

To Inherit:

PERSISTENCE AND THE
CONTINUAL REMAKING OF THE
TSHWANE PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT

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U15079784

2021



Fig. i *Photograph of the ruined Electric workshop*

DECLARATION

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

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

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

AT THOMASHOFF 15 November 2021

SIGNATURE

DATE



Fig. ii *Photograph of the Stonemason's workshop*

PROJECT SUMMARY

STUDY LEADERS: Dr Arthur Barker and Silindzile Shongwe

COURSE COORDINATOR: Dr Arthur Barker

STUDY FIELD: Memory, Legacy and Identity

Submitted in fulfilment of part of the requirements for the degree Master in Architecture (Professional). Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology, University of Pretoria

SITE LOCATION: Department of Public Works and Infrastructure Workshops

ADDRESS: 115 Minnaar Street, Pretoria Central, Gauteng, South Africa

SITE DESCRIPTION: An overgrown platform between the southern Mechanical Workshop and the Labourers Accommodation

CLIENTS: The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, the DPWI Expanded Public Works Program, the City of Tshwane



Fig. ii *Photograph of the ruined interior of the electric workshop*

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Fig. iii *Photograph of the interior of the mechanical workshop*

ABSTRACT AND PROJECT SUMMARY

ABSTRACT

The dissertation investigates the potential of a fragile approach to industrial heritage in the City of Tshwane with the aim of revitalising the industrial legacy of the DPWI Workshops.

Over the past century, the DPWI Workshops have been altered and adapted to suit the ever-changing context of the city. The site has directly contributed to the making of many of the buildings in the city, both by manufacturing essential parts of buildings and by honing the skills of artisans. Since 2018, the site has halted all activities and the site has fallen into disrepair.

The site is considered redundant in its context as industrial space. The buildings are underutilised, yet valuable as unique examples of the industrial history of the city.

The dissertation aims to reintroduce the DPWI workshops as an active contributor to the making of the city through providing technical training opportunities. Additionally, the goal is to continue the narrative of change evident on the site, as an extension of industrial heritage in the city. By using fragile architecture, the intent is to prioritise items associated with memory as a continuation of the past.



Fig. iv

Photograph of the outside of the DPWI Mechanical Workshop

Introduction	2		
1. Background	4	9. Design development	52
2. Building the Argument	8	10. Design Explained	64
3. The Dissertation	13	11. Making	70
4. Theoretical point of departure	16	12. Assembly	82
5. Integrated Value Assessment	24	13. Reflection	94
6. Statement of Value	36	14. List of figures	99
7. Precedent Studies	37	14. List of figures	101
8. Design Brief	42	15. References	103
	49		