Sport architecture as a resource for social revitalization in an Urban area:
A multi-purpose sports complex in Durban.

By

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A Dissertation Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation is my own, unaided work and carried out exclusively by myself under the academic supervision of Mr Sibusisu Sithole for the partial fulfilment for the degree of Masters in Architecture (MArch) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, RSA. It has not been submitted for any other qualification or examination in any other educational institute whatsoever.

.....................

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DEDICATION

This document is dedicated to my family who has given me unconditional support and guidance. My deepest gratitude goes to God Almighty, who has been my source of inspiration, knowledge and understanding. I will forever be grateful to my loving parents who have been my source of encouragement and motivation through everything.
ABSTRACT

This thesis explores how the lack of public social space contributes to social issues in the urban context. The research will investigate how social space within the urban context affects the social development of people, the social, economic development and the architectural responses of the urban environment.

The aim of this dissertation is to understand the importance of urban social space in the context of Durban and how sport can be used as a tool to revitalize social space through an architectural response. The outcome of the dissertation is to explore how a suitable architectural response such as a sports complex will adhere to the social issues of youth development to promote social revitalization.

The response to the social economic and architectural aspects of social revitalization will be developed through the exploratory study of theories, concepts, literature, supporting precedents, case studies and inclusive primary research through questioners and interviews that will justify the appropriate design development.
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Chapter 1
Introduction and background of research

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1. Background

Sport is a social phenomenon of patterned behaviors, social structures and institutional relationships that contains unique opportunities to explore and understand the intricacies of social life. Sport is an activity that demands a complexity of primary or secondary involvement that is unsurpassed by any other institutional backgrounds (Luschen 1990:59). Sport assists in developing careers, hobbies and improves the mind and the body’s health. The opportunities through sport are endless and is evident in our local and national current athletes who have used sport as a tool for success and self-development. Sport has the ability to bring people of different backgrounds and environments and social groups together creating a community of people with one common interest that usually would not co-exist.

The purpose of this research is to understand how social spaces impact the urban context and how it can therefore be revitalized into successful urban response in built form to improve the relationship between people and space with the outcome of promoting a socially inclusive city.

In order to promote the process of social revitalization the research will determine how sport is a suitable tool in promoting activity whilst relating the social, economic and architectural backgrounds to develop social spaces through the proposal of built form. Sport is a social phenomenon that freely allows anyone to participate (Nicholson et al, 2012:149). By using sport as a tool to promote social connections, catalytic social relationships are created throughout a diverse group of people across the spectrum of age groups. Through social connections established from sport existing social and economic barriers within Durban Central Business District (CBD) such as segregated urban neighborhoods, crime and idleness amongst youth can be broken down.

By analyzing and collecting information in this research, the significance and importance of sport as a tool sheds light on its major influence on the social economic and environmental contexts of the urban framework and how it is so likely to be used as an expression of diversity in order to promote an improved usage of space.
1.1.2. Motivation/justification of the study

Sport provides unimaginable opportunity, careers and success in the lives of South Africans. Sport is influential in our country due to the strong outdoor culture that exists within South Africa. The country is situated on the southern tip of the African continent. It’s warm tropical climate, with clear skies has a strong influence on the architecture and social behavior, which creates the perfect opportunity for outdoor sporting environments.

Sporting culture is diverse in South Africa, as it was one of the few social activities that encouraged social interaction amongst discriminated social classes without being racially victimized (Rosenberg, 2013:15). The freedom of movement and engagement on a social level was not always prevalent in the country of South Africa. The apartheid rule of law of the past enforced urban racial segregation in the form of non-white suburban areas, known as “township” areas which were located on the outskirts of the city, lacked social public spaces (Peter 2002:12). This notion of isolation forced all non-whites to use non-white parts of the city centers as places of social interaction (Kuper et al.1958: 14).

The urban planning of Durban was racially zoned into a circular shape with the Central business district in the Centre. Historically the inner CBD was planned to socially exclude people of color, being only for white residents, it contained the formal economic hub, trading, recreation and educational zones with the exception of the informal economy of Warwick precinct being non-white (Peter 2002:20). According to Rosenberg (2012:12), in the apartheid city of Durban, sport was a primary social connector that allowed non-white communities which consisted of families, children, youth and neighborhoods to develop a sense of cultural and socio-political heritage (Rosenberg, 2012:12). The sports center, within Curries Fountain in Warwick, Durban, enabled people of color a chance to have sports careers and openly interact under the pretense of ‘sport’ to discuss political issues. The sports facility in Warwick junction became a catalyst not only for social change within the community but it contributed towards major political change in the city (Harrison, 2004:22).

In order to deal with social exclusion and segregation from the past in the post-apartheid South Africa, the state was determined to transform the functions and not change the existing spatial urban landscape (Seeking et al, 2005:15). According to Smith (2005:248) people come
to South African cities to experience economic, cultural, social and recreational opportunities which created an influx of people living within the city precinct. The aim of being in the city is to be a part of a large community of people (Ellin 2006: 35). Although the post-apartheid Durban CBD is home to a diverse population it is not integrated. A report analysis on Durban CBD conducted by the Organization of Civil Rights (2009) suggests that social divisions along class, ‘race’ and nationality still determine people’s interactions in this complex city space. The outcome of the report suggests that the lack of schools, operational public sports and recreational facilities contribute to the lack of social integration within the city.

According to Alexander et al (1977: 618) no one can survive without continuous natural contact with members that make up society.

Rosenberg (2013:19) states that inactivity in Durban CBD causes pockets of breeding spaces for crime and uncontrolled behavior, which diminishes economic development, social activity, and the overall nature of place loses its significance in the city. Residents in the city core of Durban which are in urban neighborhoods are deterred from being outside in the city because of increasing fear brought about by dangers of street life due to lack of public social spaces causing idleness and socially unresponsive behavior. Statistics South Africa (2015) highlight that some of the greatest socio economic challenges within South African cities are due to the idleness in youth who make up more than two-thirds of the population. Youth often faces challenges of unemployment which leads to idleness, even in cases of being educated at a tertiary level. Youth are often excluded from development opportunities which make it difficult to be socially included in urban society (Pittman et al 2003).

South African “Department of sport and recreation”, alludes to the notion that infrastructure for sport recreation are resources that have a major impact on the mental, physical and well-being of the population. Sport provides infrastructure for youth to learn how to manage and deal with adult responsibility and competitive relationships (Toft, 2005:35). According to sport and recreation journal South Africa (2013; 15), the majority of municipal sport facilities and open spaces in Durban remain relatively under-utilized as they fail to take into consideration local community needs in respect of non-competitive sport, physical fitness and recreation. David Smith (2005: 249) argues that the lack of recreational sport facilities accommodating the public has resulted in the youth who are the most vulnerable and susceptible people in society engaging in sports on the street or in temporary inactive spaces within the CBD such as car parks as places of recreational relief. According to National
Youth Development Agency (2012) this causes other social issues as the youth are exposed to unsafe urban environments such as drugs crime and other illegal activity that are frequent issues on the streets in Durban CBD. Most sport facilities are purpose built for a specific sport type, thus compromising flexibility and multi-purpose usage.

According Sports and Recreation South Africa(SRSA) (2009:18) the development of sport in Durban has initiated the process of reshaping the city’s image on a macro scale through competitive sporting facilities. On a micro scale there is still no model for municipal sports facilities that promote social inclusivity whilst maintaining an active presence within the immediate central periphery of the city. Public sporting facilities within the city of Durban are not aligned with the principles of equity, access, inclusion, integration and sustainability. Participating daily in sport has become exclusive to privately owned facilities. This is due to the lack of public active recreational facilities (SRSA, 2015: 20). The lack of recreational facilities restricts the social activities and physical education of schools and residents in the CBD. Seeking recreational relief and social interaction from private sport facilities are not successful alternatives to municipal sport facilities as private sport facilities are designed to be only athletic orientated. These private sporting facilities are socially exclusive to people from the middle and upper income groups who can afford membership costs and prefer to travel a further distance away from the immediate city to areas that are secure, well maintained offer quality services (Sport and Recreation, 2015).

According to Nicholson et al (2012:89) participation in sport is positively associated with social development and the well-being of citizens. Social development through sport would promote better environments and encourage responsible citizenship, through the collective management of resources by the community and individuals (Vermeulen et al 2009:45). Sport contributes towards the development of the micro and macrocosm of our society. On the micro level it is a tool society uses to address its health, social and educational needs, whilst at the macro level it is a reflection of our society it carries our values in terms of, economic development and justice, social cohesion, and relations with other nations of the world (Ngwenya Q, 2009).
1.2 Definition of the Problem, Aims and Objectives

1.2.1. Definition of the problem

Segregation and socio-economic boarders are still issues in the post-apartheid society of South Africa. These concerns are visible in the urban framework of Durban as the lack of social public development in previously segregated areas have promoted socio-economic boarders (Rosenberg, L. 2013). Innovative architecture needs to be explored that incorporates the social aspects of the city through sport and in doing so facilitates social revitalization and the development of the city.

1.2.2. Aim

The aim of this research is to determine how sport in conjunction with architecture can be used as a tool to promote social revitalization in the urban environment. By exploring the social aspects of sport with respect to the urban environment an architectural typology can be assimilated that engages the social realm of the built environment.

1.2.3. Objectives.

- The primary objective is to explore how architecture can engage social spaces in the built environment.
- The secondary objective is to explore the relationship between sport and built form
- The tertiary objective is to explore how a multi-purpose sports facility in Curries Fountain will be a driver for social revitalization.
1.3 Setting out the Scope

1.3.1. Delimitation of research problem

In a post-apartheid society, we still have a social divide. Although South Africa may have grown in diversification due to the abolishment of racial segregation, it has still not achieved a sense of integration. Urban densification in the city of Durban has contributed to the lack of public social space and a lack of sufficient opportunities for social interaction. Public space contain the social activities which make up the social culture of the city. Parts of Durban CBD which lack urban social space are subjected to issues of urban decay whilst parts of Durban that have active social spaces are in a transition of urban development. The inactivity of the city due to lack of recreational space contributes to a variety of social issues (Freund, 2007:117). There are many issues that contribute to segregation and socio economic boarders within the city. This thesis will only explore how the social aspect of sport has an ability to minimise segregation and social boarders. The social influence of sport will be researched to understand how it has the capacity to promote unity and develop social relationships through encouraging social revitalization in Durban.

The use of theories and concepts will be researched in order to further understand the context of social revitalization and how this can be used to develop the social aspects of sport as a tool to promote revitalization through the built form in the urban environment.

1.3.2. Definition of key terms

**Sport:** An activity involving physical exertion and skill which a team or an individual competes against another or others for entertainment. It can also include physical activity and exercise.

**Built Environment:** Urban setting for human activity which include buildings and parks. It is defined as human space in which people live work and play on a day to day basis

**Social space:** A designated area for interacting, being a public space town square, parks and recreation.
**Sport city:** A city that provides a mixture of residential, retail, leisure and recreational facilities. The city socially encapsulating various features of sport.

**Community:** A group of people who make up a particular place and environment

**Regional Identity:** Consists of two separate intertwined and complimentary components: regional identity(consciousness) of inhabitants and the identity (image) of a region.

**Sustainability:** The ability to maintain present needs without compromising resources for future growth

**Livability:** The quality of life, usually in an urban setting, where the accessibility to needs and services contributes to overall well-being

**Social Revitalization:** A process in which the city undergoes transformation through social cultural awareness, by adding or improving social activity through built form.

1.3.3. Stating the assumptions

- Everyone can participate in sport, even people with disabilities.
- Sport is essential in life, improves health and social well-being

1.3.4. Hypothesis

Sport has the ability to break social barriers and promote social interaction in the urban environment. A sports complex in the urban environment will establish social space and thus promote social revitalization.
1.3.5. Key questions

**Main question:**
How can sport be used as a tool to promote social revitalization in an urban area of Durban through built form?

**Secondary Questions:**
- What impact does sport have on society?
- Why is the urban area of Durban in need of social revitalization?
- How does sport and social revitalization inform architectural design?
- How can architecture bring about social cohesion in the urban environment of Curries Fountain?

1.4 Concepts and theories

This dissertation explores social revitalization through concepts, theories and a literature review. The theories and concepts are briefly discussed in this chapter and will be further broken down in detail in chapter two of this document. These theories will be used to explore the facilitation of social revitalization through a sport related architectural response.

1.4.1 Theory of space and inclusivity

Radical inclusivity by Krzysztof Nawratek (2012:10) wrote that architecture in urban space needs to be re-imagined as completely new entities, created to embody community and promote activity. Architecture is meant to operate in a larger field of tides and relationships. This larger field should be understood; both physically as the urban context for architecture, as well as the social, political and cultural environment. (Nawratek 2012: 22). According sports and recreation South Africa (2009), municipal recreational sporting facilities in the CBD environment in Durban have not been successful in accommodating the sporting needs of the community. Inner city Municipal sport and recreation facilities are not appealing to non-competitive, fitness and recreation users. They are considered generally inactive and unavailable to the public as they are not always open after hours and during the weekends. Facilities that are functioning have a lack of sustainable activity programs that are broad
enough in scope to cater for the diverse needs and interests of different age and socio-economic groups.

The growing lack of available and maintained public recreational space in the urban environment due to urban densification has resulted in the youth engaging in sport in the street or in temporary inactive car parks as places of recreational relief. This causes other social issues as the youth are in danger of being exposed to unsafe urban environments such as drugs crime and other illegal activity that are frequent issues on the streets in Durban CBD. According to sports and recreation South Africa (2009) private sport facilities contribute to social issues noticed between lower and middle classes. Lower earning families and individuals are socially excluded from these private facilities due to unaffordable costs and the location of major sport facilities are mostly situated away from the inner city neighborhoods. Sports and recreation South Africa further states that the high maintenance of public sport facilities means that it usually cannot operate after working hours. The lack of active recreational facilities limits the social activities and physical education of the schools, residents in the CBD (Sport and Recreation 2015:12). Instead of embracing a society of cohesion the opposite is being achieved in a post democratic society within the inner Durban CBD. The lack of schools, and operational sports and social facilities contribute to the lack of urban social integration.

1.4.3 Theory of place making

Amos Rappaport in his book, *The Meaning of the Built Environment*, makes reference to place stating that “the human mind basically works by trying to impose meaning on place through the use of cognitive taxonomies, categories, and schemata, and that built forms, like other aspects of material cultures are physical expressions of these schemata and domains”, (Rappaport 1982: 15). He further states that “the meaning of many environments is generated through personalization, through taking possession, completing it and changing it” (Rappaport 1982: 21). The theory of place-making in the urban environment is concerned with the relation between space and the behavior it evokes within its users (Alexander et al. 1977: 618). Jane Jacobs also states that in the current urban environment of cities, urban parks have transitioned into social public spaces in which physical and social activity occur. Urban parks which are public recreational spaces, are places where the urban population seek
to define place that allows their own spatial behavior to be expressed as well as their social and political activities (Jacobs, 1962:91).

According to Nilsson urban space allows for people to develop meaning and connections to the city, not only by moving through the city but also through the engagement of space in the city (Nilsson 2004:15). Urban space is perceived as the potential for relations, and realized as the active and unique nature of the city. The theory of place making is applied to formulate a critical approach towards developing people-space relationships. It is the essential part of social urban practice in which space in the city is a reflection of the social culture (Alexander 1977: 619)

1.4.4 Theory of Urban catalysts:

The theory of urban catalyst originates from the book of “American Urban Architecture - Catalysts in the Design of Cities” by Wayne Attoe and Donn Logan. “We postulate that the strategic introduction of new elements can revitalize existing ingredients of the urban center without necessarily changing them radically. As the catalyst stimulates such new life, it also affects the form, character, and quality of urban elements that are subsequently introduced. In short, a controlled catalytic chain reaction takes place” (Attoe & Logan, 1989:4). The purpose of catalysts is to be the progressive, continuous regeneration of the urban fabric. The aim of the catalyst is not to be a single end result but an element that urges and guides subsequent development (Attoe & Logan, 1989:46).

According to Nyka L (2017) the proposal of a sporting center in Letniewo, Gdańsk, Poland caused some controversy as it was considered by local residents to be lacking prestige, dilapidated and it was a crime infested area. This perception changed after the development of the proposed stadium, which brought about a new transport hub, construction of housing projects and introduced more pedestrian pathways linking parts and other sporting facilities of the city together. Overall the quality of life in the area improved and the sporting center has made the area a landmark in the city. The Olympic Park in Stratford, London is another good example of social revitalization through sport. The completion of the project influenced the development of public transport, housing and the park itself became a node within the city (Nyka.L. 2017).
1.4.4 The Concept of a Liveable city

The concept of a livable city is discussed in the book, Death and Life of Great American Cities’ by Jane Jacobs (1962). Jacobs’ (1962: 91) wrote of the potential virtues of urban living, and she advocated that a city should be evaluated in terms of the social benefits provided to its inhabitants. In her book she discusses the social importance that recreational environments, swimming pools and sports fields has as a vent for anti-social or violent behavior (Jacobs 1961: 92). Jacobs’ (1961:144) research also highlighted that urban densification without defined recreational environments contribute towards the decline of social engagement. Florida (2002:34) suggests that in order for a city to be successful it has to contain a strong governance of creative social culture and recreational relief. He further argues that in order for cities to fulfil their economic potential, former industrial cities need to understand and adapt to the needs of the creative class (Pye.N et al 2015: 15).

According to Kevin Lynch the built environment consists of urban form and pathways, which are voids that link spaces together. These pathways are the skeletal framework of the urban environment. Social spaces exist within this skeletal framework and are pockets of space that contain the cultural, historical and character of place. Social sustainability, sometimes called cultural sustainability, should be culturally sensitive and with a design proven safe and secure(Lynch 1960: 90). One of the most widely recognized definitions of social sustainability is the one formulated in the Brundtland Report, that was released in 1987; “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Brundtland, 1987, 41). The need to recognize and pattern our surroundings are crucial as it has such long roots in the past. Recreational parks and fields are part of the skeletal framework of the built environment and are voids that contrast with architectural urban form. They are spaces that act as nodes for the preservation of nature. The aim of these spaces are to stimulate rural settings, to provide relief from the urban environment (Trancik, 1986:1103). According to Ramboll (2015:14) the concept of a livable city is centered around having decent living conditions for all inhabitants that promotes physical and mental well-being. It is about highlighting the human experience of place. Porter (2015) further goes on to suggest that the
livable cities includes an interrelated set of spatial and social factors that deal with the diversity of society.

1.4.5 The ‘Concept of Sport Cities’

Essentially the term ‘sport city’ has been applied in three distinct forms: as a temporary attraction, to designate one part of a city as a sports zone or hub or to brand a whole city (Smith 2010: 20). Loftman and Spirou (1996: 28) in the book ‘Sports Stadiums and Urban Regeneration’ discuss that sporting development in cities are brought about by the need to promote a new image for a city through public sporting facilities. Grattam and Henry (2001: 55) in the book ‘Sport in the city’ also discuss cities using sport not only for its socio-political benefits but also to define social activity, create public infrastructure whilst establishing recreational green zones of relief and interaction within the city. The notion of sport used to define social public spaces as a tool for enhancing the image of place is not a contemporary phenomenon (Reiss 1981). According to Silk et al (2005:90) public sports facilities share similar anchors as festival marketplaces drawing in constant activity and promoting re-development schemes. According to Llewellyn Davies (2005) public sport hubs act as nodes within the urban framework and creates walkable linkages amongst urban neighborhoods. It also promotes comfort and safety through passive surveillance. Manchester used a sports hub approach to deliver East Manchester from post–industrialization. The city of Melbourne used sport to aggressively pursue public events whilst the Singapore sports hub aimed to actively encourage public engagement in sport and organized physical activity. (Pye.N et al 2015: 15). Sport city literature also documents a significant rise in sport cities in the oil-rich Gulf States (Bromber, Krawietz, and Maguire 2013), with many cities using sport not only for its socio-political benefits, but also promote local property demand through social public infrastructure. For example, the Dubai Sports City emerged as a strategy to promote Dubai’s international profile while also reducing the United Arab Emirates economic dependence on oil production (Dubai Sports City Official Website 2014; Smith 2010).

Conclusion

The combination of the theories and concepts above are will be further explored in chapter 3 to develop an in-depth analysis of urban public space and the social effects it has within the urban environment. The exploration of these theories and concepts will develop an
understanding to assist with the process of revitalization. In essence the idea of revitalization is to balance the current rapid development in urban areas through conserving urban identity, culture and traditions. (Vilenske, 2014: 35) Furthermore, revitalization acts as a catalyst for urban environment. It encourages suitable amenities densification and activity. Remazani et al, (2009:2) stated that revitalization of public space is important in developing a sense of community, by encouraging local activities and events which enforce the urban heritage.

1.5 Research Methods and Materials

General approach

The study will be developed using a mixed method approach, integrating quantitative and qualitative data. The primary data will consist of direct sources within context of the site, Curries fountain. A number of interviews will be conducted with social sport participants and professionals who are athletes, coaches, people who work in sports science and architects as well as urban planners who have dealt with the design of sporting facilities. Secondary data will be an investigation of case studies, analysis of precedents, and review of literature. This will further understand how previous examples have dealt with social and economic conditions and architectural design.

Primary research

Case studies will be conducted within the area of research, Curries Fountain as well as areas that have similar outcomes as the intended research. The exploration of case studies will be used to understand and analyze the usage of space in accordance to its intended purpose. This will be conducted through site visits and analysis of plans and visual aids. The case studies will be critiqued according to the context and scope of the literature review. The exploration of the case studies will facilitate in the development of how to analyze public space and to understand its social impact within the urban environment.
**Sampling and interviews**

The following research will entail a series of questionnaires and interviews through random and targeted sampling that will be conducted in and around Warwick junction precinct which will assist in shedding light on how sporting facilities were developed and how they impact the existing social, economic and architectural contexts of Durban. This sampling process will be broken down by a set of criteria needed to understand how the urban context was created and how it works in its existence.

This sampling process will be conducted according to the key questions listed in the document where various groups of people will be selected according to the following categories of people:

- Local residents of the Durban city in relation to the research proposal.
- Groups of adults from a range of age groups.
- Local urban planners and officials involved in urban planning.
- Architects involved in the designing of sporting facilities will be interviewed to understand the aim of the architectural response of this research proposal.

**Analysis and final Observations**

By using a mixed methodology approach a variety of information can be gathered to determine the scope, depth and the overall direction of the research. This will aid in narrowing down and formulating the brief, in order to formulate an appropriate architectural intervention. This architectural solution will address the problems in the research. It will also help to determine the spatial requirements, the urban response and other resolutions to problems that have not already been identified.
Secondary Research

Precedent Studies:
The investigation of precedent studies of large-scale urban revitalization or renewal designs carried out in urban contexts globally will be analyzed in order to understand the process of revitalization and how this process can be used to revitalize sporting facilities in a given urban context.

Literature Review

Literature relating to the concepts and theories will be explored in order to understand how these theories have been translated into built form. Furthermore, documents relating to sport architecture and the process of social revitalization will be explored in order to develop a detailed analysis.

The literature review will research the social urban history of Durban within Warwick Junction and its surrounding context. The analysis of the city’s social history will contribute to the understanding of how the precinct of Warwick has developed into its current social issues. Exploring the social issues of the past and present within Warwick will identify a suitable user group for the architectural response.

The literature review will further explore the social aspects of sport and its influence in promoting social change internationally and within the context of South Africa. The process of social revitalization will be explored in relation to sport, people and its ability to assimilate social sport architecture as active public spaces within the urban environment.
Chapter 2

Literature review
Introduction

This literature will discuss contextual issues and identify background information regarding the topic and how the selected area of study influences the theoretical and conceptual framework of the study. The research will provide a diverse selection of sourced information from theoretical to relating built work that will cover the social, economic and architectural material of the urban context. The literature review will help formulate key principles and tools to identify relevant precedents and case studies and identify how these examples can be of importance to the topic. The principles established from the combined research will aid in the development of formulating an analysis and conclusion.

2.1 Segregation in the Urban City

2.1.1 Segregated City of Durban

The urban context of Durban has been historically shaped through political regime. The entire city and its access to public infrastructure was designed according to racial separation. The group areas act meant that there was a separate spatial, social economic and political agenda in Durban which was continuous throughout South African cities. Urbanization policies of apartheid ruled in favor of whites who were privileged by race to live within close proximity of the city and be part of its urban infrastructure and public amenities whilst it isolated people of color to the periphery of the city. The periphery areas were sub-divided according to race groups, with the most remote areas being categorized as Townships. These peri-urban areas existed in isolation from the city. Townships lacked bulk infrastructure and services and were not regarded as social areas of interest within the city of Durban (Harrison et al. 1997).
2.1.2 The right to the city

Social divisions in the city were enforced by having separate areas for people of color who were characterized as populations of low income levels, that suffered with unemployment and poor economic development. These areas were functional places and were not considered as places in which frequent public future development occurred.

The inner city of Durban contained primary public facilities, such as schools, tertiary education, health care, recreational facilities, markets, places of worship and work that townships lacked. This resulted in daily urban migration that stimulated social interaction to occur within the city core as the public transport systems directly link the peri-urban settlements to the city. Segregation still occurred within the city CBD, which meant that people of color had to find creative ways in which to effectively use, usually one social space for a variety of different recreational purposes (Harrison et al. 1997).

2.1.3 Sport facilities as social places in the segregated city

In the battle against the political regime of apartheid, sport played a crucial role as a dynamic part of civil society in South Africa (Keim 2003:11). According to Allison in her book, Taking Sport Seriously, she states that, “few countries with sport institutions in civil society could outflank and manipulate what appeared to be a powerful state in this manner; in no other country, perhaps, could sporting institutions have played so large a part in forming the direction that the state would take” (Allison 2000:69). In Durban sport facilities played a pivotal role in providing social public place in which people of color could peacefully interact, seek recreational liberation and congregate for political agendas under the pretense of sport. These facilities did not only provide social relief to its immediate surrounding context but it acted as social nodes within the greater context of Durban.
Curries Fountain sports stadium which is located in the Warwick precinct of the city was the social hub for non-whites. Upon its inception Currie’s Fountain was described as one of the most active sports stadium in South Africa and the epicenter for sporting events that attracted people from the North and South of Durban and as far as the outer lying provinces in the country (Alegi, 2003:19). Its popularity stemmed from the fact that it was the only non-white recreational facility for surrounding educational institutions in the Warwick precinct. The daily migration of people into the city led to an overwhelming interest and development of people playing sport, especially soccer. According to Alegi (2003:2) it was part of the daily urban discourse, being discussed in busses, pavements and during the wait for transport. During apartheid, sport was a primary social connector for non-whites in Durban (Doyle 2004: 30). As sport and politics grew in popularity its mutual interest amongst racial groups helped to form alliances and relationships that transgressed from racial, multi-racial to finally non-racial organizations which created a universal political program that grew radical over time (Alegi 2003: 17). Through sport Durban became the heart for major political changes which influenced South African political movements.

2.1.4 Segregated Democratic South Africa

When South Africa transitioned into democratic nation its social barriers of apartheid were abolished. This provided the opportunity to allow everyone a chance to equally be part of social progression (Keim 2003:5). Although post-apartheid South Africa become a nation that welcomes social change, tensions and inequalities from the past are still present and contribute to a high level of conflicts over a variety of issues ranging from social inequality, employment, to land, housing and scarceness of resources and facilities. According to Doyle (2004:53) in post-apartheid dispensation during 1996, Durban was still regarded as one of the most segregated cities in the world. It along with other cities in South Africa contributed to the most unjust levels of urban segregation that was experienced in any city in the world. The abolishment of social inequality provided hope for South Africans but it did not change the physical landscape that facilitated social segregation (Robinson 1996:53). In order to deal with spatial and social inequality in South African cities, social exclusion and segregation from the past in the post-apartheid South Africa, the state was determined to transform the functions and not change the existing spatial urban landscape (ANC 1994).
According to Seeking and Nattrass (2005: 25) local municipal governments were independently tasked with being agents of transformation (ANC 1994) in reshaping the urban apartheid form. This meant that the country, as a single entity did not experience the same levels of social growth and development. Racially inclusive environments where not conceived immediately. This resulted in maintained spatial distribution of segregated urban communities that maintained the racial divide in early years of post-apartheid between 1993 and 1996 (Doyle 2004: 12).

President Nelson Mandela who was elected as the first South African democratic president referred to sport as a beacon of social hope for the previously segregated nation (Mandela, 1994). Part of the president’s plan was to facilitate social inclusivity, promote nation building and stimulate social upliftment through the involvement of South Africa in local and international sport. South Africa had great success in competitive sport at an international level. Winning the 1995 rugby world cup and the African cup of nations in 1996 was a social turning point in South African history, it provided all South Africans a national sense of pride and unity that the country desperately needed (Keim, 2003:10).

2.1.5 Social issues of the past and present in the city of Durban

The sense of reconciliation become evident after 1996 when there were significant shifts in population and racial composition in Durban. The most noticeable change was the movement of people from residential areas into the urban CBD neighborhoods of Durban. This transition of urban migration into the city produced a rapid populace influx. Amongst those who sought opportunity in the city were the youth, who still make up more than 75 percent of the city’s urban population (Seekings, 2008: 55).

According to David Dewar (2005: 251) all three main cities of South Africa, Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban, since the fall of apartheid, have experienced large scale urban migration. Smith states that (2005:248) people migrate to South African cities not to primarily just seek housing, as their main objective is to experience the economical, cultural, social and recreational opportunities of the city. Urban migration has resulted in a diverse population of people within South African cities which has been initially designed to maintain and uphold urban social exclusivity. Hence urban neighborhoods that were formed during apartheid within South African cities naturally exist in isolation. Durban is still
characterized by its segregated and fragmented past through it unchanged urban planning, which is amplified through the hierarchy of transport movement routes and points of accessibility that has been in existence since apartheid and has not been planned or altered to be continuous in establishing new nodes through the city (Christopher, 2005: 38). There is a strong urgency to develop intermediate connections to link areas in the CBD together as Durban’s inner city core is not experiencing similar social and economic growth as suburban developments within the city’s context. Owings (2008:23) suggests that this is due to the lack of recreational facilities which helps to maintain interest and create diverse levels of activity in the economic, urban infrastructure, and maintain development in business, industrial and ecological zones (Owings, 2008:24).

Cities will always be the focal point of development as it has concentrated infrastructure and labor support providing essential ingredients for urban development (Harvey 2000: 30). Although Durban CBD hosts key infrastructure that supports the entire city, it is mainly experiencing social growth in areas that provide temperate social relief. These areas are in danger of creating socially exclusive environments as they are not designed to be accessible by the entire city (Rosenberg 2013: 52). According to Siedman (2003:19) within cities exist its own inner regional competition and issues of uneven development and spatial inequality brought about by the desire to attract capital development in a variety of ways.

Marcuse and Kempen (2000:55) state that in order for social inclusivity to occur, it has to be introduced in response to the core social elements of the city. The aim of being in the city is to be part of a large socially connected community of people (Smith, 2005: 55). The outcome of social inclusivity is to increase levels of diversity and specialization (Owings, 2008:25).

Even though Durban CBD is home to a diverse population and has multiple urban neighborhoods, it lacks social linkages that promote urban community (Rosenberg, 2013: 18). There is no active driving force that causes a sense of unity to emerge which causes urban neighborhoods in Durban CBD to exist in isolation to each other. The city has also in many instances disregarded the social aspects that existed through engaging in sport. Instead of embracing and enforcing a society of cohesion the opposite is being achieved through a lack of urban transformation in a democratic society, within the inner Durban CBD (Harvey, 2000: 37).
According to Smith (2005:237) the development of a post-apartheid city will be greatly constrained by what already exists. Rosenberg states that (2013:18) even though South African law regarding social interaction has changed, areas that were only deemed as desirable places of social interaction due to restrictions, have lost its sense of appeal in post-apartheid South Africa. Warwick Junction in Durban which is an inner city precinct is no longer socially desirable to the city (Freund, 2001; 528). Its sports facility which was the heart of Durban lost its perception as being a place of relief and opportunity that it had during the apartheid struggle for the city’s occupants and the state itself. Warwick along with other areas that were previous recreational environments for people of color, experienced similar circumstances of being in a state of social idleness (Gainsborough 2001: 730).

In order for the city of Durban to maintain its existing social recreational facilities which are meant to promote interaction and diversity, it has to reinterpret the significance that social space has within the urban realm (Keim 2003;15). Although Curries Fountain sport facility lost its cultural significance it has the potential through sport to socially connect the educational and transport zones to the rest of the city. Warwick precinct has since developed into a precinct that hosts major transport and education nodes of the city. Although Warwick contains a hub of activity, it lacks active urban social public environments and activity that relate and creates pedestrian links from the transport interchange to the rest of the city (Harrison, 1997: 48).

Warwick is a prime example of spatial social exclusion that exists in smaller scales within the city (Rosenberg, 2013: 56). Historically Warwick Junction was regarded as the social precinct through sport for non-whites, but its social relevance has not progressed into the democratic society. The spatial hierarchy of the post-apartheid city of Durban is much the same as that of the apartheid city, though with different maintenance mechanisms (Smith 2010; 229). In a pattern similar to the maintenance of the developmental regime through the political transition described by Seekings and Nattrass (2005:40), the spatial structure of apartheid has continued to survive the breakdown in authoritarian laws creating isolated social groups.

A series of spatial systems needs to be implemented to develop a chain of activities, that enforce social public infrastructure. This emphasis of social urban development will indirectly improve the movement of people throughout the city linking the city as one
organism (Smith 2005: 220) According to a report analysis on Durban CBD conducted by the organization of civil rights (2009) parts of the city are not identifiable with each other. Instead of a unified environment there are areas within Durban CBD which seem to have their own transition trajectories. These differences are noticeable simply by moving from one road to the next.

Throughout the social development of Durban, sport has been a constant social connector in creating spaces of interaction within the city and the country. Even though sport has initiated the process of reshaping the city’s image and identity, it has done so through a series of mega sporting events which has promoted the city into being a part of a global presence. Sassen (1999:45) states that through an influx of infrastructure the image of a nation is manifested. Sport has been a strong tool in generating social inclusivity on a macro scale but it is yet to develop the city into being socially connected or integrated. According to sports and recreation South Africa (2009) although the city core of Durban has sporting facilities these facilities are not active public recreational spaces that connects the city together. Many people from the middle and upper income groups prefer to travel to private sports and recreation facilities that may be a further distance away from the immediate city that is secure, well maintained and offer quality services.

The lack of active recreational spaces limits walkability, proximity of space, social activities and physical education in the schools and residents in the CBD. In Durban most peoples’ relationship to sport is reduced to being spectators. In most cases, people do not have the opportunity to be spectators in stadium stands. Due to the poor socio-economic situations in Durban, spectators often stand outside shops and cafe’s that have television sets, watching from the street, not allowed to enter or even hear the sound, without making a purchase (Keim, 2011:16).

According to Rosenberg (2013: 45) inactivity in Durban CBD causes pockets of breeding spaces for crime and uncontrolled behavior, which diminishes economic development, and the overall nature of place loses its significance in the city. Residents in the city core of Durban which are not part of active neighborhoods become idle, socially unresponsive and are deterred from being outside in the city because of the increasing fear brought about by dangers of the street life.
2.1.6 Youth in the Context of Durban

The development of educational institutions in the city, specifically in Warwick has resulted in a substantial increase in urban residents that consist of youth. According to Statistics South Africa (2015) some of the greatest socio economic challenges within South African cities are due to the idleness in youth. The youth often face challenges of unemployment even in cases after education at a tertiary level. Youth are often excluded from development opportunities which makes it difficult to be socially included in urban society (Pittman et al 2003). The National Youth Development Agency (2012) has listed South Africa as one of the few countries in Africa that have developed comprehensive youth policies. Since post-apartheid the South African government has concentrated efforts on identifying vulnerable groups in society and working on legislation that would benefit these groups (statistics South Africa, 2011). According to statistics South Africa (2015; 37) more than two-thirds of the populations unemployment is below the age of 35. In order to address challenges in youth such as inequality, social exclusion and poverty, the Constitution of South Africa (1996) have acknowledged the youth in society as being influential in their future impact in the social and economic development, but very little has been done to improve the social circumstances that youth endure.

According to David Dawer, Urban youth are the most vulnerable and susceptible to the worlds’ treacherous events and ideas and need environments where they have the freedom to accomplish their goals and experience success with a positive competitive mind. In Durban it is common practice for youth to be spending their past time engaging in sport on the street or in temporary inactive car parks as places of recreational relief. Youth in particular would rather socially engage in recreational environment where it is convenient for multiple people to gather. Social interaction in unprecedented environments uncover socio-economic issues such as crime, drugs and illegal activity that are frequent issues on the streets in Durban CBD. It is important to define social space with natural landscapes to offer an escape from the intensity of urban activity. Engaging in nature whilst being in the urban realm provides a balance and allows people to be part of the place in which they live. it is the basic platform of regional identity (Smith 2005: 249).
For social interaction to be a natural occurrence in the urban environment design schemes must have legible form, and public elements that have cultural relevance which bring about movement (Hester 2006). According to Ellin (2006: 35) ecological success is determined by the ability of the planet to support all life forms, in the same way urban design success should be determined by its ability to support humanity.

Places created in the open space, need to respond to cultural and social function. In order for the youth to find their place in the urban environment, there should be improvements made in the functioning of cultural centers, social and sport clubs. There should also be after-school activities, city centers, green areas and sport facilities in order for the youth to spend time there and feel good. Urban public space should provide: the integration of young people with their peers; contact with nature; the possibility to do various sports; leisure; entertainment; modern education and participation in various cultural events (Ellin 2006:35).

In Durban sport is a key element in promoting the process of social cohesion and inclusivity in the urban environment as it is popular amongst the population specifically the youth (SRSA 2015: 15). According to Nicholson et al (2012; 150) participation in sport is positively associated with social development and the well-being of citizens. Diverse forms of social capital development bring people together and addresses socio-economic concerns. Social development through sport would promote better environments and encourage responsible citizenship through the collective management of resources by the community and individuals (Vermeulen and Verweel 2009:23).

2.1.7 Youth in society

According to the global youth development index report (2016) young people make up one quarter of humanity, whilst in developing countries, youth make up one in every three people. According to a consensus carried out by the United Nations (2010) the continent of Africa has the youngest population in the world with over 70 percent being below the age of 30. Youth hold the ability to be major influences of stability and peace in a nation as they are the most active portion of any society (Sulaiman, 2006). The youth development index report (2016) states that Individuals between the ages of 15 and 24 are classified as youth (Brempong and Kimenyi 2013:2). Youth out-number the middle-age and elderly and have the ability to bring about rapid change through their mass superiority (Onyekpe, 2007). This is evident in youth organizations and political movements and according to Eberly and Gall
the youth play an influential role in post war community reconstruction, rehabilitating peace, resolving tense issues and preventing further future conflict.

In order to understand the social conditions of youth, the contextual environment in which they associate themselves needs to be explored (Urban and Lerner, 2011:67). The experiences that occur at home, in educational facilities, the community and through family and peers are considered as various primary influencers amongst youth (Pitman et al. 2003:15). On a national scale the challenges that youth face is varied and diverse but are commonly associated with employment, health, and social participation. The Majority of youth in South Africa experience these challenges due to the lack of education, lack of skills and training for employment and access to health care. For youth to be able to overcome these issues, a greater sense of inclusion needs to be felt from beyond the environments in which these problems are experienced. According to Benson and Pitman (2001:11) community activity that integrates youth involvement provides a platform for social youth development and effectively provides youth with an opportunity to break away and deal with social issues.

According to Jay Coakley, in society it is the youth that have the energy, enthusiasm, dynamics and character that the rest of the age groups lack. Youth are perceived as the cornerstone to societal rejuvenation (Idike, 2015:36). This notion is also true amongst youth contributing to the detriment of society by adding to socio-economic issues. Due to the lack of opportunity and access to resources youth can have a negative outlook towards society by participating and contributing in illegal activity and actions. Drugs and crime have become popular amongst the youth in the urban context. Instead of long term self-development there has been a trend amongst youth seeking temporary comfort from the thrill of illegal activity (Coakley 2011:310).

Dworkin states that Socially, a person in his/her youth is not included in the groups of neither children nor adults. Youth are considered as being in a transition period, because a young person has a tendency to behave in some ways like a child and in others like an adult. For example, a young adult would want to assume responsibilities of an adult but would still behave in the same nature of a child (Dworkin et al, 2003: 19).
2.2 Social Revitalization

Introduction

According to Holland (2014:2) in architecture, revitalization means to give new life, strength, and vitality to an area, or neighborhood. Vilensike (2014:2) stated that revitalization can imply physical and social, cultural and economic dimensions. The concept of revitalization is to balance the current rapid development in urban areas through conserving urban identity, culture and traditions. According to Samadi et.al, (2011:71) the process of revitalization is an approach that practices urban conservation. By acknowledging urban heritage, the issue of generalization due to globalization is avoided. Revitalization in the urban environment is associated with the social spaces of the city. The concept of revitalization deals with the social environment, cultural, historical development of problematic, deprived and derelict urban areas (Spandou et.al. 2010:3).

2.2.1 Recreational Urban Public Space

According to Bassett (2013:3) the meaning of urban public space is to be ideological, socially productive. Distinguished Recreational public spaces provide opportunity for physical activity, social interaction and the escape form urban living for people of all walks of life (Bagwell et. Al 2012:25). This is supported by Greaves (2011:38), social interaction typically occurs in commonly used public spaces, such as sidewalks commercial establishments, such as shops, hardware stores, cafes and pubs. Mehta (2007:2) regards public space as vital social spaces of the city.

These areas are dynamic and are crucial for providing consistent channels for movement, nodes for communication and common grounds for play and relaxation. Recreational environments are important open spaces that improve comfort, relaxation and pleasant experiences (Nasution et.al, 2012:61). By enhancing recreational public social space, the urban image is also enhanced. This indirectly impels economic development through investment which is enticed by having a good image of place. Improving the nature and
defining public space adds to the beautification and enrichment of the overall urban environment (Li, 2003: 10).

2.2.2 Relationship Between social revitalization and Recreational public space:

Recreational public space has been designed to bring intercultural social communities together (Bagwell et.al, 2012:37). According to Okolo et.al, (2010:126) Recreational public space should be the representation of the contemporary city and the space where the catalytic process of revitalization of cities occurs, enforcing the identity of place. Remezani et.al (2009:2) also stated that public space contains the social atmosphere of the city, and that recreational public space is the epicenter in revitalizing the city as these areas manifest a sense of place as well as a sense of community through encouraging activity, and hosting events that encompass urban heritage.

2.3 The role of Sport in Social Revitalization

2.3.1 The impact of sport on society

Introduction:

Sport has always had a meaningful presence in society which dates as far back as 2700 years ago to the first recorded Olympic games. It is based on the practices of discipline, order and competition with the desire to win. In today’s society sport is a huge social phenomenon, that affects diverse areas of social life. It influences nations, business, social status, fashion, social ethical values and it determines people’s lifestyles. Politicians often use sport to unite the community with a unified idea. According to Kreft (2012: 8) the international Olympic committee has 68 global sport federations and 204 national Olympic committees. FIFA has 209 national football associations as its members. There are currently 193 members of the united nations which makes sport and football associations more international and global than any other organized relationship of the global human race. Sport has one of the biggest presence in the global community, and is a symbol of unified global social culture (Kreft 2012: 8).
According to Eichberg, sports can be incorporated into a tri-alectic model, which are categories of competitive sport, sport for health and exercise and sports as a form of recreation culture. The fundamentals of engaging in sport is introduced at a cultural level through social interaction. Health and exercise sport is aimed at stressing discipline and fitness through integration of playing sport to get fit. The social logic behind competitive sport is the measurement of results, the desire to compare and compete. The atmosphere created is an emotional feeling of winning or losing (Eichberg 2010: 2).

Figure 2: Tri-alectic sport model (Eichberg 2010: 231)

Sport in a non-competitive environment helps to create patterns for community based relationships that embody respect, diversity, and promote integration and a sense of togetherness in society (Ministry of Culture, 2010:7).

Through group involvement sport has the ability to assist individuals with social health and well-being, which stimulates joy and happiness. The feeling of togetherness motivates social interaction and helps individuals to consistently be active (Ministry of Culture, 2010:37). According to Davies sport has transcended the boundary from being considered an active leisure pastime to being recognized as having considerable social and economic influence in contemporary society. In the united nations participating in sport is regarded as more than just a casual past time, it is a civil right (Davies 2005, 37).

Sport is powerful in bringing about unity to a mass population. In 2006, the FIFA World Cup in Germany was used as a tool to rebrand the national image and contribute to the development of national identity. According to Battersby (2006:1) “the well-organized
tournament laid the foundation for an influential transformation in the German psyche, which has boosted national unity and helped Germany regain a sense of national purpose”. It helped to bring a sense of autonomy in uplifting the nation. According to Smith and Seokho (2006:1) at an international sporting level the world is primarily organized according to nationality. A cohesive force is created through sport bringing about national identity, which connects various provinces that make up a nation together and binds their relationships to become a family of nations” (Smith & Seokho, 2006:1). Through national identity a sense of national pride is established, which enforces the feeling of belonging and describes the positive feeling of association a resident develops towards his or her country. National pride often brings about a sense of patriotism and loyalty. Blank and Schmidt (2003: 4) see national pride as a quality that uplifts self-esteem for the individual.

According to McPherson, Society in general uses sport as way to escape the stress of our daily lives and come together as a community. It improves people’s attitude, emotions, morals and drives people to have a well-balanced personality. It helps to develop interaction between people through contact, not only in one region, or country but on an international scale. It is able to develop a mutual understanding between people and helps to stimulate values of trust and peace. sport is closely connected with the mental, moral, aesthetic, communicative and other spheres of culture, which is an integral component of people’s social life (McPherson 1989: 343).

Sport in society influences our understanding of gender roles and socio-economic issues, and helps frame a city, and cultivate its national identity. It acknowledges people’s skill, and breaks the barriers of language, race and differences in nationality. It empowers people to be recognized for their true potential regardless of their social standing. It helps us to gain a better understanding of our views on issues of equality, human rights, child development, standards for health and fitness, and character development. The competitive aspect of sport helps to develop athletes and sports teams. It instils values of dedication perseverance, determination, courage endurance, independence and self-control (McPherson 1989, 344).

Sport is intrinsic in human nature, it has developed into a culture of its own and therefore it cannot exist without affecting social and historical conditions (McPherson 1989, 344). Sport provides social inclusion for people with disabilities. People who need assistance in movement are challenged by obstacles every day. Disabled sport provides a social
environment for similar users. It provides a sense of normality and rehabilitation into society. It does this through physiological therapy as it helps to develop the users self-esteem and the ability to excel regardless of their condition.

2.3.2 Impact of sport on South Africa

Sport has become intertwined in South African’s culture. Today it is a social normality to engage in sport. According to the Minister of sport and recreation (Sport and Recreation 2014) it is the role and duty of local government to construct sporting infrastructure. It is a requirement that basic services are met to promote the involvement of communities to participate in recreation, sport, leisure, arts and culture. It not only is a moral, economic and social imperative but it is also a constitutional obligation.

Pre apartheid:

Sport is based on principles of equality. The outcome of participating in sport is to test skill, endurance and the ability to win whilst abiding by rules (Allison 2000). Historically, being treated as equals on the sports field was not always prevalent. Before the 20th century the ability to participate in sport interracially on a global scale was not possible. This form of discrimination was dismantled in the 1950’s amongst most nations but under the apartheid regime in South Africa these regulations remained the same. The conditions of apartheid were to separate individuals according to race, this notion of segregation was also practiced in the sporting society (Coakley 1990). Non-white athletes were not recognized as capable of being part of South African teams. Sport was used to promote national pride that was reliant by white-only teams. In apartheid sport was used to promote the belief that whites were superior to other races (Sugden 2010:262). This message did not receive global acceptance as apartheid South Africa was monotonous in its approach towards race. According to Booth (2003:480) the sport boycott that occurred during the 1950s which prevented South Africa from international sport participation, was due to lack of human rights, democracy, social equality and anti-racism. During the 1960’s the international sporting federations were against South Africa and its sporting policies.
Although sport was used to embody white supremacy within South Africa, the opposite was conducted internationally. During apartheid international sporting societies applied pressure in de-racializing sport in South Africa (Cornelissen 2011:153). An international sport boycott was held against racial South African teams. South Africa was excluded from recognition and financial funding from international sport associations. This was one of the main reasons behind the success of the sport boycott (Kidd 1988:644). South Africa failed to comply with international Olympic committee (IOC) in 1961 when it disregarded the IOC regulations. According to Kidd (1988:645) all athletes, coaches and officials had to be in compliance with the rules and regulations determined by the sport governing bodies. The continuous ignorance of the apartheid government led to the suspension of South Africa from the FIFA world cup in 1961. In that same year, South Africa was also banned from the Commonwealth Games (Kidd 1988:643).

Sport was used by the non-white community of South Africa to gain international support on the abolishment of the apartheid regime and its policies within the sporting environment. In 1963 non white South Africans were able to gain the support of the Soviets, Brazilians, and Scandinavians in petitioning against white South African participation in the Olympics. The IOC met these demands and banned South Africa from the Olympic games, which was in effect from 1964 (Kidd 1988:652). South Africa was also banned from a majority of major sporting events that was part of the Commonwealth Games and the IOC. These bans continued amongst other sport federations and those that allowed South Africa to compete were penalized. Apartheid South Africa was prohibited from international contact in the sporting world. The international sport federations used sport as a means to destabilize the apartheid system and isolate South Africa through sport from the rest of the world (Sugden 2010:262). In 1963 sport was used to aid the social development of racial equality in south Africa through the development of non-racial sport, the South African Non-racial Olympic Committee (SANROC). The committee’s objective was to replace the South African National sports committee (SANOC) and ensure that South Africa would be continually banned from international sports participation for as long as the apartheid regime was in effect (Kidd 1988:653).

Sport sanctions continued to halt white South African teams from competing in the Mexican summer Olympics. In 1968 a joint effort of 32 countries supported the fight against the apartheid regime and decided to boycott the Olympics, unless South Africa would participate
as a bi-racial team. The IOC response to the boycott resulted in banning South Africa until 1992. Through sport non-white South Africa was able to gain the support of the world and create awareness of the unjustly actions of the ruling South African government. Even in non-Olympic sport, cricket and rugby which are sports that the country typically excels in, had difficulty in international competition (Kid 1988: 655).

It was only from the 1970s and early 1980’s that Sporting federations in South Africa began to develop an interest in multi-racial participation. This transition was not easily accepted within south African apartheid law as there was still limitations in non-white movement within the country. The lack of sporting facilities and infrastructure in non-white areas meant that there was still very little opportunity for athletes or social participants to progress or even have access to sport as a means of recreation, yet alone use sport as a career choice.

Within apartheid, interracial sport briefly brought about social cohesion and a sense of unity. After each match regardless of it being a training session or an event spectators and athletes were bound to the group areas act which meant that people according to their race had to leave to their segregated residential areas (Kidd 1988: 659). Towards the start of the 1990’s international bans against South African participation sport started to be lifted. South Africa was allowed to participate in the 1992 Olympics due to the fact that apartheid was soon to be abolished and a democratic South Africa was in a state of transition. New relationships were developed with the IOC through the member of the African National Congress and the Future president Nelson Mandela who personally visited the IOC (Swart and Bob, 2004:1314).

During apartheid, sport was one of the most influential means of creating international awareness about the poor social conditions within the country. The lack of inter-racial sport not only influenced the sporting society to take action against apartheid policies, it also influenced other associations to hold sanctions against South Africa. In the apartheid regime sport was a vital aspect in promoting social revitalization within South Africa. It was able to get vast media coverage and gain support and alliances from countries on a global scale. It was one of the most effective passive movements that brought about change in an almost impossible environment (Booth 2003).
Post-apartheid:

In 1994 South Africa stepped into a democratic society. Although the laws and regulations of apartheid were abolished the country still needed to heal, grow and develop a sense of social inclusion. President Nelson Mandela turned to sport as a means of creating transformation through equality, social participation and a way of promoting revitalization and improving the lives amongst South Africans. The South African government established the department of sport and recreation (SRSA), with the intention of facilitating the policies and visions of the new democratic South Africa. According to Van der Merwe, (2007:72) Nelson Mandela proposed a country in which all races were united behind the national teams which would bring about a peaceful multi-racial state (Sugen 2010:263).

Nelson Mandela (1991) once said that sport had the power to change the world, to inspire, and to unite people in a way little else did. The 1995 rugby world cup provided the motivational encouragement needed to stimulate the nation and bring about change to fragile political order with the nation-building process (Van der Merwe. 2006:5). According to Burnett (2008: 1189) and Saayman (2001) the Rugby World cup was a critical nation-building moment, which was embraced by President Nelson Mandela when he wore matching attire as captain’s uniform sending a message of unity. The event was a symbolic political tool to unite the country and transform the nation’s history. It promoted messages of being one nation, one team and unity through regarding South Africa as a rainbow nation. These connotations incited patriotism and national reconciliation (Kersting, 2007:278). Black and Nauright (1998) described sport as a good opening to start the symbolic passage from the old to the new South Africa. The success of the rugby world cup strengthened and brought about a sense of legitimacy for the newly democratic South Africa (Van de Merve 2007:72).

The 1995 rugby world cup set the precedent for hosting major sporting events in South Africa. These events evoke similar interest and significance and also provide countless socio and economic opportunities (Cornelissen 2008: 481). The success of each sporting event promoted South Africa as being a society that welcomes interaction and regeneration as opposed to its apartheid past. The 1996 African cup of Nations fueled the connection of unity experienced through sport, especially through soccer. (Van De Merwe, 2006). The emphasis of sport in South Africa was used to promote national identity and patriotism, on the principles of multiculturalism (Kersting, 2007:277). When FIFA announced that South Africa
would host the 2010 FIFA world cup, Thabo Mbeki shared the image that hosting the world cup will strengthen South African’s self-respect, and dignity (Battersby 2006:1).

According to Van der Merwe (2009) there are multiple objectives for South Africa to host large scale sporting events known as Mega events. Roche (2000:1) stated that mega events are large scale cultural, commercial and sporting events that generate mass popular appeal and international significance. Pillay and Bass (2008:3) describe mega-events as enactments that can be interpreted as tools of hegemonic power, or displays of urban catalytic growth by economic elites supporting a particularly narrow-minded pro-growth vision of the city. The primary goal of hosting mega events in South Africa is to promote development, international interaction and promote South Africa’s international image. Secondly the national identity and pride of the nation were issues that needed to be addressed. Sport was used to diminish racial discrimination, segregation and breakdown social exclusive ideology that was brought about from apartheid. Mega sport events act as catalysts bringing about opportunity for South Africa’s economy, sport and society. (Van der Merwe, 2009).

Soccer, Rugby and cricket are classified as South Africa’s three major sport types due to the proven success of our national teams in local and international sport participation. All three sports regularly have world cups that have been hosted in South Africa. These events include the 1995 rugby world cup and the ICC cricket world cup. The 2010 FIFA world cup provided an opportunity for South Africa to reinterpret its vision for the country. In order to facilitate the 2010 world cup host cities had to undergo rapid urban development. Stadiums, and supporting transport had to be designed and built. South Africa had undergone social national development in a way in which the country has never witnessed before. The host cities were regarded as urban generators that were influential in boosting the economy and its social status into an international market and stimulating new social growth in sport (Goldman & Longhofer 2009:33). According to Alegi (2008:399) if the cities in south Africa hosted a successful event the country would be recognized as a world class modern, democratic nation and given the image of having sport destination cities. Sport through events have the ability to make dramatic change and influence within a city.

Burnett states that in Durban the emphasis of sport has been existent through various sporting facilities within the city. The development of Moses Mahbida stadium solidified the concept of Durban being regarded as a “sport city” through various sporting facilities and
According to Maenning and Du Plessis (2009) the main aim of Moses Mabida stadium is for it to be the anchor in a conceptual approach of developing the city and re-image Durban as being one of the prominent sports cities in Africa. The location of the stadium is central to the city, it also lies within the sporting zone, and influenced the development of a train station which lies parallel to the stadium. It’s central location within the city acts as an initiating point for recreational and urban development. Its response to urban framework adds to the existing networks within the city, enforcing relationships and providing opportunity for what is existing to be a part of future growth.

The success of the 2010 World Cup was rated as a nine out of ten by FIFA president Sepp Blatter. The 2010 world cup according to FIFA president was regarded as one of the most successful world cups (Cooper 2010:1). The event spurred revitalization in the country in numerous ways. The most noticeable effect was the development of public transport through the implementation of the Gautrain. Even through the world cup was a period of one month the large scale social upliftment and benefits of the sporting event still remain within the country.

2.3.3 Contemporary Recreational Sport -South Africa

Sport in South Africa is described by Burnett (2009:1185) as a powerful tool for development of creating social connections. It can be used to empower and stimulate inclusion of disadvantaged youth especially those that are unemployed in rural areas. Although there are a lack of facilities and opportunities in rural areas, through sport there is a culture of interdependency and hope that is instilled amongst the community. Burnett (2009:1186).

Whilst South Africa has transitioned into a country capable of generating social revitalization on a big scale through large scale events according to sport and recreation (2009) it is not doing it on a micro scale. Mega events are more concerned with a global presence rather than a regional presence. There is a lack of sporting facilities that are consistent in bringing about social cohesion on an intermediate level within the built environment.

According to Sport and Recreation South Africa Contemporary recreational sport in the urban environment has become privatized in the sense of commercial gain. Middle class to higher income families would rather travel to another area and be a member of a private sports club
than be in a sports facility that is regarded as unsafe due to inactivity. This has brought about social exclusion within the city as residents are not socially interacting within their own environments as a community. Physical education and extra curriculum activities have been introduced into the education system by the department of sport but it has only been regularly facilitated by schools who can budget and maintain costs of sporting facilities, which in most cases, privatized schools are able to keep such standards. In the urban environment schools, and institutions don’t have their own sports fields, as urban space in the built environment is highly valuable. This results in an imbalance of opportunity through sport within schools (SRSA 2014: 15).

Sporting facilities within South African cities are not designed to host social participation on a daily basis. Most facilities have been designed rather as a form of entertainment in the form of large sports stadiums which bring about mass social activity for only short periods of time, with very little activities to contain people or allow them to filter out into the city. According to sport and recreation South Africa (2014) current city sporting facilities do not promote principles of accessibility, equality, inclusion, integration, sustainability and they act in isolation from the surrounding context limiting it from being urban generators for growth and urban social revitalization. In some cases, underutilized, empty, unlit and non-secure public sport and recreation facilities have become areas of crime and vandalism creating negative spaces within the city. The growing need for facilities to be attractive sport and recreational facilities simply cannot be met in similarity to that of commercial sports and recreational facilities.

According to World health organization (2016) the lack of active sports and recreation facilities has brought about a change in lifestyle amongst South Africans resulting in the nation having an increase in hypo kinetic diseases, which are obesity, cardiovascular diseases etc. Sports and recreation (2014) state that in South Africa cities that contain reasonable facilities have a lack of continuous sustainable activity programs which are broad enough to respond to the diverse needs of different age and social groups.
2. 4 Relationship between Sports, Architecture and People

Introduction

Over the last 50 years’ sport has become a global phenomenon. In today’s society sport and sport architecture are found everywhere. There is a similar parallel between sport and architecture in history. In Ancient Rome sport was known as a spectacular occasion. These events initially started off as special days and were rare but grew so much in popularity that there were more events then ordinary days. Sport was a celebrated event, which took place in a majestic arena known as the Coliseum. The Coliseum was designed to be a symbolic building that emphasized the nation’s power. This building could host large amounts of people whilst allowing all the occupants the ability to visually be part of the events. The games and the building systems that accompanied them were spread about all over the country to allow each and every inhabitant access. These facilities served as a tool for governance and hegemony.

The coliseum in many ways set the precedent for traditional sports stadium of today. Sport and sport architecture have grown into a culture of its own. Sport stadiums and facilities are some of the most visible and visited places in the world (Kreft 2012:7). According to Coubertin’s idea (Kreft 2012:8), sports facilities should be regarded as sports cathedrals. Cathedrals of sport have to become new targets of mass pilgrimage because they represent a place of hope. Coubertin’s idea of sport is directly translated into the aesthetic result, beautiful efficiency, where the design is ergonomically, ecologically and in relation with its surroundings whilst being financially sustainable. This is what is meant to be achieved through sport and contemporary architecture. It not only has to have immediate function but it has to facilitate many social functional concerns whilst also offering sport as a solution to most if not all contemporary troubles (Kreft 2012:8).

One of the most important features of sport architecture is that it is a massive structure. Its size is concerned with large groups of diverse people, representing the general population from different classes, genders, ages, nationality and racial groups. To regulate the relationship between the mass of people and the players the architectural typology separates interaction between contestant and spectator. This was not always the case as sport facilities
fifty years ago allowed for spectators to be a part of the field and being in touch with the participants. The social structure of sport architecture has since changed to being a facility of mass entertainment. The experience of sport has taken on similar characteristics of theatre in the sense that it is about capturing visual information. The spectators in the stadium are a representation of the audience tuned in through media coverage. In this regard architecture has become commercialized and is not just made for its occupants but it is designed to receive global acceptance. According to Walter Benjamin (1968; 200) masses demand visual pleasure and require mass production of visual pleasure and excitement. This notion has become evident in contemporary sport and architecture.

According to Jelle Zwart (Boeijenga & Mensink 2008) a sports facilitator at the city of Groningen, sports facilities are of secondary importance for most city councils. It is seen as unbeneficial ground that consumes space in the city as it has not been designed to be integrated into the urban environment. During the 1990’s sports facilities in the urban and residential areas in the Netherlands were sometimes not part of the development. (Boeijenga & Mensink 2008). The lack of sport in urban planning has resulted in a variety of health and social integration problems in the city. According to Kreft (2012:12) the most important change in sport architecture is the constant and continuous development of distance between spectators and participants. This separation between participant and spectator has enforced the notion of sport being theatrical rather than promoting social interaction.

According to Sheard in order for sport facilities to achieve a social belonging of being associated as urban hubs, it needs to be part of the city urban planning, in that it has pedestrian and various transport and visual links to the existing network links which connect the city. Sport Facilities form an integral part of towns and cities as they make up supporting pillars of modern urban society as they are linked to the development of education, religion, commerce, politics and industry. He further states that such buildings are just as important as city centers, as they are generators for urban activity (Sheard 2001:1).

According to Valle (2013: 5) in order for sport architecture to generate social urban hubs in the city it needs to have various criteria specifically paying attention to its typology in relation to context, its position within the city, appearance, location, accessibility, and flexibility. The relation that sport facilities have with the public in the city needs to be continuous and evident. The entrance and overall design has to encourage public interest. Its
position and relation to urban space is vital. Valle makes reference to Markitel No.8 Copenhagen that has a public square which is an extension of the indoor sports complex. The outdoor sports facilities serve as an active public space which draws the public into the building. The outdoor space is not only a practical space, it becomes part of the urban environment through its versatility and social space as people engage in this space to see and be seen (Valle 2013: 5).

Kreft discusses that sport architecture’s visibility within the city is important, as it becomes a point of reference and a landmark within the city through making it visually stand out and giving it a sense of hierarchy within the urban skyline. It also makes social spaces easily identifiable within the built environment. Public interest is brought about through a visual connection of other people who are moving, interacting and socializing, illustrating activity. Visual interest is initially brought about by the monumental presence of sports architecture. Its image brings about identity through association of activity (Kreft 2012:8). Valle uses the Sport Plaza Mercator in Amsterdam as an example of a facility that is permeable to the outside by using glass on the street facades. The general public are well aware of sporting facility and its connection to public activity through a visual presence which can be seen throughout the day and night (Valle, 2013: 4).

In order for this strong visual connection to be established within the urban realm, sport facilities have to be within distance and proximity of other urban spaces that contain activity. According to Hoekman (2011 :30) there is no defined distance between urban public space, rather it is the interpretation of the distance between two public spaces. It is about stimulating pedestrian movement through safety and developing links and connections to the built environment. Valle states that (2013: 6) this is achieved by using sport to be an extension of urban space and life through multifunctional design. Valle makes reference to the Oporto Cricket and Lawn Tennis club, a sports complex which has a combination of outdoor fields within an urban block. These multifunctional fields contain cricket, hockey and tennis which are positioned to create a central courtyard design surrounded by homes, offices and schools. The complex promotes public activity whilst linking the various different urban functions via a courtyard space, through sport this facility acts as an urban meeting place. The size of sport facilities is pre-determined by standard dimensions facilitated by sport organizations. These requirements although are necessary to engage in sport participation are not limited to a particular design. Sport architecture has the tendency to be large in size but it can still have a
monumental presence instilling urban pride (Valle 2013: 7). Jane Jacobs also states that the inclusion of social facilities such as sport architecture in urban planning generates urban hubs in the city. Sports facilities attract multiple people at various times. These facilities act as anchors for drawing in activity and movement. The combination of retail outlets such as restaurants, shops, hotels, performance venues and functions help stimulate pedestrian movement. The diversity of activities creates a mixed crowd which enhances the urbanity of place. In order for it to attract and draw large crowds it needs to be central within the city and have easy access to various transport systems (Jacobs 1962:91)

According to Sports and recreation South Africa (2009) sport architecture has not been part of national urban planning in cities. It is the decision of local council who holds authority to include and determine sport provisions within the city. This has brought cities in South Africa that have little or no sporting infrastructure whilst some cities have multiple access to sporting infrastructure. Although this notion has since changed during the 2010 world cup, it has not been a continuous development (SRSA 2009). The South African national development plan (NDP) acknowledges the importance of sport within the built environment and its importance as being accessible for everyone but it is yet to formulate a strategy of implementing sport as an everyday social and public space in cities. Burnett, argues that although the development of sporting stadiums exists within the urban context of South African cities, it is not sport architecture that promotes everyday activity nor does it bring about social inclusion.

In order for sport to have a social impact and bring about social revitalization at a micro level sports typologies that are different from stadium architecture need to be explored (Burnett, 2008:230). According to John et al, the increasing costs of building and maintaining massive sports architecture such as stadiums outweigh other major concerns that affect cities. In order for sport to be effective as social generators within the city various other sport typologies need to be explored. Large scale sport architecture that is not in proportion with the urban environment causes issues regarding sustainability (John et al, 2000: 45). According to Rod Sheard, Sport facilities that host mega events are limited to being fully functional only when there national or large scale events. In order for sports architecture to maintain continuous relevance in the urban realm it has to consider the context of sustainability which deals with energy-efficiency, flexibility, its ability to host spectators and participants alike (Sheard 2005:89).
3.4.1 Standardization of space

Sport and architecture over the last hundred years has developed into a global, standardization of space. There are rules which regulate and determine how each game is played. The standard shape of sports fields allows the games to be regulated. There is also a clear definition of space between the spectator and the participant. The standard principles of space in sports architecture makes the traditional layout of sports facilities generic. This was not prevalent in sport architecture. According to Miller (2004:19) during the ancient Greek Olympics there was no concern with standardization from place to place as there were no records kept for comparison. Instead each stadium was built based on the character of the specific place surrounding the city, whilst reflecting the architecture of ancient Greece.

Miller further states that in Athens the Panathenaic stadium is an example of this, it is built into a natural ravine between two hills. It serves as a direct connection between the place of competition, it has the view of the Akropolis in the scenery which captures a spiritual atmosphere amongst competitors (Miller, 2004:137). The architectural design of the Greek stadiums captured the experience of both spectator and participant. The athletes would move through sunlight and then a dark tunnel and back into the sunlight track. The changes of light and darkness, heat and cold would affect the persona of the athlete causing tension which is also contributed by the hype of the crowd. The atmosphere is described to be dramatic and magical. (Miller, 2004:140).

According to Nielsen, in pre-modern sports games, the main focus was winning rather than relating back to an abstract record. Gradually it became important not only win against the other competitors but to do so within time. This could only be achieved without disturbance from the physical environment and the un-interruption of non-sport related activities. (Nielsen, 2005:45). During the 19th century the interest for closed sport spaces grew. The desire for comparability in space for sports followed the standardization and colonization of space. The focus shifted to the performance of the athlete, spectator and space isolating each type of sport into designated spaces (Lyngsgård, 1990:68).

In the 19th century sport architecture primarily focused on participant’s, spectators and the match. The spaces were functional, which included a sports field surrounded by spectator
stands. There was no supporting infrastructure which surrounded sports fields. Sports architecture grew into mass populated spaces ranging from 45 000 and currently up to 100 000 spectators (Nielsen, 2005:45). According to Sheard (2010: 55) the increasing size of space of sports architecture is due to the mass interest that sport has generated in society. Facilities have grown from just a field with stands to arena’s that include change rooms, ablutions, box seating, VIP rooms, concession stands and spaces that have multifunctional uses due to its purpose and its position within the city to accommodate mass groups of people. Throughout sports architecture, the only consistency that each facility has in competitive sport is the size of the field in relation to the particular sport being offered.

Lyngsgard states that in the 20th century the temporary function of stadium architecture has been scrutinized according to its impact on the urban environment. The task of the architect is therefore to create, if he can, this atmosphere of interest, to invent secrets that lie beneath the surface, even appearances that can be partly misleading and with this concealment of the obvious, there should be a feeling in all artificial construction for beauty of line and contour (Lyngsgård, 1990:70). According to Barry Hulshoff sport is about making space and coming into space, he further suggests that it is architecture on the field. Sport on the field is about movement, it is about space and the organization of space (Clearly 2017: 5).

Margaret Clearly states that the spatial organization of sport involves two co-related features the frame and the performance. The frame is the setting, or the playing field in which the sport is participated. The performance is the dynamics of which the game is conducted. Participators engage on the field to gain the advantage, they seek to find an edge and draw in as a team to win by cleverly manipulating the space around them. The participators use the frame and create a performance that draws responses from the spectators who witness how opportunity is brought about in a confined setting (Clearly 2017: 8).

Contemporary sport has well-defined boundaries and features that regulate the rules of the game. The history of sport has experienced a gradual development from being casual and simple to transitioning into rules and standardization (Wobine 2016: 170). This is seen in basketball, with rules being published in 1892 by James Naismith, there was no clear description about the court except that the goals are to be scored in a basket and the ball can go out of bounds. The lack of specification allowed the game to be open to interpretation developing various sizes. Dimensions of courts only became a formality around the early
1920’s. The player’s dynamic interaction within the field of play, and the movements and intentions of teammates and opponents within this frame, recalls Huizinga’s characterization of play within the magic circle: “All is movement, change, alternation, succession, association, separation” (Wobine 2016: 170).

In sport the field is not an object or a stationary place (Merleau, 1968). It is an area that is open to endless possibility within its boundaries. It forces the user to plan, explore and execute the potential of space. The markings on the field are guidelines for play, the penalty area are demarked, spaces which certain actions of play are acceptable. The field is an engrained expression of the participators movement. Through continuous involvement the player develops a relationship within the field of play in which sport participants refer to as being “one with the field” and uses his feelings of thought to be directed to the goal. Each move establishes a new force of action which establishes the possibility of success (Hugson, 2002).

Gumbrecht states that the term being “one with the field” or “in the zone” is associated with the flow of the game. Spectators marvel at the ability of heightened senses, players have when they showcase their skill during a match. According to Hans Gumbrecht (2006:194) it is a matter of space and time. It is about being able to have “good timing”. In his book, Praise of Athletic Beauty, Hans Gumbrecht (2006:195) makes reference to cases of players who have the perfect synthesis of space and time, knowing exactly how to initiate themselves at the right moment. The relationship of the player on the field is an experience that cannot be simulated in any other environment. It is the essence of sport. It boils down to having the capacity to bring one’s self, body and mind to be in tune to move to a particular place at the exact moment in time (Gumbrecht 2006:196).

The relationship between the player and the field instills a mental discipline that can be used as a coping mechanism in life (Woodbine, 2016: 198). In the book, Black Gods of the Asphalt (2016), Woodbine makes reference to a street basketball player named Tyshawn who describes the experience of having a focused sense of time and space. Tyshawn in Woodbines book discusses how playing sport isolates the mind from distractions, time and everything else that’s going on outside in the world. The world is a rectangle for that time being (Woodbine 2016:162).
The effect of the court is further described as a magic circle that is evoked by the starting sound which creates an ephemeral space that is regulated by the rules of the game and brought to life from the performance of the players. Woodbine describes the field as being a phenomenal space of visual communication and expression (Woodbine 2016:162-163).

Woodbine makes reference to another experience in sport facility in the urban environment and its importance in community development especially amongst youth. The setting is located in a residential environment that has visual and direct pedestrian access from the street to the outdoor basketball courts. On this particular occasion there was a strong public presence. It is the variety of people from children to grandparents sitting on folding chairs and the general public passing by that make the experience so memorable as it is witnessed by the community. According to Woodbine the players who were the youth of the area become so focused on the game they are unaware of the congregated crowd beside them. As the game intensified there was one player who made a pass at the hoop from a seemingly impossible position. At the peak of his ascent there’s a gasp that is swept through the crowd. At that moment the player held the suspense, support and awe of the crowd. His attention came to a stop when he realized his surroundings and became overcome with emotion. It didn’t matter that he didn’t score, that moment was the greatest play of the tournament. Through sport youth were able to find new ways to develop themselves and witness their own potential, whilst gaining the support of the community. The event became a meaningful and unifying community event (Woodbine 2016: 162).

Public sport spaces in communities’ act as social spaces that facilitate community development. The street basketball tournaments that Woodbine (2016:172) makes reference to, occurred in the public courts located in Boston, America. These inner city neighborhoods are surrounded by high density urban environments. Sport in the city of Boston has been implemented to counter-act youth taking part in the consumption and distribution of drugs and violence (Clearly, 2017:4). It has gained so much popularity amongst the community, that it has a preconceived ring of guests who assume seating positions around each court. Upon closer analysis Woodbine describes association of public space amongst the spectators into a division of rings surrounding the court. The innermost ring is where the elderly set up the chairs on the lawn, the middle ring is family orientated with children whilst the outer ring is contained by the street gangsters and hustlers alike. Woodbine (2016:164) observes that the basketball courts facilitate the activity of the public space. Therefore, it is through sport that
people of different association are freely able to gather under the pretense of the prescribed public activity. Sport is able to facilitate activity within public space regardless of who participates, it is the activity that is celebrated. The tournaments and activity illustrates that everyone, including the youth has opportunity through sport. Woodbine (2016:185) notes that the only standard space is the dimension of the courts and that the community organizes the spaces around it according to their preference. Social sport in the community has its own rhythm and flow (Clearly 2017:6). During the moments of success and joy, the different rings of spectators around the court become one singular band, there is a sense of unity that is witnessed within that space. Sport in Boston has become a form of religion. The court and the rules of the game frame both the ritualistically, familiar and the spontaneous actions of the players. Through their spatial performance, the athletes become embodiments of the sacred, inspiring moments of transcendent joy in the community. The court frames a place through activity and the users make the experience phenomenological (Clearly 2017:9).

In sports architecture the standardization of space has originated from the need to have consistency on the field in which the sport is being played, regardless of the time or place the particular event is taken place (Gumbrecht 2006:196). The relationship between spectator and participant varied according to the association of the event, although this relationship is not a necessity, the spectator’s relevance in being part of the event, spectators support is crucial to the success of the match (Clearly 2017: 8). This notion is relevant in both social and competitive sport. The interpretation of space beyond the sports field varies according to each sports facility as its ancillary spaces provide social spaces that have relevance to the sport facilities surrounding context. Sports facilities are places of interest within the urban realm due to the public activity it is able to generate (Woodbine 2016: 164).

2.4.2 Sport typologies

According to Rod Sheard in his book, Sports Architecture, the development of sport architecture has adapted into various typologies and its development has been influenced through social and competitive sport involvement. The aim of these facilities is to maintain its relevance within its urban context, hence there have been various typologies that go beyond the standardization of space which only facilitate the court and seating for spectators. In the urban context by enhancing the adaptability of sport architecture sport and non-sport
events can be part of the same social space, creating a greater importance for sport facilities (Sheard, 2005: 100).

Traditionally sport architecture typologies have been designed for competing, regionally, nationally and internationally. Sport events vary in size and scope. Bjelac & Radovanovic (2003: 260) categorize events according to 7 different functions:

- locally held events
- regional or zonal events
- national sports events
- national events with some international participation
- continental competitions
- intercontinental events
- the largest known as planetary events.

According Lev Kreft, Ecological and ethical concerns have changed sport architecture in at least two aspects. The first is that there is a shift from the traditional monumentality, which becomes completely lifeless after the event has passed, rendering it as having no benefit to the community. The flexibility and complexity of sport structures make them functional but do not appeal to the traditional purity of the environment. Sporting structures should aim to achieve social response which generates community acceptance (Kreft, 2012: 10).

John states that sport architecture should be a space of alternative social culture or an area of difference from current experiences of life. The intention is not to be radical or extreme. It is rather a space that is involved with non-competing individuals (John et. Al. 2000: 45). Cultural sports and entertainment facilities are considered as catalytic facilities which spur development in the immediate surrounding area. Bjelac & Radovanovic also state that sport has transcended the boundary from being considered as an active leisure pastime to being recognized as having considerable social and economic influence in contemporary society.

Three main spatial typologies were distinguished:

- sport building
- sport cluster
- sport facilities which act as social spaces, known as a sports complex.
Bjelac & Radovanovic state that the spatial typology of sport determines the sports participation. In the urban environment sport complexes are more than just a field with stand seats. Multi-functional sport spaces provide opportunities for youth to be a part of a variety of activities at once (Bjelac & Radovanovic, 2003: 260). Sport complexes can be designed to educate youth on and off the field and provide the tools that youth need to be independent and original. Social space for youth are spaces that represent the idea of a third space (Anthony 1985). These spaces are intermediate spaces, according to Mathews et al (2000) these public areas are places in which youth build and construct their own identity outside of their current spaces of comfort. Instead of youth exposing themselves to temporary environments in the urban environment, a sport complex focused with youth involvement can provide a space to express their cultural values and develop their own understandings and interpretations without having to be pressured to perform to standards of society.

2.3.4 Sport Architecture bringing about social revitalization in the urban environment.

According to Chapman (2000: 200) in the early post-modern era there was a global trend regarding sport facilities to be located in dense urban neighborhoods, which provided accessibility to a focused group of middle and working class citizens. John and Sheard in their book, (2007:12) Stadia: A design and development guide, state that this trend did not last long. As cities decentralized, so did public infrastructure, which meant that sports facilities were built in scaled down versions within residential areas. Vickery (2007) stated that this also applied to large stadiums which were being built out of the CBD region, in the hopes of creating fewer disturbances for those not participating in the events. This change reverted back to the inner city which was first noticed in 1989 in Canada Toronto, through the development of a sports facility, Toronto Skydome, which was built in the heart of the Ontario precinct. Chapman (2000; 205) states that the development of sports facilities in the inner CBD has had a greater social impact on the city and has been guided by three main factors. The first has been the site characteristics, the economic factors, and lastly the political factors which result in catalytic economic developments. Sport facilities built according to location are designed to facilitate the development of the core market that it is situated in and the growing importance of the public sector (Richards; 2005). In the city sports facilities need to create linkages to economic development (Barghchi et al, 2010; 18)
Santo (2005; 175) stated that sport facilities can lead to urban regeneration if they are designed to be considered as part of a larger development strategy. In order to diminish isolation, sports facility development has to be socially connected to the local urban community, which enhances its contribution to the immediate context (Thornley, 2002).

In cities within North America the inclusion of sport facilities within the urban context has become a crucial part of daily life and it has socially defined the urban culture of most urban neighborhoods. According to Richards (2005: 178) sport has a profound connection to urban life, it dictates the language, the holiday celebrations and links the city to having a national and regional identity. These facilities form urban identity of youth, the community and the social life of learning institutions.

According to (Seeking and Natress, 2005: 50) Durban which was formally a decentralized city has experienced urban migration and development that has since changed this perception. The development of sport facilities such as the Moses Mabhida stadium and the formalization of new zones and districts within the CBD urges the development of a formalized integrated public social space. By acknowledging the urban culture that sport has within the city of Durban and using sport as a tool for social development, a sport complex facility has the ability to promote social revitalization within the urban CBD.

According to Sheard, the development of a sports complex should not only consider sports related activities but also integrate a diverse mix of ancillary functions that promotes long term interest and meaning. The aim of a sports complex is to be a daily utilization with social activities rather than extraordinary events. The advantage of having a sports facility that is socially inclusive of the community is that it is not limited to operating only for competitive events. It allows everyone to be socially a part of the sports facility which becomes a node within the neighborhood (Sheard 2010: 112).

The redevelopment of curries fountain into a sports complex is sustainable as it relates into an existing urban framework. It is already integrated within the urban context and thus it lies within close proximity to existing mixed use areas. The site has established a level of connectivity between the site and the city center. Athens football stadium which historically functioned as a sports stadium, was redeveloped to include a variety of different functions,
such as retail, commercial and recreation in the aim of being socially inclusive to the existing infrastructure. Athens sports stadium has proven that other usages can successfully be integrated into a sports facility for use on a daily basis. Utilization of a sports stadium correlates with the level of sustainability regarding urban integration of the site and the building, urban context proximity, connectivity, building overlay, adaptability/flexibility and sport usage. By accommodating these categories results in a comparatively higher number of events and a higher diversity of event types.

2.5 Relationship between sport and the Social Development of Youth

At an early stage in life sport is vital to children in the development of body movement coordination skills also known as motor skills. Through sport children develop communication, leadership and team building skills which they use in the schooling environment. Sport empowers children to be ambitious and competitive with a disciplined mind-set. It provides a framework of support and encouragement for children, developing relationships, communication and social integration (Sopa & Pomohaci, 2015:3).

Sport has the ability to empower disadvantaged people by recognizing athletes according to their skill, providing opportunity for people to use their skills and abilities to overcome poverty through sport. Matches and events provide employment, and boost the economy, making sport vital to society. According to kurtzman et al (1993: 21) sport has an integrating effect when it is introduced into a social system. Essentially it is an instrument for improving social relationships and for strengthening abilities to understand one another and for the well-being of people.

Although sport is a physical form of interaction it is also considered a non-verbal means of communication. Through this perception sport is easily able to overcome linguistic and cultural barriers in comparison to other areas of social life. According to Adolph and Bock (1985:63) sport is usually referred to as the conveyor of culture of the most accessible symbolism. Stüwe (1984: 303) further states that sport is an unpretentious and easily understandable form of symbolism, that makes it possible to overcome linguistic barriers and other difficulties in interaction. The non-verbal nature and comprehensible interactions of
sport make it appropriate in overcoming conditions of socio-cultural unfamiliarity and differences. In South Africa communication through multiple languages can be vital but through sport these barriers can be broken and a sense of multiculturalism and revitalization can be achieved.

The engagement in sport provides an environment for youth to develop their health, wellbeing, mental growth and it helps to develop unity. Sportsmanship instils values amongst youth and allows them to learn how to deal with winning and losing appropriately. Team engagement in sport encourages leadership roles, companionship and feelings of patriotism. The feelings of accomplishment achieved through group involvement reduces tension, depression, anxiety and brings about relaxation. According to Ajisafe (2009) these are challenges that youth struggle to deal with on their own. As a coping mechanism sport provides social infrastructure for youth to learn how to manage and deal with adult responsibility and competitive relationships. In sport, youth acknowledge athletic skill rather than defining social boundaries or class. It helps promote trust, friendships, perseverance and communication, which become core principles amongst youth. The collective outcomes of sport participation help to build self-esteem and discipline which according to Akindutire (2005) is the highest form of human growth. Sport provides the tools, necessary exposure and experience for youth to grow in other scenarios in life (Ajisafe 2009).

Through sport youth become part of a community through social interaction via social and competitive participation. A social network is created through sport that allows personal relationships to be established within the built environment and has the potential to exceed the immediate community. The sense of social cohesion brought about through the social qualities of sport facilitate the development process for youth to transition into adulthood. Through consistent sport participation, youth avoid participating in harmful activities that occur through idleness. (Toft, 2005). Sport has the ability to create and define social space through the activity of people engaging with one another. It therefore gives space, definition and character through the particular activity that occupies space in accordance to time.
2.6 Conclusion:

Through the analysis of the literature it is ascertained that the social issues of the past that have not been addressed, have contributed to new social issues in the present society. In order to diminish the barriers of segregation, urban public development needs to facilitate the process of social recreational space. It also needs to respond to the contextual needs of the people, specifically the youth who make up more than 75 percent of the urban population of the city of Durban (Idike, 2015:12).

The increasing amount of youth in the city is due to the fact that the city contains key infrastructure as it contains educational facilities, health care, job opportunities and social infrastructure which is not available outside of the urban city. The social activity dictates the atmosphere of the city. The atmosphere of place assists in the development of urban infrastructure and the maintenance of what is existing.

According to the researched literature the current social conditions within Warwick and Durban are not supporting the issues that youth endure. Many of South Africans remain in these circumstances due to the lack of education, skills and training for employment and access to health care. According to Benson and Pitman (2004) the integration of the greater community that integrates youth involvement provides a platform for youth development and effectively helps youth to find opportunities to improve the circumstances that they experience.

Social revitalization is important as cities will always be the focal point for development. Social revitalization is concerned with the balance of development in urban areas through the conservation of identity, culture and traditions. Through the exploration of literature, it is evident that Sport is influential in providing social inclusivity in resolving social issues locally and internationally. Through the social aspects of sport social revitalization can be stimulated. In Durban sport has been a constant social connector in the urban development of the city. This has been implemented on a macro scale but it is yet to be resolved contextually on a micro scale that promotes social activity within urban neighbourhoods of the city. Through the analysis of sport and its relationship with architecture and people, it is determined that sport architecture as a public social place has been existent within urban
infrastructure since the development of the colosseum in the city of Rome. The variation in sport typologies, it’s size and it’s functions are based on contextual responses and linked to the development of sport, and the inclusion of sport participants, spectators and the general public.

In order for sport facilities to maintain its social relevance within urban communities its facilities need to have social contextual relevance within its situated location on a micro and macro scale (Kreft 2012;8). In order for sport to have a social impact and bring about social revitalization at a micro level sports typologies need to accommodate multiple social aspects which includes a combination of recreational, trade and health facilities that will draw in daily community activity and go beyond the need of just people with sporting interests (Burnett, 2008:230). In the urban environment sports facilities that have social relevance are active nodes within the urban community. It is due to the social nature of sport that interaction within these spaces occur. Sport needs to be an extension of urban space and life through multifunctional design (Valle 2013: 6).

Through the exploration of theories and concepts in the next chapter, a theoretical understanding of a suitable architectural response can be formulated. The theories will assist in appropriately facilitating the social aspects of sport into a contextual sports typology that will assist in diminishing the social issues within Curries Fountain and the greater precinct of Warwick.
Chapter 3

Theories and Concepts
Introduction

This chapter is a detailed analysis of theories and concepts discussed in chapter 1. These theories will be used to explore how to develop the process of social revitalization through examples and explorations from theorists who link their arguments to similar social issues that are being explored. The concepts and theories will be used as design tools in understanding how sport can be applied to develop an appropriate social response through built form.

3.1 Theory of space and inclusivity

Radical inclusivity by Krzysztof Nawratek (2012:10) wrote that architecture in the urban environment needs to be envisioned as being not only relatable to the intended user’s but it also needs to be appealing to the greater urban environment as a whole, having the ability to embody community and promote activity. In essence it needs to be responsive of the greater urban environment that it shares. This larger field should be understood both physically as the urban context for architecture, as well as the social, political and cultural environment. (Nawratek 2012: 22). According to Jan Gehl (1987:15) social participation through engagement in built form benefits everyone. It is important to harness the visual, social and emotional response of the user. Architecture that promotes social participation has spaces that are more dynamic within the built environment, these spaces stimulate the user’s thoughts, emotions and behavior. It improves the user’s mental health and provides opportunity to build relationships whilst celebrating diversity. Gehl states (1987:15) that social spaces are about; maintaining a visual connection, having integrating circulation spaces, places that are interactive and social places that evoke human behavior to socially engage. These spaces promote passive safety and diverse environments that are socially acceptable. Social inclusiveness occurs through social activity via contact through interaction of a combination of spaces and places.

There are countless spaces and places within the built environment. Space; on its own is an area that is undefined and creates a sense of placenessless. According to Schroeder (2012: 45) space is defined when it has a purpose, making it a meaningful place that is tangible. In order for space to have a sense of place, it needs to be within proximity of an inclusive location. Public places are viewed as places that provide opportunity for human interaction that
benefits everybody as opposed to a singular entity or specific group. According to Alexander, no one can survive without continuous natural contact of members that make up society. There are three essential characteristics for creating social space which promotes social inclusivity. The first is having a sense of identity which defines image and space, the second being activity which refers to function that stimulates interaction. The third characteristic of creating social space is having a relationship in accordance to walkability and proximity with regards to surrounding context (Alexander et al, 1977: 618).

According to Nawratek (2012: 22) socially inclusive architecture should be understood physically within the context of the urban environment, inclusive of the social political realm whilst being part of the cultural environment. The urban environment in its entirety consists of some diverse and occasionally contradictory elements that are disjointed having no relationship with each other. The city links these opposites through the management of time and space of use. An example is a multistory building that satisfies a variety of needs for the users using the same space. It attains this through various ways, dealing with human needs such movement, circulation through private and public spaces, and non-human needs, such as parking access that is below road level and building utility functions that are visually hidden from the street whilst still maintaining street access. Although the elements of the building are varying in function, collectively it creates common spaces for its occupants. Walls mediate between public and private and shared space. There is a silent synergy and cooperation of social organization.

In the built environment buildings that are public and private become interfaces and elements of social infrastructure. Architecture is more than just simply packing a function, it can become; a plug in zone, providing a place for technological, social and political experiments to happen. (Nawratek 2012: 22). Social inclusiveness is stimulated from environments that are integrated with circulation spaces which help to maintain social interaction. According to Alexander, when social spaces intersect, that space becomes a highly exposed area for interaction. These areas of interaction in the urban realm create a flow of movement that becomes a journey through space and this flow of movement is generated through consistency of people passing by (Alexander 1977:619).
3.2 Theory of place making

In the book, “The meaning of the built environment, an approach in nonverbal communication” (1982) Rapoport, adopted a non-verbal approach to place making and considered meaning as a communication issue. Rapoport’s approach to defining meaning through place is through creating a visual point of reference within the urban environment. His argument is justified by suggesting that each city is identifiable through their own unique style of clothing suited for the immediate climate, vocal and verbal behaviors and the topographical sense of place through sight, hearing, and tactile feelings. It is through non-verbal communication that meaning place is created through the user (Rapoport, 2005; 94, 49).

The theory of place making is explored to understand how defining place can reinterpret dead spaces into places of interaction, inclusion and democratic participation. The process of defining urban place through activity in order to resolve social inequalities has long been practiced in the city. Margaret Kohn states that within the urban environment, place is considered public if it is accessible to everyone or it is owned by the state. State owned spaces in the city are areas such as the street, urban parks, public transportation, community centers and markets. Together these add to the experience of the social network and dialogue of the city (Kohn, 2004:11). These places formulate people’s perceptions, identities and influence how people interact and converse. Urban public space is the common ground for everyday interaction. According to observation research conducted by Cattel et al (2008: 544) access to public space enhances the social capital and promotes a greater intensity of psychological upliftment for people within urban cities which allows for social bonding and the development of urban communities.

Erin Toolis in his article, Theorizing Critical place making as a tool for reclaiming public space (2017:186) states that the framework of place making can be assimilated into three main parts; the first being the relationship between person and place in which he refers to Bakers’ theory (1968) of behavior settings that a person associates to place. e.g a person who goes to the beach, intends to swim. To further substantiate this relationship Toolis makes reference to Fabian and Kaminoff’s theory of place identity (1983) which supports Bakers’ theory of behavior settings.
Secondly, through the notion of critical place making which is acknowledging the urban context, public place considers urban social activity, becoming a manifesto for public dialogue, containing and developing detailed community narratives. To support this notion, Erin Toolis makes reference to Hammock and Cohler’s theory of master narrative engagement (2009) which is related to the social and political nature of place. Through reflecting the past and making relevance to the present and accommodating future social conditions, place gains a firm social hold in the urban environment (Toolis, 2017:186).

The third part of defining the theory of place-making is facilitating place to create social awareness and empowerment within the community. Erin Toolis makes reference to Rapoport (1995) and Friere (2005) stating that public place contains an active transformative relationship between people, providing a place of opportunity within the urban environment in which they inhabit.

According to Margaret Kohn public places are areas for social reproduction. Public place is crucial in the development of communities. Its functions mould and determine the social behaviour of the city. Kohn further states that in order for place to truly be socially inclusive it needs to specifically facilitate everyone including low-income people, race and people who experience social exclusivity or displacement (Kohn 2004: 12).

3.3 The Concept of a Liveable city

The Death and Life of Great American Cities’ by Jane Jacobs (1962) noted the potential virtues of urban living, and she advocated that a city should be evaluated in terms of the social benefits provided to its inhabitants. She discussed the possibility that swimming pools and sports fields function as a vent for anti-social or violent behavior (Jacobs 1962). Jacobs’ (1962) research also highlighted that physical infrastructure which does not facilitate social space deters social engagement. According to Ramboll (2015:30) The concept of a livable city is centered around having decent living conditions for all inhabitants that promotes physical and mental wellbeing. It is about highlighting the human experience of place. Porter (2015) further goes on to suggest that the livable cities includes an interrelated set of spatial and social factors that deal with the diversity of society. The contemporary city is stretched in distance with long roads and buildings that are too tall for human scale (Gehl 2010). The results are cities with segregated functions and un-walkable distances.
The concept of livability is about the relationship between the environment and the social life it sustains (Hankins et al, 2009:846). Cities that were built before the development of cars were planned to have continuous walkable urban space that contained social areas of relief throughout the city (Alexander, 2000; 89). Although pedestrian movement was the primary means of movement which promoted social inclusivity. The notion of walking has adopted the perception of being too slow in the city. Urban development has overthrown culture and traditional meaning, in doing so it competes with the city’s native genius loci and reduces its ability to be memorable and meaningful (Lynch, 1960; Bentley et al 1999).

Walkability is a part of livability component in stimulating sustainable environment and generating a livable place. Walkability is the ability to be able to live, work and play in the same environment. It is about promoting the quality of access and linkages amongst neighborhoods, and the urban realm. According to Shamsuddin, (2004: 89) walkability can be described through the depth of pedestrians’ comfort and safety such as the presence of passive surveillance, area between pedestrians and vehicles with the sense of hierarchy given to pedestrians and walkways over roads and cars. Steve (2005: 55) also states that walkability is the extent to which walking is a natural feeling that is easily accessible, well connected, safe and a desirable mode of movement. A Livable city is centered on encouraging pedestrian movement and encouraging residents to walk (Lennard, 2008: 4).

According to Bentley et al (1999:53) the concept of livability shares a strong relationship with the concept of sustainability. Social sustainability, sometimes referred to as cultural sustainability, should be culturally sensitive and with a design proven safe and secure. One of the most widely recognized definition is the one formulated in the Brundtland Report, that was released in 1987; “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Brundtland, 1987: 41). The need to recognize, pattern and design according to our surroundings are crucial. In order for design to have relevance for future development it needs to have roots in the past. Recreational parks and fields are part of the skeletal framework of the built environment and are voids that contrast with architectural urban form. They are spaces that act as nodes for the preservation of nature. These spaces which are public urban infrastructure aim to stimulate interest and growth in the city whilst providing relief (Trancik, 1986: 1103).
3.4 Theory of Urban catalysts

The theory of urban catalyst originates from the book of “American Urban Architecture - Catalysts in the Design of Cities” by Wayne Attoe and Donn Logan. “We postulate that the strategic introduction of new elements can revitalize existing ingredients of the urban center without necessarily changing them radically. As the catalyst stimulates such new life, it also affects the form, character, and quality of urban elements that are subsequently introduced. In short, a controlled catalytic chain reaction takes place” (Attoe & Logan, 1989:4). The purpose of catalysts is to be the progressive, continuous regeneration of the urban fabric. The aim of the catalyst is not to be a single end result but an element that urges and guides subsequent development (Attoe & Logan, 1989:46).

Aldo Rossi described the term catalyst in his 1980’s book, The Architecture of the City, as the primary elements of a city. According to Rossi (1982:88) primary elements consist of a broad spectrum of activities associated to fundamental features that make up a city which include monuments, commercial buildings, schools, hospitals, parks and recreational space. These primary elements have the ability to promote continuous catalytic growth as there are essential elements that draw people to the urban environment and also bring about urban development. Primary elements hold long term value in terms of adding to their functions and actively participating and influencing the dynamics of the surrounding context.

Kevin Lynch in his book; What Time is this Place (Lynch, 1972), argues that in order for catalysts to have a chance at having success, they need to be the essence of everyday life in the urban environment which coincides with Jacobs’ (1962 :89) argument that catalysts stimulate activity of everyday processes. Lynch further states that urban catalysts need to have a temporal state, meaning that they need to be adaptable to coincide and develop at the same rate as urban development (Lynch. 1972:95). Richard Sennett shares the same opinion stating that urban catalysts promote growth and transformation. Sennett (2006: 200) states that urban catalysts need to be well grounded in what is existing, living environments whilst being active in motivating process of development and evolution. As Rossi (1982: 67) suggests, urban catalysts are subject to change as the varied contexts they influence (Davies, 2009: 6).
The aim of an urban catalyst is to assist the continuity of the development of the framework in the city. It is a powerful element in simply not acting as a single outcome but it purposely forces the surrounding environment to accelerate development. (Attoe & Logan, 1989:46). The concept of urban catalyst theory is linked to the concept of revitalization. The outcome of revitalization is to make sure that what is of significant purpose and meaning be preserved during the process of revitalization. Thus, the main purpose of urban catalyst theory is to stimulate active elements which evoke the genius loci of place (Norberg-Shulz). Urban catalysts not only encourage physical revitalization but it also promotes socio-economic revitalization in the city. The idea of revitalization is to balance the current rapid development in urban areas through conserving urban identity, culture and traditions (Vilenske, 2014:5). Furthermore, revitalization acts as a catalyst for the urban environment. It encourages suitable amenities densification and activity. Remazani et al, (2009:2) stated that revitalization of public space is important in developing a sense of community, by encouraging local activities and events which enforce the urban heritage.

New York during the machine age of the 1890s and 1940’s emerged into the era of modernism from the industrial age. According to architect and urbanist Rem Koolhaas New York became a mythical island in which the concept of a metropolitan lifestyle began to emerge (Koolhaas 1994:9-10). The architecture followed this experiment and caused a catalytic change in which the whole city became a stage of man-made experience excluding the presence of nature from the urban realm. The city according to Koolhaas (1994:80) experienced a cultural catalytic change as it became a spectacle of desire and experience rooted in leisure activities. During this period New York transitioned from being a city that was predominately functional to one that drew an audience who craved the experience of place. New York gave new meaning to the interpretation of a city during the industrial era as it became conditioned to the human experience through a catalytic change in cultural perception. According to Michael Dean in order for change to occur it needs to be preconceived as an idea acceptable by society. He characterizes this as the “Milieu of thought” (Dean 2010; 32). Dean further states that change is brought about by stimulating the experience it will bring about within the user through cultural significance. The milieu of thought grows from a conception of the city’s cultural logics (Dean 2010:32).
3.5 The ‘Concept of Sport Cities’

Essentially the term ‘sport city’ has been applied in three distinct forms: as a temporary attraction, to designate one part of a city as a sports zone or hub or to brand a whole city (Smith 2010). Manchester used sport to develop a social hub and deliver East Manchester from post-industrialization city. Melbourne used sport to aggressively pursue social events and the Singapore sports hub aimed to actively encourage public engagement in sport and organized physical activity. (Pye.N et al 2015:15). There has been a significant rise in sport cities in the oil-rich Gulf States (Bromber, Krawietz, and Maguire 2013), with many cities using sport not only for its socio-political benefits, but also to cater to local property demand. For example, the Dubai Sports City emerged as a strategy to promote Dubai’s international profile while also reducing the United Arab Emirates economic dependence on oil production (Dubai Sports City Official Website 2014; Smith 2010).

According to Loftman and Spirou (1996: 28) sporting development in cities are brought about by the need to promote a new image for a city. The use of sport as a tool for enhancing the image of place is not a contemporary phenomenon (Reiss 1982: 34). The focus of sports-city development has drawn more attention on sports participation from amateur citizens and visitors rather than facilitating venues that only accommodate professionals. (Weiner 2000:461). Urban sport facilities should be community orientated, and even be considered as local institutions aimed at facilitating sport development within the community.

According to Silk and Amis (2005: 355) sports facilities share similar anchors as festival marketplaces drawing in constant activity and promoting re-development schemes. Urban sport has generated a large focus centered on local participation and amateurism. According to Lee (2002: 5), Minnesota in the United States and Vancouver in Canada have encouraged the use of professional stadiums be used as places for recreational sport. The realization that professional venues and facilities should be constantly active has also been adopted by the Olympic canoeing facility in Sydney Australia.

In 1990 Italy was selected to host the soccer world cup. Architect Renzo Piano played an integral role in two of the ten stadiums. His vision for the San Nicola area and Stadium revolved around the concept of enforcing a sports city. The stadium is positioned to be apart of a large park in West Bari. The site was chosen according to the urban plan for the city drawn up by the Ludovico Quaroni in the early 1970’s. The aim of the project was to develop
a green area and formalize it as a park. To ensure continuous activity in the park leisure and non-competitive sports facilities were integrated into the design. For the city the park became an intermediate space that led into the countryside (UIA, 2005).

According to San Pietro Instead of designing an imposing stadium that would dominate the entire park, the stadium was designed into an artificial hill reducing its visual impact. To enter the stadium spectators, have to journey through the green zone which acts as a transitional space from the car park and transport nodes. Immense detail went into making the park an escape from the busy city lifestyle. The layout of the stadium, its proximity in relation to the city, low maintenance design, it’s sense of social inclusivity that it promotes and its connection with nature help the park to enforce the concept of a sports city (Pietro et al 1990; 15).

San Pietro further states that the notion of a sports city was also proposed for the Delle Alpi stadium with a seating capacity of 72 000. Its design provisioned for it to be maintained privately. The stadium design included an urban scheme that acknowledged the surrounding context and landscape. The site is designed to be open to the public every day. The site is situated within the urban infrastructure and is integrated to link with the city transport system. The stadium facility is a social space in the city that incorporates a botanical garden, which has sports cultural and commercial facilities. The park acts as a green space in the city whilst providing a landscape buffer between the built up areas of the city (San Pietro et al 1990:15).
3.6 Conclusion

The combination of the theories and concepts assist with the understanding of the existing social issues within Curries Fountain, the greater Warwick precinct and the city. Through the detailed exploration of the theories and concepts an understanding an appropriate sociable response can be practiced. Therefore the emphasis of the thesis will be explored with the outcome of applying the researched theories to promote social revitalization within the urban community of Warwick.

The exploration of the theories space and inclusivity and placemaking provide an understanding that people need social space within the urban environment. Space influences people’s behavior, health and relationships. In order for space to be meaningful it needs to be defined through activity that defines place. The notion of place making supports urban identity, social connections and urban development.

Through the explored theory of urban catalysts, the concepts of a livable city and a sports city it is understood that public place maintains its social relevancy if it is able to do so by promoting contextual urban growth that benefits the urban context in making it more socially inclusive. Through exploring the concepts of a livable city and a sports city the importance of defining urban public urban space is only successful if it is an extension of the existing urban social activity of the city.

From the explored theories and concepts it can be determined that public urban sports parks are successful when there are new links and relationships that support the existing urban infrastructure of transportation and other public nodes such as healthcare and educational institutions. Thus the proposal for the sports complex should promote the engagement of public interaction and movement whilst also including clearly defined spaces(San Pietro et al 1990:15).Through the analysis of built form from the exploration of precedents and case studies a greater understanding of how the researched theories have been expressed can developed.
Chapter 4

Precedent Studies
3.1 Precedent studies

Introduction

Precedents studies are explored to understand how existing built forms have developed a relationship with people and space according to their surrounding context. The information gathered in the literature review will be used to assist in finding appropriate strategies in relation to the outcome of social revitalization through sport and built form.

By researching information in the form of precedents knowledge of what has been previously done can be gathered and applied to the proposed design. The precedents will be analyzed and understood according to its significance in regard to the principles established in the literature review through findings and conclusions.

4.1 Second Stage of Hangzhou Cloud Town Exhibition Center / Approach Design

Location: Yunxi County, Hangzhou, China

Architects: Approach Design

Building typology: sports Park and exhibition center

Floor area: 66680.0 sqm

Functions: Sport centre, public exhibition space

Project completion: 2018

Figure 3: Aerial view Hangzhou-cloud-town-exhibition-center

Figure 4: Aerial view Hangzhou-cloud-town-exhibition-center
4.1.1 Motivation of Analysis

The sports exhibition Centre is located in the within the CBD of Cloud town Hangzhou. This site is the central technological hub of the city. It was once part of an industrial zone but the social approach to urban design has changed the area’s perception into becoming the industrial social hub of cloud computing, big-data and artificial intelligence. The city hosts an annual computing conference which is held every autumn and has become an international event. The initial stages of the conference were hosted in temporary spaces, usually outdoors with the justification that people’s imagination were not limited or constrained by a particular place or venue.

The design for an exhibition Centre had to facilitate the freedom and imagination of the computing conference and still function as a social building throughout the year. The challenge was to create something dynamic that would promote the conference whilst also being appealing to the community. This meant breaking away from the traditional interpretation of a traditional exhibition Centre.

Exhibition centers are meant to capture the urban culture of life. So far the current typology of exhibition centers uses unique aesthetics to highlight the nature of the city. The strong dominating presence of these facilities intimidate people and discourages daily activity. These centers have only been able to visually illustrate culture and has not truly been able to capture the social essence of the city.
4.1.2 Social and economic analysis

The process of designing the Cloud town exhibition center meant abandoning traditional approaches of design with the outcome of making a public building that is always accessible to anyone. Instead of designing a vertical imposing building, the building's height was brought down to 6.6 meters and focused on maintaining a relationship with human scale. The low height encompassed a low lying roof height that is sloped down to ground level. Pedestrians from the street level can access the entire site, transitioning from ground to the roof and into the building just through naturally circulating through the site. It also has plug points for charging mobile devices and internet hotspots that are active throughout the building with plug points even on the green roof.
The building footprint is the entire area of the site which isn’t common practice, but due to the green roof design there is no loss of previously existing green space.

Although this is an exhibition center, it’s design employs social urban strategies through the use of sport which makes this building active daily. The emphasis of the facility is to create an active social environment in a building typology that is generally empty 200 days of the year. Traditionally exhibition centers have open plan designs, which allow multifunctional usage.

In keeping with the notion of multifunctional and public design, the spaces also facilitate indoor and outdoor sports. When it isn’t occupied for conferences it is termed a “sports-warehouse”. By having storage components, sporting equipment can be arranged to host daily sporting activities and rearranged to host exhibition events. There are also on site change rooms and showers allowing people the chance to freely participate in each activity. The facility has become so popular that it daily exceeds its capacity.

4.1.3 Architectural and urban Analysis

To further enforce the sporting component, there are dedicated sports halls and courtyards in and on top of the building. The multifunctional approach not only showcases the exhibition on display but it also showcases the urban culture of the city, as there are open air amphitheatres for informal shows and performances.
The roof also has transitional zones that accommodate children and teenagers. It is able to exhibit a diversity of city cultures which is all socially rooted through sport. The open roof means that the space is public, free, always accessible and open to be experienced giving people and every visitor a sense of belonging. The casualness of public movement draws in large crowds, who use the site as a means of experiencing leisure and relaxation. The design promotes spontaneous activity, which is visible in every part of the park. The building acts as a park and an exhibition space all in one and represents the spirit of the place.

In order for the roof to have pedestrian access from the street, spaces like the exhibition hall in the building had to be sunken an additional 3 meters into the ground so that it could have a total floor to ceiling area of 9 meters.
There are various changes in floor heights to help define spaces. Ramps were used as a primary mode of transitioning between levels, which help to gradually ease into the next level rather than experiencing an abrupt climb via staircases.

There’s ten social activities on the roof which are football fields, watch tower, sandpit, studio theatre, roller skating platform, a community vegetable garden which is all linked by a running track that extends to 760 meters. Although these activities are not typical of an exhibition center, it attracts wide range of conferences which are drawn to the social events. It is the social activities and not the exhibitions that daily attract the community. According to Arch daily, the site is always busy with people through spontaneous events and has become the local precinct social space for the inhabitants of the urban neighborhood. Independent

4.1.4 Summary

Interconnectivity and sharing has become more popular in the virtual environment than it has become in the built environment. The opportunities for people to truly get to know one another in a social physical state has become rare. The design acknowledges the quintessential interconnection between people. It encourages people to step out of their socially exclusive environments and be a part of a community within a natural environment. It is the first public park and exhibition space in the town and aims to develop the imagination and creativity of the community. It’s open design acts as a catalyst by creating new interest and civic value. The site has unlimited possibilities in defining open social space which makes it appealing to everyone and maximizes urban resources.
4.2 Vertical Gym, Caracas, Venezuela

**Location:** Caracas, Venezuela  
**Architects:** Urban Think Tank  
**Building typology:** vertical sports gym  
**Floor area:** 1000 sqm  
**Functions:** sports gym and arena  
**Project completion:** 2004

*Figure 18: Multi-purpose courts  
Figure source: [https://www.designboom.com/architecture/urban-think-tanks-vertical-gym-in-venezuela-revitalizes-region/](https://www.designboom.com/architecture/urban-think-tanks-vertical-gym-in-venezuela-revitalizes-region/) (Date accessed: 10 September 2018)*

*Figure 19: Site proposal  
Figure source: [https://www.designboom.com/architecture/urban-think-tanks-vertical-gym-in-venezuela-revitalizes-region/](https://www.designboom.com/architecture/urban-think-tanks-vertical-gym-in-venezuela-revitalizes-region/) (Date accessed: 10 September 2018)*

*Figure 20: Axonometric view  
Figure source: [https://www.designboom.com/architecture/urban-think-tanks-vertical-gym-in-venezuela-revitalizes-region/](https://www.designboom.com/architecture/urban-think-tanks-vertical-gym-in-venezuela-revitalizes-region/) (Date accessed: 10 September 2018)*
4.2.1 Motivation of Analysis

The site is located in the dense informal settlements of Caracas which has high crime rates and lack of urban space and infrastructure. The area was unsafe for children to play and did not have the ability or the space to participate in recreational activities. A team of local architects together with Urban Think Tank saw an opportunity in utilizing a vacant rundown sports field as a site in Chacao’s Barrio La Cruz for social activities.

4.2.2 Social and Economic response

The design received a warm response from the neighbourhood as its conception was realized by the community and was voiced through community representatives. The design partnership was the reason for the success of the facility which generates an approximate total of 15,000 users each month. The active facility has helped to reduce crime and has offered a safe open environment that nurtures skills, tolerance and promotes civic community development and sports participation.

4.2.3 Architectural and Urban Analysis

In the dense urban settlement space is the most vital resource. The site being a total of 1000sqm limited the functional options on site. Instead of altering the neighboring sites the challenge was to design a facility that would vertically house a variety of sport functions. By designing a steel structure many of the possible issues from a dense concrete design were avoided. The cost was minimal and the structure was fabricated off site and assembled on site. In response to an environmentally friendly design and a universally accessible building the prefabricated bolt on steel structure is able to accommodate ramps from one level to the next. Prefabricated construction makes it easy to replace and maintain the building. The design also includes recycled materials, wind towers, solar panels and a rainwater collection to reduce operational costs. Hybrid vertical gyms were also proposed for several public New York city schools, due to its practicality and success.
4.2.4 Summary

The success of the design prompted the development of various sport facilities in the city of Caracas with each design specifically suited to local requirements. The additional sport facilities in Gimnasios, includes an outdoor market. In Los Teques the sports facility has an aquatic sports center. Ceiba GV has a library and a metro-cable station and the El Dorado GV public facility has a market space for informal vendors. Through the proposal of a public sports facility in Caracas the social perception of the area changed. The sports facility not only provides a safe place for social interaction to occur but it also enhances the atmosphere of place, which causes a social interest that extends outside of the neighborhood. Competitive participation will introduce various teams to an area that was once socially excluded because of its social issues. The formalization of public space and activity is important areas that generate and dictate the social cultures of place. Social public spaces become areas of opportunity, hope and meaning to place through activity.

Figure 21: Urban Neighborhood of Caracas

Figure 22: Vertical sports gym
4.3 Yangzhou Li Ning Sports Park

**Location**: Yangzhou, China  
**Architects**: Australia PT Design Consultants Limited  
**Building typology**: Sports Park  
**Floor area**: 51,320 sqm  
**Functions**: Sport and medical training, educational sport development and accommodation  
**Project completion**: 2015

![Figure 23](https://www.archdaily.com/800935/yangzhou-li-ning-sports-park-australia-pt-design-consultants-limited)  
*Figure 23* 3D view - Yangzhou Li Ning Sports Park  

![Figure 24](https://www.archdaily.com/800935/yangzhou-li-ning-sports-park-australia-pt-design-consultants-limited)  
*Figure 24* 3D view - Yangzhou Li Ning Sports Park entrance  

4.3.1 Motivation of Analysis

In China sport has transformed from mostly focusing on competitive sport facilities to developing social public sport facilities. The design of the facility allows sport to be part of a daily lifestyle. The sport park is designed to primarily provide recreational relief to the community. It has the ability to just be a park for relaxation, as the buildings do not take away the atmosphere of the place. Due to the buildings growing out of the ground it acts as ancillary activities which support the recreational nature of the park.

4.3.2 Social and Economic Analysis

This sports park is located in Gaungling New city, China. The park comprises of a cluster of sport buildings that collectively house sport facilities. The park design integrates the
landscape which has a rich green environment linked with built form to merge into one seamless design. The idea is to allow participants to freely transition from the outdoor park into the various buildings. The buildings on the site are designed to protrude out of the earth like built mountains. The park is meant to be a place of escape from the concrete city as the site highlights the natural elements, forming relationships with the sky, ground and water, which emphasis the vibrancy of sports culture.

4.3.4 Architectural and Urban Analysis

The site makes use of modern leisure sports functions such as rock climbing, trampolines and pathways that act as running tracks which connect the entire park together. The facility also has daily sports training, health maintenance courses and rehabilitation. There are on-site catering services for recreational and corporate functions. This helps to integrate the community through continuous activity and complex activities.
The Australian design consultants incorporated paper cutting techniques into the building style development. This is how the concept developed with the buildings being cut out of the landscape to form a concave-convex effect on the ground. The convex parts are the buildings and the concave parts are the multifunctional outdoor spaces. These forms create a spatial experience making use of different layers and levels with running lanes that go through the internal spaces to the outdoor spaces in the park. The site was specifically chosen due to its location in relation to the river. Water sports and water related activity can occur directly next to the site with the entire park overlooking the river providing spectators an opportunity to visually be part of the event.

4.3.5 Summary

In order to be a sustainable and a self-supporting facility, it operates through memberships, classes and spaces which promote the lingering of people and it has food shops within the building. The conference rooms are also rented out for commercial use and exhibitions. The site and the buildings are designed to be multi-functional and socially inclusive of the needs of the community, thus improving its utility efficiency and avoiding idleness in the area.

Figure 29, 30, 31: Site plan - concave-convex effect

Figure 32: 3D Aerial site view of yangzhou-li-ning-sports-park
To respond to the ecological conditions of the area the site has a rain water collection and a drainage system. The green roofs help to regulate the building’s internal temperature and also increases the green coverage of the site. The design uses natural lighting for the public sports activities and has light tunnels from the green roof.

The incorporation of the green roofs and the natural transition of the buildings emerging from the ground directs the user through the site. The change in heights and the continuous incorporation of nature transitions the users movement through the site into an experience that evokes the senses and the curiosity of the user to explore the change in typology. The design changes the perception of a traditional urban park. It redefines the social complexity of the park through the inclusion of various sport activities combined with community and commercial components. The complexity of functions ensures that there is constant activity within the park. Through the use of heights and the cluster typology of buildings, users in the park are able to define their own social spaces. There are places to braai at leisure and there’s Amphitheatre seating for events and designated outdoor furniture which include chairs and tables for hosting meetings and casual relaxation spaces.
4.4 Bill R. Foster and Family Recreation Center / Cannon Design

**Location**: United States, N Missouri Ave, Springfield, MO, USA

**Architects**: Cannon Design

**Building typology**: sports recreation center

**Floor area**: 9150 sqm

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**Figure 33**: Main entrance

**Figure 34**: Ariel View of site

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**4.4.1 Motivation of Analysis**

This sports recreation facility is a design response to the increased student demand for recreational relief and space. The site is located in an educational zone which lies within the Missouri State University. The youth from the campus and community needed a place where the entire precinct can exercise, play, compete and learn about health and wellness. The site was also chosen to enforce social activity between two other student buildings.

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**Figure 34**: Pathway intersecting building

**Figure 35**: 3D Section
4.4.2 Social and Economic Analysis

It follows through with the link by highlighting pedestrian movement through the site and through the building. People moving through the pathway which dissects the building in half can visually be a part of the building without having to physically be inside. The emphasis on public movement helps to develop social relationships with the building its occupants and people who are just passing by.

4.4.3 Architectural and Urban response

The facility has basketball courts, a multi-purpose court, a fitness centre, an indoor running track, rock climbing wall, administration offices and facilities for staff and internal social spaces for students. The design feeds off the main pathway which brings the pedestrian to the entrance and splits all the internal activities into two halves. The aim is being able to find creative ways to naturally engage students throughout the design process and ensure that the building is active daily.
4.4.4 Summary

The recreation center is designed to have a strong vertical presence in the campus landscape. The one half of the building has a stone shell which makes reference to the historic stone buildings that make up the university campus. The interior is the opposite of the hard outside which has cool metal and glass that exposes activities of recreation. The path’s subtle rise and fall allows pool and locker functions to slip below the walk on the lower level, while the jogging track loops above providing cover to students passing through the building. Inside, occupants are continually reconnected to campus through carefully measured cuts and apertures, creating a degree of transparency not readily apparent in the building’s exterior.

The Bill Foster Family recreation Center is an urban response to the lack defined public space for youth in the community and the campus. The site was specifically chosen to enforce the urban concept of walkability, safety and the development of urban linkages through built form. The preservation of the pathway linking the two campuses together was the main concern. The intersection of the pathway through the building preserved the pedestrian movement through the site and also provided a liminal space in which the students can interact and develop their own sense of social space within the campus and the community. Through the social activity of sport a variety of social events and inter community activity can take place within the facility. It also provides the campus with the opportunity to organize sports clubs and teams to train competitively and for social relief against other campuses. The social opportunities brought about through the development of the site are endless.
4.5 Conclusion

According to the researched precedent studies, the relevance of sport in stimulating social urban activity has been successfully adopted into public urban facilities. Through the inclusion of sport the social perceptions of urban place has changed into active environments that has also stimulated urban development within the context of the studied precedents.

The social activity of sport has enhanced the urban atmosphere of place through constant activity. Public areas in which the precedents have been researched have defined new connections and urban links that promote walkability, safety and movement which is seen in the vertical gym in Caracas, Venezuela. The social benefits of having sport orientated design is that the buildings are naturally designed to be multi-functional and thus can facilitate community events and allow for people to re-interpret the meaning of public space according to their own individual social needs. The Second Stage of Hangzhou Cloud Town Exhibition Center illustrates that public space can be a place of opportunity for social development through the freedom and versatility of space. The perception of an exhibition center being predominantly unused has been changed through designing public space to incorporate more than just one social function through sport.

This is also witnessed in the Yangzhou Li Ning sports park which exists as an urban park from the surface but upon closer analysis it also has defined community functions that facilitate trade, learning, and sport recreational needs all under one facility. These social urban responses are subtle in that the design development reflects nature and the environment of an urban park instead of the traditional commercial and trade buildings.

Through further analysis of local case studies a local understanding of how sport has been used to respond to social issues within the built environment can be determined.
Chapter 5

Case Studies
Introduction

A primary analysis will be conducted through the method of Case Studies of built form. This analysis will highlight the personal understanding of how sport can assist in the relationship of social space, between people and built form. The case studies will help understand social relationships that are developed through design responses that use sport to facilitate these urban linkages.

5.1 Tuks high Performance Centre:

Location: University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa
Architect: Don Albert
Building typology: sports Centre
Functions: Sport and medical training, educational sport development and accommodation.

Figure 40: courtyard, pathways linking the buildings on site
Image by author(2018)

Introduction:

The following information was obtained through interviews and discussions amongst staff that work at the Tuks High performance center.

Tuks high performance Centre was initially designed to be a sports science institute wing at the university of Pretoria. Its completion in 2004 recognized the great demand in sports facilities within South Africa. Since its opening it is fully booked throughout the year by local and international professional teams from off campus. The activity that Tuks generates is due to the combination of functions offered under one roof that is still currently not available elsewhere in the county. The Tuks Centre has a sports science institute linked to a medical component, an auditorium, educational learning spaces and it has retail spaces that contain a
bar and restaurant, a hotel and dormitory accommodation which allows teams to stay in the facility. There is a dedicated administration building which lets the staff have continuous access and monitor the facility independently from the main campus. The relationship of spaces and functions provide a unique setting for sport trainees and youth as they have a surplus of tools that provides exposure and nurtures sport development.

5.1.1 Motivation of Analysis

The Facility is site specific to facilitate youth within the University of Pretoria and also cater for youth that are part of the surrounding context. It has an outreach program which engages with youth from the ages of 15. The aim of the program is to identify sporting talent within the region and educate youth by instilling teamwork, social skills and providing them with a foresight into their future through sport by allowing them to interact with professional athletes in the facility. The outreach program integrates the youth with the campus. It creates awareness about the importance of tertiary education and allows the youth a chance to interact with the campus lifestyle at an early age. It stimulates the need to have self-development and expand interests into career paths outside of sport. The facility allows the youth freedom and the tools to explore their identity physically and mentally.

5.1.2 Social and Economic Analysis

There are 76 hectors of land dedicated to sports development. To access all this space on site lies Hatfield road that feeds off the main road. This road acts as a spine, with the various different sports fields branching off it. On site the buildings are positioned as an intermediate space, between the entrance and the sports fields. It is the building that announces the activity and the culture of the place instead of the traditional sports field. The hyper center is located directly off Hatfield road. It visually draws the user off Hatfield road into the sports precinct. The outdoor courts and fields are an extension of the internal functions offered at the center. The medical staff are on site during working hours and provide medical assistance on training and exercising appropriately. The center becomes a space that allows the athlete to stay focused on his training development as the buildings are surrounded by a sports scenery of athletic fields and after hours’ sport participation. In the building contains structured nutrition and medical assistance that minimizes the need of travelling from one specific facility to the next. For the youth this place is perceived as an institution, recreational and a personal space where they can express themselves through sport.
The facility hosts a variety of sport which include soccer, swimming, cricket, rugby, tennis, squash and has a multi-functional sports court that accommodates more sport. There is a strong lineage of national and international success within these sport groups and this facility provides the structure to maintain the nation’s results. The sports offered are group orientated and stimulate social interaction. It forces the individual to think and employ the mind in challenging situations to use teamwork to win.

Figure 4.1: Site plan of Turk Centre
By Author: (2018)
5.1.3 Architectural and Urban Response

The Tuks performance center was designed in two phases. The initial phase was the development of the sports science block together with the administration building and the second phase was the accommodation units. The development was planned to create a central courtyard space which provides intermediate spaces of interaction and passive surveillance. It also promotes an ease of movement between each building. The lower ground floor of the sports science building hosts the social spaces. It contains a restaurant and an open social area linked to the bar. The restaurant provides an area of interaction outside of the sports field. This area is particularly useful for teams who are residing in the boutique hotel on the site. The ground floor is multifunctional in the sense that it also serves as a staff room and a hall for address groups of teams when the area is booked out for local sports day events.

The lower ground floor overlooks the swimming pool and oversees the outdoor sports fields. Although the entrance is on the ground floor, the building is designed to have double volume spaces so that there is still a visual connection at the entrance to the social spaces of the building. The first floor and the ground floor contains the primary functions of the building. The second floor hosts specialized medical units, each unit exists to monitor sports teams and the general public who seek medical attention from sports related issues.

Figure 42: typical section through the Tuks high performance Centre
http://www.albertandpartners.com/?portfolio=high-performance-center
Figure 43: 3d perspective of Tuks Centre
http://www.albertandpartners.com/?portfolio=high-performance-center
Image source:

Figure 44: gym on first floor

Figure 45: Second floor health unit

First floor:

- visual training
- physiotherapy
- medical unit
- mental skills training
- strength programs
Second floor:

- boutique hotel
- social spaces

The second floor houses visiting sports teams that are off campus. The temporary accommodation simplifies the process of monitoring and keeping track of the team in regards to their mental and physical health. It provides a space that makes the athletes focus and block the distractions from the outside world.

![Figure 46: Audio Visual room](image1)  
![Figure 47: Restaurant in the lower ground floor](image2)

The audio visual room on the first floor which protrudes out of the building structure announces the entrance on the ground floor. It provides a roof overhang that acts as an entrance portico. This gives the building a sense of monumentality within the landscape. The material choices add to this effect of monumentality as there is a uniform approach of off-shutter concrete and face-brick applied to the façades. Concrete and face-brick are perceived visually as hard elements which also promotes a sense seriousness and authority. The material choice also ties in with the campus architecture and gives the facility a sense of place and belonging in being visually associated to a greater entity. There is an extensive use of floor to ceiling fenestration that is prominent throughout the building. The fenestration creates an inviting presence to those outside. It allows the people outside to have a visual sense of the activities taking place inside.
This is not consistent throughout the levels of the building as the openings become smaller and more private. The large openings have a negative impact on the building’s solar gain, as it requires mechanical ventilation to keep the occupants cool when exercising or simply just being in the building. The external shading systems are not sufficient in keeping out the large amounts of light. The lack of shading devices brings in solar glare into the building which
makes it difficult for the occupants to adjust and move into evasive positions when the furniture and gym equipment are fixed and are usually too heavy to adjust.

**Figure 51**: Tuks central Courtyard Space linking the accommodation and training facility through pathways
Image by author: (2018)

**Figure 52**: Tuks center, pool and accommodation units
Image by author: (2018)

### 5.1.4 Summary

The Tuks sports center acts as a social node within the student precinct of Pretoria. The facility not only hosts a variety of sport, it also contains social spaces on the site. These spaces transition into an urban park supported by miniature lakes and braaiing facilities which allows the users to experience and develop their own meaning to place. The tuks facility was intended to be a facility dedicated to sporting development. The lack of internal space is the main issue when the weather is not conducive to participate outside. There is also a need for internal multi-purpose courts to accommodate a broad variety of sport typologies that currently is not participated on site. So far the facility is designed to train for sport, it also could be developed to host matches competitively. The site has a variety of other sports
buildings that accommodate for individual sport games such as the cricket and rugby center. Through the social interest of sport the facility the site has become a place for urban social activity and recreational relief amongst the youth and the community. It is through the continuous social interest of sport that the site is undergoing development to accommodate more internal medical and sport related activity through the development of a new wing located next to the Tuks center. Although the site is designed for sport participation, it is the social atmosphere that is created through sport that makes the facility a social node within the urban neighborhood. The site is used for a variety of different social functions that are not sport related. It serves as a place of relaxation after campus hours as most of the students spend the evenings along the park under the shade of the trees. There are also social events hosted in the recreational park that stimulates urban life in the area.
5.2.1 Crusaders Sports Club

**Location:** Durban North, Durban, Kwa-Zulu Natal

**Architect:** Unknown

**Building typology:** sports Centre

**Functions:** Sport and recreation facility

![Figure 53: sports grounds](image)

*Image by author: (2018)*

**Introduction:**

The following information was obtained through interviews and discussions amongst staff that work at the Crusaders sports club

Crusaders sports club is located within the residential precinct of Durban North. It is central to the school facilities and educational institutions within the residential district. Although the facility is not located within the immediate urban environment it is a multi-functional sports facility that acts as a social node through sport within the residential environment.

![Figure 54: outdoor field seating](image)

*By author (2018)*

![Figure 55: Café overlooking the sports grounds](image)

*By author (2018)*
Site Location:

The site is located in the residential precinct of Durban North. It has direct access from the main freeway, the M4.

*Figure 55.A: Site location: Durban North, Durban*  
By author (2018)
5.2.1 Motivation of Analysis

Crusaders is a privately maintained sports facility that is freely open to the general public. Its social popularity within the residential area is due to the fact that people can use the sports grounds and amenities at leisure. The facility is large enough to cater for social events whilst still having the ability to maintain its social presence as a sports park, as it has units that operate independently. The facility’s complexity of sporting facilities encourages the interaction of the entire residential neighborhood across the age groups and it accommodates the youth within the educational zones around the facility. There is a strong atmosphere of place that is defined through sport activity. The facility also has social sport participation and professional club sport that includes spectator involvement. The inclusion of seating areas and a cafe, provides a social setting for sport participants after games. It also encourages social activity within the site and promotes recreational leisure.

5.2.2 Social and Economic Analysis

Sport participation is a daily activity that continues into the night. Social and competitive matches are hosted on a regular basis. The facility is also home to multiple sports clubs that use the grounds to regularly train and compete. It is within walking distance of the residential areas and schools which daily attracts pedestrian activity in the area. The bar, café and hall with a garden act as social anchors in the facility. These social functions serve as community spaces which are consistently occupied by the public.

Figure 56: Internal social Hall space
By author (2018)

Figure 57: Outside private space for hall
By author (2018)
5.2.3 Architectural and Urban Response

There is a cluster of individual building units on-site which are central to the parking and linked by the main road within the facility. The sports facility contains two sports grounds with seating built into the surrounding banks. It has a bar and a hall with an outdoor garden that is privately located from the sports grounds. The setting of the hall on-site allows for events to occur simultaneously without causing interference. It is positioned on a gentle hill that overlooks the garden which creates the opportunity for events happening inside the hall to extend into the garden maximizing the space. The site is located directly off the main freeway, the M4, which allows easy access for people who are not part of the immediate residential node. Each social function on the site is designed in isolation from the next. Although this provides privacy between each building there is a lack of social coherence between each facility on the site. This is further enforced through the vast distances between each building.

The indoor squash courts are housed on its own and is not supported by any additional social functions. The facility has an opportunity to allocate additional sport related functions such as a gym, as most sport participants who socially participate in sport have to go off the site to train at gym when they are not participating in group related activity. The advantage of having a gym on the site is that people can do multiple sport related activities in one place and new social relationships can be developed. The proposal of a gym will also enforce the sports identity of the park. According to conducted interviews, the sports club needs a facility for the sports teams that use the site regularly to train. The additional facility will provide space for teams in having change rooms, meeting rooms and administration space to facilitate
constant sport events on site. A bigger hall will generate more interest in social events that will appeal to community participation as there are no halls within the immediate neighborhood. There is a lack of indoor sport activity which results in an almost dead site if people did not regularly visit the café. A multi-purpose sports hall would ensure constant activity within the sports club regardless of the change in weather. It would also promote a more inclusive range of sport that specifically involves an internal court typology such as volleyball and badminton.

5.2.4 Summary

The crusaders sports facility has facilitated the development of an active social space within the residential precinct of Durban North. It achieves this by maintaining a general public access into the site. It allows the surrounding neighborhood the opportunity to be socially inclusive through the engagement in sport or through just moving through the site. Although the facility is privately owned it does not impose restrictions on its users which contributes to its constant social activity. The site has potential to promote a greater social interest in the area through the development of more sport related activity. Although it functions as an existing social node within the urban neighborhood through competitive sport it can gain more public interest and be a place of greater social opportunity within the urban environment.
5.3 Conclusion

The researched case studies provides an understanding of how built examples have used the social concept of sport in different public environments to achieve social inclusivity within urban contexts in South Africa. The tuks high performance center is closely related to the proposal of the sports center in Curries fountain as it is a sports facility that is located within an educational and urban zone and is part of the University of Pretoria. The facility has successfully achieved a sense of social inclusivity through the inclusion of youth and the community by incorporating sport activity that allows a diversity of people to use its facilities. The site in which the Tuks Hyper center is located in also includes an urban park that allows social participation of sport and recreation to take place.

Although crusaders sports club is not directly located within an educational zone it still promotes a sense of urban community within its location. It successfully does this by being open to anyone in the community. This notion is further enforced through the space of the hall, café and sports grounds which is available to be used by the community.

Both Crusaders and the Tuks Center have similar properties of providing social interaction but through different sport related activity. It is through the additional ancillary functions on the site that make the facility appealing to a broad spectrum of users and socially acceptable for people of all ages to participate within the facility.

Through the analysis and discussion in the next chapter a greater understanding of the combined literature, theories and concepts and examples of precedents will be compared in relation to each other. This analysis will assist in the development of the proposed sports complex in Curries Fountain.
Chapter 6

Analysis and Discussion
Chapter 6: Analysis and discussion

Introduction

This chapter will review the findings gathered through the document thus far. Finally the primary and secondary research methodology listed in chapter one will be further be discussed in relation to chapters one till five. This collection of data will be examined and reviewed to determine the various outcomes in which social recreational space has the ability to promote revitalization in an urban context.

The research methodology will be analysed through a series of interviews that have been documented through a combination of recording devices and photographic information which will be reviewed to formulate a detailed breakdown of the mixed method analysis. The knowledge obtained from the analysis will stimulate an informed approach of an architectural response in a given urban environment through sport being a social catalytic tool initiating revitalization. The analysis in this chapter will be discussed in the same process as the literature review of the project. This process will facilitate solutions which are discussed as key questions in chapter one directing a suitable result of a proposed sporting complex as a built response.

In order to gain inclusive knowledge of social issues within the city of Durban, interviews and questionnaires were conducted within the precinct in order to inform how Curries Fountain can promote social revitalization. All interviews conducted, remain anonymous throughout this research

Interview 1: Durban based urban designer

An urban designer within Durban who has worked and participated in local and international urban design projects was interviewed to gain knowledge of how current urban public design has been developed.

In order to design a public facility the notion of defining place must relate contextually. This in turn will solidify social relationships with people and built form. Public space stimulates urban regeneration and development. It is also an important node within the urban framework and serves as places of interest within the city. The atmosphere of the facility must be
captured both visually and conveyed through the experience of the user. It needs to have a sense of monumentality and symbolism that causes the user and the community to have a sense of pride and personal identification with the facility.

**Interview 2: Anonymous urban planning, Durban Municipality**

Public spaces are the life in which the city exists. Usually public spaces are functional facilities such as public transport facilities, or pathways that connect private facilities together. The essence that makes up public space which hosts activity is lost. In the case of the proposal for the sports facility, there is an opportunity to capture the meaning of place and how it adds to the existing public framework connecting nodes that did not seemingly exist before. Public facilities need to be accessible, in essence it needs to have access to transport and be within access to other public facilities such as educational institutions and healthcare facilities. This will enforce the idea that it is part of the community and place in which it is situated.

**Interview 3: Resident Near Curries Fountain**

The resident near curries fountain has been living in the urban neighbourhood since the early 1990’s and has experienced his early adolescence, youth and adult years in the precinct. The interviewee gives a personal description of social change that has occurred during his years as a youth transitioning into being an adult.

According to the resident, curries fountain is his home as it is a place that he still has vivid memories of growing up which has natured him into the person he is today. His recollection of the past is strongly rooted around the sport facility, and its many historical events and people of interest that participated on the site. Amongst all the stories relating to the area, the most important memories are the ones that include people of the community. Sport in the area promoted strong ties linked to community participation which resulted in groups of youth who became close friends because of local friendly teams that were formed that regularly played on the sport grounds.

The resident further goes on to say that currently the area is no longer as socially active as it once was when he was a youth in the neighbourhood. He states that this change is noticeable
as his own children who are youth are not involved in any social activity within their own
neighbourhood as there is no longer a sense of an active community amongst youth or other
members within the precinct.

**Interview 4: Anonymous D.U.T Student**

In order to gain a broad understanding of social experiences interviews have been conducted
on youth within the precinct. The anonymous student is in his final year at campus in D.U.T
campus. According to the conducted interview the facilities of the campus are spread out
amongst the three D.U.T campuses in the precinct. Although all of them are within walking
distance they are not connected via direct pathways which do not promote links or direct
interconnectivity.

The impact of sport within the area has been minimal as the students are not allowed direct
access onto the site of curries fountain. To move from one D.U.T campus to the next,
students have to walk along a designated path that exists along the border of Curries fountain.
Curries Fountain is also centrally located amongst all three campuses but it exists in isolation
from the educational institutions. There are also no activities that link sport to the other youth
facilities and institutions. There is little to no interaction with the sporting facility amongst
students. In order to engage in sport it has to be done out of the precinct usually within
private facilities which does not facilitate social development.

**Interview 5: Resident and student at Curries Fountain**

Interviews were also conducted on youth who are part of the urban neighborhoods that are
located around Curries fountain and lie within Warwick precinct.

According to the interview conducted on a resident who is a student at D.U.T, the educational
institution is one of few places were youth can socially interact as there no activities in the
area that welcome youth involvement. Student life is also a difficult experience without
passive financial support. As there are not many social or commercial facilities in the area
part time work isn’t easy to find within the precinct. This has resulted in the student seeking
work out of the precinct which does not support the hours of a person studying. There is little
opportunity within the precinct that allows youth to be socially be involved in working, living
and learning at the same time.
Interview 6: Sport facilitator at curries fountain

The lack of activity from public space has a seemingly direct relationship with the lack of activity in the urban neighborhood. Through lack of activity the entire atmosphere of place changes, which also has an effect on the people of the place. Curries Fountain sports facility once influenced the entire character of place within Warwick. The area was known for its daily sport games and local matches. It was a social spot for the entire city not just the immediate neighborhood. Currently the facility has not being able to accommodate or facilitate continuous social activity with its existing infrastructure. There is an urgent need for the sports grounds to develop links within the D.U.T campuses so that students can have a defined social space of their own that facilitates activity amongst youth.

The facility has been unable to support the community after hours as it lacks internal space for social activities that involve large groups of people and individuals alike. In order for the facility to have social relevance it needs to have defined spaces for sports staff, training equipment, and ancillary functions that attract the general public to the facility. The social complexity of the urban environment has progressed beyond the means in which the existing sports facility can have social relevance.

Summary

Through interviewing a diverse group of people closely related to curries fountain and the surrounded context a detailed account of the social environment is understood. According to the initial interview regarding urban public design it is evident that public urban design has to stimulate a personal connection to the users in the urban environment. In order for users to develop a personal connection with a public facility it needs to be public in every sense. Through its design the facility should identify its presence within the urban framework through accessibility, monumentality and atmosphere.

Currently the existing sports facility Curries fountain, has lost its social relevance as a public facility as it is unable to support the social issues of the immediate neighbourhood. According to the residents interviewed, there is a strong urgency for a public facility to accommodate the social needs of the youth and the community. The lack of an active public facility has resulted in the youth and the community having to seek opportunity beyond the precinct.
which has contributed to in-activity within the precinct. It is due to the lack of complexity of the existing sports facility that limits members of the urban neighbourhood from being socially inclusive as a community.

6.1 Analysis and discussion of Literature, Theories and Concepts, Precedent studies and Case studies

Through research conducted in the literature review it is determined that the social aspects of sport make it a desirable recreational activity. As an activity it contributes to the well-being of health whilst facilitating in the development of social skills, education and nurturing coping techniques that allow for personal and nation development that go beyond the sports field used in the urban environment (Eichberg 2010:2)

The research in the literature review suggests that sport has the characteristics to address the social needs of the community whilst also providing urban catalytic growth within the urban context. Through social participation sport becomes a daily routine and a means of an escape from daily stress (smith et al 2006:2) Sport was used to successfully convey the inhumane social circumstances of the nation. In doing so it was able to gain international support and influence the world to highlight change in the nation (Booth, 2003). Its importance to the nation in bringing about revitalization and transformation is evident in South Africa’s political struggle (McPearson,1989).

The inclusion of sport in nation building was also recognized in the current democratic society. Its relevance was used in international sporting events to illustrate to the world and the country that South Africa has transitioned into a socially inclusive state. These events also promoted economic and architectural development on a national scale (Alegi 2008: 399). Even though sport contributed to large scale national development it lacked social relevance within local urban community development which is evident in the inner city neighborhoods in Durban (Sport and Recreation South Africa, 2014).

The literature review suggests that sport has continuous relevance in the society of South Africa on a local and international scale. There is also potential for sport to have an active presence in the immediate context of urban neighborhoods. The success of this has been
highlighted in the case studies of crusaders sports Fscility and Tuks sports facility which suggests that there is an urgent need for sport to promote social inclusive spaces in the urban environment of Curries Fountain.

The research explored in this section of the review proposes that sport has the ability to define space, through the activity that causes people to naturally move according to the game. This activity formalized the need for designated recreational space within the city that dates back to the time of the coliseums built in Rome (Kreft 2012:177). The evidence of recreational space has always been celebrated in the history of the city. Although it has varied in typology and function it has a strong relationship with architecture and people.

Sport is able to provide a healthy environment in which youth can learn how to socially interact, deal with stress, learn life skills such as dealing with pain, loss and learning how to be motivated to achieve success through winning. Sport provides youth with an escape from daily routine. It also provides opportunity to be socially a part of a team of people, collectively engaging in a game. It breaks social barriers and acknowledges people for their skill rather than their social differences (Keim 2004: 15).

The theories of space and inclusivity and placemaking give notion to the proposal that in order to define space into a tangible area of meaning, it needs to have a defined activity that denotes to the idea of place (Rapaport 2005: 15). Place that has meaning, has significance within the user and the surrounding context. Place-identification and place making through the reflection of the past, present and accommodating the future define the theoretical framework place-making. The theoretical framework is further solidified through defining place to promote awareness and empowerment of the community(Toolis 2017: 186 ).

The theory of urban catalysts supports the theories of space and inclusivity and place making in that the proposal of place enhances and support contextual development. This notion is defined by formalizing and incorporating the temporary functions of social activity into defined built form (Rossi 1982:88).
The concepts of a liveable city and sport cities suggest that sport facilities are important nodes as places for recreational relief and promoting linkages and connections within the city. It also assists to define the past time culture of place. Through relatable urban activity the definition of place becomes clear and easily identifiable within the entire urban context (Valle 2011:14).

Through researching built examples of sport facilities it is understood that the social aspects of sport can be applied to a variety of different public facilities in order to promote the development of social inclusivity. Within the urban environment there is a growing interest amongst public social buildings to include sport facilities that generates daily social participation which promotes community activity. Sport is able to provide daily recreational relief within the community and it is appealing as sport participation is unique to each match and event. Instead of urban parks existing only as a green space the inclusion of sport supported by ancillary functions assist in defining wholistic urban environments that facilitates urban social development. In order for sports facilities to maintain the notion of an urban park setting, the proposed sports complex should be an extension of the natural environment of the park landscape, highlighting nature instead of built form. The location of these facilities also help to define and develop urban infrastructure in creating walkable, passively safe, and active environments that welcome the urban concepts of live, play, work and learn which is applicable and viable to the social development of the entire community.

**Synthesis of Research**

- Curries Fountain and its Context of Warwick precinct experiences social exclusion and segregation through the lack of social public development.
- The process of social revitalization will be stimulated through the use of sport and supporting social functions in order to facilitate social participation for youth and the community that is integrated into a suitable architectural response.
- The architectural response of a sports complex will assist in promoting social revitalization within the urban environment.
6.2 Conclusion

This section will examine, explore and solve the issues of the research outlined in the first chapter of the dissertation. The following analysis will discuss the understanding of the aim, key questions, the problem statement, the objectives and assumptions.

Understanding the aim

The understanding of the aim has been explored through primary and secondary Sources. Through the analysis of secondary sources it is determined that the defining of social activity within public space is vital in order to promote social revitalization. Through the exploration of literature and explored scenarios the understanding of how social revitalization through the social benefits of sport and built form is obtained. The primary research supports the relevance of the explored secondary research.

Theoretical framework in response to the hypothesis

The theories and concepts explored within the dissertation provides the theoretical framework in which the approach is outlined through the hypothesis which assists the process of the research methods. The exploration of the literature provides a background analysis of the social issues of Curries fountain and the precinct in which it is located in. Through further analysis of the literature an understanding of sport and its social benefits through built form is explored in dealing with social issues that relate contextually to the area of study.

By looking at theories and concepts which deal with the approach of stimulating social revitalization a detailed approach is formulated that aids in the development of the proposed sports facility through a theoretical approach. The theoretical framework is the foundation in achieving an architectural response.

The theories and the case studies provide a suitable analysis of architectural responses. The architecture should therefore contextual based in order to successfully respond to the social concerns. The supporting questions aim to assist key questions and the problem statements as it
helps to isolate a specific path into which the research must displace in. Therefore, the questions were answered through the notion of primary and secondary source analysis.

Key Questions Answered

The main question and the secondary questions that supported the main question were structured in order to develop an understanding as to how the social benefits of sport can be applied to various scenarios of architecture to stimulate social revitalization within a public environment.

The Main Key question is:

“How can sport be used as a tool to promote social revitalization in an urban area of Durban through built form?”

The research conducted within the document explores how sport through architecture is able to stimulate and define social public space within the urban environment and assist in the contextual development of social urban public space and activity to address the social issues in Curries Fountain, Warwick precinct of Durban. The exploration of the theoretical framework substantiates the framework in attaining a suitable architectural response.

The precedent studies and the case studies explore suitable architectural responses. Architecture has to address the context in order to respond to the social issues in which it is located. The secondary questions assist the key question and the problem statement in formulating a specific direction in which the research is conducted. The resolution to the key questions were explored through the analysis of primary and secondary research.
Chapter 7

Conclusions and recommendations


**7.1 Introduction**

This study explores how sport can promote social revitalization in public space within the urban environment through built form. This chapter tests the assumption that the social benefits of sport can be applied to socially revitalize urban public space thus the conclusions and recommendations are formulated towards a proposal of a sports complex facility appropriate to the literature researched in this document.

**7.2 Criteria**

**7.2.1 Criteria for Architectural Response in Built Form**

Through the exploration of the research analyzed in the literature review it is understood that there is a strong historical presence of segregation and social issues within Durban CBD. The social issues of the past are prevalent in the current context of the city through the lack of formalized social urban space (Rosenberg, 2013:19). In order to address the issues of segregation and the social issues that it causes the proposed architectural typology has to comprise of a complexity of functions that has social relevance within the urban framework.

The sports complex has to naturally allow for social interaction to occur in the same manner as an urban park whilst also facilitating defined activity. Through the combined research of the literature and theories it is determined that public space which has defined social activity is surrounded by a constant state of urban development. The proposed facility has to integrate existing urban activity through the integration of urban functions such as the inclusion of the existing trade and educational functions that occurs in Warwick. This will assist in the sports complex connecting and relating to social urban activity and enforcing a continuous link of activity within the precinct.

Through conducted investigations via primary and secondary research methods it is observed that social activity supports the process of revitalization. It is further understood that through the exploration of the literature that social participation in sport provides the tools needed to influence the social and architectural response within the urban environment. Sport has the social characteristics that facilitate relationships and stimulate the development of community. In order for sport participation to be continuous activity in the facility, there also needs to be medical assistance that provides medical rehabilitation for sports injuries.
Assisted medical attention will benefit teams and youth alike who require specific medical attention that facilitates quick recoveries. The sports medical component will also support the health educational institutions of Warwick as providing a space to practice on patients without having to leave the precinct to practice.

Through the analysis of the city of Durban, it is understood that youth make up more than 75 percent of the urban population. In the CBD, Warwick is Zoned as the educational hub and transport hub of the city of Durban. In order to facilitate social activity and development within the precinct of Warwick and the area of study, Curries Fountain, the proposed sports facility will be centered around the social development of youth. The facility has to assist youth by providing social support to issues that youth endure within the urban environment.

The complexity of the proposal should holistically respond to the existing community providing the opportunity to define their own interpretation of public space within the facility. Therefore, the sports complex has to relate to the social urban complexity of place which is the existing trade, educational, social and sporting activities. The purpose of the sports complex is to promote social inclusivity within the immediate community and through the supporting sport related functions the facility should be a place of interest that attracts sports teams, social events and create a social interest that extends nationally and internationally within the general social and sporting culture of society. Thus the proposed sports complex will socially connect the precinct with the rest of the urban CBD of Durban through its sports and social related functions.

### 7.3 Recommendations

According to the research explored in the document it is important to understand the social influence that the proposed sports complex will have within the urban context when designing an architectural response.

Sport is the primary social activity which causes social interest within the site but it should also be supported by tertiary activities that create an interrelation of social activity and spatial relationships which coincide with each other. The outcome is to promote continuous activity whilst stimulating the progression and movement of people within the precinct through the site. The proposal has to also acknowledge the historical activity of the site in order to gain
the interest and facilitate the needs of the community. By designing with responding to the past and present, the social needs of the future can be accommodated. By applying the theories of place making, theory of urban catalysts and designing according to the theory of space and inclusivity the conceptual outcomes of having a sports facility that enforces the design principles of walkability, outdoor and indoor social environments and the concepts of livability, will promote a socially active urban environment.

7.3 1 Criteria for Schedule of Accommodation

The research suggests that in order for the facility to be constantly active, it has to accommodate the youth, sport participants, spectators and the general public whilst being a place where new social connections are developed. It also needs to be contextually relevant in keeping with the standard of predetermined sport spaces for courtyards and field sizes. The facility should not be limited but rather enhance the connections of the public through the social ability of sport. The nature of the public building is to minimize the perception of private space and allow for the user to interact with people through space and built form. The facility should be a journey where space stimulates various forms of social activity. The aim, is that people moving through the facility need to naturally become spectators of sport activity that is happening on the site which prompts for the notion of a courtyard design.

Through the analysis of the Tuks sports center and the Crusaders sports park, allows a better understanding of how social connections are developed through moving and engaging with various functions within the facility. Through the application of place, the facility needs to harness the experience of place and integrate the urban space within the site. Thus the facility needs to be an extension of the precinct. The social atmosphere of sport needs to be coherent throughout the sports complex. The proposed spaces need to have a similar architectural language and meaning. Due to the public nature of the sports complex the design should implement design principles that reflect theoretical framework of place making by having principles such as:

**Circulation and Movement**: Through the study of crusaders, the movement through space is important in developing an active sports facility that receives constant activity from its surrounding context.
Visibility and Hierarchy: The Study of the vertical Gym, focuses on how designing vertically creates a visual node within the urban landscape and suggests that it is a place of importance.

Accessibility: By analyzing Hangzhou Cloud Town Exhibition Centre an understanding of how public buildings need to be universally accessible is conveyed.

Transparency: The analysis Bill Foster recreation center highlights the transition between outside and inside which is broken down by an intersecting pathway that has shop front facades which creates a visual connection between the user and the pedestrian on the pathway. These design principles are intended to facilitate the research towards the process of designing a sports complex that incorporates a social architectural response within the urban context. The overall essence of the sports complex is being able to socially interact and develop urban community.
Part Two

Chapter 1

1.1 Design Development:

Why is Warwick in need of social revitalization?

According to the investigation and analysis carried out in part one of the research, Warwick was previously demarcated as a socially segregated precinct. Its historical urban planning and socio influences from the past still affect and determine the social economic issues of the precinct in the present day. Segregation was enforced within the precinct through lack of:

- Defined social public space
- Recreational user defined facilities
- Educational facilities
- Overall public infrastructure
- Urban walkable spaces and linkages which contributed to segregation

Figure 60: Segregated racial map of Durban. The CBD of Durban was reserved for whites only with the exception of Warwick being accessible to non-whites.

By author Wesley Govinden (2018)
Who: Youth, consist of more than 75% of Urban population.

What: Lacks social recreational public space

How: Through Sports recreational complex

1.1.1 Introduction

In order to establish an architectural response from the research, the literature, precedents, analysis and discussion influence the development of the architectural resolution that will aid in stimulating social revitalization within the precinct of Warwick.

This section of the report will suggest an outlined direction of the design brief which will facilitate the process of a design in built form which will address the contextual social issues and aid in the development of sport being a tool for social change.

1.2 Theoretical and conceptual Framework

Through the combination of research explored in the theories and concepts literature, precedents, case studies and conducted interviews and questionnaires it is established that the design should include a social, economic and architectural response that is to be addressed in built form.

By using the theories of space and inclusivity, place-making, urban catalysts, and applying the concepts of a livable city, the concept of sport cities it has influenced the development of the design towards a socially inclusive architectural response.

1.3 Brief and accommodation schedule

1.3.1 Client:

In areas concerning public social recreational space the clientele involved would be the department of sport and recreation in conjunction with influential local community forums in the surrounding urban context. The Tertiary Institutions of D.U.T will also be part of the clientele. This notion is supported by the youth who belong to the various institutions in the
surrounding context. In order for the facility to have an active presence it needs to be appealing to its immediate context. Through conducted research it is determined that the facility is to facilitate the social revitalization of the micro and macro context of Warwick Precinct. The facility is also designed to enhance to social development of the community.

1.3.2 Social Response

The purpose of the facility is to promote and develop new social connections that occur in the area. The existing social relationships exist through sport and educational mechanisms. By facilitating these social links new relationships within the community can be formed that will enhance the character and atmosphere of the place. The design will also respond to existing social issues that create segregation.

The social responses of the design are to:

- Incorporate public recreational space that enhances urban activity within the urban environment.
- Provide recreational space for the provision of social participation through sport with the outcomes of developing social skills, team skills and the facilitation of youth development through sport.
- Link educational facilities to further aid in the social development of youth within urban context.
- Include spaces that encourage relationships between participants and spectators, in sport and educational spaces.
- The themes of sport and the social principles of design will be consistent in the retail commercial and medical aspects of the facility, highlighting nutrition and health.

1.3.3 Economic Response:

In order for the facility to have relevance within the greater urban framework it needs to have sense of sustainability and promote the existing economic infrastructure. The current economy in Warwick consists of informal trade which also promotes pedestrian activity. The economic responses will be:
• Link to existing trade in the immediate context which will enforce the economic mechanisms in the existing context.

• Formal economic facilities will be included within the facility to promote daily social and economic activity.

• Develop pedestrian and vehicular linkages to the existing transport nodes.

• Allow for the facility to have independent spaces that facilitate multiple activities at once. This will provide the option of spaces to be let out for exhibitions, commercial meetings, social events, that go beyond the functions of sport-related activity.

• The educational spaces can also be an extension of space for the surrounding schools during exam times, and for informative purposes.

1.3.4 Architectural Response:

An appropriate sport complex building typology according to the context and the social and economic responses will be realized as an architectural response. The building typology will facilitate the social and economic responses through design. Through the research an established set of design principles will facilitate the suitable design response in order to integrate the building typology within the urban context. The following set of principles

**Movement and circulation**

• The pedestrian walkways on the street should directly feed into the building.

• Circulation into and within each change of level should be visible from inside and outside the building. This so that people can easily identify how to experience the building without feeling lost and out of place.

• The ease of circulating through each space highlights the experience of place.

**Visibility**

• Social spaces are to be easily visible from inside and outside the building.

• The building needs to be visible within the urban context, clearly illustrating components of hierarchy and monumentality illustrating that it is a public facility.

• Entrances and access points are to be visible from the street to illustrate articulation through the building.
Accessibility
- The public nature of the building typology should include universal access with the primary concern of pedestrian circulation.
- The design should integrate the different educational institutions (D.U.T) through a link from facility to the next via a ramp.
- Through clearly defining access points a sense of place is stimulated as people are easily able to associate themselves with the space and move without limitations.
- Inclusion of public access assists in facilitating individuals access who are a part of the macro context.

Transparency
- Interior spaces interrelate with exterior spaces through openings that diminish the boundaries between the inside and outside and creates interest from pedestrian movement on the street edge.
- Spaces on the ground floor are to be designed to promote social activity.
- In order to generate public interest, the functions of the building should be displayed through using glazed elements.

Sustainable design
- Design strategies should include the preservation of natural resources by harvesting water which is naturally found on the curries fountain site.
- Generating electricity through large roof coverings.
- Promoting daily activity and providing usable spaces for economic activity, thus creating a self-sustainable facility.

Orientation
- In order for sport to be participated fairly the fields need to be orientated north and south facing so that the direction of the sun does not obstruct players moving across the field.
- The design of the facility should be north and South facing to minimize excessive heat gain as the facility will generally be permeable through glazing.

The design principles are to be explored in detail to further inform the design development of the facility with the outcome of having a facility that is suitable to its surroundings and context with aim of it being a node within the community as a social recreational facility.
1.3.5 Accommodation Schedule

Introduction

The following accommodation schedule has been proposed according to research conducted from literature, precedents, case studies, interviews and analysis of the site and the existing context.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basement floor Services (Approx. areas)</th>
<th>Ground Floor Social spaces (Approx. areas)</th>
<th>First floor Medical, educational spaces (Approx. areas)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Public Parking 800sqm</td>
<td>• Main Sports Pitch 68 000 sqm</td>
<td>• Lecture venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Private Parking 300sqm</td>
<td>• Entrance Ramps 1000sqm</td>
<td>• and skill training 2000sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Paraplegic Parking 100sqm</td>
<td>• Team Change Rooms 1000sqm</td>
<td>• facilities 2000sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Bicycle Parking 50sqm</td>
<td>• Exhibition Centre 5000sqm</td>
<td>• Ablutions 800sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transformer/Electric Room 200sqm</td>
<td>• Welcome Centre/Museum 5000sqm</td>
<td>• Sports medical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Meter Rooms 200sqm</td>
<td>• Kiosks 1000 sqm</td>
<td>• rooms to work 3000sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Solar Systems 500sqm</td>
<td>• Sports Trade 3000sqm</td>
<td>• handwork with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Rain Water 500sqm</td>
<td>• Restaurants 3000sqm</td>
<td>• skills training 1000sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Harvesting 500sqm</td>
<td>• Sports Café 1000sqm</td>
<td>• Double volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Refuse Area 50sqm</td>
<td>• Service Areas 300sqm</td>
<td>overlooking sports courts 300sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Loading Zone 100sqm</td>
<td>• Delivery Zone 100sqm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Public transport drop,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>off and pick up 1000sqm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Gymnasium 4000sqm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• youth facility 4000sqm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Accommodation Schedule by Author Wesley Govinden (2018)

All proposed spaces are to be explored in detail according to systematized design principles researched through the literature. The accommodation schedule will expand in detail through the design development process into a final architectural response.
2.1 Site Location, Macro to Micro context

The maps below illustrate the location of the focus study area from a macro to micro context.

Figure 61: Locality Map from Macro, National context of South Africa to Macro urban context Kwa-Zulu-Natal: by Author (2018)

Figure 62: Arial Locality Map of Durban from Macro Urban context to Micro Urban Context of Warwick Precinct: by Author, Wesley Govinden (2018)

Warwick Precinct contains four major neighborhoods which lie within the sport, educational and transport Zone. These urban Neighborhoods contain more than 75% of youth (Statistics South Africa, 2015). 

3. Design Framework

3.1 Introduction

In order to understand how to facilitate the process of social revitalization an analysis of Warwick will be conducted in relation to its location within the city of Durban. An analysis of the major access routes, linkages, figure grounds, zoning, places of interest and the existing functions will be conducted and illustrated graphically.

7.2 Urban Analysis of Durban

Figure 63: Urban Precincts in Durban Central Business District and outer lying area: by Author, (2018)
Figure 64: Urban Zoning of Durban CBD: Web source http://gis.durban.gov.za/gis_Website/internetsite/#top
(Date accessed: 12 September 2018)
Urban infrastructure: Figure 65: Ground Map of Durban by Author, (2018)

Figure 66: Public Social Infrastructure Facilities: by Author, (2018)
Figure 67: Major City Transport Routes: by Author, (2018)

Figure 68: Green Urban City spaces: by Author, (2018)
Figure 69: Pedestrian nodes and movement in the City: by Author,(2018)

Figure 70: Proposed site: Curries Fountain, Warwick: by Author,(2018)
7.3 **Figure 71** Site analysis, Warwick by author (2018)

**Figure 72:** Urban neighborhood Surrounding Curries Fountain, Warwick: by Author, (2018)

Application of Theoretical Framework:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theories and Concepts</th>
<th>Themes</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theory of Space and Inclusivity</td>
<td>Socio economic challenges</td>
<td>Previously segregated precinct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Isolated spaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Relegated communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Potential to promote social revitalization through a public recreational sports complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place-making Urban catalysts</td>
<td>Contextual site related, based on people’s perception and experience</td>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pedestrian movement and circulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Response to topography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Link to existing communities and existing environments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Consideration of public infrastructure, transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concept of livable City</td>
<td>Social inclusivity</td>
<td>Consideration of urban space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Walkable city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Social connected spaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concept of a Sports City</td>
<td>Public urban social spaces are defined through sport</td>
<td>Socio economic development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Site Analysis Curries Fountain:

Location: The site selected is a current sports facility which lacks infrastructure that links it socially to its surrounding context. The site is located within walking proximity of existing informal trade, public transport and youth institutions. The Facility is also centrally located within the urban neighborhoods.

Topography: The site has a slope which rises from east to west. This slope is gradual throughout the site and has a sudden change in level of 3 meters at the site boundaries from the East and West.

Accessibility: The Site is located within walking distance of the city’s major transport interchange. It is also accessible by all forms of road transport. The site is within close proximity to all major city networks.

Orientation: The site is large enough to facilitate sport activities at a professional level allowing sports grounds to be orientated facing North and South in length, which allows for fair play allowing players to move freely through the field without obstruction from the sun.

Urban Context: The site is located within the urban CBD of the city of Durban. Although it is located close to the heart of the city, the precinct is socially excluded from the city as it lacks active social infrastructure. The lack of social infrastructure limits the precincts Socio economic growth and in turn causes socially deterred and unwelcoming urban environments.
Design Development

Sport architecture as a resource for Social Revitalization in an Urban area: A multi-purpose sports complex in Durban.

**Problem Statement:**
The City of Durban still experiences:
- Segregation
- Socio-economic borders
- Lack of social public infrastructure

**Project Response:**
- **Who:** Youth, consist of more than 75 percent of Urban population.
- **Why:** Urban Neighbourhoods in Durban
  - CBD, Lacks social recreational public space
- **What:** Social Revitalization by defining public social space within urban neighbourhoods in the city of Durban
- **How:** Through Sports recreational complex

**Why is Warwick in Need of Social Revitalization?**

**Analysis:**
According to the investigation and analysis carried out in part one of the research, Warwick was previously demarcated as a socially segregated precinct. Its historical urban planning and socio-economic issues from the past still affect and determine the social economic issues of the precinct in the present day. Segregation was enforced within the precinct through lack of:

**Social issues: Lack of**
- Defined social public space
- Recreational user defined facilities
- Educational facilities
- Overall public infrastructure

**Theoretical Framework**

**Site Location, Macro to Micro context**

**Urban Analysis of Durban**

**Major Transport Routes**

**Social infrastructure facilities**

**Pedestrian nodes and movement**

**Green Urban City spaces**

**Map of South Africa**

**Map of KZN**

**Map of Durban**

**Map of Warwick**

**Apartheid map of Durban, KZN**

**Present Map of Durban CBD Precincts**

**Warwick Junction, Precinct**
Site Analysis: Warwick Precinct, Curries Fountain

Urban Neighbourhoods, Durban, CBD
Youth Infrastructure

Existing informal markets, Warwick
Zoning of Durban CBD
Existing Pedestrian route in Warwick

Site Analysis: Curries Fountain

Curries fountain
Pedestrian Nodes/ movement
Vehicular movement
Weather patterns
In areas concerning public social recreational space the clientèle involved would be the department of sport and recreation in conjunction with influential local community forums in the surrounding urban context. The tertiary institutions of U.T.I will also be part of the clientèle.

Off the Grid Strategies

Green roofing

passive cooling strategies

Solar Power

Shading device...
SPORT ARCHITECTURE AS A RESOURCE FOR SOCIAL REVITALIZATION: A SPORTS COMPLEX IN DURBAN

ACCOMODATION SCHEDULE

Possible site response: Public and private spaces

First Floor: Indoor training facility and courts
Ground floor: Social spaces

DESIGN VISION:

Learning
Sport Complex
Training
Testing

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT: BUBBLE DIAGRAMS

DEVELOPMENT 1: Developing Public/Private space
DEVELOPMENT 2: Responding to site edges
DEVELOPMENT 3: Defining spatial form
DEVELOPMENT 4: Form making

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT: CONCEPTUAL PLANS
Site Development Process work 1:
Site Development Process work 3:
Urban response Process work 4:
Urban intervention

3D view of Street façade
Main entrance

Park entrance
Bridge linking D.U.T to the sports complex

Museum and exhibition center
Outdoor seating for field and roof park

Ariel view of site and roof park
Indoor sports court

Multimedia games room
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Research Ethics: Consent Form

**Project title:** Architecture as a resource for social revitalization in a suburban area: A multi-purpose sports Complex in Durban.

**Researcher:** Wesley Govinden

**Purpose of the Study:** This research aims to understand how a centre for sports could bring about social revitalization within the urban environment, playing sport is a brilliant way to bring people together, to form relationships, promote unity and cohesion and bring about interaction. Through teamwork, sport promotes healthy competition and stimulates growth amongst players. Sport has the ability to bring people of different backgrounds, environments and social groups together creating a community of people with one common interest that usually would not co-exist.

**Procedure:** I am asking you to participate in an interview session. The session will be up to 1 - 1.5 hours (maximum) in length. You will be discussing specific questions regarding the different experiences associated to sport that you have by residing in close proximity to reservoir hills sports ground.

**Confidentiality:** Any information derived from your participation in the study will be kept confidential by the researcher. There will be no identifying information given during the interview.

**Ethics Approval:** This project was approved by the School Research Ethics Board of the University of KwaZulu-Natal. If you have any questions or concerns about your rights or treatment as a research participant, you may contact the Chair of the Research Ethics Board: Mr Premlall Mohun, 031 2604557. Mohunp@ukzn.ac.za

1. I confirm that I have read and understand the information sheet for the above study and have had the opportunity to ask questions.

2. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving reason.

2. I agree to take part in the above study.

3. I agree to the interview consultation being audio recorded

________________________________________  __________________________  __________________________
Name of Participant  Date  Signature

________________________________________  __________________________  __________________________
Name of Researcher  Date  Signature
Gate Keepers Letter

28 February 2018

Mr W Govinden
Masters Student
Howard College
Wesley7215@gmail.com
031 262 0359
081 780 7904

Wesley Govinden student No: 211517095, a masters student in Architecture at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, student in the School of Built Environment and Development Studies, formally requests permission to interview staff in your institution/department and use the data collected and / or produced by your institution in aid of his Masters dissertation research entitled:

Architecture as a resource for social revitalization, through a multi-purpose sports complex Durban

The dissertation will recognize your institution/company and name and will be shared with your institution upon request.

Thank you and Kind regards

Sibusisu Sithole
Senior Lecturer
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Tel number: +27 31 260 1480
Permission to use data Granted by

Permission to use …… data Granted by:

Name:______________________________

Signature:__________________________

Date:______________________________

NAME OF DEPARTMENT__________________________

NAME OF INSTITUTION :__________________________
Professional Participant Questionnaire

Researcher: Mr Wesley Govinden

Proposal: Architecture as a resource for social revitalization, through a multi-purpose sports complex Durban

1.1. How has the participation of sport changed over the last 10 years?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

1.2. What do you think are the reasons for this change?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

2. Why do people participate in sport?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

3. What are the social benefits of people engaging in sport?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

4. What cultural sports are played within the community of Curries Fountain?

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________
4.1. Why are these sports popular?

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

5.1 How accessible are the sporting facilities in Curries Fountain?

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

5.2. What are the limitations of playing sport in the area?

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

6. Is there a difference between sport played in a formal environment in comparison to an informal environment?

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

7. Do the current social conditions encourage engagement in sport?

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

8. Are there local opportunities through playing sport within the community?

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

9. What type of sports center does the community need?

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

_________________________________________

10. How will the development of a Sports Centre benefit the immediate urban context?

_________________________________________
References:

Books:

Alegi, P. (2008). ‘A nation to be reckoned with’: The politics of World Cup stadium construction in Cape Town and Durban, South Africa. African Studies,


Journals:


