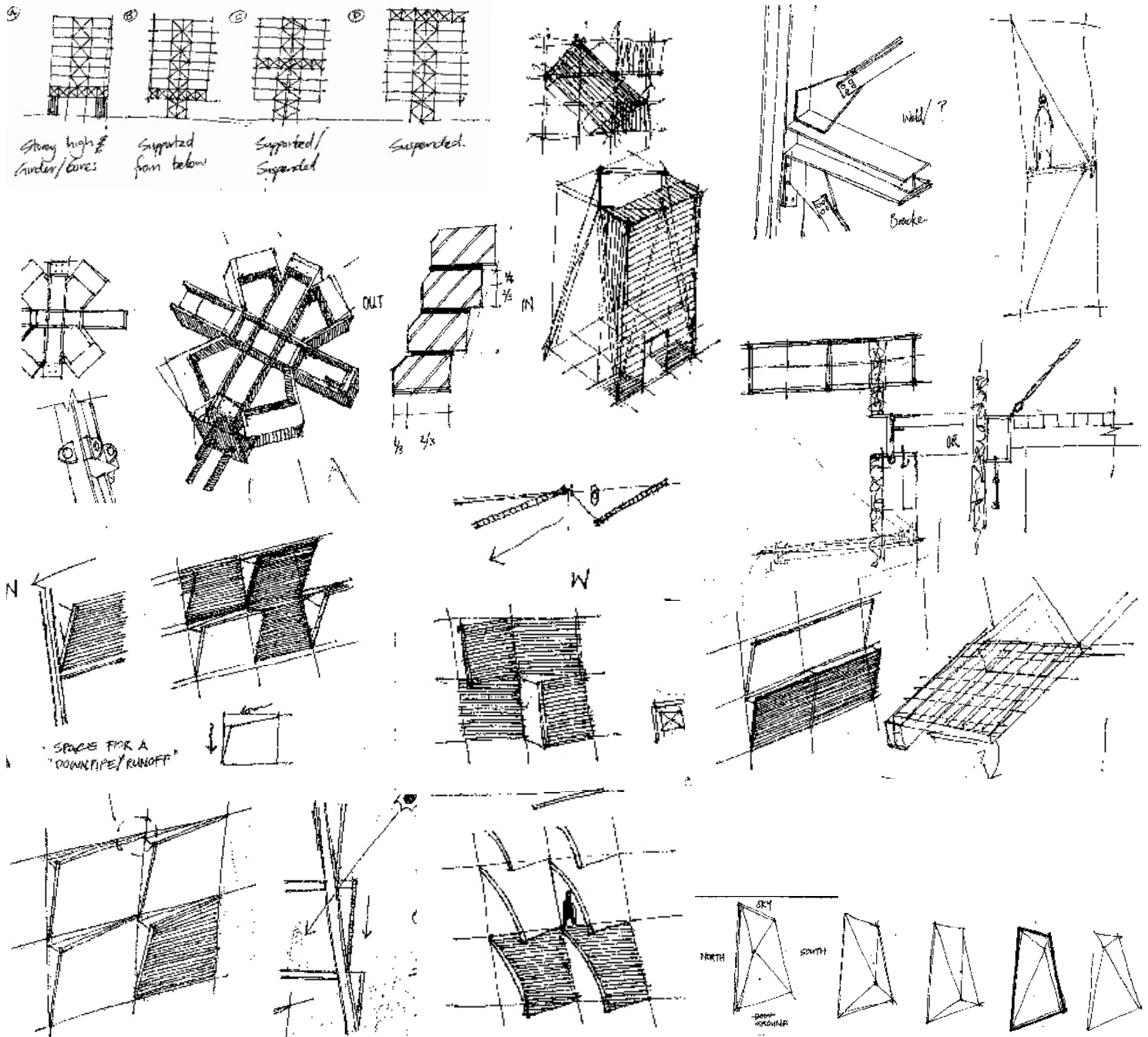
# TECHNICAL CONCEPT

Disparities presented in the theoretical discourse were interpreted physically and symbolically from the urban concept through to the architectural concept. Principles of restorative justice were applied in mediating the various polar conditions. The off notion of self (authority) versus other (populous) will be applied to the technical resolution.

The structure is argued to be born of conflict and societal contrasts. The composition of the steel structure is set to challenge the common practice This would serve as a means to compare the various materials



[technical investigation]



## DESIGN NARRATIVES

1. Hillbrow residents
2. Constitutional Court judiciary
3. City residents/Visitor/Flaneur
4. Braamfontein resident/ Wits student

1. Walking towards Constitutional Hill on Pretoria road, a green terrace physically and symbolically uplifts the residents towards Constitutional Transformation onto which they are raised above the ground to observe the existing 'Beacon of light' as an example and a perceptual starting point to move past. Whilst sitting one looks back at their existing conditions. Through analysis and understanding the terrace becomes a space for contemplation and to invigorate change in residents about the future. Continuing to the top, one is brought closer to the sky, then into the building where they receive their initial counsel, first on legal practice then above legal education.

Practitioners would consist of experienced lawyers and students with a legal education that supersedes the traditional education which predominantly focuses on private and commercial law. These laws reward the rational deduction of inevitable conclusions from unquestionable principles. Rather one that critically engages with the values of the constitution, with a new approach that places the Constitutional dream at the very heart of their services. This would help realize law as part of the social fabric and teach people to see it as such. Law would be transformed from

being an instrument for oppression to an instrument that has the capacity to transform our society.

2. Coming from the Constitutional Court, the judiciary would approach the expressive high-rise building from the north, looking up at the residents on the green terrace and the residents down on them. Crossing the road on foot would make them further aware of their surroundings. Across the road an open air submerged amphitheatre with a stage is sheltered by trees overlooking onto a stage. Debates, disputes, discussions and performances are held here, this is the Dialogue Dispute Chamber. The acoustics invite passers-by during the day and the lights by night time. Informal and semi-formal secondary spaces are in direct proximity to serve the audience. Behind and above the stage there are seating areas served by a restaurant above and a café below. Alongside the café, a water filtrating terrace garden to dampen the urban activity. Beyond the café/soup kitchen there is a skills and crafts workshop, which enables the users in shaping their lives and their environment for the better. Further on, an open tunnel gradually ramps up to the Sentence Dispute Chamber.

This submerged level maintains a visual connection with the ground floor level at all points through double volumes, clerestories and skylights through the floors above. It becomes the sustainability centre for the site through waste sorting, a bio digester and hybrid chilling plant that serves the rest of the building with natural

fresh air. The use of materials depicts its earthbound nature as it was carved out of the soil to create a continuation of the urban public space.

3. The southern edge of the site responds to larger issues that affect the city; the issue of public transport, informal trading and the street as public space. It aims to address these socio-economic issues through a transport interchange that offers a bicycle hub alongside informal traders that serve the rapid activity. Filtered into the background through a foyer, a series of natural and man-made thresholds lie, this is the Sentence Dispute Chamber and its serving spaces adjacent to it.

The public square in front of the chamber offers its user the liberty to stand, sit, linger, chat or move on. It is separated from the dispute chamber by a foyer on a small plinth that is primarily for circulation but can be used as a temporary sitting platform whilst waiting for dispute processions. It assists the user in acknowledging its importance whilst forming a water drainage plane in front of the submerged chamber as its counter-monumental nature aims to acknowledge the existing heritage building further north which would serve as the main administration building and exhibition centre. This major node does not celebrate the individual but the diversity and unity therefore, it expresses the same levels of diversity and the range of experience as in our natural, cultural and social environments.



## ECO HIGH-RISE

4. Also coming from the south, the user has the liberty to access the previous node or continue on the suggested route to the centre of the proposed intervention. The paths placement is a physical interpretation of the imaginary line that forms the boundary of the Raandjeslaagte, one of the original farm portion of Johannesburg. This line has manifested through roads that are visible as far as the centre of the city. Today it marks the boundary between Braamfontein and Hillbrow. The proposed intervention acknowledges it as the line of conflict between the two neighbourhoods, as it cuts through the proposed site diagonally.

The path cuts away small part of a corner of the existing heritage building which is in filled with glass offering a visual connection to the outside and a layering of space, material and programme. This heritage response leans towards Machado's ideas of palimpsest and the Japanese idea of borrowed space from the landscape.

It is important to note that high-rise buildings are part of the most un-ecological of all buildings alongside skyscrapers. Yeang argues these buildings are known to use much more energy and material resources to build, operate and eventually demolish. In light of the above, one understands the challenges posed by the notion of an ecological high-rise building. The eco high-rise is necessitated by the reality that high-rise buildings have been employed as a response to the increasing density in cities and around the globe therefore, they need to be made reduce their ecological footprint and be more sustainable than they currently are.

Due to the nature of the building and the prevailing north western winds in Johannesburg, the possibility of a naturally ventilated high-rise building is challenged. Malaysian architect Ken Yeang refers to several modes that a building can be in; passive mode is a when a building has responded to its site location and climate through orientation, facade design, natural ventilation, and the use of vegetation. Mixed mode describes a hybrid phase that the ventilation system is natural but supplemented by electromechanical systems depending on the season. Productive mode is the most ideal, in that it produces its own energy through alternative energy. The last mode is the composite mode which encompasses all of the above.

(Yeang, 2007)The proposed Dispute Resolutions building aims to employ various means to occupy the composite

mode in producing some of its own energy, clean water and hybrid natural ventilation. The roofs, surrounding streets around the proposed site and porous paving in the site would be used as a water catchment area that would channel the water to bio-swale gardens which would filter the water to be cleansed further down a terraced garden into the reservoir that would feed the chilling plant for supplementary natural ventilation. The rest of the recycled rainwater would be used to flush toilets and irrigating the hydroponic features in and around the building. A hydroponic plants skin will protect the northern facade from the harsh summer sun. Evaporative cooling will be achieved from the periodic irrigation of the plants.

The proposed materials are positioned as the closest option to being if not green. The soil that will be removed during the construction of the sub-basement level will be used to make compacted earth blocks that would have a waterproof sealant. These blocks will be used to create partitions, climate responsive screens and in some areas paving or seating areas.

The proposed principles above can be welcoming to its users, creating not only a vibrant environment but one that people can rely on for food and the usage of water on the site. This would be environmental justice.

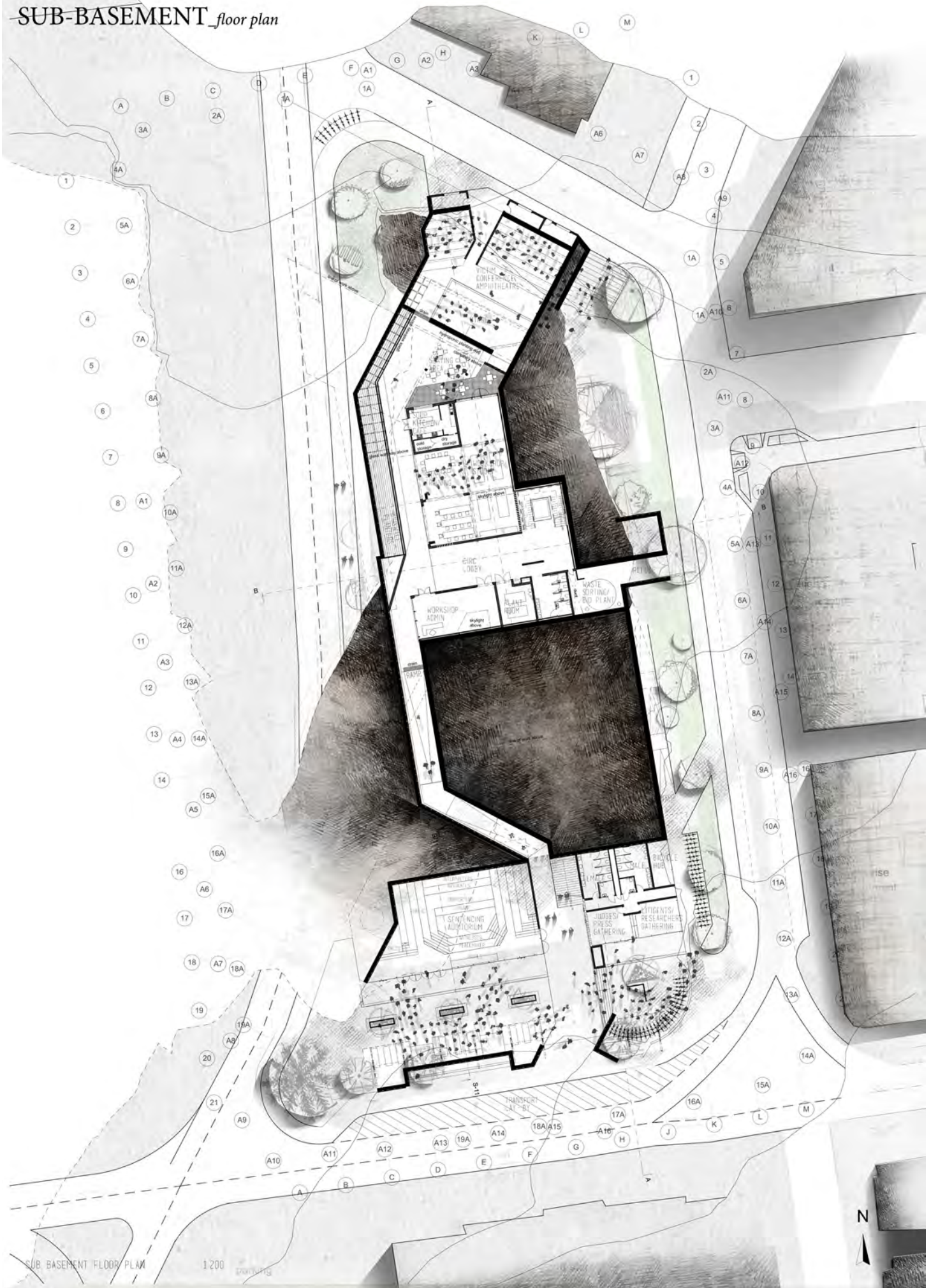


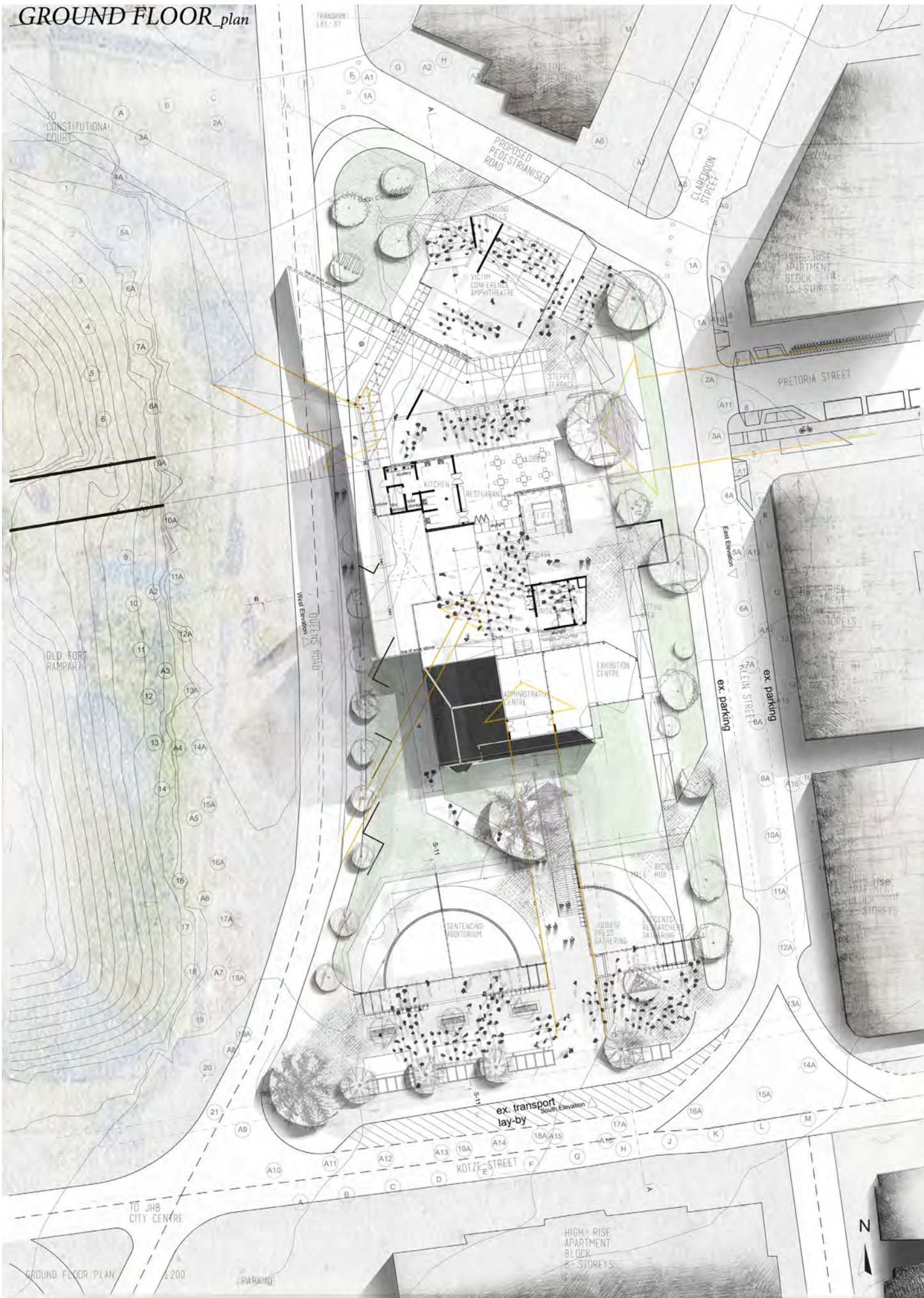


*SITE PLAN* locality



# SUB-BASEMENT floor plan







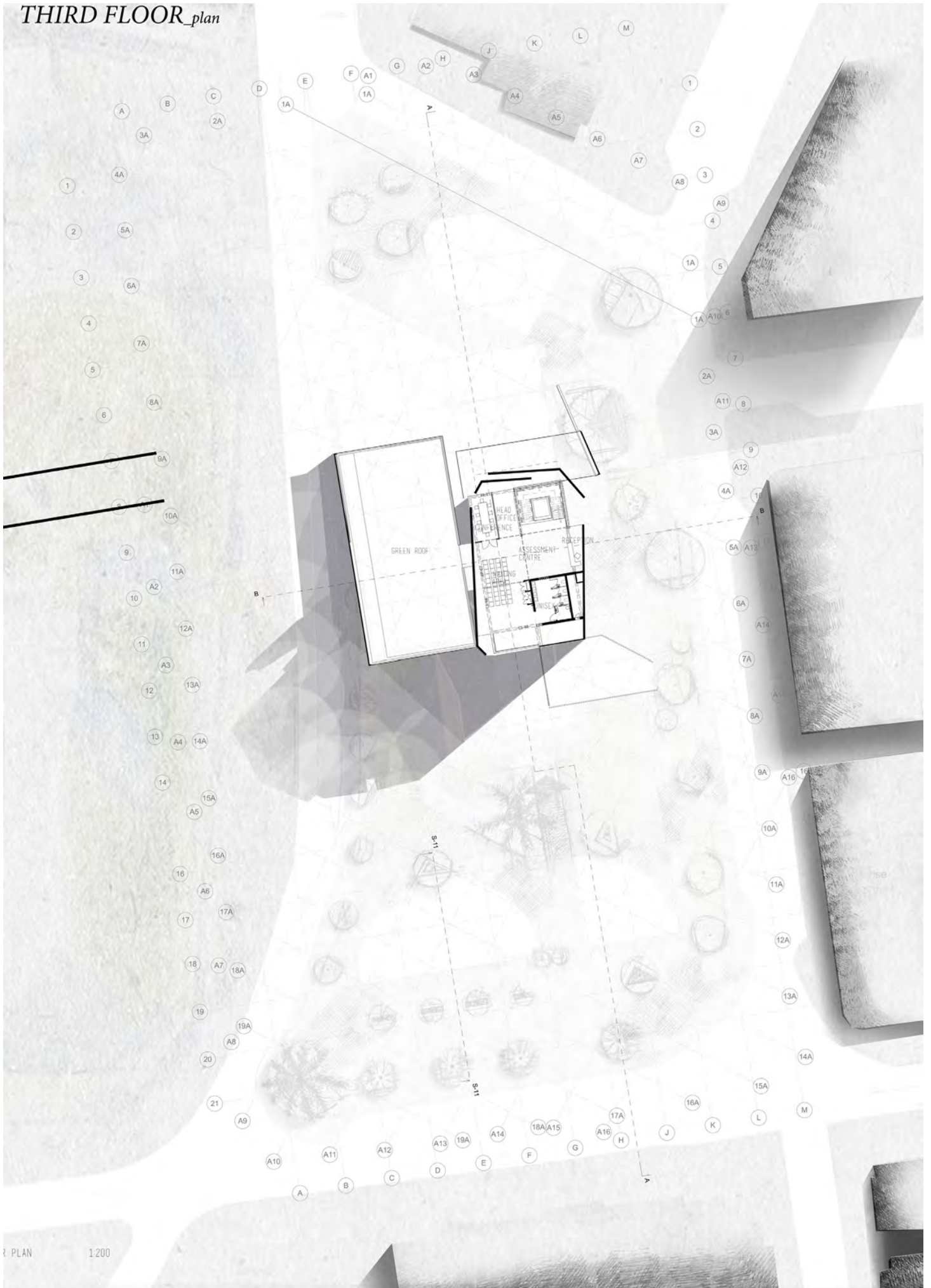
# SECOND FLOOR\_plan



OR PLAN 1:200



# THIRD FLOOR\_plan



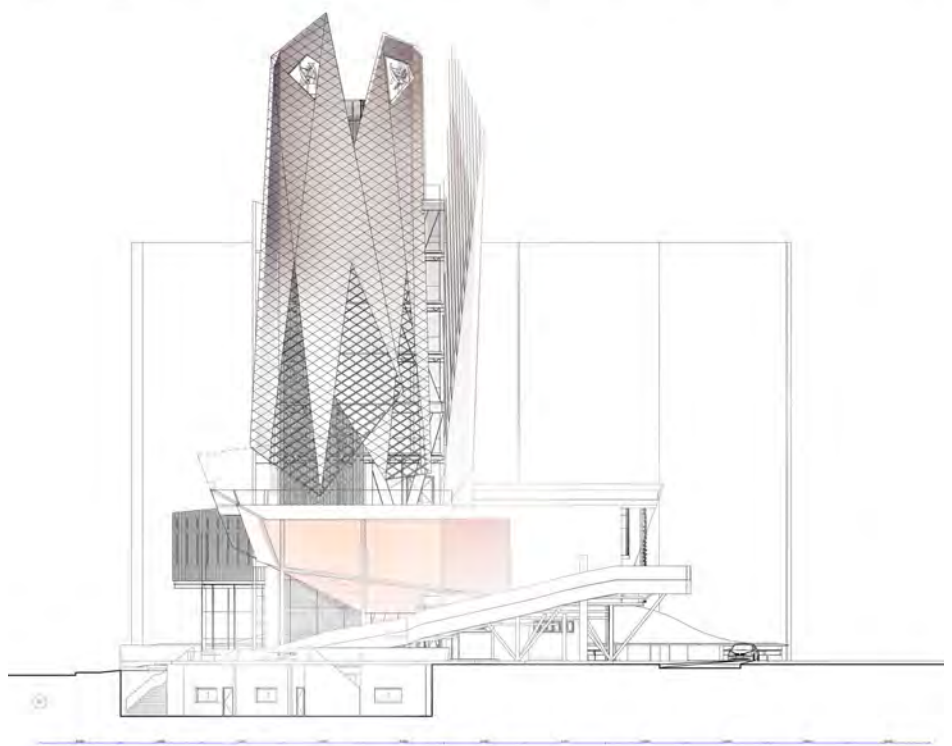
PLAN 1:200

## ELEVATIONS

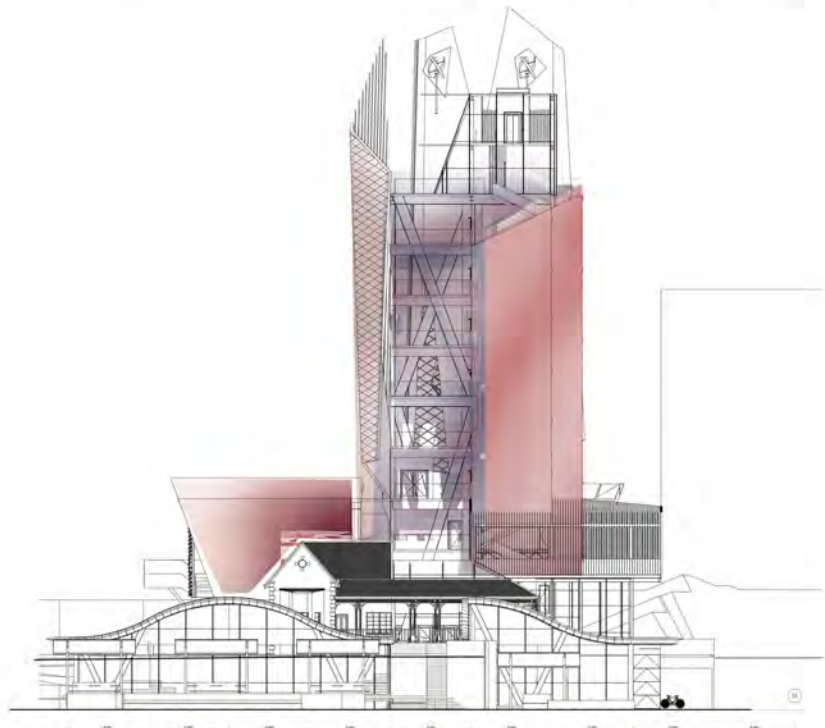
When looking at the elevations one begins to see how well the architectural intentions have come through towards the final resolution. The northern elevation depicts the terrace that uplifts the Hillbrow residents towards Constitution Hill.

On the East elevation one observes how the high-rise building protrudes from the ramparts in elevation, making a direct link to (fig.1.8) which illustrates the architectural intentions

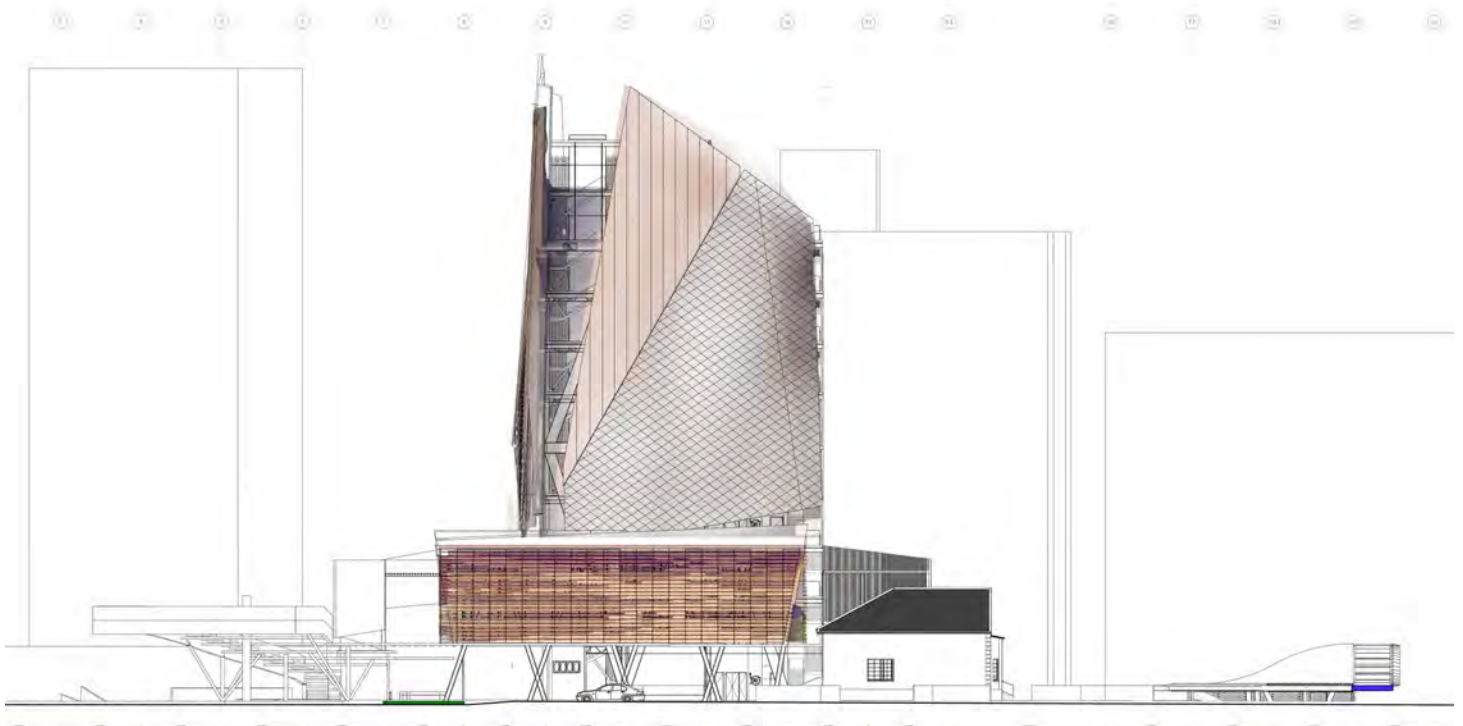
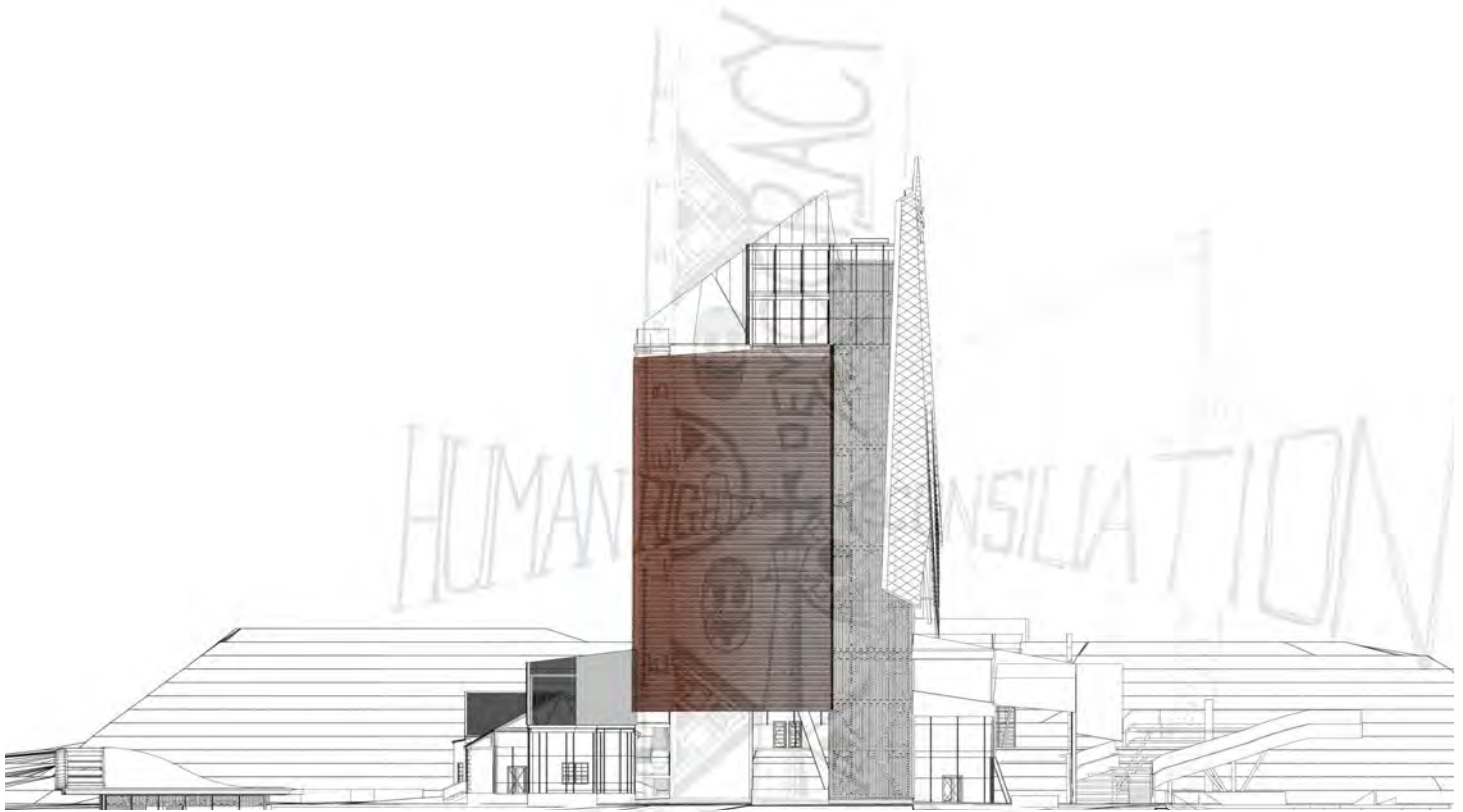
On the South and West elevations one can begin to understand the structure and how it connects the interior to the outside during the day and through the interior light sources by night like a lantern.



NORTH ELEVATION nts



SOUTH ELEVATION nts

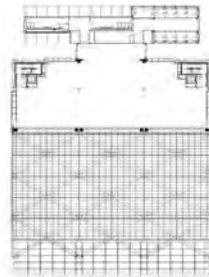
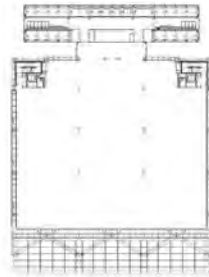


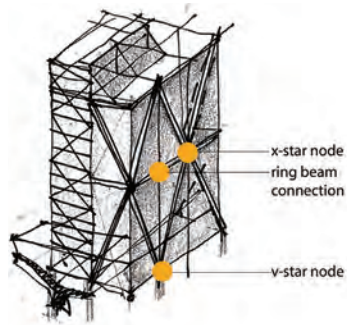
WEST ELEVATION nts

*[structural precedent]*

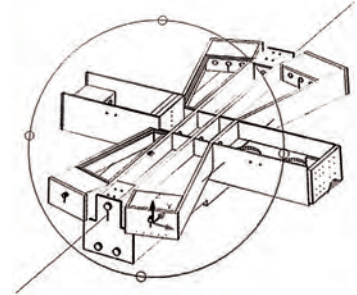
The slanted facade of the Leadenhall Building by Rogers Stirk Harbor + Partners in London, is a heritage response that aims to retain the last view towards the historically significant church down the road. Majority of the building is prefabricated which led to a ground breaking construction period of 24 months. The service core of the building is positioned on the north then the rest of the space is occupied by the tenants of the offices.

A six storey atrium space receives and continues the urban environment





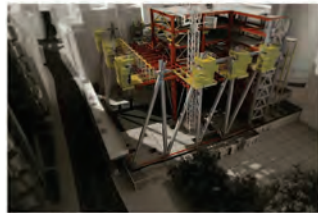
proposed primary structure



x-node 'star' axonometric



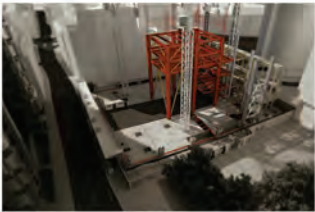
substructure



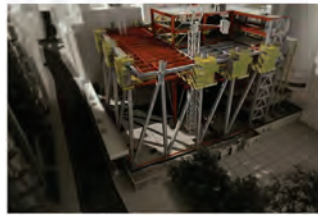
place 'star' nodes



x-node 'star'



steel core



ring beam 'star' nodes



ring beam connection



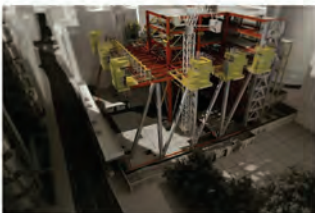
vertical exo-skeleton



precast floor slabs



v-node 'star' connection

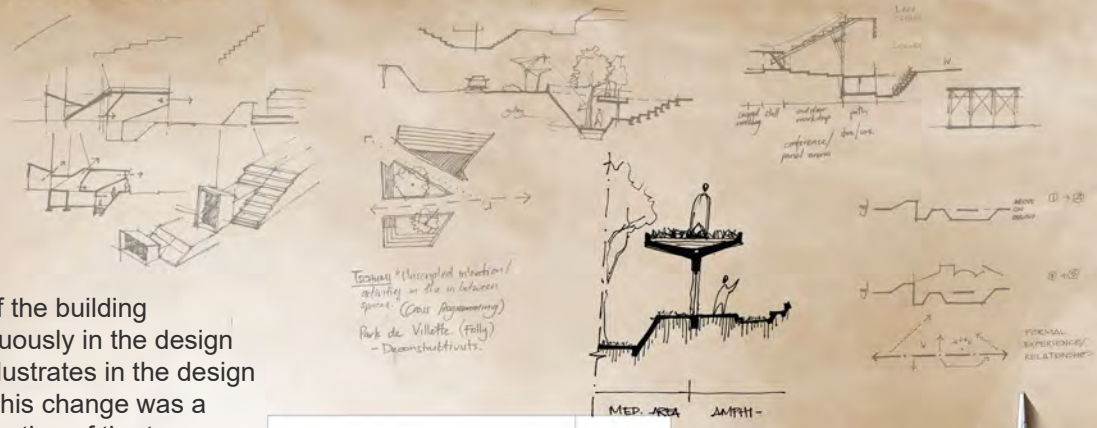


diagonal exo-skeleton (braced)

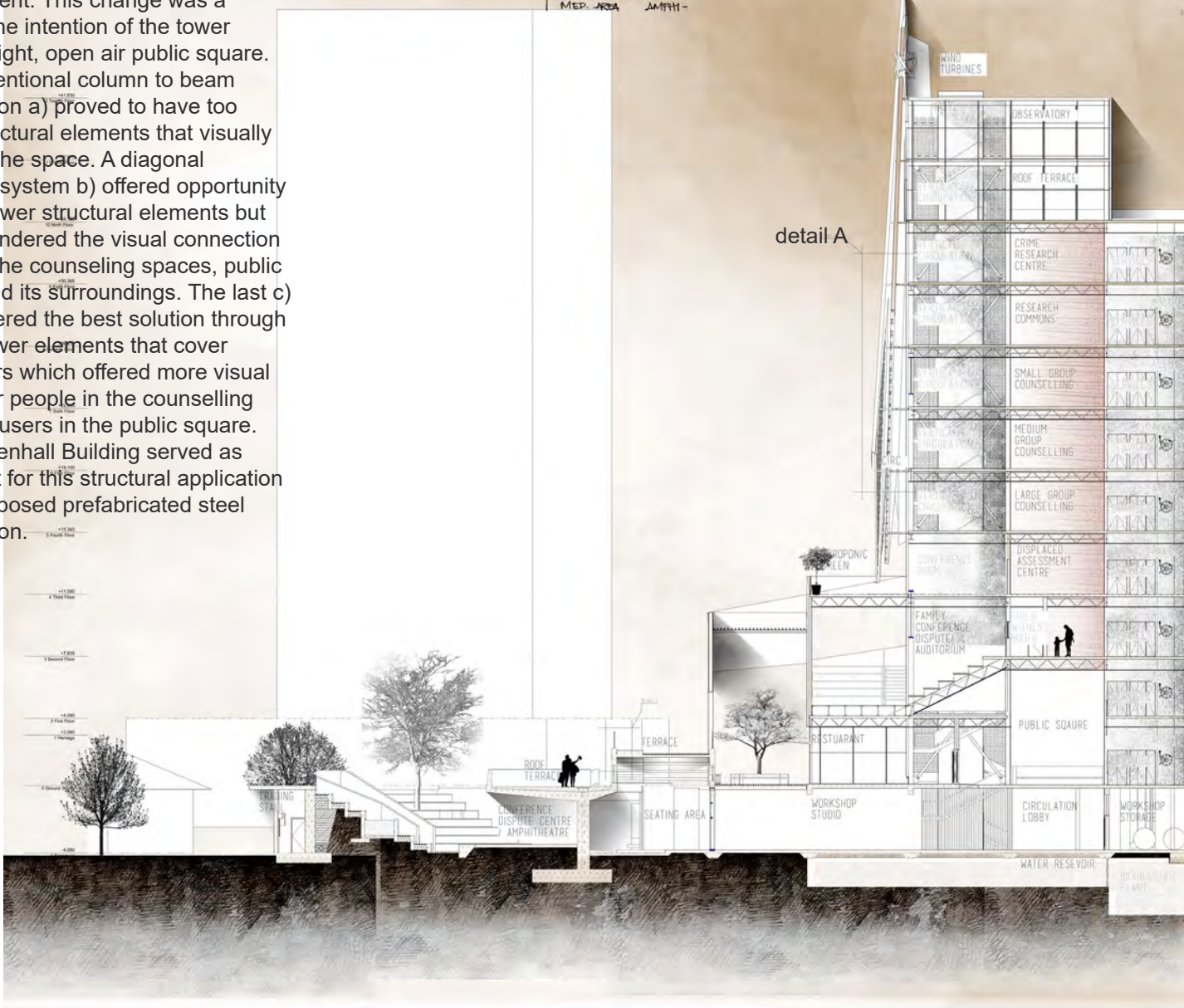


floor extension

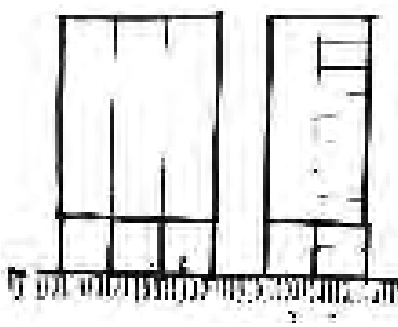
SECTION A longitudinal section



The structure of the building changed continuously in the design iterations and illustrates in the design development. This change was a result to the intention of the tower having a light, open air public square. The conventional column to beam construction a) proved to have too many structural elements that visually cluttered the space. A diagonal structural system b) offered opportunity to have fewer structural elements but this still hindered the visual connection between the counselling spaces, public square and its surroundings. The last c) option offered the best solution through having fewer elements that cover more floors which offered more visual access for people in the counselling units and users in the public square. The Leadenhall Building served as precedent for this structural application of the proposed prefabricated steel construction.

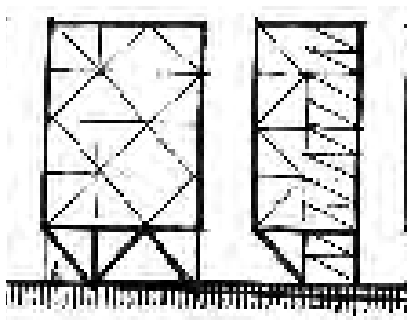


Section A-A

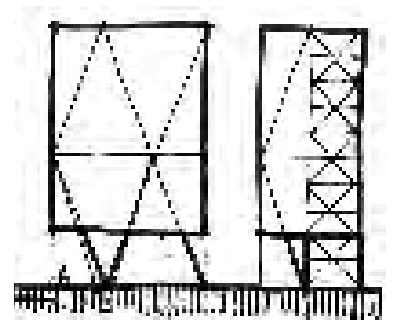


supported from below

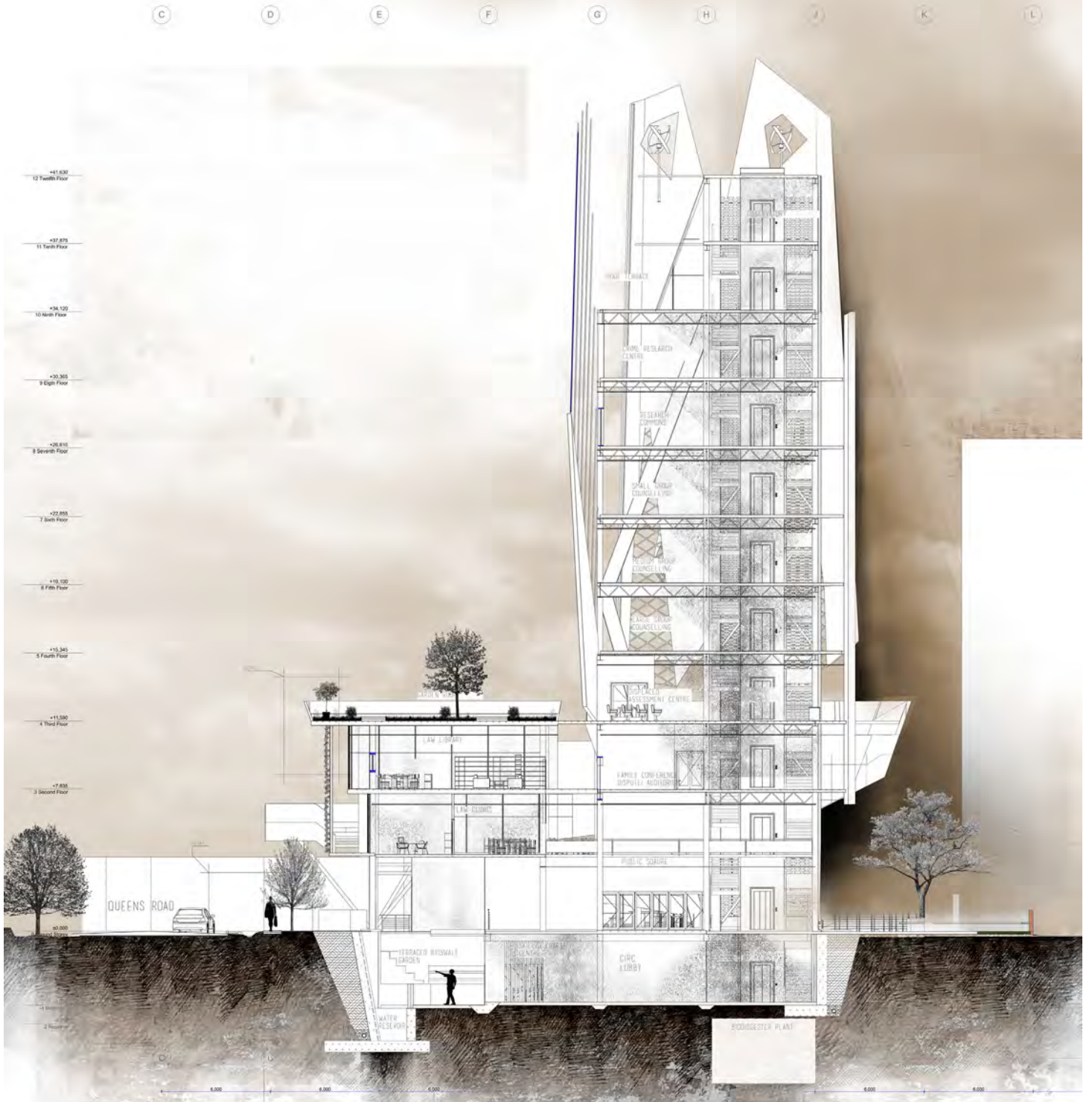
supported and suspended



supported and suspended



SECTION B\_short section



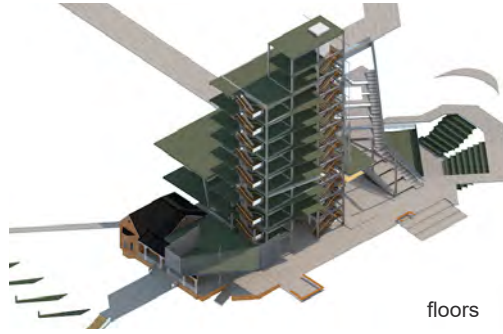




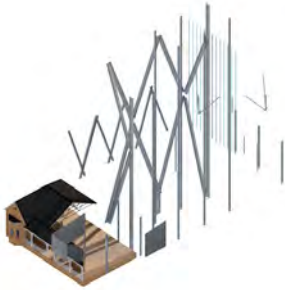
# STRUCTURAL COMPOSITION



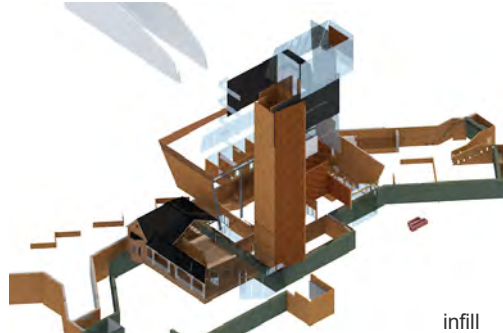
heritage demolition



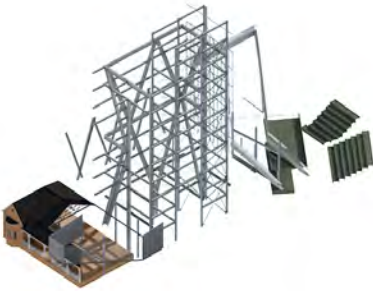
floors



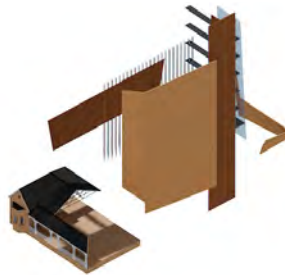
cloumns



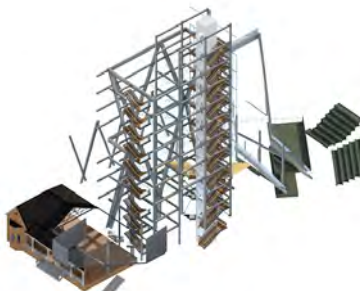
infill



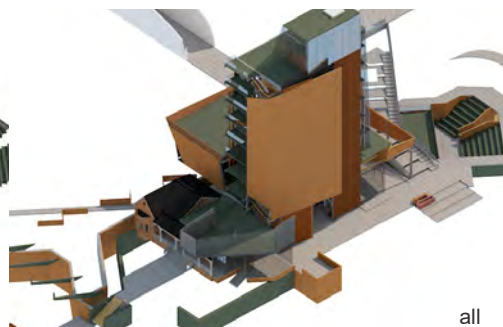
beams



climate responsive screens



vertical circulation



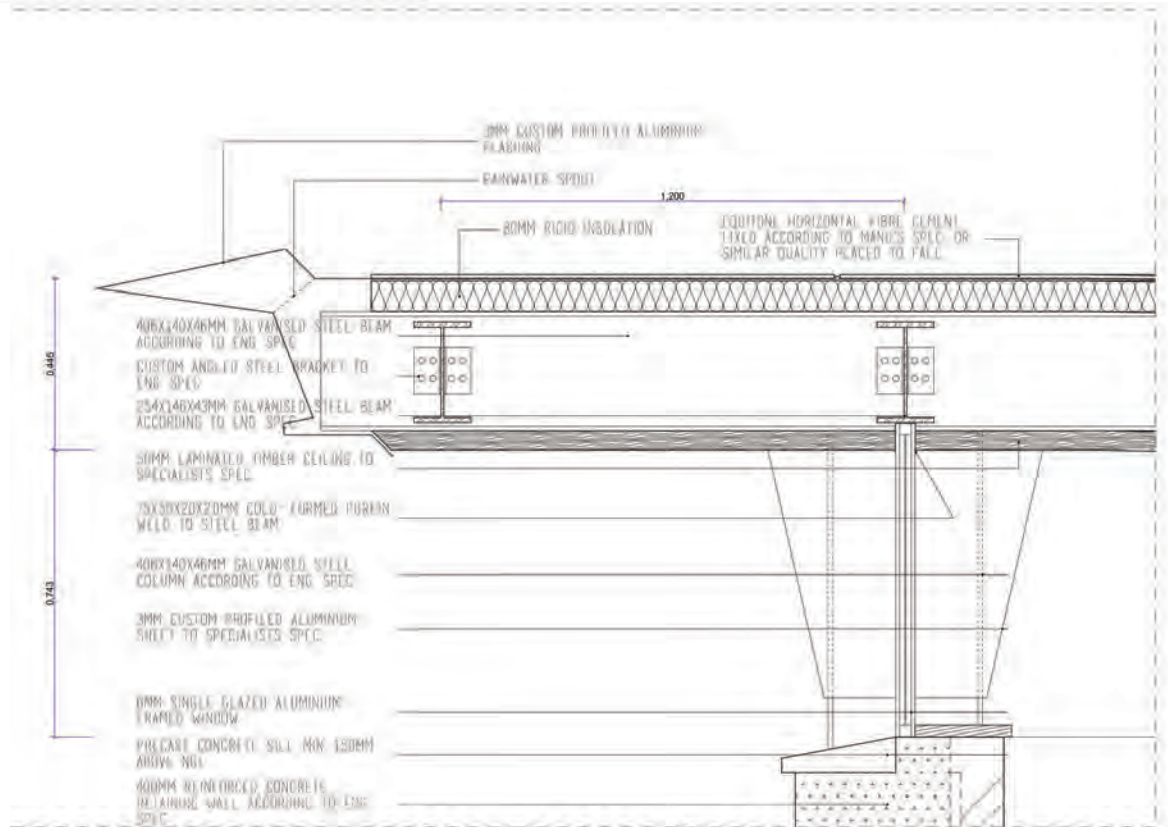
all

Ken Yeang's buildings have consistent spatial interventions that contest the conventional way that skyscrapers are built. These alterations of the convention have been proven to be climatic responses that make his buildings more ecological. In a nutshell they consist of; a alternative positioning of the core, skycourts and balconies, external shading, vertical landscaping, naturally ventilated floors, and treating the roof as the fifth facade which would also be planted.

Some of these principles were applied intuitively to reinforce the theoretical premise and program but once the intention of an ecological high-rise was established, Ken Yeang's principles served as both a baseline standard and a confirmation of the intended approach.

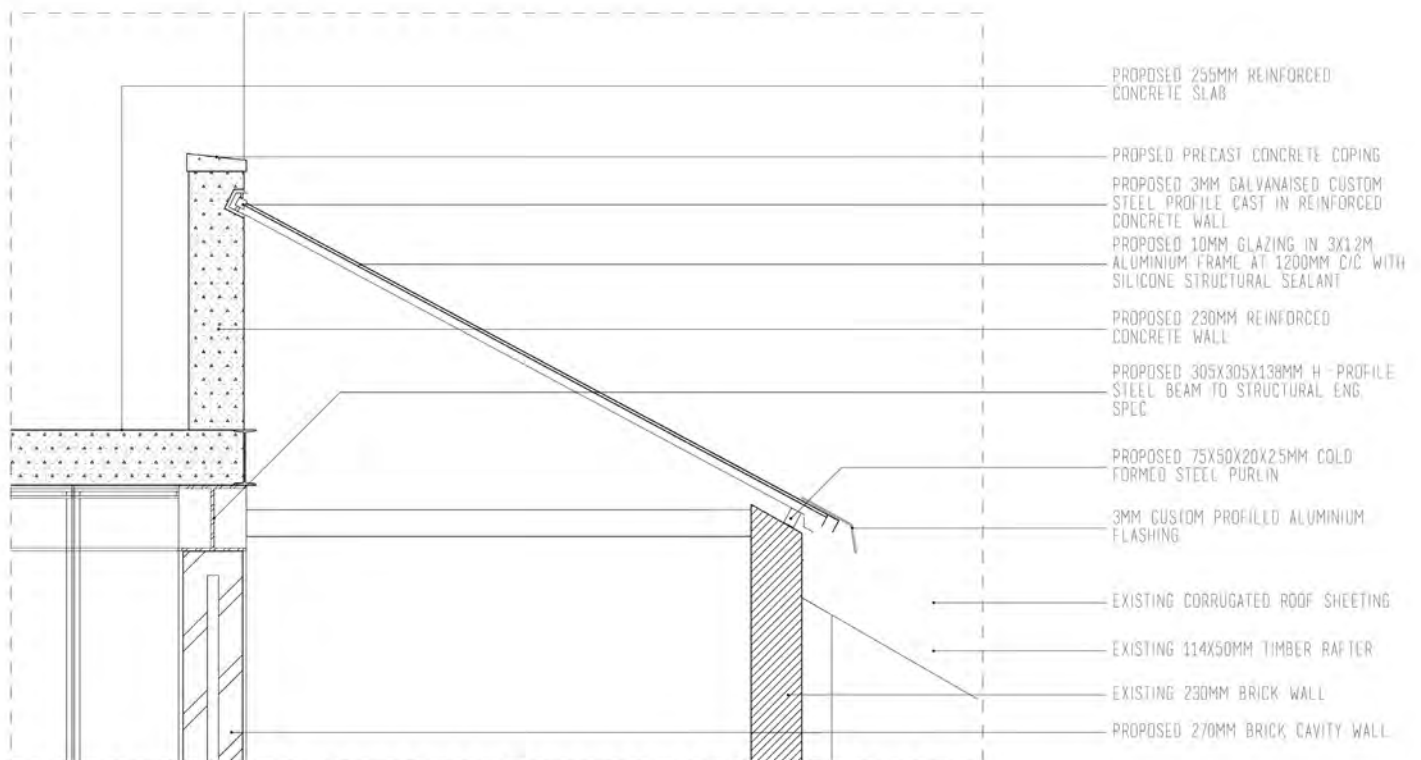
Furthermore, a brief understanding of how other architects have used these principles was undertaken for further clarity. The Council House 2 in Melbourne and the KMC Cooperate offices proved to be outstanding built and tested interventions.

# DETAILS

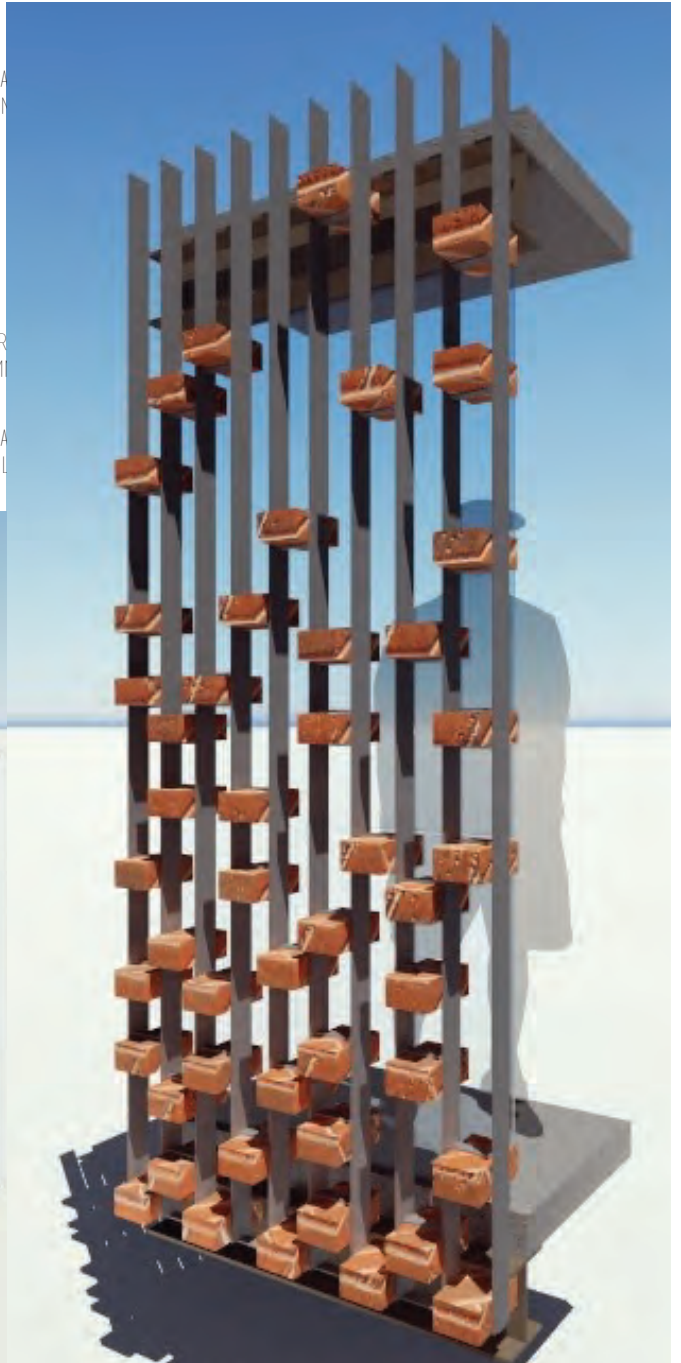
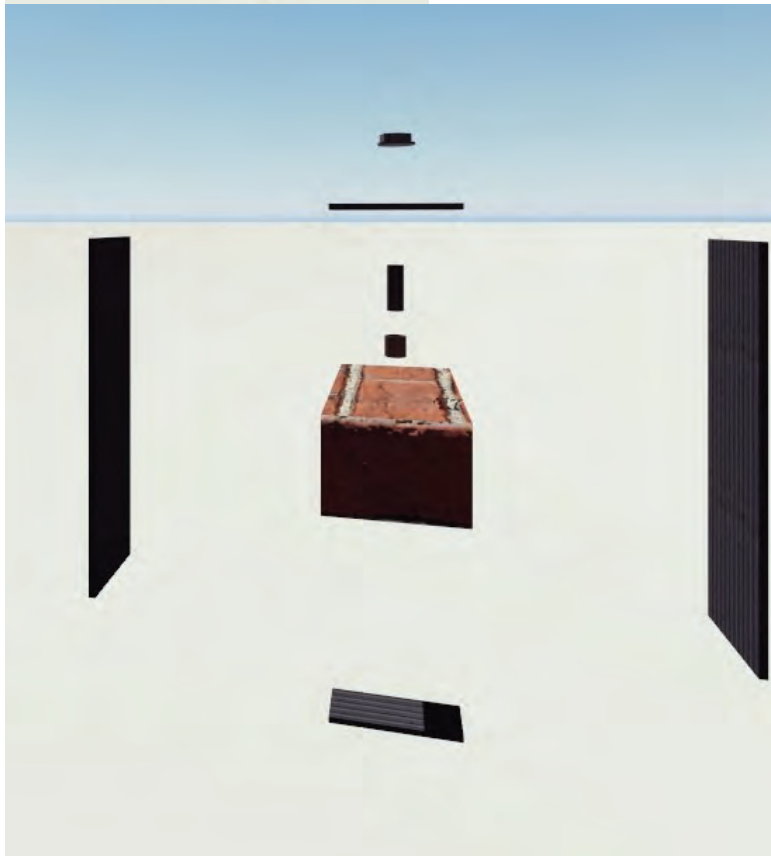
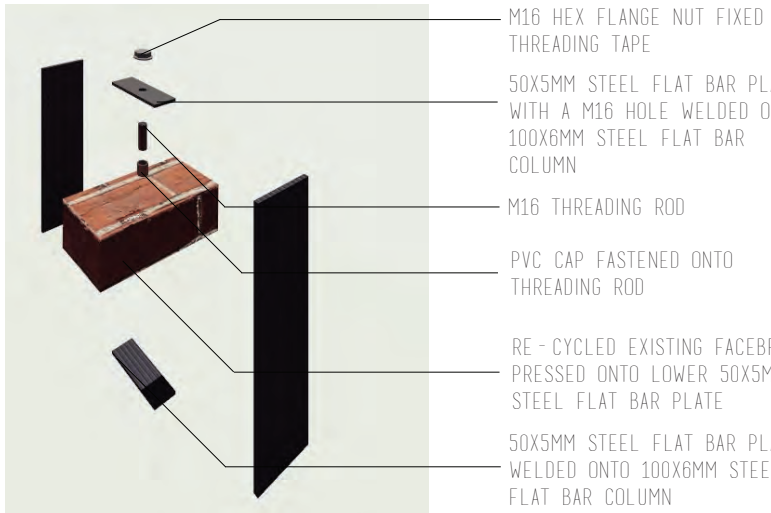


## DETAILS

Screen (Detail D) for the Hydroponic Urban Agriculture Training Centre is a part of the Machado's notion of palimpsest. It uses the old bricks of the partially demolished heritage building. When applying the metaphor that Machado makes about remodelling as rewriting, one can argue this screen uses the past through the present to rewrite the future.



concept for skylight connecting the new and the old



concept for detail D exploded rendering

concept for detail D perspective

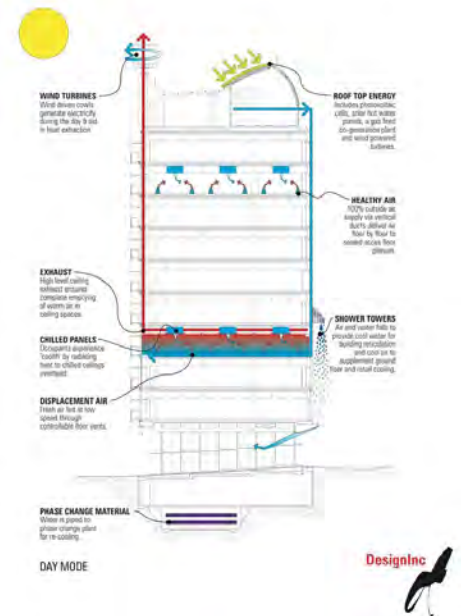
*[systems precedent]*

According to Jones the Council House 2 (CH2) building by Design Inc. was the first to achieve six stars in Australia's Green Star environmental accreditation. This building is an administrative building for the city of Melbourne. It serves as precedent to other office buildings in the way that it saves and consumes energy and, most especially, how it keeps its users healthy. (Archdaily, 2017)

During summer it is cooled through a chilled ceiling air conditioning system. Once the water has been used in the ceiling it is channelled towards the exterior of the building to drop 14m which cools the water droplets which are captured into a phase changer to cool stores then resupplied for the ceiling again. In winter it is heated through the floor by a co-generation plant that uses waste to produce heat. During the day the concrete slab absorbs the heat and releases it by night time through the ceiling to the turbines.

A gas powered co-generation plant produces electricity, roof mounted solar panels heat the domestic water. Photovoltaic's are used to power the automated sun screen on the west.

Extensive sun control screens are applied to the north, east and west for glare and direct sunlight. Indirect sunlight is received from the balcony floor and light shelves. The supplementary artificial lights have motion sensing technology.

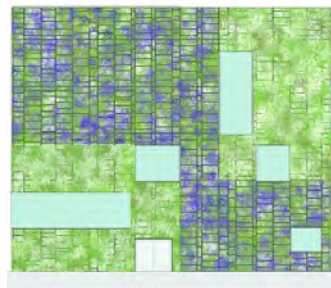


*[participatory architecture precedent]*



The KMC Corporate Office by Rahul Mehrotra was designed as a protestation of the unsustainable western glass boxes that were introduced into India by globalisation. (Mehrotra, 2016) He argues that the glass boxes often use too much mechanical air conditioning and artificial light, which is not good for the occupants of the building.

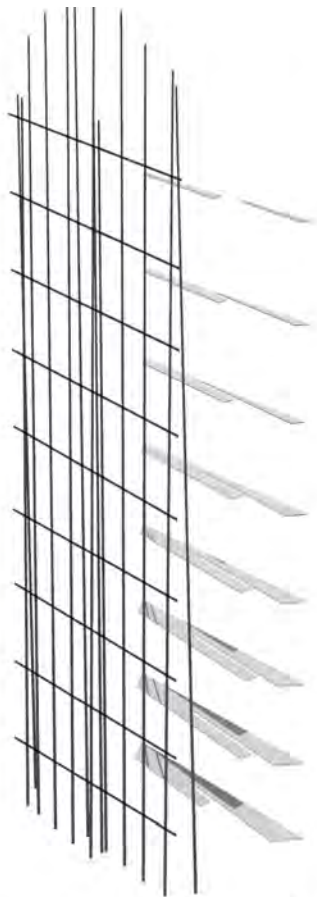
Like CH2, his proposal was to supersede all the conventional standards of office buildings. He employed a double layered skin, one to envelop (glass) the building and the second (hydroponic plants) one for climate control. The hydroponic plant system is configured into the trellis which forms the main structure for the plants to grow that are assisted by a periodically irrigation system.



The irrigation system is an evaporative cooling device when the glass doors are open. The plants are maintained by the residents of the area which silently challenges the complex relationship between the two socio-economic classes. These plants are planted as themes around the building which create different colours during the various seasons. One can argue that this treatment of the facade makes it a natural canvas that assists the public and the tenants of the building.



# DETAILS



steel sub structure

steel mesh grid



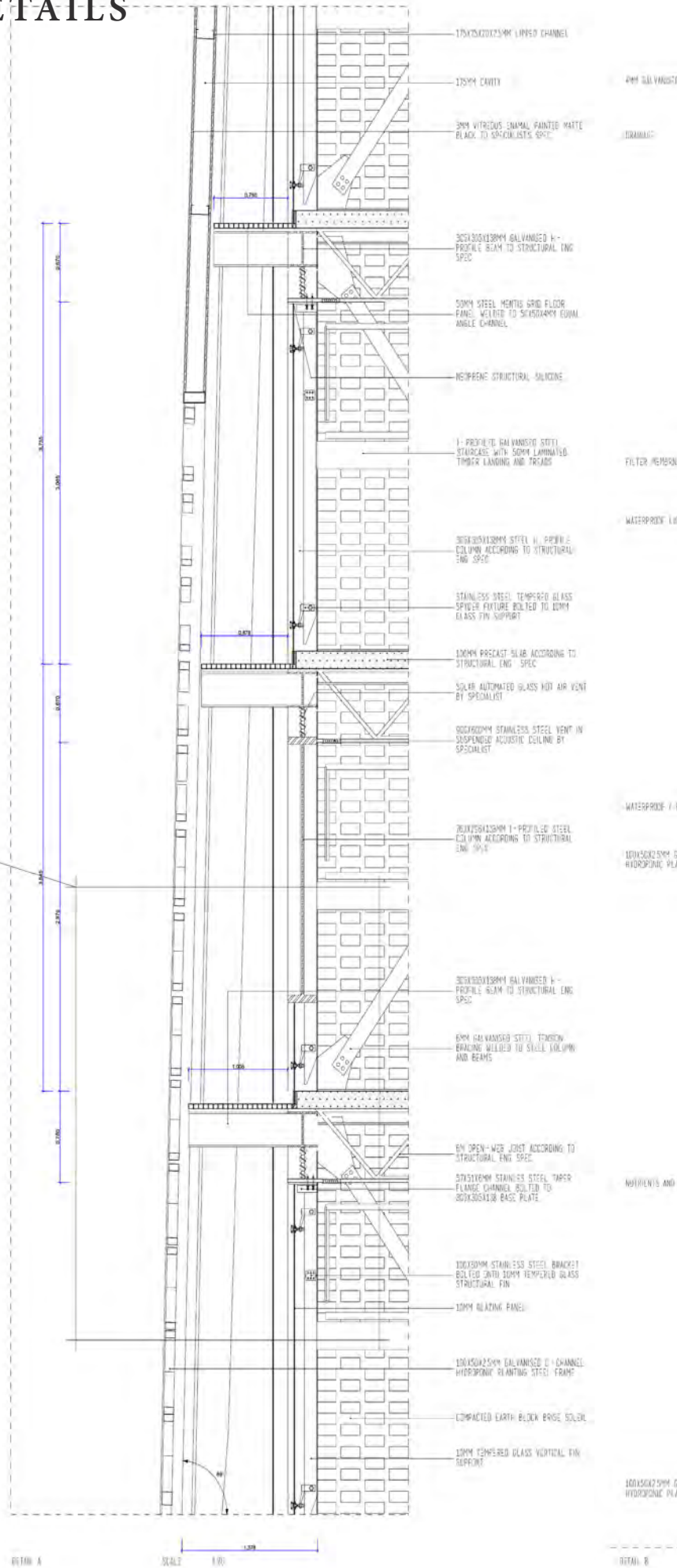
vitreous enamel wall



plant structural frame

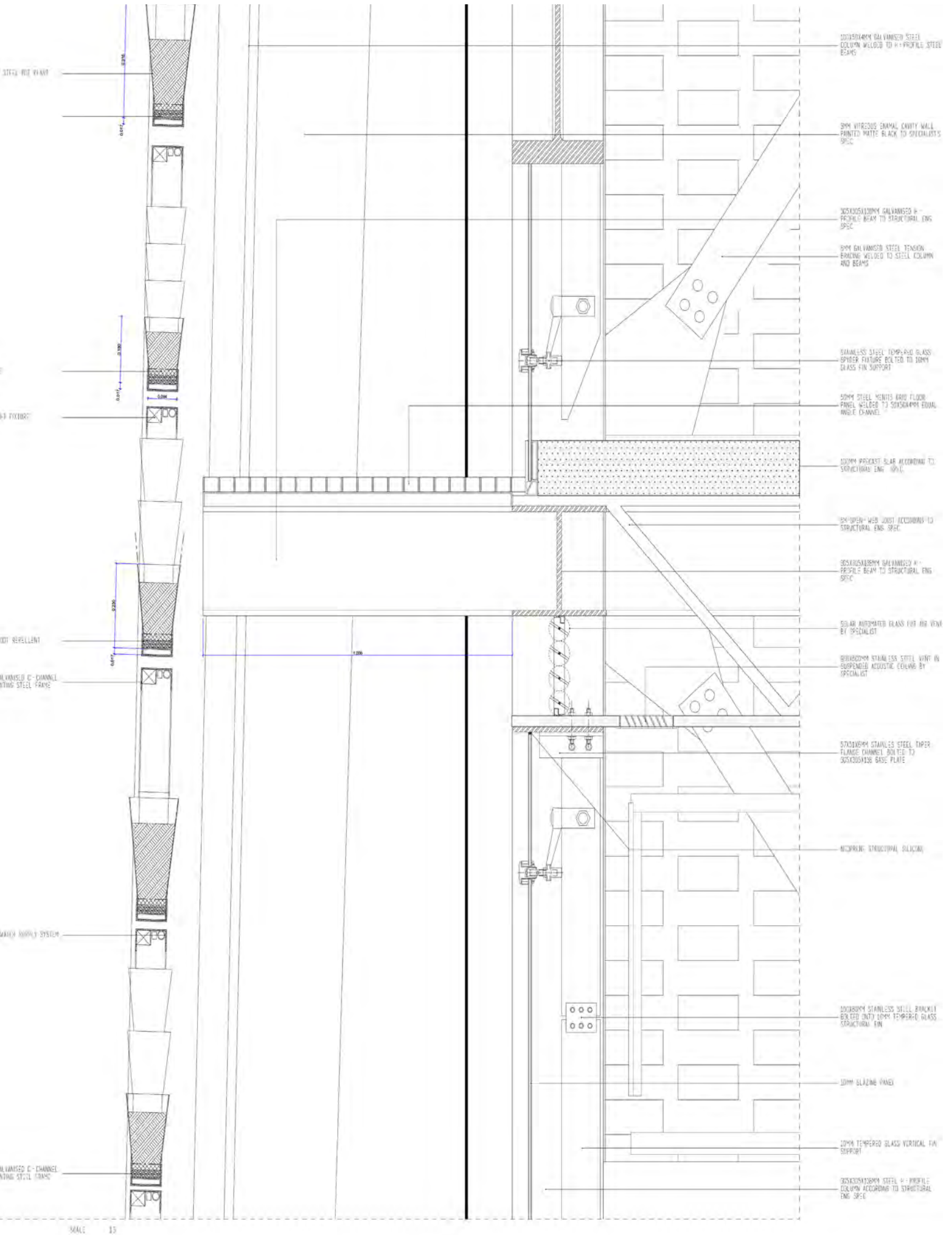


pot plant grid infill

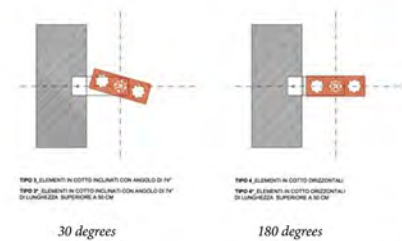
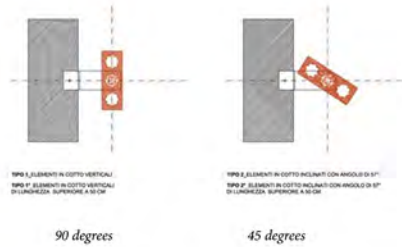
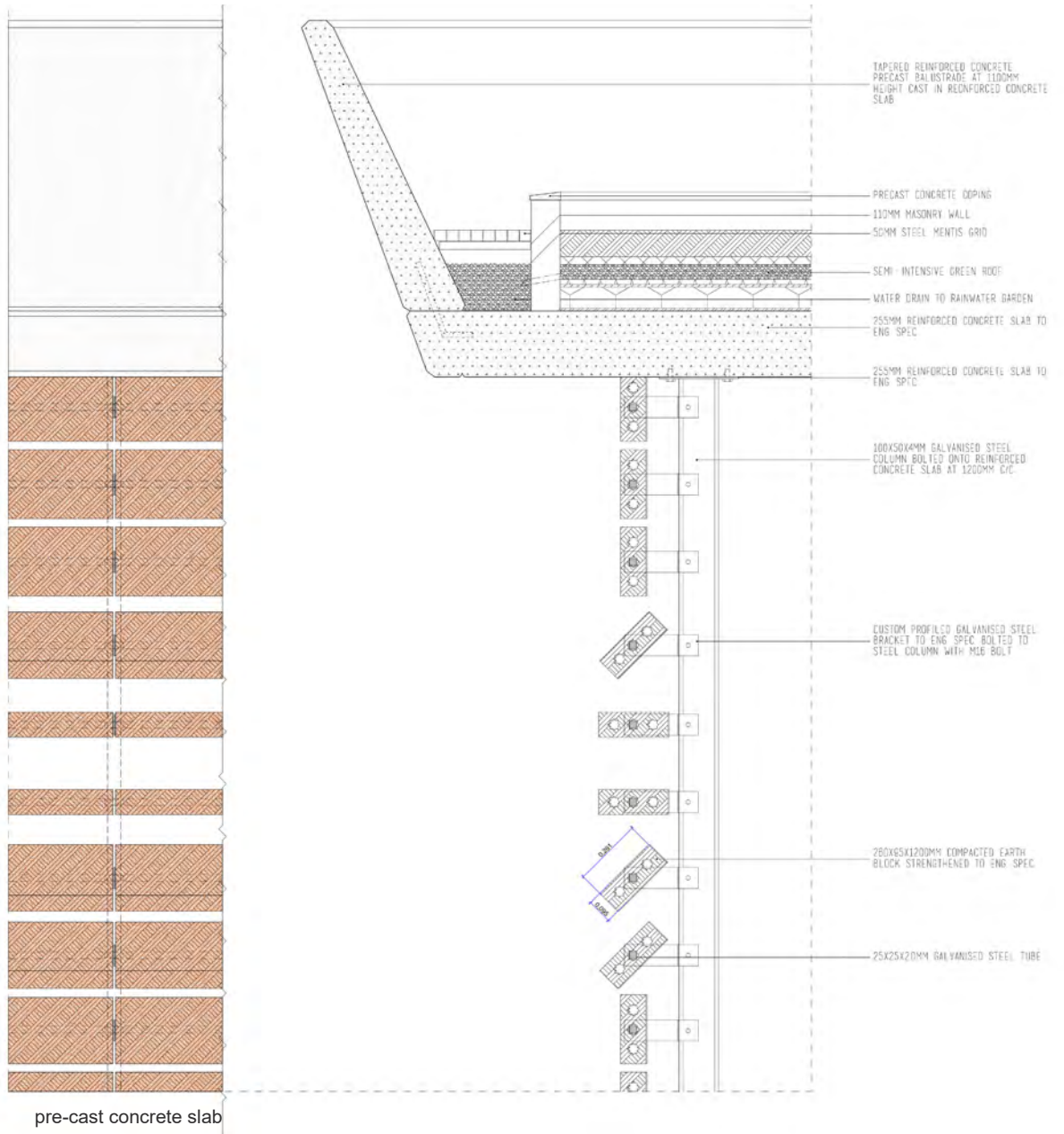


concept for detail A nts



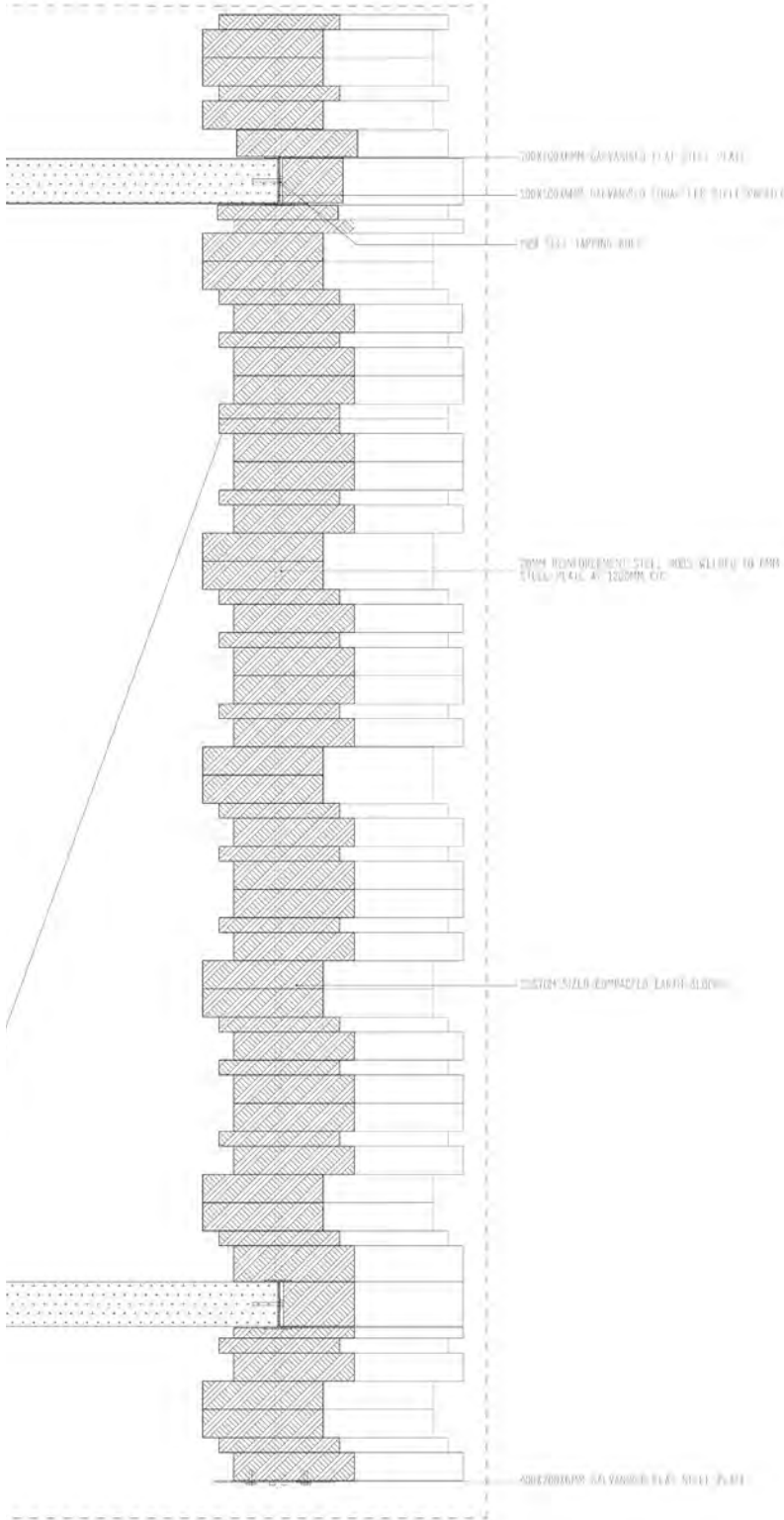


concept for detail A.1 nts



concept for detail B nts

Images adopted from Municipal Library of Greve.



## DETAILS

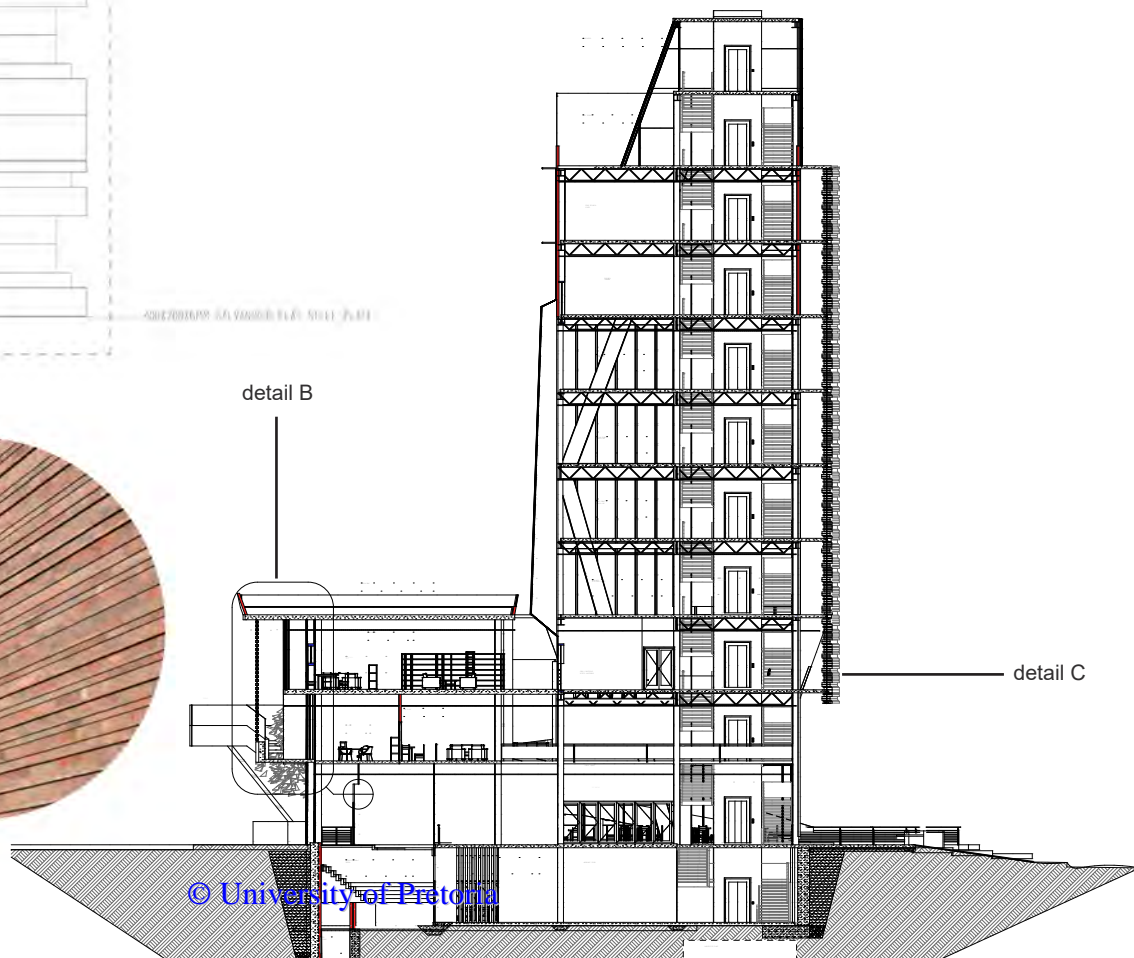
Detail B is the western screen. It would allow for visual access towards the Old Fort/Prison for the users and privacy from the street below. Behind it the programmed space would be enclosed by a glass skin, therefore creating an open-air threshold for circulation between the screen, and interior.

Above the law library there would be a green roof that attempts to bring the ground closer as suggested by the rampart across the road (see east elevation).

The Eastern facade (detail C) invites light into the programmed spaces through a narrow opening that is north facing. This connects the entire floor to the commemoration of the boundary line of Raandjeslaagte.



concept for detail C nts



The material palette is a result of the conceptual resolutions in that by descending the judiciary to being physically and symbolically subservient to the people the opportunity to use compacted earth blocks would not been possible. The structure requires a complex technology that can only be fulfilled by steel. The three dimensional volumes and portions of the screen require a robust light weight material that would begin to assimilate itself with the surrounding context. Fibre cement allows for various forms and it offers the opportunity to be cut in any shape and lastly the colours can be applied as requested by the architect.

### Compacted Earth Blocks (CEB)



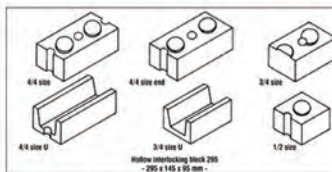
molded



brise soleil



patterned



standard

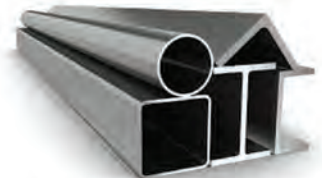
steel mentis grid



steel mentis grid



steel rods



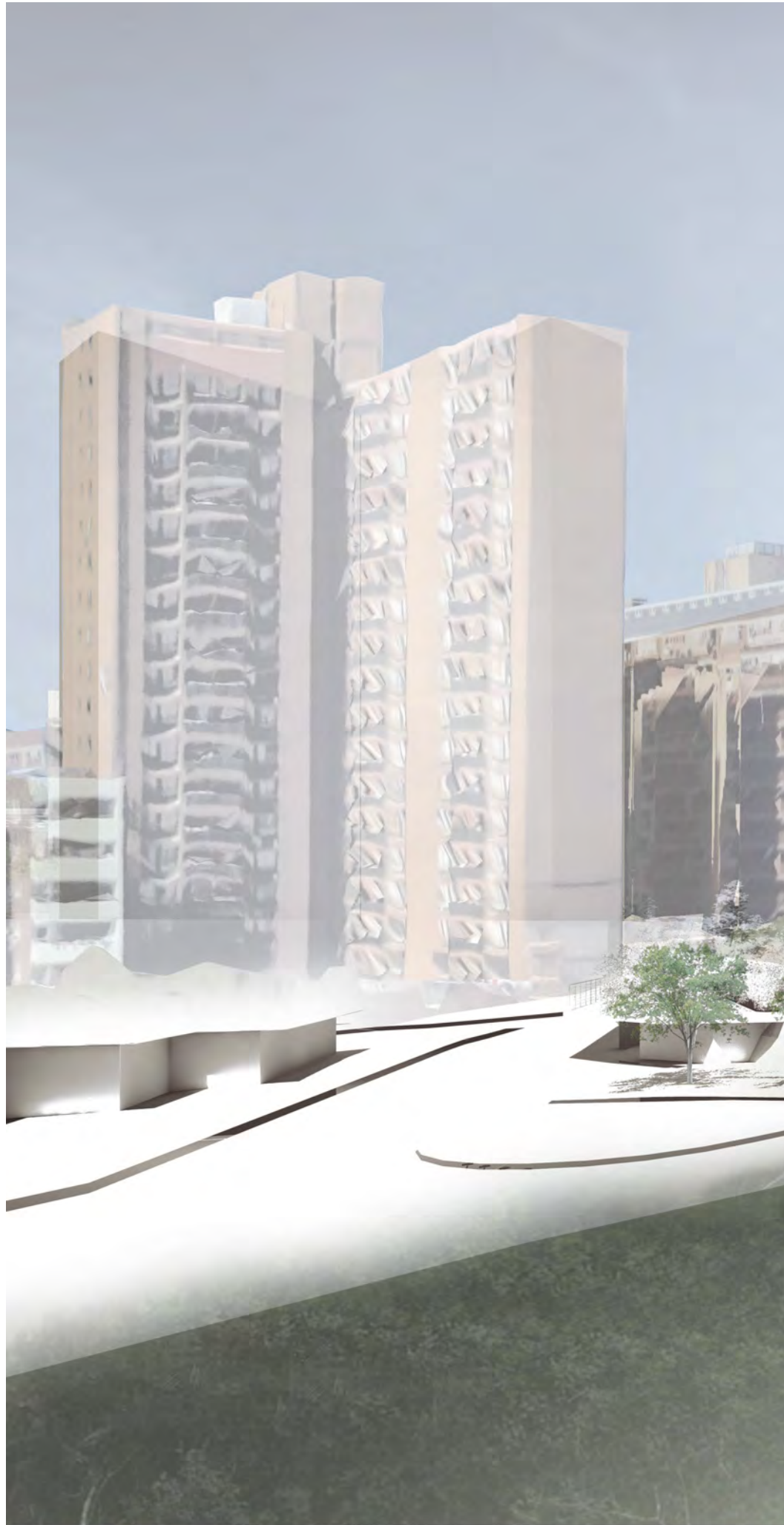
steel profiles

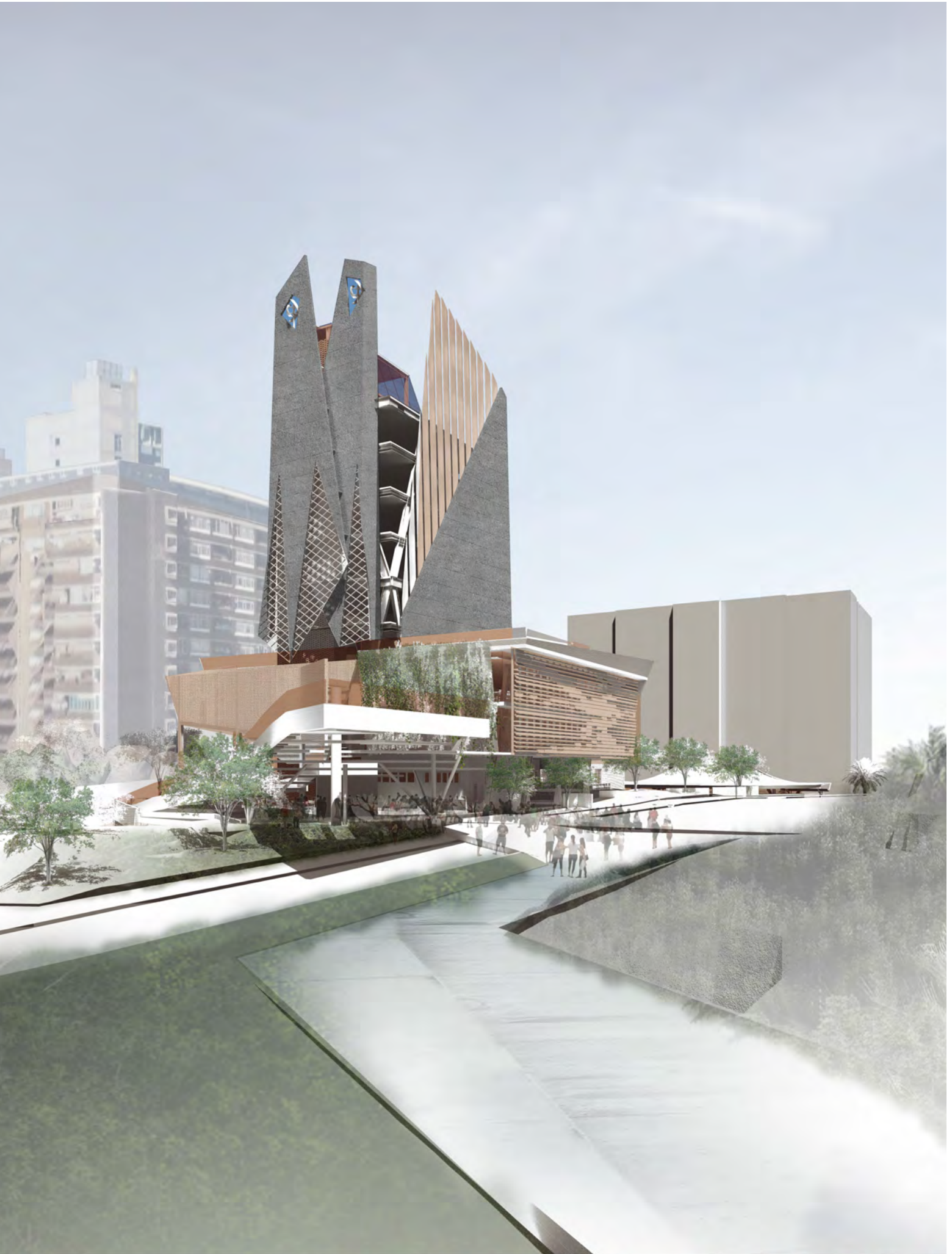


## CONCLUSION

The proposed building satisfies the democratic principles that were intended throughout the theoretical argument, manifesto and design principles. It enables the residents of Hillbrow spatially through public space, socially through dispute resolutions, judicially through the alternative implementation of the constitution, economically through the supplementary programs that allow for commerce and environmentally through the use of materials and the ecological foot print that the building has.

It aims to resolve many issues that Hillbrow, Constitution Hill and Johannesburg as a whole is currently experiencing. However, more research and resolution would be required for its implementation.



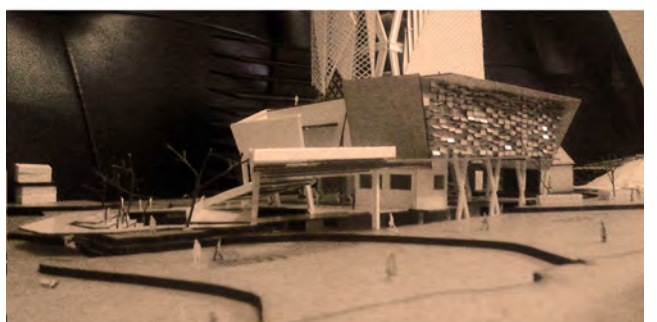
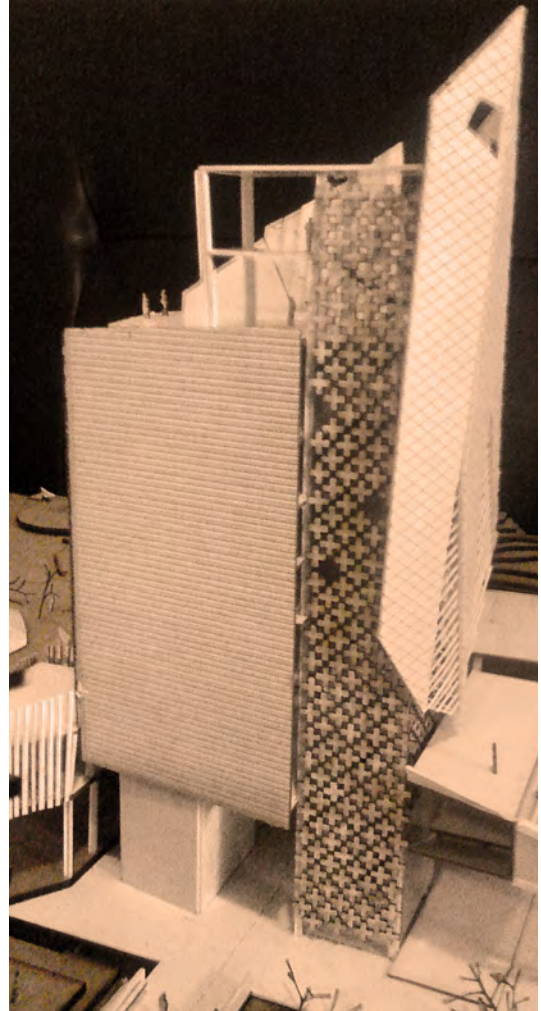




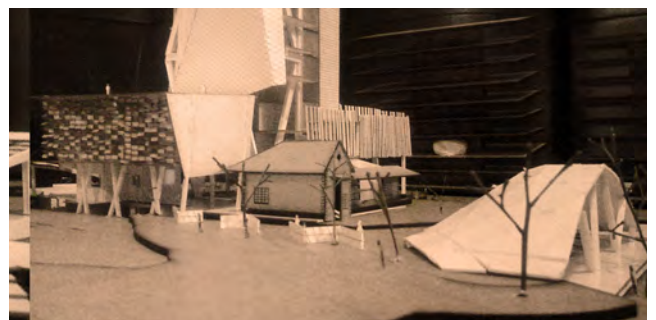
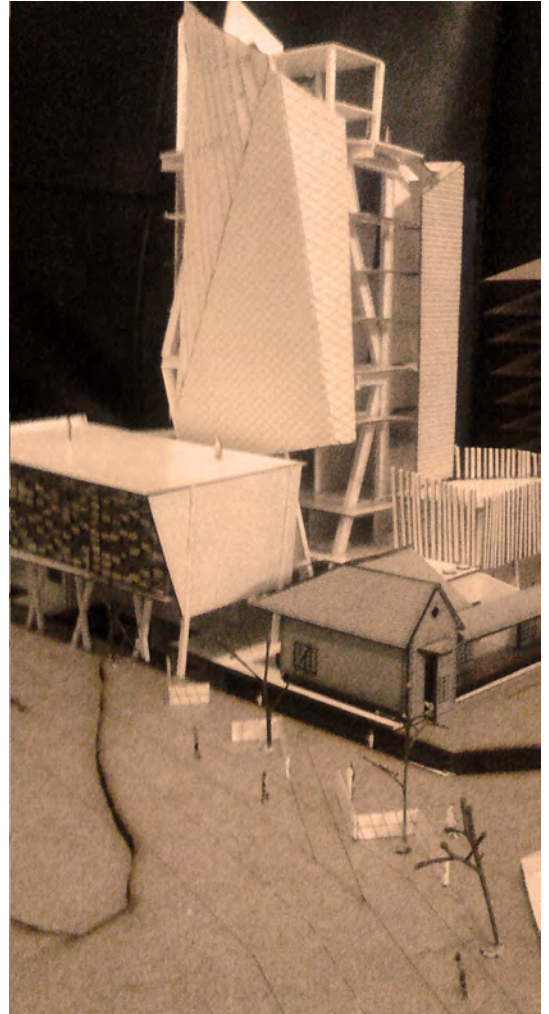
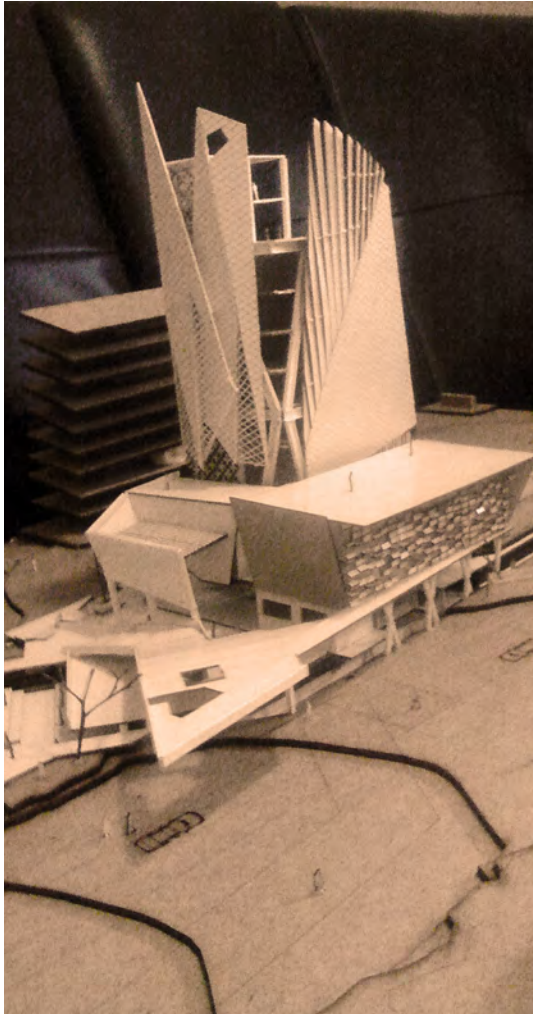


## THE CRIT





## THE MODEL



*This part seeks to contextualize the practical issues mentioned previously. Three scales are considered; urban, precinct and site. Several informants are gathered to resolve the issues further.*



Fig. A.1: Panoramic photo-montage looking over Constitution Hill and Pretoria street in Hillbrow

## ANNEXURE

# A

*[ context & site analysis ]*

*- urban decay as a result in the shift of political power -*





## BACKGROUND DELIMITATIONS

For the purpose of the dissertation, the block of Pretoria Street in Hillbrow is studied in relation to the Constitutional Hill in Braamfontein. Both macro and micro narratives are considered in understanding the sites current condition and brief historical overview asserts aforementioned issues.

# JOHANNESBURG

*[farm portions of Johannesburg]*

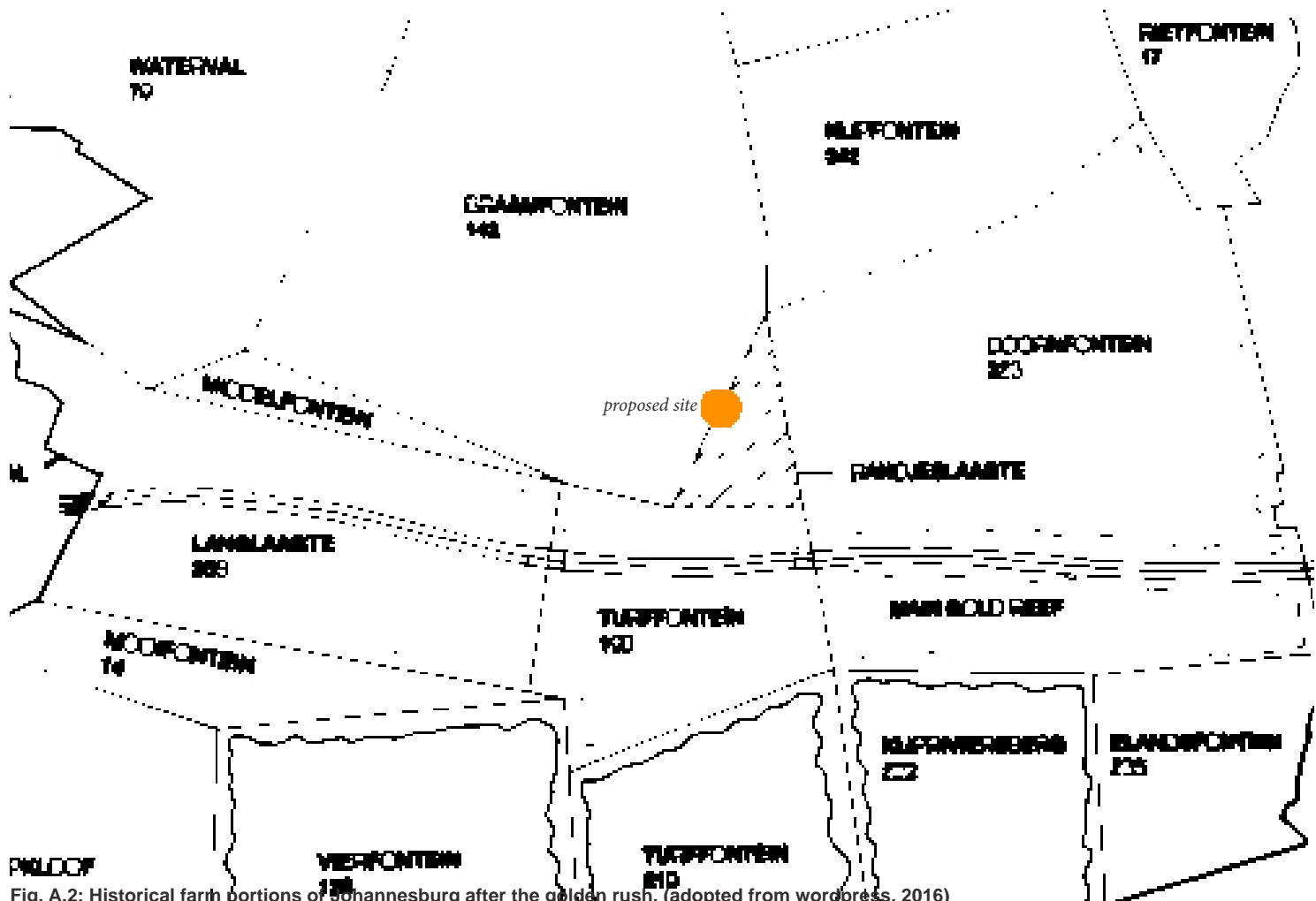


Fig. A.2: Historical farm portions of Johannesburg after the golden rush. (adopted from wordpress, 2016)

## MACRO ANALYSIS

*[a brief history]*

The first high-security prison in Johannesburg was commissioned by Paul Kruger in 1892 (ConstitutionHill, 2017). Its strategic position was to overlook central Johannesburg and to intimidate the mineworkers that worked in the area. This guardhouse-like positioned prison was to only accommodate white prisoners as segregation laws suggested white superiority over the non-whites. Black prisoners were only transferred here later when their prison was demolished in 1894 to build a hospital. The transfer implicated a partitioning of the 'white' prison. (ConstitutionHill, 2017) In 1896, the prison became a military fort when a British group attempted to overthrow the government to take over Johannesburg and later Pretoria. (ConstitutionHill, 2017) Resistance to these threats led the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) to a fortification on the hills, as a result, ramparts were built around the prison. The fort/prison was finally established in 1899, to accommodate prisoners of war and political leaders that opposed the ruling government (Noble, 2011).

The prison would later witness over a century of South Africa's political history such as the Anglo-Boer war at the turn of the century, the expansion of the prison to accommodate black women and more men, holding political leaders of the treason trial, the prisoner population drop from 4000 to around 1500 due to a breakout of typhoid, the youth caught in Soweto Uprising to the and the construction of the Constitutional court. (ConstitutionHill,

the youth caught in Soweto Uprising to the and the construction of the Constitutional court. (ConstitutionHill, 2017) Various charges were accommodated for; petty crimes such as the pass laws. Prominent cadres of the anti-apartheid struggle such as Oliver Tambo, Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Joe Slovo, Lilian Ngoyi and Ruth First were incarcerated here. Students that participated in the Soweto Uprising were also incarcerated here,

for some it was an illegal exercise because they were minors. The prison was overcrowded and the rate of arrests continued to rise which required another prison to be build. Small structures were built for this urgent demand but a permanent solution was needed. (ConstitutionHill, 2017)

Located a stone's throw away from the Fort's ramparts to the north is the "Native prison" named Number Four (B) and a later addition called Five, were the resolution to the increasing demand. This prison was renowned for the way the prisoners were unfairly treated. Two additional buildings were also erected during this period, the prison for women(C) and the awaiting trial block (D). Even in these buildings overcrowding, sanitation and disease became the main difficulties. (ConstitutionHill, 2017) The governor of the prison precinct lived in a smaller building not too far from site (E).

- A) Old Fort / Prison
- B) Number Four
- C) Women's Gaol
- D) Awaiting Trial Block
- E) Governor's House

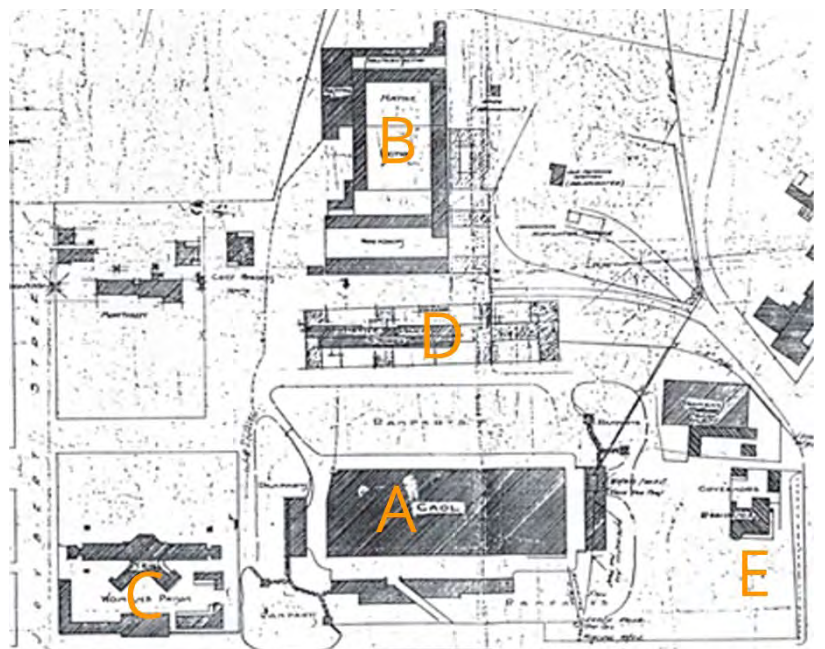


Fig. A.3: Historical site plan of the prison precinct. (adopted from the conceptual spatial design by Urban Solutions)





# COMMODITY

## *landuse*

Education and recreational opportunities are prevalent in the study area as Braamfontein and Hillbrow's primary use was dedicated to residential use and other supporting facilities.

Several recreational facilities has been introduced in the area to support the high density of residents and employees in the area.



Fig. A.4: macro, landuse map

## *business*

South of the study area lies the central business district of Johannesburg. Once upon a time this was South Africa's commercial hearth after the gold rush in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Resultantly it was congested by migrants and immigrants as the "city of gold" offered opportunity for a better standard of living. The study area lies on the periphery.

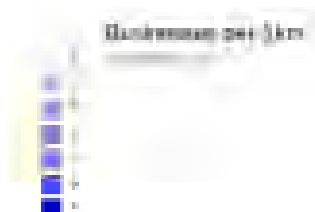


Fig. A.5: macro, business map

## BEHAVIOUR



Fig. A.6: macro, crime areas and hotspots map

### *antisocial*

Crime stats depicted that the streets along the railway and the public parks are prone to crime, inclusively Mandela bridge and Joubert Park.

The blue lines illustrate a general crime ridden street. The dots illustrate crime hot-spots in the study area.



Fig. A.7: macro, neighbourhoods map

### *decentralisation*

The residential areas around the study area were resulted from the decentralising process from the inner city. Further away from the activity and noise of the city towards the north Parktown is a threshold and one of the more affluent areas in the vicinity. Towards the east have the lower class areas that are currently facing gentrification and towards the west the middle to higher class of Braamfontein and

# PROXIMITY

## *semi-public transport*

The semi-public transport here is identified as a transport system(s) that is partially owned by the private sector. The Gautrain and Gaibus initiative is in close proximity to the study area. It predominantly transports middle and upper class individuals in and between Tshwane, O.R. Tambo airport and Johannesburg. The buses commute from each train station to bus stops located at important nodes within the well established areas.

An upgrade framework depicts that these services will be made available to lower class areas in the near future.

- existing Gautrain route
- proposed Gautrain route
- Rea-Vaya route



Fig. A.8: macro, semi-public transport map

## *public transport*

The main public transport service throughout South Africa is the informal mini bus service, also known as a “taxi”. This mode of transport has few designated stations to drop or pick people up as a result it does so freely at any point - hazardous to other drivers. It occupies the main routes throughout the city to neighbouring areas and townships. The Bus Rapid Transport system was recently introduced as a faster service to stitch the post-apartheid city. One of its stations is located at the Heart of Hillbrow (see noll map).

- BRT route
- Taxi route



Fig. A.9: macro, public transport map

## RELATIONSHIPS



Fig. A.10: meso, figure ground map

### *figure ground*

This image aims to depict the physical urban relationships that exist in the study area. Streets and transport routes dissect the land into irregular parcels. There are high-rise buildings in Hillbrow (towards right) which attempt to fill their entire footprint. There are older low-rise buildings in Braamfontein (towards left) which are dispersed almost evenly on their large urban blocks.

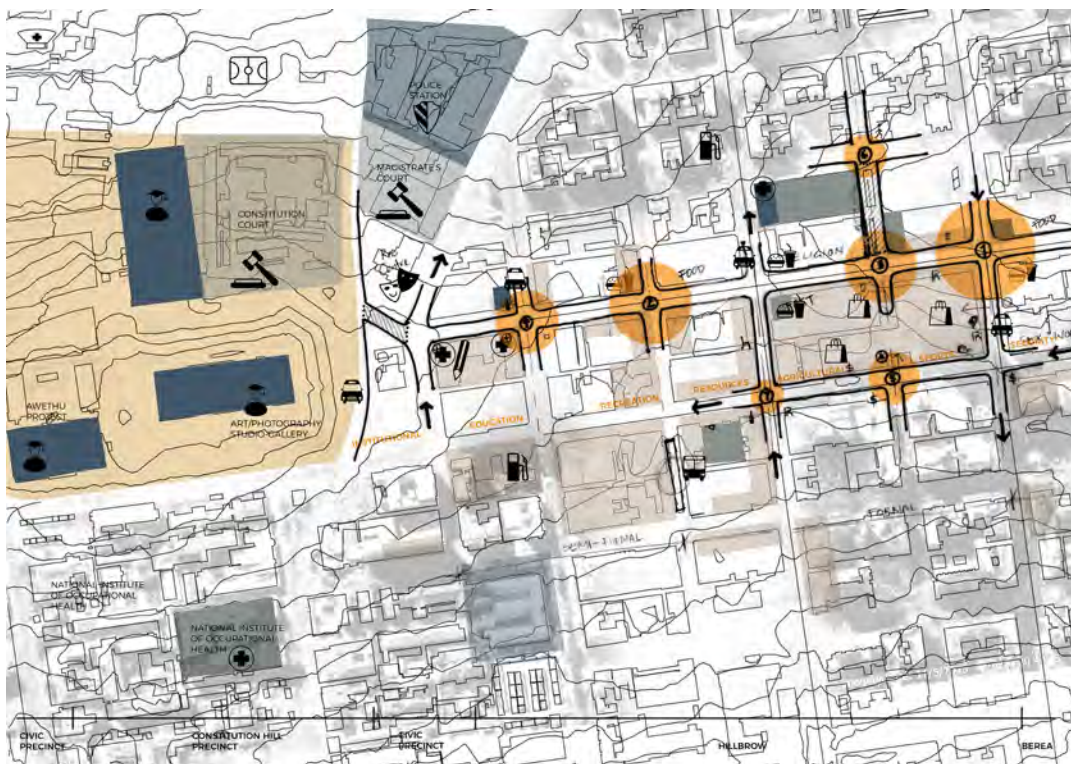


Fig. A.11: meso, landuse and crime hotspots map

### *activity*

Pretoria street is the business hub of Hillbrow. It bustles with informal trading and other activity. Statistics from the SAPS indicated several crime hotspots along this street (orange dots). The size of the dots indicate the relative amount of crime that each crime hotspot has as compared to the next

It is in direct proximity with Constitution Hill and the other law enforcement institutions such as the magistrate's court and the Hillbrow police station but the antisocial behaviour persists.

# CONCEPTION

## activity nodes

Leading from the previous activity map, a further investigation was made to understand the range of influences the area. The accommodated programs proved pivotal to this process. They were congested more in some areas than others. This led to suggestive nodes that reached beyond their physical location.



Fig. A.12: meso, conceptual activity nodes map

## nodes

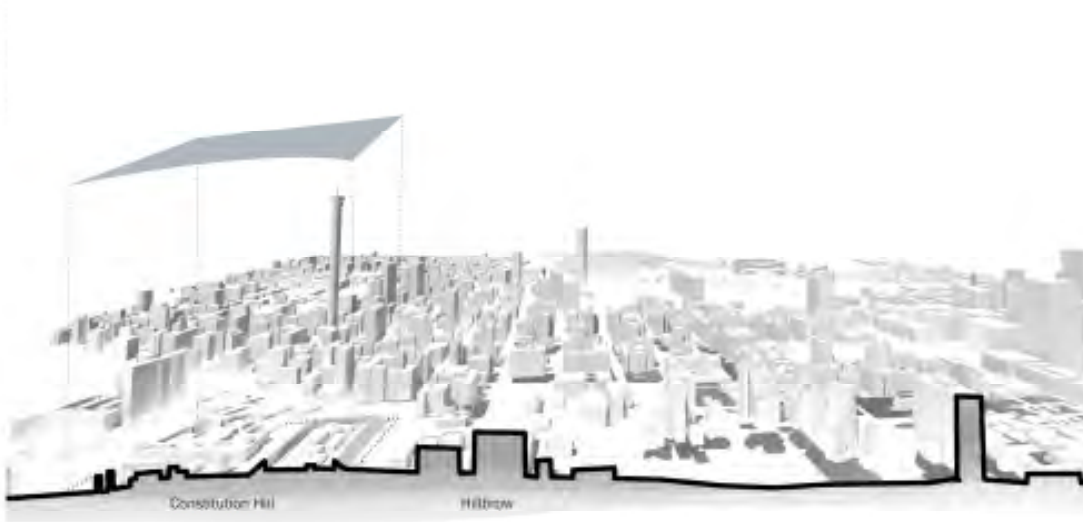
Moving from Constitution Hill (left) into Hillbrow the nodes of activity are institutional, educational, recreational, resources, agriculture, sports and security. They were a result of existing positive programs. The aforementioned nodes would prove to be urban informants later.



Fig. A.13: meso, existing programmed nodes map

# HERITAGE

## density



The identified study area consists of buildings that were built almost a century ago. The density then was low, as the city grew these buildings failed to appropriate themselves as suggested in the brief history previously. What once used to overlook the city, is now looked down upon by the surrounding high density apartment blocks.

Fig. A.14: meso, section perspective of Johannesburg



## building age

The Old Prison in the Fort was built first before its fortification. The native prison was built almost simultaneously with the women's jail and the awaiting trial block which was demolished to make way to the Constitutional Court.

Fig. A.15: micro, map illustrating the age of the buildings at Constitution Hill

# RECEPTION

## connection ?

For the local resident from Hillbrow or Parktown there are two pedestrian entrances into the site, one on the west into the Constitution Square and on from the North onto the Great African Stairs.

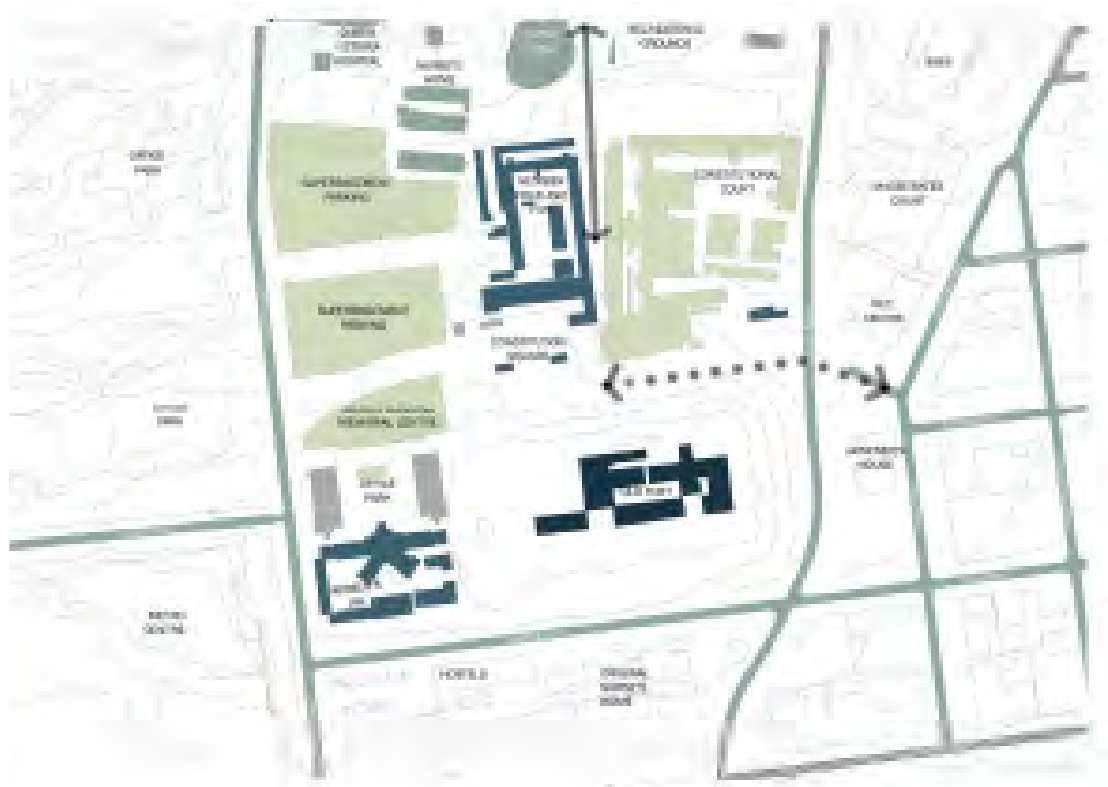


Fig. A.16: micro, connectivity map

## edge condition

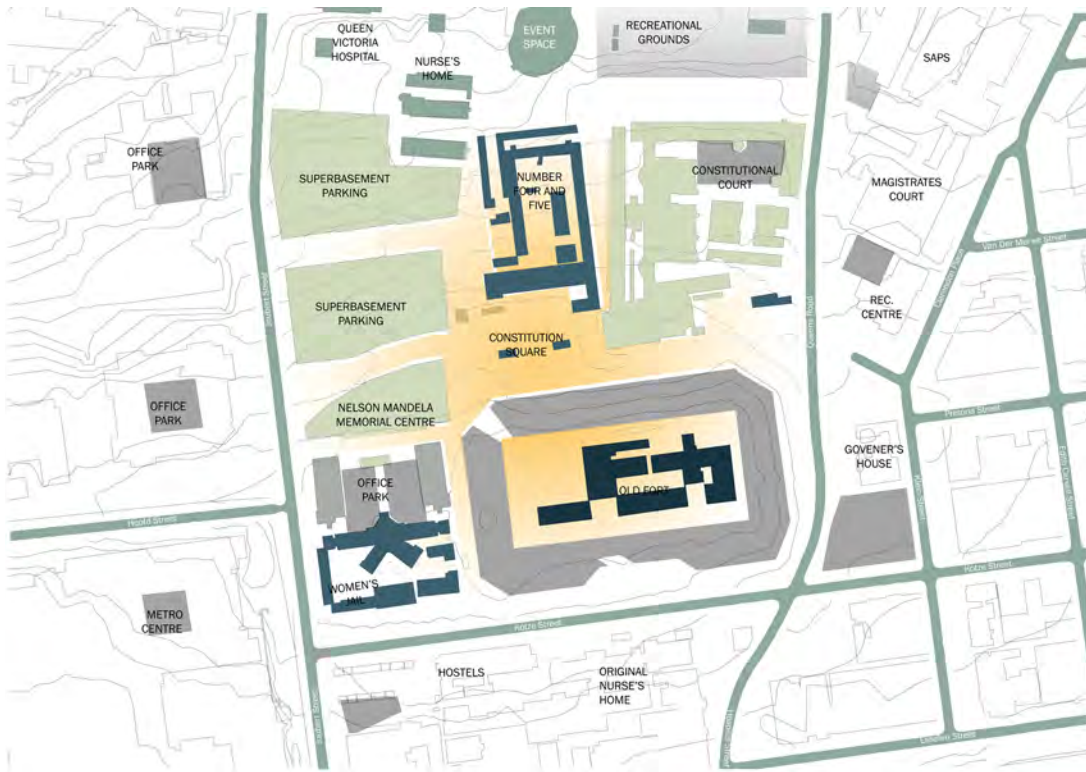
Human scale is important when related to buildings. The site had a limiting urban condition. As the ramparts of the Old Prison the edges of the court keep the pedestrians at bay. The building disrupts the urban relation to the square.



Fig. A.17: micro, edge conditions map



## PUBLIC SPACE



### *soft vs hard spaces*

The study area is dominated by hard surfaces the rampart is the most prominent soft surface around this area. Unfortunately, the rampart is not public space for occupation, it is used only for visitors strolling around the heritage site.

- Hard open spaces
- Soft open spaces

Fig. A.18: micro, soft versus hard surfaces map



### *landuse*

The site predominantly serves as a museum precinct as a result of its history and previous program. This stagnant heritage response suggests for a once off experience and its supplemented by expensive tourist events in the square

- Office park
- Superbaseament parking
- Nelson Mandela Memorial Centre
- Women's Home
- Hostels
- Original Nurse's Home
- Constitution Square
- Old Fort
- Magistrates Court
- Rec. Centre
- Govener's House
- Heritage site

Fig. A.19: micro, landuse map

## DIS-CONNECT

### *disconnection*

The civic precinct between Hillbrow and Constitution Hill acts as a buffer zone, disconnecting the residents from the symbol of democracy. People are symbolically disconnected from justice.

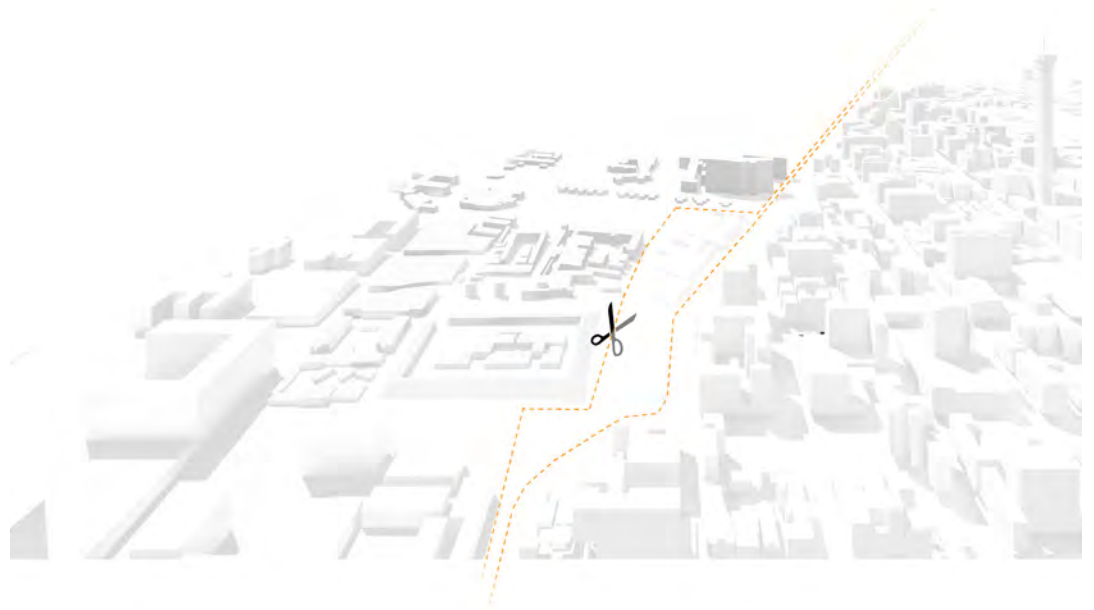


Fig. A.20: macro, disconnected area map

### *disconnection*

The civic precinct between Hillbrow and Constitution Hill acts as a buffer zone, disconnecting the residents from the symbol of democracy. People are symbolically disconnected from justice.

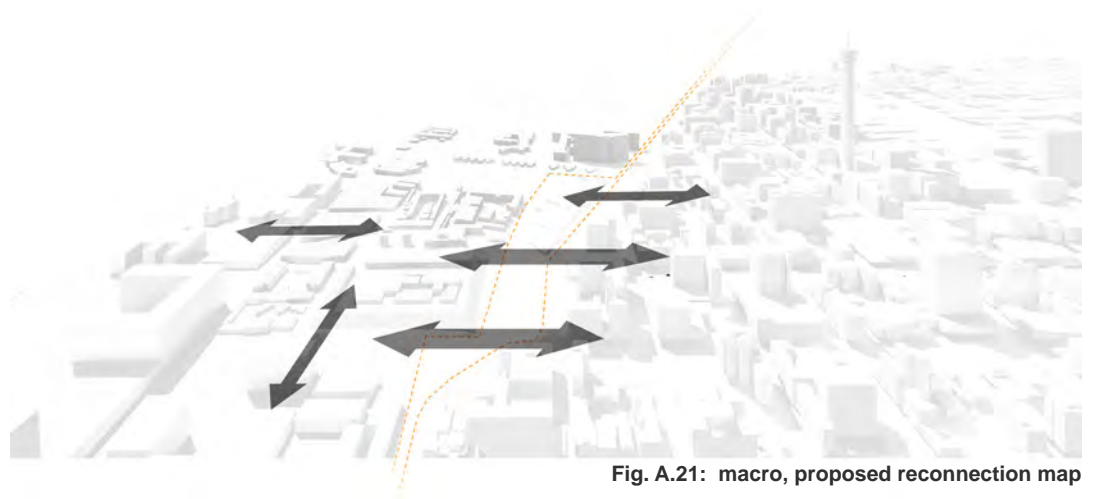


Fig. A.21: macro, proposed reconnection map

## RE-PROGRAM

### *antisocial*

Pretoria Street has the highest crime rate in Hillbrow due to the around the clock programs. Its proximity to the law enforcements questions the vigilance of the authority.



Fig. A.22: macro, existing programs and crime hotspots map

### *social*

The identified site would have to play the role of a facilitator between the authority and the people. A program that draws both would be ideal in response to the identified issues.



Fig. A.23 macro, proposed programs map

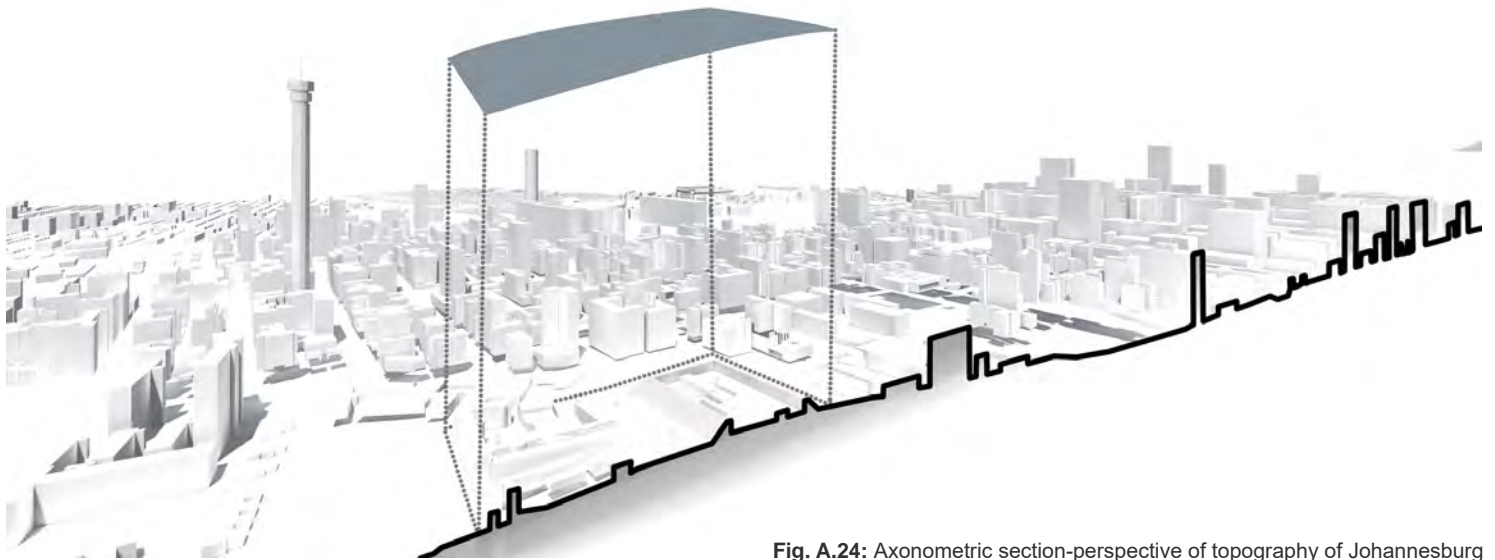


Fig. A.24: Axonometric section-perspective of topography of Johannesburg



Fig. A.25: Section-perspective of topography of Johannesburg

## ANALYSIS OVERVIEW

The site is well connected to its surroundings through several modes of transport. This would make it easy for participants to get to the site.

Its edge condition is concerning with the amount of antisocial behaviour which would require thorough work to assist users to feel safe and therefore inviting the rest of the city, country or world.

The world population continues to increase, which needs to be accommodated for and space is becoming a rare commodity.

The proposed site forms a buffer zone. It has latent potential connect rather than to segregate. It is the gateway into Hillbrow when coming from the East and a bridge towards justice when coming from the West.

It is longitudinal towards the north offering views onto Constitution Hill and into Pretoria street. Located next to the Old Fort its topography falls away from the centre towards the north and south.

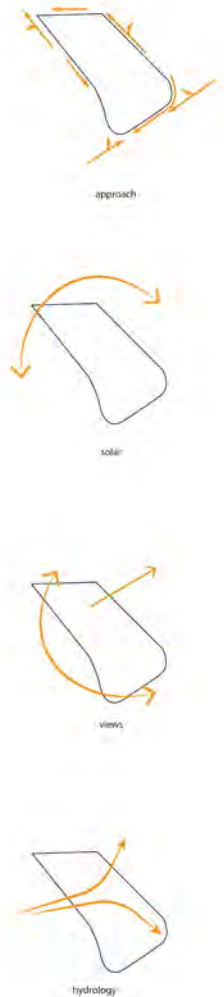


Fig. A.26: general site analysis

*wayfinding*

On the main street of Hillbrow (Pretoria Str.) one can see the ramparts of the Old Fort at Constitution Hill. From the Old Fort one can see the Metro Centre Building and the Hillbrow tower.

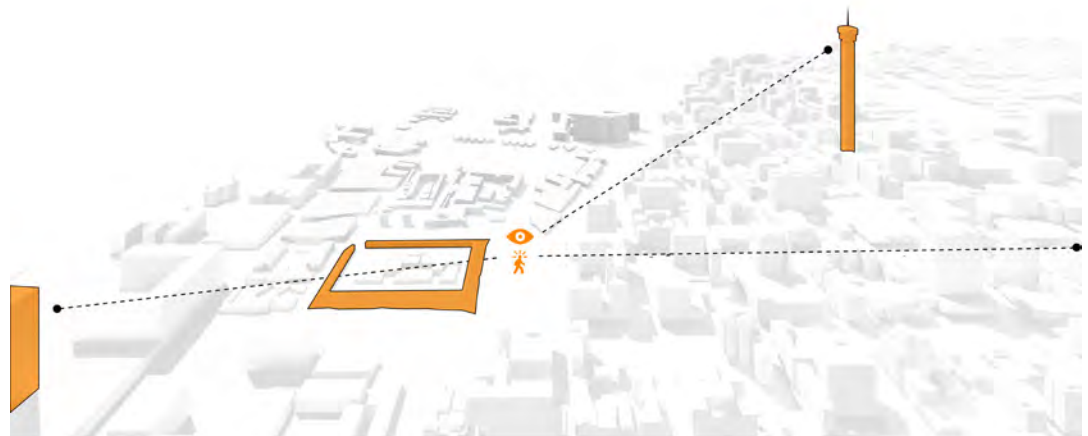


Fig. A.27: wayfinding map

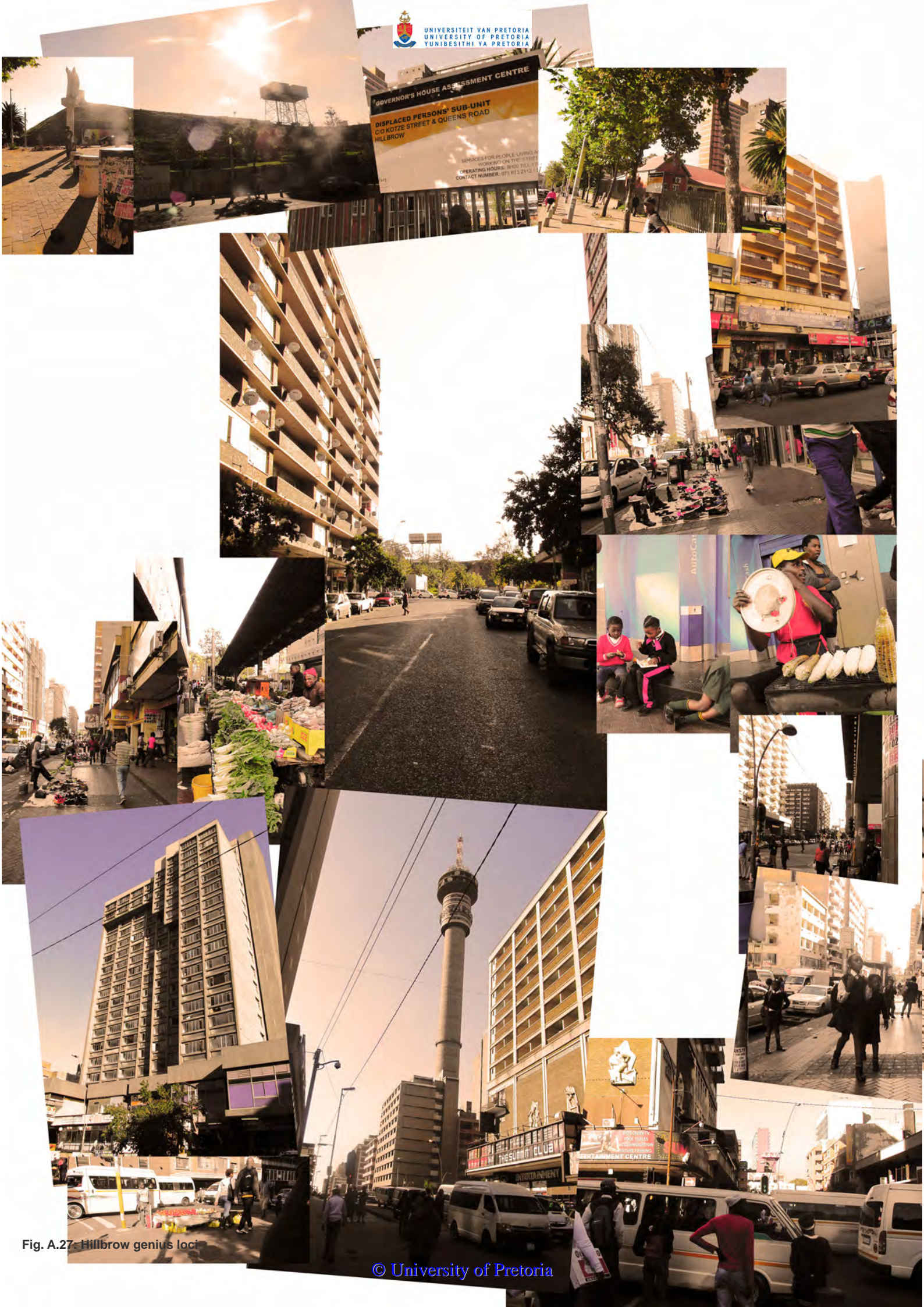


Fig. A.27: Hillbrow genius loci



Fig. A.28: Constitutional Court genius loci

## CONCLUSIONS

The site that hosts the Governor's house acts a buffer zone. It spatially separates Hillbrow from Constitutional Hill. A different public program would offer an opportunity to address the issues of disconnection. The current displaced persons house doesn't invite positive activity from neither Hillbrow nor Constitution Hill.

The existing human capital in Hillbrow can be used as a driver to activate the site and its surroundings. Hillbrow has a latent potential for conducive to spaces. A well grounded urban framework would need to be established first.

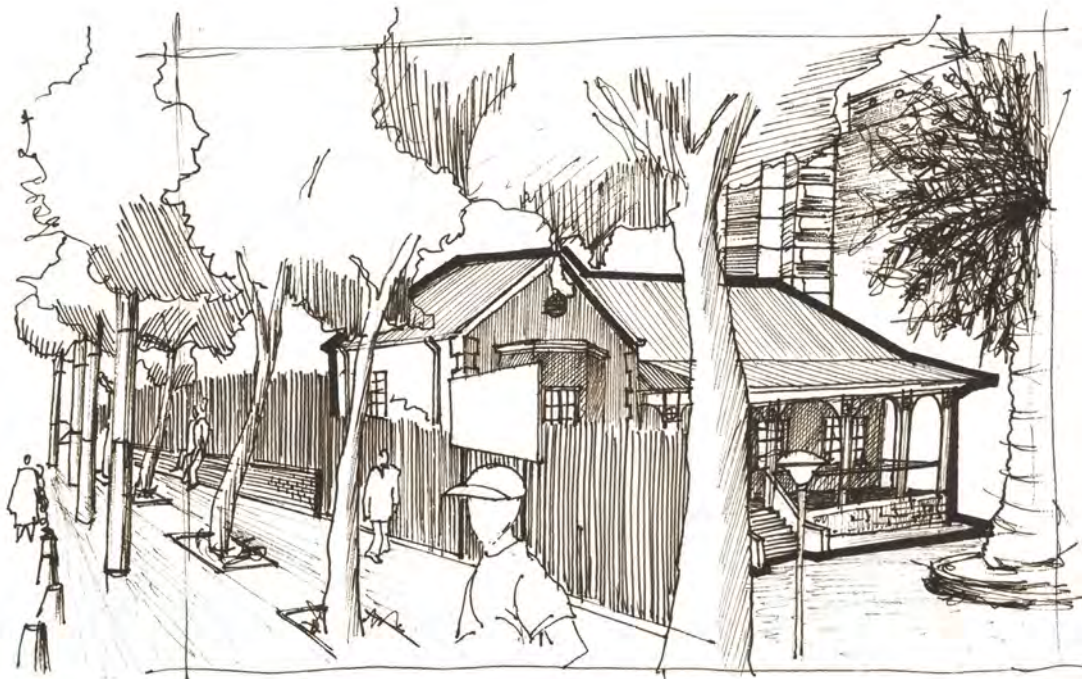


Fig. A.29: The Governor's House currently





*This part seeks to illustrate images that appear illegible in Part 2 in a larger and clearer format.*

## ANNEXURE

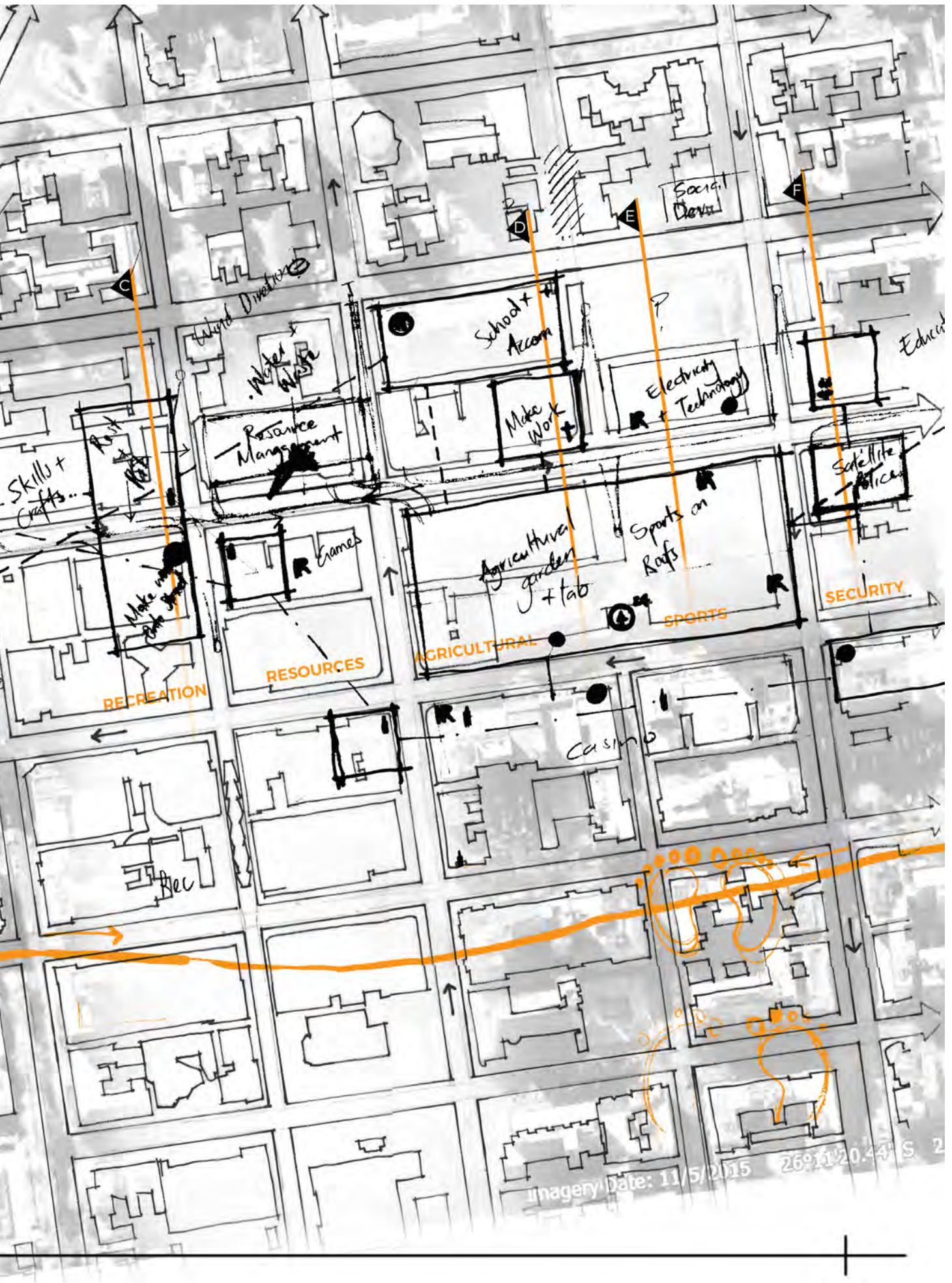
# B

*[ enlarged illustrations ]*

*- urban decay as a result in the shift of political power -*



Fig. B.1: Programmed nodes



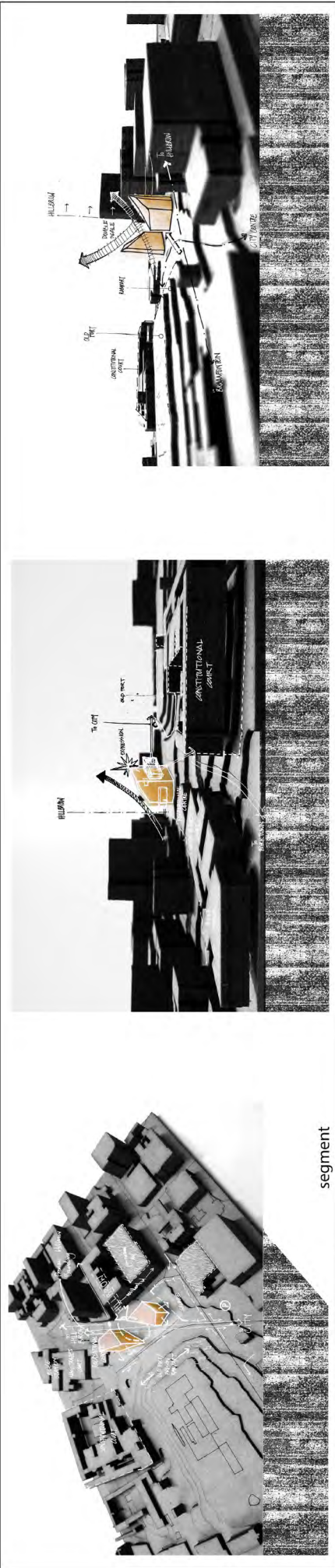
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HILLBROW

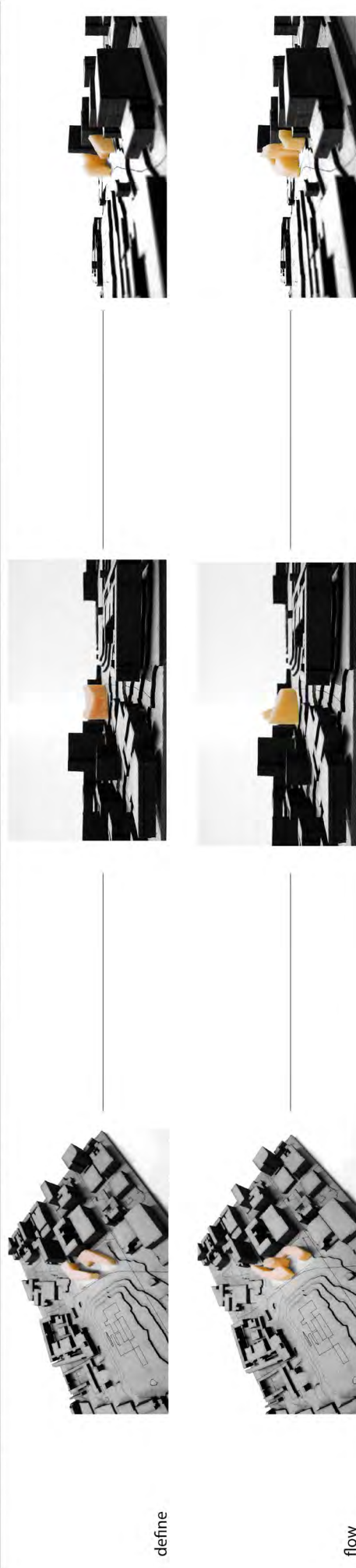
BEREA



Fig. B.2: Fori

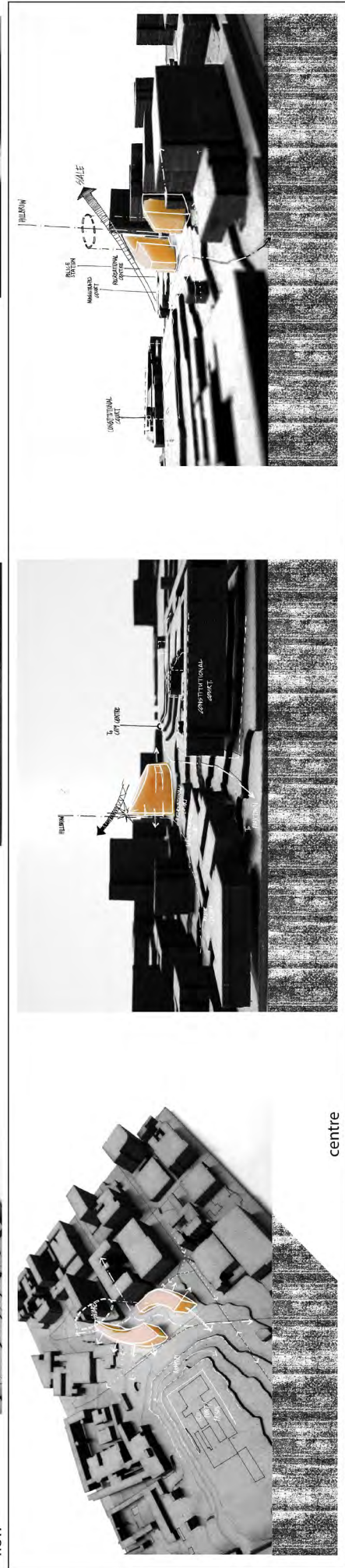


segment



define

flow



centre





