

ARCHITECTURE AS A RESPONSE TO INFORMAL TRADE IN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS.

Towards a new SMME Business hub in The Point Precinct, Durban, CBD.

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DECLARATION

I declare that this dissertation is my unaided work. All citations, references, and borrowed ideas have been duly acknowledged. This dissertation is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture in the School of the Built Environment and Development Studies, College of Humanities, University of KwaZulu-Natal. None of the work has been previously submitted for any other degree or examination in any other university.

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15 -January -2023

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a circle with a diagonal line through it and some trailing strokes.

Viloshin Govender

15 -January -2023

Date

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I would like to thank the following:

Family for your love and constant support, but most importantly, for always keeping me afloat.

Lameez for always being my best friend, my inspiration, and my entire world. I appreciate how you motivate me every day.

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Priscilla(MA) for your guidance and patience, love and motivation and everything else, thank you.

DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my family. I appreciate your ongoing support in helping me pursue my goals in life in general as well as an architect. No matter what I do, whether it is on the sports field or at a desk, I have always had your whole support. Your unwavering faith in me has led me down many wonderful pathways in life.

I am who I am because of you all.

Thank you

ABSTRACT

This study is meant to empower and create a sustainable life for Small, Micro, and Medium Enterprises (SMME's), as at present there is a cultural discrepancy in the globalisation movement in the development of all cities.

Corporations need to play an enabling role to create a new model of black enterprises.

However, one of the biggest problems in South African cities is globalisation and apartheid city planning. This did not only structure but also relocated people to the outer parts of the cities, which made cities non-diverse, semi-functional zones and lacked major support for SMME's. (Eatough, 2015; Rogerson, 2000 p, 673-695)

"The reconstruction initiatives of the post-apartheid South Africa, promoting and supporting the development of small, medium and micro-enterprises sector, including the informal economy, have been of major policy significance." (Rogerson, 2000, p, 673-695)

Architecture could assist SMME's by making a more responsive space servicing the needs of the users. The argument is for a more sustained reform of the city to examine its cultural expression as an engine for empowering multi-diverse and small businesses. The Point Development is one of the key catalysts to redeveloping the entire inner city. The point development however has resulted in gentrification and the loss of small informal businesses within the point developments. (Lumby, 1991, p.121-133)

Durban is a multiplicity of cultures and architectural styles, but the city can be challenged to create more spaces for opportunity, inclusivity, and diversity.

The goal is to promote and empower SMME's in communities to use lost space, which will integrate, connect and diversify technology and culture by creating an economically empowered city with the use of Architecture and at the same time stitching the Point to the rest of the city.

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CHAPTER 1.0

INTRODUCTION

1 VARIABLES

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

This study aims to empower and create a sustainable life for Small, Micro, and Medium Enterprises (SMME's). It examines the cultural expression of the city to examine its cultural expression as an engine for empowering multi-diverse and small businesses. The Point Development is one of the key catalysts to redeveloping the inner city, resulting in gentrification and the loss of small informal business developments. The goal is to promote and empower SMME's in communities to use lost space, which will integrate, connect and diversify technology and culture. To achieve this, SMMEs need a new model with dynamic and innovative black enterprises, policies and an ecosystem of enterprise support, including skills, digital access, finance, professional practical support, product development and trade and export support. Corporations, including banks and investment funds, need to play an enabling role. Why should the study's primary focus be SMMEs? as mentioned below.

“They (SMME's) foster local economies, keep the money close to home and support neighbourhoods and communities.”(Gartenstein, 2018 , p. 1)

The Point Development (In need on economies) is one of the key catalysts to redeveloping the entire inner city. This includes high-rise buildings that have resulted in gentrification and the loss of small informal business developments. However, the block sizes and spaces are not suitable for trade and skills, leading to an increase in crime, the drug trade, and non-safety conditions.

Capital-driven developers create and control spaces, which means an average customer or trader cannot enjoy the space without purchasing and marking up global products. The material used on the promenade by capital investors focuses on the material that will match its upcoming proposal. These spaces and materials are now designed and controlled by Capital-Driven Developers.

However, one of the biggest problems in South African cities is globalisation and apartheid city planning and this not only structured but also relocated people to the outer parts of the cities, which made the cities a non-diverse, mono-functional zone and lacked major support for SMMEs. The architecture is not responsive to globalisation and apartheid city planning, because the architecture in this area does not relate to the informal trade or provide spaces that can empower people.

“The reconstruction initiatives of the post-apartheid South Africa, promoting and supporting the development of small, medium and micro-enterprises sector, including the informal economy, have been of major policy significance.” (Rogerson, 2000, p.103)

Architecture could assist SMMEs by making a more responsive space servicing the needs of the users. The argument is for a more sustained reform of the city to examine its cultural expression as an engine for empowering multi-diverse and small businesses. The Point Development is one of the key catalysts for redeveloping the inner city. Within saying that “This research aims to combat exclusivity of globalisation movement at the Point Precinct.” Author

1.1.2 MOTIVATION JUSTIFICATION

The goal is to promote and empower SMME's in communities to use lost space, derelict space that are unused, which will integrates, connect and diversify technology and culture by creating an economically empowered city by using Architecture to stitch the Point to the rest of the city.

SMMEs support and sustain the economic sector. SMME's have the potential to revitalise communities and strengthen local and national economies." Technology advancement will strike a balance between the main objectives of social empowerment. This enables us to blend the concepts of social and cultural unity and recognize the distinctions between the corporate areas and structures." An sophisticated South African "ideal" Plaza will be created by combining public integration from the cities with small business ownership and empowerment.

The objective result is an advanced "South African ideal plaza" which; integrates, connects, and diversifies technology and culture together with a result in creating an economically empowered city.

The focus is on using cultural expression with a contextual space, and how it will evoke the essence of life within relatable content. In conclusion, is to find a method of resolution in architecture by designing a multi-denominational practice that supports and promotes growth in the Small Business Sector in South Africa's economy.

Globalisation and urbanisation can't be stopped; it is necessary to adopt modern technologies that drive society in a controllable trend. The regional design allows global trends to influence technological evolution, but it needs to adapt "context-based data" to allow a more relatable design. Marginalising the gap allows fragmentation to restructure itself.

" Frampton contends that we should adjust to their effect rather than attempting to stop them. Frampton promotes "critical regionalism," an architectural philosophy that takes into account both local environment and global influences." cited in (Frampton ,1983, p.17).

1.2 DEFINITION OF THE PROBLEM.

1.2.1 DEFINITION OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

This focuses on how the Point Precinct is affected by globalization. Developments are dominated by new commercial spaces, and divided cities compel the potential that the international economy has brought about to be missed. With commercial businesses dominating the city, SMME's local businesses should be accepted without being subjugated by higher-status businesses/commercial. The significance of cultural opportunities in the contributing urban fabric is demonstrated by social economic expression. The reintroduction of movement within the precinct creates walkability. The Study will address the impact relating to Durban's lack of community design, social local cohesion and social empowerment around the city, because SMME's do not have empowered spaces designed for them to trade.

1.2.2 AIMS

The research is to combat the exclusivity of globalisation movement while analysing the existing business in the Point Precinct and looking at how architecture and lost space can help assist local businesses. This study will also recognize the existing cultures in the Point Precinct, whilst it revitalises a new city lifestyle. People need to be empowered in groups according and use culture in business to express their overlapping values, which allows for their all-inclusive space. An identity that represents a larger diverse society and can encompass a critical regionalism in its context. Encouraging connections in modern forms within an urban fabric and promoting cohesion through dialogue in the economic sector can act as a driver. The spaces need to run in cohesion with modern architectural principles with the user's experience which will allow for multi-skills and trade entrepreneurship.

"Adopt modern architecture critically for its universal progressive qualities but at the same time should value responses particular to the context" (Eldemery, 2009, p.310).

As said by Eldemery harmonious blend of contemporary attributes also promotes advancement on a urban , built environment scale.

1.2.3 OBJECTIVES

These will cover in detail the social to the architectural response.

1. To investigate what spaces are needed to create social and cultural expression in architectural design.
2. To explore what social empowerment structures and economic structures exist in the Point Precinct.
3. To investigate how cultural expression can be expressed in an urban context.
4. To explore what impact globalisation has on businesses and informal economies in the Durban CBD.
5. To explore what buildings/spaces can be reused and adapted for economic sustainability.

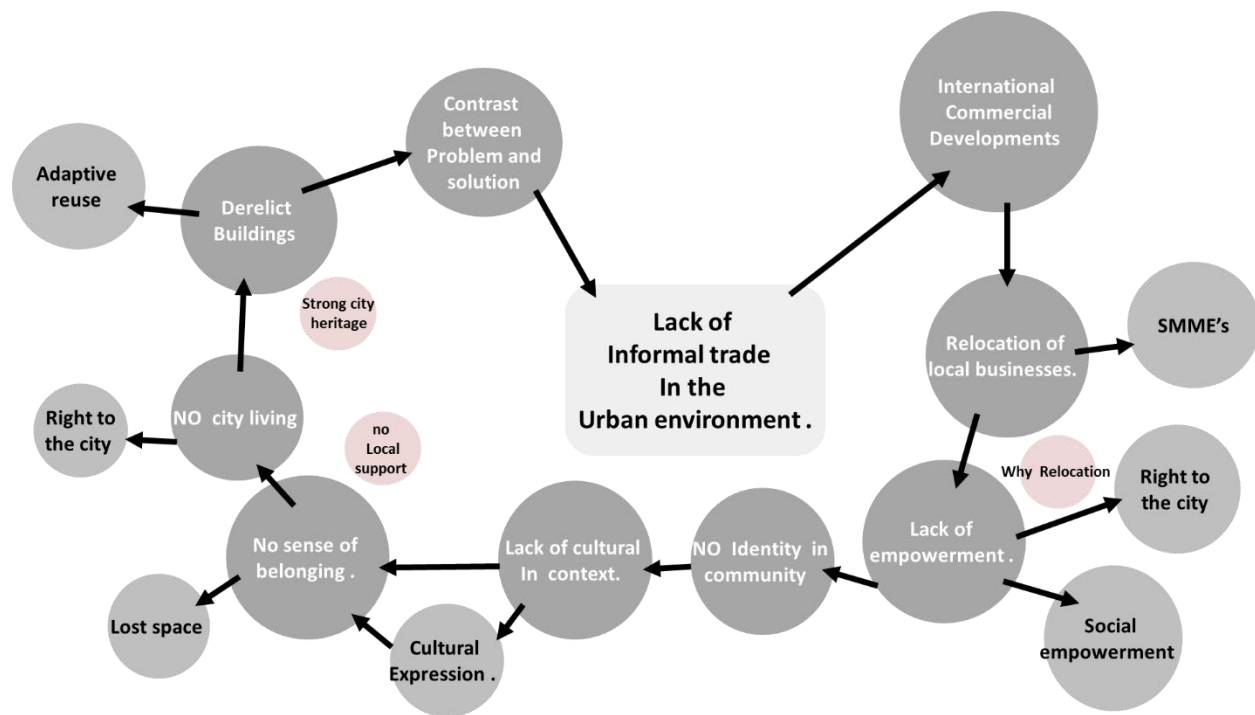


Figure 1: A visual breakdown of the problem and its flow.

1.3 SETTING SCOPE

1.3.1 DELIMITATION OF THE PROBLEM.

The dissertation will focus on the larger part of the Point informal traders, with the use of cultural expression to address the following principles.

- Identity,
- Economy
- Empowerment.

From a literature perspective, a narrative framework that links research from concept to physical form makes use of commonalities in qualities. The end product is assisted by this format.

This research study will promote culture upliftment when designing a globalised inner-city space that supports SMME's businesses. The areas of focus are on an undeveloped space whereby SMME's would congregate in the future of Durban CBD. Empowering people (SMME's) from a cultural point allows identity to make the city more inclusive and "home-like". The focus is on small businesses, which promote economic development and integration.

With great optimization, the result of the dissertation will bear relevance beyond the investigation. This study is a guideline for any topic with a similar situation with acknowledgment of contextual relevancies.

The aim wants to cover the majority of informal traders in the Point region, which could make it challenging to gather extensive data and perform in-depth analysis in a constrained amount of time. This sums up the overreach goals.

The process is structured into three parts:

- Social,
- In-between (Social & Architecture)
- Architecture.

1.3.2 DEFINITION OF TERMS.

- **Cultural Expression:** This is a collective view of the arts and other manifestations of human intellectual achievements. The cultural elements are the physical and non-physical, such as belief systems and commonly used signs and symbols with attached meanings within a given society.
- **Social Integration:** The process during which newcomers or minorities are incorporated into the social structure of the white and monied.
- **Integration:** They defined it as "a process of interpenetration and fusion in which persons and groups acquire the memories, sentiments and attitude of other persons and groups by sharing their experience and history and this is incorporated with them in common cultural life.
- **Urban Decay:** Urban rot is the term for this. It is the sociological process by which a formerly functional city, or a section of a city, degenerates, and decays.
- **Economic development:** Refers to long-term changes in systems of production and distribution of goods and services affecting human welfare. In contrast to 'economic growth,' it involves changes in the *form* as well as the *scale* of economic activity. In common usage, development is usually assumed to be a good thing.
- **Social Empowerment:** It is the process by which a person grows stronger and more self-assured, particularly in terms of taking charge of one's life and asserting one's rights. It is to alter social relationships, institutions, and discourses that exclude the poor, both individually and collectively.

1.3.3 STATING THE ASSUMPTIONS.

Architecture needs to play a role as a social element and expression of culture with people playing a design role. The word architecture is less important than its meaning (Bonta ,1976)

Ethnocentrism will dominate a cultural takeover of the Point Precinct due to its location.

Based on past historical events, values will be restricted by the dominant group who will impose their common values and ideas on the Point Precinct.

The focus is on a money-driven economy rather than on a social and cultural economy.

1.3.4 HYPOTHESIS

The architectural design of a business support centre will resolve the research problem by creating empowered spaces for SMMEs. Concerns would then trickle down to society and its confrontations with a covert police presence. Crime and lack of safety in the Point area might increase due to the previous stigmas of the apartheid past.

1.3.5 KEY QUESTIONS.

1. How can architecture assist informal trade in the urban environments?
2. How can architecture assist in cultural expression and social sustainability in the Point Precinct?
3. What drivers of social empowerment and economic communities exist in the Point Precinct?
4. How can people use spaces to socially express themselves in the urban context?
5. Which factors of globalisation help businesses in the Point Precinct?
6. How can adaptive reuse and architecture assist in creating spaces for SMME development?

1.4 CONCEPT AND THEORIES /LITERATURE REVIEW.

1.4.1 INTRODUCTION

Theories and concepts are meant to deepen our understanding of problematic structures and transform empowered places into assets for the city.

Theories should be assisted in finding how people should express and shape architecture in the built form.
People shape architecture...closing statement .

1.4.2 CULTURAL EXPRESSION

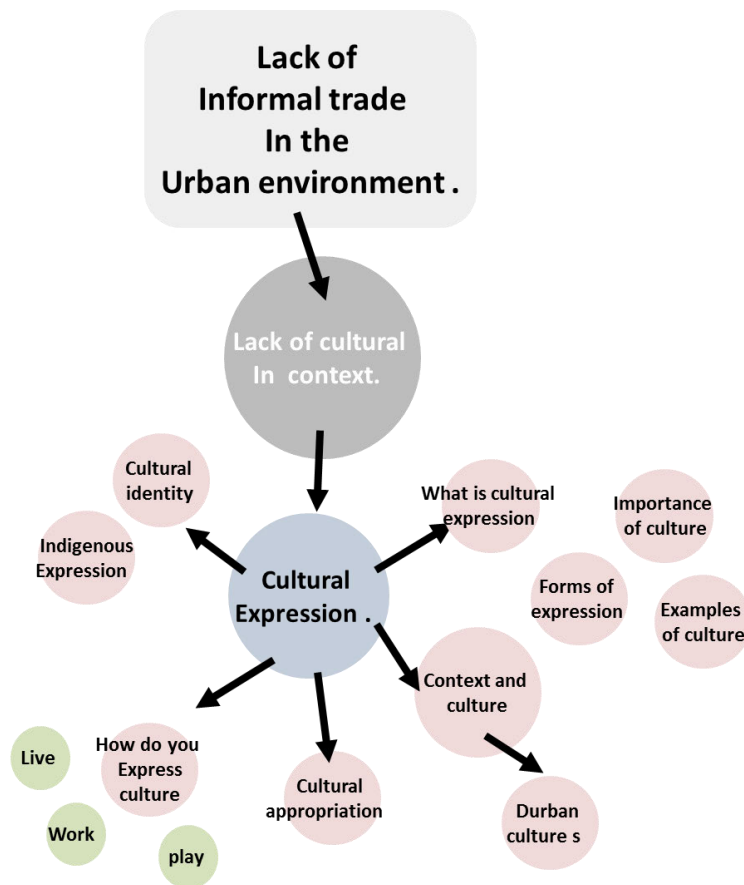


Figure 2: A visual breakdown of culture, social, Source: Author, 2022.

Culture is an organisational tool, which gives expression to a particular society, and it can be found in many outcomes, such as lifestyle, artistic sensibilities and social culture. *“It is built by the locals and reflects the needs, function, their culture, geographical location, historical context”*. (Andrew, 2014, p.42) There are various layers of culture that exist and certain characteristics from which they stem. Based on sociology, culture allows an overlap in social connections that promote order which in turn stabilizes society with its rules and regulations. However, South Africa and its apartheid policy have contextually divided cultures and a racial stigma in and around most South African cities developed. This led to cultural appropriation which affected the cultural development of the cities and emphasized the apartheid past. (Ndlovu, 2018, p.xx) Added to this, globalisation contributed to the potential loss of cultural identity in South African cities by empowering the racial (Black) minority group and disempowering the larger racial (white) majority group. The exchange of cultural values (apartheid) is facilitated by globalization, it allows people to communicate more with each other and learn about each other. However, it continues the dangerous loss of cultural identity. (Abad-Quintanal & Ramírez, 2018; Eldemery, 2009 , p.xx) *“The reason for using culture is to understand the Informal Traders and their cultural lifestyle in and around its context.”* Source: Author, 2022.



Figure 3: A comparison between Los Angeles and South Africa shows how globalisation has dominated international context- in a local based city design .

1.4.3 RIGHT TO THE CITY & SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT

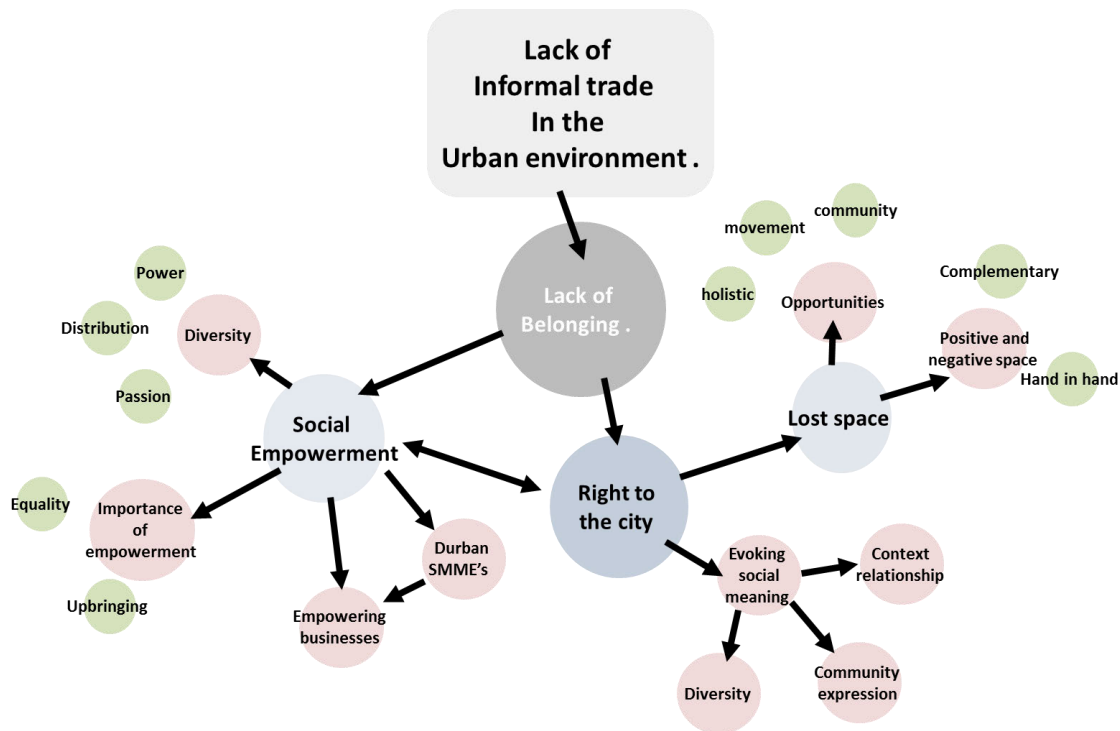


Figure 4: A visual breakdown of social empowerment, in-between

The informal economy (also known as informal trade) calls for urgent attention to realize urban rights (Huchzermeyer, 2014, p.14). With social empowerment, the vast disempowered majority will be encouraged to actively participate in the economy of the city thus bringing value to family and community. Business connections will change from new businesses to a more self-assured and independent economy thus allowing “poor people to think beyond immediate daily survival and to exercise greater control over both their resources and life choices”(Eyben.R 2008,p.4). Community engagement and social commitment is the foundation of the 'Sustainable Communities initiative. Community involvement fosters transformative relationships and increases ownership needed to build communities of sustainable opportunity. Engagement gives meaning and relevance to sustainable development goals (SDGs) to a wide range of stakeholders and fosters regional innovation in sustainable development through creative problem-solving(Bergstrom et al., 2014). The Right to the City, articulated by Lefebvre, empowers space through movement and community. This in essence improves engagement and a more holistic way by providing potential pathways and safe havens within the city (Lefebvre 1967 p.20).

David Harvey adds to that by saying: “More than only the right to use urban resources, it is also our right to alter the city in order to alter ourselves” (Harvey, 2008) (Maringanti, 2011, p.xx).

Space is essentially what architects design in or on, but space misused or neglected in the urban area is deemed Lost space. Thus, urban lost space is a common element to have in the globalised cities of today. Where capital moves major routes and neglects others, negative pockets within the larger communities are created. By engaging pioneers who empower a feeling of inclusion among the vast disempowered majority an inclusive culture will prevail. *“The reason for using right to the city is to understand how even the marginalized have a right to the city.” Source: Author, 2022.*

By avoiding the costly practice of the demolition and reconstruction processes, adaptive reuse, the practice of repurposing existing buildings, is crucial to the sustainable development of communities.

1.4.4 ADAPTIVE REUSE

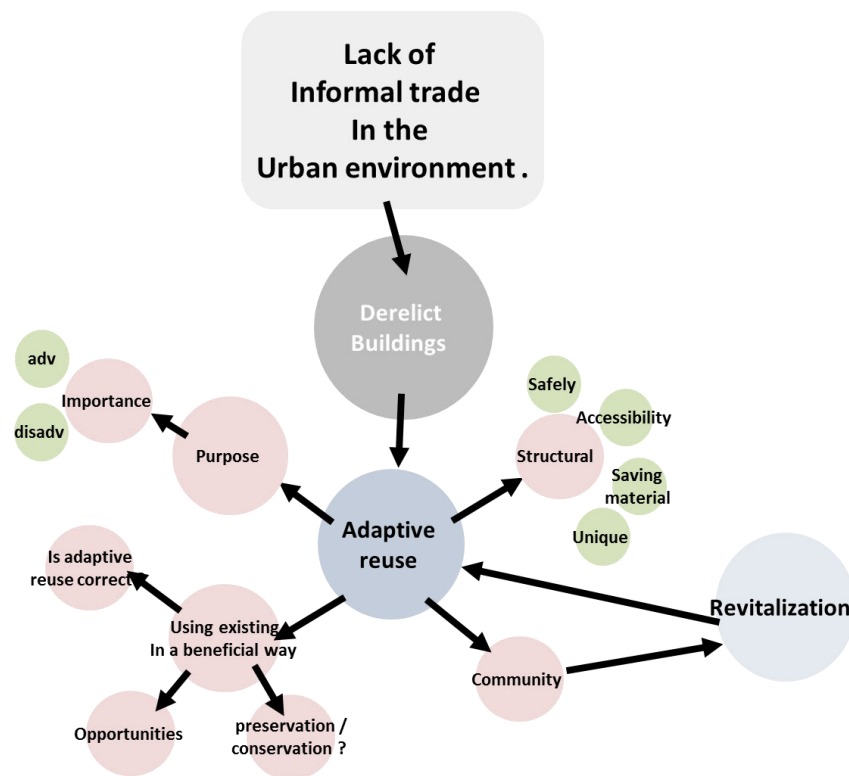


Figure 5: A visual breakdown of adaptive reuse architecture.

The primary reason why adaptive reuse is an important focus is that urban communities need space and structural growth. Adaptive reuse is a new way of developing isolated buildings that have become obsolete and by reusing “space”, opportunities are provided for the informal community to trade. Dated urban buildings require renewable energy and sustainability.

“An effective approach is adaptive reuse which benefits the embodied energy and quality of the original building dynamically and sustainably”(Latham, 2000) (Robiglio, 2016 p.xx).

Breaking down existing buildings and recreating something new does not only use a lot of energy, but also does not make economic sense. By developing an area its value will be uplifted and private investors will be encouraged to provide opportunities for SMMEs to develop and grow (Mısırlısoy & Günçe, 2016,p.38). Revitalisation is a tool that can be used to modify and enhance communities. Revitalisation promotes living and human principles that enhance a utopia-based society (Govender & Loggia, 2021; Mohamed et al., 2017, p.3). Adaptive reuse will encourage developers to combat gentrification by addressing the needs of local communities. Local culture promotes and invites urban landscapes. “It is good for local culture because the industrial legacy is part of the urban landscape” (Robiglio, 2016, p.xx). “The reason for using adaptive reuse is to understand how to reuse dilapidated buildings which will prolong their life span”.

1.4.5 SUMMARY

In conclusion, overlap theories will allow this constant flow from social to architectural with a cultural response. Social empowerment in its response addresses the small low-income business sector and states how one can climb the ladder in the economic field with the use of the spaces in the building design.

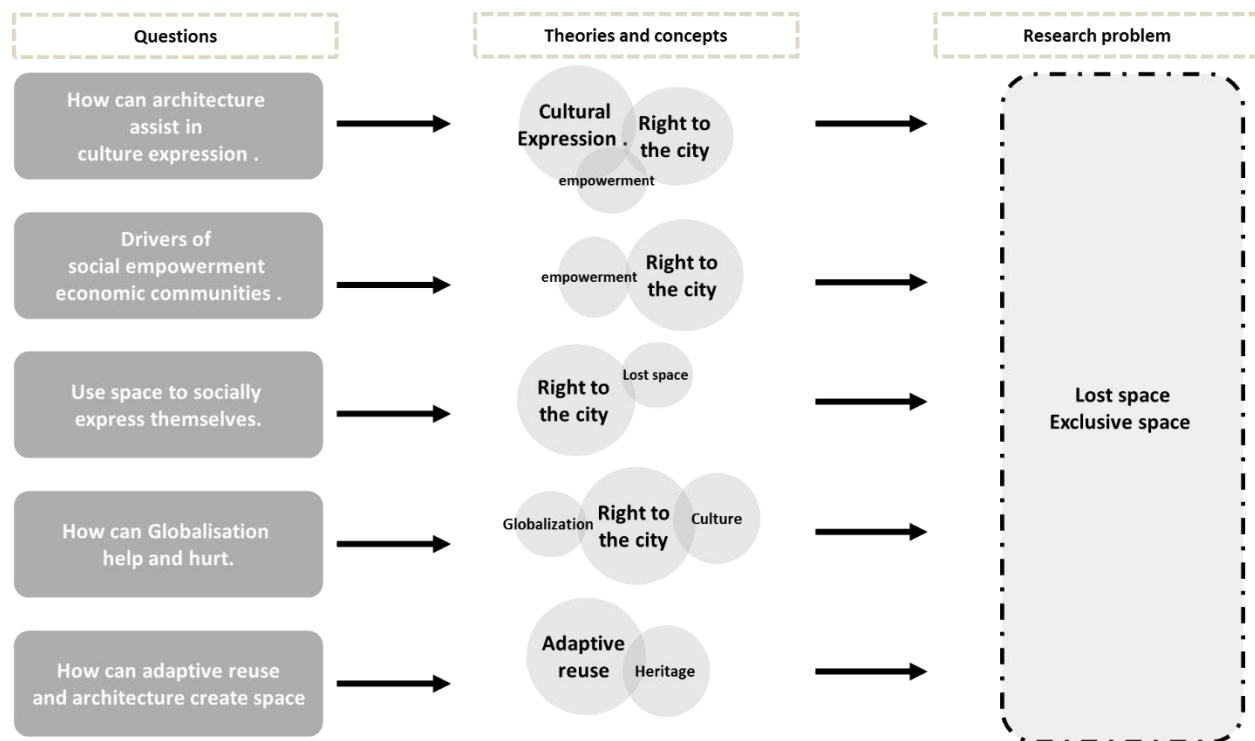


Figure 6: A visual breakdown of the theoretical framework and its flow.

1.5 RESEARCH METHODS AND MATERIALS

1.5.1 INTRODUCTION

This section describes the investigation, strategy, and method to be applied in this thesis. It illustrates the "constructivist" method of acquiring data and acknowledges the research's initial exploration techniques. (Bentley & Beckett, 1994, p.12)

The research study has direct interviews, contextual investigation analyses and data collection, which educates existing information from the point of reference (qualitative data). All knowledge collected will be constructed through personal engagement for contextual relevance. The accumulation and examination of data gives further clarity and a superior comprehension of the research question. (Dandekar, 2005)

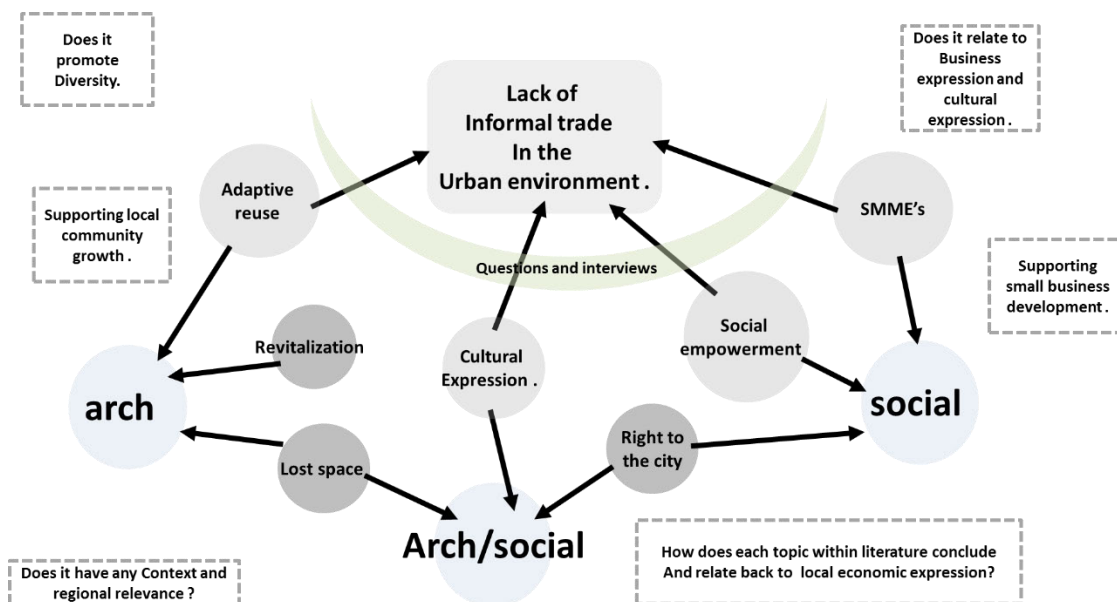


Figure 7: Research materials breakdown. Source: Author, 2022

1.5.2 PRIMARY DATA

This information provides first-hand experience of the research question and its characters (traders). The approached with the traders through an NGO (Asiye Etefuleni) to help with the language barrier. A constructive view and input, Gives a more recent take on the topic and its influences at the time. The study shows areas of social integration or lack thereof within the inner city, that will drive cultures to find a balance of common interests. Focus on theories and concepts has provided, the what, the why, the where, and how people and culture and buildings are connected.

The data is captured through:

- transcribed questionnaires,
- recorded interviews,
- observation to walk through.

Thematic analysis, which focuses on detecting, analysing, and interpreting patterns of meaning within qualitative data, will be used to analyse all data.. (Braun & Clarke, 2012, p.xx)

Questionnaires use personal NGO experiences from business and informal traders. Interviews will be addressed to Informal traders who have expertise with the local communities in the Point area. The type of traders interviewed range from those dealing in the various trades: E.g., medicinal, food, health, fresh produce and digital.

Focused interviews: Addressed to MILE organisation and municipality officials in a particular study area. Focused interviews will also be done with the NGO Asiye Etefuleni for their first-hand experience in working with traders.

An **observation list** includes the first-hand experience of visual structures and a sense of the derelict spaces in the Point Development.

The Watershed **case study** in Cape Town has been explicitly picked and is dependent on a criterion that tries to give a more noteworthy comprehension of the issues identified with the examination issue.

Field notes aid the design research in showcasing social empowerment within the urban context.

The **sample size** 6-10 local questionnaires for in the Point area, interviews with 2 professionals and 1 case study of relevance. This includes multi-diverse culture, which portrays a more accurate source of information as both males & females of varying ages inhabit this space and perceive it differently.

1.5.3 SECONDARY RESEARCH

This study consists of literature that focuses on and shows a greater understanding of the theories of the main research questions. The data is sourced from all kinds of literature and cross-referenced for acknowledgment. The data to be collected and tallied up to communicate the primary and secondary characteristics that rule each topic by summarizing the topic down to the research question based on the format.

This **literature review** investigates existing writings by an authority on the hypotheses and ideas. The structures are based on a conversational illuminate for different points of view and observations, which include that of the downtown locale to investigate each point with one another.

Precedent studies permit a basic route forward to answer comparable social conditions, which permit the connection to the related topic. The point is to cover the applied and hypothetical material examined. Data will be collected through capturing, sketches and key topics and this will aid the design research in the urban context. Relevant precedent studies are Philippi Village in Cape Town & Mason Bros Warehouse in New Zealand.

1.5.4 RESEARCH MATERIAL

To approach and facilitate the process of carrying out this study, secondary materials like books, journals, newspaper articles, research papers, internet searches, and archives to be utilized. This enhancing the studied theories and concepts and allowing designers and theorists to view them alive.

Materials related to the history and achievements of Durban will be collected in both secondary and primary data. Community research will be developed through existing studies in a similar area.

1.5.5 RESEARCH ANALYSIS

The analysis provides primary and secondary data which informs and deduces the answers to many problems and questions put forward. It now shows how the current environment, people, places and time also affect the current research topic. Viewing how theorists and designers studied specific topics will facilitate one's experience socially and culturally.

Based on the above, the research was done in the following manner.

- A walk that observed the context and community life of the informal traders,
- Local interviews that spoke true about the social issues and how they could be resolved,
- A case study that motivated renewal in a community,
- Precedence studies which linked international responses to the local issues of research context.

1.5.6 SUMMARY MATRIX

Research Topic: **Architecture as a Response to Informal Trade in Urban Environments.**

Towards a new SMME business hub in The Point Precinct, Durban, CBD.

	Setting	Objectives	Research Question	Data Sources	Sample size	Data collection methods	Data analysis method	Data presentation forms and style
1	Social People's perception of culture in a society of diverse views.	To investigate what spaces are needed to create social and cultural expression in Architectural design.	How can architecture assist in cultural expression and social sustainability in the Point Precinct?	The general public within the diverse mix Narrowing it down to a within-subject topic. Informal traders in the point area.	6-10	Questionnaires	Descriptive statistics Document analysis.	Table analytical charts. Narrative
2	-	To explore what social empowerment structures and economic structures exist in the Point Precinct.	What drivers of social empowerment and economic communities exist in the point Precinct?	Through journals and books.	2	Literature of theories.	Descriptive statistics	Themes, pictures, text & narrative.
3	In-between field : African architecture would connect the cultural gap.	To investigate what cultural expression and culture exist in the Point Precinct.	What spaces do people use to socially express themselves in the Point Precinct?	Through journals and books Professionals' opinions.	2 2	Literature of theories. Interviews	Thematic analysis Discourse analysis Document analysis	Themes pictures text narrative. Table analytical charts.
4	-	To explore what impact globalisation has on businesses and informal economies in the Durban CBD.	Which factors of globalisation help and hurt businesses in the Point Precinct?	Professionals' opinions. Published work, Journals, and newspaper articles	2 2	Interviews Literature of theories.	Thematic analysis Discourse analysis	Comparative analysis & narrative text.
5	Architectural field: The break-in architecture of cultures	To explore what buildings can be reused and adapted for economic sustainability.	How can adaptive reuse and architecture assist in creating spaces for SMME development?	Published work, Journals, and newspaper articles.	1 1 2	Literature of theories. Case study. Precedents studies.	Thematic analysis Discourse analysis	Comparative analysis Themes, pictures, text & narrative.

1.5.7 CONCLUSION

The research background aids the reader in concentrating on the particular topic and locating the important literature sources. As a result, throughout the research's later phases, certain sources will aid in focusing its attention. Each component will be guided by the three literary area categories that comprise the topic, culminating in a tripartite conclusion.

The results of this study will be useful for design, space requirements, accommodation schedules, urban response, and other architectural needs that are appropriate for the user's culture today.

CHAPTER 2.0

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In order to generate architecture that supports informal traders, for the economic development urban setting of KwaZulu-Natal, it is imperative to understand the traders and all elements of their beliefs, their rights and their required space.

The theoretical foundation that guided the study is covered in this chapter. The perception of the Durban's Point Precinct will be unpacked through examples and understanding of a contemporary city and the reuse of potential lost building space. The civic issues will justify and organize the research.

The research explores the principle of cultural expression and empowerment that helps the users to express themselves in the adaptive space within the city-built form. The research will review literature that supports this argument, whilst highlighting principles and shortcomings. Next, this will address the following inquiries that are limited to theories: How can architecture assist in cultural expression and social sustainability? What drivers of social empowerment and economic communities exist in the Point Precinct? What spaces do people use to socially express themselves? Which factors of globalisation help and hurt businesses? How can adaptive reuse and architecture assist in creating spaces for SMME development?



Figure 8: Theoretical Framework showing the visual collage of how traders, need of empowerment, a voice, right to the city and adaptive reuse.

2.1 REVITALISATION OF INFORMAL TRADE: CULTURE EXPRESSION.

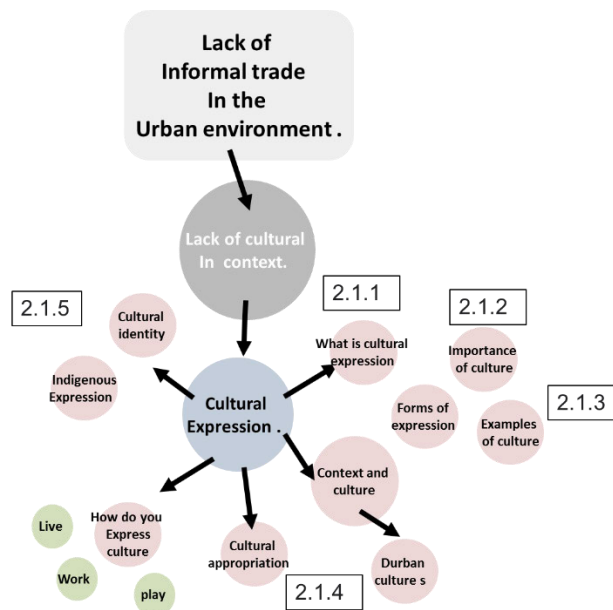


Figure 9: Cultural breakdown.

2.1.1 DEFINING CULTURAL EXPRESSION

Cultural expressions, which might include music, dance, art, designs, names, signs, and symbols, performances, ceremonies, architectural forms, handicrafts, and storytelling, among many other artistic or cultural expressions, are creative representations of cultural identities.



Figure 10: Belove demonstrates how artistic interpretations give culture significance and importance. <https://medium.com/meliora-magazine/the-ethics-of-cultural-expression>

These forms of expression are due to the creativity of individuals, groups and societies and have cultural content. Activities, foods, and materials items all linked to many cultural forms.

“Humans were constantly transforming the necessities of life into forms of artistic and cultural expression.” (Engberg & Bolter, 2014, p.xx)

Culture refers to a particular society's beliefs, practices, and aesthetics (Abad-Quintanal & Ramírez, 2018). Culture is a strong sense of self-honour that is ingrained in cultural tradition. The relationship between culture and expression defines the balance of outlets for creative connections. With that, the proper chances for creative expression, the subject matter and method of expression, the purpose of the many kinds of expression, and the types of people who choose or engage in the creative activity are all undoubtedly greatly influenced by cultural variables.

The first focus group Ndebele provides a basic example of culture. The tribes would theoretically and physically live according to their identities. The identity of the Ndebele people of South Africa describes culture and expression as an ongoing process, which sifts through the grids of historical forces, internally and externally throughout time and place.



Figure 11: Creative visual culture in the local Ndebele: <https://www.southafrica.net/za/en/travel/article/culture-and-expression>

In the figure above beadwork, murals and more concrete expressions of Ndebele identity and culture that have preserved a sense of belonging amid the perilous life they have had since the late 19th century include architecture and a particular fashion sense. Numerous Ndebele traditional practices have been retained as a result, and one of their icons even incorporates the South African flag's colours into some of their artworks(Ndlovu, 2008, p.4)



Figure 12: The Ndebele in comparison to South African vibrant colours . <https://www.southafrica.net/na/en/travel/article/culture-and-expression-of-identity-the-ndebele-of-south-africa>

The second focus group Indian culture was originated abroad and now represented in a more localized setting, Indian culture is also evident in South Africa, where it is conveyed via family, diversity, and unity, as

well as through the language, art, and scriptures. India is a multicultural nation where all groups live in harmony.



Figure 13: Religious and symbolic ideas dictated the colours, patterns, and shapes that were used. <https://www.southafrica.net/uk/en/travel/article/a-glimpse-into-durban-s-indian-culture>

The Indians of South Africa brought with them their rich history of delectable spices, culture, religion, fashion and art, but most significantly, they brought with them their humility, service to all people, lovely traditions, and commitment to hard work. The importance of religion and the unity of the world is expressed via the colourful festivals that are held throughout the year. Diwali a, Hindu celebration, is a celebrated holiday that represents their culture and traditions on a global scale.



Figure 14: Diwali a religious celebration and tradition that shows the rich identity of the culture <https://www.ilovedurban.co.za/durban-diwali-festival>

2.1.2 THE IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL EXPRESSION

One's culture is best expressed when it highlights a significant aspect of one's identity and values. Understanding cultural expression allows us all to pick elements of our culture that encourage self-awareness and insight as well as a greater understanding of our shared and unique characteristics. (Namarti, 2016) However cultural expression could be seen in different forms. They are Style - Image and Identity; Foodways - Culture and Cuisine; Artistry - Craftsmanship and Creativity; Language - Power of Word; and Movement - Gestures and Social Dancing. (Copeland, 2022 ,p.110-126)



Figure 15: Diagrammatic examples of cultural forms. <https://helpfulprofessor.com/material-culture-examples/>

Based on the forms of cultural expression, communication will enable interaction regardless of cultural differences. Self-expression techniques are demonstrated in the diagrams below.

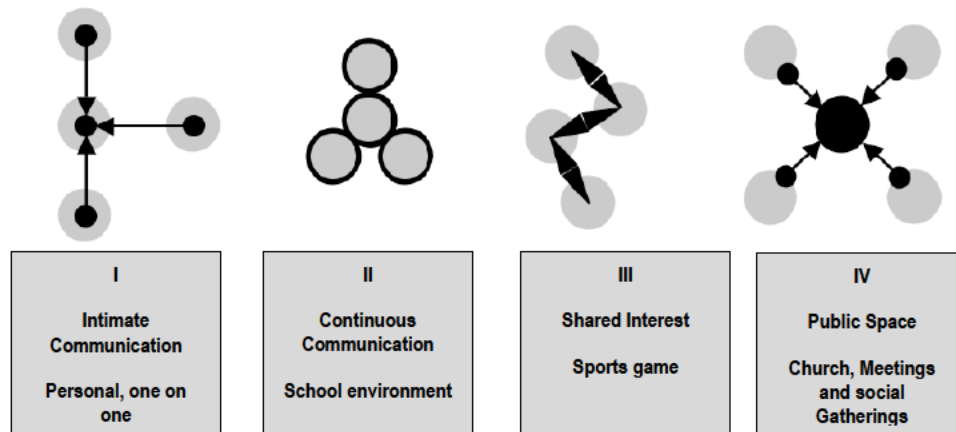


Figure 16: Self-expression, <https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Self-expression>

2.1.3 CULTURE IN ITS CONTEXT AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT.

The following are examples of traditional cultural norms. Norms are informal unwritten rules that govern social behaviour. The dominant language in Durban is English, though the cultural language is used when they interact with each other. In festivals music, food, sport and all traditional and international types dominate Durban. Religious and cultural fields are strongly seen in Rituals & Ceremony whereby you have public services that allow for social gatherings. Public Holidays allow cross-cultural togetherness. Durban City is also known for its food multicultural festivals ranging from Indian, Italian, Afrikaans, Portuguese and Zulu. One of the main visual views of culture comes from Architecture from the past era to the present, architecture has changed from Vernacular, Cape Dutch, Art Deco, Postmodernism and Modernism and architectural styles are still developing. The architecture speaks to the culture and the period and will constantly keep on developing.



Figure 17, 18, 19: Comparative view of Vernacular, Cape Dutch & Modernism Home eras.
<https://www.artefacts.co.za/main/Buildings>

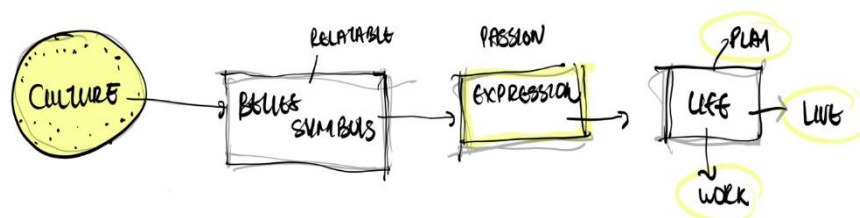


Figure 20: A sketch, understanding culture's true progression in a breakdown.

The context of a culture is the society in which an individual has grown and how culture influences behaviour. It consists of ingrained attitudes and beliefs that social groups hold in common. It encompasses norms, languages, conventions, ideas, and beliefs.

The South African Central Business District, CBD, has cultural groups of people living together in a more or less ordered community. These communities have created an environment suitable for them to live in.



Figure 21: Expression of Chinatown Streets In New York City – Chinatown

Using the figure above as a reference, Chinatown in New York City is an example of how a culture can represent a city. In the Western Hemisphere, Chinatown boasts the highest concentration of Chinese residents. Among the oldest Chinese communities outside of China is Manhattan's Chinatown. This space doesn't only just represent a city but also provides a space for a culture to grow. In addition to acting as a hub for new immigrants and a popular tourist site, Chinatown is a reminder of America's troubled past concerning its treatment of Chinese immigrants. As a result, Durban, a comparable city, has lost its sense of metropolitan life, both aesthetically and culturally. The city's wealth has moved north, causing the city to eventually expire. Similar to Chinatown, the abandoned and underutilized site offers a chance for development and expression of relief. One empty canvas in the point precinct provides for that perfect picture just like Chinatown.

The above reference portrays how cultural characteristics and examples of culture build, unify and empower a community. Space is designed to represent communities and encourage opportunities for growth and development. The Chinatown community is now re-identified as a town due to defined boundaries, local government and supported communities because it was due to their context that their culture influenced their environment. Because of behavioural differences that made it possible for immigrants to reside there, Chinatown has grown. The below quote shows how the behaviour of circumstances has impacted decisions for the future of the city.

“It is necessary to understand that cognition, motivation, emotions, and behaviour are shaped by individual cultural values and norms. The same behaviour has different meanings in different cultural contexts, and different cultural contexts promote different normative reactions to the same event.” (Laura M. Brady, 2019, p.2)

Chinatown is an empowered community that uses culture as a driver to create a town that is different from its location. In context, most cities develop due to functional reasons and in this case, most Chinatown

developments have typically been the result of large-scale migration to areas with little or no Chinese residents.

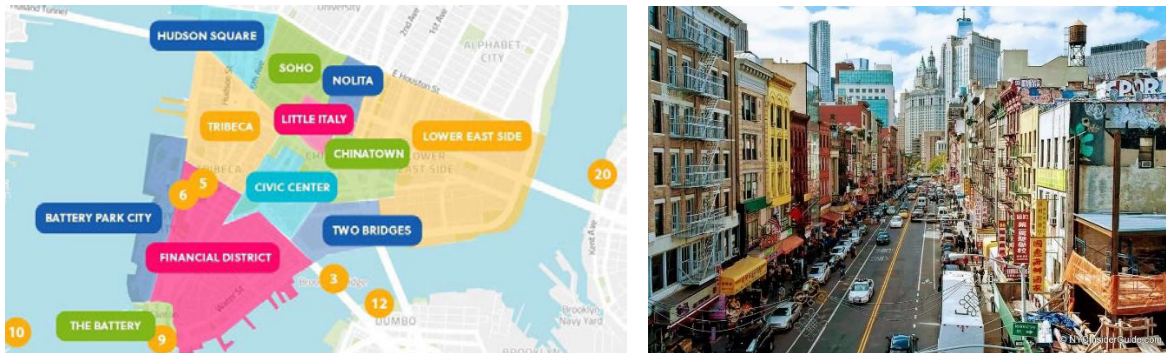


Figure 22: Context and Cultural overlaps of cultural spaces in one larger precinct, <https://loving-newyork.com/things-to-do-chinatown-nyc>

Using Chinatown as a reference, Durban's Point area is suitably placed for multicultural communities to enable growth and development in the city. For the communities to develop or exist, multicultural consumers need to connect with the cultural demands of the Point area. The notion that opportunities brought about by variety have a positive impact on the larger context and location.

The results suggest that the use of genuine cross-cultural cues communicated in a cultural context influences the underlying consumer decision-making process that affects the effectiveness of multicultural advertising practices. (Valbuena, 2018 ,p. 396)

The above quote that Valbuena states benefits the urban environment's ethos by empowering small-pocketed cultural communities.

2.1.4 CULTURAL IDENTITY WITH INFORMAL TRADERS

A cultural identity is an individual's identity or part of self-awareness. Self-awareness refers to any type of social group with a specific nationality, ethnicity, religion, social class, generation or unique culture.

Cultural identity is developed through a series of steps.

- Getting to know that culture's values, beliefs, and customs firsthand
- Claiming membership in that culture based on social standing
- Establishing connections with immediate relatives, close friends, coworkers, neighbours, etc.

Informal groups are characterized by personal relationships, communities of shared interests and social interests that arise in a workplace setting. Because of the decreased productivity of their economic endeavours, their salaries are lower and there are fewer social security benefits.

The value of creative human expression in modern culture is to learn who you are and where you are from by expressing yourself. These actions can benefit culture by teaching people how to communicate in different ways. (Valbuena, 2018, p.12)

The informal trader educates and empowers an urban community by expressing his/her own culture in different forms.



Figure 23, 24: Old Indian Market and Warwick Junction (Durban Public Market), <https://www.pps.org/places/warwick-junction>

In the figures above the images portray an urban community expressing its own culture. The old Indian market was known for its rich flavours, spices and import trade. From left to right the images portray how culture is intertwined with informal trade. The intention was to provide for the needs of the cultural communities, but over the years it also attracted traders of other cultural groups.

Informal trading is a daily activity of life in South African cities. The potential for local economic development is highly valued but is often emphasised over post-apartheid urban renewal plans. In the study, the case of the Khayelitsha Central Business District (KCBD) just outside Cape Town, was built as part of the mayor's urban renewal programme. This study, which is based on ethnographic fieldwork, explores the physical and symbolic spaces as well as day-to-day activities in this KCBD, showing how traders negotiate trade deals. Trading activities is a part of the ongoing development. What we observe are unofficial traders occupying a complicated area between their urban development initiatives and the state's impending urban renovation initiatives.



Figure 25: Khayelitsha Central Business District (KCBD) <https://journals.openedition.org/metropoles>

At the same time, informal traders create space by negotiating, tacitly intervening and self-managing to try to make a living and grow their businesses, while "waiting" for long-term opportunities for physical and entrepreneurial development. We can comprehend the typical day-to-day realities of merchants claiming rights in the city by focusing on these classic experiences and behaviours of street vendors in the KCBD. In this changing space, urban renewal is at odds with informal trade. These traders must speak up in this setting, hence such a study is important. (Broadway, 2017, p.62)

2.1.5 CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the findings state that culture refers to the symbols, language, beliefs and values that give an identity to a group of people in a particular society. Culture generates skills, products, expressions and insights that contribute to a community's social and economic well-being. Together with values, culture shapes economic development and beliefs. The city also poses the best opportunity for growth and support.

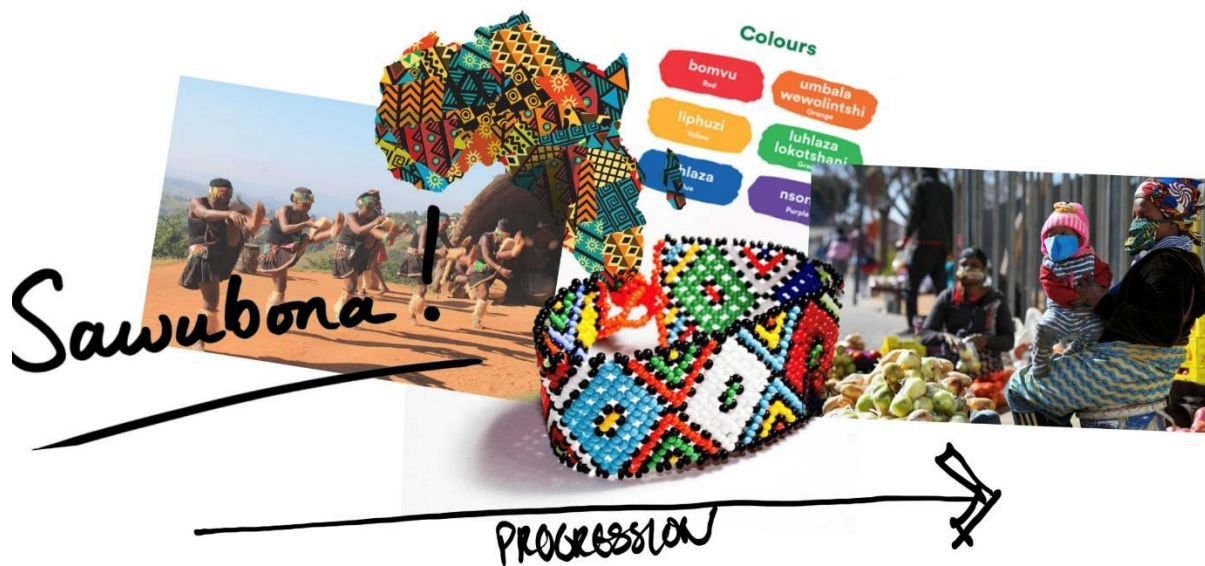


Figure 26: The broken progression, or lack thereof of culture in urban environments.

2.2 REVITALISATION OF INFORMAL TRADE: RIGHT TO THE CITY & EMPOWERMENT.

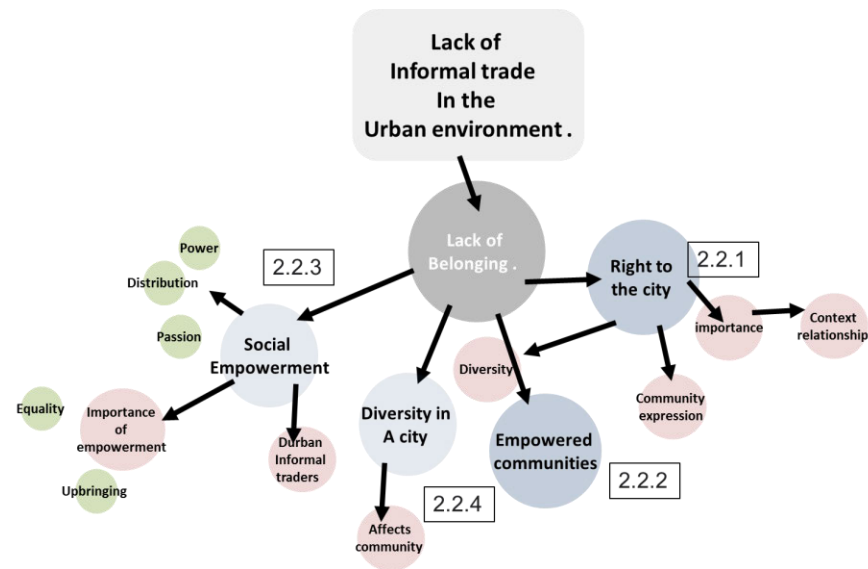


Figure 27: Right to the City Breakdown.

2.2.1 THE IMPORTANCE OF RIGHT TO THE CITY

A communal right to influence urbanisation and modify the city. (Seixas, 2021, p.xx)

...includes the freedom to alter the city to our liking in order to transform ourselves. Additionally, it is a collective right rather than an individual one (Harvey, 2008, p.32)

Right to the City (RTTC) entails the responsibility of all sectors' implementation, claim, protection, and promotion by the government and population of just governance and social function in all human settlements in the human rights environment (Ruggie, 2008, p.42). RTTC can also be seen as an urban environment that inspires ideas and opportunities for the development of society. It is a yell from urban residents who lack access to basic human rights, but it is also a demand from individuals who want to unleash their creative potential in a city environment.

“The nature of the trading sector is such that unless officials are orientated to be empathetic towards street traders, the risk of powerful officials mistreating powerless poor people is real” (Roever, 2016)no 76.

Contextually the local government/ municipality has a vital part to play. In times of apartheid, the law viewed independent vendors as a nuisance and frequently placed the blame on them for regulating street commerce in the service of traffic. In 1991, as part of the transition to regulate racial discrimination, Companies Act 71 of 1991 (Company Act), was surpassed. The Act was a "legitimate reversal" of a situation where traders who could not trade were allowed to trade freely (with some exceptions) (Howse, 2002, p. 23). As a result,

although local governments have a mandate to encourage and assist informal trade rather than to ban and regulate it there are several loopholes in existing policies and regulations, which protect autonomous cities rather than empower the informal traders with laws that focus their attention on what to do and what not to do.

Referring to the above statement suggests SALGA (South African Local Government Association) and municipalities nationwide should implement laws governing informal trade. Thus, SALGA and municipalities should understand their duties and obligations in a constitutional context by supporting the smaller cultural communities to govern themselves in a public space and environment. Eg: The Warwick Junction Community is an example of communities being socially empowered.



Figure 28, 29 30: Warwick community empowered opportunities with no civic support. <https://www.comminit.com/content/digital-mapping-warwick-junction-and-remaking-space-notes-south-africa>

Informal traders' say: They always tell us to "empower ourselves," but how can we accomplish that if they don't arm us? Even worse, we have no idea who oversees this region or who to contact for assistance. There is only so much our ward member can do, he adds when we speak with him. A more practical approach is required, along with some accountability and responsibility. You can't just walk in, write down our names, and leave. That shouldn't be how it works.

2.2.2 SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT OF COMMUNITIES

"How are we to empower ourselves if they don't give us the tools? They also need to be more accountability and responsibility must be taken, as well as a hands-on approach. " (Buckingham et al., 2016, p. 27-50)

Social empowerment means that all sections of society have equal control over their lives, can make important decisions and have equal opportunities. Without equal empowerment, a community may struggle to sustain economic progress in their lives.

Community empowerment entails collaborative efforts between indigenous communities and governments to establish priorities, enhance services, and successfully apply for financing at the regional level. Above all, it attempts to offer indigenous people (black) more ownership and a bigger role in choices that impact them.

With the South African context as a base, jobs are needed globally for new entrants to local markets. Rotary Services, an international corporation, engages in local communities to advance local economies by using sustainable development goals (SDGs). Every community has different needs and different development opportunities. The Rotary Services Corporation, RSC, not only empowered a community but also provided the necessary needs to impact and grow its economy.

Empowerment ranges from self-strength to efficiency in enabling communities to make positive decisions and change and helping them to achieve their goals and ambitions (Cobb, 2003, p. 15-38)

Rotary services' assessment revealed that the local economic and community development needs were to be evaluated. The conclusive results fell into the following 4 categories namely;

- Youth joblessness
- restrictions on agricultural prospects and livelihoods
- business obstacles
- a lack of resources to combat extreme poverty

These are the actions they took to achieve their needs

- Provided skills/ leadership training and job network to youth
- Provided microloans and financial literacy training to women entrepreneurs
- Identified local barrier barriers to agricultural opportunities/livelihood
- Adopted-a-village



Figure 31, 32, 33: Rotary, Adelante Foundation <https://rotaryserviceblog.org/2018/10/02/empower-your-community>

For Communities to progress successfully, sustainable development goals (SDGs) need to guide, develop and sustain the future of their economy. For the SDGs in South Africa to be successful, there must be

consultation with the community to update the laws (e.g. Right to the City theory), address issues, provide free basic needs and allow support for individualism through education and equipment.



Figure 34: Sustainable Development Goals <https://www.distell.co.za/Sustainabilityempowering-communitie/>

Community engagement is the foundation of the 'Sustainable Communities' initiative, thus fostering the transformative relationships and increasing ownership which is needed to build communities of sustainable opportunity. Community engagement deepens the innovative, silo-breaking partnerships that characterize the program by linking community concerns to decisions to allocate local and regional public investment funds. Engagement gives meaning and relevance to SDGs to a wide range of stakeholders and fosters regional innovation in sustainable development through creative problem-solving.(Bergstrom et al., 2014)

The informal traders' sector is in close connection with one SDG goal, - **“SDG 8.3. Enterprises Including Access to Financial Services”**. But indirectly, many additional SDGs focussed on poverty (SDG 1), gender equality (SDG 5), equality (SDG 10), institutions (SDG 16) and partnerships (SDG 17). The SDG aims at the gradual formalisation of the informal economy. The central goal for sustainable development is to leave no one behind and to create a standard that resonates with billions of informal workers around the world. SDGs that address work shortages in the informal economy allow the informal workers to escape situations of poverty.

2.2.3 RTTC EMPOWERING INFORMAL TRADERS

Right to the city theory is an agreed human right that obligates the city/SALGA/ municipalities to provide opportunities for social development in all-inclusive communities. (Grady, 1995, p. 5)

In the present era, informal traders negotiate their ways of doing business in a constantly evolving landscape. However, in reality, informal traders operate in a confusing environment, stuck between proprietary and state-

pending urban regeneration projects. At the same time, To protect their livelihoods and expand their enterprises, traders carve out their own territory by haggling, infiltrating stealthily, and governing themselves, while "waiting" for long-term development opportunities. It is difficult to empower any community where poverty, lack of education, gender-based violence, lack of safety conditions, etc exist.

Warwick markets is a memorable cultural experience of nine distinct markets. Every market is empowered through a local community's needs. When the transportation function of the Berea station helps the secondary purpose of trade, that is an example of cooperation between the informal and formal market sectors.



Figure 35, 36, 37, 38: Warwick junction trade Vs empowerment. <https://www.marketsofwarwick.co.za/berea-station>

2.2.4 DIVERSITY IN A CITY (DIVERSITY)

South Africa is known as the rainbow nation, Desmond Tutu States, a moniker that accurately describes the ethnic and cultural variety of the nation. South Africa has one of the most complex and diversified populations in the world. Of the 60,14 million South Africans, 79.4 % are Black African, 9.2 % are shown as White, 8.8 % are seen as coloured and 2.6 percent viewed as Indian or Asian. (Gomez, 1998, p. 191–207)

The key to improving the quality of life in cities is to create an “urban diversity”. This means that promoting diversity of type and size of enterprises and establishments, cultural activities and institutions, and economies is mutually beneficial. (Nyden, Maly & Lukehart, 1997, p. 491-529)



Figure 39: Welbedacht is home to Black, Indian, White and Coloured residents' community
http://www.wzd.cz/zoo/AF/ZA/ZN/ushaka_marine_world/za_zn_durban

Participation in urban living spaces builds diversity through a real economy and social identity and this is referred to as urban diversity. It's all about balance. People are busier than ever. They find a way to balance work and family pressures with the importance of physical and mental well-being.

Ushaka Marina is the host of robust regional design features that, in contrast to more global and technologically complex themes, offer the opportunity for cost reductions while also giving the park a distinctively Durban flavour. Indigenous and ethnic elements are used throughout the overall design in terms of colour, construction materials, organisation, and aesthetics. The Location and design serve the community to enhance the area's representation of the district. (Steyn, 2018,p. 6-57)



Figure 40: Ushaka diverse ethical planning. <https://ushakamarine.com>.

Markets, playgrounds and parks which border different diverse communities in public places in a city are means of boosting social diversity. (Lande, 1996,p. 116-165) A diverse environment has several advantages for personal growth. Not only will it become more accepting and aware of other cultures, but it will also help shatter stereotypes. Diversity and inclusion lead to productivity, exponentially expanding our ability to learn and grow from each other. A great example of markets and playgrounds is the Durban promenade where the main goal was to tear down dilapidated buildings so that the oceanfront site lines could be cleared and made welcoming creating a space for playgrounds and markets to emerge.



Figure 41, 42, 43: Live work play Durban's diversity, active lifestyles enhance the socailty . <https://theculturetrip.com/africa/south-durbans-beachfront>.

2.2.5 CONCLUSION

The data indicates that community involvement, which gives meaning and relevance to SDGs, is the foundation of the 'sustainable communities' initiative, thus fostering the transformative relationships and increasing ownership which is needed to build opportunities for sustainable communities. We also noted that Right to the City protects and empowers citizens with opportunities to develop “cultural communities” which are sustainable and this in turn leads to the inclusion of social diversity that encourages productivity and growth in the community.



Figure 44: Conclusion collage showing the sustainable goals and community .

2.3 REVITALISATION OF INFORMAL TRADE: ADAPTIVE REUSE.

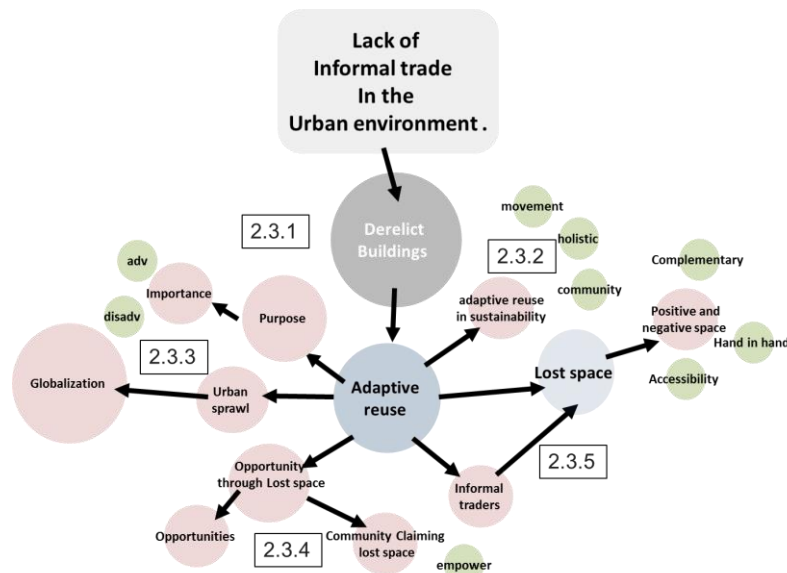


Figure 45: Adaptive reuse breakdown.

2.3.1 ADAPTIVE REUSE IN ARCHITECTURE AND ITS PURPOSE

An emerging architectural strategy known as "adaptive reuse" provides a method to give vacant old structures new life (Langston et al., 2008, p. 6-16).

Because it protects and restricts urban sprawl, preserves cultural heritage, and establishes a new community landmark, adaptive reuse is crucial for a community.

...defines adaptive reuse as a form of sustainable urban renewal to extend and renovate the building's life instead of demolishing or destroying it, as well as, such process would have social, environmental and economic profits for the whole world (Yung & Chan, 2012, p. 4-17).

Adaptive reuse is a method of historical protection used in communities with historic structures to rehabilitate culturally significant sites that have been neglected or destroyed to make room for new construction.

The expansion of urban developments on undeveloped territory next to a metropolis is known as urban sprawl. Urban sprawl developments create a discontinuous, anarchic, uncoordinated, unplanned, or poorly planned urban and South African city context. It is characterized by low density, excessive land consumption, dependence on automobiles, fragmentation of land uses, social segregation and unsightly beauty.

Adaptive reuse architecture serves a purpose and is frequently breathtakingly beautiful. For instance, the Bankside Power Station building, which once hosted the Tate Modern Art Gallery in London, is currently

vacant. The construction team used an adaptable strategy to build a distinctive and stunning art gallery. It has since become the city's new cultural landmark.



Figure 46, 47, 48: Adaptive reuses as a community beacon <https://www.viator.com/en-ZA/tours/London/The-Tate>

The significance of this trend is that reducing material, transport, and energy use as well as pollution, increases the fundamental ideas of sustainability. (Gregory & Downs, 2008, p. xx)

2.3.2 THE ROLE OF ADAPTIVE REUSE IN SUSTAINABILITY

“a procedure that keeps as much of the initial framework as possible while improving its performance to meet modern standards and evolving user requirements” (Latham, 2000, p. 45-120)

If one of the sustainability goals is continuous improvement, refurbishing and reusing old buildings is one way to achieve it. Buildings are recycled through rehabilitation, which includes renovation and new construction. (Bullen, 2004) Adaptive building reuse plays a significant contribution to the long-term development of communities by avoiding the wasteful process of demolition and reconstruction. Just that comment alone, illustrates the advantages of adaptive reuse.

Contextually southern African cities have decayed due to the urban sprawl with the private sector (economic hub) relocating to the outskirts of the city. Urban sprawl is not a desirable consequence from an environmental, social, or economic perspective, according to studies on its effects (Ramachandra & Kumar, 2009).

2.3.3 URBAN SPRAWL & GLOBALISATION IN CONTEXT

There are several notable similarities and distinctions between urban sprawl in the global north (“Developed Countries”) and the global south (“Developing Countries”). North of the World, dubbed the “western model,” auto-centric suburban development is the hallmark of urban sprawl, consisting primarily of single-family homes and highway-side infrastructure. Urban sprawl in the South globally is likely to exhibit these features, especially in urban areas with vibrant car-owning middle-class populations, seeking a developed quality of

life in the suburbs. This is often associated with the middle-class urge to escape urban poverty. However, cities in the global south e.g. South African cities, also experience urban sprawl, dominated by informal areas, high density, unplanned settlements, and slum-like conditions. It is not unexpected that the precise characteristics and causes of urban sprawl vary between the Global North and the Global South given the lack of a generally accepted definition (Barrett, 2000; Bullen, 2004).

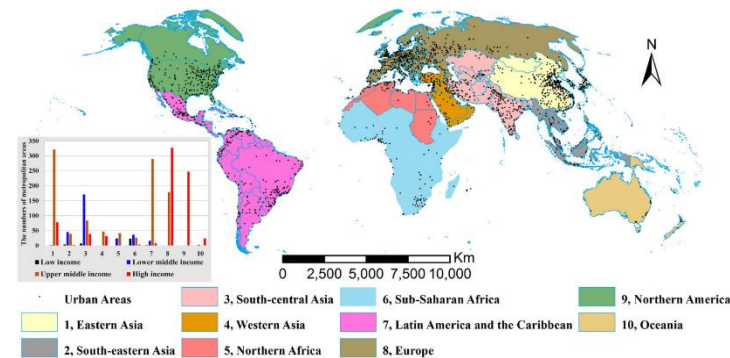


Figure 49: South vs north urban sprawl showing on a world scale . <https://ascelibrary.org/doi>

Globalisation has increased the economy's productive capacity by expanding production options and decreasing production costs, Economic globalisation has also resulted in an increase in immigration, which allows for cross-cultural diversification (Bond, 2004).

Regarding urban growth, South Africa is one of the most developed nations in Africa as a result of this urbanisation process (within the limitations of functional urban grouping). South Africa in international commercial standards, contributes to foreign business strategies, as they do everywhere else, to the strengthening of the metropolitan level of the hierarchy (especially Johannesburg but also Cape Town) (Vacchiani-Marcuzzo, 2010,p. xx).

Nevertheless, the notion of 'informal trade as urbanism' may toil within the current planning model and also within the financial and social logic of municipal authority in South Africa.

South Africa witnessed a proliferation of legislation and spatial policies to limit urban sprawl and contain the physical expansion and development of urban areas during the last two decades in response to exponential post-apartheid urbanisation (at a National legislative level see inter alia the Development Facilitation Act (1995), the National Development Plan (2013) and the Integrated Urban Development Framework (2016), but the measurement of the successes or failures of these instruments has remained a largely unattainable goal.(Musakwa & Van Niekerk, 2014, p. 59)

In South Africa, in the course of the spatial history of apartheid, city areas took on the spatial form of single-core cities with extensive peri-urban growth, either in the method of suburban development or as an outcome

of post-apartheid programmes for example reconstruction and development programmes (1994) which encouraged the construction of single-family housing units for low-income societies on affordable land around cities to address the pressing housing scarcity (Horn, Ellen & Schwartz, 2014). This has always contributed to urban sprawl, and although this programme has now been abandoned, With more migrant workers living in the suburbs and on the outskirts of cities, South Africa's urban districts continue to trend toward lower-density housing complexes.(Harrison & Harrison, 2014,p.61-69).

The city centre has traditionally been a major destination for migrants from other provinces, who come from poor families seeking employment and proximity to the labour market and environmental assets. The selected outer Urban Edge Guidelines state that ` The edges of cities are being surrounded by sizable low-income communities, which puts unrealizable demands on service providers and intensifies environmental strain. Gated communities that house the more upper-class are developing in exterior areas taking the economic wealth away from the city centre (Horn, Ellen & Schwartz, 2014, p.61-69).

2.3.4 LOST SPACE & OPPORTUNITY

Lost space is unused sunken space away from urban pedestrian movement or is above-ground parking lots that surround the heart of nearly every city, breaking the link between commercial centres and residential areas. They are uninhabited lands at the end of the highway that no one cares to maintain or use. (Trancik, 1991, p.176)



Figure 50, 51, 52: Lost abandoned opportunities. http://www.iolproperty.co.za/durban_needs_to_address_derelict

Lost spaces can be created and controlled into good, useful places despite being labelled as negative spaces. A factor limiting urban sustainability is lost space. To restore lost spaces, significant efforts are required(Tharziansyah, Sarbini & Nurfansyah, 2021, p.xx).

By reclaiming these abandoned sites as development opportunities and integrating them into the city's historic fabric, we may regain these lost spaces. It is possible to create useful open spaces from existing public plazas, streets, and parking lots that are now dysfunctional and incompatible with their surroundings. during south african apartheid in the point area, abandoned spaces were created due to single functional

usage eg: parking lots. These areas can be planned and developed in a way that will encourage visitors to return to the centre. Local governments might distribute funds to encourage private investment through "enterprise zones" and other community development programs by recognising lost spaces in the city as chances for innovative infill. The photo below depicts how 8 Morrison Street reused lost space to better serve the surrounding community, allowing the community beacon to thrive for new opportunity revitalisation.



Figure 53, 54, 55: 8 on Morrison. <https://www.coworker.com/south-africa/durban/eight-morrison-street>

To prevent the physical structure of the city from being divided by zoning or a dictatorial traffic system, it is essential to design locations where individual buildings are merged with outdoor public space (Trancik, 1991, p.176).

2.3.5 INFORMAL TRADE AND LOST SPACE

Low earnings and low expectations, as well as the government's and the official business sector's inadequate capacity to provide enough employment opportunities for persons of working age, are two of the primary drivers of informal trade in South African cities. As a result of this, the informal street vendor industry contributes significantly to the South African economy's safety net for millions of unemployed individuals. However, there are several issues with unofficial street trade (Dewar, 2005; Willemse, 2011.p.xx). An insecure work environment has been described for informal employment. Informal workers are individuals without a formalized contract of employment, who are not registered for income tax or value-added tax, and who do not receive from their employers any fundamental benefits like pensions or medical assistance contributions.

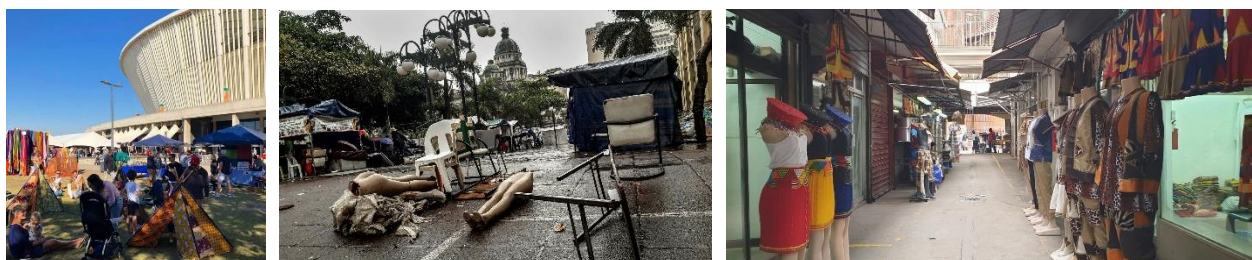


Figure 56, 57, 58: Lost space Repurposed <https://www.dreamstime.com/victoria-street-market-durban-ajmera-arcade-city>

Shown in the above images are market movements that potentially develop lost space to allow for new openings. According to Dewar, some see it as “a symptom of underdevelopment and an issue that needs to be addressed, yet many view it as a favourable dynamic that enables them to establish a presence in the metropolitan economy. In most of Africa and many emerging nations, the informal economy plays a significant role in creating jobs for people (Dewar, 2005).



Figure 59, 60: Deregulate business activities within the trade sector. <https://www.iol.co.za/ethekwini-municipality-throws-looted-informal-traders>

During the apartheid years, anti-street trading has been used to dampen street trading in South African cities. Post-apartheid governments have taken important steps to deregulate business activities and remove obstacles to how informal activities are carried out. Deregulation keeps going, but the emphasis has slightly shifted to significant economic developments – providing funding and jobs for the underprivileged while regulating unregistered commerce, land allocation, operating costs and charters to improve (Skinner, 2008, p.54).

The informal sector contributes significantly to the South African economy, with an estimated 2.2 million people employed in the informal sector in 2010. (Quantec Research, 2011). An estimated 46,000 additional people entered the sector in the first quarter of 2011. Yet, 25% of the nation’s workforce remains unemployed (Statistics South Africa, 2011: VI)(Horn, 2011,p.16).

The informal sector is heavily reliant on opportunities that promote collective, intuitive bargaining. Because there is a lack of institutional capital, many street trade firms are founded on personal credit through social networks like friends and family. Informal trading on the streets serves as a survival, desperation and coping strategy for the poor to avoid hunger & poverty by generating limited income. The ability for traders to create profits that they otherwise would not have been the most significant benefit. Another is how the unorganised sector helps to create more jobs. The biggest disadvantage is that traders are still caught in the poverty trap due to no growth and progression as a traders.

2.3.6 CONCLUSION

The studies show that urban sprawl is undesirable from an environmental, social, and economic standpoint but adaptive reuse counteracts urban sprawl/urbanisation and it also extends the useful life of existing structures and promotes sustainability by reducing material, helping lessen transportation and energy use and pollution. From a sustainable point of view, adaptive reuse also plays an important role in communities by retaining cultural heritage.



Figure 61: Representation of Adaptive Reuse Space with sustainability and reuse .

2.4 CONCLUSION OF THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In the literature cited in this chapter, it is discussed how cultural identity, sustainable development, and the built environment are typically related. Even if poor infrastructure and poverty dictate the reality of informal settlements, the local government can help these groups empower themselves by utilising urban waste space and adaptable environments.

Although informal traders deal with poverty and many SDGs, the government still needs to understand their constitutional duties and obligations by assisting smaller informal communities to govern themselves in a public space and environment.

Due to government failure, communities need to overcome socio-economic structures and institutions to ensure their well-being. Understanding people in their context prevents problems they face and celebrates human diversity. Community architecture drives a community and its self-reliance technique, mobilising community resources available to the community to support its own functional needs. Social goals may be attained by involving and engaging the community.

From the concluding statements in each of the literature subheadings above, have characterized the subheadings into key pointers as seen below:

- **Culture**
 - Symbols, Language, Beliefs and Values
 - Identity
 - Culture generates skills
 - Culture shapes economic development and Beliefs
- **Right to the city**
 - Community engagement
 - Sustainable communities
 - Empowers citizens
 - Builds opportunities
 - Social Diversity
 - Productivity and Growth
- **Adaptive reuse**
 - Urban sprawl is undesirable
 - Extends the useful life
 - Promotes sustainability
 - Lessens energy use and Pollution
 - An important role in communities
 - Retaining cultural heritage

In conclusion, this literature review proves that the problem statement “**Architecture as a response to informal trade in the urban environments**” is vital in promoting/ providing the informal community with the means to develop and grow their economic wealth.

CHAPTER 3.0

PRECEDENT STUDIES

3 PRECEDENT STUDIES

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The two previous studies that were chosen in response to the study question, theoretical framework, and literature review are reviewed in this chapter. The findings from the prior research provide evidence in support of the issues previously covered in the literature study and will aid in the design development.

The precedents show how they relate to the research question regarding “How can architecture assist informal trade in urban environments?”

The selected case studies, which are given below, respond to the culture, empowerment, social opportunities, and adaptive space of informal traders.

- **Philippi Village**, Trader's Market, Cape Town, South Africa
- **Marson Bros**, Office complex, Auckland, New Zealand.

The sub-concepts created in Chapter 2 have been used to analyse the precedents. It is envisaged that the examples would provide insight into how design may support and improve informal community development. The rationale behind the **Philippi Village** is its design for informal traders and their empowerment in South Africa. **Marson Bros** was a phenomenological design on urban principles that support community.

3.2 PHILIPPI VILLAGE

Architects: Philip Briel

Location: South Africa, Cape Town

Year: 2005 Ongoing

Typology: Trade market, Business hub-centre



Figure 62, 63: Philippi Village location.

3.2.1 INTRODUCTION AND JUSTIFICATION

This precedent isn't just a building but a space. The goal was to create a place where individuals could go to work and get inspired. An actual illustration of the notion that beautiful new things can be made in ruined and abandoned areas is provided by the artful insertion of the wreckage from the demolished factory onto the walls of the new structure. This precedent location came from analysing the urban fabric and finding a site location that promoted urban revitalisation.

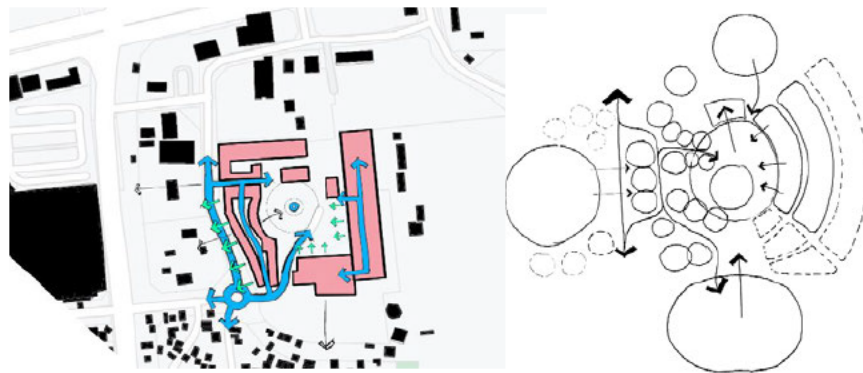


Figure 64: Movement plan and public space

Philippi Village, aspires by offering the kind of A-grade office setting you'd anticipate in the buzz of Cape Town's trendier urban locations, to alter how local business is conducted in the area.

The objective of connecting with its surroundings is crucial for Philippi Village. The village focuses on community needs by making walkways and this, in turn, seeks to provide economic wellness, passive surveillance in the village and frequently mediated negotiations for safety with community partners have led to promoting occupations that are paramount in the creation of safety.



Figure 65: Community Partners. <https://www.philippivillage.co.za/about-us/>

3.2.2 CULTURALLY EXPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

Their vision's goal is to work collaboratively to create the most meaningful collective impact. We are designing a community hub with the people and partners who use the space. We can reimagine, test, adapt and create a place that is relevant, inclusive and welcoming (Reynolds, Gonzalez-Roundey & Meier, 2016, p. 23-67).

Along with these, there are some organisations with similar goals: to improve the lives of the residents in the neighbourhood. Abalimi Bezikhaya, an opportunist who assists urban micro-farmers, and the African Café are examples of providing for the community (Brown-Luthango, 2013, p. xx). The conglomeration of diverse, culturally rich business enthusiasts. Intending to create a safe space for one to explore one's unique entrepreneurial perspective the vision.

It's a culturally expressed space whereby business motivates a diverse setting and allows everyone to express himself in a safe and unique environment. The village perceives the space as a communal vantage point, which is represented both externally and internally as that type of cultural relevance.



Figure 66: Cultural expressed patterns. <https://www.philippivillage.co.za/about-us/>

The above and below figures shows how patterns and symbols of culture are represented in the community. This way of designing not only gives an identity to the village but allows the community to express itself visually in a space that enhances its culture. The concept of reviving a structure that has been utilized as a prospective upgrade gives the neighbourhood a sense of belonging through cultural ties. Community expression merges with the society is seen in and around the building and with the.



Figure 67: Community expression - identity. <https://sujean.co.za/project/philippi-village>

3.2.3 SOCIALLY EMPOWERED ENVIRONMENTS

Philippi village is part of a larger community, with community involvement, investments are attracted to create jobs and advance skills. Central to the programs is the creation of significant catalytic sectors in the region that the Philippi Economic Development Initiative (PEDI) is working on. The PEDI aspires to transform Philippi into a thriving urban centre where companies choose to invest and thrive, and where people like to live, work, and play a fully sustained community.



Figure 68, 69: PEDI developments. Engaging communities. <http://pedi.org.za/who-we-are/>

Philippi Village is a good example of a sustainable community, which is in the development plan of PEDI. The reason behind that is based on the different typologies that complement a village/ city/ district/ area. The Village's plan to become a creative space in the larger community an area known as the Village Square, which will hold food outlets and provide green areas for socialising and relaxing, will eventually be created, along with a residential component, a light industrial zone, and a place where people assemble for more than simply doing business. The plan will turn other run-down buildings on the land into a welcoming area for Philippi.

We provide spaces for sports activities, art exhibitions, educational outreach, and recreational activities for the local community by empowering local entrepreneurs to seek personal and economic development. <http://pedi.org.za/philippi-village-rises/>



Figure 70: Community master plan. Giving back to the people of the area.

PEDI will develop a strategy to foster dialogue and build partnerships between all parts of the community and help Philippi emerge from the rut it has been left in for decades as a result of the divisive spatial planning of apartheid. They think Philippi can serve as a prime example of how underprivileged areas in South Africa might develop into thriving economic hubs , Benefits contributing to development and well-being; drawbacks contributing poverty and criminality. PEDI not only empowered the community but also used relatable and cultural names for spaces like “village centres”, which incorporated elements of colour, pattern, traditional food and public space.



Figure 71, 72: Public space and colours to show cultural diversity. Responsive architecture

A Container Walk, a stealthy and concrete walkway that mimics a mall construction in the most economical area., will open in Philippi Village and be integrated into the community. 24 restored shipping containers will be made available to small businesses in a designated precinct during this phase, which will act as a trial run for a bigger Container Walk. The shipping container design is currently in production and was necessary to give business owners versatility in how they configure their premises on their own. Traders have been empowered through a community project which will enable community growth and productivity in the future.

3.2.4 RESPONSIVE ARCHITECTURE

“Adaptive reuse counteracts urban sprawl/urbanisation and it also extends the life of existing buildings”. Philippi village was once an old abandoned cement factory premises that have been repurposed to the requirements of the neighbourhood community. This development revived the heritage and legacy of the old cement factory through adaptive reuse. The cement factory and the container walk have proved to be sustainable and effective in adaptive reuse.



Figure 73, 74: cement factory and the container walk. <https://cleancookingrevolution.com/philippi/>

The figure above shows how adaptive reuse reclaims public space as a source of release & recreation for the community. A basketball court, a 5-a-side football pitch, a BMX cycle track, a jogging track, a library, a sewing school, an amphitheatre, a coffee shop, health services, and training possibilities were also added. The Philippi village's purpose is to work with the Philippi community to co-create a secure and dynamic area that connects them to services, employment, educational opportunities, and activities.

The Business Place Philippi on the project, which is envisioned as a mixed-use development with light industry, residences, food gardens, and potentially a hospital, the Sustainability Institute at the University of Stellenbosch raised funds. However, The Business Place Philippi has been operating since 2005 in a smaller, restored structure on the land where business support services can start, while the residential part and gardens are planned. Over 4,000 people have visited its doors and received some kind of business development advice, indicating a strong acceptance of this.

Traders' integration:

This diagram shows trade broken into different levels more formal trade above.

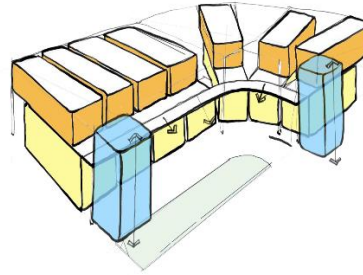


Figure 75: Trader's interaction & integration diagram,

Public space, designed in the centre of the business park, doesn't only deal with immediate context but with the surrounding needs of the greater community.



Figure 76: Architecture responsive and adaptive reuse of containers, <https://www.philippivillage.co.za/about-us>

The informal and tradeable space as seen above uses reusable containers to house small businesses and the economy. The interlocking container mechanism shows an innovative/functional way of responding to the needs and concerns of the forever-changing demands of business. The material used shows the flexibility and functionality of the space.

Lightweight construction aids in lowering the cost of material transportation. This causes an increase in the speed of the building. Structures built using lightweight architecture are more convenient and adaptable to their surroundings (Cherif, 2016,p. xx).

Container architecture, one of the newest architectures, encompasses a wide range of multi-purpose, and diverse perspective of buildings that all share one feature: the container. Containers, like Lego blocks, can be combined to make practically anything. They are ideal for temporary buildings, public structures, family houses, event architecture, and anything in between.

The variety and excellent quality of projects effectively transforming the metal box from a cocoon to a butterfly, simply demonstrate that it is not so much what you create with as it is how you build it (Kotnik, 2008,p.160-253).

In the precedent study, the stackable lightweight container's structure creates a flexible complex style boulevard. This solution answers the problem of defendable space and tradeable spaces that quickly deal with the rapidly evolving community.

3.2.5 CONCLUSION



Figure 77: Sectional view of business support and progression.

The upper portion of the image depicts the progression of a business from lighter-based colours on the ground floor to darker, more degraded colours on the first and second floors.

The goal was to create a location where individuals come for empowerment, economic well-being, passive surveillance in the village and job opportunities. It is a culturally expressed atmosphere in which commerce drives a diverse setting and allows everyone to express himself in a safe and unique setting. This is a community-driven development that empowers local entrepreneurs to seek personal and economic development. The space not only empowered the community, but it also used relatable identities and cultural titles for areas such as "village centres" that integrated elements of colour, pattern, traditional food, and public space.

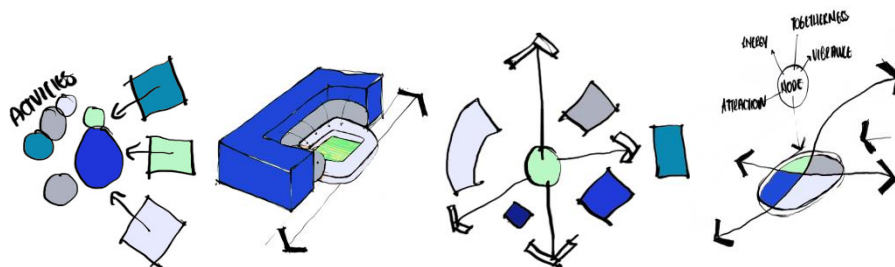


Figure 78: Concluded analysis sketches of the PEDl village.

3.3 MARSON BROS

Architects: Warren and Mahoney architects

Location: Auckland, New Zealand

Year: 2016

Typology: Office complex/business hub

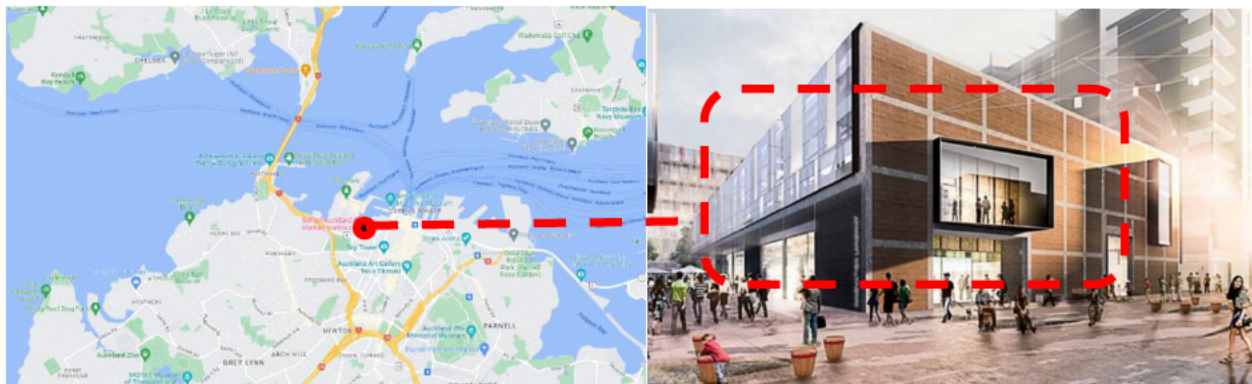


Figure 79: Marson Bros location.

3.3.1 INTRODUCTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The Marson Bros, a three-story office and mixed-use building in Auckland, New Zealand, was created from a brick and concrete warehouse by Warren and Mahoney Architects. The reused structure is a component of the broader Wynyard Quarter Innovation Precinct project by the company.



Figure 80: Movement plan and public space diagrams.

The project provides about 5,700 sqm of high-quality, environmentally friendly office space over three floors, with triple-height spaces connecting the lower and top levels. The building's relationship with the surrounding context enhances the experiential space.

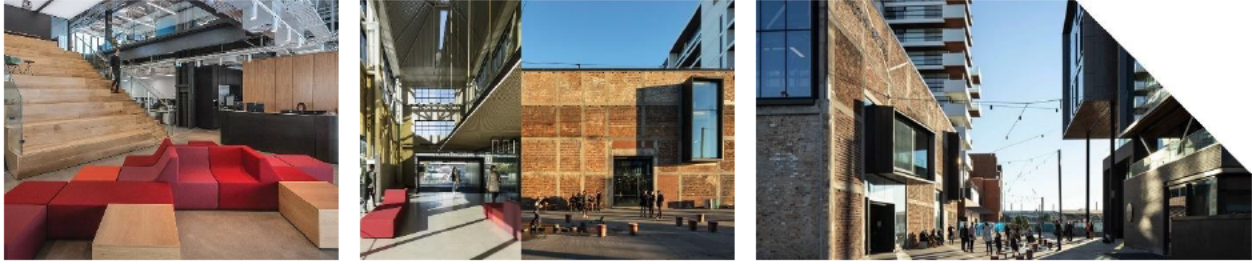


Figure 81: Inside Space, road edges. <https://warrenandmahoney.com>

Warren and Mahoney Architects have punctuated the original building fabric with modern glazing components that provide glimpses into the refurbished interior while preserving it to establish a genuine relationship to the site industrial past. In remedy of the intangible heritage and presence of community, the building promotes a sense of place and presence within the city. Urban linkages, materials and engaging spaces allow a more immersive inclusive space. Making a space that speaks of its fluid legacy.

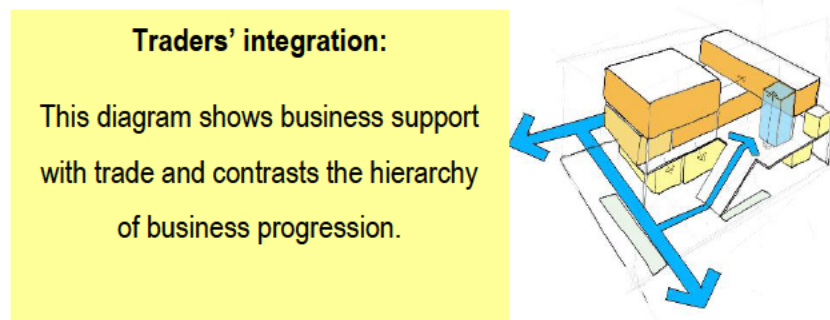


Figure 82: Traders interaction & integration diagram, Source: Author, 2022

The concept creates a contextual connection to Auckland's broader landscape, demonstrating four robust and well-defined design principles that enhance the city's connections with its commercial building type and existing waterfront activities, adjacent business districts and community growth.

Figure on right 83: Urban master plan on right, <https://architectus.co.nz/work/wynyrd-quarter-urban-design>

3.3.2 CULTURALLY EXPRESSED COMMUNITIES.

The pump station at Wynyard Quarter in Amey Daldy Park has a newly designed style inspired by “Aotearoa’s manu mori”, our native birds. Janine and Charles Williams, “mana whenua” painters, produced a new mural that spans from the highlands to the sea. These developed areas have



introduced empowered spaces that allow community members to express themselves within the space provided. These spaces show cultural and business growth in a harmonious connection. The environment is suitable for business growth.



Figure 84, 85: Cultural connections to the community. <https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz>

The community artists were commissioned to create a work that adds beauty and cultural interpretation to the concrete pump station while also contributing to the cultural expression on the waterfront.

Anyone can participate in and observe public art, which is free to the public. It is available to the public for critique, conversation, and experience; there is no admission fee. It is vulnerable to cooperation and vandalism since it is not constrained by expectations or a rigid environment.

Murals and public art forge location identities: people recall places easily by posing with these fixtures... (Stephen, 2016, p. 40-92)

Based on the artist, he/she allows art to speak to the community, in the present case the use of the native birds on the waterfront. This mural shows that it will serve as a guardian of nature's environment using the history and legacy of the local birds. This type of mural not only will serve as a key node for the communities' expression but will also create an identity for this space.

3.3.3 EMPOWERED ENVIRONMENTS

The precedent is based in a commercial district, that deals with sustainable office spaces across five major buildings. It's part of the Wynard Quarter community project which connects with the sounding nodes and points of interest in the community precinct. Some of the nodes and spaces are Silo Park, Daldy Park and Madden Street.



Figure 86: Wynyard Quarter, showing expressed social spaces. <https://ouraukland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz>

Wynyard Quarter Block precinct is informed by international trends in innovation and clustering” The Precinct draws on New Zealand's rich history of invention and creativity, incorporating technology and design to achieve excellent technical, commercial, and environmental performance. Wynyard Quarter has seen significant changes. Before being reclaimed to create an industrial area and working dock, it served as a tidal region and a location for gathering food. Today, it is a flourishing waterfront neighbourhood. There is always something new to see, discover, and do at Wynyard Quarter.

The Silo Park is part of A community area called Wynard has been expanded to include the space between the Gantry and the water's edge. Bulk liquids like cooking oil, molasses, and whiskey that were transported to Auckland by ships were once kept there.

Pieces of the site's past have been maintained in recognition of its former surroundings as a tribute to Wynyard Quarter's waterfront identity. Nine of the original stainless steel silos still stand at the location, along with the exchanger (valve) pit where the liquids were transferred from the boats to the silos.

The space's design significantly reflects “mana whenua” identity, with the major feature being a waka-inspired pavilion named “Te Nukua” designed by artist Tessa Harris, which protects from the weather; and the area's surface design curated by Reuben Kirkwood. (Stephen, 2016, p. 40-92)

Amey Daldy Park is a little park in the neighbourhood that provides secluded outdoor space. It is situated next to Daldy Street Linear Park, which acts as a green corridor connecting Victoria Park and the ocean. The park promotes open, accessible public areas, creating a warm and welcoming shoreline. It was designed as a component of the Wynard Quarter precinct. It was once a storage tank industrial site but is now a modern urban park located along the Daldy Street greenway between Victoria Park and Wynyard Point, which serves as a backyard for Wynyard Quarter's residents and workers. The park not only serves the public as a place of recreation but adds to sustainable communities by using the principles of work, live and play.

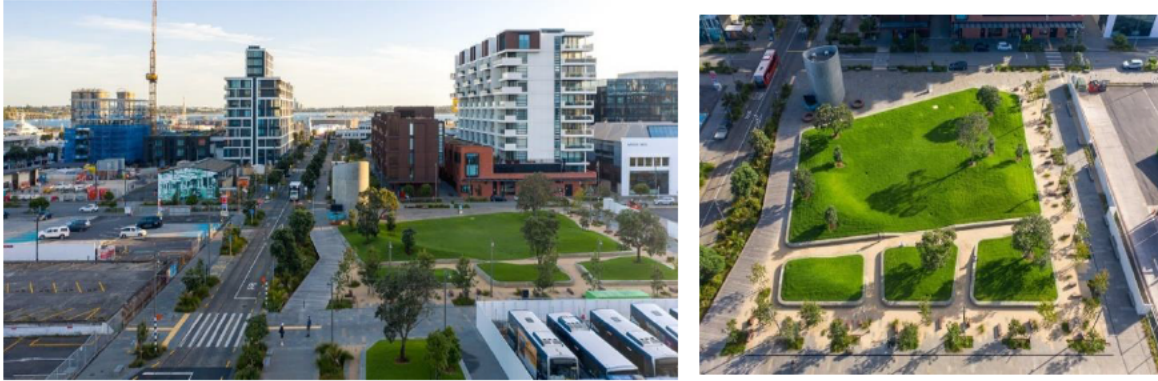


Figure 87: Public space <https://progressakl.co.nz/projects/amey-daldy-park>

The Waitemata Local Board gave it that name in honour of Auckland-based suffragist Amey Daldy, who was a leading advocate in the city's suffrage movement. She was a woman who advocated boldly for women's rights and social justice while holding opinions that were radical for her generation. This park, which bears Amey's name, is one of the many legacies she left behind.

Madden Street creates an east-west 'working waterfront street' connection between Westhaven (west) and the Viaduct Basin (east), opening the land to the water. Future water-edge operations and public access will reinforce these margins. Pakenham Street creates a new focal point for the centre Precinct as well as new 'interior spaces' that contrast with the water borders.



Figure 88: Wadden street, new precinct. <https://www.mpm.co.nz/projects/madden-pakenham-streets>.

Tiramarama Way

Designed by Wright + Associates whose goal's to investigate how natural, historical, and cultural forces interact to influence and change our environment. The design is based on the cultural term "whakapapa" which means genealogy; a line of ancestry from one's forefathers, which then represents the history of the tidal/water edge beneath it.



Figure 89: interactive materials and landscaping. <https://progressakl.co.nz/projects/tiramarama-way>

This design node aims to provide an opportunity to "play" by recreating a new spectacular hanging light display that celebrates Maori astronomy and targeted puddles created by the ebb and flow of the tide. The floor is sandblasted with 500,000 dots to represent his 19th-century Auckland waterfront. In the figure above, a circular planter serves as a small rain garden to collect and purify rainwater. In the holistic view of the broken-down precinct, the areas and shape work hand in hand with the identity and heritage of the Māori culture to create positive productivity and growth in and around the precinct.

3.3.4 RESPONSIVE ARCHITECTURE

From an architectural point of view, the ethnicity of the Māori culture impacted the development of an industrial hub into a vibrant waterfront neighbourhood. Part of this neighbourhood development showed an abandoned warehouse that sort to infuse the ethnic culture of the Māori group. This gave birth to Mason Bros projects which involved the conversion of a historic warehouse into a three-floor commercial building as a component of the Wynyard Quarter Innovation Precinct. The Mason Brothers won the CIBSE 2020 Building Performance Award for Project of the Year - International. The idea was to hang a highly reflecting glass item within the existing volume (on three sides spatially separated from the brick and concrete enclosure), thereby emphasizing the presence of the existing building fabric and establishing a strong formal and material contrast (see below).

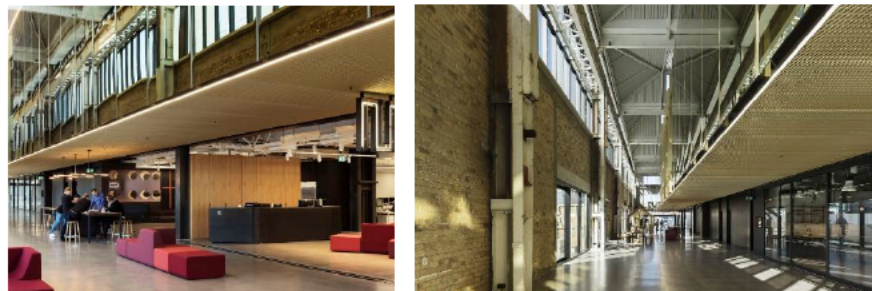


Figure 90: highly reflective glazed object and material contrast. <https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz>

The structure addresses public roadways on all facades, with high operability permitting for robust activation of these urban boundaries. The integrity of the construction fabric is preserved, emphasized by contemporary glazing features that disclose the mysterious internal object that inhabits the former warehouse's carapace (Shell Structure). At the masterplan level, the retaining of the atmosphere building, its identity, is crucial, as it creates an authentic relationship to the site's industrial heritage while substantially impacting the architectural composition of nearby structures. (Babaeian Jelodar & Shu, 2021)

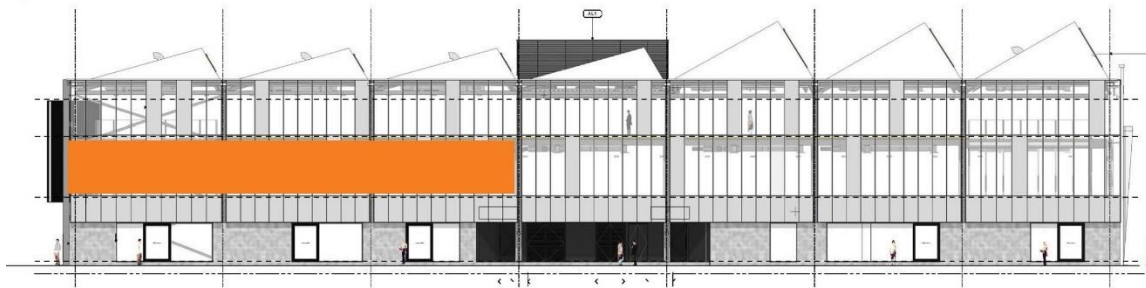


Figure 91: Section view with saw roof and carapace. <https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz>

The architectural approach of the new structures relates to the form and materiality of the precinct's existing character buildings, ensuring that the resulting architectural form is 'based' on the waterfront's industrial past. New buildings use simple industrial materials (brick, steel, wood, glass) and present highly textured and dynamic edges to all public laneways - a "raw" rather than "refined" appearance. On a city-wide scale, the planned buildings use a highly modelled roofscape that echoes the familiar 'saw tooth' form of the industrial structures that now occupy the site. The saw-tooth roof form was retained as it dropped light into a key interior corridor that serves as the building's vascular system.. The design shows the old industrial warehouse that used a carapace exterior with a reworked internal space that has been adapted to the demand of its time.

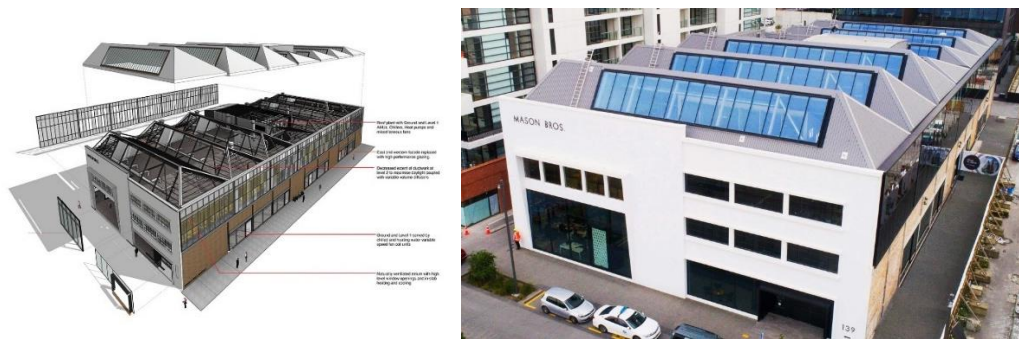


Figure 92: Details of the heritage building been reworked, structurally

Marson Bros is considered sustainable in the carapace design, which reduces building materials needed to transform the building space. In comparison to other methods of construction, adaptive reuse of existing buildings can typically cost 16% less. Many of these locations are excellent starting points for start-up businesses since cost-effective shell space may be made available at a cheaper rental rate than the market for new construction. Adaptive reuse of current structures is a key feature of municipalities that have experienced successful urban redevelopment. The adaptive reuse of derelict structures and landmarks in areas planned for double the number of people who live there today provides an opportunity to generate new affordable housing, start-up enterprises, and home ownership. Furthermore, adaptive reuse can be used to inverse the economic deterioration of inner-city areas while dropping displacement caused by gentrification (Davis & Mann, 2012,p. 211-228).

3.3.5 CONCLUSION

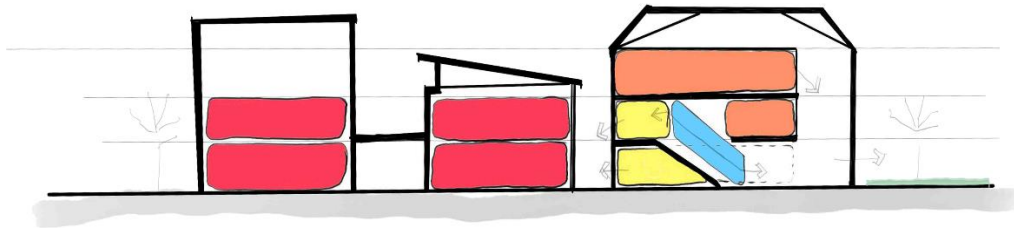


Figure 93: Sectional view of business support and progression.

The upper portion of the image depicts the progression of a business from lighter-based colours on the ground floor to darker, more degraded colours on the first and second floors.

The research has shown that the deep cultural identity and patterns run throughout the community's urban fabric. Urban linkages, materials, and engaging spaces allow a more immersive inclusive space. Making a space speaks of its fluid legacy. This development represents the importance of how empowerment sustains a community. The regions work in tandem with the identity and heritage of the Māori culture to promote positive productivity and growth in and around the precinct. The preservation of the character building is critical because it establishes an authentic relationship with the site's industrial legacy while having a significant impact on the architectural composition of neighbouring structures.

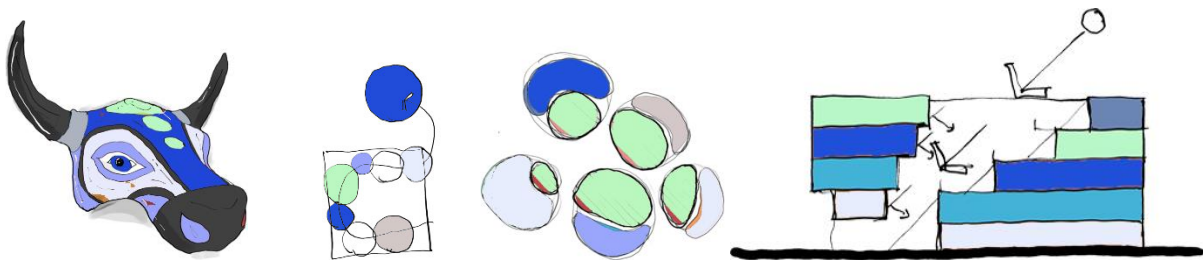


Figure 94: Concluded sketches on the Marson's bros.

3.4 CONCLUSION OF PRECEDENT STUDIES

The investigation of the two previous studies provides numerous responses to the study topic. The response to informal trade and its impact on architecture are highlighted even though both, the South African context and New Zealand context, are in radically different socioeconomic situations. Cultural relevance and architectural reuse were important factors in the development process and decision-making. These two precedences, Fulling broke down and three theories and concepts, will be discussed in detail in the concluding chapters below. The following chapter will investigate the selected case study, the V&A waterfront watershed, for a greater understanding of trade, support, and business movement in Cape Town.

CHAPTER 4.0

CASE STUDY

4 CASE STUDY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The main research issue is: How can architecture support informal trading in urban settings? The theoretical and conceptual framework enhances the notion of the built environment as it represents the cultural identity when empowering informal traders. A case study examines a particular incident in detail, whereas a precedent study uses secondary evidence. This chapter is a review of the Watershed Cape Town on the VNA waterfront. It explores key notions such as cultural identity, Right to the City & social empowerment and adaptive reuse architecture. The case study provides an understanding into how traders in the South African context are used positively, with support structures that develop a sustainable way of trade. This chapter contextualizes how the current building for business and trade at the watershed responds to all trade and economic growth. Site visits, observations, and casual chats served as the primary methods for gathering the information presented in this chapter. This chapter will include images and analytical sketches, and all the data gathered will be used to help construct the designs in Part Two of this dissertation, which is towards a new SMME's business hub in the Point Precinct, Durban, CBD.

4.2 THE V&A WATERFRONT WATERSHED

Architects: Wolff Architects

Location: South Africa, Cape Town

Year: 2016

Typology: Craft market, Business hub

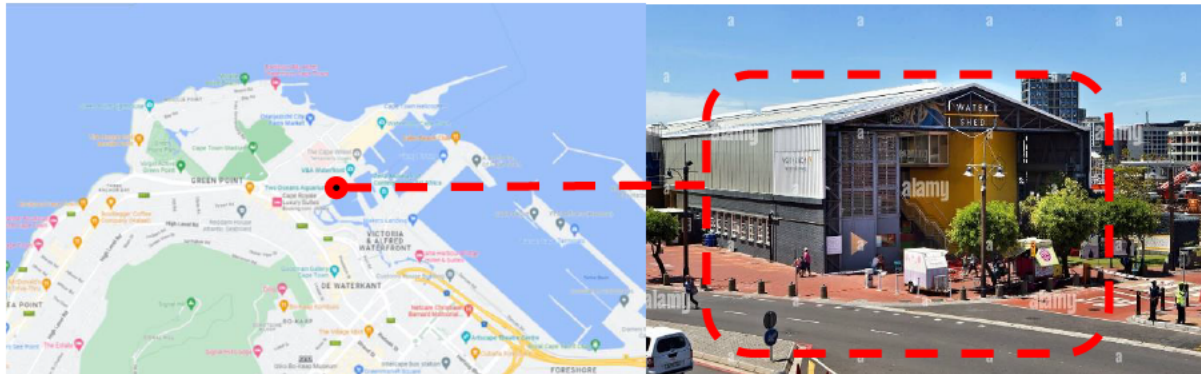


Figure 95: The V&A Waterfront watershed location.

4.2.1 INTRODUCTION AND JUSTIFICATION

It is a suggested design that creates a new route that connects various popular sites around the shed, creating an urban pedestrian network. The street reclaims public space on a larger scale than the incubator for small businesses. Even though the thoroughfare is occupied by the business incubator project, it becomes a method for providing economic opportunity for small enterprises; the thoroughfare regains public space on a larger scale than the business incubator. The goal of this initiative was to strengthen and diversify human contact in the city.

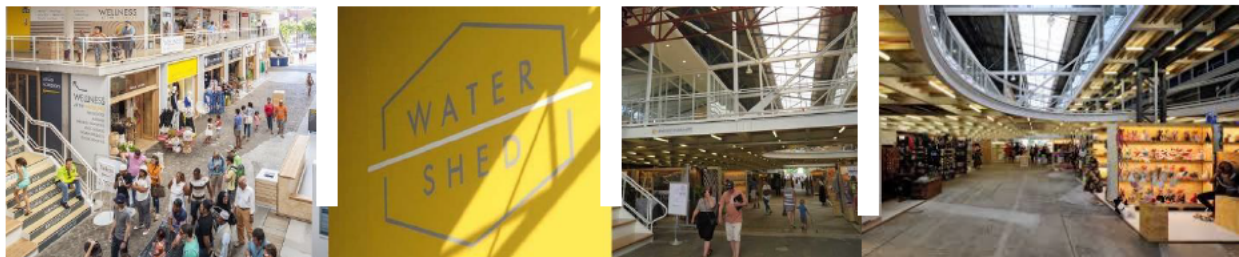


Figure 96, 97, 98, 99: Lightweight structure. <http://www.wolffarchitects.co.za/projects/all/watershed/>

To accomplish this, the concept has been expanded to include markets, exhibition spaces, a few grassy areas and rented offices. These activities were primarily concentrated along the streets that connect to the main metropolitan networks.

Traders' Integration:

This diagram shows trade in a linear street form, colonnade design allowing visual connection to the above spaces.

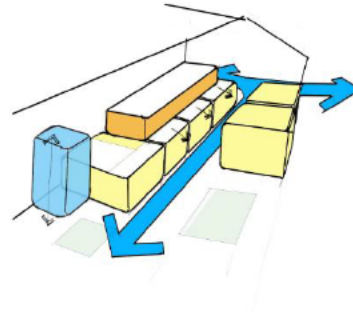


Figure 100: Trader's interaction & integration diagram.

4.2.2 CULTURALLY EXPRESSED COMMUNITIES

The Watershed falls under the V&A waterfront community and it aims to put itself at the core of what they do and how they do it and to display the finest that South Africa has to offer. The Waterfront precinct also competes with being the best waterfront in the world. The V&A Waterfront is a lively and challenging setting that includes a working harbour, living history and natural beauty.

Accepting the opportunity to share our knowledge and growth with everyone we encounter daily is the watershed's vision. This community shows the initiative to have a database with all available opportunities that are currently open to the public. By striving to establish enduring relationships, the community serves as an ambassador for the Waterfront and demonstrates its values by being hospitable, kind, and proud of what it accomplishes.

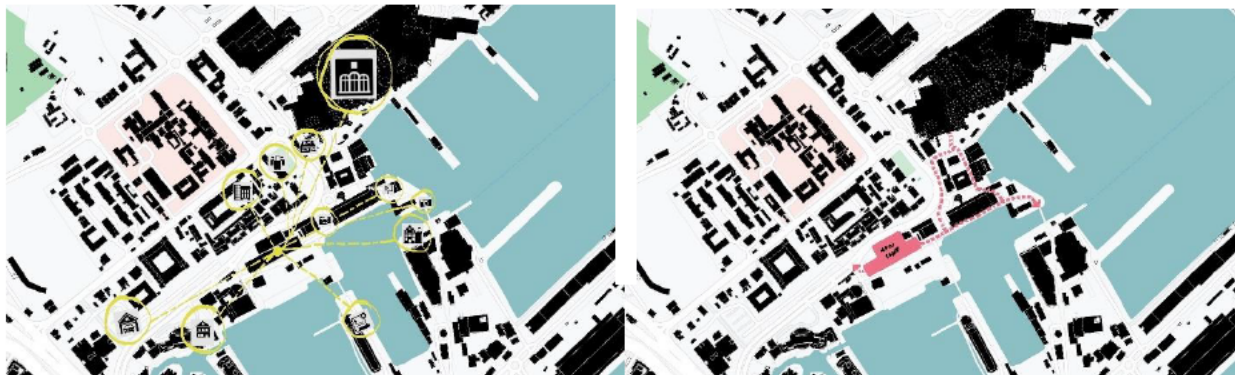


Figure 101: The community and its major connection. Source: Author, 2022

The company differentiates the value of multiplicity and provides opportunities for workers in a range of specialties and levels of experience. The community shows a cultural connection with diverse historical sculptures, cultural foods, and public accessibility. These cultural symbols and beliefs boil down to the individual buildings in the area.



Figure 102: True cultural Community elements of play and security from the waterfront. Source: Author, 2022

The cultural expression of the community creates smaller pockets of identities in the large precinct but also allows the traders in the Watershed to be truly represented in the community. Informality (the homeless and the survival traders) aren't seen in this area, but they have been provided space by the community to develop themselves e.g., the Watershed. The community not only supports traders but builds opportunities for the future of the V&A waterfront. The precinct lives by the rule, What is a formal way of seeing how informality works.



Figure 103: Shows how the community adds cultural expression to the space and public space.

The idea of "informality" and the iconic images of "informal" landscapes and illicit activity are almost irrevocably linked to informal traders. In fact, informality has come to symbolize the African city...

..... It is acknowledged that the idea of informality helps explain the issues facing African cities and the continent's overall urban "crisis." 2022 author

According to Steck the informality is seen as "wrong and illegal" but representative of an African city. (Steck et al., 2013, p. 1-16)

It's become a norm for 'African cities' to have informal traders as part of the majority financial pull of the economy. But how do we support it? Watershed guides your answer as the informality incorporates order into areas of space that reap the most positive opportunity.



Figure 104: Trader's space with a cultural backing ground floor. <https://www.indagare.com/destinations/africa>

The Watershed in Cape Town uses informal trade as its base and builds on the ideal traders' hub. Not only does the Watershed support the ground-level trader's hub, but it also promotes business growth from "informal business trader" to "formal business" to "medium enterprises", in one business complex. The Watershed architecture reflects the culture of every society, closely engaging with its structural (adaptive reuse), historical, political, economic, and social elements. The community makes every effort to use its local materials to create architecture that adheres to its customs and beliefs.

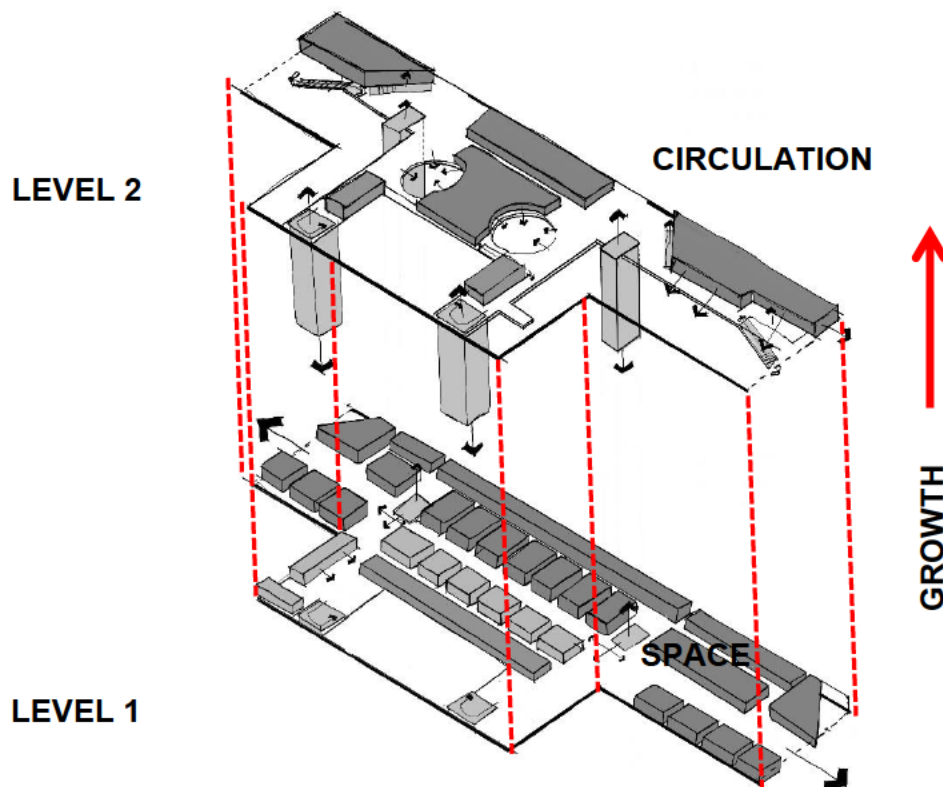


Figure 105: Exploded view of the building of the trader's hub, showing different levels of business.

“Changes in cultural and social views have the biggest effects on the architecture” (Steck et al., 2013 p. 1-16).

The role of culture in the Watershed is to promote architectural identity, which reflects the importance of the traders’ beliefs and symbols in their space and thus the cultural identity creates a key node for the trading communities.



Figure 106: Upgraded Trader stalls.

This ground-level space not only promotes designers and artisans from South Africa but also pushes the South African identity within an environment. The space in the Watershed has been categorized into different sections: artisan workshop, craft and design market, jewellery, wellness workshop, jubilee exhibition mall, and workshop space. The spatial sections help the customer have a guide on where to shop accordingly.

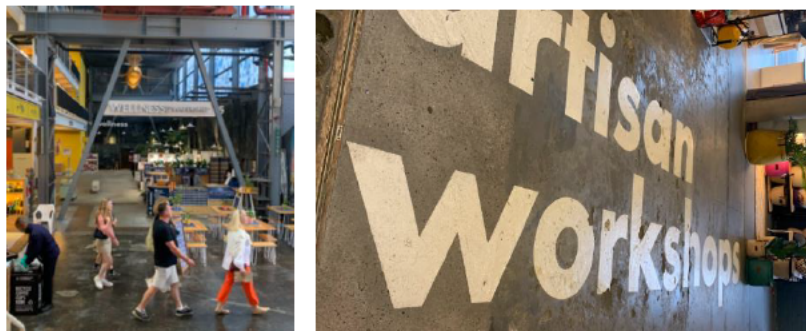


Figure 107: Spatial sections in the Watershed.

4.2.3 EMPOWERED ENVIRONMENTS

The V&A Waterfront is the driving force behind the development of these local SMMEs. The Watershed incubates design work and creates an entrepreneurial opportunity for established and emerging South African designers to discover local talent. The Watershed is a one-stop shop for design junkies to embody Africa's passions, skills, and ingenuities. The Craft and Design Institute launched a ground-breaking new “Watershed Design Lab”, that ensures a retail-readiness training programme. The aim of the programme

enables new traders to establish themselves within the Watershed store and to get the needed support to run a successful start-up business. The design lab enables the growth of the traders, by using a “product development plan” & “business training course”. Figure 108 shows the Watershed Design Lab collaboration.



Figure 108: Watershed Design Labs.

Heath Nash, a social designer, and maker, founded the non-profit organisation “Our Workshop” which is a Langa-based NPO. Everyone in the neighbourhood has access to this common workshop, which serves as a training ground for burgeoning young black creatives. It is a free-to-use area with a variety of tools and materials that can be used again to make new goods. The Watershed Design Lab's innovative members produce everything from handmade denim art wear and wooden breadboards to jewellery made from computer keys and baskets crafted from recycled PET bottles.



Figure 109: non-profit workshop.

To do this, a roadway that connects to a larger urban network was used to concentrate a market, an exhibition space, some rentable office space, and green activities. They were designed to be altered and transformed into whatever the tenants saw fit to draw attention away from the individual stalls and onto the street. The growth of urban areas cannot be reliant on subpar buildings.



Figure 110: fully customized stalls along a street walk.

Situated in the vibrant Watershed building at the V&A Waterfront, which houses a market hall for local and innovative business owners, Workshop17 a coworking space located at Watershed is a remarkable example of this development. A coworking /collaborative space is essential in a location where connections are being established between local business owners and ethical consumers, entrepreneurs and corporations, and locals and tourists. Coworking is a technique to improve connection and innovation. Every coworking space has its own character and its own community.



Figure 111: workshop17, collaborative space

Workshop17 is actively building a varied community of like-minded individuals where anybody can participate in the conversation. This concept works great with the watershed design, breaking space up into levels of privacy, and hierarchy and yet keeping that visual openness design intact.

The Watershed places a large focus on technological integration, which is now fundamental for traders in modern society. WIFI is offered throughout the Watershed, which keeps you confined there, and Workshop17 promotes connections so that you can work on advancement. Most tradable spaces use quick and easy technologies to make payments and to keep up with the forever-moving globalisation. The tradeable spaces below show how individual security and space work together in an open-air zone.

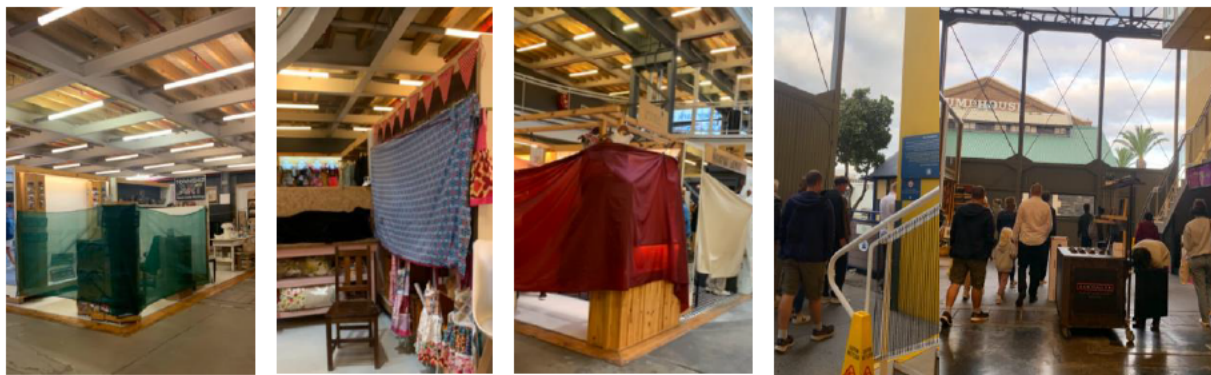


Figure 112: Market strong cultural market security.

The traders take pride in the watershed's strong community due to public amenities that include most importantly safety and security in the South African context. The controlled access to their space allows tradeable hours similar to office time. This space empowers them as a unit to have their place in the community.

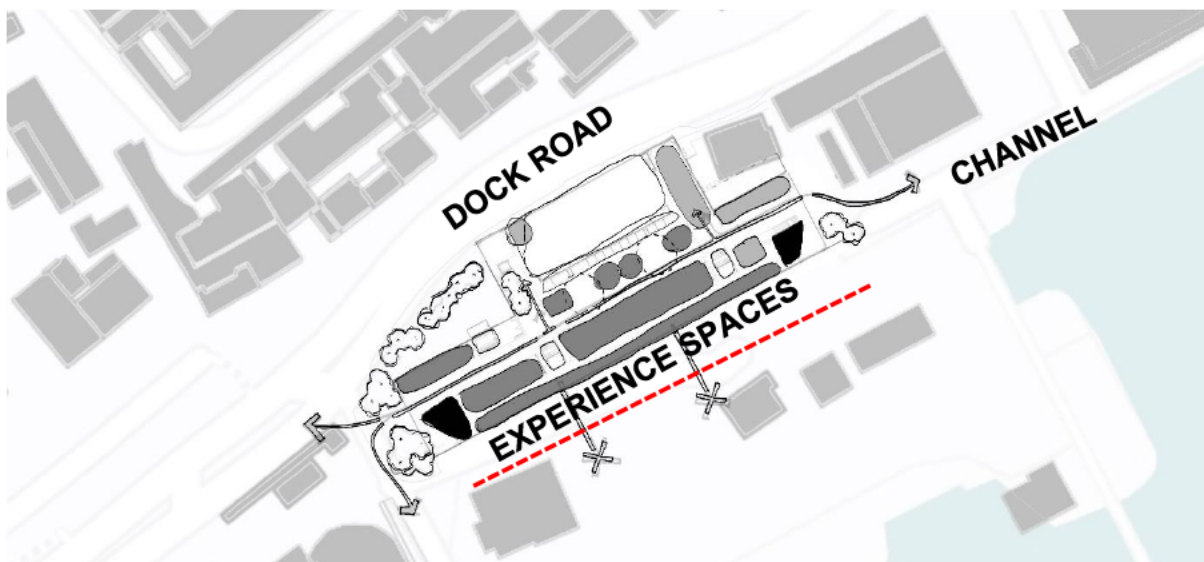
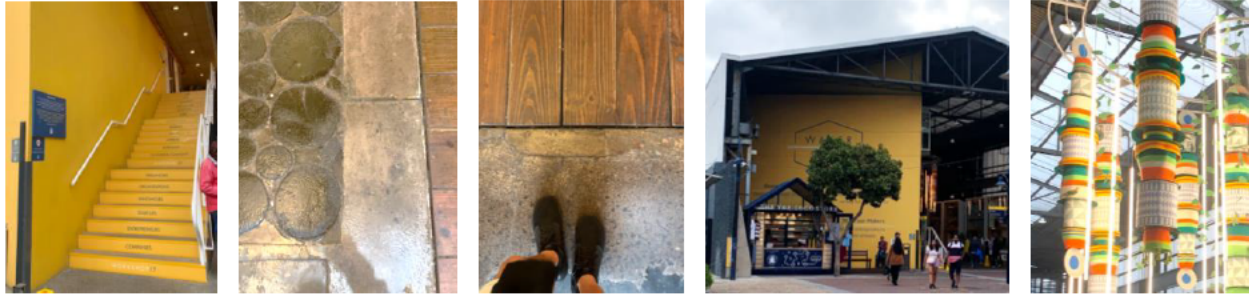


Figure 113: Reference to the main route.



The image above portrays positive, culturally well-minded people with bright energy, in the Watershed, through the use of colours, symbols, materials and patterns of the local traders. The strong use of the colour yellow represents enlightenment, knowledge, new beginnings and wealth.



Figure 114: Shows the materiality used in the space, Source: Author, 2022



Figure 115: Responding to the live, work, play above image,.

The V&A community is related to a “15-minute city” due to its access to necessities like food, schools, residential, entertainment, and recreational and employment opportunities. The Watershed falls under a live-work-play mixed-use development which provides a range of amenities in an urban setting.

The building is broken up as follows:

- Live- a residential community within 15min walking radius
- Work- watershed business complex and surrounding opportunities
- Play- Public areas of recreation

4.2.4 RESPONSIVE ARCHITECTURE

This falls under the concept of critical regionalism, which states...

... It is a forward-thinking method of design that aims to bridge the gap between the universal and regional dialects of architecture. (Tzonis & Lefaivre, 1991, p. 228-237)

This project was created in an already-existing industrial building that was formerly the drydock's electrical repair shop at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront. This industrial shell keeps its heritage with its use of its materiality.

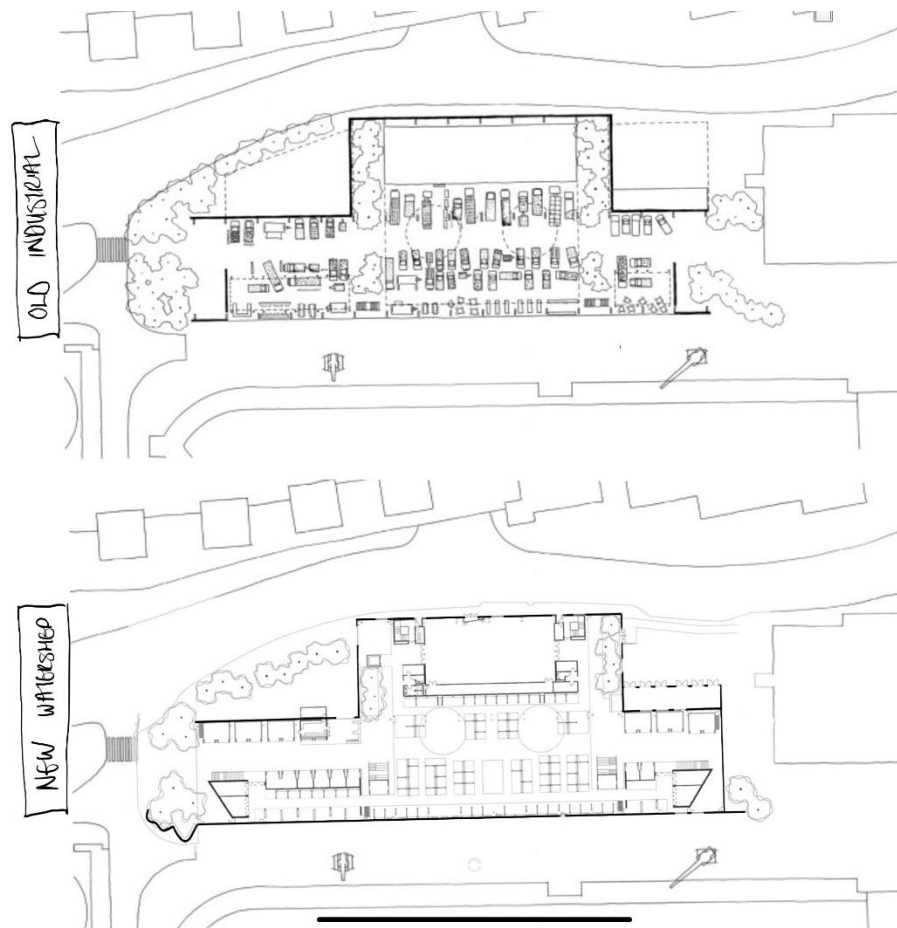


Figure 116: Plan view of the reused lost space adapted.

The interior adaptive reuse of the space shows the flexible, lightweight materiality of the trader's personality and trade. The use of local materials demonstrates the design's incorporation of critical regionalism.



Figure 117: the interior look of the industrial shell,

Based on V&A's major pedestrian roadway that connects to a larger metropolitan network of the precinct, these trading activities were mainly focused on capturing the movement of the people and channeling interactions.

The shed's structural interior design of a 50× 50 m steel floor that is perpendicular to the street floats over the trader's marketplace, with massive gaps in the floor allowing communication between the floors. Mezzanines that open to the main suspended floor make up the top floor. All of the interior structure doesn't touch the outer industrial shell as it keeps the original heritage of its form.

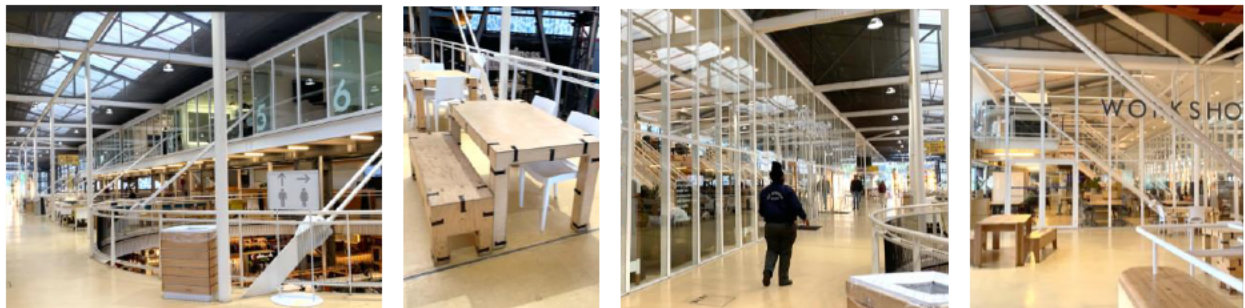


Figure 118: Mezzanines that open to the main suspended floor make.

Adaptive reuse incorporates informal traders by using redesigned spaces to create opportunities for sustainability. The establishment of Workshop17 and another corporation created opportunities that would be of benefit to the informal community. This is essential in giving equality to the black and less fortunate to minority in the South African context. The architecture undertaken demonstrates how business support responds to traders to their advantage.



Figure 119: harbour-precinct old past uses adapted to new age community.

The Watershed responded to the community's needs by sustainably using lost space. In the past, the precinct was used for harbour-related items. Now the live, work, play concept has encouraged a viable multi-use community that incorporates old single-use derelict buildings. Through adaptive reuse, the Watershed is an example of green building design, which lessens energy use and pollution in the urban environment.

4.2.5 CONCLUSION

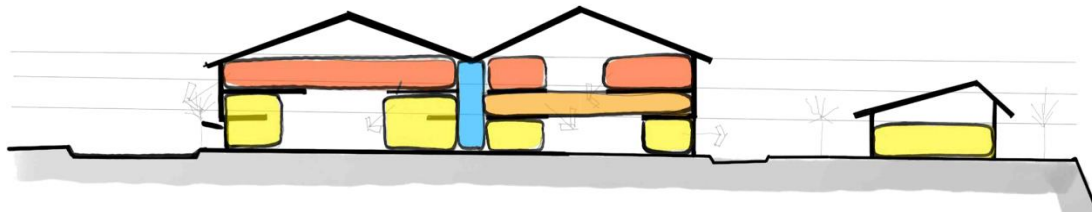


Figure 120: Sectional view of business support and progression.

The upper portion of the image depicts the progression of a business from lighter-based colours on the ground floor to darker, more degraded colours on the first and second floors.

In conclusion, the goal of this initiative was to strengthen and diversify human contacts in the city. The V&A community used the live-work-play mixed-use principles to provide a range of amenities in an urban setting. The Watershed architecture reflects the culture of every society, closely engaging with its structure, thus allowing the traders to express their culture by creating smaller pockets of identities in the large precinct. Watershed encourages business growth from "informal business trader" to "formal business" to "medium enterprises" in one business complex while also supporting the hub for ground-level traders. The architectural identity reflects the importance of the traders' beliefs and symbols in their space. A place where connections are being made amongst local business owners needs collaborative space. Coworking is a method to boost interaction and creativity. Every coworking space has a unique personality and a unique community. By leveraging rebuilt places to generate opportunities for sustainability, adaptive reuse integrates informal traders. The chosen architecture design shows how company support reacts to traders in their favour. By utilising its materiality, this industrial shell has managed to preserve its historical roots. The interior adaptive reuse of the space shows the flexible, lightweight materiality of the trader's personality and trade. Finally, the problem statement illustrates that the Watershed's architecture is a response to informal trade in the urban setting by using culture, empowerment, heritage, and identity. This has shown that the successful development of the Watershed on the V&A Waterfront has proved its cultural relationship to the South African urban environment.

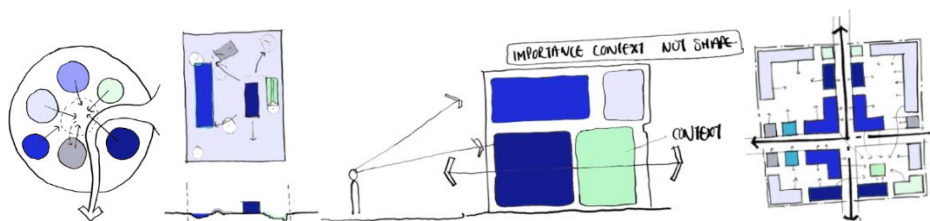


Figure 121: illustrates that the Watershed's architecture shows live-work-play mixed-use principles

CHAPTER 5.0

PRESENTATION OF DATA AND ANALYSIS

5 FINDINGS: PRESENTATION OF DATA AND ANALYSIS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The acquired and analysed primary data are described in this chapter. Key informant interviews were semi-structured, and afterwards, the material was organised thematically for interpretation. By carrying on the discussion started in the case study, precedent studies, and assessment of the literature, the chapter seeks to thematically analyse the data. This information will help in addressing the main issues raised by this dissertation. Additionally, it helps define a set of design principles that will guide the creation of a new SMME Business hub in The Point Precinct, Durban, CBD.

Semi-structured interviews with the following questionnaires are for key stakeholders of businesses, from in and around the Durban, CBD.

5.2 THEMATICAL ANALYSIS.

The research and analysis carried out in the literature review, precedent studies and case study tries to suggest a solution to the problem statement of this dissertation:

Whilst lost space and abandoned architecture need to be the focus of urban development, architecture can respond to the needs of the community by empowering informal traders to use lost space to their benefit.

Most South African cities are based on an old system whereby external resources were used in development schemes. support local wasn't a priority which allowed for community growth; it was rather a quick city idea and globalised movement that expanded areas of development.

5.2.1 THE ANALYSIS OF PRECEDENT STUDIES FINDINGS

The following are experiences gained from the investigation of the selected precedent studies:

- In the urban South African context, sustainable architecture relies on its community and vice versa
- Community participation and resources are a tool for meeting the basic needs of job creation and empowerment
- Collaboration between businesses and community members is essential for productivity and growth
- Adaptive reuse promotes sustainability by lowering material use, energy use, and pollution
- Similarly, adaptive reuse plays a vital role in communities by preserving cultural heritage
- Architecture needs adaptive reuse to counteract urban sprawl/urbanisation and it also extends the useful life of existing structures

- Materials should be chosen to create a deep cultural identity that includes the urban fabric and patterns that run throughout the community.
- Contextual Materials that enhance cultural beliefs make the building more relatable to the environment.
- Although social integration is highlighted in the precedent studies show that it is essential for cultural communities to support empowerment and create economic opportunities for the informal sector.

The findings help show the community is the key driver in the succession of any future development. When a community is established as the cornerstone, opportunities and guidance will fall into place.

5.2.2 THE NEEDS OF THE INFORMAL TRADERS

After the research, the informal traders have said and quoted:

We need a viable space for trade, ablution facilities, storage space, safety & security, and basic needs. Traders Interview

So that they can put their trade/ business on the economic platform.

We need to be trained to grow our business but we need financial support to be able to do that. Traders Interview

Below are the various challenges that the traders experience:

- Victimisation by the local government
- Municipal bylaws that are unfair
- Lack of physical infrastructure, including vending machines, shelters, and storage
- Lack of policies to regulate informal commerce
- Lack of non-financial support services, including mentoring, counselling, and training
- Absence of specialised financial assistance
- Lack of access to information

Traders aren't fully being recognised as important in the urban environment. Many informal traders are not aware of / understand the laws and regulations of the municipality. With that, the municipality prioritised traders and allowed regulating space that would organise and improve this sector. Laws and regulations were implemented for this scenario. Where the municipality works with the informal traders there is a harmonious integration within the urban life of the city. An example of harmonious integration within urban life exists in the V&A Waterfront, Cape Town.

Due to red tape, some municipalities harass the traders by confiscating their goods because they have not adhered to municipal laws of having a permit to trade. As noted in Tswane Business stakeholders

The interviews also showed that cultural expression played a major role in the development of their trade. The traders explained that their culture was expressed in patterns and colours which identified them in their own way and shape. An Indian trader expressed his culture in a yellow-like patterned store, where he sold traditional spices and items of Indian culture. The expression of culture helps to empower the traders to boost their businesses and grow.



Figure 122: Indian cultural expressions. <https://media.tacdn.com/media/attractions>

Traders used their initiative by providing for the customer's needs, one trader states:

I used opportunities to get what the customers/passers-by needed and wanted were; for example, during load shedding I sold candles and I sold pencils for the school kids. Traders
Interview

Day-to-day struggles of GBV do affect the traders, as 90% of the traders are women. It's a concern to many woman traders. A woman trader stated that:

"As a woman, I had to be strong and make the people respect me.....but didn't work all the time"
Traders Interview

The need for security to monitor the traders, especially the women, is highly imperative. Not only is the safety and security issue a requirement for the trader, but it also applies to the city's needs. Programmes and laws that cover the trader's rights, will enable safe regulating spaces, which will enhance and empower the elements for a trader. These elements should also include a financial sustainability plan, a development plan, and a productivity plan, which will support their growth and enhance their business skills.

5.2.3 SERVICE AND SUPPORT ANALYSIS OF CASE STUDY

The case study focuses on a precinct, like the V&A Waterfront whereby the traders have been allowed to empower themselves in a space that represented themselves. The space is a business incubator that demonstrated how the educational institution assisted in showing leadership in the formation of the city. The Watershed is used as a device for creating economic opportunity for small businesses - a market. A trader stated that his growth and support came from the Watershed design lab, which is known to upskill and develop small traders.

“The watershed design lab is a vital part to the growth of the economic trader.” As said by one of the traders

Informal Trading in the Durban urban area is:

- Street vending
- Spaza shops
- Small-scale farming enterprises
- Small scale confectioners and fast food
- Household grass cutters
- Convenient stores
- Tyre services
- Car washers

These denominations of trade allow opportunities of development whereby technical skills and product planning improve their trade. Spaces that are conducive to helping traders deal with infrastructure support which boils down to

- Storage facilities
- Vending trolleys
- Marketing facilities
- Shelters
- Production equipment
- Suitable working equipment/tools

Traders need these facilities to grow and develop positively and productively.

5.2.4 TRADERS' SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainability, in the context of Durban city (South African cities), falls into the reuse of abandoned space with the potential of restoring and adapting new ways of urbanising cities. A city analysis of Durban shows how single-use buildings have either decayed / pushed away the economic hub of the area. This observation list shows that the derelict space within a city of opportunity provides the nodes of improvement. The observation analysed the Point area in four different sectors, which were then broken down even more.

The sectors are:

- 1) Physical
- 2) Character
- 3) Context
- 4) Spatial

These sectors and design elements of the derelict building can be most beneficial for the informal traders to a sustainable community which gives principles that guide and grow the informal traders. Contextually the urban life is seen to balance informal traders and their impact on the local community. For example:

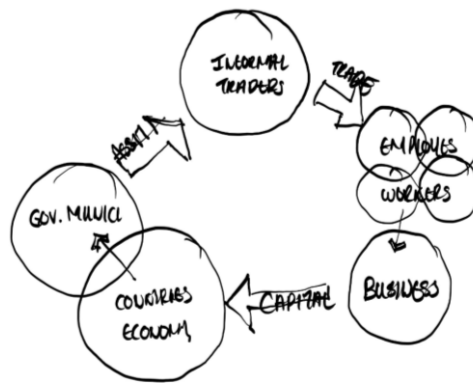


Figure 123: The informal trader's cycle, sketched,

When looking around the city centre of Durban, it seems as though there are a lot of vacant and abandoned buildings that once had a purpose, but have now been rendered useless by apartheid and the passage of time.

The legacy of apartheid's planning in Durban, South Africa, gave rise to several urban growth nodes. However, these nodes are frequently developer-driven and do not serve the requirements of already established communities. (Govender & Loggia, 2021, p. 219-250)

In mapping the Durban CBD, the Point area has positive attributes towards informal traders and this would contribute to sustainable communities.

5.3 CONCLUSION

The findings discovered that informal trade requires a feasible area for trade, ablution facilities, storage space, safety & security, and basic needs. With financial support, the informal traders need to be trained to expand their business and all this will help to place their trade or business on the economic stage. Support is vital to the growth of the informal sector. Skills, finances and safety precautions assist in diminishing the

challenges that the informal economy faces. The programme will not only boost the self-confidence and aspirations of a trader but will also assist in developing a street trader to own his/her business loss of space within metropolitan CBD between urban nodes presents opportunities for redesign and regeneration. This is the second factor. Urban homesteads, self-help housing, and informal settlements are all examples of revolt (squatters and homeless, using private property or government land). Between these nodes, there are currently areas of sociocultural segregation, urban desolation, insurgency, and lost space.

The question is how can we merge that gap between lost space and its new purpose? Redesign architecture for the informal trade economy. Theories and analyses demonstrate how architecture is designed to respond to the needs of the local community. The informal economy's objectives will coincide with the community's objectives, enabling the area to operate at its full potential. Adapting wasted space to meet the requirements of informal traders is one way that architecture will make use of lost space.

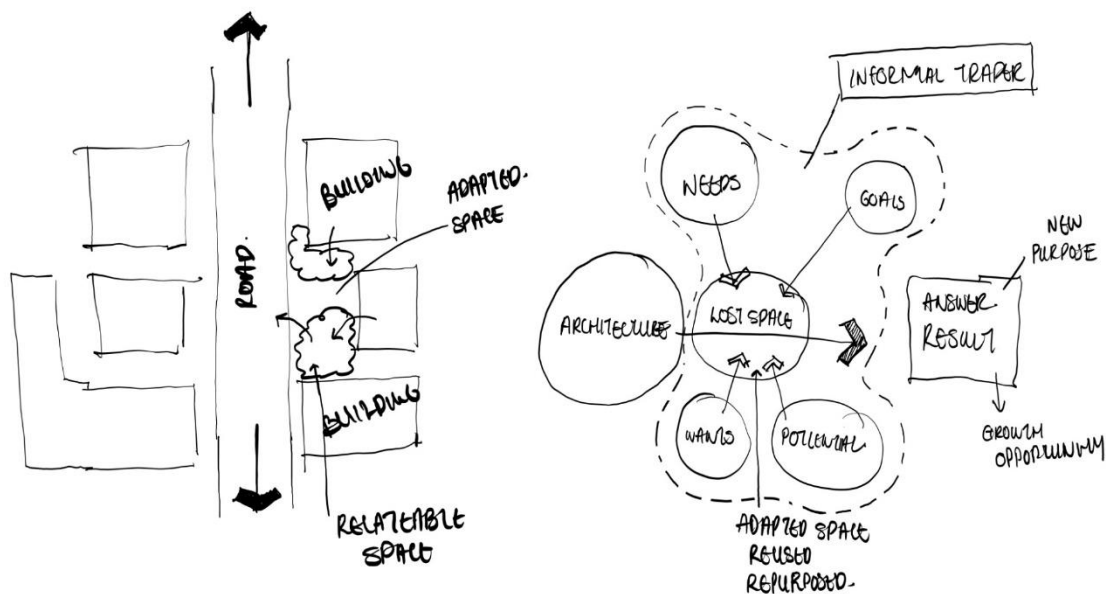


Figure 124: Architecture adapt to traders needs, sketched.

CHAPTER 6.0

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

6 RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 INTRODUCTION

Through the analysis presented in this dissertation, the outcomes of informal traders' response to a support strategy aren't taken as a priority in urban South Africa and have failed policy aims. The progress of traders is dependent on their own exclusive support/ survival techniques. Empowered community development and Co-liberating space are required to uphold the rights of traders and provide them with a fair shot at life. These Empowered communities would provide equal spatial opportunities and a structural business support plan, that will develop and shape more robust socioeconomic circumstances for traders to grow productivity progressively. The environment in which a trader develops and advances should promote human growth and offer prospects for the metropolitan city's economic future.

6.2 MEETING THE OBJECTIVES

Loss of space in the built environment, particularly in the Point Area, has been cited as the issue impeding the growth of unauthorized vendors in urban areas. The literature review, theoretical and conceptual framework incorporated inside, precedent studies, case studies, and key informants have all addressed the study subjects offered at the beginning of the dissertation. The goals and objectives of the dissertation have been met by replying to the key questions.

To investigate what spaces are needed to create social and cultural expression in Architectural design.

A group of people in a given society can be identified by the symbols, language, beliefs, and values incorporated into the architectural design of the spaces. Culture produces knowledge, things, expressions, and insights that improve a community's social and economic well-being. The informal economy needs both these locations and the necessary infrastructure to advance as an industry. Safety and security impose a condition on the dealer for them to use the area to develop. In addition to being regarded as important space, common commercial amenities which include storage spaces, vending trolleys, marketing facilities, shelters, production equipment, and suitable working tools and equipment also aid in a trader's personal development.

To explore what social empowerment structures and economic structures exist.

In its reaction, social empowerment speaks to the low-income small company sector and explains how using the spaces in a building's architecture can help one advance economically. Certain architecture makes it easier for users to access opportunities, knowledge, resources and support. This implies that all societal groups have an equal amount of control over their lifestyles, the ability to influence major decisions and access to opportunities. A society may find it difficult to maintain economic success if not all members are empowered equally. Indigenous communities and governments collaborate to identify priorities, enhance services and successfully request financing at the regional level as part of community empowerment. Above all, it attempts to offer Indigenous people more ownership and a bigger role in choices that impact them. Citizens are allowed to create "culture communities" that are viable to the right to the city and this also safeguards them. This embrace of social diversity fosters community growth and productivity, which enables a business-friendly economy to react to trade and economic expansion.

To investigate what cultural expression and culture exist within the urban environment.

Cultural expression is an engine for empowering multi-diverse and small businesses. Understanding cultural expression allows us all to choose aspects of our culture that foster self-acceptance and insight, and to better understand how we are similar and different from one another.

However cultural expression could be seen in different forms. They are:

- Style: Image and Identity
- Foodways: Culture and Cuisine
- Artistry: Craftsmanship and Creativity
- Language: Power of Word
- Movement: Gestures and Social Dancing

To establish ways that are a part of their legacy or identity, traditional communities in the Durban municipality have passed down their expressions of traditional culture from generation to generation. The traders have explained how their culture was represented in patterns and colours, and this led to other communities recognising their cultural expression.

To explore what impact globalisation has on businesses and informal economies in the Durban CBD.

In South African cities, this globalisation empowered the racial minority group and disempowered the larger racial majority group, which may have led to a probable loss of cultural identity. By expanding production possibilities and reducing production costs, globalisation has enhanced the economy's productive potential. Economic globalisation has also led to an increase in immigration, which promotes cross-cultural diversity. It is vital to integrate contemporary technology that propels society in a manageable direction, which will merge vernacular ideals with it because globalisation and urbanisation cannot be halted. As a result of this urbanisation trend, South Africa is one of the most developed nations in Africa in terms of urban growth. Urban sprawl and urbanisation are resisted via adaptive reuse.

To explore what buildings can be reused and adapted for economic sustainability.

Adaptive reuse in architecture is necessary to stop urban development and to make old buildings last longer. By reclaiming these forgotten spaces and turning them into development prospects, they can be integrated into the city's historic fabric. Due to single functional usage under South African apartheid, abandoned spaces developed in the Point area. An opportunity now exists within the Point area with abandoned buildings and landmarks, that seek the potential for adaptive reuse and creating a multifunctional usage. Given that it extends the life of the building, adaptive reuse is a type of sustainable urban redevelopment. Derelict Buildings and lost space can be converted by recycling their useful parts for a new purpose, but it is also a technique and a plan that may be used to protect cultural assets. By consuming less energy and less material and producing less pollution, adaptive reuse encourages sustainability.

6.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.3.1 GUIDELINES FOR ADDRESSING SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT.

To maintain social empowerment in societies, challenges regarding cultural expression need to be addressed. By empowering people from a cultural point of view it allows identity to make the city more inclusive and "home-like". Social empowerment must create equal opportunities bringing value to family and community. With Cultural expression communities can drive and empower multi-diverse small businesses by using Tradition and Architecture.

A law like "*Right to the City*" empowers space through movement and diversity. The communities would then engage/link with the municipality to be accountable and responsible for the requirements of the community. A hands-on approach to business support would provide potential pathways and safe havens within the city.



Figure 125: Empowerment guidelines, collage format

6.3.2 GUIDELINES FOR INFORMAL TRADERS.

It is important to solve issues with unskilled labour in order to retain social empowerment in society. By establishing business assistance, traders will be able to develop their products, expand their businesses, and give back to their community. Sustainable communities are enhanced by community involvement and skill growth in business support. In order to improve communities' business abilities in South Africa, opportunities for skill development must be provided.

Collaboration between local businesses and residents is crucial for productivity and expansion. In a place where connections are being made between local business owners and ethical consumers, entrepreneurs and companies, and locals and visitors, a coworking or collaboration space is crucial. Coworking is a method

to boost interaction and creativity. Every coworking space has a unique personality and a unique community. Coworking is a way to encourage collaboration and innovation. Indigenous communities and governments collaborate to set priorities, enhance services, and submit persuasive funding bids at the regional level as part of community empowerment.



Figure 126: Trader's guidelines, collage format, Source: Author, 2022

6.3.3 GUIDELINES FOR THE DESIGN OF SMME BUSINESS HUB.

Culturally expressed spaces.

Using patterns of cultural connect and empowered space allows any trader a vibrant identity within the allocated design space. The colours and patterns chosen will not only express culture, but will also express function. The openness of a market will support a formal business complex with shared trade roles. The light and rapid design of markets and traders is relatable to their materiality. While customers and business support staff can guarantee the security of their environment, traders can communicate from a variety of locations. A significant identity will surround the traders, creating a sense of place and ownership while strengthening the bond between the city's urban framework and its citizens (traders).

Community's engagements

The community will feel a sense of belonging if they are connected to the business hub trade area, and this will enable them to be empowered by the environment in which they learn and live. The use of growth as an interactive component encourages the trader's natural upward movement in the design.

Business development space

Through intentional business support, the design will be used to guide traders' skills and experiences. The upskilling program will make use of a variety of applications and take into consideration the ethnic, cultural, and linguistic diversity of the traders while also showing respect. Understanding the materiality and benefits of the use on and in the building will further encourage active participation in the programme.



Figure 127: Community guidelines, collage format, Source: Author, 2022

Adaptive reuse

The design shall respond directly to the derelict space and needs of the community by applying adaptive reuse to eliminate wasted space. For businesses to learn and develop, suitable interior spaces will be provided through large open spaces, shop front design, security, safety, and public space. The use of existing structures will assist in eliminating financial costs, aid sustainability and regulate economic business growth within the urban framework. The revitalisation through adaptive reuse will bring new life and legacy to the community beacon.



Figure 128: Building Guidelines, collage format, Source: Author, 2022

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