

Service or Domination: Designing a Police Station for Albert Park.

Sven Hoffmann



Service or Domination: Designing a Police Station for Albert Park.

Sven Hoffmann

A Dissertation submitted to the School of Architecture, University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, Durban, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture

June 2007.



Declaration

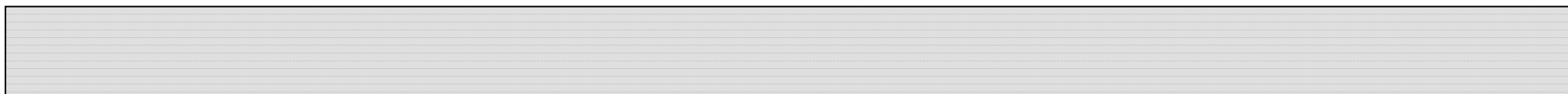
I hereby declare that this dissertation is my own unaided work. It is being submitted to the School of Architecture, Planning and Housing, University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, Durban, for the degree of Master of Architecture, and has not been submitted before for any degree or examination at any other university.

Signed by me on this day of 23 June 2007.



“Because sentence against a bad work has not been executed speedily, that is why the heart of the sons of men has become fully set in them to do bad.”

-Ecclesiastes, Chapter 8 verse 11.



Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following persons for all their guidance and support in the researching and writing of this dissertation:

Ambrose Adebayo

Alethea Duncan-Brown

Kevin Bingham

Walter Peters

Tony Wilson

Derek Wang

Janine, Michelle, and the rest of the Architecture Library Staff

Ginny Porter

Capt van Straaten, Pinetown Police Station- Head of Logistics

Capt Mghabi, Durban North Police Station- Head of Logistics

MIC Khoza, Westville Police Station- Logistics

Capt Govender, Durban Central Police Station- Crime Intelligence Unit

Supt Singh, Durban Central Police Station- Crime Intelligence Unit

Lastly, I would like to thank Mariske and the Lottering family, and my parents and brothers for their love and support during this whole process.

Sven Hoffmann

May 2007.

Abstract

The South African Police Service (SAPS) is still struggling to redefine itself as an organ of public protection, a service to the populace, since the 1994 elections. This is opposed to its previous role as an instrument of control when it was still the paramilitary SAP (South African Police). In this previous mode of operation, the Police Force was only answerable to those in power. Now, under the new dispensation, the police are mandated to be open and accountable to the community.

The above-mentioned struggle is also true of the police stations that the SAPS has to operate out of. These should convey to the public this new era of inclusion and facilitate this new mode of operation. Unfortunately, most police stations currently in use were designed (or converted) as SAP 'fortresses', designed to keep out the public or make access as difficult as possible. The SAPS therefore needs new police stations that communicate and facilitate this new 'open' mode of operation, as well as a means of addressing the old station-types; this is where the architect could have a role to play. The main issue to be addressed in this dissertation therefore is – how does one design a new police station for the SAPS? The answer will be demonstrated through the design of a police station in Albert Park, Durban.

As precedent studies will prove, it is possible to show community inclusion through such devices as public plaza's; making sure that the spaces primarily intended for interfacing with the public, such as the Community Hall used for Community Policing Forums (CPF's), and the Charge Office (now euphemistically called CSC's- Community Service Centre's) are easily identifiable and accessible. This alone however would not necessarily be enough to denote the building as a Police Station. The precedent study will also show how architects have emphasised holding cells and similar devices to help communicate the inherent power of the police, thus also establishing identity for the station. This is not, however, the only possible way of demonstrating the identity of a police station. Other architects attempt to do this by simply allowing the public to see certain functions within the building, but always keeping sensitive functions, within the building, private. This play between the overt and covert policing modes can in itself denote the Police Station as such, besides the application of the standard police motifs, blue light and flags.

The case studies demonstrate how local Police Stations, currently in use, function. As these are older types of station, from between the '60s and '80s, they mainly show a designer what to avoid, but they consequently also show what facilities are needed to help the police station function optimally. The objectives of this dissertation were also informed through interviewing experts in the policing field, the people who use these facilities on a daily basis. An

analysis of relevant written works assisted in determining the larger picture in terms of policing theory and history. The study of the architecture, power, and identity of buildings that enforce public order also was needed, early on, to inform the context for designing a police station. It is then shown how South African police facilities have manifested power and identity.

This research informs and formulates an appropriate architectural response for a police station in what is arguably one of Durban's most dangerous precincts.

List of Abbreviations

AC- Air Conditioning

Capt- Captain

CBD- Central Business District

CCTV- Closed Circuit Television system

Cmdr- Commander

CPF- Community Policing Forum.

CPU- Crime Prevention Unit. A versatile type of, intelligence-driven, quick response unit within the SAPS.

CSC- Community Service Centre. The new term euphemistically given to SAPS Charge Offices.

Dbn- Durban

HQ- Headquarters

HRM- Human Resource Management

Log- Logistics

SADF- South African Defence Force.

SAP- South African Police.

SAPS- South African Police Service

SCF- Sector Crime Forum

Stn- Station

Sgt- Sergeant

Supt- Superintendent

WW2- World War 2

Definition of Concepts

Community- the population of people living in a certain Police Station's Service Area, its area of responsibility.

Community Policing- an approach to policing a specific area, where the local people living within this given area are included in the process of promoting safety and security within it. "Community policing therefore describes a policing style in which the safety and security of a local area is not left to the police alone, not shrouded in secrecy and left to so-called experts, but one in which local residents are involved too. There is a recognition that local people have a right to know what the police are doing, how and why they are doing it, and what results are being achieved." (Stevens & Yach, 1995:6) The police are consequently seen to have some form of accountability to the public. This trust, in turn, should aid the Police in the area, as the locals are likely to have a more proactive attitude to promoting security in their surrounds. In South Africa, the Community Policing Forum is the main device through which the local residents can participate in the policing of their area.

'Modes of Operation'- "Covert" in this research refers to the facilities and actions, of the Police, that are not open to the public. Security, surveillance, and even secrecy, are thus primary concerns in this regard. "Overt" in this research refers to Police facilities and actions that are likely to actively include the local population. This could be an endeavour for community inclusion, or a show of force.

Policing- the act of promoting, or enforcing, safety and security over a given population. This is done, firstly, by crime prevention and, secondly, through investigation. Mawby (1999:20) simply describes it as "the maintenance of order".

Suspect- an individual who has been arrested, but not yet charged for a crime. They may be brought into the Station for further questioning and investigation.

Detainee- an individual, charged with a crime, who may be detained in the Police Station's holding cells for a maximum of 48 hours. Thereafter they must be taken either to court for a bail hearing, or transferred to a prison to await a court date.

Contents

Acknowledgements	Page	i
Abstract		ii
List of Abbreviations		iv
Definition of Concepts		v
Introduction		vii
Chapter 1: Research Background		
1.1. Research Problem		
1.2. Key Questions		
1.3. Working Hypothesis		
1.4. Aims and Objectives of the Study	Page	1
1.5. Conclusions		
Chapter 2: Research Methodology		
2.1. Introduction		
2.2.1 Primary Data		
2.2.2 Secondary Data		2
2.3. Conclusions		
Chapter 3: Literature Review and Theoretical Framework		
3.1. Theory & Background of Policing and Police Stations- Literature Review		4
3.2. Manifestation of Power & Identity in South African Police Facilities- Theoretical Framework.		9
3.3. Conclusions		19
Chapter 4: Precedent Analysis		
4.1. Introduction		21
4.2. Vaals Police Station, Netherlands: Wiel Arets & Associates		22
4.3. Almere Police Station, Netherlands: Ben Loerakker		25
4.4. Minneapolis 5 th Police Precinct, USA: Julie Snow Architects		28
4.5. Conclusions		31

Chapter 5: Case Studies

5.1. Introduction

5.2. Durban North Police Station

5.3. Pinetown Police Station

5.4. Conclusions

Chapter 6: The Requirements of the Police Station

6.1. Context

6.2. SAPS Community Policing, and Police Station Function and Procedure

6.3. Formulated Requirements of Station

6.4. Conclusions

Chapter 7: Conclusions & Recommendations

7.1. Conclusions

7.2. Recommendations

Bibliography

List of Illustrations

Appendix A: West Str Police Station drawings c. 1897

Appendix B: *Durban's mean streets*- Newspaper article.

Appendix C: The Conditions of Custody: Police Holding Cells

Appendix D: Albert Park Police Station Design Report

Page 32

33

37

42

43

47

50

53

54

55

56

58

62

65

67

75

Introduction

The South African Police Service is struggling to redefine itself as a public protection service as opposed to the instrument of public-control that it was in the past when it was still the SAP (South African Police). I believe that there is an ever-growing need for public protection facilities and that the design of these facilities is still not being prioritised. This has been demonstrated by many reports in the media concerning the severe lack of resources available to the South African Police Services and the inadequacy of those they are given. This is true also of the buildings they operate from. The transition, if indeed it has happened, of the pre-1994 paramilitary styled SAP, to an all-encompassing community protection Service, is thus a crucial issue if architects hope to successfully respond to the need for facilities that enforce safety and security.

In architectural terms, consequently, one should question whether a police station in South Africa is easily identified as such, and what in-fact constitutes a successful policing building. It is intended to address this issue through the main question: what is an appropriate architectural response for designing a police station in Albert Park, Durban? In the past, police stations have been designed as fortresses and are therefore easily identifiable. It should be questioned whether this is the case currently, whether the domineering, fortress, imagery of the past is suitable for such stations now. Indications are that many stations built recently are not 'typologically' identifiable and not really designed with a perceived new identity in mind. Many of the older stations are now functionally inadequate because they are not designed for an SAPS that is now still struggling to adopt a community-embracing appearance and strategy.

It is thus fit to question what a police station is, and question its development and origins in the local and international context. Ultimately it is intended to discern what is appropriate to contemporary South Africa. Perhaps it is possible to smooth out the earlier processes of the criminal-justice system through architectural intervention. The effectiveness of the police force can be improved in letting it operate from better facilities, providing buildings that convey to the public that the police are there to enforce safety and, yet, operate with the interests of the general public at heart. It is also of primary importance that the building proves adequate for the police to operate in, and from, while simultaneously ensuring humane conditions for the detainees awaiting hearings. Architectural intervention into this field can thus also positively adjust society's perceptions of such facilities further assisting the Criminal-Justice System. The hypothesis is therefore that in order to design a successful Police Station, in South Africa, it must include public facilities that are easily accessible to the public, but it conversely still needs to have certain of its functions secure, expressing these as such. The building must therefore strike a balance between the overt and covert modes of operation.

Chapter 1: Research Background

1.1. Research Problem

When designing Police Stations for the SAPS one is faced with a dilemma. Inevitably police stations will reflect the approach and purpose of the particular police force using that building- these buildings could display an alienated approach of fortification, or a more integrated suburban aesthetic that is better able to integrate within the built fabric of an area. How does the architect then design a Police Station that demonstrates a shift from the oppressor of the past to the servant of the present, without diminishing the inherent image of authority that any police station should communicate? The issues of Power and Identity in the architecture of buildings that enforce order are thus at hand.

1.2. Key Questions

Therefore, the following questions must be asked:

- What is an appropriate architectural response for designing a Police Station in Albert Park, Durban?
- What symbolism, imagery and functions are presented by police stations, denoting their identity and the power of the police using them?
- Has police station form and function mutated in accordance with a shift in policing strategy?
- How should police stations respond to context, especially with community participation in mind?

1.3. Working Hypothesis

The hypothesis is therefore that in order to design a successful Police Station in South Africa, it must include public facilities, such as a Public Hall for Community Policing activities that are easily accessible to the public. It conversely still needs to have certain of its functions secure, and these must be expressed as such. The building must therefore strike a balance between the overt and covert modes of operation. This duality will serve to communicate architectural identity for the Police Station.

1.4. Aims and Objectives of the Study

The aim of this research is to determine what constitutes a successful police station building, in terms of function and architectural expression, for the Albert Park precinct. It is consequently necessary to understand how stations have responded to these issues previously, and also to make reference to current design approaches for police stations.

1.5. Conclusions

The SAPS' apparent struggle with public identity has created a similar dilemma for architects concerned with designing police stations for them. An acceptable approach to redefining the dominating imagery of the past must be sought through Precedent Studies and Case Studies; these will demonstrate that there are similar issues of Police Station identity in other countries that architects have attempted to address. There is also evidence of recent attempts at this locally.

Chapter 2: Research Methodology

2.1. Introduction

There is not much written material, specific to designing Police Stations, available to the architect. There is however plenty of information that documents how policing is done, locally and internationally.

In order to gather the relevant information needed, there are primary sources of information available, these being conversing with Police officials and visiting existing Police Stations in order to do case Studies. Due to the nature of Police Forces the world over, however, access to officials and facilities can sometimes be problematic.

Secondary data is far easier to access however, and there are some good examples available as precedent to analyse, as well as the plentiful policing theory that will construct the theoretical framework.

2.2.1 Primary Data

Due to the shortage of relevant written architectural works specific to designing a police station, especially in South Africa, this study needs to refer to case studies of local examples to analyse how these function, and perhaps how they shouldn't function. The intention of this study was to research police stations that were designed in different eras of South Africa's turbulent history, to see how these have mutated in form and design approach. The study must therefore examine different sized stations, and also represent a cross-section of fortress-type designs, to

more residential and commercial architectural types. The buildings chosen for these studies are as follows:

- **The Durban North Police Station**, a relatively small station building designed in 1960, before Police Stations in South Africa reverted to the fort-type building.
- **The Pinetown Police Station**, a fairly large station building designed as a fort-type station in 1988.

Due to the inherent need for security in these buildings, these studies could not have done without the assistance of policemen and women who use these buildings on a daily basis. With the help of these individuals, it was possible to obtain the required information about the functioning of these buildings and the SAPS in general. Photographing the interiors of these station buildings was not however officially condoned, but enough information was obtained from the drawings sourced, and from site tours at various Police Stations. Discussions with experts in the policing field, those who use these facilities on a daily basis, have therefore played an important role in determining what the requirements and objectives of the Police Services are, and how they differ from those in the past.

2.2.2 Secondary Data

Secondary research consists of an analysis of relevant written works to determine policing theories and its history. A study of the architecture, power, and identity of buildings that enforce public order, will show how South Africa fits into this larger sphere of thinking, past and current. The precedent study of International examples is a critical component of this

research; this will determine how architects have successfully or unsuccessfully responded to the actual problem of designing the police station. The precedent studies thereby establish a context for ideas and approaches that could be successfully implemented within the design for the Albert Park SAPS Station. Context here refers not only to that which physically exists around buildings, but also the body of thought and knowledge in which these are conceived.

Selected precedent:

- **Vaals Police Station**, Vaals, Netherlands, 1993: Wiel Arets. Chosen as precedent to analyse the effectiveness of creating identity through the expression of symbols of authority, control and detention.
- **Almere Police Station**, Almere, Netherlands, 1993: Ben Loerakker. Chosen as precedent to analyse the success of creating identity by expressing symbols of power, yet simultaneously attempting to express or encourage public acceptance through the inclusion of a public plaza.
- **City of Minneapolis Fifth Police Precinct**, Minneapolis, USA, 1998: Julie Snow Architects. Also chosen because the building addresses the two conflicting roles of community inclusion and police power and authority, but priority given over to public expressions and symbols, yet still conveys power and authority.

2.3. Conclusions

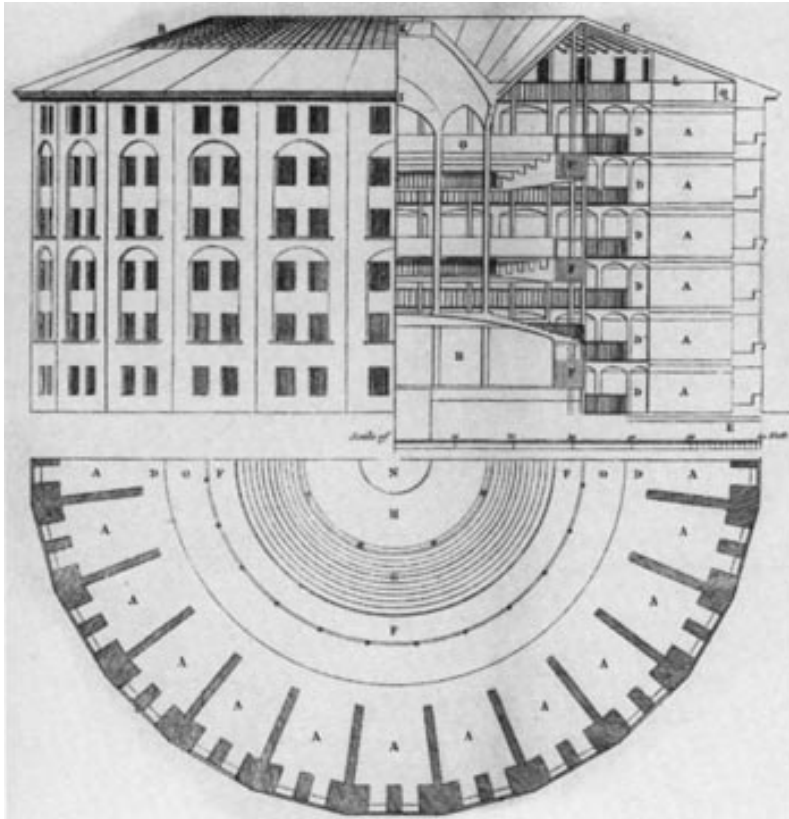
The information derived from this research thus allowed the requirements for the urban response, site choice/analysis and the actual building to be formulated. From this, the conclusions and recommendations informed the designed product, responding to the problem of designing an appropriate police station in Albert Park, Durban.

Chapter 3: Literature Review & Theoretical Framework

3.1. Theory & Background of Policing and Police Stations- Literature Review.

The Police Station, as a specialised building, to prevent, control, and fight crime from, has only existed since the technological advancements and mass social upheavals of the Industrial Revolution- the 'age of enlightenment'. It was during this time that the first permanent and professional police forces were founded. This development immediately followed the establishment of prisons, workhouses, asylums and other such instruments of control procured during this period. (Illus. 1)

Preceding this, various societies relied on a type of 'mob-justice' system where it was every person's duty to ensure criminals were brought to justice. This system has been identified from Anglo-Saxon England (Mawby, 1999: 29) to Black societies in Southern Africa (Brogden & Shearing, 1993: 135). According to Foucault (1975), such earlier forms of punishment tended to focus more strongly around the need to make an example of perpetrators of crime and corporal and capital punishment were therefore the norm. Pre-enlightenment goals, not found in all societies, were generally temporary detention centres for those awaiting trial and punishment. A watchman, sheriff or constable, would operate from the jail and report directly to a judicial authority such as a magistrate.



Illus. 1- Bentham's Panopticon.
(Source- de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Bentham)

The Rattle Watch.
[1686]



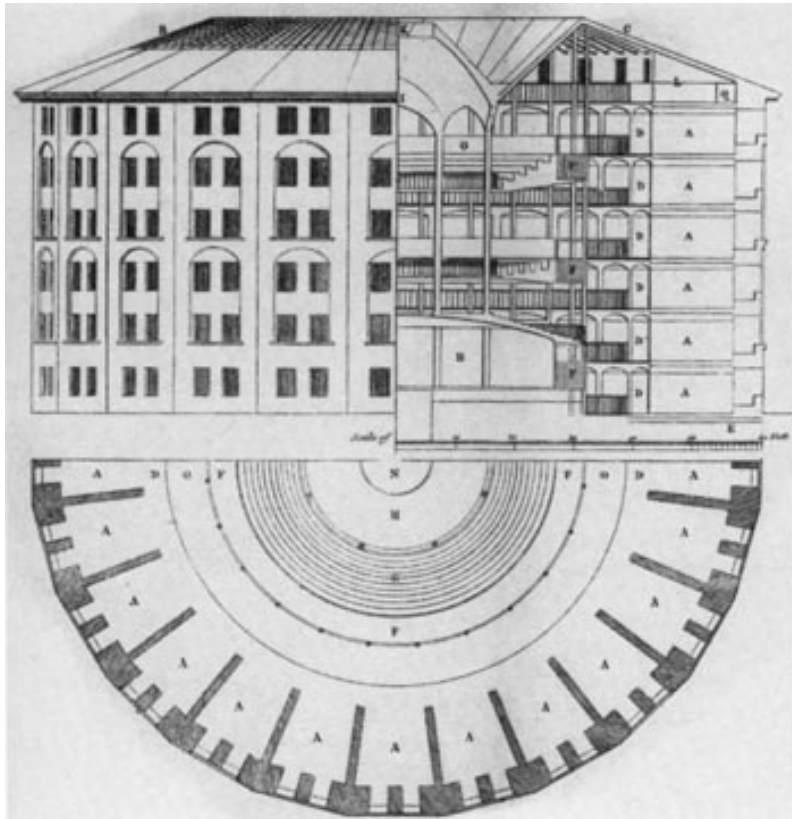
Illus. 2- a Dutch East India Company era watchman. (Davidson, 1960: 6)



Illus. 3- a mounted policeman from the Cape Mounted Riflemen. (Potgieter, 1970: 636)

This was the case in Norman society (Mawby, 1999: 29) through to even the early Dutch Settlement in the Cape (Neser, 1993: 65). Generally they would have the support of the local military garrison, the gaol being attached to the local fort, castle or from wherever they operated. Hence, the first formal buildings in South Africa used for policing were the Fort, and later Castle, built under the rule of Van Riebeeck and others who followed in his footsteps. The Dutch East India Company era Watchmen were the earliest 'policemen' in South Africa. (Illus.2) This was an unpaid 'volunteer' organisation at its inception. Police forces only became fully professional in the Cape under British control in the early 1840s, a development coinciding with those in Britain where professional police forces were being instituted. The first recognised fully professional Police Force there was the London Metropolitan Police established under Sir Robert Peel in 1829.

Policing through the military authority was especially common in imperial-colonial societies such as Rome and the British Colonial Territories, where it was the easiest way to control those that had been colonised. There was thus very little to distinguish between what is now called the police, and the military. A good example of this would be the Cape Mounted Riflemen. (Illus.3) This unit was eventually incorporated into the South African Police. Similar formations such as the Natal Mounted Police, operating out of rural Police Forts, existed in all four colonies that eventually became the Union of South Africa in 1910. The end result though was still deterrence by public example, such as floggings and public execution, and not by prolonged captivity. Public executions in British territories were only done away with in 1869 (Neser, 1993: 65).



Illus. 1- Bentham's Panopticon.
(Source- de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Bentham)

Foucault advocates that the ruling class later instituted mass incarceration as an 'enlightened' alternative to earlier forms of punishment. This, in order to strengthen their control over elements of dissention within the general populace, in an era of revolution. Foucault explains it thus, "to punish less, perhaps; but certainly to punish better" (Foucault, 1975: 117). Bentham's Panopticon (Illus.1) is the ultimate model in this regard, intended to exert better control over society through reform. The Panopticon preceded the establishment of formal police stations in Britain, and was a model for an array of other building types designed to assist in controlling civilians. Hospitals, Asylums and schools were modelled on the modern prisons. Policing elements, and the buildings they operate from, have therefore developed in accordance with this shift in political attitudes, and to meet a need resulting from massive population disruption.

It is therefore important to realise that buildings for rule and order, nowadays, have an inherent social value (Markus, 1993) and underlying expression of power inherited from a legacy of punishment by control (and vice-versa), as opposed to the previous model of deterrent by example, which negates the need for a specialised police facility/station. It is on this background, that it is possible to explore the issues of power and identity in the buildings from which law and order are enforced.

Vale advocates that "all buildings are products of social and cultural conditions... We can, therefore, learn much about a political regime by observing closely what it builds" (Vale, 1992:3). Similarly, Markus (1993:xix) states the position, "that buildings are not primarily art, technical



*Illus. 4- SAP CASSPIR at Alexandra township 1985- UN Photo#155579.
(www.un.org/av/photo/subjects/images/155579.jpg)*

or investment objects, but social objects.” Vale then further outlines how such identity might be created in a building of authority by saying, “A building may mean in ways unrelated to being an architectural work- may become through association a symbol for sanctuary, or for a reign of terror, or for graft. Such symbolism need not be architecturally arbitrary, however. Buildings may also mean in ways which are very much tied to choices made by architects and urban designers.” He then goes on to identify four ways in which the designer might impart meaning and identity to such a building- “denotation, exemplification, metaphorical expression and mediated reference- each of which would seem to enhance the possibilities for multidimensional interpretation of government buildings” (Vale, 1992:4).

It is with this in mind that one can start to draw insight into the ‘fortified’ Police Stations of the SAP, and perhaps why John Vorster Square became a symbol of control through intimidation and terror- these will be discussed later in this chapter with the intention of trying to understand how these derived their architectural identities and expressed the power of the state and of the police.

It is with these theories in mind that one can decide how to derive an appropriate architectural language, or identity, for a police station in South Africa. The Police Station of present-day South Africa needs to convey to the public that it is now an entity that operates in a mode of openness and public acceptance. Thus, it is moving away from the mode of operation displayed by the former SAP (of intimidation and secrecy- Illus. 4), keeping in mind that all police forces must maintain some level of



Pinetown

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
PINETOWN COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM **C.P.F.**

May 2007 - Issue No. 29 - Publisher: Gert van der Berg Cell: 083 324 7468.. E-mail: latandsix@absamail.co.za

Marianhill Park, Caversham Glen, Ashley, Farmingham Ridge, Highlands Hills, Sarnia, Paradise Valley, Mosely Park, Bluebuds, Newcrest, Oxley, Paddock, Paddock Park, Manors, The Wolds, Berkshire Downs

IT'S ALL ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS!

The Community Policing Forum (CPF) does, in many areas, form a very necessary and worthwhile part of local community life. It is such a pity then when personal agendas, politics, bureaucratic red tape, general nit-picking and pettiness comes into play and destroy the good that can so easily be done.

Over my many years of association with various CPFs I have often seen the very worst parts of human nature being displayed. Regularly I have found it extremely difficult to explain the motif behind the actions taken by an individual or group when they invariably end up destroying, either partially or completely, the good work done by bands of community spirited volunteers all over the country. However, having said that, I do often witness wonderful co-operation between the community and all sectors of both Government and Local Government with the resultant actions working for the good of all concerned.

There are sometimes problems for whole sectors of the community to attend regular meetings of a central body such as a CPF or a Ratepayers Association. Allowance is made for these problems to be easily overcome by the formation of sub-forums with representation on the main body. In the case of Pinetown there are presently two sub-forums in Kloof and Wybank with a third one at Nazareth which used to have full representation on the main CPF committee and took an active part in its affairs. Unfortunately regular communication has not been easy, but I'm sure that the incoming committee will be making every effort to encompass all sectors of the community in its efforts to

bring all areas to an acceptable level of safety and security. It can be understood that ill-feeling may be experienced when relatively untrained members of the general public are seen by paid and fully trained members to be interfering in the day to day workings of a service institution. It's very often difficult, in many walks of life, to try and help a person or body where a need has arisen, this help is viewed with suspicion and even downright resentment and anger. The Business Against Crime organization, Department of Safety and Security, Chamber of Commerce and others have spotted this potential problem and are already going a long way to address it with training in personal and management skills that is tiered down from senior management level at various identified Police Stations. This training has been devised and compiled by leaders in this field with a view to overcoming problems where they exist.

Reservists are being encouraged to play a controlled part in local policing, but at the same time it is necessary to discourage any efforts at forming Vigilante groups of citizens taking the law into their own hands. South Africans in

Continued on page 4

NEXT C.P.F. MEETING
23 MAY 2007
PLEASE ATTEND!!!

SCARED OF THE TAX MAN?

Let us help you with ARRESTY & any other returns
PINETOWN ACCOUNTANTS & TAX CONSULTANTS

Contact
Annalen Erasmus
Or my assistant Cindy Stefano
Email: annalen@petc.co.za
Phone: 031-7028112

Full bookkeeping service
tax returns paid & printed
Registration of close corporations
Registration of VAT, FOD, UOL, SUTCOB & more tax
Compliance & submission of statutory returns such as I&T & F&E

EK HELP BRAAKS IN AFRIKAANS
2ND Floor, 139 Old Main Road, Pinetown

Concerned about your Security?

Get a fully installed alarm system which includes 2 passive detectors, 2 fixed panic buttons and 2 magnetic door contacts all linked via radio to Chubb for only R1,799*

Take advantage at this offer and you'll also receive the 1*months monitoring & response service FREE.

For more details on this amazing special and our other products and services, call us on 031 362 3500

- Risk Assessment
- 24hr Monitoring & Response
- Intruder Fencing
- Intruder Detection Systems
- CCTV
- Access Control Systems

*incl. VAT
www.chubb.co.za



ACUTTS REAL ESTATE AGENTS
Residential Sales & Letting
Established 1851
PINETOWN
Office Hours: 031-708 2020 After Hours: 082 443 6277
Website: www.acutts.co.za

It's all about property

Shop 10 Paradise Junction,
174 Underwood Road, Pinetown. 3610

Kip McGrath
EDUCATION CENTRES

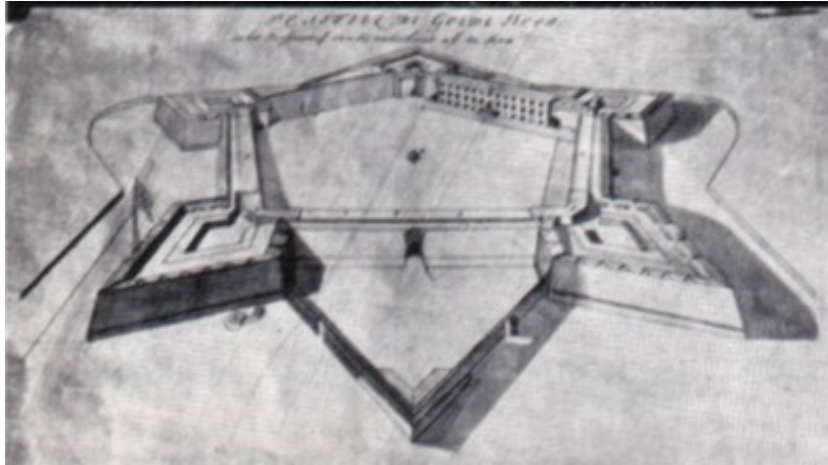
PINETOWN
Professional Tutoring in:
• READING • SPELLING
• ENGLISH • MATHEMATICS
• AFRIKAANS
Grade 1 - 12
Tel/Fax: 031-702 6833

confidentiality in order to prevent crime. As a result, there exists a duality in the functioning of police forces. The term 'Community Policing' is now banded about and is one sign that there is this shift in the way that the South African Police Service wishes to operate and be perceived. (Illus.5)

Stevens and Yach (1995: 6) describe Community Policing as "a policing style in which the safety and security of a local area is not left to the police alone...but one in which local residents are involved too. There is a recognition that local people have a right to know what the police are doing, how and why they are doing it, and what results are being achieved." There is therefore a notion of accountability to the public. It is vital that the Police Stations respond to this shift in operating style. However, the police station should still convey to the public its inherent power and authority, so as to instil respect for law and order, even if that is done subconsciously by expressing such elements of the Police Station as the holding cells (as precedent will show has been attempted)- in themselves expressions of control and authority. This has also been done by simply denoting the previously mentioned duality in function, 'open' public functions offset by secure or 'closed' private functions.

Before it can be determined how to successfully express this identity, however, one needs to understand why and how police stations in South Africa had identity, as a brief overview, so that a comparison with international examples can be dealt with in Chapter 4. This in turn creates a context for the local, existing, buildings in the Case Studies of Chapter 5. This will help to inform the requirements for a new station design including the schedule of accommodation.

Illus. 5- Community Policing newsletter ,
Pinetown SAPS
(van der Berg, May 2007: 1)



*Illus. 6- the five-pointed, bastioned
Castle of the Cape Of Good Hope.
(Kasteel de Goede Hoop: 15)*

3.2. Manifestation of Power & Identity in South African Police Facilities- Theoretical Framework.

3.2.1 Introduction

“The design of fortresses, castles, and cities was as much planned to deter aggression by appearance as it was to withstand aggression when it occurred” (Wilson, 1984: 215), the bastioned pentagonal-star of the Castle in Cape Town was no exception to this rule. (Illus.6) This carried through to all subsequent fort-types used by the police here. The star has manifested itself as a symbol of power in many respects in South Africa’s policing history. Not only does the preponderance of stars on one’s shoulder denote a position of power and authority, the star has also manifested itself as the very symbol of many law-enforcement agencies- the SAPS, SAP and Durban City Police (now Metro Police) all being cases in point.

The Castle in Cape Town, however, used the five-pointed star as a symbol of power in its ability to fend off attackers and their missiles, and exert control over the surroundings. It displays a low silhouette and sloped, faceted, projectile resistant walls, typical architectural devices for forts in an age of explosives and high-speed projectiles. The symbolism of deterrence is twofold, communicating an ability to protect or control and the actual need for protection. Social upheaval and terrorism necessitated a return to this approach in the mid to late 20th century. The choice of this form of fortification was a direct response to the latest thinking in military-building design in Europe, where similar forms and



*Illus. 7- Fort at Nongqai, 1870's with
black constables practicing drill.
(Collingwood, 1954:65)*

construction were being developed to defeat the gun and cannon, set out lines of mutually-supporting fire and quickly move heavy artillery pieces to reinforce points of attack in counter bombardments. Other features that would be repeated in later fort-types are the low, semi-submerged, sloping walls that are the most resistant form to modern ballistic projectiles and explosive attacks. The faceted gatehouse or entrance bastion, with its blue-green bulletproof observation ports, of the apartheid era police station is designed along the same principles. The ability of this device to express power and identity for police stations in South Africa will be established later in this section.

3.2.2 Permanent Police Force Stations- 19th Century to Present

Colonial administrations established semi-military police forces in all four of South Africa's territories in the 1800's. They operated out of small police-forts in mostly rural areas, thus continuing the trend set out above, but only at a smaller scale and slightly more specialised. By this stage the prison was emerging as the main form of punishment and police forces had to respond to this requirement. The Natal mounted Police, for example, had simple forts like the one illustrated at Nongqai, south of Eshowe, Northern Natal. (Illus.7) Most had some type of battlements and tower, an office or two for the officers, stables, accommodation for whites and non-whites, kitchen and mess areas, and a few holding cells around a central parade ground.



*Illus. 8- Point Police Station built in 1903.
(Jewel, 1989:12)*



*Illus. 9- Point Police Station circa 2005
minus curfew-bell belfry, but still
displaying Durban City Police coat of
arms on entry pediment.*

The police in bigger towns, such as Durban, however later developed buildings quite similar in function to those used now. Those that were purpose-designed as stations in Durban, in particular, were easily identifiable as such, such as the Point Police Station. (Illus.8&9) All of Durban's Borough (later City) Police stations were identifiable by the prominent belfry towers housing the curfew bells that regulated life for many members of society then. These became power-communicating devices in themselves. These devices are especially prominent in designs from the 1890's to the early 1900's, but cease to appear after the Second World War. The Drawings for the West Street Police Station are attached in the appendix (Appendix A) and illustrate a typical police station of that era.

As will be illustrated in the case study of the Durban North Police Station, stations had little way of identifying themselves as police buildings from the period after World War 2 until the late '60s. The only obvious devices indicating these buildings to be police stations are their standard-issue blue lights over the main entrance and found on all subsequent stations, the two flagpoles (one for a national flag, another for the police flag), and a large 'star' police badge with accompanying text identifying the station. The eventual reversion of station form to the fort happened because of the policies directing police action and the political events from the mid 1960s.

From 1966 the SAP was acting in a full military role in the border areas, while simultaneously acting as a regular police force elsewhere. The SAP was fully responsible for anti-terrorist operations and border security until



Illus. 10- Steenkamp's caption reads- "The Police"fort" at Kongola in Eastern Caprivi early in the war- little more than a charge office surrounded by a floodlit fence." (Steenkamp, 1989:22)

Illus. 11- an unspecified SADF base in one of the townships during the civil unrest of the early 90's, known as a 'steunpunt' (support point). (Paul, 2001:210- fig28)



Illus. 12- Eenhana base in the 'Border' area, note similarity in construction and form to steunpunt. (Steenkamp, 1989:254)

1974*. In this period they operated from military-type bush bases similar to Eenhana Base (Illus.12), characterised by the low sand berm with pillbox type bastions, of timber and/or corrugated sheet construction, at entrances and at the corners, and messes, accommodation and communication posts at the interior. During the late '80s and early '90s, when the SADF was called in to help 'police' the townships these forts were directly copied into the urban context and in effect used as policing facilities (refer Illus. 11 & 12). The SADF was allowed to deploy many of its crack units there, such as the Parabats and 32 Battalion. As a result (or in response depending on how one looks at it) of the SAP actions against terrorist/liberation movements, police stations became the targets of attack in the Border Areas and then on home soil. (Illus.10)

The need to convey strength was thus not only a political tool of the SAP, but a physical requirement for protection against terrorist attacks. Stations were required to convey that they were difficult places to get into, and get out of. Stations were therefore built with the protective/controlling gatehouses, usually with a turnstile entry to further control access, protective walls and fences, and equipped with screening devices to ensure greater privacy- all these combining with the blue light, flag and motifs to successfully communicate identity as a police station through power and dominance over the surroundings. This final form of the police station-fort is exemplified by police buildings like Pinetown Police station (refer case study, Chapter 5).

* Thereafter the SAP handed over main responsibility for border control to the SADF, but still performed many Counter-Insurgency and anti-terrorist duties on the 'Border' using units such as the infamous Koevoet.



*Illus. 13- the notorious John Vorster Square, police headquarters in Johannesburg.
(Chipkin, 1998:266)*

It is however possible for police stations to communicate power and identity in a language other than the fortress-type already described. The 12 storey John Vorster Square (Illus.13), now Johannesburg Central Police Station did so, as per Vale's suggestion that -" A building may mean in ways unrelated to being an architectural work- may become through association a symbol for sanctuary, or for a reign of terror" (Vale, 1992:4) – it became a symbol for the power of the SAP and Apartheid State through events and actions performed there. It achieved a type of notoriety, mainly due to the activities of the much-feared Security Branch that operated on the 7th, 9th and 10th Floors.

A 'product of the 1960s', but officially opened in August 1974, and named after the minister of justice of the time, the building was designed by architects Harris Fels Jankes & Nussbaum, "a prominent commercial practice who produced what is essentially a commercial office complex, based on standardised modular windows with appropriate blue spandrels and situated abruptly against the new M1 highway."(Chipkin, 1998:264) The SAP could not however operate out of a building that allowed and conveyed this much 'transparency', especially due to the proximity of a major transport route, and "in 1986 the open façade was enveloped in a louvered aluminium screen to afford the secrecy required by the apartheid state in its final stages." (Chipkin, 1998:264)

Recently the SAPS have tried to eradicate the grim associations of the past in this building, attempted to remodel its identity. It did this by



Illus. 14- Johannesburg Central Police Station circa 2006 remains identical to as it was in the 70's. (Dlamini, 2004)

“changing its name from John Vorster Square in September 1997... the Johannesburg Central Police Station has also revised its internal structure to banish memories of what was once one of the most feared and hated symbols of apartheid.” (Dlamini, 2004-www.joburg.org.za) The infamous 10th floor, previous home of the Security Branch and where most of its ‘interrogation’ took place, now accommodates the finance and logistics departments, and the screening louvers have been removed. (Illus. 14) Another measure intended to eradicate the identity of the past was the moving of Vorster’s two-meter bronze bust from the main entrance to the police museum in Pretoria.

However the success of these measures must be questioned, Dlamini (2004- www.joburg.org.za) quotes a Mail & Guardian journalist who sums it up quite well- “Walking up the stairs to the infamous 10th floor of the Johannesburg Central Police Station, one realises it will take much more than a change of name to cleanse the tortured space that was once John Vorster Square”. Similarly, a few internal reorganisations could not have eradicated the negative perception of this building as it is still widely remembered as a place of persecution in a similar fashion to the camps of Nazi Germany evoking images of terror.

More recent attempts at recreating identity for the SAPS, with more subtle means of expressing their power can be seen from the following three examples, with varying degrees of success and/or failure.



*Illus. 15- the new SAPS HQ for Gauteng.
(Arch&Build , Jan/Feb2004. pp74)*



*Illus. 16 – The entrance mural commissioned by a local artist.
(Arch & Build Jan/Feb 2004. pp76)*

The new Gauteng Provincial HQ, close to the Johannesburg CBD, is a 13 000m² “double-doughnut” configured office building of three floors with a semi-basement for 200 vehicles. (Illus.15)

Besides offices there are training facilities and entertainment in the shape of two bars and a ‘lapa’ area. The designers, ARC Architects, state two ways in which they have tried to create identity and express power. They state that the “development aims to increase the safety of the entire precinct by providing both the physical and psychological presence of law enforcement in the area.” (Arch&Builder, Jan/Feb 2004:75) Further, they state that another “distinguishing feature of the building is the richly decorated entrance wall. A local artist was commissioned to turn the entrance wall, leading people into the building, into a colourful artwork of mosaics and pigment cement, creating a rich African experience as one enters the building- needless to say, a vastly different feel from the stark traditional government buildings seen around South Africa.” (Arch&Builder, Jan/Feb 2004:76)

The only device that therefore really conveys that these are facilities for enforcing law is the awkwardly placed police ‘badge’ motif and name near the entrance (Illus.16). On this account then, one must wonder how it is proposed that this building is to enforce its presence over the surrounds to enforce law and safety if nobody is able to identify it with the police, it could be any ‘Tuscan-Style’ office park in Johannesburg. Furthermore, many apartheid-era buildings make ample use of entrance murals and carved facades to denote entry.



*Illus. 17- Alexandra Police Station by Fassler Kamstra & Holmes Architects.
(http://www.joburg.org.za/2003/mar/mar5_alex.stm)*

The following two examples are of architects who have attempted to establish identity for the police. Alexandra Police Station, in 15th Ave, is described as being in the centre of the busiest section of the township.

It is located across from the taxi rank and behind the Alexandra Stadium. The station has been moved here to the centre of the community, from Wynberg on the outskirts of the township. This not only increases the effectiveness of the 'Alex' Police, but is an attempt at symbolising that the SAPS needs the acceptance of the community and wants to work with and amongst them. "With its bright pillars and a glass wall in front of the reception and service centre (charge office) area, the 5-block 2-storey police building stands out so clearly among township houses that one can spot it from a kilometre away. And policemen and women are more visible than before, effectively reducing chances of anyone committing crime in the vicinity... The police presence has not gone unnoticed by the community. Lebo Mohapi, who lives in 12th Avenue, says she can now walk down the street and be able to answer her cell phone when it rings, a privilege that she has hitherto not enjoyed in fear of known cell phone snatchers."(Majola, 2003:www.joburg.org.za)

The designers, Fassler Kamstra and Holmes Architects "explain that the complex is characterised by a dark blue wall that runs the length of the building and separates it from houses and other structures in the area."(Majola, 2003) The glazed wall at the front of the community service centre (charge office), like the entire design, is intended to invite the Alexandra public to the "new police station of the new dispensation

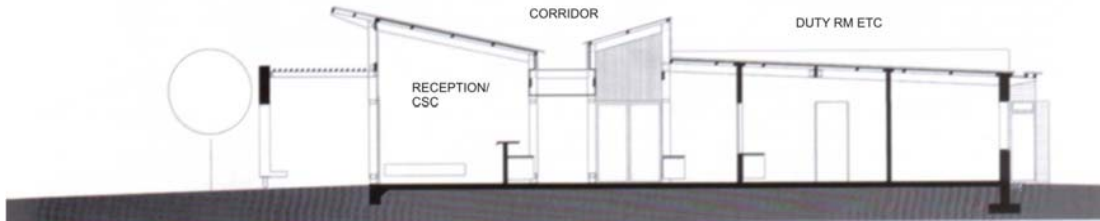


*Illus. 18- Proposal for Bellville Police Station in Cape Town by Makeka Design Laboratory.
(ArchSA, Jul/Aug 2005:18)*

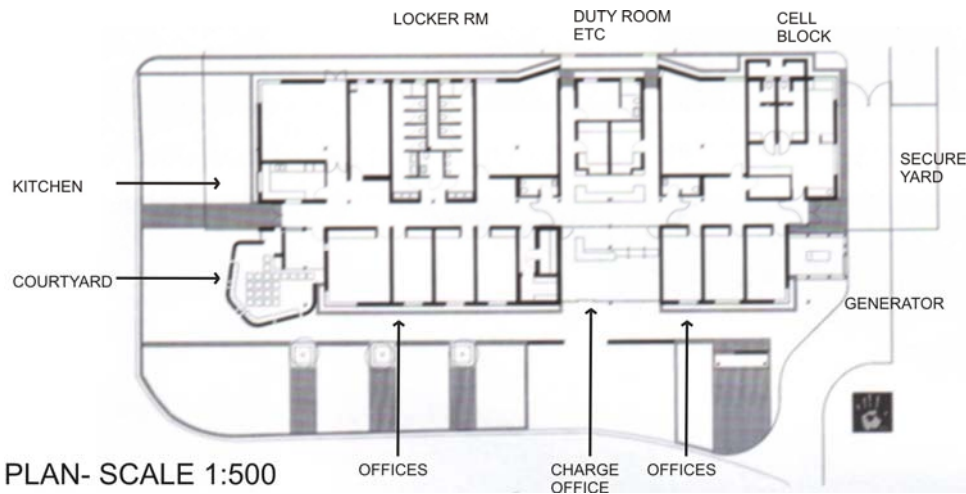
intended to serve the community" (Majola, 2003), this in response to the Depart of Public Work's requirement in the brief that the architects should engage with "a new spirit of openness". Also in response to this requirement, the design makes available "a huge special hall intended for the use of, among other things, the Community Policing Forum, as well as for the identity parade of suspects." Marcus Holmes also claims, in Majola's article, that "they chose blue, yellow and white colours for the station so that it stands out, and even those who cannot read or write, can see and identify the building as belonging to the police". (Majola, 2003)

The designers have therefore expressed the power and presence of the station, and have had some success in creating identity for the police, but there are some issues that could be raised around their methods of creating identity. Firstly, the photo supplied with the article (Illus. 17) shows that the building is quite 'transparent' and easy to enter, but where is the colour-code language that communicates police station, even to the unlettered? The big blue dividing wall, spoken of earlier, is also quite a fortress-like device (of dubious identity-quality) but it does not appear to corrupt the spirit of openness to those approaching the building, and performs a vital function in providing security in one of the most dangerous townships in the country. It seems then that the flags and the badge motif will bear the main responsibility for declaring identity, even if it is a highly visible structure.

Makeka Design Laboratory recently published proposals for facilities for the railway police in the Western Cape. The design approach for the



Illus. 19 – main elevation as approached by the public at top. Section through Charge office at bottom. (Coetzer, 2006: 23)



Illus. 20- Floor Plan (Coetzer, 2006: 23)

Bellville Police Station, the first of these shown at illustration 18 was explained as follows. (Illus.18)

They attribute the direction of their responses to the following considerations: the need to integrate with and be perceived as part of the community, achieving “balance between security and visible policing” and expressing such elements/components architecturally- expressing “visibility, accessibility and transparency of spatial functions that do not compromise activities and visible strength”. (Makeka, 2005:17) These measures are intended to instil confidence in the commuters and make policing an easier task by using visibility to deter “various forms of crime and social abuse”. It appears to successfully communicate what is public and where the entrance is, but apart from the flagpoles, badge motif and some sort of security bars on the flanks of the structure, there is not much to distinguish it as a police station. Makeka also does not expand on how they propose to maximise the visibility of these structures, thereby expressing their power through ‘deterrence’.

The recently published Retreat Police Station is publicised as presenting “itself to the public in a humanising and humanist manner.” (Coetzer, 2006: 23) Makeka’s intention here seems to be to create a building that doesn’t alienate the public. The section through the charge office area and its associated admin spaces illustrates the designer’s intent to convey ‘transparency’ to the visiting public by creating visual links from public to private space. (Illus.19) In this regard Coetzer describes it thus, “Its amply glazed entrance foyer, with its interview desk, is directly visible to the taxi rank and other public zones...Inside the foyer, the machinery of the state



Illus. 21 - the interview desk, with the duty room etc in the background behind the translucent screens. (Coetzer, 2006: 24)

is visible and sensible through the lowered screen behind the interview desk- there is nothing Kafkaesque about this spatial condition, no one disappearing for hours with personal statements and papers through a disempowering blank door.”

This is not strictly true, as the corridors linking the two wings of the station are strictly controlled with such doors and do not allow one to observe the happenings inside, an official could thus disappear. (Illus.21) This is however inevitable in a facility that needs to have certain areas secure and private. This need not be a negative though as this is a subtle expression of authority and power over the public. The plan clearly shows the demarcation of hierarchy with public space centered at the Charge Office and progressing to secure-private zones in either direction of the corridor. (Illus.20)

Makeka’s other device to proclaim community ownership and participation is the simple application of a layer of paint (Illus.19), it is described as thus, “the white paint is a sign of commitment. The off-shutter concrete and face brick of the police stations of the past needed no care or maintenance. These buildings could withstand the worst the weather and the angry world could throw at them- they didn’t care. Now the thin layer of paint is a real commitment to care, an acknowledgement that better public engagement requires work and maintenance.” (Coetzer, 2006: 24) Surely this is a very superficial approach, when that layer of paint needs to be renewed, and the inevitable budget constraints of the SAPS prohibits this, a 1980s police-fort will look more community friendly.

3.3. Conclusions

Early 'police' operated out of forts, and this set an important precedent for station types in South Africa particularly as the margin between civil authority and military entity was blurred. The establishment of professional police forces, in conjunction with a new method of control over civilian populations in the form of mass incarceration, in the first half of the 19th century however called for a different type of building as epitomised by the Durban Borough Police Stations. The political situation in South Africa caused a reversion from a civilian station type to a 'modernised' fortress. After the 1994 elections the Police Force undertook to reform itself as an organisation that is accountable to the public. Thereafter a few architects have made various attempts at recreating this identity for a South African Police Station, some less successfully than others. Approaches that have been shown to have some merit are as follows:

- The incorporation of facilities such as a public meeting venues into the building
- The careful design of less private or secure areas of the building so that the public can observe processes and activities there
- Emphasizing the two different operating modes of the police in built form demonstrates their authority.

Chapter 4: Precedent Analysis

4.1. Introduction

It is clear from the previous chapter that the few architects in South Africa that are engaging with the issue of designing police stations for the SAPS are struggling to define power and identity for a service that is still pondering its own identity. It has been shown though, that many police stations have had clear identities in the past, even though these were dubiously attained. They achieved these through a number of formal devices and through associations with events and operating mechanisms.

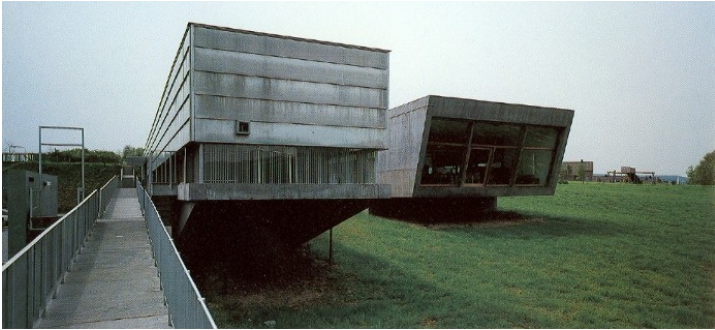
The built examples in this chapter will address the following key questions:

- How have designers elsewhere in the world approached the design of police stations and the associated issue of duality in function and operating mode?
- How do these designers attach, or allow the building to convey, identity?
- How has community interaction and acceptance been explored in these?

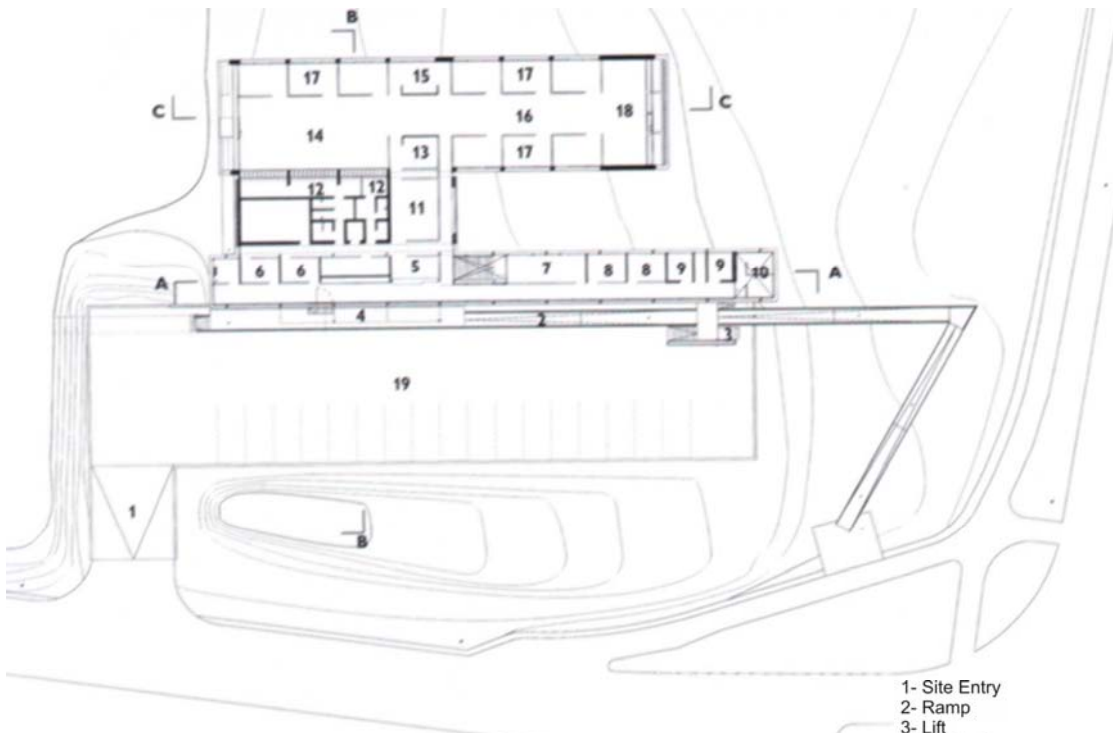
These precedent studies will also help to determine what possibilities exist for internal functions and facilities, and inform relationships between facilities/functions as a background for comparison to the local studies, in Chapter 5. This will be a major informant to determining the requirements for the final recommendation as a designed product.

Selected precedent:

- Vaals Police Station, Vaals, Netherlands, 1993: Wiel Arets. Chosen as precedent to analyse the effectiveness of creating identity through the expression of symbols of authority, control and detention.
- Almere Police Station, Almere, Netherlands, 1993: Ben Loerakker. Chosen as precedent to analyse the success of creating identity by expressing symbols of power, yet simultaneously attempting to express or encourage public acceptance through the inclusion of a public plaza.
- City of Minneapolis Fifth Police Precinct, Minneapolis, USA, 1998: Julie Snow Architects. Also chosen because the building addresses the two conflicting roles of community inclusion and police power and authority, but priority given over to public expressions and symbols, yet still conveys power and authority.



*Illus. 22- the approach ramp from the bottom of the site.
(Quaderns No.214, 1996:102)*



First Floor Plan

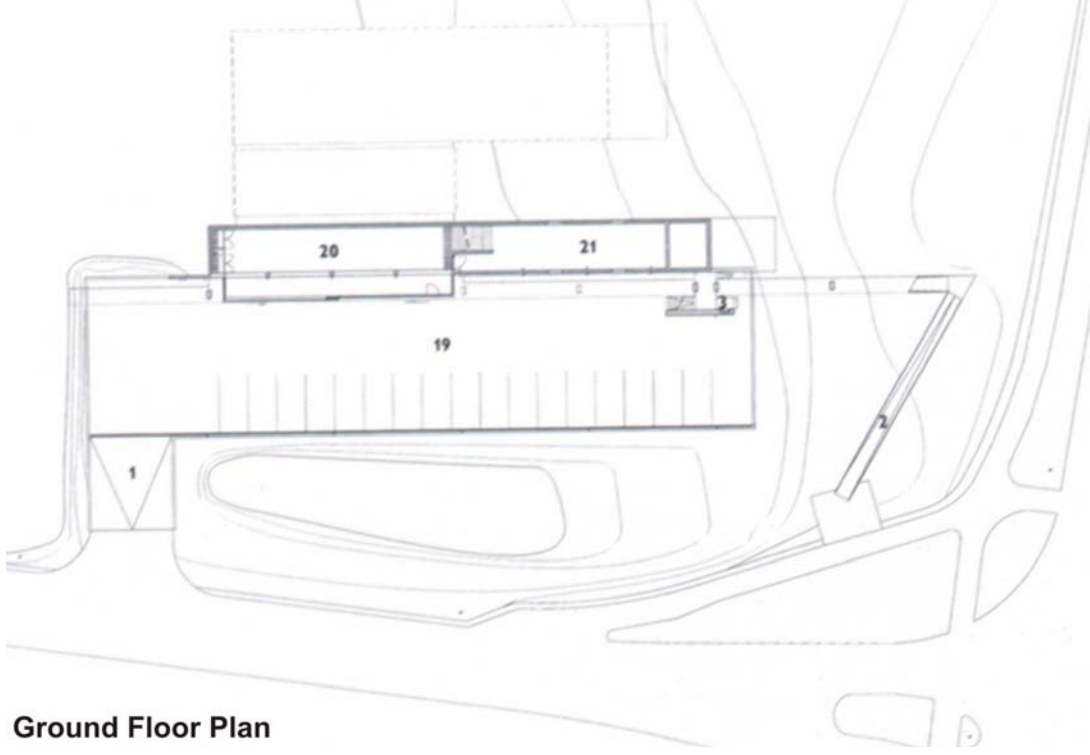
Illus. 23- Plans- progression of power and perception clearly demonstrated on one's journey as a member of the public from past numbers 10 to 5(overt approach), or conversely from 6 to 5 (covert approach).(Brouwers, 1996. pp 85)

- 1- Site Entry
- 2- Ramp
- 3- Lift
- 4- Public Entrance
- 5- Reception
- 6- Interrogation rm
- 7- Breath control/intake
- 8- Interrogation rm
- 9- Cell
- 10- Police Kennels
- 11- Admin
- 12- Changing rooms
- 13- Copying & Print
- 14- Central Space
- 15- Pantry
- 16- Comms wing
- 17- Offices
- 18- Conference rm
- 19- Parking
- 20- Motorbike shed & Exercise area
- 21-Store

4.2. Vaals Police Station, Netherlands, 1993: Wiel Arets & Associates.

The designers attempt to convey the authority of the police over the public, creating identity for the station, by expressing the functions of the building that are used to enforce law and order. The main pedestrian route into the building is via a ramp that first takes one past the police-dog kennels, then the holding cells, the interrogation rooms, breath control, and finally to the entrance and reception area on the first floor. (Illus.22&23) The pedestrian will be able to clearly read these spaces through the glazing that wraps around the 'zinc box'. A canopy denotes the entry from the ramp. The public could also enter from the parking lot (stair or lift), screened from the road by an earthen-berm that connects to the ramp via a staircase, but they would still pass by the cells and other symbols of potential punishment and control. Public access thus becomes a device that reminds the public that the building is for an institution with authority over them.

From the road, the building reads as being submerged into the landscape behind a protective, screening, earth-berm. In a sense it is quite a military gesture in that the form, some materials, and construction are not too dissimilar to a World War 2 bunker or pillbox- yet another way in which power is established subconsciously. (Illus.24) The building even seems to project over the main accesses as if to control them. The station is designed to read as three interconnected boxes of varying transparencies and materials, depending on the functions within each, as one traverses and climbs the ramp. Through this the designers attempted to



Ground Floor Plan



*Illus. 24- The Vaals Police Station as it is perceived from the road level. The pedestrian route/ramp is also clearly defined as the primary entry method.
(Quaderns No.214, 1996. pp 104)*



*Illus. 25- progression from the mainly communal spaces, to semi-secure, to the most confidential station areas.
(Brouwers, 1996. pp84)*

acknowledge the varying modes of operation in police forces- in other words overt visibility and covert invisibility. (Illus.25)

The ramp starts at the bottom of the site, reinforcing ones subjectivity to the station, and climbs to a level higher than the station to meet up with another pedestrian route. Elevating the building to communicate power is further explored in that suspects (under arrest) enter the building; to go to the interrogation room or cellblock, via a grated security lobby on the ground floor that doubles as their exercise yard and a motorbike shed. This fenced security lobby (see Illus. 26) in itself again conveys that the police have certain powers that demand respect for law and order from the public using the parking area. The storage level is also on this ground/basement level (refer Illus. 27, Section A). As the ground floor plan shows, the 'public' zinc box is situated directly above this to facilitate ease of movement and maximise security when handling suspects. The space then progresses to the semi-secure timber box housing the changing areas and admin areas. The final progression is to the most private areas of the concrete box, with its mostly translucent glazing that houses the communications wing, conference room and other places where the more covert activities performed in a police station take place. The plan therefore successfully communicates the progression of hierarchy, keeping private the covert functions and spaces, thereby improving security by confining and subjugating the public space.

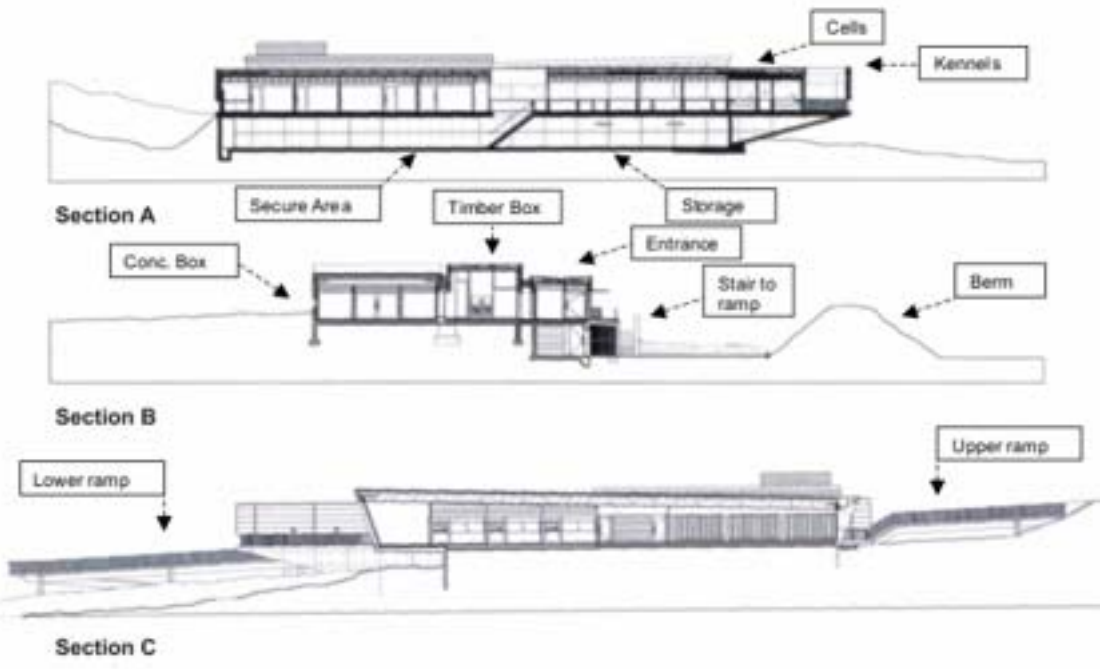
This station's design successfully communicates the inherent power of a police force to the public. Through a carefully planned set of movements



Illus. 26- Station building as seen from the top of the site. (Quaderns No.210, 1996. pp105)

and approaches to and within the structure, the structure responds to these movements externally and internally through the constriction, surveillance, and therefore control, of these.

These are quite severe mechanisms though, and it would be difficult to justify an approach as exclusive and domineering as this to the public of contemporary South Africa, where the police clearly need to move away from such fortress-like approaches. What is useful however is to realise that it is possible to communicate that a facility belongs to the police by expressing the elements that combine to form what has universally become the police station: holding cells, interrogation facilities and the charge office.



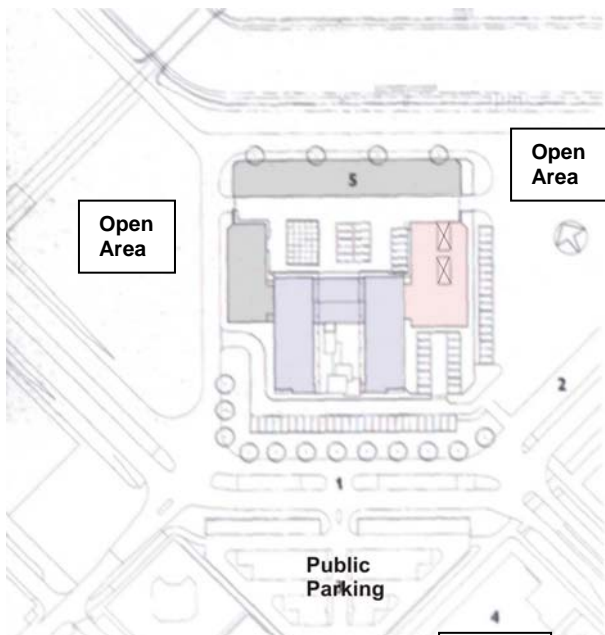
Illus. 27- Section A; note ease of progression from secure area to interrogation to holding cell. The kennels are also shown to command the site below. Section B; Note how landscaping has been used effectively to convey power and privacy as required. Section C; The power-communicating facilities command the approaches to the site, while the covert facilities are less conspicuous from the upper ramp. (Brouwers, 1996. pp 88,89)

It should be kept in mind though that this only becomes apparent to the users of this building once they are actually on the pedestrian walk. The designer also demonstrates that it is possible to allude to identity by symbolically denoting function and operating mode by expressing solidity and transparency where needed. It must be realised that any police station must enforce this hierarchal division of space for it to function; the public cannot have unsupervised access to potentially sensitive areas. Concurrently, the station's facilities should respond to whatever their operating mode is, if the police are to operate out of these successfully, it wouldn't be appropriate to design a charge office that didn't announce where it was as it is the main public interface; a sensitive space needs to be able to close and afford privacy if desired (without creating places where abuse of power can easily take place).

4.3. Almere Police Station- Netherlands, 1993: Ben Loerakker.

The design of the Almere station is a far subtler way of communicating police identity and power to the public, and it is far more accessible to the public, than the Vaals police station.

“The public functions are all concentrated around the central hall. The cell complex is in the lowrise. In one of the wings, on the fourth, top floor there is the company canteen, adjacent to a spacious roof terrace.”(Brouwers, 1996:116) This station also therefore emphasises, essentially, the hierarchy and progression of space and power in horizontal and vertical means. The two wings of the ‘tower block’ dominate the entry court that terminates in public transparency at the charge office. (Illus.29) the glazed charge office conveys openness to the public. The Desk here controls access to the circulation atrium behind a translucent wall- another device conveying hierarchy. This in-turn controls access to sensitive areas in the wings and in the rear-court. This creates identity by emphasising the duality of operating mode that characterises all police facilities and creates power by telling the public that there are places in the building to which they may only have access to under special circumstances, and that they are constantly under surveillance, thus the expression of the covert-operating mode. It expresses, through contradicting the “business-like character” of the exterior façade, and the harsh solidity and confinement of the cellblock another duality in function: the need for the police to invite some members of the public in, and the need to segregate and confine others (Illus.30&32).

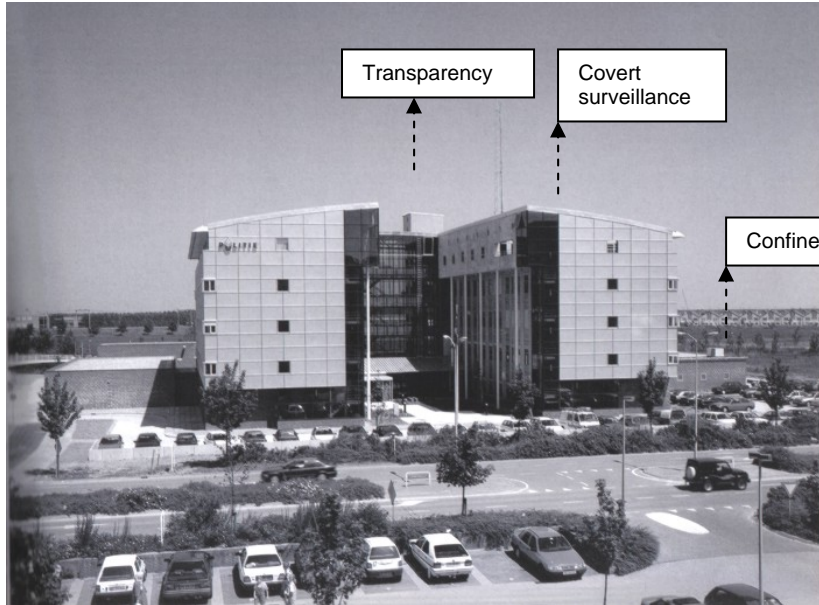


Illus. 28- Site Plan showing physical context. (Brouwer, 1996:116)

Town Hall



Illus. 29- Entry Court/Public Space (Brouwers, 1996: 119)



Transparency

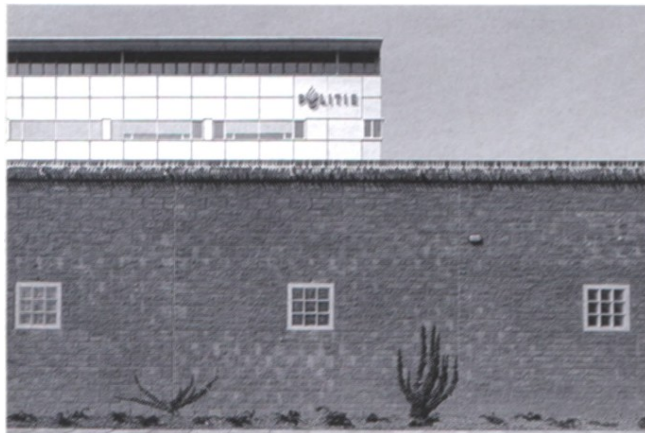
Covert surveillance

Confinement

Illus. 30- colonnaded forecourt vs. Cellblock. (Brouwers, 1996:117)



*Illus.31- translucent Charge Office
(Brouwers, 1996:117)*

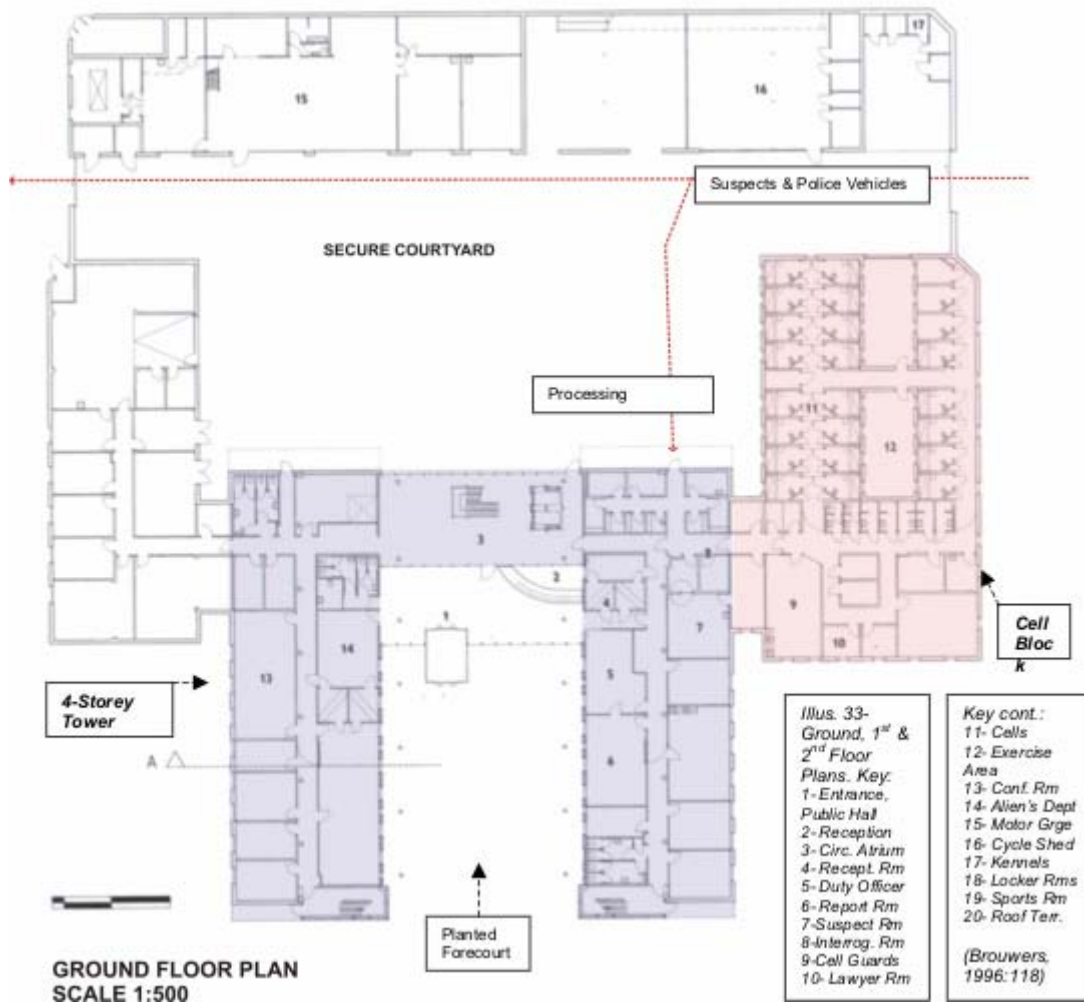


*Illus. 32- the cells are expressed in the Almere Station.
(Brouwers, 1996:116).*

The cellblock is dominated by the U-shaped four-storey 'tower block', which it sits aside, and balanced on the other side of the tower block by another single-storey structure that helps to enclose the rear courtyard reserved for police access, as this is where suspects will enter the buildings and progress from interrogation, processing, and charging to temporary confinement in the cells. These cells are all provided with windows for ventilation and provision has been made for detainees to get relaxation and exercise in two separate exercise yards (Illus.32&33).

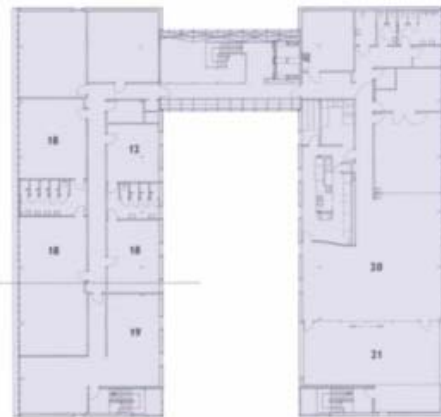
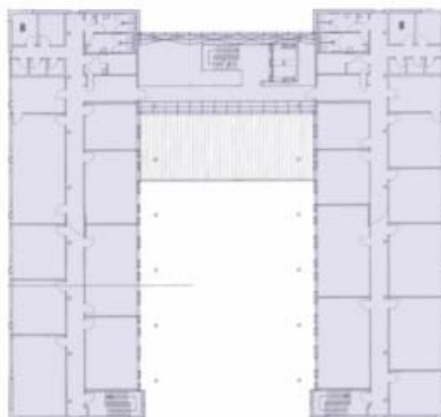
The two wings of the main building are linked by a transparent public space and main circulation atrium that are separated by a translucent glass wall; access to the more private areas in the two main wings is controlled by the reception/charge office desk (Refer Illus. 31 & no.2 on Illus. 33). Just off the main desk are two small charge rooms, where the public can report matters in privacy. The two wings, with the top floor housing the change rooms and canteen and roof terrace etc; cantilever over the forecourt that in effect become colonnades lining the planted forecourt and help to direct the public flow to the public interface of the station (see Illus 30, 29). This central, public-transparent, zone is enclosed and dominated by the two covert-solid wings, reinforcing the notion of expressing functional duality as a means of identity and displaying inherent power.

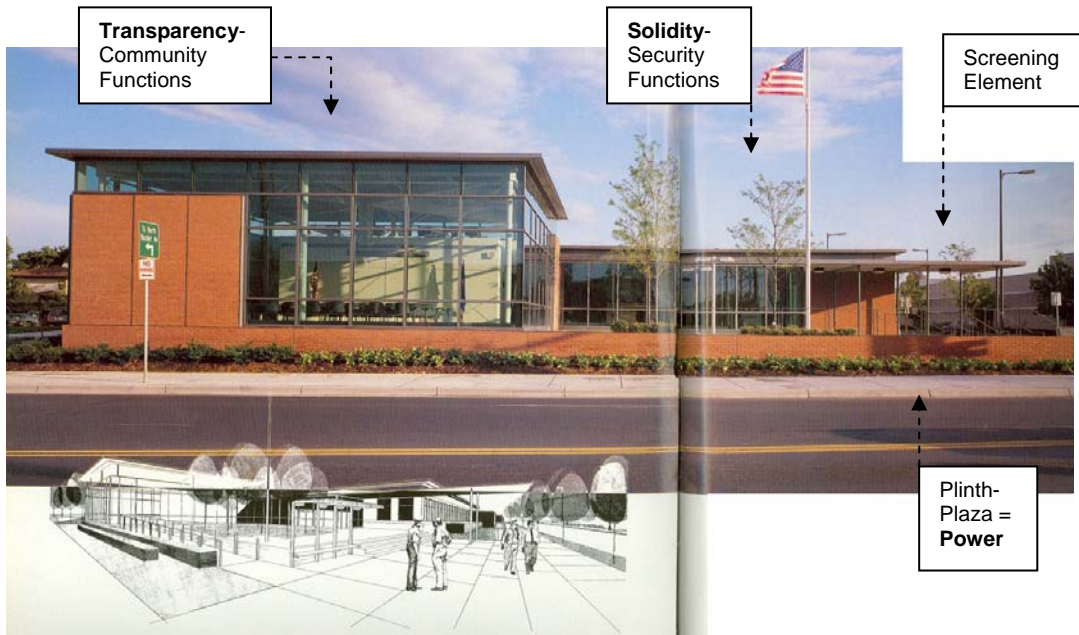
The Almere Station also seems to exert the power of the police in that it is a four-storey tower block sited in a relatively open area. It is situated in



close relation to what would be the other symbol of authority in the town, the Town Hall. The public approaches, and enters, the station through a channel of authority between the station and Town Hall (Illus. 28).

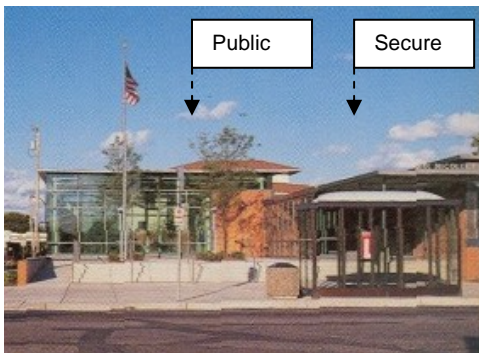
As mentioned, this station makes successful use of various formal devices (such as expressing the cells as elements of power) and hierarchal movements, similarly to the Vaals Station, but less brutally. These could be successfully utilised here.





Illus. 35 (above)- Perspective concept of plinth/public-plaza (Arch Aug 1998:80-81)

Illus. 34 (top)- View from northern "greenway". (Arch. Aug 1998:80-81)



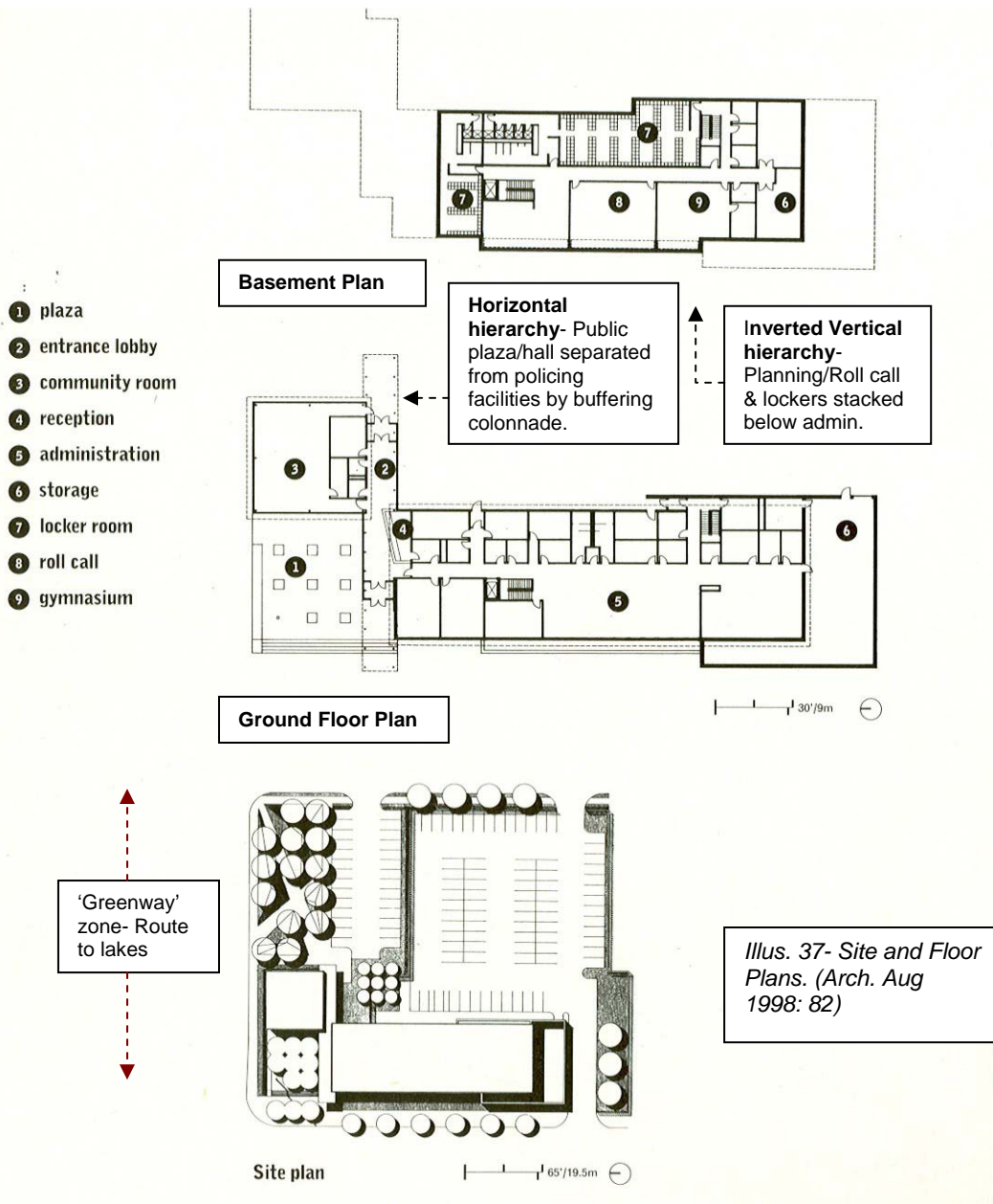
Illus. 36- as station is read from the west arterial. (Arch. Aug 1998:80-81)

4.4. City of Minneapolis Fifth Police Precinct, 1998: Julie Snow Architects

“The Fifth Precinct is the first station that Minneapolis has built to accommodate community policing, a contemporary approach to law enforcement that integrates community functions within the traditional station house, and attempts to foster an increased- and positive- police presence within the community.”(Keegan, *Architecture* Aug1998)

Snow’s main concern with the design of the Fifth Precinct station was to respond to the two main conflicting needs of the building’s main user groups- a duality similar to the two previous examples examined. The conflict of interests is described as thus- “the neighbours wanted the building to appear accessible, not to be a fortress...but the police required a defensible space for their operations”, and, “Snow was given an assignment of architectural contradictions: open a traditionally closed building to the community, while maintaining requisite levels of security for its occupants.” (Keegan, 1998)

Snow firstly responded to these conflicts by raising the entire building above street level, its public plaza included. (Illus. 34&35) A plinth is a common device used to denote a building’s authority and importance- its “stature”. Such elevation is one way to dominate and exert control over the environment. The designer also claims that it is still defensive measure in that it “provides a psychological and physical separation to protect the building from ‘crashing’, a vehicular terrorist attack.” (Keegan, 1998) This is one way that the designer attempts to address the desires of the users:



public and private functions are unitedly expressed as powerful, they are elevated on the same level. The building is expressed as two distinctive components, representing what is public and what is private, as part of a L-shaped configuration. (Illus.36&37)

The station thus communicates function and operating mode to a degree, in that it clearly demonstrates that the community hall is such, and it successfully secures the private areas, having a colonnade link as buffer-control between the two opposing functions. The Building is bounded by three busy routes in a 'blighted' suburb of Minneapolis, near the CBD. The North-South Routes are arterials to and from the CBD. The West-East route is part of a system linking the city's lakes. The colonnade also therefore marks the entry from these routes. Those passing by can see that the hall is a public hall from all three surrounding streets, reading the seats and functions internally. It is 'transparent' enough for everyone to observe what activities are taking place inside. (Illus.38&39)

Conversely it is also easy to observe what is happening externally on all three sides of the building, surveillance thus becomes a tool to enforce safety in the immediate surrounds. The public plaza is another device that can be successfully utilised to encourage this public participation in that it provides an external compliment to the public hall, easing the transition from the busy street level to the raised and therefore slightly more secure public hall. The Fifth Precinct also therefore exhibits the required display of hierarchy. These are thus principles and architectural devices that could



*Illus. 38- The Community Hall, interior view
(Arch Aug 1998: 83)*



*Illus. 39- East Access.
(Arch. Aug 98:81)*

certainly be used successfully to communicate public and community functions in a South African police station.

The Fifth Police Precinct, however, is not as brutal in its communicating that it is more than a civic meeting space, making use of the plinth device to denote power. Further to this, it successfully communicates identity through the securing of covert/secure functions of the building, and simultaneously demonstrating that it is a building designed for the the public to interface with the police. The Almere and Vaals Police Stations are far more forceful in this regards where elements of police power and authority, such as the holding cells; policedog kennels; and interrogation rooms, are visually expressed to the public and serve to identify them as policing buildings. In this, they are more successful at denoting and assisting the covert policing mode. The Fifth Precinct contrarily maximises the overt mode to a degree, while the final response for this dissertation will need to strike a balance between the two major functions and in some way demonstrate both.

4.5. Conclusions

In order to successfully communicate the identity of a police station architects in other countries have utilised a number of approaches.

The example at Vaals, by **Wiel Arets**, is not one that would be acceptable here, even though it can be argued that the building does demonstrate its belonging to a police authority. It is not too dissimilar, in many ways, to the old SAP 'forts' previously constructed in South Africa. There are no public amenities, and interaction with the public is intentionally made difficult in order to remind the public of the police's authority over them. This is definitely not how the SAPS wants its buildings to be perceived

The Almere Police Station, by **Ben Loerakker**, is however closer to what would be acceptable for the SAPS. The designer attempted to convey the identity of the police station through the expression of the duality in police station function. There is an intended contrast between the low rise, heavy masonry cell block with its barred windows, and the high rise corporate image of the main building, with a public plaza of sorts to promote a friendlier image. The use of courtyards in the design of the building is also something to be taken note of as this is one of the standard archetypes as can be seen with older 'police stations' such as the example of the Castle in Cape Town or the Police Fort at Nongqai (Refer Chapter3). This configuration consequently makes the processing and admittance of arrested suspects far safer and very secure, and this can be applied within the Albert Park design which this research informs.

Unfortunately, this design does not fully explore the concept of community participation by including facilities such as a community hall, but this is probably because of how this particular Police Force functions, not being as concerned with public participation as the SAPS is.

In contrast to the two previous examples, the Minneapolis Fifth Police Precinct by **Julie Snow** fully explores the concept of a Community Police Station. The designer has veered away from expressing symbols of police authority, such as the cells, and relies instead on the solidity of the architecture, of the secure areas in the station, to denote police authority and thus identity. The denial of complete access to the building, for the public, serves to convey this. Again notable is the use of a public plaza, in conjunction with the prominent community hall, to encourage and promote public interaction. These are devices that can be applied later on in the design process.

Chapter 5: Case Studies

5.1. Introduction

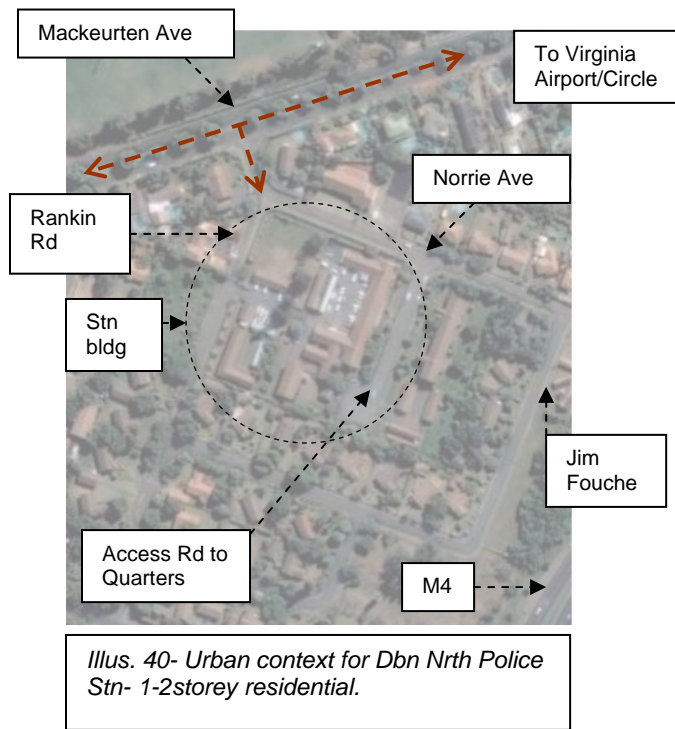
The review of built precedent has demonstrated how designers elsewhere in the world have recently approached the design of police stations. These revealed a number of design strategies that could be successfully applied in SAPS station designs, but also some approaches that should not.

The case studies will assist in determining a set of requirements for designing a successful station. This process will be dealt with in Chapter 6. These studies therefore need to critically evaluate issues such as siting; accommodation; construction systems and materials; social, technical and environmental performance etc.

These studies will however only consider the main station buildings in any detail, as the police are phasing out the provision of living quarters, which all the chosen case studies provide for its members. These are thus of little interest in helping to formulate the requirements for a new police station design. Similarly, mortuaries will not be studied in any detail as these are specialised facilities at only a few main stations, & these are no longer under the control of the SAPS. The Department of Health has assumed responsibility for running these and new police station designs will no longer need to accommodate such facilities.

The following buildings were consequently chosen as Case Studies:

- The **Durban North Police Station**, 1960: Architect unknown.
- The **Pinetown Police Station**, 1988: Architect unknown.



Illus. 40- Urban context for Dbn Nrth Police Stn- 1-2storey residential.

5.2. Durban North Police Station, 1960: Architect unknown.

The Durban North Police Station sits on a gentle east-sloping site. There is an approximate drop of 2.5 to 3m across the site, over a distance of roughly 45m. The main building complex is however all designed at the same level, by a slight cutting into the site. Relatively quiet roads bound the station site but it sits just off Mackeurten Ave, a major route to the M4 and Virginia Circle from Durban North's residential zone (Refer Illus. 40). Even though the station sits just off a major thoroughfare, and Norrie Ave winds it way up from the major intersection that is the Virginia Circle, the Durban North Police Station is not an easy place to find, even the signposted directions to the station, and further still the public entry to the site, is poorly communicated (Ref Illus. 41&42).



Illus. 41-Cnr of Norrie Ave & Rankin Pl. Note tiny signpost.

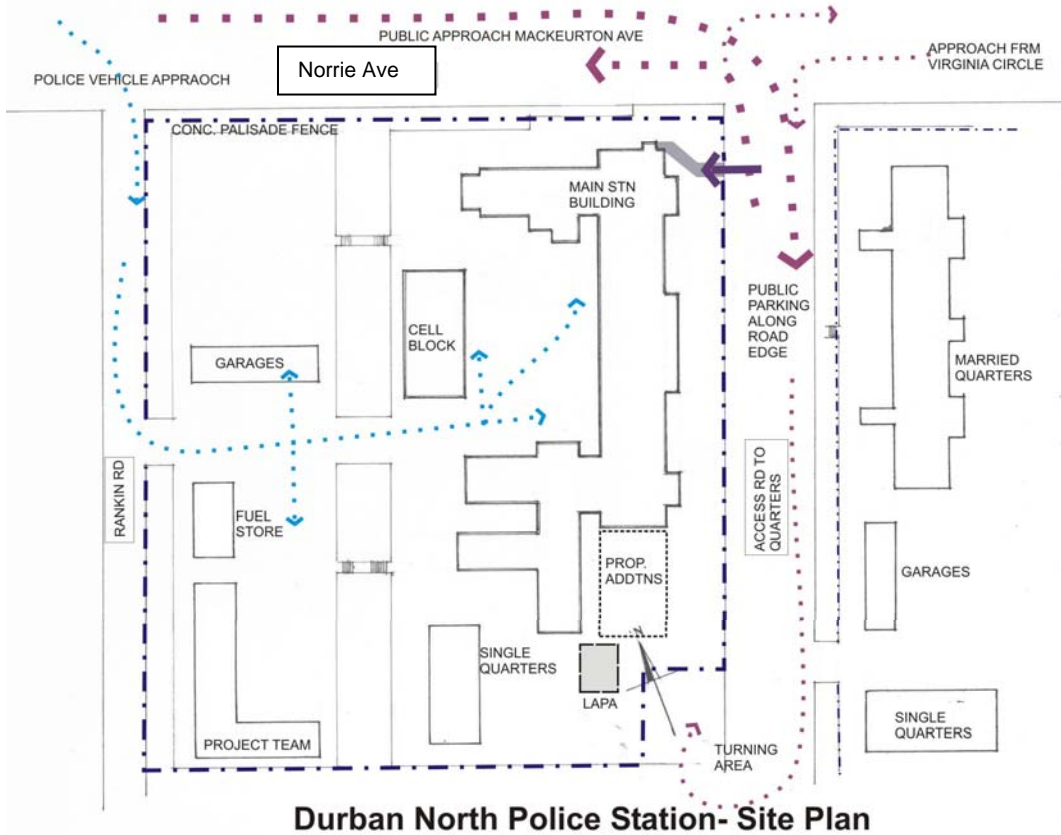
This station is at an immediate disadvantage because of this poor siting, in that it is not at an easily accessible site from a prominent route of travel, and the poor response it makes in not utilising the most prominent and visible portion of the site, this being the corner of Rankin Pl and Norrie Ave (refer Illus. 40). Instead, the public are required to enter the station off the access road to the east of the main building complex; this is also where they generally park their vehicles. Entry to the charge office is through a gate in the palisade in this access road, and it needed to be signposted to communicate how one enters the charge office. (Illus.41&42)



Illus. 42- Gate in palisade with signage to communicate where the building's public interface is (background).

That the building itself doesn't communicate an entry point, or serve to orientate those intending to use it is a significant failure, not helped by the

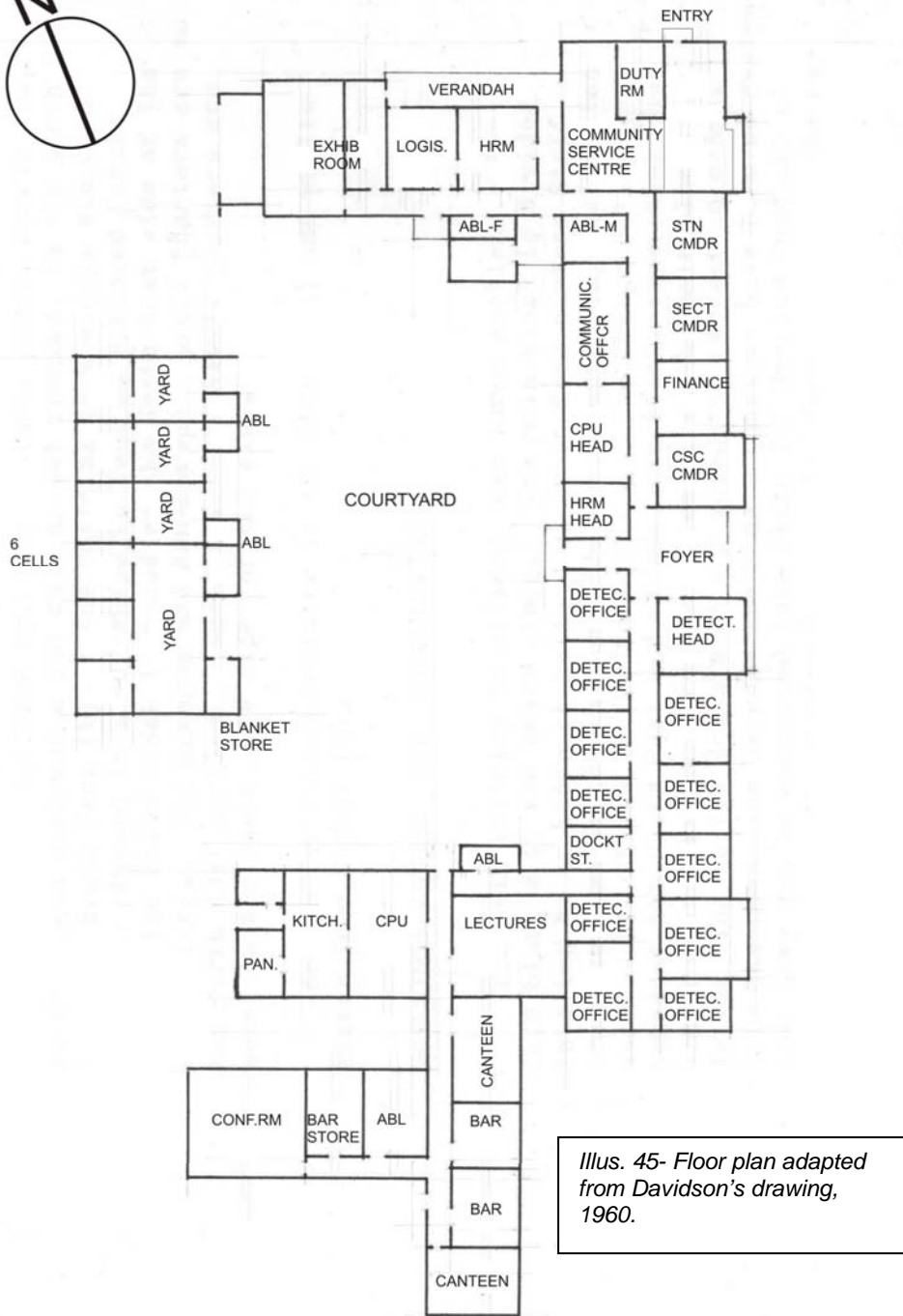
Illus. 43- Site plan adapted from Davidson's drawing,



Illus. 44- Dbn N Police Station c. 1960. (Davidson, 1960)

later addition of an imposing concrete palisade fence, especially if one extends this to the need to communicate the building as being a police station, displaying the inherent power of the police in both the overt and covert operating modes. The only devices that could be construed as orientating devices are the white, spire-like, ventilators applied to the roof. An observant traveller along Mackeurten Ave. will catch a few glimpses of these. These in no way declare themselves to belong to a police station however. This station is therefore of the model described in Chapter 3, designed after WW2, where the only tangible power-stating symbols of identity are the motifs/decals applied the entrance façade, the two flags, and the standard-issue blue light at the entrance to the charge office/Community Service Centre. Although the addition of the palisade served to fortify the station, it did not create a clear identity as in other fort-type stations here; instead it served to further confuse the building's would be user. In fact it appears as if the old married quarters would assume greater stature, as they are two-storeyed and the main station building only a single storey.

This is not a large station, although it did at one time serve as a District Headquarters. These responsibilities have long since moved to a larger facility (Durban Central Police Station) however, and the building now functions solely as a police station. The main structure of the building remains unchanged from 1960, but internal reorganisations have had to take place, such as combining the previously racially segregated charge offices into a single place. (Illus.44)



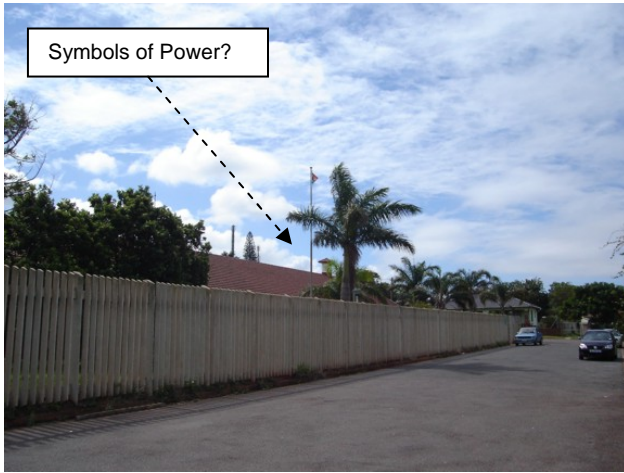
Illus. 45- Floor plan adapted from Davidson's drawing, 1960.

**Durban North
Police Station-
Floor Plan, Scale 1:500**



The station's total staff complement is 125. The station also has 30 vehicles, split between the CPU (Crime Prevention Unit), Detective Services, Admin, HRM(Human Resource Management), Logistics, Admin and Community Service Centre personnel, the majority belonging to the ever-patrolling CPU and then the Detective Services, with standard practise of at least two persons per vehicle. The most office space required is by the Detective Services, and in this station there is a severe shortage of that, with plans currently afoot to add twelve office spaces for them (refer site plan). Currently there are twenty six detectives, that means there are an average of three detectives to an office here, which is why more space is urgently required. (Illus.43&45) The optimum is obviously one detective to an office; this serves to increase security and privacy on sensitive assignments. The station is staffed on four eight-hour shifts, the night time shifts generally being for CSC (Charge Office) staff, someone on cell-guard duty, CPU members and Detectives on call-outs.

Other deficiencies, noted by staff (Personal communications, 2006), were the lack of sufficient toilets and locker/shower space (policemen/women who travel on public transport prefer to travel in plainclothes for fear of attack), and the need for the cells and suspect processing facilities to be upgraded. The large parade-yard formed between the main building and cells is not secured, two to three policemen are therefore required to transport suspects to the charge office (where he/she is mixing with the law-abiding public) for processing. The likelihood of escape is therefore greater. (Illus.48) Also needed is more Docket/Archive space, and storage areas for the logistics department, whose own office is the cluttered



Symbols of Power?

Illus. 46 - the access rd that is used for public parking and accessing strn. Palisade destroys orientation.



Illus. 47- through the palisade a window AC unit is visible.



Illus. 48- the access to the 'parade yard' off Rankin Str. Note lack of security, position of cells indicated

environment of three officers. Other observations are also that there doesn't seem to be a weapons store/strong room. From other visits it has been established that stations should have these, which is probably one of the main reasons why weapon-licensing issues are referred to "C.R. Swart" (Durban Central Police Station).

As can be seen from the illustrations, the building is a regular brick structure, with clay roof tiles and timber trusses, these seem to be in good condition as no construction defects were observed, although access into the cells was not granted here and that is the real area where construction methods and materials would be tested. Most rooms had split-unit air conditioning fitted, and it is therefore safe to say that the building hasn't responded to climatic issues effectively- the effectiveness of the roof ventilators can also be questioned. (Illus47.)

Further reinforcing this station's inadequacy is the near total lack of "community facilities". The Community policing forums have to take place 1.5km away at the nearest civic hall, smaller sector policing meetings can however take place in the conference room. This building then must be said to make an inadequate social response.



Illus. 49- Pinetown Police Station site. Image adapted from Google Earth. (www.googleearth.com)



Illus. 50- the approach from Westville side of Old Main Rd. Not as clearly identified from here.



Illus. 51- the approach from west, building is clearly identifiable as fort-type police stn.

Pinetown Police Station
Site Plan Scale ~1:2000

5.3. Pinetown Police Station, 1988: Architect unknown.

The Pinetown Police Station is situated on a very prominent, flat, site near Pinetown's CBD, contrary to the introverted Durban North Police Station. This seems to be a prime example of SAP planning to dominate the surroundings, not only in the actual form and design of the 1980s fort-station, but in that it is perfectly situated near routes to the Township and Industrial areas that might need the resident Riot Squad's peace-making abilities. The Station is sited on a major link between Kloof, Mariannhill Industrial and Westville, this being Old Main road. It is also in close proximity to routes to New Germany Industrial area & Clermont Township. (Illus. 49)

The designers ensured that there were multiple access points off Old Main Rd at the Station's front, and off Suffert Str at the station's rear areas, this latter being used exclusively for police access. Public access off Old Main Rd is well laid out in that there is a good amount of parallel parking off Old Main, buffered by a planted island. Two Police vehicle accesses are provided here, but only one is still used by these- after dropping off or picking up suspects in the secure yard situated between the Charge Office and Cell Block (ref Illus. 49&54).

The station leaves little doubt in its ability to express what it is, and express its inherent authority and power. (Illus.51) The main public entrance, with its fortified gatehouse, set of flags, badge-motif, blue light and Mr A Vlok's inaugural plaque all clearly signify the intents and



Illus. 52- entrance into building successfully communicated from street front. Other devices also noted.

purposes of this building, that in the recent past also served as an area HQ. Entry into the building is therefore successfully communicated from the public street front. The bullet proof glass of the gatehouse has been painted and a tuck shop, “The Copshop”, now runs from in this cupola. The turnstiles have long-since been removed, yet this area still reads as a fortified entrance. These devices also clearly direct one to the entrance foyer, and then the Community Service Centre (CSC). (Illus. 52&55)

This is quite a large police station as it serves a very large area and houses some specialist units such as the Riot Squad and Fraud Unit. It also has 56 rooms as a Single Quarters component. The staff compliment is 320 members in total and 86 vehicles, 9 of these being motorcycles. Again the largest percentage of office space is dedicated to the various branches of the Detective Services, there being 56 detectives stationed here, spread over three floors. The practice of four eight-hour shifts again means that most of the station shuts down at night. Five to six CPU vehicles with two unit members each will be on patrol or call duty during the night shifts, and a maximum of six detectives could be on night call. Added to this the CSC will function at night with about five members, as opposed to fifteen during the day. There also needs to be a minimum of two people on cell guard duty at all times. The rest of the staff compliment is split between Admin, Logistics, Human Resource Management etc. Pinetown SAPS station also houses a relatively new facility, the only one of its kind in the province- a Career Centre. This facility, a recruitment office, is set up as an interactive career-counselling service for High School groups.



Illus. 53- The non-functioning police entrance.

The general accommodation of the main building is set up as thus:
Ground Floor- CSC, Cell block with 36 cells with max. 7/8 detainees, Logistics, Weapon Store/Strong Room, Communications Wing, Kitchen, Career Office, 2 Bars/Canteens split between Ranks.
First Floor- Admin, HRM, Finance, Firearms & Liquor Offices, Stn Commdr etc.
Second Floor- Partnership Policing- Fraud Unit Detectives
Third Floor- Detectives
Fourth floor- Crime Intelligence Detectives, Archive/Docket Store

The facilities seem to function well and no notable deficiencies were found, other than the SAPS' phasing out of formal messes in this station (this kitchen now serves the cell block), leaving only some canteen-bar space, more socialising space is needed. The arrangement employed in this station for handling suspects and detainees is also very efficient and secure. The vehicle enters the courtyard between the charge office/processing space and the cellblock and the door is shut behind it, the suspect is then taken out or into the vehicle depending on if he is being brought in or taken to court or Westville Prison. Once the prisoner is secured after vehicle transfer, the other gate in front opens and it emerges next to the charge office off Old Main Rd from where it continues its journey to wherever. This is only a bit uneconomical, though, in the sense that the vehicle then has to go around the block to enter the police entrance off Suffert Rd, because the other entrance off Old Main doesn't seem to have been used in a long time. (Illus.53) This process is however



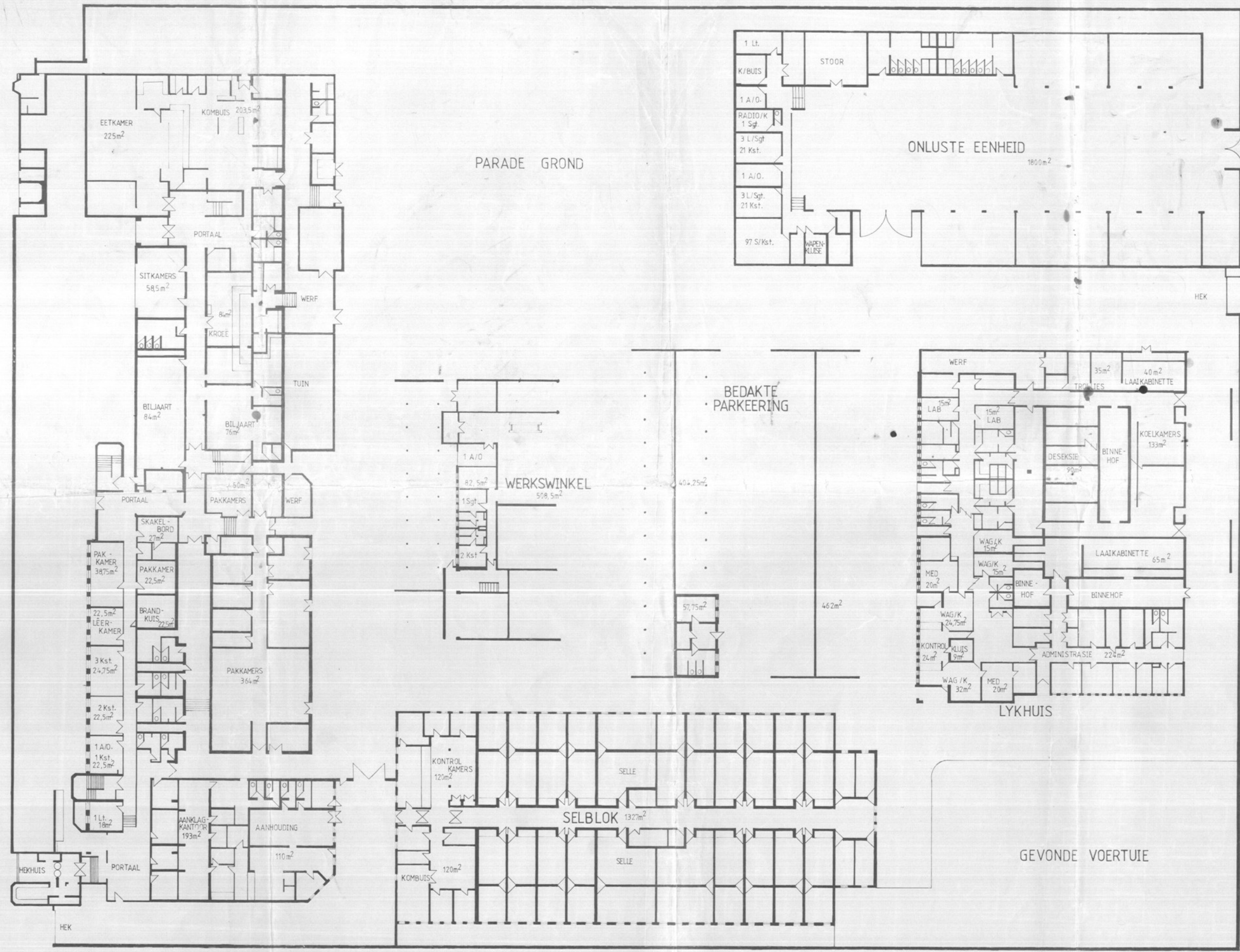
Illus. 54- Prisoner transfer vehicle emerging from secure court into parking zone off Old Main Rd. Note Screens.

far more successful than that in practice at the Durban North Police Station

The main structure is a concrete frame with face brick infill, and no defects have been observed there, the cellblock and lower structures are brickwork structure and look sound, except for the arrangement of the cell ablutions that are open to sky in the yards for safety reasons, but result in some rather unhygienic conditions. Environmental performance is dictated by the application of split air-conditioning units to offices, obviously cross-ventilation was not a great a concern for the designers as security was. Here too, screen louver-type devices have been fitted on the north and south facades, but generally restricted to the bottom two floors, one therefore has to question their true purpose (secrecy or sun shading?).

Although originally designed not to be easily accessed, by the general populace, this station is still easy to locate. The entry points are clearly defined, even if these still read as fortifications. This building functions well according to how it was designed to function, being extremely secure. The obvious defects therefore must be the lack of community facilities and a charge office that was designed as an extremely bureaucratic element of the building and is consequently not user friendly for the police or the public.

SKETSPLAN
 SUID-AFRIKAANSE POLISIE PINETOWN
 EN LYKHUIS
 PLAN GETEKEN OP 1988-7-18
 DEUR SERS. B. PRETORIUS
 DURBAN P.R. 28/88



Illus. 55- Ground Floor Plan of Pinetown Police Stn, scale 1:500. (Sgt B Pretorius: 1988)

5.4. Conclusions

The two examples analysed in this chapter, Pinetown Police Station and Durban North Police Station, can both generally be described as being not suitable for the new Police Service and its new ambitions of community accountability and inclusion.

The **Durban North Police Station** in no real, or obvious, way reads externally as being a Police Station. It is difficult to find if one is not intimately familiar with the surrounding area and the directions to the station and entry into the charge office itself is demarcated with poor signage that attempts to direct one through the palisade. Thus the building has a poor hierarchal organisation, which is a huge deficiency. There are no facilities to cater for the use of the community, apart from the charge office, which is too small in any case as it was originally designed as the smaller charge office for non-whites. What was the main reception and charge office now serves as a type of waiting room, presumably for people waiting to meet a policeman/woman in one of the overcrowded offices. The following lessons could thus be applied:

- The public must be able to easily discern and enter the public areas of a station building, this access does still need to be easily surveyed from the inside of the building and it must respond the activities on the edges of the site, E.g. Police access should be off a quieter secondary road, while public parking and access must respond to the main approach routes to the site. This would aid

security and make it easier for the public to identify and enter the building.

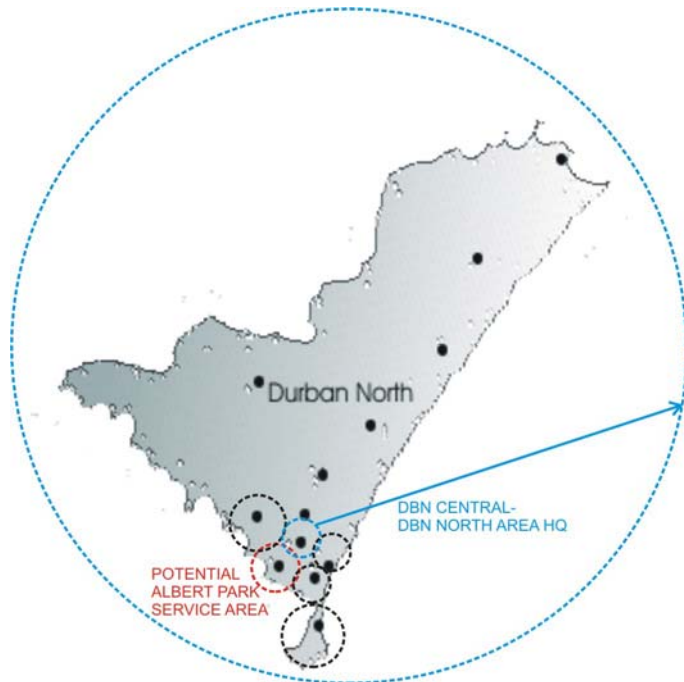
- It must provide clear definition of hierarchy and secure sensitive areas, so doing displaying the authority needed to define a police station
- Simply applying an SAPS logo to a building will not necessarily convey that this building is a Police Station. Other devices and approaches, as demonstrated in the precedent analysis, can aid in this regard.

The **Pinetown Police Station** leaves little doubt as to its identity, but in this it communicates exclusion and the fortifications and secretive louver-screens could communicate something more sinister than just mere authority. This is probably not a design failure though as the building was designed to deter terrorist attack. The issues of public access and orientation are better resolved than the Durban north example, and although it is not totally efficient, it is at least secure and separates the secure functions from the public functions. Hierarchal organisation is thus addressed. Other lessons that could thus be applied:

- A police station must make use of architectural devices that communicate power and authority, but for the SAPS' stated mission to maximise community participation these should not restrict free, yet safe, entry.
- Community participation and access must be 'advertised' by the building to ensure that it does not communicate oppression, but not detracting from any authoritative symbolism.



Illus. 56- KZN Police Districts above and Durban North District's area of responsibility below. General location of Albert Park and surrounding areas shown. (Adapted from SAPS website- http://www.saps.gov.za/_dynamicModules/internetSite/HPstations.asp?Aid=38)



Chapter 6: The Requirements of the Police Station

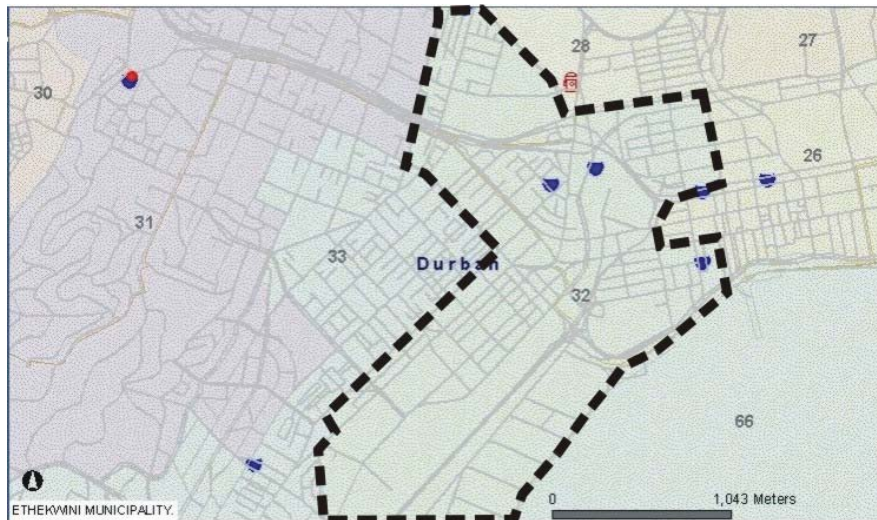
6.1.1 Context

A need for “a new central Albert Park SAPS” (Mbanjwa, 2006) was recently recognized, as the local Police Station in Broad Street has been “identified as poorly resourced and unable to serve the interests of residents” (Mbanjwa, 2006. Refer Appendix B)

One of the main reasons for this is that it recently had its Crime Prevention Unit moved to Durban Central Police Station. This policing area has two other, smaller, satellite stations near the Warwick triangle area. The point is though, that these stations are all now functioning as satellites to the Durban Central Station that has its own very large jurisdictional area. This is besides the fact that it is already the Durban North District Headquarters (Illus.56). The Durban Central Station thus has oversight of 18 Stations, who are responsible for policing their own Service Areas, from the Point Road Police Station in the South to the Tongaat Police Station in the North. The proposed Albert Park Police Station is one of these 18 Stations. (Illu.57)

This is a problem, as this whole area around Albert Park is a hotbed of crime as many news reports show, and the current Station in Broad Street does not have the facilities to effectively police this area. Besides the already mentioned moving of the Station’s CPU to Durban Central itself, other deficiencies are things such as a charge office that is too small and understaffed (often having a queue of 30 people waiting for an hour); the

lack of facilities for community policing initiatives, and the lack of holding facilities for detainees. Durban Central's facilities are also under strain. According to Supt. Singh (personal communication, 2006) of the Durban Central Police Station Crime Intelligence Unit, the station regularly runs out of space in the cellblock. This leads to other backlogs in the functioning of the station as resources are used to transfer detainees to available cells at stations where these are available. The proposed Albert Park SAPS would help to alleviate this problem.



Illus. 57- the policing area demarcated with its current three stations marked with blue shields. Image adapted from GIS resource on Durban Municipal website (www.durban.gov.za).

6.1.2 Local Context

The park itself has been identified as one of the most dangerous places, frequented by warring gangs, illegal aliens, 28 illegal alcohol distributors,

drug dealers, prostitutes, muggers and other degenerates. (Makhaye, 2005:3)

Central to the cause of the problems in the area is the overcrowding and over densification of the area's many residential tower blocks, previously reserved for predominantly white pensioners. The approximately 4410 flats are now overcrowded with over 12000 people from all population groups, with about 21% of these being students, these being attracted here by the allure of cheap rentals and good central locality. (Mbanjwa, 2006)

Albert Park used to be a central entertainment "lung" for this precinct, but since the changes brought on by unscrupulous landlords and the consequential urban degeneration of the area, Albert Park is now highly underused because it is just too dangerous to go there. As a result, buildings such as the cricket, tennis, and bowling clubs, and the once famous Tropicale Restaurant, now stand abandoned.

Local civic groups have suggested to the police that the non-functioning Bowling clubhouse be utilised for a station building, but it becomes clear that this is not a suitable, or viable, solution. The building would need a considerable amount of remodelling to be able to install secure facilities such as cells, strong rooms and docket archives. The building as it is, is nowhere near large enough to accommodate the facilities and units needed for as large and densely inhabited police area, with as many problems as it has.



Illus. 58- urban analysis at 1:2000 showing position of new site in relation to existing Broad Str Station, and the main directions of travel through the precinct.

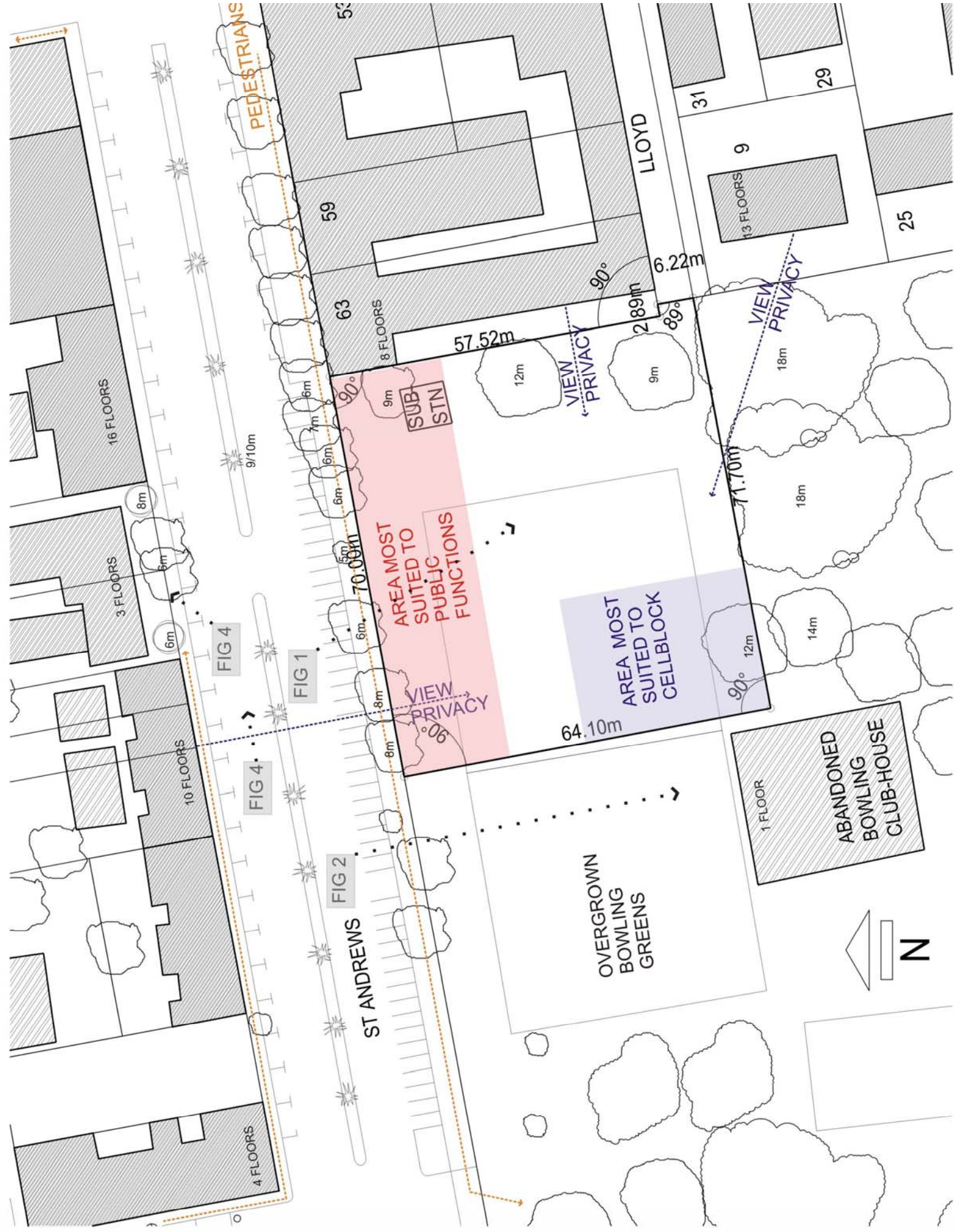


FIG 1- 'RUWENZORI' RESIDENTIAL BLOCK FAR LEFT



FIG 2- ABANDONED BOWLS CLUBHOUSE.



FIG 3- ST ANDREWS STR TO FRONT OF SITE.



FIG 4- WINGFIELD LODGE (72 ST ANDREWS)

Illus. 59- site analysis at 1:750 showing proposed use of site and the effects of external influences on the site and existing conditions.

6.2 SAPS Community Policing, and Police Station Function and Procedure

A major part of the Police's strategy to redefine itself as a 'Service', is the institution of Community Policing. What this is has already been defined in the *Definition of Concepts* and *Literature Review* sections. Now, however, it is necessary to define exactly how this will affect the design of the Albert Park Police Station. It will also be necessary to explain Police procedure, and the functions of the Station, so that this will inform how the spaces defined in the Schedule of Accommodation work and interrelate.

The first action taken by the Police Commissioner (Head of a Police Station), in a given area when instituting Community Policing strategies, is the establishment of a Community Policing Forum (CPF). In doing this they approach local community and business leaders to be representatives of the community in this Forum. This Forum is thus a composite Police and 'Community' body, in a given Police Station's area of responsibility, responsible for educating the local populace and getting them involved in these initiatives. In order to do this they organise regular public meetings and, in some areas, distribute a local newsletter, and they might make broadcasts on local radio stations etc. This Forum is also responsible for recruiting local people as Police Reservists for the area; they can thus be used as part-time policemen and women as required.

The CPF usually holds one large public meeting a month, open to the entire community. Typically these involve the following activities:

Local crime trends are presented by the Police Station's Communications (Liaison) Officer or Station Commander. CPF representatives may also make their own presentations on various local issues. Discussions are invited as to how crime in the service area can be combated. At present, most existing Police Stations do not have facilities on-site at which these meetings can take place and a variety of venues, such as School Halls and Community Halls, are used depending on the particular area. Ideally these facilities should be an integral part of the Station.

Other than the public meetings, CPF's could also arrange various crime prevention workshops or presentations for local Youth and School groups on subjects like drugs and alcohol abuse as just one example.

Recently the SAPS have furthered their Community Policing initiatives by instituting 'Sector Policing'. In this "the service area of a police station is divided into smaller, manageable areas known as sectors...For each sector the SAPS appoints a police official who is known as the sector commander." (www.saps.gov.za/comm_pol/sector_policing.htm) It is therefore a miniaturised version of the CPF strategy, but as a complimenting sub-unit of the CPF.

Each sector gets its own Sector Crime Forum (SCF), with an officer in charge and responsible for it known as the Sector Commander. The aims and activities of the SCF are similar to those of the CPF, but at a smaller scale. The SCF similarly organises regular meetings for the SCF members and those residing in the Sector. The SAPS intends that the

SCF's are to take over from existing organisations and forums, such as Neighbourhood Watches, where these exist.

6.2.1 Community Facilities

The primary 24-hour interface of the Police Station, with the public, is the Charge Office, or Community Service Centre (CSC). It is in this space where crimes and traffic incidents can be reported, charges laid, documents certified, oaths and affidavits taken, etc, as part of the services offered to the public by the SAPS. Most stations also attach a more private 'Interview Room' that can be used for activities such as trauma counselling and taking statements in more sensitive cases. Most stations, the SAPS Pinetown being a case in point, also have the station's communications room, usually containing radio and telephonic communications equipment, in close proximity to the CSC although this space is not open to the public. This speeds up the process, from reporting an incident in the CSC, to a response from the appropriate Police department (be it a response unit or Detective etc).

Further to this, stations now require a Public-Community Hall, where the Station can host CPF meetings, SCF meetings and the other initiatives already mentioned. According to Police officials, such as Capt Mghabi and Capt van Straaten, CPF meetings normally have an attendance of between 100 and 150, depending on the service area. SCF meetings would have fewer than that attending, but one might have to host multiple meetings in the hall. Also the hall would need to be able to host conferences and workshops. Above this, the Police themselves would use

this space for regular morning briefing sessions and parades, planning large operations, conferences and training activities, and award ceremonies, etc. The Hall would thus also have to be securable on some of these occasions where privacy is needed.

It therefore becomes clear that the Hall needs to be very flexible in being able to:

- Accommodate a variety of seating and table arrangements.
- Open up to common public spaces, interior and exterior.
- Have easy access to amenities such as public toilets and a tea kitchen.

6.2.2 Station Function and Police Procedure

Besides the public, there are two other major users of a Police Station namely the Police, and the suspect or detainee. This section will explain the basic processes that these are involved in within the Police Station.

6.2.2.1 Suspects and Detainees

When a suspect is arrested and brought in to the Police Station, they should normally enter the Police Station separately to the public, as is demonstrated in the Case Studies. Separate, more private, site access for sensitive police duties is therefore vital.

Thereafter the suspects, within the police vehicle, should be brought into a Secure Yard that is then secured before the suspects are removed from the vehicle. The suspects are then taken to a Processing Area to be interrogated. If they are subsequently charged, they will be booked into

the appropriate section of the cellblock after giving statements and being fingerprinted etc. They hand over all valuables and articles of clothing that could be used to cause harm to themselves, or others. They are then issued a foam mattress and blanket before being led to their cells, which they may share with up to six others, at some stations. Optimally, male cells should accommodate a maximum of four detainees, and the other cells a maximum of three detainees. Cell Guards are required to do hourly patrols, and CCTV installations in cells and passages will assist in the safety and security of the detainees.

Detainees will be allowed out of their cells for about four hours a day to spend time in the adjoining exercise yards; this is also their only opportunity to shower in most stations. Most have the showers in the exercise yards for safety reasons. A standard prison toilet and drinking fountain are however required to be inside every cell according to international and SAPS standards (Refer Appendix C). The cells are also required to be naturally lit, and ventilated, according to these international standards. The *South African Police Service Project Five Star 2004-Specifications for New Police Cells* (www.publicworks.gov.za) clearly lays out the minimum design specifications for cellblocks at SAPS Police Stations, and the accommodation schedule will be laid out according to these. These specify requirements for the kitchen, visiting rooms etc, and construction methods.

The detainees are allowed to be held in the cells for a maximum of 48 hours before being released, taken to court for a bail hearing, or taken to

a prison to await a hearing or trial. During their stay they are allowed to see a limited number of visitors in a secure visiting area and are served two basic meals a day, prepared in the Cellblock Kitchen that is required in the Cellblock design specifications previously mentioned (Project Five Star). Some detainees, suspected of petty crimes, might also be utilised in 'work details' to clean around the station. Detainees exit the cellblock through the Secure Yard where they are loaded into a small truck to be delivered to Court or Prison after their 48 hour stay.

6.2.2.2 The Requirements for the CPU, Detective Services, Logistics, and Administrative Departments

The SAPS divides a day into four shifts, with fewer people on duty at Police Stations during the night time shifts. Many policemen and women in South Africa travel to work in plain clothes for security reasons, especially if they make use of public transport. Locker rooms with showers are therefore needed by many police at the start and finish of their shift. After changing into uniform, if they were required to do so, they generally attend a briefing session where they are given instructions for the shift. They then disperse to their stations, be they within the Station, or in a vehicle.

Other spaces within the Station that will be used by all police members are spaces for socialising, such as a Canteen; Meeting and Planning rooms; an Armoury for their own weapons/ammunition and those they are safekeeping for the public; Docket Archive and Evidence storage spaces;

Gym space; and finally Offices and Stores for the various departments. Besides the need for socialising and relaxation space needed for a highly stressed workforce, the building also needs to provide the Police with humane working conditions. Designing with things such as lighting, and ventilation, etc in mind are thus vital in this regards.

6.3. Formulated Requirements for Albert Park Police Station

According to information obtained from the Crime Intelligence Unit at Durban Central Police Station, 14 people are arrested in this area daily. (Capt. Govender and Supt. Singh, 2006- personal communication) Legally they are not allowed to be detained for longer than 48 hours, the entire bowling club building could not accommodate these numbers if it were to be converted into a Cell Block. With the help of Capt. Govender and Supt. Singh of Durban Central Police Station's Crime Intelligence Unit and Capt. van Straaten, Pinetown Police Station's Head of Logistics, the accommodation schedule for the proposed building was calculated to be the following for 150 police members over four shifts and for a total of 37 vehicles :

Schedule of Accommodation

Charge Office & Related Facilities (233m²)

- Reception & Charge Office (180m²)
- Communications Room (20m²)
- Duty Room (9m²)
- Records & Copies (15m²)
- Interview room (9m²)

Community Policing Facilities (247m²)

- Community Hall/ Parade room that can accommodate 100-150 [mix-use] with Tea Kitchen. (150m²+6m²)
- Ablutions for above (40m²)
- Foyer for above (45m²)
- Cleaning material store (6m²)

Crime Prevention Unit Facilities (420m²)

- Operations Planning & Briefing room (42m²)
- Unit Commander office (12 m²)
- Office for admin (24m²)
- Canteen Area/Billiard Room (50 m²)
- Armoury (55m²) and weapons service area (15 m²)
- Records & General Storage (30m²)
- Gymnasium (60m²)
- 2 Locker rooms of 66 m² each

Detective Services Facilities (351m²)

- Interrogation room (1 of 15m²)
- Evidence Store/Safe (60m²)
- Planning/meeting room (42 m²)
- Offices for Detectives (12 of 9m²)
- Detectives head (9 m²)
- Billiard room (25 m²)
- Docket Storage (60m²)
- Exhibit Room (32 m²)

Logistics & Admin (144m²)

- Logistic Head (9 m²)
- Log. Personnel (15 m²)
- Gen. Store (35 m²)
- HRM Head (12 m²)
- HRM office (25 m²)
- Admin (24 m²)

- Finance office (12 m²)
- Station Commdr (12 m²)

Cell Block (857.5m²)

- Fingerprinting/Detainee Processing Office (50m²)
- Holding Cells (15 m²)
- 6 Male Cells of 36 m² each, with exercise yards 21 m² (456m²)
- 2 of each Female/Juvenile Cells of 21 m², with exercise yards 16m² (111m²)
- kitchen of 25 m², with yard of 17.5 m² (33.5m²)
- Pantry (14 m²)
- Blanket Store (12 m²)
- Geyser Room (12 m²)
- Laundry room 12 m², with yard 12 m²
- Visitor area (20 m²)
- Guard Room (40 m²)
- Secure Lobby (75 m²)
- Security Passage (Min. 1.5m wide)

Service Spaces (72m² excl parking bays)

- Bin Area (36 m²)
- Emergency Generator (12 m²)
- Air-Con plant room (24m²)
- 37 Police parking spaces
- Securable delivery area

Total: 2400m² + 480m²(@ 20%) Circulation = **2880m²**

With this in mind, and the knowledge of what the SAPS expects from its new Police Stations, a brief was formulated as follows.

Albert Park SAPS Station Brief

The South African Police Service, under the jurisdiction of the Department of Safety and Security, has seen the need for a new Police Station in the notorious Albert Park district in order to combat crime in this area and the surrounding areas of the CBD. This measure has also been agreed to by a local community forum after discussions held with this forum. The intention is thereby to effectively control crime in the park itself and the surrounding residential and business zones, set up effective patrolling routes, and make effective use of the Sector Policing policies now being advocated by the SAPS.

It should be taken into account, when designing this station, that the SAPS has succeeded the former SAP and is trying to move away from the image of oppressor of the past to a SERVICE that exhorts the following values, as taken from the SAPS Strategic Plan 2004/2007:

- protect everyone's rights and to be impartial, respectful,
- open and accountable to the community;
- use the powers given to us in a responsible way;
- provide a responsible, effective and high-quality service with honesty and integrity;
- evaluate our service continuously and make every effort to improve on it;
- use our resources in the best way possible;
- develop the skills of all members through equal opportunity; and

- cooperate with the community, all levels of Government and other role-players.

In line with the visible policing policies laid out in the document mentioned above, it is the SAPS' goal to provide a Station that is as open to the public as possible, without compromising the security essential for such a building. This should be a key tool in achieving the four key goals laid out in the Mission Statement of the above mentioned document as follows:

- prevent anything that may threaten the safety or security of any community;
- investigate any crimes that threaten the safety or security of any community;
- ensure criminals are brought to justice; and
- participate in efforts to address the root causes of crime.

The Station must thus incorporate facilities for rapid response units, investigative facilities, holding facilities that cater for transport to other places of detention or Courts of Law and offer facilities to the public for things such as counselling/meeting rooms and such similar facilities to maximize the interface with the surrounding residents of Albert Park. It is important that it maximizes surveillance and security of the immediate surrounds to ensure the safety of all the building's users.

The Municipality has agreed to allow the SAPS to build this Station on the site adjacent to the now derelict and defunct Albert Park Bowling Club

and this area will be sectioned off as per the site information sheet attached. (refer Illus. 59)

6.4. Conclusions

It has therefore been determined, through site analysis, that the north eastern corner of Albert Park is a far more suitable site for a station- this allows for Albert Park's existing buildings to be revamped and reutilised in their original functions, allowing for the reactivation of Albert Park as a safe public open space. The close proximity of the new police station will assist this by making the surrounds safe enough to use again. This site (refer Illus. 58 & 59) is also desirable because it offers the possibility of a secondary access route essential for security.

Besides the requirement for the building to be easily accessed as a Community Police Station, and to be easily identifiable as such, the building must be designed so as to be conducive to safe and humane living conditions for the visiting public, suspects in temporary detention and the policemen and women themselves. It is therefore important not only to give socialising space to the building's user as laid out in the accommodation schedule, but also to ensure that the buildings conform to acceptable environmental performance levels. There is also a standard set of construction features published by the police called "Project 5 Star" and the cell block accommodation is set out in accordance with these, although these could be challenged to create better living conditions in this specific component of the building.

Chapter 7: Conclusions and Recommendations

7.1. Conclusions

The literature review and subsequent overview of police station design in South Africa has demonstrated that the origins of Police Forces internationally and locally, are generally military. The consequence of this is that, because of a need for security in the building, Police Station designers have struggled to part from fort-like approaches to design. In fact, as some precedent studies and case studies have proven, architects have on occasion reverted to the fort totally. In South Africa this was done to combat the threat of attack and to help control the surrounding populace.

A major shift in direction, in South Africa, has however followed the transformation of the SAP to the current SAPS. Now, as in most democratic countries, the Police are concerned with Community Policing, and Police Stations consequently need to conform to this principle. There consequentially needs to be a shift in the way that Police Stations are designed, so that the Public does not become totally alienated from police activity. The Station building must allow for the positive interaction with the 'Community' that the SAPS desires. This must however be done without compromising the security of certain areas of the Police Station that can not be avoided.

It has been demonstrated through precedent study that there are various methods that the designer can employ to demonstrate community

inclusion in Police Station design. The prominent use and display of community halls, plazas, and such devices has been successfully used, internationally and locally. This will be discussed in further detail in the next section. Precedent has also demonstrated that it is possible to denote the identity of a Police Station through expressing the resulting duality in Police Station function, the contrast between open public spaces and secure private spaces.

The Case Studies have demonstrated the importance of including such public amenities, by their lack of them. They also show how important it is to correctly respond to surrounding context when designing these buildings, to maximise site efficiency and public access and conversely keep private areas secure. The use of courtyards has repeatedly shown how it is possible to sensitively secure and demonstrate the more covert functions of the Police Station.

7.2. Recommendations

The primary recommendation is that the building must be seen as a Community Police Station, while not negating the need for security that is inherent in these buildings. In order to fulfil these stipulated requirements the building must do the following:

- First and foremost acknowledge the public edges of the site (thus the Park and St Andrews Street) and situate the public facilities, such as the charge office and community hall, in relation to these. A public plaza adjacent to these can further promote community inclusion by linking off-site public space with that in the Police Station. This will orientate the users of the building and help to establish a hierarchy of space that communicates the dual operating modes in which the station operates. In this case it would help to promote the overt mode of operation.
- Ensure that the secure facilities and functions of the Police Station are located according to conditions on the site. These facilities must be designed primarily with security in mind, but these should also be designed so as to create humane temporary living conditions for suspects and detainees, comfortable working conditions for the policemen and women who operate from the building and the public who go there to interface with the SAPS for whatever reason. The securing of these functions further reinforces the hierarchy of space that would help to communicate

the covert mode of operation. Hierarchy and privacy can also be established vertically.

- This display of dual operating mode, for the station, has been demonstrated through precedent analysis as being able to successfully communicate the type of identity required by the SAPS Police Station.
- The use of internal courtyards is to be instituted, as they have been demonstrated through both precedent analysis and case studies, as an effective means of securing the building. These define a progression of hierarchy, and create humane and interesting work and temporary living areas.

The intention is that the proposed Albert Park Police Station will help to secure, firstly Albert Park, so that the currently unused buildings in it can be made safe to use again, because of its close proximity. Then to secure the rest of the precinct by giving the community a station that is centrally located and provides them with an effective interface with the police, currently not available there.

Bibliography

Books:

Brogden, M & Shearing, C. 1993. *Policing for a New South Africa*. London: Routledge.

Brouwers, R (Editor). 1996. *Architecture in the Netherlands, Yearbook 1995-1996*. Rotterdam: NAI Publishers.

Chipkin, C (Judin, H & Vladislavić, I- Editors). 1998. *The Great Apartheid Building boom: The Transformation of Johannesburg in the 1960s. Blank Space- Architecture, Apartheid and After*. Rotterdam: NAI Publishers & Cape Town: David Philip.

Foucault, M. 1975. (Translated by Alan Sheridan, 1977) *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York: Pantheon Books.

Hughes, Q. 1974. *Military Architecture*. London: Hugh Evelyn Ltd.

Jewel, J. 1989. *A History of the Durban City Police*. Durban: Durban City Council & Rotary Club of Durban Musgrave.

Lee, S. 1996. *Crime Punishment and Protest- 1450 to the Present Day*. Essex: Addison Wesley Longman Limited.

Markus, TA. 1993. *Buildings & Power- Freedom and Control in the Origin of Modern Building Types*. London: Routledge.

Mawby, RI. 1999. *Policing Across the World- Issues for the Twenty-first Century*. London: UCL Press Ltd.

Neser, JJ.1993. *Penitentiary Penology (Second Edition)*. Johannesburg: Lexicon Publishers (Pty) Ltd.

Newman, O. 1973. *Defensible Space- People and Design in the Violent City*. London: Architectural Press.

Paul, M. 2001. *Parabat*. Johannesburg & London: Covos Day Books.

Potgieter, DJ (Editor). 1970. *The Standard Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa*. Cape Town: Nasou.

Steenkamp, W. 1989. *South Africa's Border War: 1966-1989*. Gibraltar: Ashanti Publishing (Pty) Ltd.

Stevens, P & Yach, D. 1995. *Community Policing in Action- A Practitioner's Guide*. Kenwyn: Juta & Co. Ltd.

Unknown. Unknown. *Het Kasteel De Goede Hoop*. Cape Town: Silesian Press.

Vale, LJ. 1992. *Architecture, Power, and National Identity*. New Haven & London: Yale University Press.

Wilson, F. 1984. *A Graphic Survey of Perception & Behaviour for the Design Professions*. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Company Inc.

Unpublished Dissertations

Collingwood, J.G. 1954. *A New District Headquarters & Central Area Police Station Buildings in Durban*. University of Natal, Durban. B. Arch.

Davidson, G.T. 1960. *A District Headquarters and Police Station*. University of Natal, Durban. B. Arch.

Hopkins, W.J. 1960. *A Suburban Police Station*. University of Natal, Durban. B. Arch.

Nel, P.L. 1998. *New Headquarters for the S.A Police Harbour & Border Patrol*. University of Natal, Durban. B. Arch.

Journals:

Coetzer, N. 2006. Retreat Railway Police Station- An Instance of Transformation (Humanist Position) *Architecture SA*, Nov/Dec 2006. pp 22-24.

Keegan, E. 1998. Street Patrol. *Architecture* Aug 1998. pp 80-83.

Makeka, M. 2005. Security Facilities. *Architecture SA*, Jul/Aug 2005. pp 17, 18.

Unknown. 1996. Wiel Arets. *Quaderns* No.214, pp 100-108.

Unknown (Editor- Wood, D). 2004. Gauteng Provincial Headquarters for SAPS. *Architect & Builder*, Jan/Feb 2004. pp 74-77.

van der Berg, G. 2007. It's All About Partnerships. *Pinetown C.P.F- The Official Publication of the Pinetown Community Policing Forum*. No.29, May 2007. pp1-4.

Newspaper Articles:

Mbanjwa, X. 2006. *Durban's mean streets*. Sunday Tribune, April 16 2006. pp 7.

Makhaye, C.2005. *Streets of Hopelessness*. Sunday Tribune, September 18, 2005. pp3.

URL's & Websites:

Capt. Els, D. 2004. *South African Police Service Project Five Star 2004- Specifications for New Police Cells*. Department of Public Works website (www.publicworks.gov.za)

de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Bentham

Dissel, A & Ngubeni, K. The Conditions of Custody: Police Holding Cells. *Crime and Conflict* No.19, Autumn 2000, pp 32-36. University of the Witwatersrand website (<http://www.wits.ac.za/csvr/papers/papadkn.htm>)

Dlamini, N. 2004. *Joburg police station banishes apartheid blues*. City of Johannesburg website (www.joburg.org.za)

Majola, B. 2003. *Alex gets its own police station*. City of Johannesburg website- http://www.joburg.org.za/2003/mar/mar5_alex.stm

Makeka Design Laboratory. 2006. *Retreat Police Station- a commitment to transparency and change*. Makeka Design Laboratory website- <http://www.makekadesigns.com/retreat-police-station>

www.durban.gov.za

www.googleearth.com

www.un.org/av/photo/subjects/images/155579.jpg

www.saps.gov.za

Drawings:

Street-Wilson, W & Fyfe, A. 1897. *West Street Police Station drawings*. Barry Biermann Architecture Library Drawings Collection, UKZN.

Drawn by- Sgt B Pretorius. 1988. *Pinetown Police Station Ground Floor Plan*. Anonymous source.

List of Illustrations

Chapter3

Illus.1- Bentham's Panopticon (*Source- de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Bentham*)

Illus. 2- a Dutch East India Company era watchman. (*Davidson, 1960: 6*)

Illus. 3- a mounted policeman from the Cape Mounted Riflemen. (*Potgieter, 1970: 636*)

Illus. 4- SAP CASSPIR at Alexandra township 1985- UN Photo#155579. (www.un.org/av/photo/subjects/images/155579.jpg)

Illus. 5- Community Policing newsletter , Pinetown SAPS. (*van der Berg, May 2007: 1*)

Illus. 6- The five-pointed, bastioned castle in Cape Town. (*Kasteel de Goede Hoop:15*)

Illus. 7- Fort at Nongqai, 1812 with black constables practicing drill. (*Collingwood, 1954:65*)

Illus. 8- Point Police Station built in 1903 displaying power and identity using curfew- bell device. (*Jewel, 1989:12*)

Illus. 9- Point Police Station circa 2005 minus curfew-bell belfry, but still displaying Durban City Police coat of arms on entry pediment, the only clue to the uninformed as to true identity of this dilapidated structure. (*Author, 2005*)

Illus. 10- Steenkamp's caption reads- "The Police"fort" at Kongola in Eastern Caprivi early in the war- little more than a charge office surrounded by a floodlit fence." (*Steenkamp, 1989:22*)

Illus. 11- an unspecified SADF base in one of the townships during the civil unrest of the early 90's, known as a 'steunpunt'. (*Paul, 2001:210-fig28*)

Illus. 12- Eenhana base in the Border area, note similarity in construction and form to steunpunt. (*Steen kamp, 1989:254*)

Illus. 13- John Vorster Square, police headquarters in Johannesburg, produced as "essentially a commercial office complex", it became one of the most notorious symbols of Apartheid policing. (*Chipkin, 1998:266*)

Illus. 14- Other than the name change, the removal of Vorster's bust from the entrance and the louvered screen, and a few internal reorganizations to the building, it remains identical to it was in the 70's in 2006. (*Dlamini, 2004*)

Illus. 15- the new SAPS HQ for Gauteng, another questionable attempt at creating identity. (*Arch&Build , Jan/Feb2004. pp74*)

Illus. 16- The entrance mural commissioned by a local artist. (*Arch & Build Jan/Feb 2004. pp76*)

Illus. 17- Alexandra Police Station by Fassler Kamstra & Holmes Architects explores "a new spirit of openness". (http://www.joburg.org.za/2003/mar/mar5_alex.stm)

Illus. 18- Proposal for Bellville Police Station in Cape Town by Makeka Design Laboratory, another attempt at reinterpreting identity for the SAPS. (*ArchSA, Jul/Aug 2005:18*)

Illus. 19 - the section through the charge office area and its associated admin spaces. Their claim that a layer of paint, as seen on the photo above, can promote public accountability is debatable. (*Coetzer, 2006: 23*)

Illus. 20- plan clearly shows the demarcation of hierarchy, public-space centered at charge office & progressing to secure-private zones in either direction of corridor. (Coetzer, 2006: 23)

Illus. 21 - the interview desk, with the duty room etc in the background behind the translucent screens. (Coetzer, 2006: 24)

Chapter4

4.2. Vaals Police Station

Illus. 22-The ramp approaching the kennels and cells. (Quaderns No.214, 1996:102)

Illus. 23- Plans- progression of power and perception clearly demonstrated on one's journey as a member of the public from past numbers 10 to 5(overt approach), or conversely from 6 to 5 (covert approach). (Brouw-ers, 1996. pp 85)

Illus. 24- The Vaals Police Station as it is perceived from the road level, showing how it communicates power through solidity and submerging into the landscape like a bunker. The pedestrian route/ramp is also clearly defined as the primary entry method. (Quaderns No.214, 1996. pp 104)

Illus. 25- a somewhat successfully denoted progression from the mainly communal spaces, to semi-secure, to the most confidential station areas. (Brouwers, 1996. pp84)

Illus. 26- Suspects enter from underneath the building through a secure area that doubles as exercise yard and motorbike shed. (Quaderns No.210, 1996. pp105)

Illus. 27- Section A, B and C with notes. (Brouwers, 1996. pp 88,89)

4.3. Almere Police Station

Illus. 28- Site Plan showing physical context. (Brouwer, 1996:116)

Illus. 29- the 2 wings dominate the entry court that terminates in public transparency. This in-turn controls access to sensitive areas in the wings and in the rear-court. (Brouwers, 1996: 119)

Illus. 30- colonnaded forecourt directs attention to transparent-public. Cells used as opposing power/identity device. (Brouwers, 1996:117)

Illus. 31- the glazed charge office conveys openness to the public. Desk controls access to circulation atrium behind translucent wall- another device conveying hierarchy. (Brouwers, 1996:117)

Illus. 32- the cells are expressed in the Almere Station as a means of enforcing law and control and help to emphasise one of the primary functions of the police station, thereby imparting identity. (Brouwers, 1996:116).

Illus. 33- Ground, first and fourth floor plans. (Brouwers, 1996:118).

4.4. Minneapolis 5th Police Precinct

Illus. 34- View from northern "greenway"- a road that runs to one of Minneapolis' lakes. Colonnade clearly defines entry & divides public-private components. (Architecture, Aug 1998:80-81)

Illus. 35- Perspective concept of plinth/public-plaza to give building authority & command. (Architecture, Aug 1998:80-81)

Illus. 36- as station is read from the west arterial. Glazed community Vs Enclosed policing space. (Architecture, Aug 1998:82)

Illus. 37- Site and Floor Plans. Building is bounded by 3 busy routes in 'blighted' suburb of Minneapolis, near the CBD. (*Architecture, Aug 1998:82*)

Illus. 38- The Community Hall is clearly designed to advertise its civic nature to the public, thereby inviting community participation. (*Architecture, Aug 1998: 83*)

Illus. 39- East Access. Readable community functions. (*Architecture, Aug 1998:81*)

Chapter 5

5.2. Durban North Police Station

Illus. 40- Urban context for Dbn Nrth Police Stn- 1-2storey residential. Mackeurten- a busy route to Virginia Circle & M4. Norrie- a minor rd to the Circle. Stn hard to find without prior knowledge of its position. Illustration adapted from Google Earth image.

Illus. 41- Cnr of Norrie Ave & Rankin Pl. Note tiny signpost that is the sole response to the first portion of the site that most users come upon.

Illus. 42- Gate in palisade with signage to communicate where the building's public interface is (background). The main structure of the building is unchanged, but internal reorganizations have had to take place, such as combining the previously racially segregated charge offices into a single place.

Illus. 43- Site plan adapted from Davidson's drawing, 1960.

Illus. 44- Dbn N Police Station c.1960. Although the addition of the palisade served to fortify the station, it did not create a clear identity as in other fort-type stations here; instead it served to further confuse the

building's would be user. Note also ventilator devices that on some buildings would convey importance, but here they are clearly not intended to convey this as most of the structures in the complex, residential included have these applied. In fact the old married quarters would then assume greater stature, as they are 2-storeyed and the main station building only 1. (Davidson, 1960)

Illus. 45- Floor plan adapted from Davidson's drawing, 1960.

Illus. 46 - the access rd that is used for public parking and accessing stn. Palisade destroys orientation.

Illus. 47- through the palisade a window AC unit is visible. Obvious lack of climatic design- question effectiveness of ventilators.

Illus. 48- the access to the 'parade yard' off Rankin Str. Note lack of security, a concern as the cells are just behind/below the green dustbins, center-left. Obviously this is not a secure way to handle suspects going for charging, or being transferred.

5.3. Pinetown Police Station

Illus. 49- Urban context map. Station sited on major link between Kloof/ Mariannhill Ind. & Westville. Also close proximity to routes to New Germany & Clermont Township. Illustration adapted from Google Earth Image.

Illus. 50- the approach from Westville side of Old Main Rd. Not as clearly identified from here.

Illus. 51- the approach from west, building is clearly identifiable as fort-type police stn.

Illus. 52- entrance into building successfully communicated from street front. Bulletproof glass of gatehouse painted, tuckshop in cupola, & turnstiles long-since removed, yet still reads as fortified entrance- inherent imagery. Other devices also noted

Illus. 53- The non-functioning police entrance, vehicles have to circle back around block after interning suspect if the intend entering building again. Still far better process than Dbn North Stn.

Illus. 54- Prisoner transfer vehicle emerging from secure court into parking zone off Old Main Rd. Note Screens.

Illus. 55- Ground Floor Plan of Pinetown Police Stn, scale 1:500. (*Sgt B Pretorius: 1988*)

Chapter 6

6.1. Context

Illus. 56- KZN Police Districts above and Durban North District's area of responsibility below. General location of Albert Park and surrounding areas shown. (Adapted from SAPS website- http://www.saps.gov.za/_dynamicModules/internetSite/HPstations.asp?Aid=38)

Illus. 57- the policing area demarcated with its three stations marked with blue shields. Image adapted from GIS resource on Durban Municipal website. In relation to areas of Pinetown and Dbn North, a facility midway in size is required.

Illus. 58- urban analysis at 1:2000 showing position of new site in relation to existing Broad Str Station, and the main directions of travel through the precinct.

Illus. 59- site analysis at 1:750 showing proposed use of site and the effects of external influences on the site and existing conditions.

Appendix A

Illus. 60- West Str Police Stn in early 1900's. Colonnaded entrance and towers at each end, one of which housed the curfew-bell that signaled 'natives' having to be off the streets by 21h00. (*Jewel, 1989:12*)

Illus. 61- Floor plans of West Str Police Station. (*Street-Wilson, W & Fyfe, A. 1897*)

Illus. 62- Sections and Elevations of West Str Police Station. (*Street-Wilson, W & Fyfe, A. 1897*)

Appendix B

Illus. 63- Newspaper Article: Mbanjwa, M. 2006. *Durban's mean streets*. Sunday Tribune, April 16 2006.

Appendix D

Design Report.

Appendix A- Drawings for West Str Police Station c.1897.



*West Str Police Strn in early
1900's.Colonnaded entrance
and towers at each end, one of
which housed the curfew-bell
that signaled 'natives' having to
be off the streets by 21h00.
(Jewel, 1989: 12)*

No. 1.

Proposed New Borough Police Station for the Corporation of Durban

Scale 1/4 Inch = 1 Foot

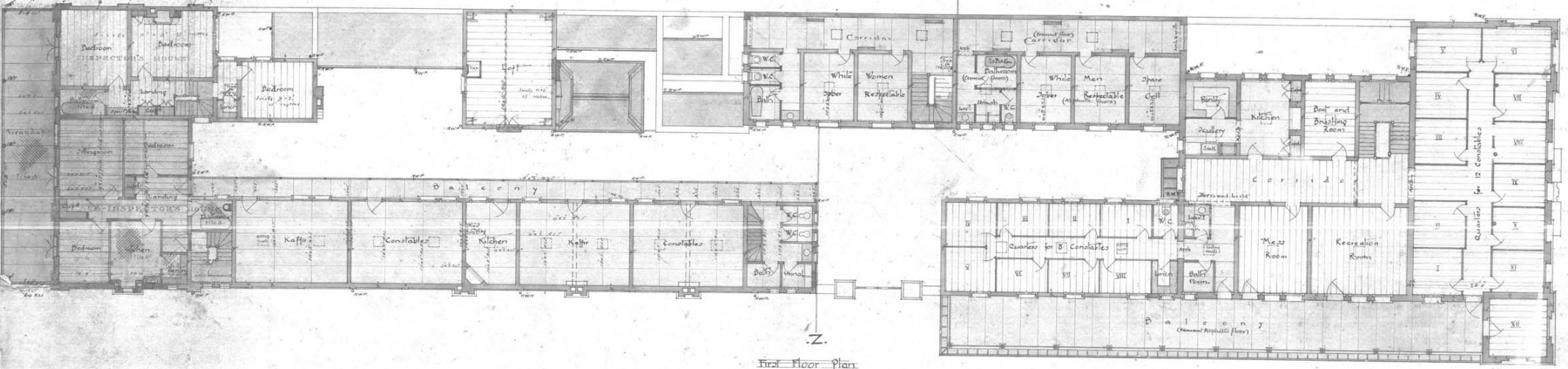
Should any of the drawings referred to in this Contract be required prior to the date of the day of the month of February 1891.

Witness
Geo Johannes
Geo Woodward
J.A. Tharwick
Z. C. (Signature)

Witness
to Secretary

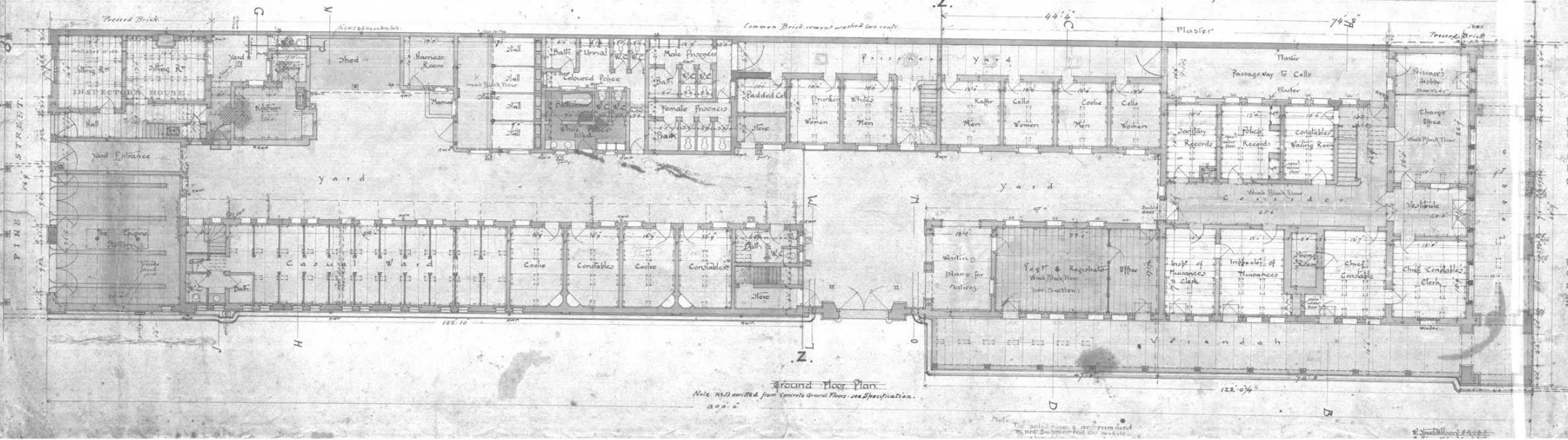
Witness
John, is one of the drawings referred to in this Contract entered into and dated the 20th day of February 1891.

Witness
Brown & Mosley
Wallace & Co.



CONTRACT No 1 PINE ST UP TO LINE Z.Z.

CONTRACT No 2 WEST ST UP TO LINE Z.Z.



Note: Walls built from concrete ground floor see specification.

Appendix B- Newspaper Article: Mbanjwa, M. 2006. *Durban's mean streets*. Sunday Tribune, April 16 2006.

Durban's mean streets

Can the once-affluent Albert Park area be saved from turning into a laboratory of crime, grime and drugs? Although the eThekweni Municipality has plans for it, Albert Park has, over the years, fallen into decay. **Xolani Mbanjwa reports**

IT'S THURSDAY night and the start of the weekend for Albert Park, which is buzzing with activity that usually lasts until Sunday.

Thick smoke bellows from stands cooking what has become famously known as "Chicken Dust" - chicken grilled over an open flame.

Chicken Dust - which derives its name for being cooked along the dusty streets - has become synonymous with Albert Park residents and revellers wanting to grab a bite when fast-food outlets are generally closed in the early hours of the morning.

While waiting for my half-chicken to grill, I meet an old friend, Chubb, who recently moved into a flat in Russell Street. He tells me if he could get out of his lease, he would move out "as soon as yesterday".

Like me, he was lured by the low-rental found on Broad, Russell, Diakonia, Alexandra, Park, College, St George's and McArthur streets - an "attractive" option for start-up accommodation.

Rasta - who survives on hawking Chicken Dust - said he'd been selling at the same spot for four years. He and the other hawkers have had many run-ins with the eThekweni Municipal authorities.

"I've been arrested a number of times for selling illegally and fined R100 every time. But when I apply for a hawking licence I never get it," said Rasta.

Not only do some buildings on Park, McArthur, College and Diakonia streets resemble a slum, but landlords have neglected them and the city is trying to force them to revamp.

An Albert Park Urban Renewal Consolidated Report -

compiled by the city's Inner eThekweni Regeneration and Urban Improvement Programme (iTrump) in 2002 - found that Albert Park's close proximity to the city's major routes made it an important part of the city's channel.

The report stipulated that Albert Park had significant areas of employment in an easily accessible location.

The report also stated, however, that this attraction had resulted, over the years, in the area having high residential densities which contributed to noise, pollution and crime.

Some residents were afraid to go out to the park at night and if they did, they left all valuables behind. Although leafy and picturesque, Albert Park itself, which has become a home to many illegal aliens and vagrants, is under-used.

Decay

There are more than 28 liquor outlets in Albert Park alone and these have been blamed for contributing to the noise, prostitution and decay of the CBD.

In the report, iTrump said the city would need to encourage private sector investment and the upgrade of the physical environment of the area to regenerate it.

The city has no plans at this point to change traffic volumes of the major road system which leads into and out of the city.

In what is a long-term plan, iTrump said the waterfront area of Wilson's Wharf could be extended from the sugar terminal to Russell Street with improved but limited vehicular access to some roads. Another problem identified by iTrump was that businesses had no time



A STREET vendor gets a particular view of the Durban inner city area that has become synonymous with drugs, crime, cash buyers - and a meal known as "chicken dust"

Picture: KHAYA NGWENYA

constraints on their activities and business hours, which contributed to the 24-hour activity in Albert Park.

Established in 1864, it was in Albert Park that Durban recorded its first rental boycott in 1990, with residents sighting dilapidated buildings being rented at high prices.

A survey of 100 Albert Park households conducted by the city in July 2001 found that more than 12 000 people shared the 4 410 flats in Albert Park, with 21% of residents being students. Seventy percent of these said they never or seldom went to the park, citing the criminal element. The number of students who stay in Albert Park flats has increased dramatically since

then, as Durban tertiary institutions bought a number of buildings and turned them into student residences.

The survey indicated that residents - especially the elderly - were unhappy about what the city was doing to regenerate the area. There was a "perception of not much progress" being made.

Fifty-five percent of residents were satisfied living in Albert Park for its location, diversity and 24-hour activity, with sea and harbour views.

The survey cited the devaluation of properties and crime as major concerns for residents.

The city aims to reduce overcrowding by speaking to body corporates on monitoring who lives where. It also plans to

upgrade buildings, control bars and taverns and investigate the pedestrianisation of the area.

The area's police station - which recently had its crime prevention unit moved to Durban Central Police Station - was identified as "poorly resourced and unable to serve the interests of residents" and a need for a new central Albert Park SAPS was identified.

Rosh Maharaj of Acutts Properties said banks did not give bonds to people who wanted to buy properties in Albert Park.

"Only cash buyers and investors are going into Albert Park. Clearing the area is taking too long and no one has confidence in that area any more. But we're watching it very closely.

Some property prices are coming down, but are high in terms of the deterioration of buildings. Property owners who have wanted to sell for years are holding on to their properties, hoping for changes."

Deputy head of Metro Police Titus Malaza said, "We've conducted raids in Albert Park with the SAPS to give people peace of mind, but vagrants and illegal aliens are a problem. There's nothing more we can do about illegal aliens and vagrants, because when we arrest them the courts say it is a social problem."

City manager Mike Sutcliffe said, "Of course Albert Park is a concern, but we've got a number of proposals we're looking at."

Appendix C- *The Conditions of Custody: Police Holding Cells.*

**by
Amanda Dissel & Kindiza Ngubeni**

In *Crime and Conflict*, No. 19, pp. 32-36, Autumn 2000.

[Amanda Dissel](#) is Manager of the [Criminal Justice Programme](#) at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation.

[Kindiza Ngubeni](#) is a Senior Community Facilitator in the Criminal Justice Programme at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation.

The police station holding cell is seen as a temporary facility and is thus not generally given the attention it deserves as an important part of the custodial chain. As a result, it has become a weak link in the criminal justice process, where deaths in custody and escapes are disproportionately common.

Prisoners are typically held in police stations for very short periods, usually not longer than 48 hours, after which they are sent to be detained in prisons. For a variety of reasons, however, situations in which prisoners are held in holding cells for periods of up to two weeks are not unusual. In addition, sentenced prisoners who are due for release - termed "hard labours", as they are usually required to perform work around the police station - can be held in police cells for a month or longer.

This means that cells intended for short-term holding can actually become the extended residence of some prisoners. Large numbers of people, about whom very little is known by the police, are also accommodated for short periods of time. It is important, then, that these facilities comply with the standards set in both local and international law for the holding of incarcerated people.

As part of a larger study (Dissel and Ngubeni 1999) on the work of the [Independent Complaints Directorate](#) (ICD), the CSVR visited ten police stations in Gauteng during April and May 1999: Krugersdorp, Kliptown, Kathlehong, Edenvale, Carltonville, Brixton, Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit, Springs, Sophiatown, and Protea Glen. The police stations were randomly selected from a list of police stations provided by the Gauteng Department of Public Safety and Security.

Sixteen people were interviewed at these police stations. Five of these people were station commissioners, five were client service centre commanders, three were cell commanders, one was head of the pro-active unit, and one was the commander of the guard unit. The police holding cells were also viewed at each station, and 47 ICD dockets detailing deaths in custody in Gauteng during 1998 were examined.

Cell conditions

In order to bring policing practice in line with international and Constitutional constraints, a *Policy on the Prevention of Torture and Treatment of Person in Custody Document* has been developed by the [South African Police Service](#). This document aims to set out procedural guidelines for

stations commissioners and their commanders for the treatment of people in police custody. While the thrust of the document is to prevent the torture of suspects, it does also deal with conditions in custody and treatment of prisoners.

In keeping with international instruments such as the *United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (1957)* which sets out minimum conditions for imprisonment, Paragraph 6(1)(a) of the South African *Prevention of Torture and Treatment of Persons in Custody Document* states that:

- all police cells must have adequate light and ventilation,
- cells should be equipped with reasonable means of rest, such as a chair or bench,
- if a person is kept overnight in custody, a mattress and blankets of reasonable standard shall be provided,
- a person in custody shall be allowed to use toilet facilities and be offered adequate washing facilities,
- open air exercise must be offered daily where possible.

Many of the facilities viewed fell short of these standards in several respects. Many of the police commanders interviewed stated their desire to improve these conditions, but said they were lacking the funding to do so.

All the cells had windows that led to the outside, but, in some cases, the wire mesh securing the window significantly diminished the amount of fresh air and natural light that was allowed into the cells. At one police station, security features kept the window from opening at all - the researchers were advised that fresh air could enter through the door of the cell, but this door was kept closed at night. In another, the windows were double-glazed and unreliable air conditioning units were used for ventilation.

All of the cells viewed were gloomy, but most had an electric light switched on, even in the middle of the day. In several cells, the lights were not working in all.

Some of the cells had built-in concrete bunks to sleep on, although there were fewer than would be required in the communal cells. All inmates were provided with a felt mattress and grey blankets. One interviewee said the blankets were sent to be washed on a fortnightly basis. None of the cells provided any form of chair, or other "means of rest".

Most of the cells had toilet facilities and basins in the cells, as well as in the courtyard. Except at the one station where a cell had been allocated specifically for female prisoners, the toilets were not screened from the main portion of the cell. These facilities were of a standard design, which, we are advised, was fairly new in the cells. One police officer complained that the "new design" was not very efficient and suffered frequent blockages. Other officers complained that more toilets were needed in the larger communal cells.

All the cells were built around a courtyard, and researchers were advised that the cells doors were unlocked so that prisoners could make use of the courtyards for a large portion of the day.

According to investigators from the ICD, the conditions of Gauteng police cells are much better than those in other provinces. However, one senior ICD official said, "Conditions in police cells could be distressing. I don't think that they present a good environment for people to accept that they have been detained. This could be one factor contributing to their suicide."

Suicide watch

Suicide is one of the major causes of deaths in police custody. According to ICD statistics, 29% of people (59) who died in police custody in 1998 died as a result of suicide. This does not include the number of attempted suicides.

Of the 47 ICD dockets on deaths in custody, deaths as a result of the deceased's own action accounted for 16 deaths recorded. Of these, eleven were instances of apparent suicide, and ten of these cases were the result of hanging. All except two of the deceased hanged themselves from the bars of the cell doors or windows of their police cells.

Two people hanged themselves in places other than police cells. One deceased hanged himself in the corridor between the holding cell of the court and the holding cells of the magistrates court cells. The other deceased apparently hanged himself from a "monkey chain" (used to raise injured limbs) in his hospital bed where he was receiving in-patient treatment.

The people who hanged themselves had used various instruments as ligatures, such as a monkey chain (1), shoelaces (1), leather belt (2), torn blanket (1), trousers, and the elastic of track suit pants (2), bandages covering his legs (1), and mutton cloth (1). The instrument used was not recorded in one case.

Four suicides

The circumstances of four of the cases indicated that the deceased was suffering from mental disturbances at the time of their arrests which could have alerted the authorities to potential problems. In two of these cases ("J" and "L"), the deceased had been "acting strangely" when he was taken into custody by the police.

In J's case, the deceased was brought to the police because some people thought he was acting strangely and some people thought he was lost. Although he was brought to the police station earlier in the day, he was only put into a holding cell after he had been interviewed by members of the SAPS Trauma Centre.

He was put into a holding cell at 15h20 and was found hanging at 15h57. He was noted to have a "mentally unstable condition", and that his condition became worse as the day progressed. At one stage he tried to jump out of the window and was hearing noises in his head. The station officers wanted to contact members of his family, but the deceased told them not to. He had been put into a holding cell "for his own protection."

In L's case, the deceased was brought into the police station by his work colleagues who wanted to have him certified as a mental patient. The police placed him in a cell at 18h00, and when they returned to collect him at 06h30 the following day, they found that he had hanged himself.

In both cases, the deceased had not been arrested for any crime. In the former case, the police had not removed his personal effects, because J had not been arrested. He hanged himself with his belt. In L's case, his details were not recorded in the cell register. In both cases, it seems that not even simple preventative measures had been taken, such as removing articles of clothing which the suspects could use to harm themselves.

In the third case ("K"), the deceased was arrested for drunkenness after assaulting his wife. He had earlier been brought to the police station and held in the charge office to "sober up". He had been released and had returned some hours later. He began to "make a fuss" and he was arrested for drunkenness. He was placed in the "hard labour's cell", where he was to await transfer to another police station. When the officers went to collect him, he was found hanging.

In the last case, that of "H", the deceased had been arrested, and had attempted to escape while being booked into the cells. He had been apprehended and been booked in. He hanged himself with the elastic of tracksuit pants which were in the cell, apparently not his own.

Police response

Respondents were asked how they identified suicidal prisoners and what actions they took to prevent them from committing suicide. The responses indicated that policing policy was unsophisticated and relied on the perceptiveness of individual police officers. One police officer said that it is "difficult to know when a person is at risk - unless he speaks about his intention."

Another officer said that people would often threaten to commit suicide when locked up, but that police could only determine the sincerity of these claims once suicide was actually attempted. He said that if the prisoner is held with others in the same cell, the cell-mates will usually alert the guards, or will try to stop the person.

Ways in which police stations dealt with suicidal people were quite limited. This usually entails putting the person with others in the communal cells, and removing items from them which could be used to injure themselves. Typical items seized included belts and shoe laces, although it was also noted that prisoners may use other items, such as blankets or towels. Four cases of suicide reviewed were accomplished with items such as a torn blanket, trousers and elastic from trousers, and bandages.

One problem noted by a police officer interviewed was that "the period for which a person is detained, and our budget, does not allow us to deal with (suicidal people) in any more extensive way".

The Prevention of Torture Policy provides that a custody register shall be kept at each police station. Any injury suffered by the detainee before, during or after arrest, and the circumstances thereof, should be recorded in the Occurrence Book. Any other medical information such as when a person in custody underwent a medical examination, should also be recorded in the Occurrence Book and cross-referenced to the Custody Register.

However, there seemed to be no procedure for screening detainees or for making an assessment on admittance to ascertain suicide or health risks. Although it was mentioned that "if the cells guards noticed something wrong" they would make an appropriate intervention, there is no indication of what factors they should take notice of. In the ICD dockets screened, there were no warning indications mentioned in the docket, and the investigators apparently did not ask for any.

Security

The high number of escapes from police custody, a national increase from 3 595 in 1996 to 3 818 in 1998 (Oppler, 1999), is a source of some concern. Three factors could contribute towards the incidence of escapes from custody:

- negligence on the part of police members;
- corruption or collusion in escapes; and,
- inadequate or insecure holding facilities.

Most of the cells visited had bars on the cells doors, and mesh or grids on the windows and metal grids over the courtyards. In special security cells, such as in Sophiatown, the security was even tighter. The cells doors were locked with an allen key, and each cell had two outer doors. The security section was further separated by another secure door. Despite this high security, these cells have not been in use since approximately 1995.

Krugersdorp was the only police station visited by researchers that had taken extraordinary security measures. It is part of Project Five Star Initiative aimed at developing a "Police Cells Facilities Improvement Guide" with procedures for replacing locks, and securing the cells and lock up areas.

Local businesses sponsored each cell being fitted with infrared sensors to detect human movement and wires on the roof and over each of the cell windows. When inspecting the cells, the police officers carried a panic button which would set off an alarm when pushed, as well as indicating the location of the police officer on a control board in the cells' offices. If the security was breached elsewhere this would also set off an alarm linked to the control board.

In other police stations, the members complained that it would be possible for any prisoner to escape if they tried hard enough. At every station the researchers were told about prisoners who had either tried, or who had succeeded in escaping. However, it did seem that the problem was diminishing in the areas visited.

The police also complained that when the security had been compromised, for example where a window or lock was broken, it often took a very long time for these to be repaired. The result was that either prisoners could not be held in particular sections of cells, leading to overcrowding, or they were held in not very secure conditions.

Another important objective of the police is to ensure the safety of the prisoners while they are in custody. A relevant issue here is whether the police are able to respond timeously to a situation where a prisoner is in danger or requires help.

No cells were equipped with alarms with which a prisoner could alert the police. They were reliant on shouting for help. In many stations, the cells were situated at some physical distance to the main part of the police station. Even where the cell guards did have an office adjacent to the actual cells, this was often some distance away from many of the cells, and was often separated by a closed door. In many cases it was likely that the police would only become aware of a problem during one of their routine visits.

Community Visitor System

South Africa has a history of abuse of people held in police custody, so that a system which introduces a watchdog function over the police should be seen as a necessity. Any system which relies solely on the lodging of complaints, such as the ICD, is less likely to pick up the systematic problems at police stations. Since independent visitors operate on a no-forewarning basis, their function is also a preventive one. A community lay visiting system is important for establishing trust between the community and the police.

The institution of community lay visiting schemes was piloted in South Africa 1993 and a policy was drawn up by the Police Board in 1994. This scheme largely followed the English model of appointing independent community visitors.

According to the policy, the purpose of the Community Visitor System is to "enable members of the local community to independently observe, comment and report on the conditions under which people are held in police cells", and on the operation of various laws and regulations governing their welfare and ensuring accordance with fundamental human rights.

It is uncertain to what extent these schemes are still operating nation-wide, but where they were still in existence at the sample police stations where they have been operating primarily through the Community Police Forums.

Three of the police stations visited had no system of community visitors. In another case, the system had been operating, but had recently ceased to function as a result of problems with the person from the CPF serving that function.

In all the other stations, visits varied from twice a month to "infrequently", and usually occurred after hours. One officer said that he would prefer it if they made more visits.

Most of the respondents viewed these schemes in a positive light. At one station where the system had been operating for five years, it was said "our Station Commissioner is very much in favour of these visits. He thinks it is a good control measure that they visit without warning."

At another police station, most of the CPF members are reservists and therefore work with the cells on a regular basis. However, in this instance, there is possibly a confusion of interests between those of safeguarding the public against crime, and protecting the rights of detained individuals.

Despite these reports, none of the ICD officials interviewed were aware of any lay visitor schemes. It was also reported that prior to 1994, police cells used to be visited by members of the International Red Cross and by Magistrates. The respondents said that these visits no longer occurred.

Recommendations

A number of problems became clear through this study, some of which could be redressed if the following recommendations were implemented.

Firstly, the *Prevention of Torture and Treatment of Person in Custody Document* should be implemented. The drafting of this document was an important first step in heightening awareness of the rights of detained persons. It serves as a guide for police officers to use in the implementation of

their daily work. Once the Standing Orders are drafted in line with the South African Police Service Act, this should help to ensure implementation of the *Policy*.

Most of the officers interviewed had received no training on the management of people in custody, yet they are required to care for hundreds of detained suspects every month. This requires a certain amount of knowledge and skill, as it should not merely involve a lock-up function, particularly when it comes to dealing with the needs of particular categories of people - such as those who are mentally ill or suicidal.

All police officers dealing with the detention and custody of people should receive training on the identification and management of people at risk. Training should also include searching prisoners for dangerous items, recording injuries, as well as reinforcing measures designed to ensure the security of the police lock-up.

Investigations by the ICD should not only be targeted towards establishing criminal liability, but should also be directed towards establishing how such deaths could be prevented in the future. In cases where recommendations have been made to the police, it is crucial that the ICD follows up to determine whether the recommended action has been taken. The Station Commissioners should also be held accountable for any death that occurs at their police station.

Regular unannounced independent visits to police cells are an important oversight mechanism over the police. It is also an important means of establishing transparency and community faith that the police are not abusing their powers or infringing the human rights of those in their care. These regular visits can serve a preventative function through ensuring that policing policies are adhered to at station level. They can be an important source of information on the ongoing problems at police stations.

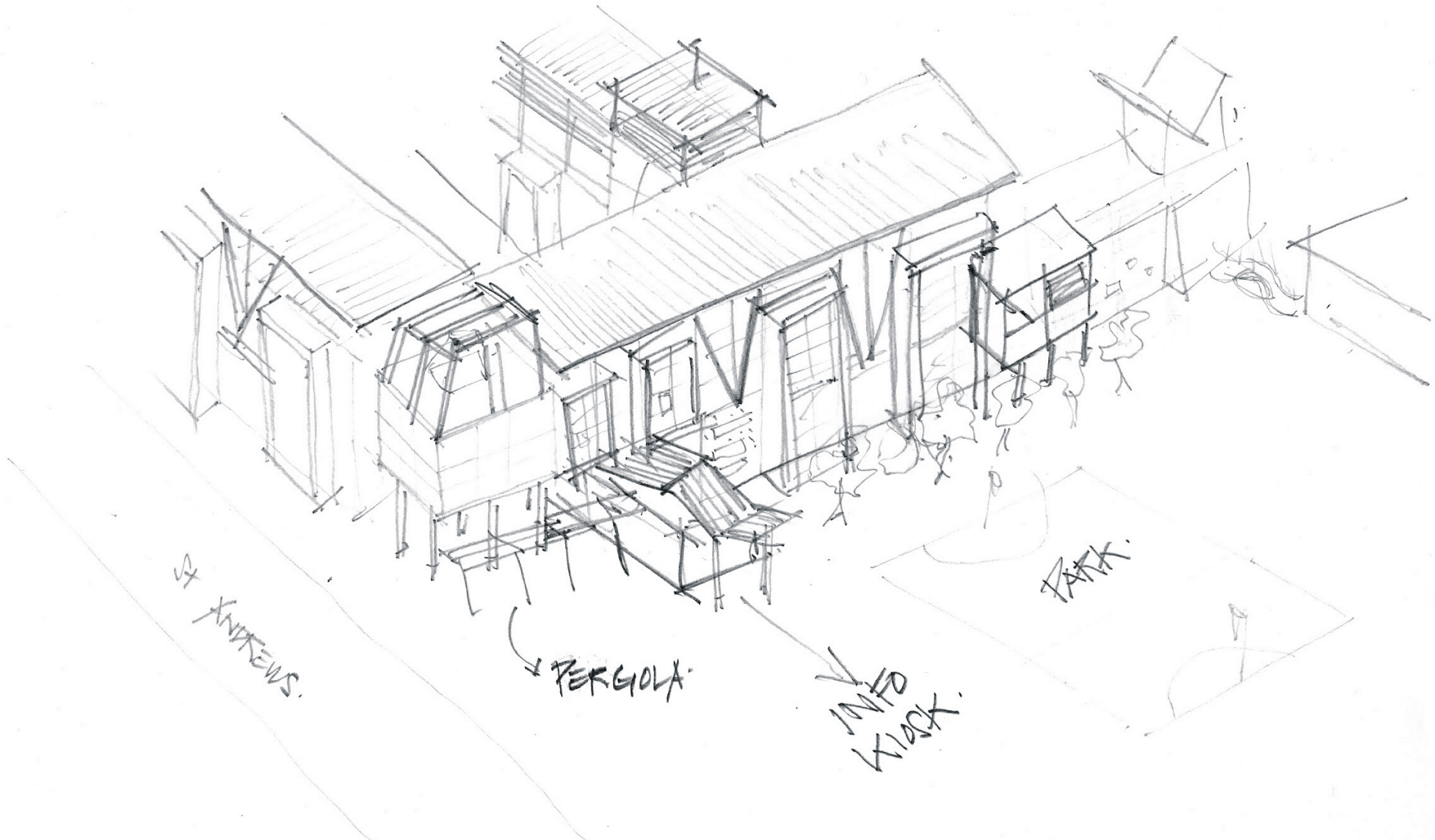
References

Dissel, A. and Ngubeni, K. (1999) [A Lonely Way to Die: An Examination of deaths in Police Custody](#). Center for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation.

Oppler, S. (1999) Escapes from Police Custody: Is Government Winning the Game? NEDCOR ISS Crime Index, No. 1.

© Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation

Appendix D: Albert Park Police Station Design Report



Contents

Introduction	Page
	2
Theory and Application in Design	3
Site Analysis	7
Concept Derivation	10
Brief and Schedule of Accommodation	10
Building Function	13
Technology and Environmental Considerations	15
Conclusions	17
Bibliography	18
Drawings	19

Introduction

The South African Police Service (SAPS) is still struggling to redefine itself as an organ of public protection, a service to the populace, since the 1994 elections. This is opposed to its previous role as an instrument of control when it was still the paramilitary SAP (South African Police). In this previous mode of operation, the Police Force was only answerable to those in power. Now, under the new dispensation, the police are mandated to be open and accountable to the community, 'Community Policing' being the mantra around which the SAPS markets itself.

The above-mentioned struggle is also true of the police stations that the SAPS have to operate out of. These should convey to the public this new era of inclusion and facilitate this new mode of operation. The SAPS therefore needs new police stations that communicate and facilitate this new 'open' mode of operation, without compromising the Security that the SAPS needs to operate effectively. The main issue to be addressed in this design therefore is – how does one design a new police station for the SAPS, that balances the need for 'community participation' and the security and privacy needed in Police Stations?

Clients

- The South African Police Service under the jurisdiction of the Department of Safety and Security. The Department of Public Works handles the tender process.

- The SAPS advocates accountability to the general public, the surrounding community. They could thus be considered a secondary client.

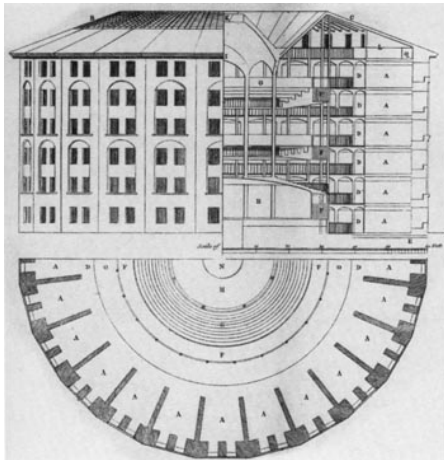
Design Objectives

- To design a facility that caters for and promotes public participation and interaction, without compromising the security so vital to such a building. Controlling access to secure areas is thus of primary importance.
- The building must provide humane, efficiently designed workspace for members of the SAPS, and humane, safe, living conditions for suspects and detainees.
- The station must respond to its physical context, these being the park and the street frontage. Surveillance of accesses and the immediate surrounds will help to secure the site.
- The project is seen as a means to secure the entire Albert Park precinct, helping to reactivate areas now in disuse and neglect.

Theory and Application in Design

Theory

It is important to realise that, in general, Police forces have military origins. Early police, such as watchmen, operated out of forts with the support of the local military garrison and reported directly to a local judicial chief, such as a magistrate (Mawby, 1999).



Illus. 1- Bentham's Panopticon.
(Source-
de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Bentham)

Punishment in this era was primarily intended to dissuade others from similar activities as those convicted. Mass imprisonment, according to theorists such as Foucault (1975), was only instituted in the 18th and 19th centuries so that the elements of dissention could be removed (and Reformed) from society, without martyring them. Thus began 'The Reformation', the 'Age of Enlightenment' and a range of new building types such as prisons,

workhouses and asylums. (Markus, 1993)

The development of prisons, Bentham's Panopticon model being a classic example, is aligned with the development of professional Police Forces, Sir Robert Peel's London Metropolitan Police (Est.1829) being regarded as the earliest fully professional, modern, Police Force.

Some Police Forces, especially in Imperial territories, were often quasi-military organisations being required to perform military duties in conjunction with regular policing. Examples of that happening in South Africa are especially numerous, these being organisations such as the Natal Mounted Police, and the old SAP.

These military origins are at the root of the dilemma for the architect wanting to design a police station. Most Police Stations designed for the SAP were fortresses designed to keep people out on the one hand, and others in on the other. (Illus.2) The post-1994 SAPS, however, wants a new type of Police Station, one that invites the public to participate in Policing matters (to a certain extent) without compromising the security and privacy vital to certain functions of the Police Station. The new Police Station therefore needs a less aggressive 'split-personality'.



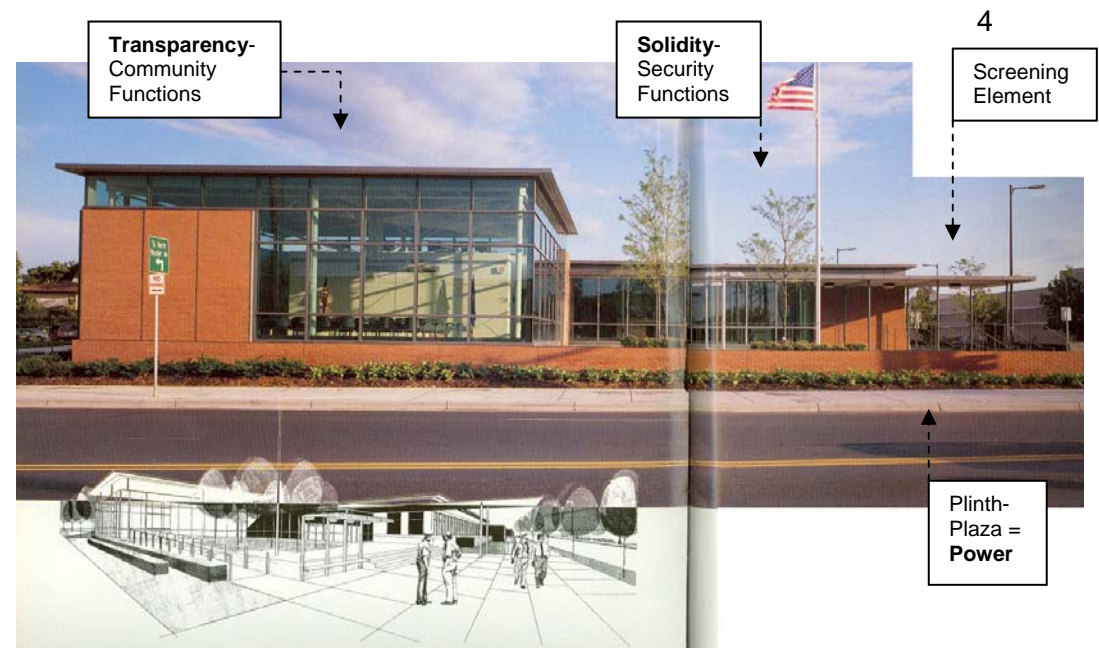
Illus. 2- Pinetown Police Station, an SAP Fortress.
(Note Screens over windows and defensive measure at entry point)

Stevens and Yach (1995: 6) describe Community Policing as “a policing style in which the safety and security of a local area is not left to the police alone...but one in which local residents are involved too. There is a recognition that local people have a right to know what the police are doing, how and why they are doing it, and what results are being achieved.” There is therefore a notion of accountability to the public.

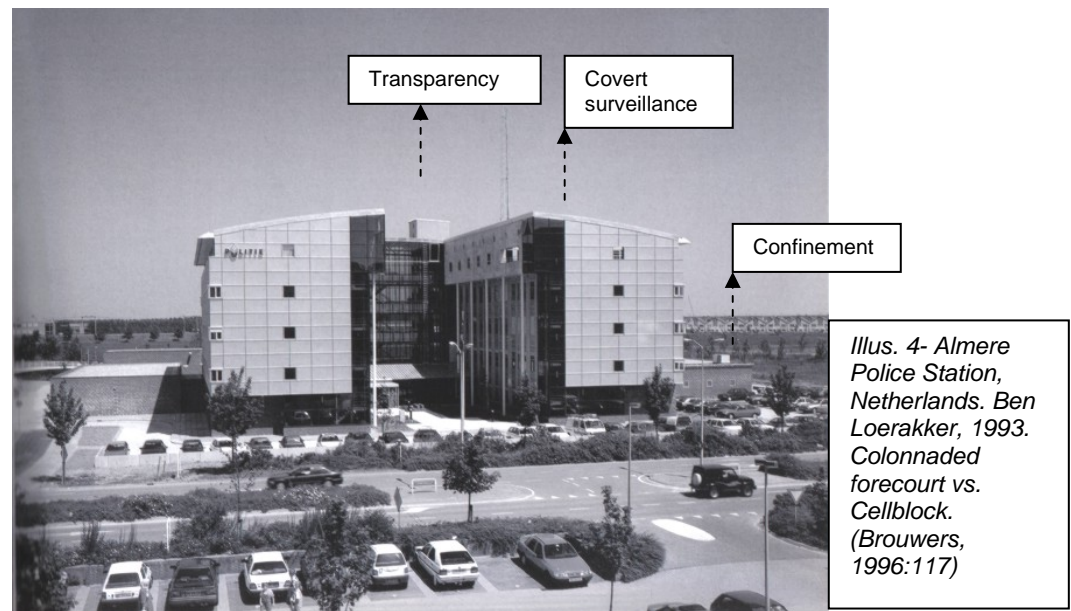
The duality of operating mode is thus a key concept in deriving identity for any Police Station. Without establishing this hierarchy of space, some image of power, this will just be perceived as a normal civic building. The designer thus must include some subtle hierarchal ordering devices to communicate what is secure and what is private, thus addressing both ‘modes of operation’.

Precedent

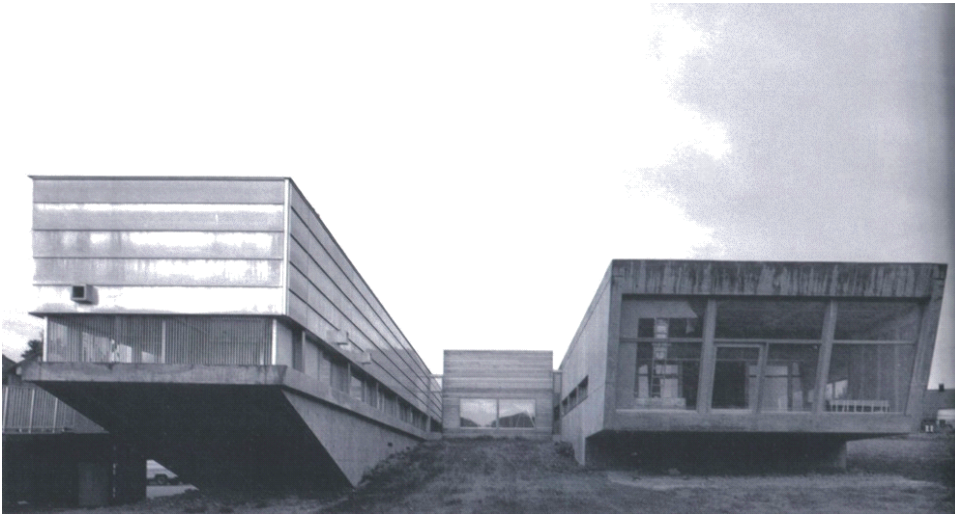
Precedent demonstrates that there are a number of approaches that have been used to communicate the identity of the Police Station. Including prominent public facilities in the building, such as a Public hall and Public Plazas help to communicate the ‘open mode’ of operation. (Illus.3) There are also a number of ways that architects have demonstrated the ‘closed’ mode of operation. Some designers have expressed the traditional symbols of power such as the holding cells. (Illus.4) The hierarchal nature of the building can also be emphasised through simply controlling access to secure areas and using spatial ordering devices such as courtyards, these being historically associated with most fort and police station ‘types’ in any case. (Illus.4)



Illus. 3- Perspective concept of plinth/public-plaza, Minneapolis 5th Police Precinct- Julie Snow Architects, 1998. Purpose designed 'Community Police Station. (Arch Aug 1998:80-81)

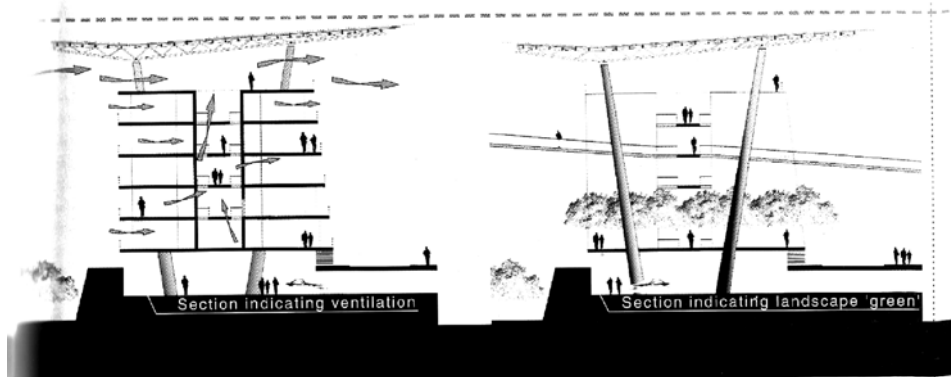


Illus. 4- Almere Police Station, Netherlands. Ben Loerakker, 1993. Colonnaded forecourt vs. Cellblock. (Brouwers, 1996:117)



Illus. 5 (above)- Vaals Police Station, Netherlands- Wiel Arets. Use 'Concrete Box' concept. (Brouwers, 1996. pp84)

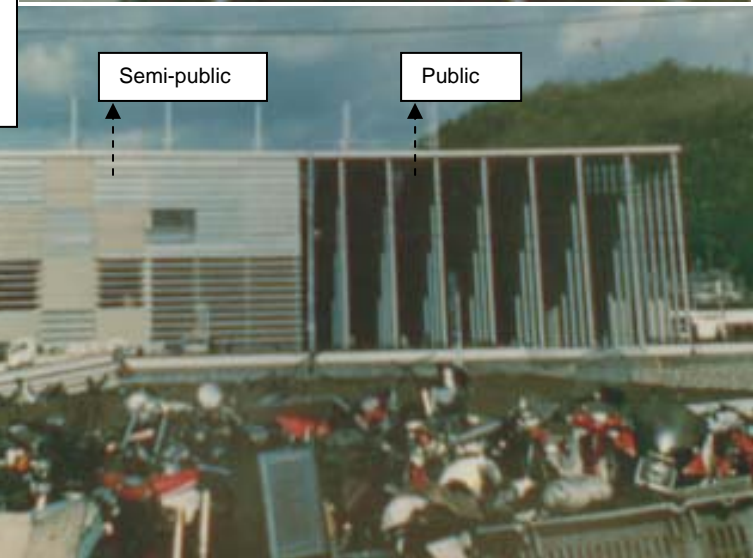
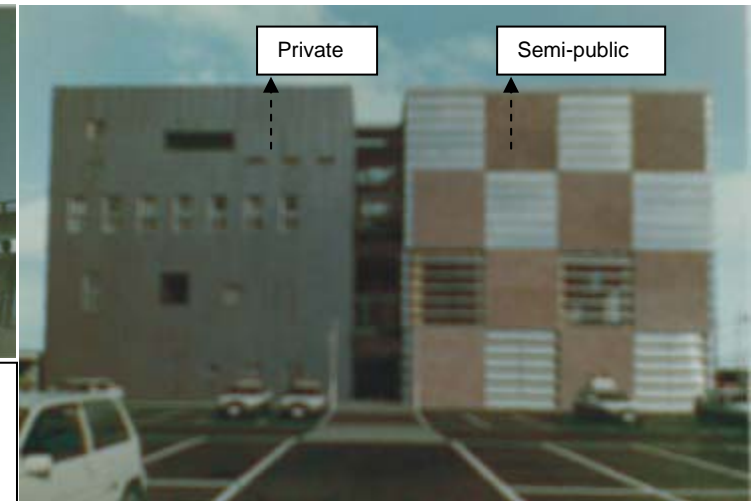
Illus. 6 (below)- Sime Darby HQ & Condominiums, Kuala Lumpur- Ken Yeang. Roof-Roof concept, translate into protective shield metaphor. (Richards, 2001. pp145)



Architects such as Arata Isozaki and Wiel Arets express the innate dichotomy associated with police stations in their use of materials & by the juxta-posing of solid & void. Inspiration for the concrete box concept was found in Arets' Vaals Police Station (Illus.5) whereby the glass-filled concrete box can be translated into a metaphor for an organisation with



Illus. 7- Okayama West Police Station, Arata Isozaki. Dichotomy expressed through materials, public link expressed with d-volume 'porch', new public facilities (Casabella Jul/Aud. 1997:38)



power, authority and needing secrecy, yet having to exhibit transparency in its function at the same time- hence the dichotomy of function in an effort to involve the community in its quest to fight crime and thereby provide an effective service to the public.

Isozaki, on the other hand, uses materials to divide the Okayama West Police Station (Illus. 7) into two blocks to express this concept of duality of function, and of public and private space (dichotomy). Materials are therefore also used to express the hierarchal nature of the building type & consequently the internal functions translate onto the facades. The public vs. private space dichotomy is also effectively communicated with his “forest of columns” (Casabella, Jul/Aug 1997:38) an extended double-volume ‘porch’ linking the public facilities of the station to the public plaza outside, thus bringing the public domain into the station. The station is also innovative in the types of public facility that it incorporates such the local traffic department, Schools of Judo, Karate and Kendo & Conference facilities.

An effective metaphor, and environmental response, was also found in Ken Yeang’s Roof-Roof concept as is demonstrated in his Sime Darby Headquarters and Condominium design in Kuala Lumpur (Illus.6). The intention is to effectively ventilate the roof space, improving energy consumption, with an “extended bioclimatic roof-roof shield or umbrella” (Richards, 2001:145). This concept can be further developed in a police station as a metaphorical ‘shield’ roof over the community: a benevolent, protective, presence hovering lightly over the local community.

All the above-mentioned examples of built precedent therefore provide the following key concept in deriving an architectural language for a police station: expression of duality/dichotomy in Police (station) function and its relationship with the public domain.

Site Analysis



Illus. 8- the policing area demarcated with its current three satellite stations and surrounding Police Stations, marked with blue shields. Image adapted from GIS resource on Durban Municipal website (www.durban.gov.za).

A need for “a new central Albert Park SAPS” (Mbanjwa, 2006) was recently recognized, as the local Police Station in Broad Street has been “identified as poorly resourced and unable to serve the interests of residents” (Mbanjwa, 2006). This is a problem, as this whole area around Albert Park is a hotbed of crime as many news reports show, and the current Station in Broad Street does not have the facilities to effectively police this area. Deficiencies here are things such as a charge office that is too small and understaffed (often having a queue of 30 people waiting

for an hour); the lack of facilities for community policing initiatives, and the lack of holding facilities for detainees. The Broad Street Police Station now functions as a Satellite Station to Durban Central Police Station after having its Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) transferred there.

Local Context

The park itself has been identified as one of the most dangerous places, frequented by warring gangs, illegal aliens, 28 illegal alcohol distributors, drug dealers, prostitutes, muggers and other degenerates. (Makhaye, 2005:3)

Central to the cause of the problems in the area is the overcrowding and over densification of the area’s many residential tower blocks, previously reserved for predominantly white pensioners. The approximately 4410 flats are now overcrowded with over 12000 people from all population groups, with about 21% of these being students, these being attracted here by the allure of cheap rentals and good central locality. (Mbanjwa, 2006)

Albert Park used to be a central entertainment “lung” for this precinct, but since the changes brought on by unscrupulous landlords and the consequential urban degeneration of the area, Albert Park is now highly underused because it is just too dangerous to go there. As a result, buildings such as the cricket, tennis, and bowling clubs, and the once famous Tropicale Restaurant, now stand abandoned.



Local civic groups suggested to the police that the non-functioning Bowls clubhouse be utilised for a station building (Mbanjwa, 2006), but it becomes clear that this is not a suitable, or viable, solution. The building would need a considerable amount of remodelling to be able to install secure facilities such as cells, strong rooms and docket archives. The building as it is, is nowhere near large enough to accommodate the facilities and units needed for as large and densely inhabited police area, with as many problems as it has.

It has therefore been determined, through urban and site analysis, that the north eastern corner of Albert Park is a far more suitable site for a station- this allows for Albert Park's existing buildings to be revamped and reutilised in their original functions, allowing for the reactivation of Albert Park as a safe public open space. The close proximity of the new police station will assist this by making the surrounds safe enough to use again. This site (refer Illus. 9 & 10) is also desirable because it offers the possibility of a secondary access route essential for security (Lloyd Str.).

The chosen site is bounded on its northern side by St Andrews Street that connects to Russell and Broad Streets, two of the Policing Area's major North-South linkages, as well as connecting to routes to the area around Maydon Wharf at the western extremity of the Policing Area. (Illus.8)

Illus. 9- urban analysis at showing position of new site in relation to existing Broad Str Station, and the main directions of travel through the precinct.



Concept Derivation

From the Site Analysis it was evident that the area most suited to the Public Functions was the northern edge of the site, so as to respond to the existing public edge of St Andrews Street, with the south-western section being most suited to house the Cellblock as this is the more private area of the site. It was also apparent early on, from Precedent and Case Studies, that the more secure areas of the Police Station, such as the Detective Branch and Armoury, should be accommodated on the higher floors. There was therefore an opportunity to establish hierarchy in vertical terms.

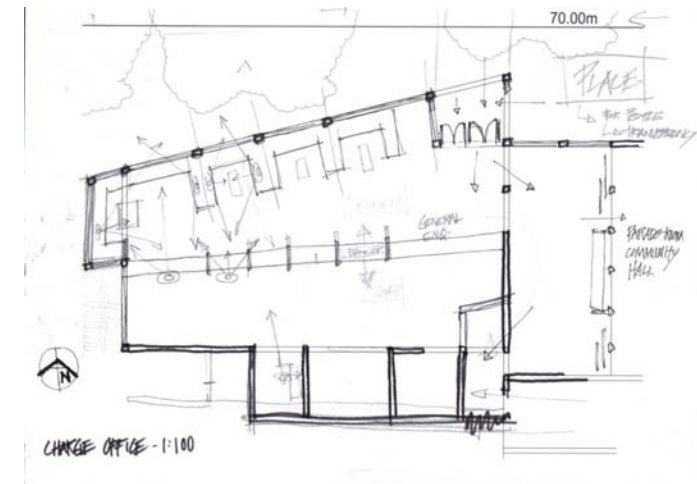
The first major design configuration adopted sought to express the duality in operating mode by expressing the cellblock as a heavy, cellular,



Illus. 11- model, design A. Secure solid Vs Transparent

masonry structure juxtaposed against a 'transparent' glazed box housing the public functions on the ground and more secure areas above. (Illus.11) It was also realised that the Charge Office's configuration needed

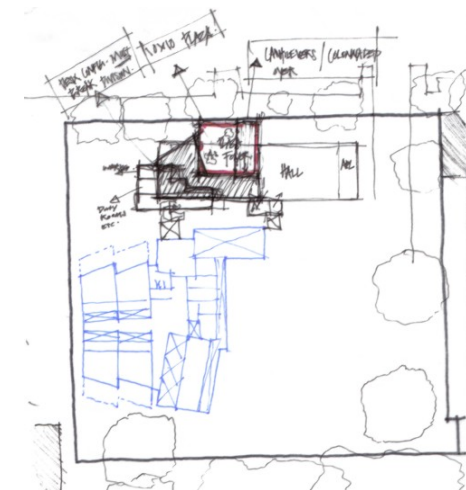
to break from the norm, to try and part from the alienated bureaucratic image of the past. (Illus.12)



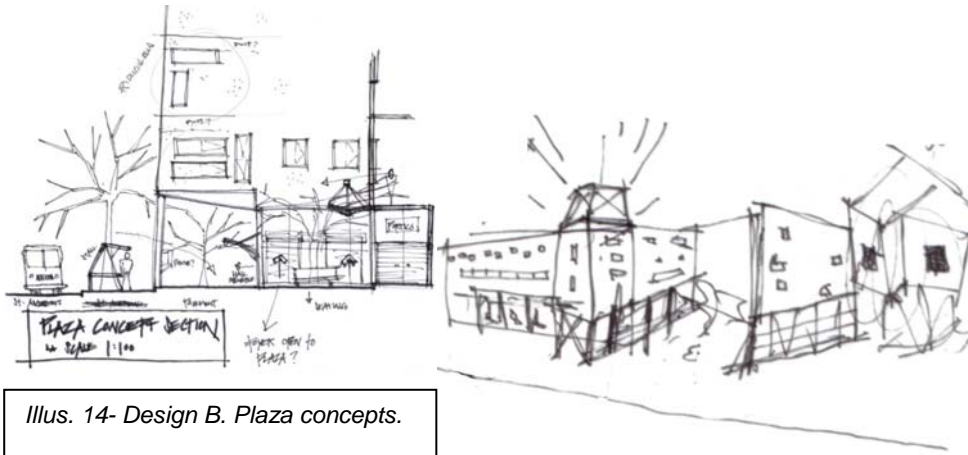
Illus. 12- Charge Office configuration, design A. Multiple points of interest.

It was then realised that more was needed in order to successfully communicate public participation and covert operation. From precedent it became clear that a public plaza was needed to compliment/feed the public hall and CSC. The public areas could consequently have some relation to the Police's social space

Illus. 13- Design B. Plaza concepts and footprint concept.

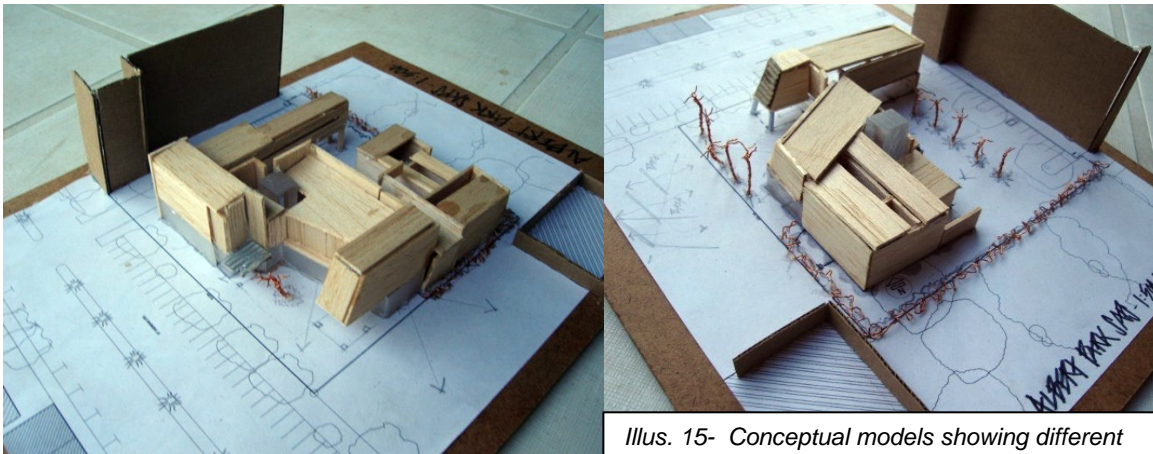


(Billiard room etc), for surveillance and as a public relations exercise.



Illus. 14- Design B. Plaza concepts.

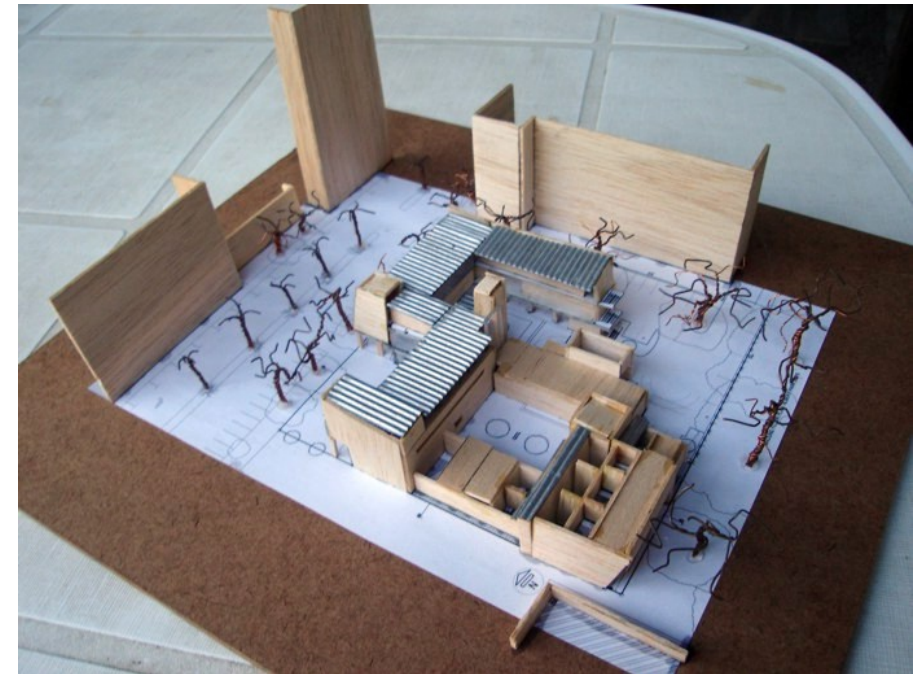
Subsequent to this the final major configuration was attained after a series of conceptual models demonstrated that the building could respond better to the park, whereas all the previous configurations made no acknowledgement of it. The plaza became part of a series of inner courtyards as a hierarchal system denoting public, semi-public and



Illus. 15- Conceptual models showing different options of including park, securing site.

secure-private- linking and segregating these as and when required. The final configuration also arranges the cellblock around a central courtyard, thus unifying the hierarchal system throughout the building. The main building's form was altered, adding a pilotti-raised wing on the east, to enclose the inner court and provide more privacy to the cellblock.

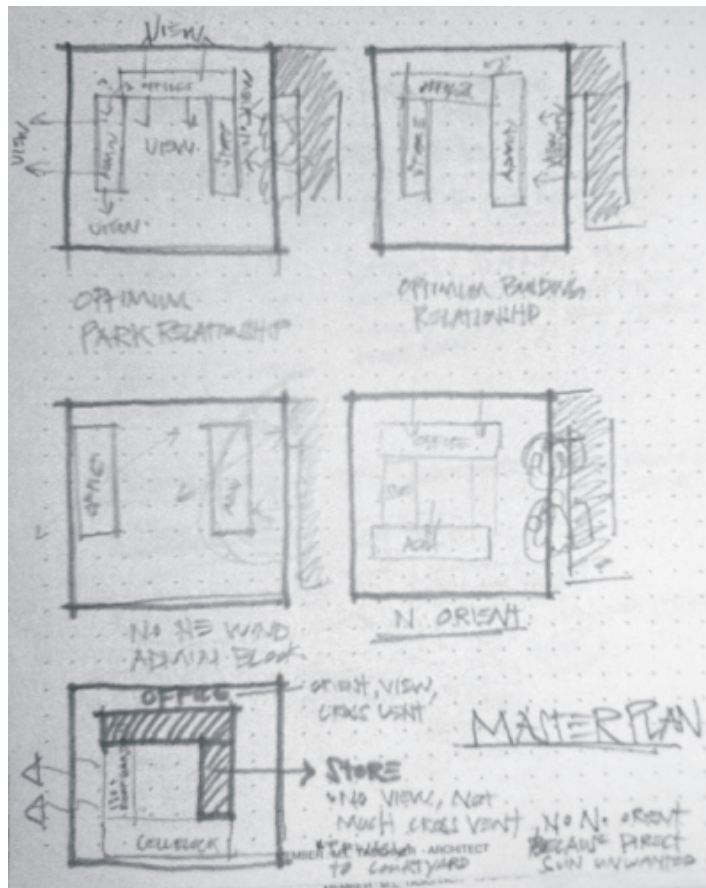
Illus. 16- Final Configuration with plaza and courtyards forming layered hierarchal space system through design.



Rework

Firstly the basic planning of the building was altered following a Footprint Study with the following basic results:

- Cell block stays on southern portion of site
- charge office to west (maximise park interaction)
- North-facing hall (street facing) & offices (climatic response).
- East facing storage functions (no view)



Illus. 17- footprint studies showing final planning arrangement.

The next step was then redesigning the Cellblock. The Cellblock was simplified from the previous highly complex arrangement which had complicated patrol routes, a huge courtyard that would've been unused, and didn't allow for enough Sun and ventilation. It was flattened to a single storey & arranged along linear patrol spine as per case studies & precedent, this all resulted in better solar ingress & ventilation, more humane conditions.

Illus. 18- Config. A model. Axial-courtyard arrangement.



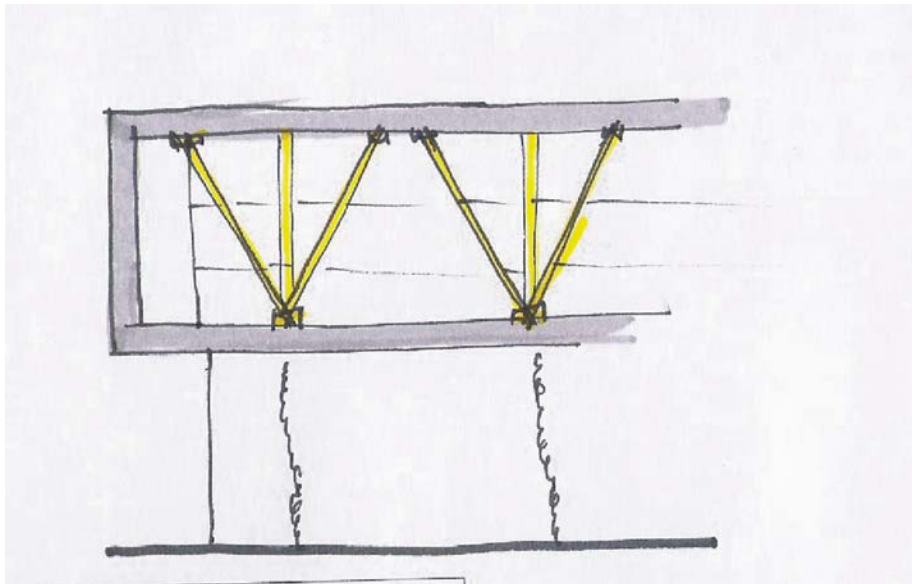
A Low-heavy masonry construction/language was explored to reinforce the Duality concept against a more commercial language of the main building which had a battered glass façade at the ground level in public areas as an expression of openness.

The idea was to create an axis from a corner entrance with a gantry leading to a central courtyard, and used police ancillary functions as buffer between cellblock & courtyard.

It was seen as a transparent box floating in air- transparent, yet looming, power- dichotomy. Further reinforcing the dichotomy between public/police & detention facilities was a battered stone wall divider.

Water was also used extensively to restrict access to the courtyard and to divide the courtyard. A Waterfall down the exposed battered stone wall at canteen was used to soften the hard edge at the recreation area.

The design also utilised yellow feature columns in the concrete box, using colour further to communicate police identity, and plastic-Chain 'downpipes' for security reasons as they cant be climbed to gain access to secure areas. The use of facade screening was retained to layer the facades and provide solar protection.



Illus. 20- Config. C Concrete Box concept , of yellow feature columns & chain rwdp's.

The final major configuration made the following changes:

- Split courtyard to create public courtyard and introduce new public services such as social workers & pension payment centre etc.
- Separate parade-ground for police to layered hierarchy in plan: in functionality & symbolism.

It introduced a reception/information kiosk to create an entry node and provide further surveillance to the new 'public zone'. It also reinforces the link between the park and the police station public zone.

Attach Pergola to park-side of building as fingers reaching into park, reinforce building relationship with park, and helping to create a pedestrian buffer between the proposed sports facilities and the CSC. It retains the concrete box idea, but adjusts it to a suitable scale (residential-horizontal vs public-vertical).

It utilises the Roof-roof concept (as per Yeang) and applies it as a metaphor for a protective umbrella over the public, while differentiating the roof section over the police 'services' wing to reinforce the dichotomy concept.

White boxes were introduced as intermediate devices between the main building and the cellblock to balance the slight difference in scale between them, highlight a difference in function and a transition between public & secure on the west facade, and conceal A-C units.

The Cellblock scale was altered to match rest of building by introducing the use of ventilation stacks in a staggered composition. A usable barrier between the cellblock and the park was introduced as a sculptural & security function, also adding a further layer to the southern façade and reinforcing the idea of hierarchy. (refer sketch on title page)

Brief and Schedule of Accommodation

According to information obtained from the Crime Intelligence Unit at Durban Central Police Station, 14 people are arrested in this area daily. (Capt. Govender and Supt. Singh, 2006- personal communication) Legally they are not allowed to be detained for longer than 48 hours, the entire bowling club building could not accommodate these numbers if it were to be converted into a Cell Block. With the help of Capt. Govender and Supt. Singh of Durban Central Police Station's Crime Intelligence Unit and Capt. van Straaten, Pinetown Police Station's Head of Logistics, the accommodation schedule for the proposed building was calculated to be the following for 150 police members over four shifts and for a total of 37 vehicles. With the input of the above mentioned police officials, and using data collected from Precedent Studies and Case Studies the following was compiled:

Schedule of Accommodation (Minimum Requirements)

Charge Office & Related Facilities (233m²)

- Reception & Charge Office (180m²)
- Communications Room (20m²)
- Duty Room (9m²)
- Records & Copies (15m²)
- Interview room (9m²)

Community Policing Facilities (247m²)

- Community Hall/ Parade room that can accommodate 100-150 [mix-use] with Tea Kitchen. (150m²+6m²)
- Ablutions for above (40m²)

- Foyer for above (45m²)
- Cleaning material store (6m²)

Crime Prevention Unit Facilities (420m²)

- Operations Planning & Briefing room (42m²)
- Unit Commander office (12 m²)
- Office for admin (24m²)
- Canteen Area/Billiard Room (50 m²)
- Armoury (55m²) and weapons service area (15 m²)
- Records & General Storage (30m²)
- Gymnasium (60m²)
- 2 Locker rooms of 66 m² each

Detective Services Facilities (351m²)

- Interrogation room (1 of 15m²)
- Evidence Store/Safe (60m²)
- Planning/meeting room (42 m²)
- Offices for Detectives (12 of 9m²)
- Detectives head (9 m²)
- Billiard room (25 m²)
- Docket Storage (60m²)
- Exhibit Room (32 m²)

Logistics & Admin (144m²)

- Logistic Head (9 m²)
- Log. Personnel (15 m²)
- Gen. Store (35 m²)
- HRM Head (12 m²)
- HRM office (25 m²)
- Admin (24 m²)
- Finance office (12 m²)
- Station Commdr (12 m²)

Cell Block (857.5m²)

- Fingerprinting/Detainee Processing Office (50m²)
- Holding Cells (15 m²)

- 6 Male Cells of 36 m² each, with exercise yards 21 m² (456m²)
- 2 of each Female/Juvenile Cells of 21 m², with exercise yards 16m² (111m²)
- kitchen of 25 m², with yard of 17.5 m² (33.5m²)
- Pantry (14 m²)
- Blanket Store (12 m²)
- Geyser Room (12 m²)
- Laundry room 12 m², with yard 12 m²
- Visitor area (20 m²)
- Guard Room (40 m²)
- Secure Lobby (75 m²)
- Security Passage (Min. 1.5m wide)

Service Spaces (72m² excl parking bays)

- Bin Area (36 m²)
- Emergency Generator (12 m²)
- Air-Con plant room (24m²)
- 37 Police parking spaces
- Securable delivery area

Total: 2400m² + 480m²(@ 20%) Circulation = **2880m²**

The final design has the following accommodation after the final reworking of the project:

Ground Floor

Public Facilities

Community hall-	237.16 m ²
Foyer-	71 m ²
Tea kitchen-	11.2 m ²
Fem abl-	35.92 m ²
Male abl-	27.98 m ²
Disabl. WC (2 of) -	4 m ²
Abl. Lobby-	8.2 m ²

Subtotal- 399.46 m²

Info kiosk-	70.39 m ²
Contr. Access lobby-	66.72 m ²

Covered area-	143 m ²
Charge office-	143.64 m ²
Csc cmdr-	14.5 m ²
Duty room-	12 m ²
Filing&copies-	9 m ²
Interview rm-	30 m ²
Waiting rm-	12 m ²
Visiting area-	62.4 m ²

Subtotal- 563.65 m²

Community policing-	30 m ²
Social worker-	30 m ²
Counseling rm-	30m ²
Payment centre-	60 m ²

Sub total- 150 m²
Total Public-
 Circulation- 1113.11 m²
 240 m²

Cellblock

Secure yard-	98 m ²
Interview rm-	10 m ²
Admittance area-	81 m ²
Hold cells (2 of)-	8 m ²
Hold cells (2 of)-	5 m ²
Blanket store-	12 m ²
Property store-	12 m ²
Guard room-	72.6 m ²
Geyser rm-	11 m ²
Generator rm-	11 m ²
Cells (12 of)-	26 m ²
Cell yards (12 of)-	24 m ²
Laundry rm-	26 m ²
Pantry-	28 m ²
Kitchen-	54 m ²
Service yard-	24 m ²
Security passage-	73 m ²
Security duct-	86.4 m ²
Bin area-	8 m ²

Total Cellblock- 1233 m²

Crime Prevention Unit

Planning rm-	50 m ²
Cpu office-	111 m ²
Gymnasium-	62.36 m ²



Locker rm (fem)-	76.44 m ²
Locker rm (male)-	74.56 m ²
Canteen-	72.7 m ²
Canteen kitchen-	18.9 m ²
Armory-	82.7 m ²
Weapons service area-	22.5 m ²
Total CPU-	<u>571.16</u> m²
Circulation-	210.88 m ²
<u>Ground Floor Total-</u>	<u>3368.15</u> m²
First Floor	
Admin Wing	
Ablutions-	12.6 m ²
Finance office-	38 m ²
Station cmdr-	32.85 m ²
Hr office-	32.52 m ²
Reception-	53.9 m ²
Admin office-	49.1 m ²
Total Admin-	<u>218.97</u> m²
Logistics Dept	
Logistics office-	28 m ²
Logistics head-	25 m ²
Logistics store-	78.84 m ²
Total Logistics-	<u>131.84</u> m²
Detective Services	
Detective head-	32 m ²
Meeting/briefing rm-	32.78 m ²
Evidence store-	30.8 m ²
Billiard rm-	112.6 m ²
Detective offices (13)-	390.5 m ²
Docket archive-	82.5 m ²
Total Detect. Services-	<u>681.18</u> m²
<u>Total First Flr-</u>	<u>1031.99</u> m²
First flr circulation-	433.56 m ²
Second Floor	
A-c plant-	57.33 m ²

Lift motor-	9 m ²
Roof garden-	77.8 m ²
Circulation-	42 m ²
<u>Total Third Flr-</u>	<u>186.13</u> m²
<u>Total Overall-</u>	<u>5019.83</u> m²

With this in mind, and the knowledge of what the SAPS expects from its new Police Stations, a brief was formulated as follows.

Albert Park SAPS Station Brief

The South African Police Service, under the jurisdiction of the Department of Safety and Security, has seen the need for a new Police Station in the notorious Albert Park district in order to combat crime in this area and the surrounding areas of the CBD. This measure has also been agreed to by a local community forum after discussions held with this forum. The intention is thereby to effectively control crime in the park itself and the surrounding residential and business zones, set up effective patrolling routes, and make effective use of the Sector Policing policies now being advocated by the SAPS.

It should be taken into account, when designing this station, that the SAPS has succeeded the former SAP and is trying to move away from the image of oppressor of the past to a SERVICE that exhorts the following values, as taken from the SAPS Strategic Plan 2004/2007:



- protect everyone's rights and to be impartial, respectful,
- open and accountable to the community;
- use the powers given to us in a responsible way;
- provide a responsible, effective and high-quality service with honesty and integrity;
- evaluate our service continuously and make every effort to improve on it;
- use our resources in the best way possible;
- develop the skills of all members through equal opportunity; and
- cooperate with the community, all levels of Government and other role-players.

In line with the visible policing policies laid out in the document mentioned above, it is the SAPS' goal to provide a Station that is as open to the public as possible, without compromising the security essential for such a building. This should be a key tool in achieving the four key goals laid out in the Mission Statement of the above mentioned document as follows:

- prevent anything that may threaten the safety or security of any community;
- investigate any crimes that threaten the safety or security of any community;
- ensure criminals are brought to justice; and
- participate in efforts to address the root causes of crime.

The Station must thus incorporate facilities for rapid response units, investigative facilities, holding facilities that cater for transport to other places of detention or Courts of Law and offer facilities to the public for things such as counselling/meeting rooms and such similar facilities to maximize the interface with the surrounding residents of Albert Park. It is important that it maximizes surveillance and security of the immediate surrounds to ensure the safety of all the building's users.

The Municipality has agreed to allow the SAPS to build this Station on the site adjacent to the now derelict and defunct Albert Park Bowling Club and this area will be sectioned off as per the site information sheet attached. (refer Illus. 7)

Building Function

Community Facilities

The primary 24-hour interface of the Police Station, with the public, is the Charge Office, or Community Service Centre (CSC). It is in this space where crimes and traffic incidents can be reported, charges laid, documents certified, oaths and affidavits taken, etc, as part of the services offered to the public by the SAPS. Most stations also attach a more private 'Interview Room' that can be used for activities such as trauma counselling and taking statements in more sensitive cases. Most stations, the SAPS Pinetown being a case in point, also have the station's communications room, usually containing radio and telephonic communications equipment, in close proximity to the CSC although this space is not open to the public. This speeds up the process, from reporting an incident in the CSC, to a response from the appropriate Police department (be it a response unit or Detective etc).

Further to this, stations now require a Public-Community Hall, where the Station can host CPF (Community Policing Forum) meetings, SCF (Sector Crime Forum) meetings and the other initiatives already mentioned. According to Police officials, such as Capt Mghabi and Capt van Straaten, CPF meetings normally have an attendance of between 100 and 150, depending on the service area. SCF meetings would have fewer than that attending, but one might have to host multiple meetings in the hall. Also the hall would need to be able to host conferences and workshops. Above this, the Police themselves would use this space for regular morning briefing sessions and parades, planning large operations,

conferences and training activities, and award ceremonies, etc. The Hall would thus also have to be securable on some of these occasions where privacy is needed. The hall can also be used for other public events such as conferences, self-defence classes etc.

It therefore becomes clear that the Hall needs to be very flexible in being able to:

- Accommodate a variety of seating and table arrangements.
- Open up to common public spaces, interior and exterior.
- Have easy access to amenities such as public toilets and a tea kitchen.

In order to make the station even more public-inclusive, the Albert Park SAPS introduces new types of facilities around a public courtyard linked to the park. The courtyard is controlled by an info kiosk, where plain-clothes officials can direct the public to the department/service they require. The public hall spills out into this courtyard, creating a public zone. The other public amenities attached to this zone are offices for social workers & their counselling rooms, a community policing office, and a payment centre. The local community can come here to pay metro accounts, collect pensions and other grants etc in a safe environment.

Besides the public, there are two other major users of a Police Station namely the Police, and the suspect or detainee. This section will explain the basic processes that these are involved in within the Police Station.

Suspects and Detainees

When a suspect is arrested and brought in to the Police Station, they should normally enter the Police Station separately to the public, as is demonstrated in the Case Studies. Separate, more private, site access for sensitive police duties is therefore vital.

Thereafter the suspects, within the police vehicle, should be brought into a Secure Yard that is then secured before the suspects are removed from the vehicle. The suspects are then taken to a Processing Area to be interrogated. If they are subsequently charged, they will be booked into the appropriate section of the cellblock after giving statements and being fingerprinted etc. They hand over all valuables and articles of clothing that could be used to cause harm to themselves, or others. They are then issued a foam mattress and blanket before being led to their cells, which they may share with up to six others, at some stations. Optimally, male cells should accommodate a maximum of four detainees, and the other cells a maximum of three detainees. Cell Guards are required to do hourly patrols, and CCTV installations in cells and passages will assist in the safety and security of the detainees.

Detainees will be allowed out of their cells for about four hours a day to spend time in the adjoining exercise yards; this is also their only opportunity to shower in most stations. Most have the showers in the exercise yards for safety reasons. A standard prison toilet and drinking fountain are however required to be inside every cell according to international and SAPS standards (Refer Appendix C). The cells are also

required to be naturally lit, and ventilated, according to these international standards. The *South African Police Service Project Five Star 2004-Specifications for New Police Cells* (www.publicworks.gov.za) clearly lays out the minimum design specifications for cellblocks at SAPS Police Stations, and the accommodation schedule will be laid out according to these. These specify requirements for the kitchen, visiting rooms etc, and construction methods.

The detainees are allowed to be held in the cells for a maximum of 48 hours before being released, taken to court for a bail hearing, or taken to a prison to await a hearing or trial. During their stay they are allowed to see a limited number of visitors in a secure visiting area and are served two basic meals a day, prepared in the Cellblock Kitchen that is required in the Cellblock design specifications previously mentioned (Project Five Star). Some detainees, suspected of petty crimes, might also be utilised in 'work details' to clean around the station. Detainees exit the cellblock through the Secure Yard where they are loaded into a small truck to be delivered to Court or Prison after their 48 hour stay.

CPU, Detective Services, Logistics, and Administrative Departments

The SAPS divides a day into four shifts, with fewer people on duty at Police Stations during the night time shifts. Many policemen and women in South Africa travel to work in plain clothes for security reasons, especially if they make use of public transport. Locker rooms with showers are therefore needed by many police at the start and finish of their shift. After changing into uniform, if they were required to do so, they

generally attend a briefing session where they are given instructions for the shift. They then disperse to their stations, be they within the Station, or in a vehicle.

The police facilities at the Albert Park SAPs are arranged around a parade ground, necessary for medal & awards-giving ceremonies etc. This is a separate courtyard from the public zone for security reasons, although still visible from it to maintain a link to the public.

Other spaces within the Station that will be used by all police members are spaces for socialising, such as a Canteen; Meeting and Planning rooms; an Armoury for their own weapons/ammunition and those they are safekeeping for the public; Docket Archive and Evidence storage spaces; Gym space; and finally Offices and Stores for the various departments. Besides the need for socialising and relaxation space needed for a highly stressed workforce, the building also needs to provide the Police with humane working conditions. Designing with things such as lighting, and ventilation, etc in mind are thus vital in this regards.

Technology and Environmental Considerations

Construction

The building uses two different construction systems. The main three-level building is a concrete frame structure with brick infill on the interior, and patent-glazing to the exterior. The concrete boxes form an integral part of the column-grid. Column spacing is generally at about 6m, the largest spanning distance over the Public Hall being 9.2m. A 1000mm deep transfer beam is therefore required over this section, but provision was made for this in that there is a 5m FFL (finished floor level) to FFL, leaving ample ceiling void for services such as Air Conditioning ducts and lighting etc. (Refer Sections and Technical Details) This 5m level system also helps the Police Station compete with surrounding buildings in terms of scale, and so as provide privacy to the more sensitive areas such as the Cellblock.

The roof structure over the main part of the building is steel I-sections and profiled metal roof sheeting. This roof floats over a secondary roof/ceiling made of shutterboard and foam insulation sandwich panel on steel purlins. There is another suspended ceiling below this housing the various services such as air-conditioning etc within this void. This allows for effective ventilating of the roof space and also provides a greater measure of insulation against noise from the metal roof sheets during heavy rains etc.

Intended finishes here are to be as maintenance free as possible- tinted screeds and plasters; aluminium windows and entrance doors; enamelled heavy duty steel doors with high security locks to sensitive spaces such as the docket storage and the armoury, timber doors to less secure spaces internally.

Cellblock Construction

The Cellblock is of heavy, load bearing brickwork construction as recommended by Police Specifications, *Project 5 Star 2004*. These specifications give the basic minimum sizes, heights and layouts of spaces within the Cellblock, as well as recommending construction systems and finishes.

Accordingly, the Cellblock has thick 330mm brickwork on external walls, with a built-in high security mesh, and 220mm internal walls, also with mesh built in-between brick skins. Roofing over the cells themselves will be concrete slabs intermittent between the ventilation roof structures, with the stipulated high security grating over exercise yards, security ducts (to prevent external access to cell windows) and Secure Entry Yard. (Refer Technical Section and Details) Roofing over the rest of the cellblock areas, such as the Admittance Area and Kitchen, it the same as the main building, this still being within the Police Specs, but is not the roof-roof system. The ventilation roof structures are brickwork with steel roofing as per the main building and an adjustable ceiling system to control ventilation as required. (refer Technical Details)

All doors and windows in the cellblock are to be standard police issue according to *Project 5 Star*, windows having 3 interlocking, narrow, leaves with an inner and outer security screen, doors having a standard police gate built onto the outside, with police issue locks. Light fittings are also standard issue, as are the stainless steel sanitary fittings.

CCTV installations will be required to monitor inside and outside the cells, passages and areas surrounding the site. Further sensors and alarms are to be installed at all security ducts and overhead security grating at cell yards etc. by Security Specialists.

Environmental Considerations

The main building areas are generally north facing, with the east-facing wing containing the locker rooms, docket and exhibit store, etc. All the Police's socialising space is on the northern side of the building overlooking the external public spaces below. The concrete boxes allow a 1m setback for the glazing line and sections show that this is adequate to exclude mid-summer sun on these North-facing areas. (refer sections)

- Most of the major internal spaces don't seem to have problems with solar ingress in the mid-summer conditions, except for late afternoon on certain west facing corridors on the eastern wing of the building. Mostly, the East and West facades are protected by high level horizontal louvres (38°) and these will cut out most of the Afternoon summer sun without obstructing views to the park

as Vertical-type louvers which would however perform better in controlling solar ingress. Preference was however given to providing views over the park. The lower part of the West façade is effectively controlled by a row of planted trees. (refer sections)

- External spaces such as the plaza, inner courtyards, and balconies had good areas of shading under midsummer conditions, although the main inner courtyard might be over shaded in winter, the north-facing public facilities will however still receive mid-winter sun.
- There is ample solar ingress into most major spaces under mid winter conditions.
- The cells and cell yards are generally well protected from the sun in mid-summer, and these will both receive adequate mid-winter sun.

In terms of ventilation, all working spaces have windows, for cross-ventilation and operable louvers at a higher level. All work spaces also open onto balconies or verandah's overlooking the inner-courtyards. Thus all members of the station have a choice of areas to take a break, be it for a smoke or lunch etc, besides the provided entertainment areas such as the billiard room & canteen. The roof-roof system employed is intended to allow for efficient ventilation of the roof void, thus cutting down on the energy requirements of mechanical ventilation.

Provision has, however, also been made for a mechanical ventilation system, with ample ceiling space in the main building to house ducts, and

two spaces set aside on the second floor that houses the lift motor room to house a central system, as well as the two intermediate white boxes between the main station building and the cellblock to conceal split units servicing the visiting area and armoury respectively.

Conclusions

The design of a new Police Station for the SAPS requires the architect to cater for a new era of public inclusion, while maintaining the security and privacy needed for such facilities to function optimally. A Community Police Station should include spaces that declare it to be such.

In this case use was made of a public courtyard (zone) that relates to the existing public space and edge, namely Albert Park itself and St Andrews Street. This main public space is linked to other public functions, such as the Hall and Charge Office; entrances to the building; inner courtyards that become progressively more private and secure according to the building's functions. Courtyards, created by manipulating the building's form to create private areas, are therefore used both as hierarchal ordering devices, and as internal semi-public space. The Police member's socialising areas also overlook the main public spaces, thereby creating another duality- surveillance of public spaces and another device to communicate a desire for cooperation.

Hierarchy (and power) is further used to identify the police station in the creation of a vertical hierarchy, with the most sensitive areas of the building at the upper levels.

The nature of the building's varied construction, between the main part of the building and the Cellblock, also helps to reflect this duality in Police (Station) function. There is a more commercialised language for the main part of the building, and a solid, heavy, fort-like language for the Cellblock as is required for this space to be secured and therefore function properly.

Provision was made for ventilation in both parts of the building. All cells are provided with cross-ventilation and ventilation shaft-roofs, using the exercise yards, and high-tensile steel-mesh clad security ducts, thus challenging the norm (even though their Specs state that cells must be provided with good ventilation). Offices in the main part of the building have access to balconies, thus providing shading in summer, and large openings. Provision has however also been made for a central mechanical ventilation system.

Thus humane working conditions are provided for Policemen; members of the public; and detainees as appropriate for each of these user groups, maintaining the required levels of security appropriate for the different functions and spaces of the building.

Bibliography

Brouwers, R (Editor). 1996. *Architecture in the Netherlands, Yearbook 1995-1996*. Rotterdam: NAI Publishers.

Foucault, M. 1975. (Translated by Alan Sheridan, 1977) *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York: Pantheon Books.

Lee, S. 1996. *Crime Punishment and Protest- 1450 to the Present Day*. Essex: Addison Wesley Longman Limited.

Markus, TA. 1993. *Buildings & Power- Freedom and Control in the Origin of Modern Building Types*. London: Routledge.

Richards, I. 2001. *Groundscrapers & Subscrapers of Hamzah & Yeang*. Chichester: Wiley Academy.

Stevens, P & Yach, D. 1995. *Community Policing in Action- A Practitioner's Guide*. Kenwyn: Juta & Co. Ltd.

Journal Articles

Keegan, E. 1998. Street Patrol. *Architecture* Aug 1998. pp 80-83.

Unknown. 1997. Stazione di polizia a Okayama-shi. *Casabella* vol.61 no. 647, Jul/Aug. pp 38-51.

Newspaper Articles

Mbanjwa, X. 2006. *Durban's mean streets*. Sunday Tribune, April 16 2006. pp 7.

URL's and Websites

Capt. Els, D. 2004. *South African Police Service Project Five Star 2004- Specifications for New Police Cells*. Department of Public Works website (www.publicworks.gov.za)

de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremy_Bentham

Dissel, A & Ngubeni, K. The Conditions of Custody: Police Holding Cells. *Crime and Conflict* No.19, Autumn 2000, pp 32-36. University of the Witwatersrand website (<http://www.wits.ac.za/csvr/papers/papadkn.htm>)

www.durban.gov.za

CLIENT
 - THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND SECURITY. THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HANDLES THE TENDER PROCESS.
 - THE SAPS ADVOCATES ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY COULD THIS BE CONSIDERED A SECONDARY CLIENT.

OBJECTIVES
 - TO DESIGN A FACILITY THAT CATERERS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND INTERACTION, WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE SECURITY SO VITAL TO SUCH A BUILDING. CONTROLLING ACCESS TO SECURE AREAS IS THIS IS THUS OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE.
 - THE BUILDING MUST PROVIDE HUMANE AND WELL DESIGNED WORK SPACE FOR MEMBERS OF THE SAPS AND HUMANE AND SAFE LIVING CONDITIONS FOR SUSPECTS AND DETAINEES.
 - THE STATION MUST RESPOND TO ITS PHYSICAL CONTEXT, THESE BEING THE PARK AND THE STREET FRONTAGE. SURVEILLANCE OF ACCESSES AND THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDS WILL HELP TO SECURE THE SITE.
 - THE PROJECT IS SEEN AS A MEANS TO SECURE THE ENTIRE ALBERT PARK PRECINCT, HELPING TO REACTIVATE AREAS NOW IN DISUSE AND NEGLECT.



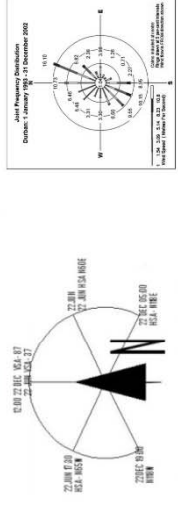
LOCATION PLAN/VEHICLE MOVEMENT PATTERN- SCALE 1:2000

PRECEDENT ANALYSIS

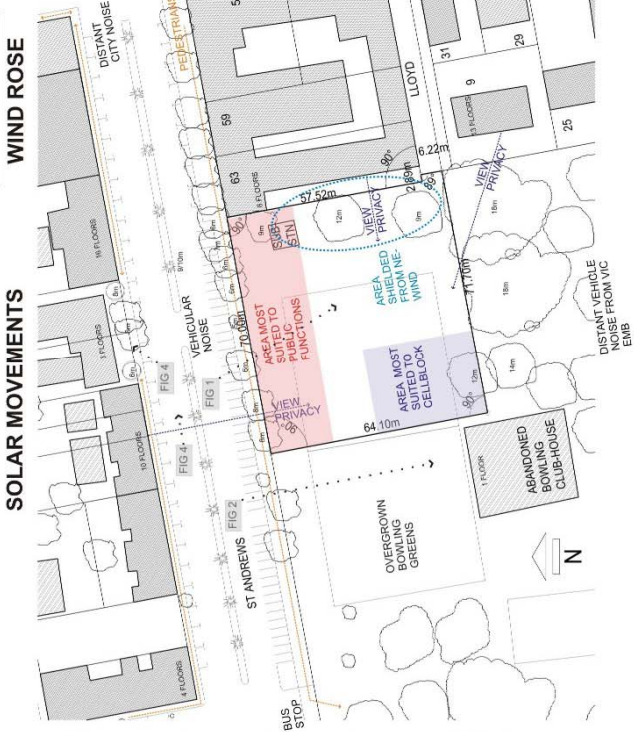


PUBLIC HALL DESIGNED AS TRANSPARENT BOX, FRONTED BY A RAISED PUBLIC PLAZA, COLONNADED CORRIDOR SERVES AS LINK AND HIERARCHAL ORDERING DEVICE. WELL PLANNED CLEARLY DEFINES WHAT IS PUBLIC AND WHAT IS SECURE.

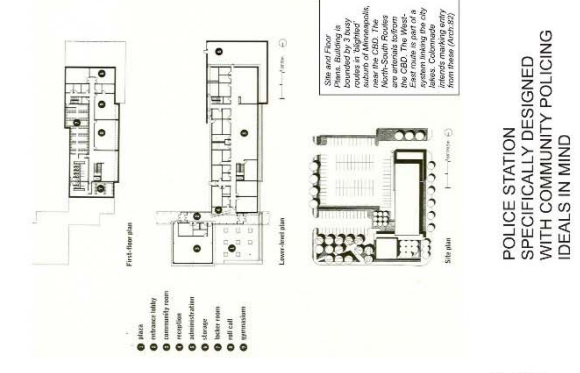
POLICING AREA
 POPULATION: ~12000
 ~4410 FLATS (Mbanjwa, 2006)



SOLAR MOVEMENTS



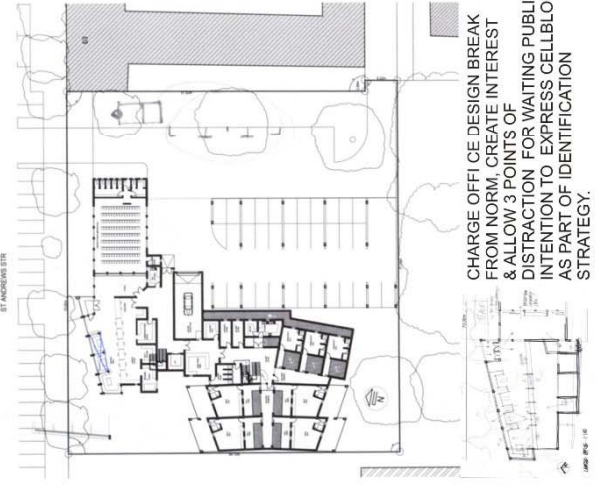
SITE ANALYSIS & CLIMATE DIAGRAM- SCALE 1:750



POLICE STATION SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED WITH COMMUNITY POLICING IDEALS IN MIND

PRIMARY CONFIGURATION DIAGRAMS

CONFIGURATION A:
 DUALITY IN POLICE FUNCTION, TRANSPARENCY AS ACCOUNTABILITY VS SOLIDITY AS COVERT, SECURE, AUTHORITY.



CONFIGURATION B

PUBLIC PLAZA DEVICE TO COMMUNICATE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AS PER 5TH PRECINCT AND ALMERE MODELS. PUBLIC HALL AND CHARGE OFFICE TO FEED ONTO PLAZA, LINKING ALL PUBLIC ZONES OF STN. POLICE RECREATION AREAS LOOK OVER AND SURVEY THIS SPACE, HOWEVER N-E CORNER OF SITE NOT UTILISED, SITE NOT ADEQUATELY SECURED, PARK NOT ADEQUATELY RESPONDED TO.

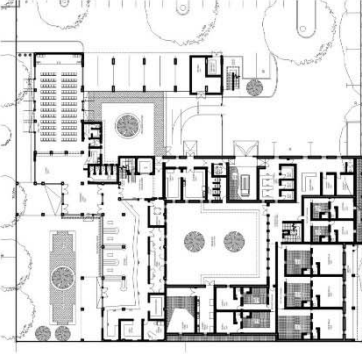
CONFIGURATION C

KEPT TRANSPARENT HALL FEEDING ONTO STREET & PLAZA CHARGE OFFICE WRAPS AROUND PLAZA, THEREBY BREAKING NORM. PLAZA NOW TO FEED INTO PARK, INTEGRATED INTO STATION, SURVEILLANCE IMPROVED.

FINAL CONFIGURATION

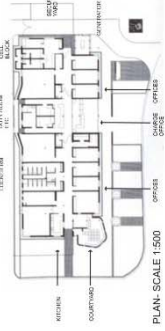
PLAZA & COURTYARDS USED AS ORDERING DEVICES, LINKED TO PUBLIC SPACE. EAST WING ON PILOTTIS.

CELLBLOCK AROUND CENTRAL COURTYARD.

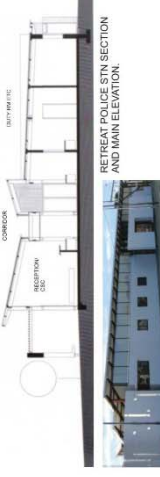


RETREAT POLICE STATION, CAPE TOWN. MAKEKA DESIGN LABORATORY.

MAKEKA CLAIMS A 'HUMANIST' RESPONSE, WANTS PUBLIC TO SEE ACTIVITIES IN POLICE STATION. CHARGE OFFICE DESIGNED AS 'TRANSLUCENT' SO THAT PUBLIC KEEPS TRACK OF POLICE OFFICIAL SERVING THEM.



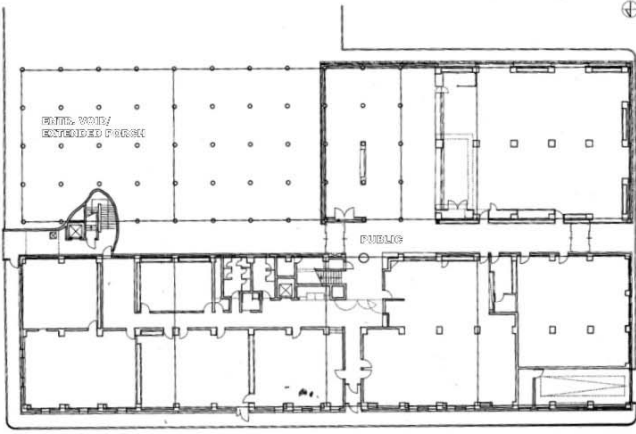
USE OF COURTYARD AND WINDOWS- PUBLIC INTERACTION (MEETING ROOMS)



ABOVE- COURTYARD BELOW- TRANSPARENT CHARGE OFFICE

PRECEDENT

**ARATA ISOZAKI-
OKAYAMA WEST POLICE STATION**



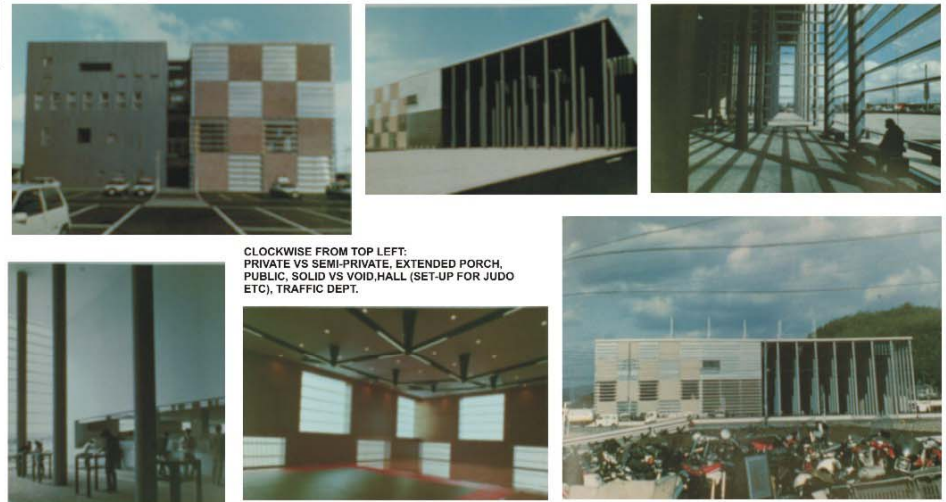
**DICHOTOMY
CONCEPT**

- BUILDING DIVIDED INTO TWO BLOCKS, PUBLIC/OPEN VS PRIVATE/SECURE MATERIALS USED TO COMMUNICATE INTERNAL FUNCTION.
- ZINC CLADDING (MOST SECURE)
- COLUMNS (MOST PUBLIC)
- GLASS/GRANITE CLADDING (SEMI-PUBLIC)
- TRANSLUCENT GLAZING (SEMI-PRIVATE)

MATERIALS THEREFORE USED TO EXPRESS HIERARCHY & INTERNAL FUNCTION.

VOID/"FOREST OF COLUMNS" FORM EXTENDED PORCH OPEN TO PLAZA, LINK TO PUBLIC FACILITIES- "INTRUSION OF THE PLAZA INTO THE BUILDING." (CASABELLA, JUL/AUG 1997:38)

NEW TYPES OF PUBLIC FACILITIES INCLUDED: TRAFFIC DEPT, SCHOOLS OF JUDO, KARATE & KENDO, CONFERENCE FACILITIES.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PRIVATE VS SEMI-PRIVATE, EXTENDED PORCH, PUBLIC, SOLID VS VOID HALL (SET-UP FOR JUDO ETC), TRAFFIC DEPT.



Illus. 26- Station building as seen from the top of the site. (Quadrants No.214, 1996/102)



Illus. 22- the approach ramp from the bottom of the site. (Quadrants No.214, 1996/102)

ARETS' INTENTION HERE WAS TO COMMUNICATE THE INHERENT POWER OF THE POLICE FORCE.

REMINISCENT OF BUNKER FORTIFICATION.

CONCRETE BOX METAPHOR TO BE INTERPRETED DIFFERENTLY

Illus. 25- progression from the main communal spaces, to semi-secure, to the most confidential station areas. (Brookers, 1996, pp84)

**CONCRETE
BOX
CONCEPT**

CONCRETE BOX WITH GLASS INFILL.

- METAPHOR TO COMMUNICATE DUALITY/ DICOTOMY IN POLICE STATION FUNCTION: SOLIDITY (SECUREY & POWER) VS TRANSPARENCY (COMMUNITY POLICING & ACCOUNTABILITY)

(CONFIG. C & D)

**ROOF-ROOF
CONCEPT**

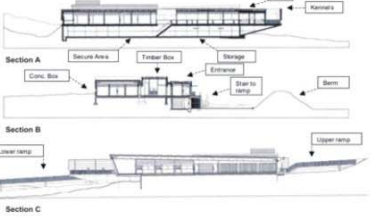
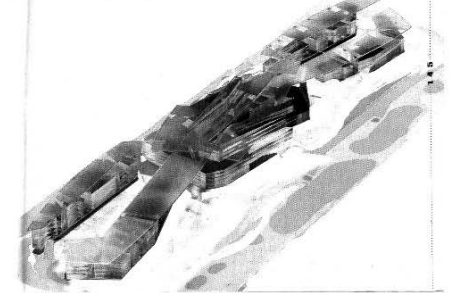
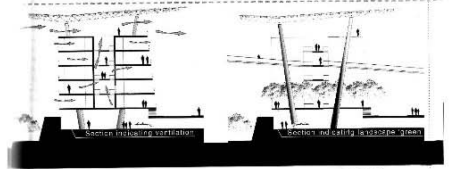
- "EXTENDED BIOCLIMATIC ROOF-ROOF SHIELD OR UMBRELLA" (RICHARDS, 2001:145)

USE CONCEPT OF NATURALLY VENTILATED SHIELD ROOF

- METAPHOR OF A PROTECTIVE UMBRELLA APPLICABLE FOR POLICE BUILDING.

(CONFIG. D)

... its design accounts for the tropical ...

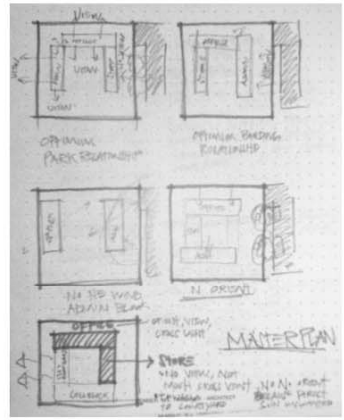


Illus. 27- Section A, note ease of progression from secure area to integration to holding cell. The kernels are also shown to connect the site below. Section B shows how landscaping has been used effectively to convey power and privacy as required. Section C: The power/communicating facilities command the approaches to the site, while the covert facilities are less conspicuous from the upper ramp. (Brookers, 1996, pp 88,89)

**WIEL ARETS-
OKAYAMA WEST POLICE STATION**

**KEN YEANG-
SIME DARBY HQ & CONDOMINIUMS, KUALA LUMPUR.**

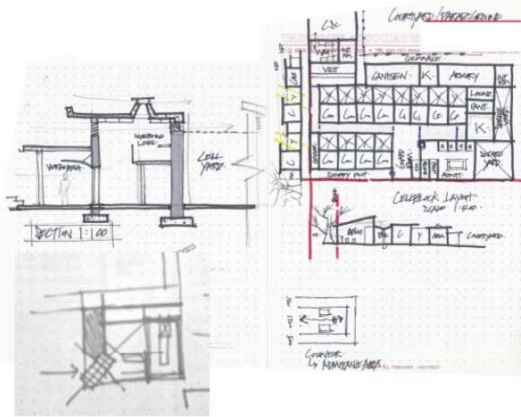
CONFIG. A



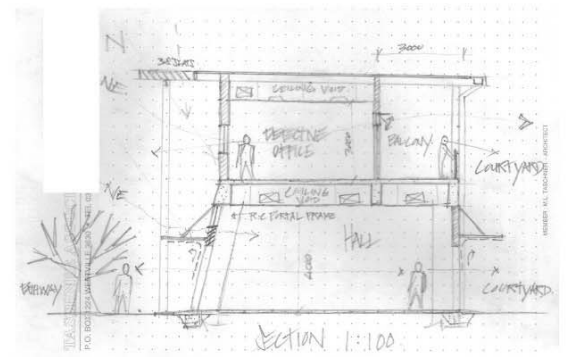
CELLBLOCK FLATTENED TO SINGLE STOREY & ARRANGED ALONG LINEAR PATROL SPINE AS PER CASE STUDIES & PRECEDENT. BETTER SOLAR INGRESS & VENTILATION, MORE HUMANE CONDITIONS.

LOW-HEAVY MASONRY CONSTRUCTION/LANGUAGE . DUALITY CONCEPT.

FOOTPRINT STUDY:
- CELL BLOCK STAYS ON SOUTHERN PORTION OF SITE
- CHARGE OFFICE TO WEST (PARK INTERACTION)
- NORTH-FACING HALL (STREET FACING) & OFFICES (CLIMATIC RESPONSE)
- EAST FACING STORAGE FUNCTIONS (NO VIEW)



CREATE AXIS FROM CORNER ENTRANCE WITH GANTRY, CENTRAL COURTYARD, POLICE ANCILLARY FUNCTIONS AS BUFFER BETWEEN CELLBLOCK & COURTYARD.



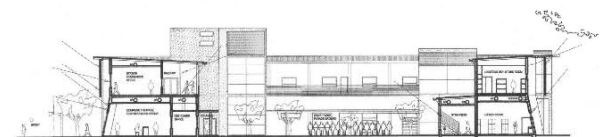
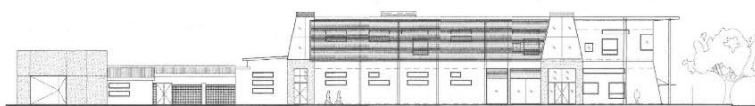
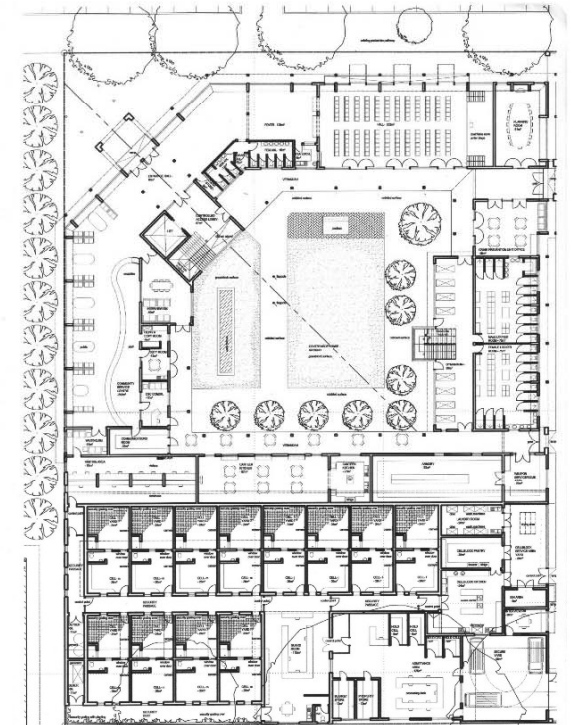
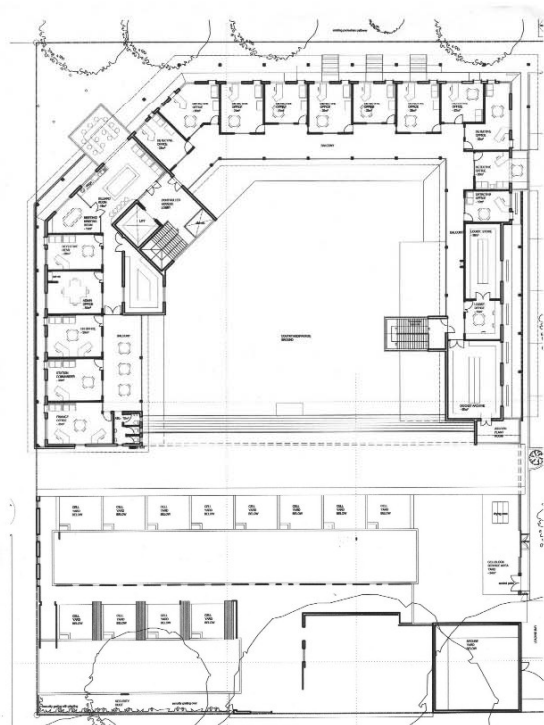
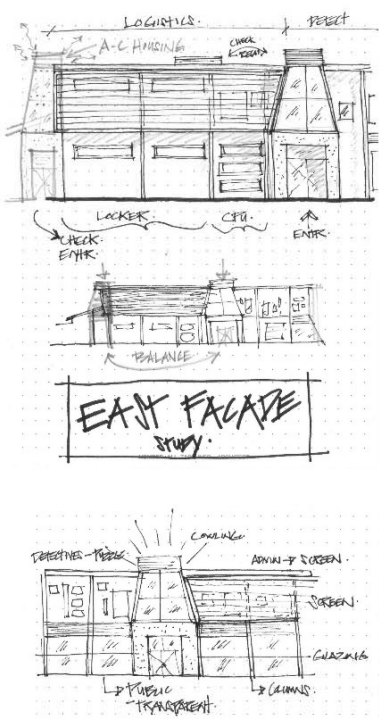
HALL OPENS TO STREET & CORTYARD. BATTERED GLASS WALL AT GROUND FLOOR TO EXPRESS OPENESS.

CONFIG. B

ATTEMPT TO CREATE AN APPEALING & SUITABLE ARCHITECTURAL LANGUAGE. STILL KEPT BASIC ENTRANCE AXIS & COURTYARD PLAN ARRANGEMENT.

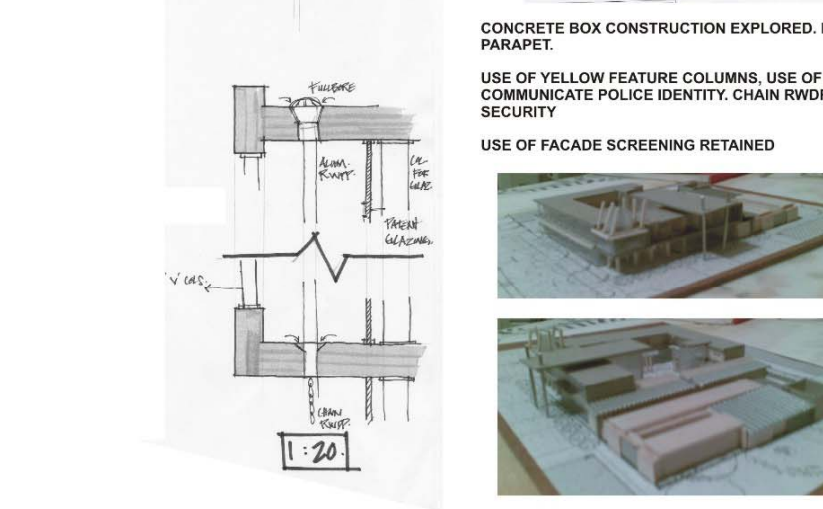
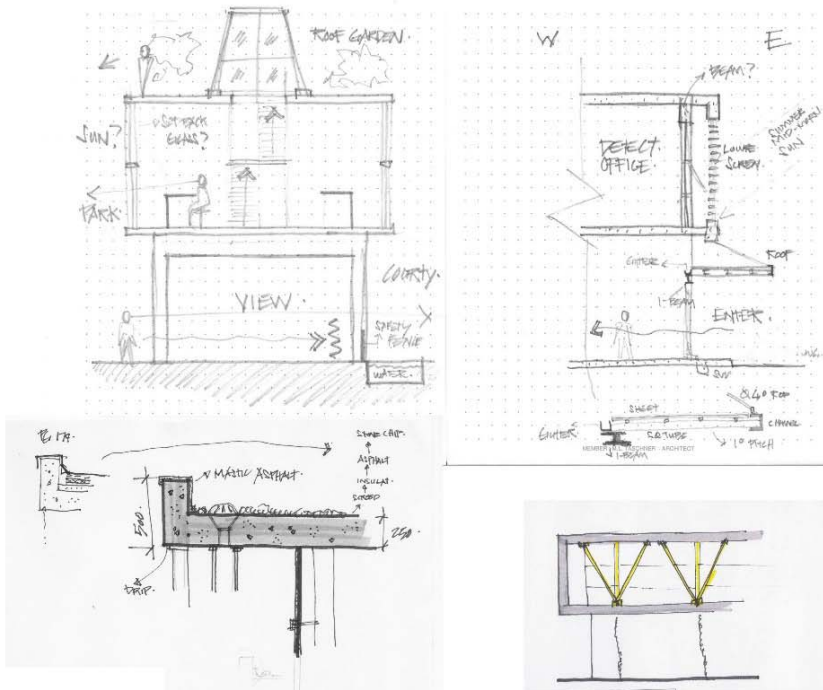
OVERLAID SOLAR SCREENS ON FACADES & WINDOW ARRANGEMENTS EXPLORED TO CREATE LAYERED FACADES- COMMUNICATE HIERARCHAL ARRANGEMENT & FUNCTION- SECUREY VS OPENNESS.

TAPERED GLASS BOXES/COWLS TO EMPHASISE & EXPRESS ENTRANCES.



CONFIG. C

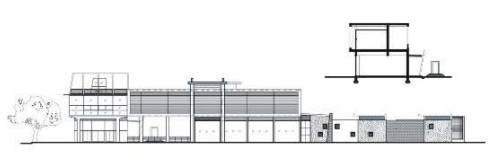
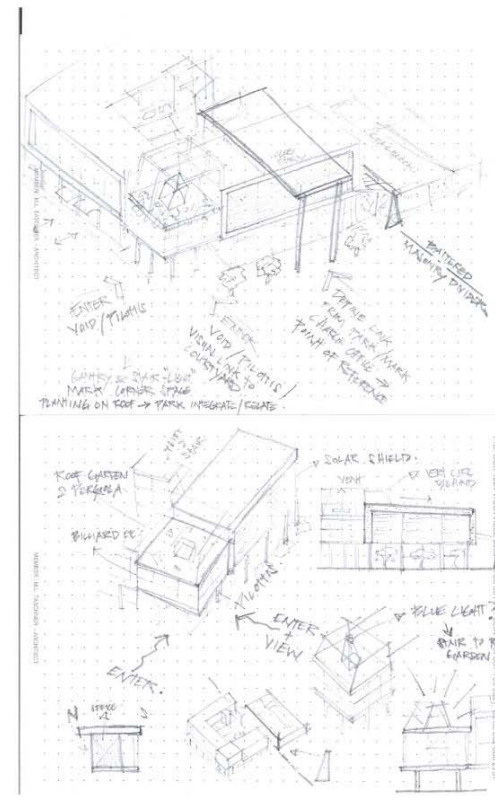
CORNER AXIAL ARRANGEMENT NOT JUSTIFIED- USE OF VOID/COLONNADE UNDER GLASS RECREATION BOX TO EXPRESS CORNER. LINK 'COVERED PORCH' TO COURTYARD & PUBLIC FACILITIES. POLICE RECREATION FACILITIES- VISUAL LINK TO PARK, USE ROOF GARDEN. 'BLUE LIGHT' AT CORNER- IDENTITY. CONCRETE & GLASS BOX LANGUAGE. TRANSPARENT POWER- DICHOTOMY OF POLICE STATION. TRANSPARENT BOX FLOATING IN AIR- TRANSPARENT, LOOMING-POWER DICHOTOMY.



CONCRETE BOX CONSTRUCTION EXPLORED. FLAT ROOF VS PARAPET.

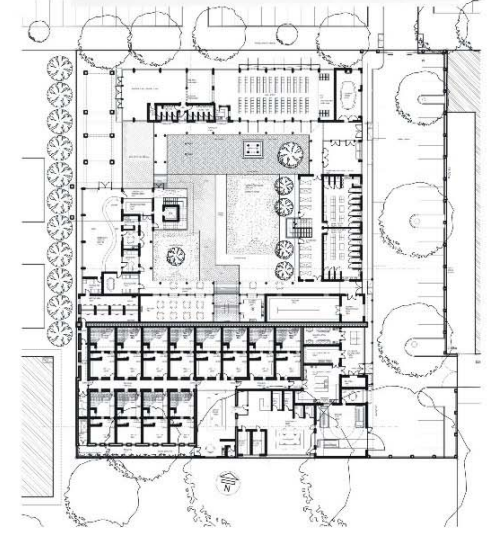
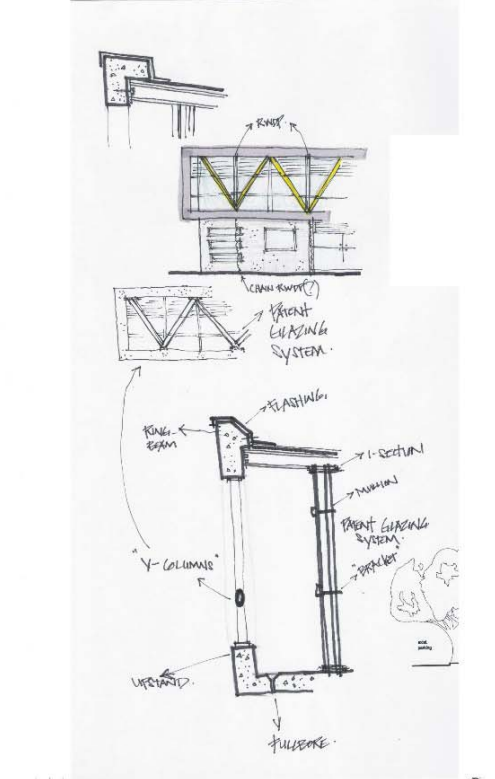
USE OF YELLOW FEATURE COLUMNS, USE OF COLOUR TO COMMUNICATE POLICE IDENTITY. CHAIN RWDPs FOR SECURITY

USE OF FACADE SCREENING RETAINED

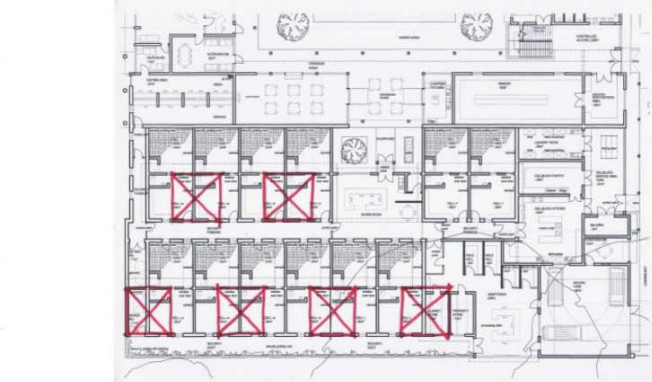
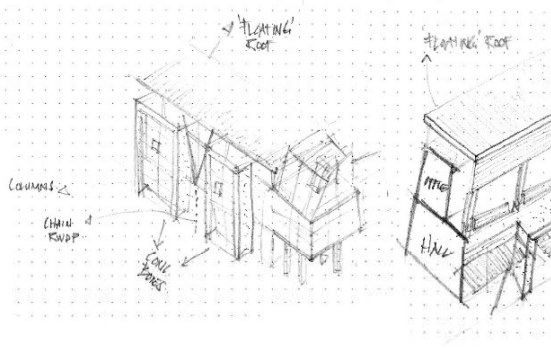
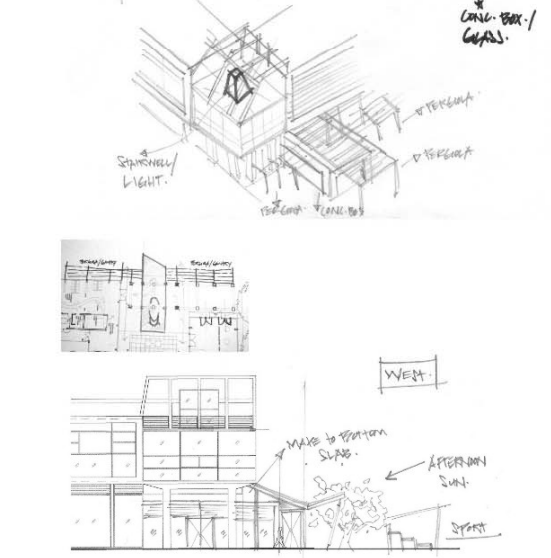


REINFORCE DICHOTOMY BETWEEN PUBLIC/POLICE & DETENTION FACILITIES WITH BATTERED STONE WALL DIVIDER. (TRANSLATION TOO LITERAL)

WATER USED EXTENSIVELY TO CONTROL ACCESS TO COURTYARD AND TO DIVIDE COURTYARD. WATERFALL DOWN EXPOSE BATTERED STONE WALL AT CANTINEEN.



CONFIG. D (FINAL)



- SPLIT COURTYARD- CREATE PUBLIC COURTYARD & INTRODUCE NEW PUBLIC SERVICES SUCH AS SOCIAL WORKERS & PENSION PAYMENT CENTRE.
- SEPARATE PARADE-GROUND FOR POLICE (LAYERED HIERARCHY IN PLAN: FUNCTIONALITY & SYMBOLISM)

INTRODUCE RECEPTION/INFORMATION KIOSK- CREATE ENTRY NODE & SURVEILLANCE TO PUBLIC ZONE. REINFORCE LINK BETWEEN PARK & POLICE STATION PUBLIC ZONE. PERGOLA AS FINGERS REACHING INTO PARK, REINFORCE BUILDING RELATIONSHIP WITH PARK. CREATE PEDESTRIAN BUFFER BETWEEN SPORTS FACILITIES & CSC.

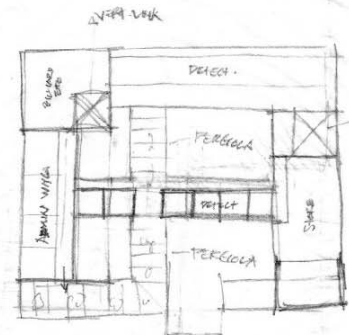
RETAIN CONCRETE BOX IDEA, BUT ADJUST TO SUITABLE SCALE (RESIDENTIAL-HORIZONTAL VS PUBLIC-VERTICAL).

ROOF-ROOF CONCEPT- APPLY AS METAPHOR FOR PROTECTIVE UMBRELLA. DIFFERENTIATE ROOF OVER POLICE 'SERVICES' WING TO REINFORCE DICHOTOMY CONCEPT.

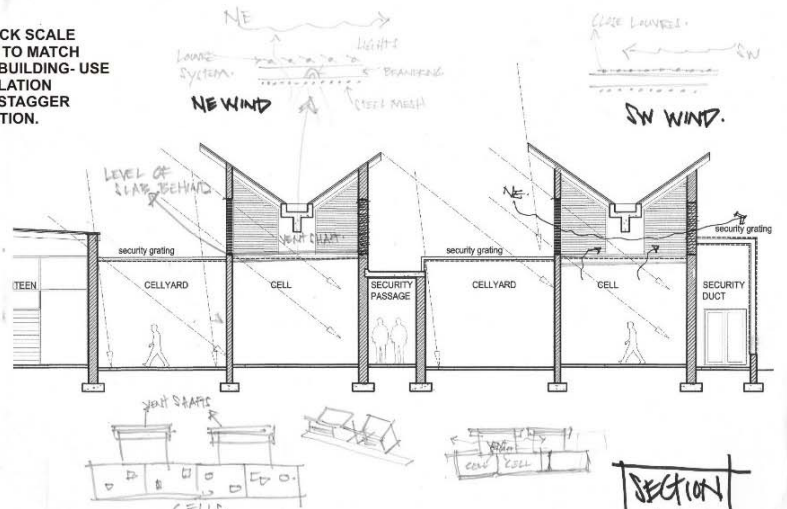
CELLBLOCK SCALE ALTERED TO MATCH REST OF BUILDING- USE OF VENTILATION STACKS, STAGGER COMPOSITION.

CREATE USABLE BARRIER BETWEEN CELLBLOCK & PARK- SCULPTURAL & SECURITY FUNCTION.

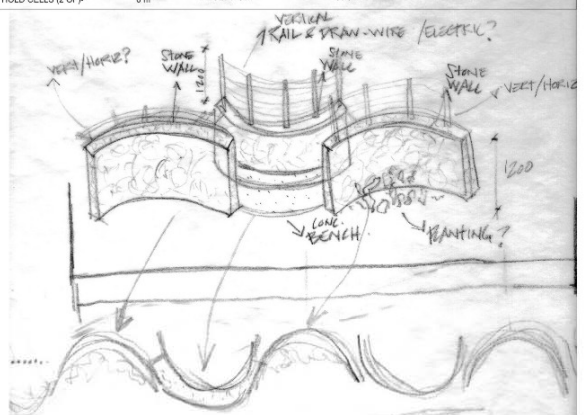
CELLBLOCK SCALE ALTERED TO MATCH REST OF BUILDING- USE OF VENTILATION STACKS, STAGGER COMPOSITION.

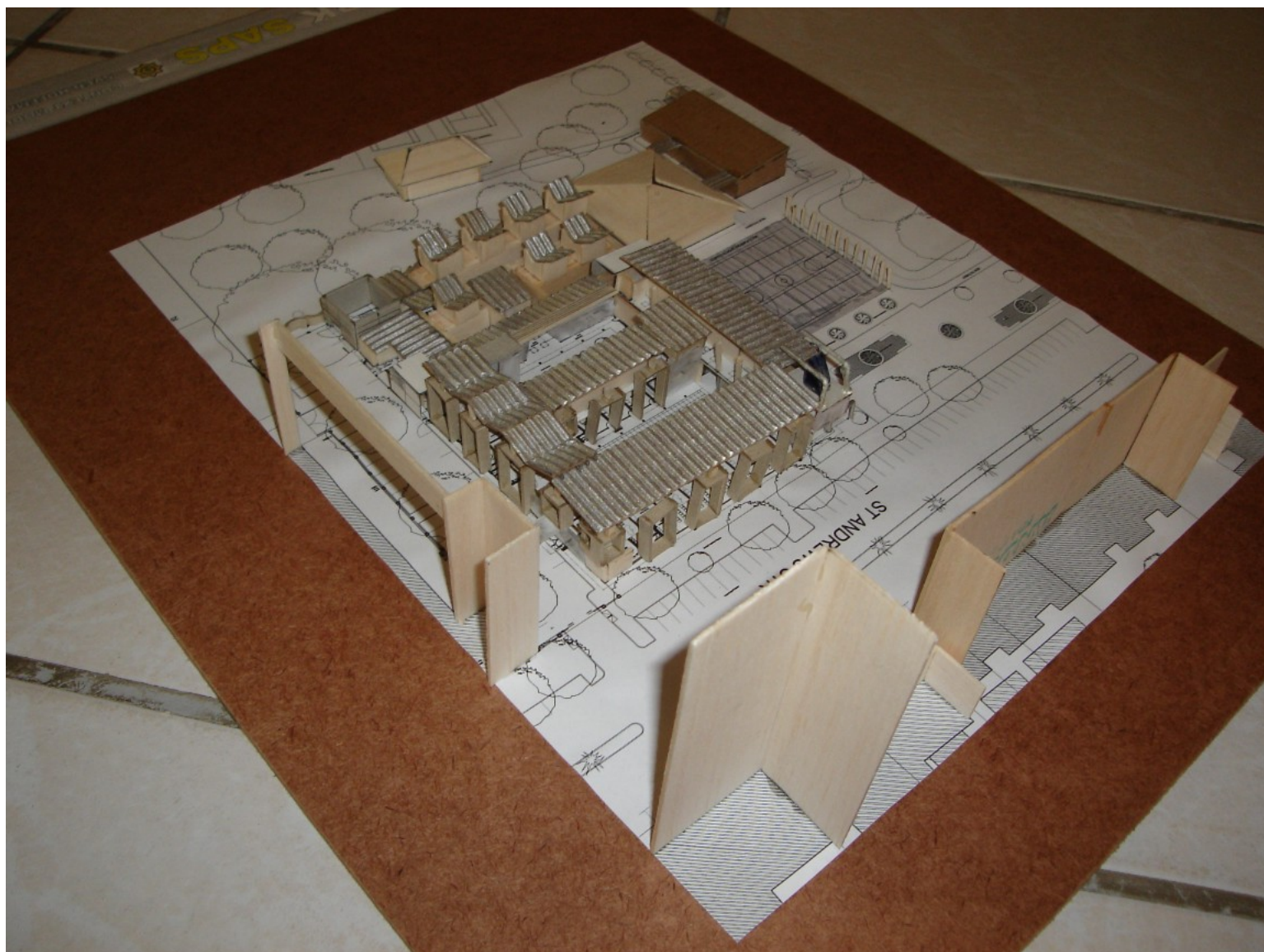
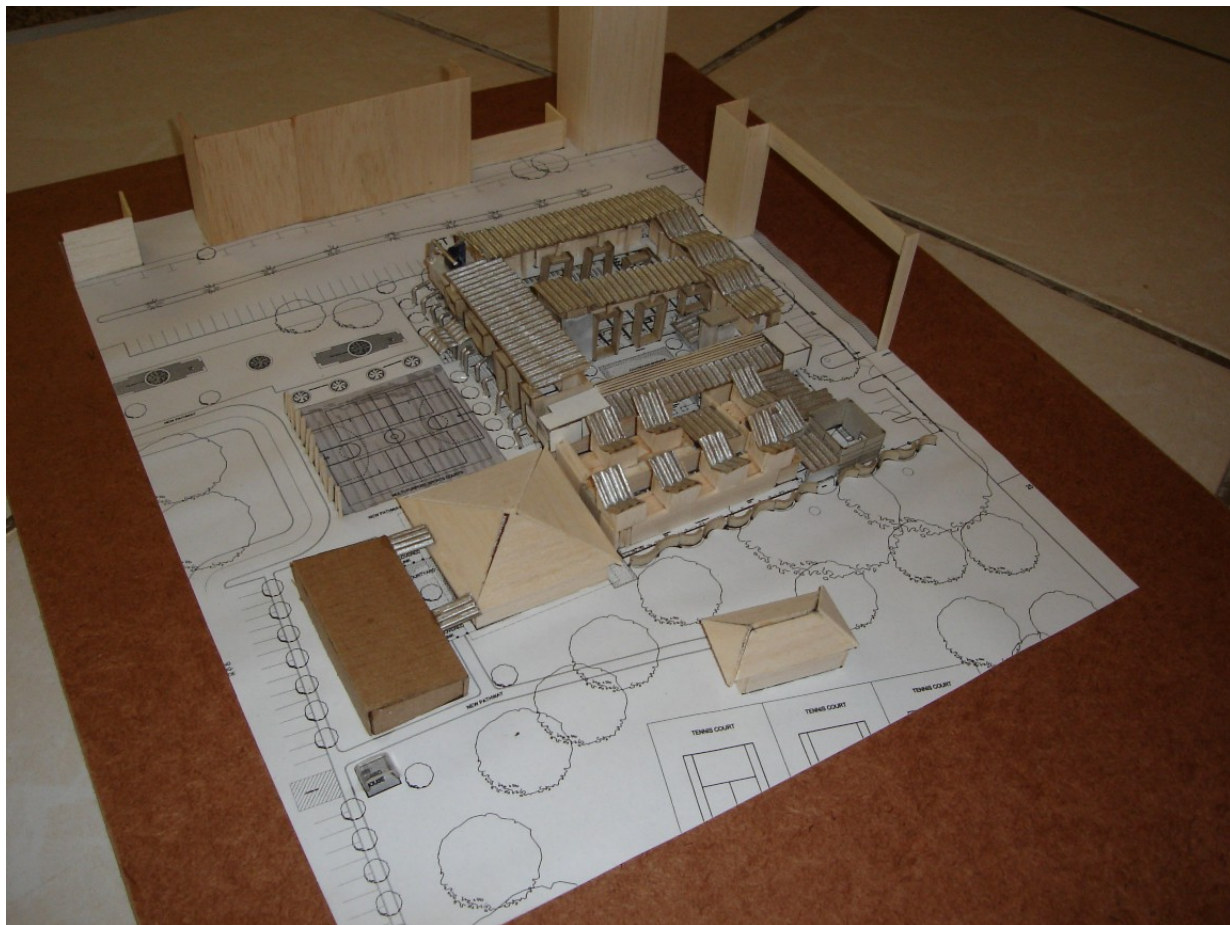


CREATE USABLE BARRIER & BUFFER BETWEEN CELLBLOCK & PARK- SCULPTURAL & SECURITY FUNCTION. LAYERED HIERARCHY. INCORPORATE ELECTRONIC DETERRENT.



SCHEDULE OF ACCOMMODATION		TOTAL CELLBLOCK	
GROUND FLOOR	70.38 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
PUBLIC FACILITIES	68.72 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
COMMUNITY HALL	237.16 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
FOYER	71 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
TEA KITCHEN	11.2 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
FEMAL	35.92 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
MALE	27.98 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
DIAB	4 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
ABL LOBBY	8.2 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
SUBTOTAL	352.65 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
INFO KIOSK	70.38 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
CONTR. ACCESS LOBBY	68.72 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
COVERED AREA	143.04 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
CHARGE OFFICE	14.5 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
CSC CMR	12 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
DUTY ROOM	9 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
FILE COPIES	30 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
INTERVIEW RM	12 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
WAITING RM	62.4 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
VISITING AREA	18.8 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
SUBTOTAL	552.03 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
COMMUNITY POLICING	30 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
SOCIAL WORKER	30 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
COUNSELLING RM	30 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
PAYMENT CENTRE	60 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
SUB TOTAL	152 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
TOTAL PUBLIC CIRCULATION	240 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
CELLBLOCK	112.11 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
SECURE YARD	98 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
INTERVIEW RM	10 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
ADMITTANCE AREA	81 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
HOLD CELLS (2 OF)	8 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
HOLD CELLS (2 OF)	5 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
BLANKET STORE	12 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
PROPERTY STORE	11 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
GENERATOR RM	26 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
CELLS (12 OF)	24 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
LAUNDRY RM	26 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
PAINTY	28 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
KITCHEN	54 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
SERVICE YARD	24 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
SECURITY PASSAGE	73 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
ABL LOBBY	8.2 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
SUBTOTAL	352.65 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
CRIME PREVENTION UNIT	90 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
PLANNING RM	111 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
GYMNASIUM	82.58 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
LOCKER RM (M&F)	70.44 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
LOCKER RM (M&F)	14.98 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
CANTINEEN	72.7 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
CANTINEEN KITCHEN	18.8 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
ARMORY	82.7 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
RESPONSE SERVICE AREA	22.5 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
SUBTOTAL	574.16 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
TOTAL PUBLIC CIRCULATION	210.88 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
GROUND FLOOR TOTAL	3368.15 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
FIRST FLOOR	42 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
ADMIN WING	186.13 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
ABILITIES	12.6 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
FINANCE OFFICE	38 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
STATION CMR	28 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
HR OFFICE	32.52 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
RECEPTION	53.9 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
ADMIN OFFICE	40.1 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
TOTAL ADMIN	218.97 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
LOGISTICS DEPT	28 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
LOGISTICS OFFICE	25 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
LOGISTICS STORE	70.84 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
TOTAL LOGISTICS	131.84 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
DETECTIVE SERVICES	32 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
DETECTIVE HEAD	32.78 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
MEETING/BRIFING RM	30.8 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
EVIDENCE STORE	12.6 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
DETECTIVE OFFICES (13)	388.5 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
DOCKET ARCHIVE	82.5 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
TOTAL DETECT. SERVICES	981.19 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
TOTAL FIRST FLR	1031.99 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
FIRST FLR CIRCULATION	433.56 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
THIRD FLOOR	57.33 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
A/C PLANT	9 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
LIFT MOTOR	77.8 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
ROOF GARDEN	42 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²
TOTAL THIRD FLR	186.13 m ²	1233 m ²	218.97 m ²
TOTAL OVERALL	5019.83 m ²	1233 m ²	40.1 m ²



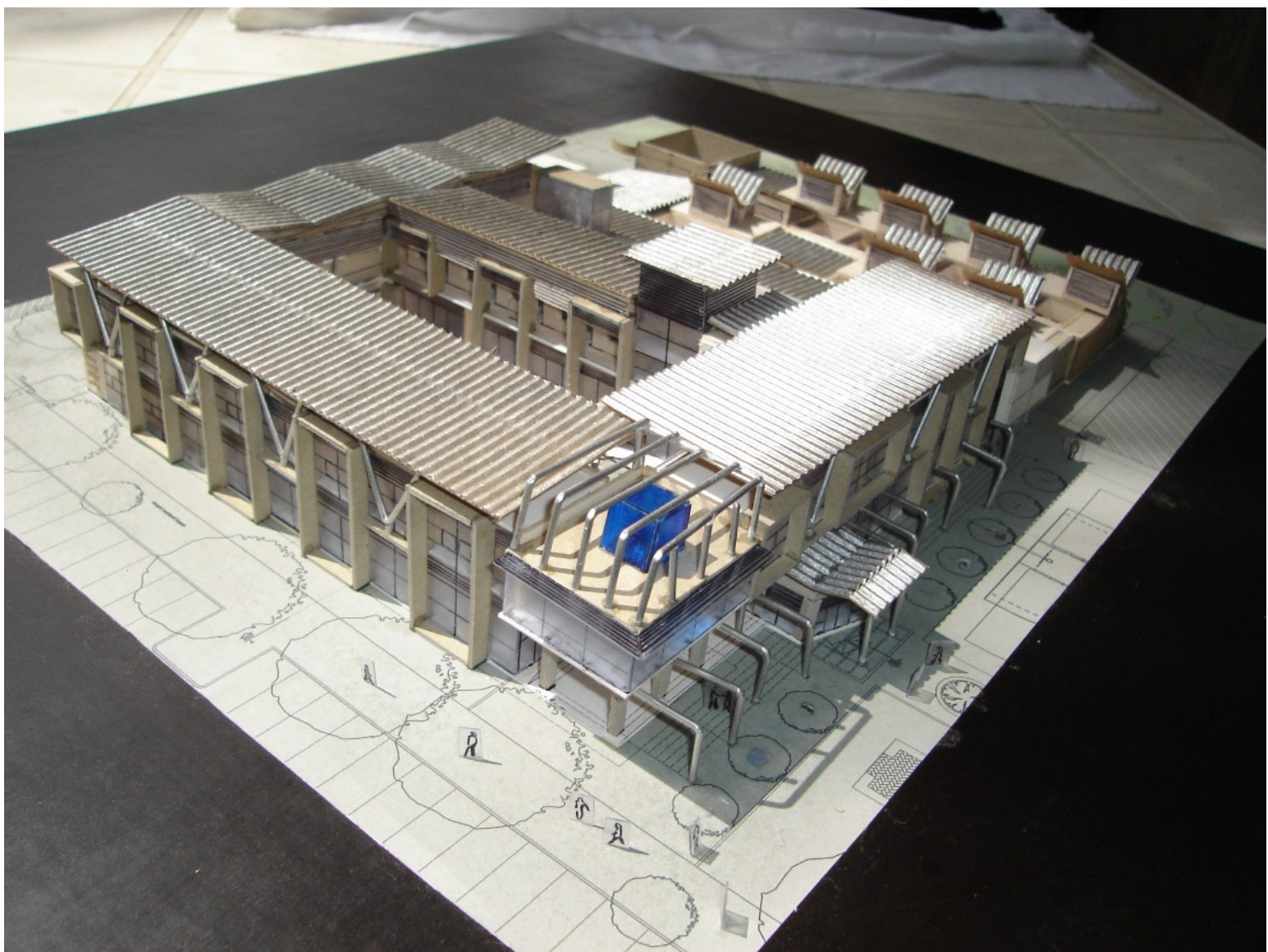


ALBERT PARK SAPS



CONTEXT MODEL 1:500
SVEN HOFFMANN



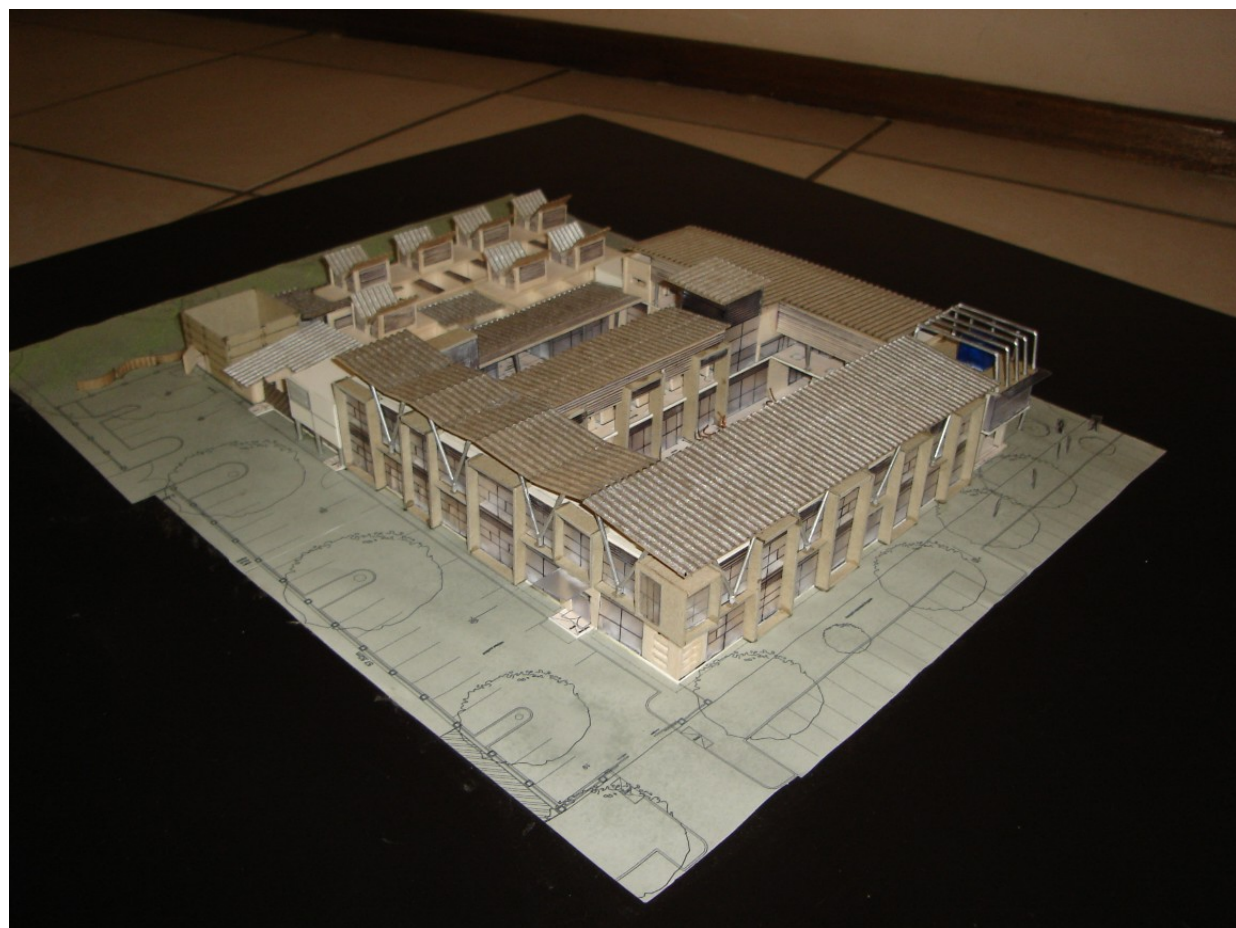


ALBERT PARK SAPS



MODEL 1:250
SVEN HOFFMANN



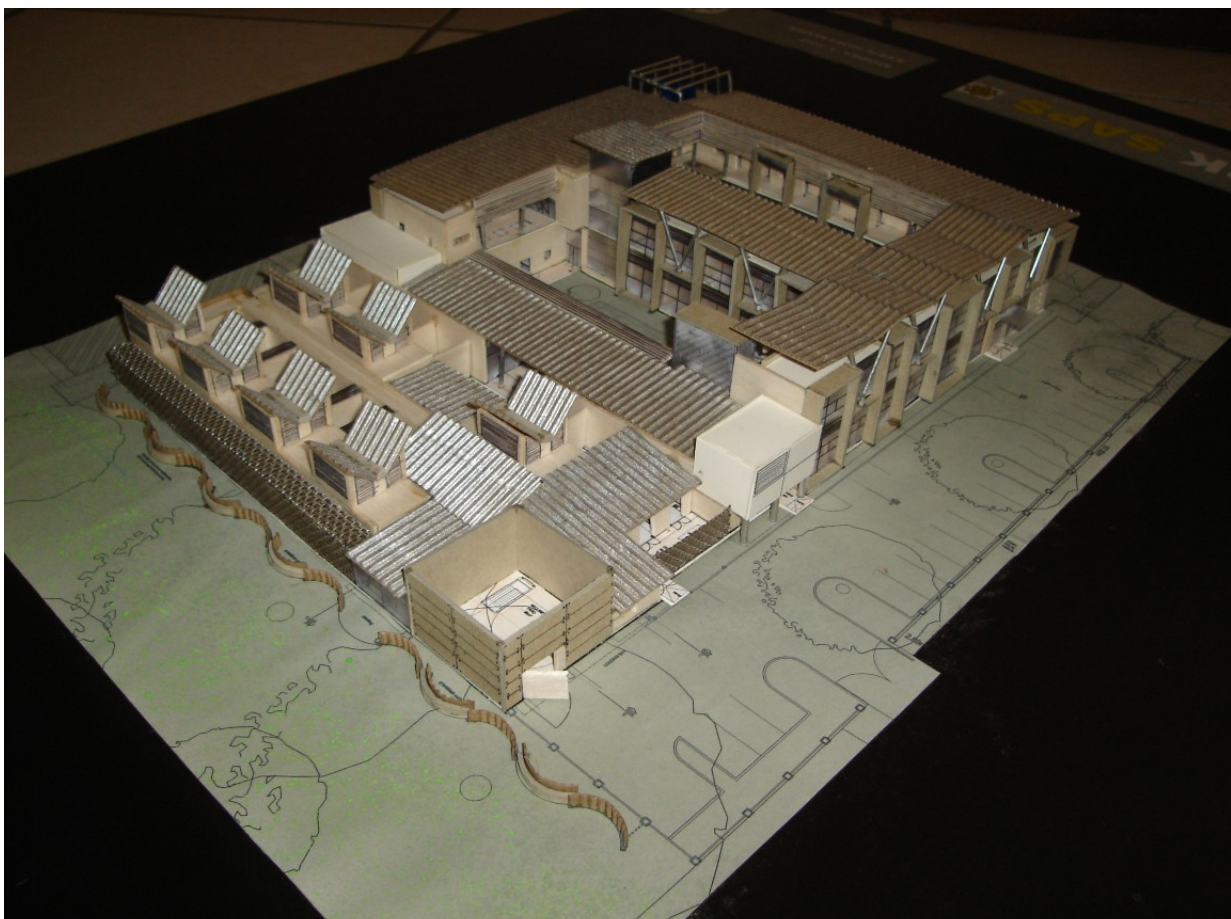
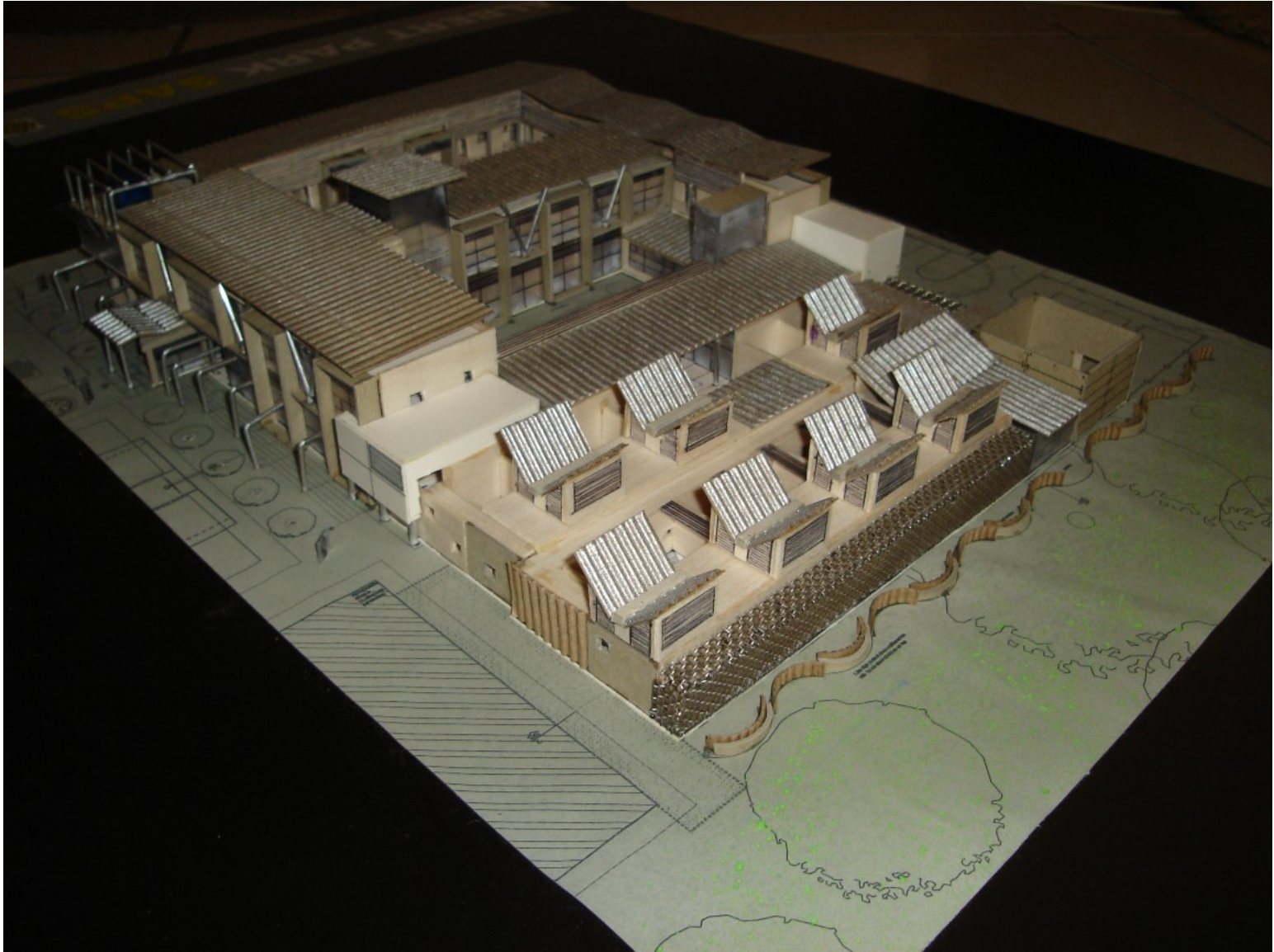
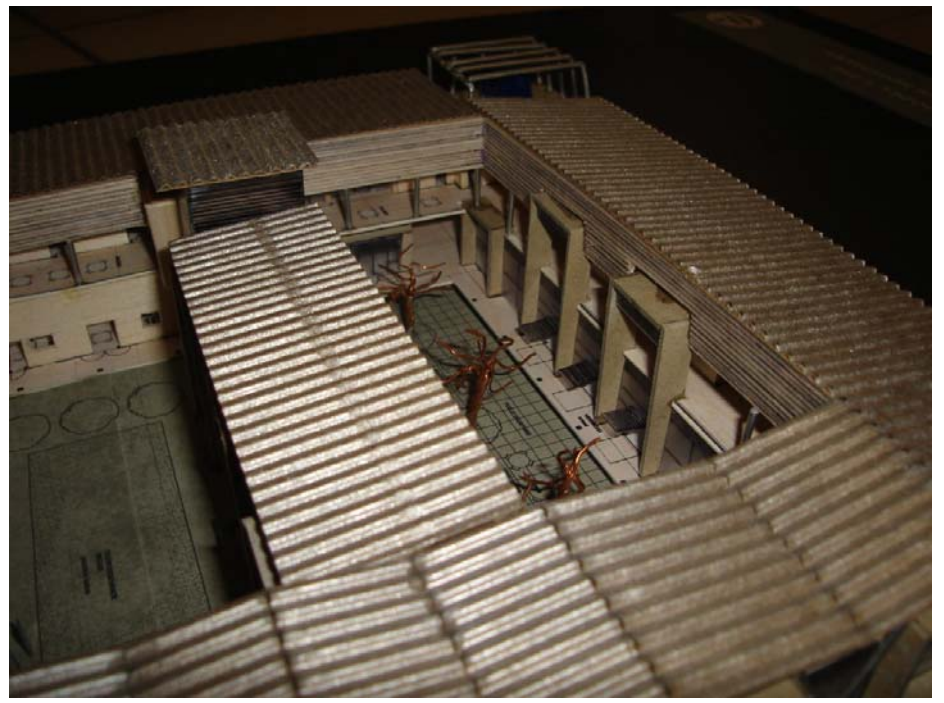


ALBERT PARK SAPS



MODEL 1:250
SVEN HOFFMANN



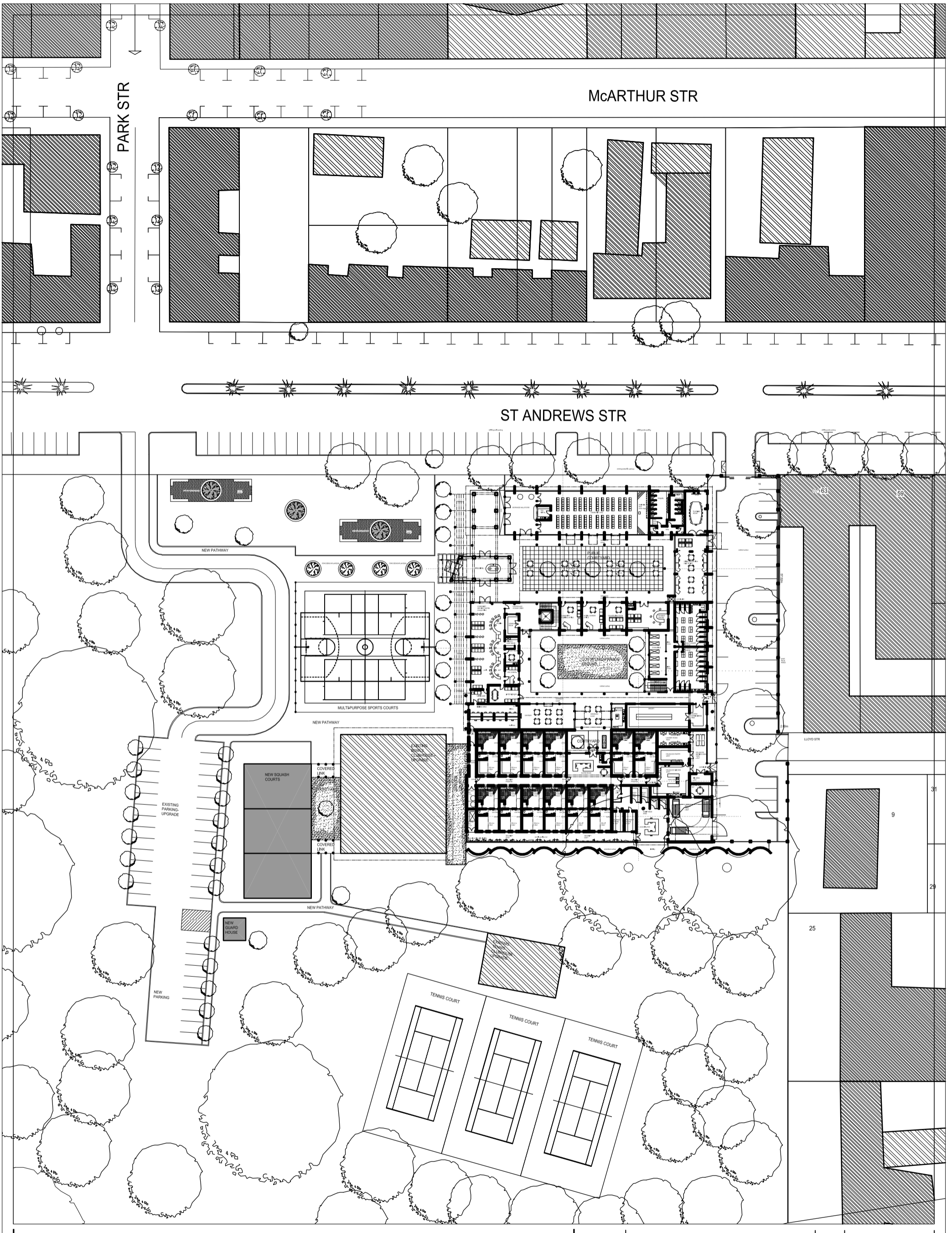


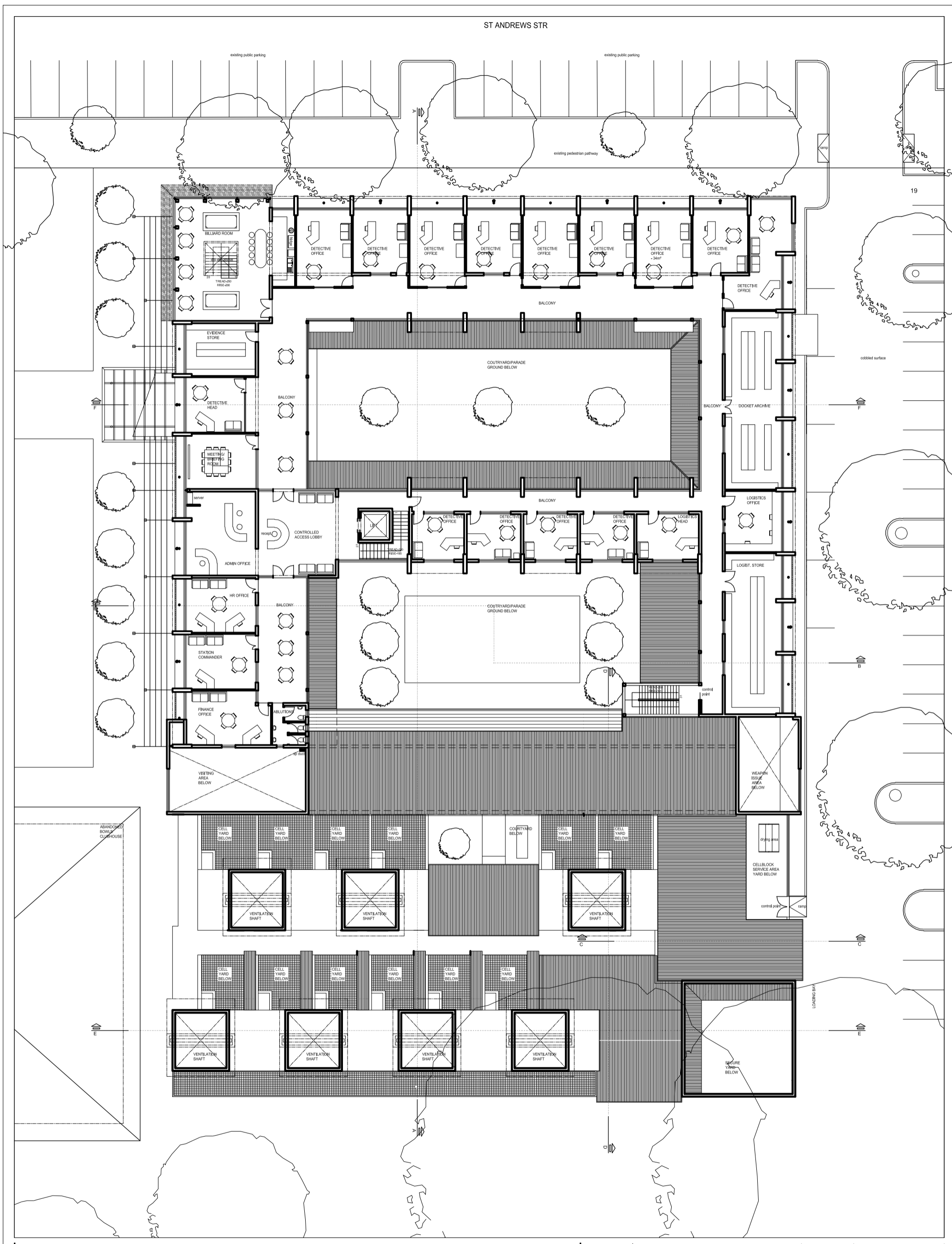
ALBERT PARK SAPS

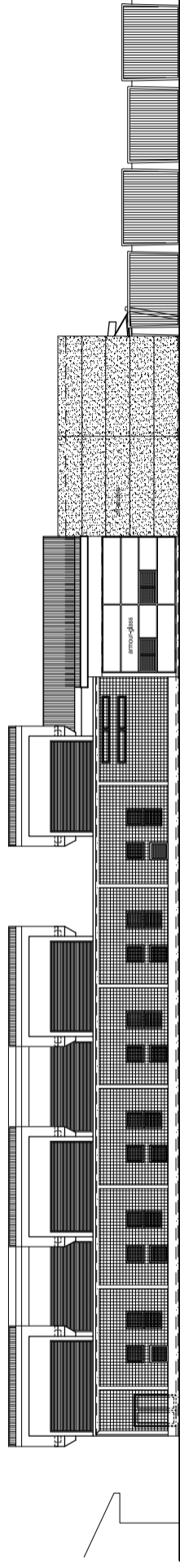


MODEL 1:250
SVEN HOFFMANN

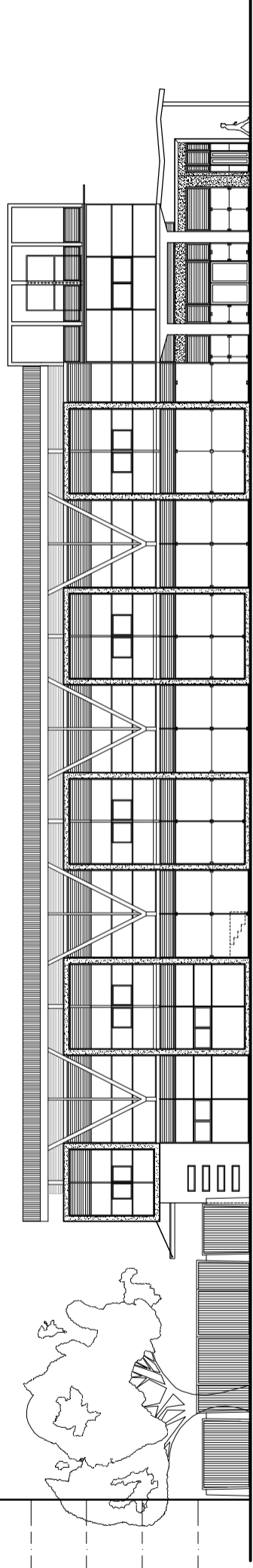




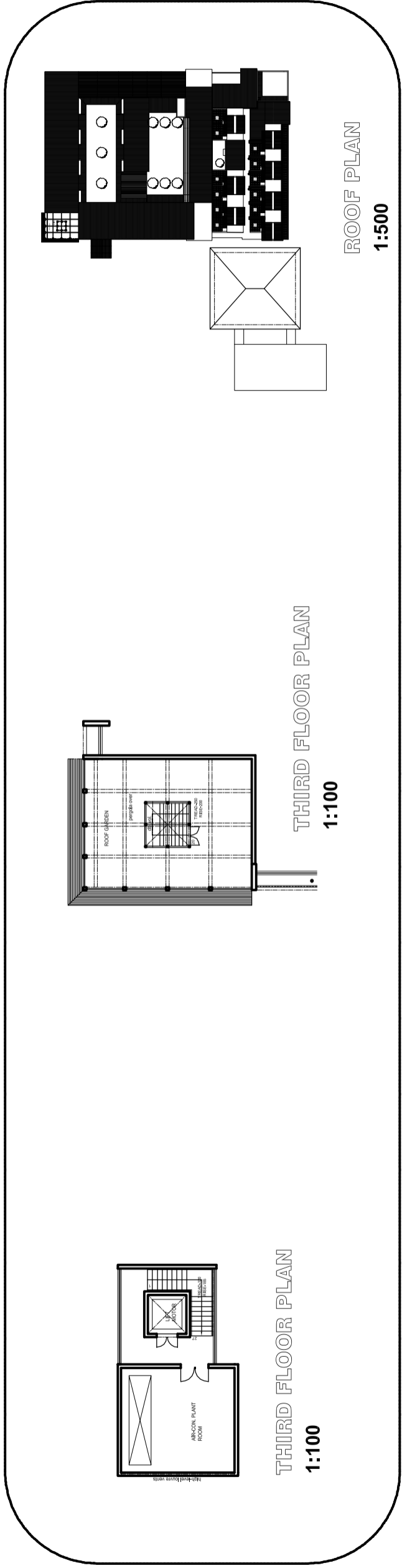




SOUTH ELEVATION
1:100



NORTH ELEVATION
1:100



THIRD FLOOR PLAN
1:100

THIRD FLOOR PLAN
1:100

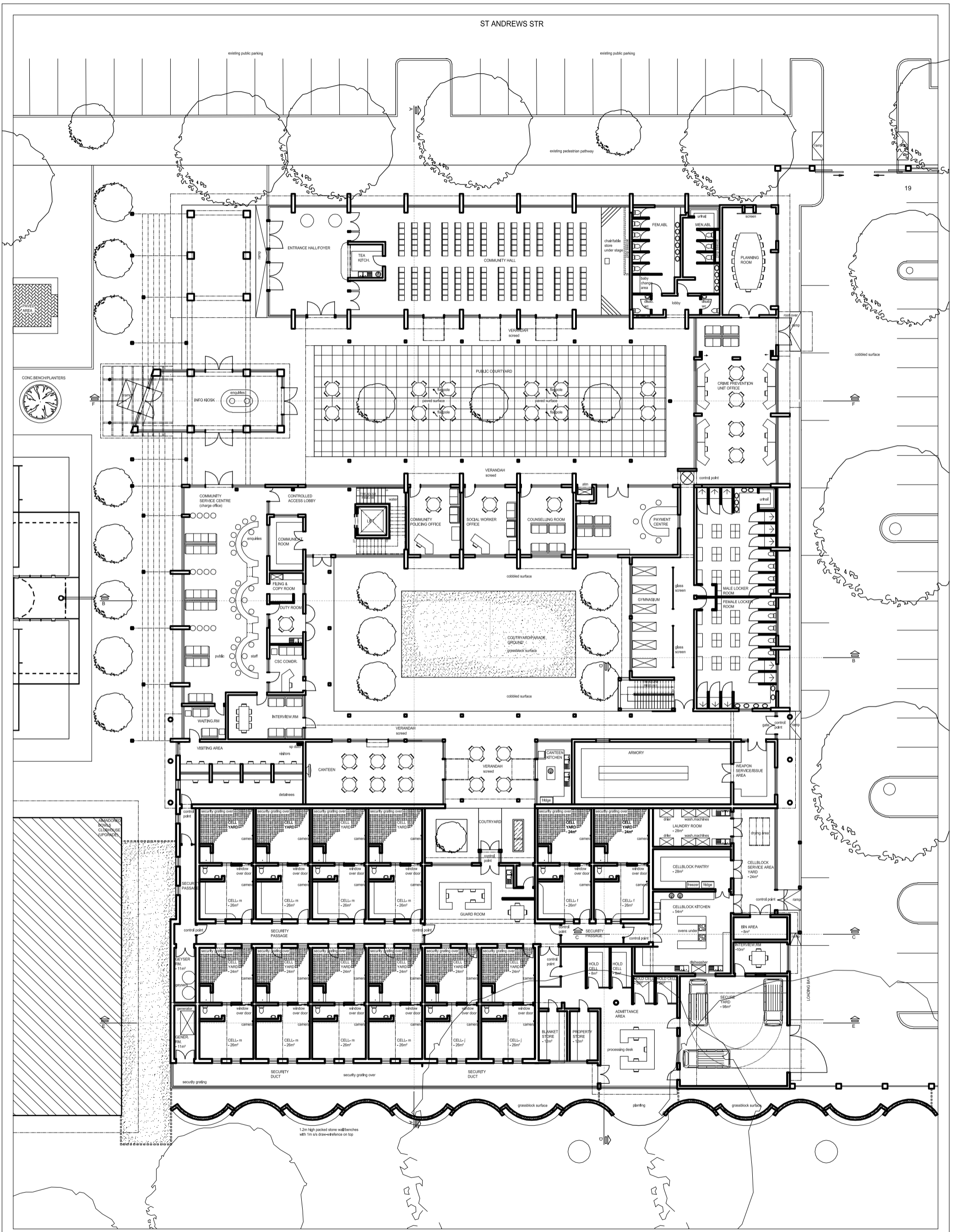
ROOF PLAN
1:500

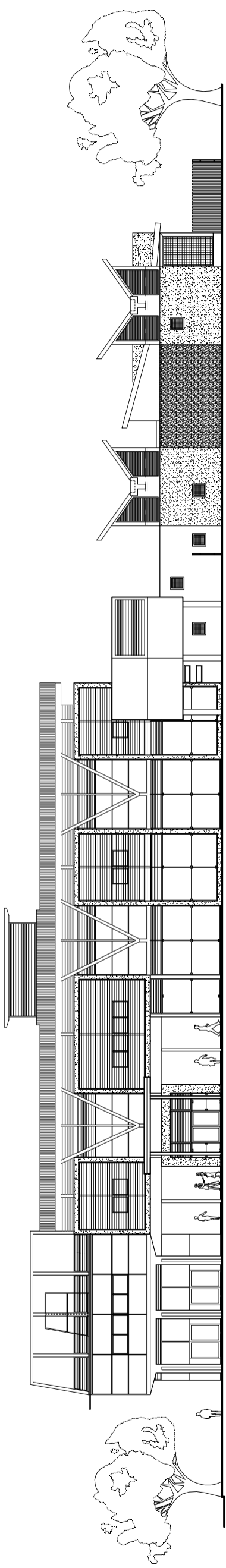


ELEVS/PLANS 1:100/500
SVEN HOFFMANN

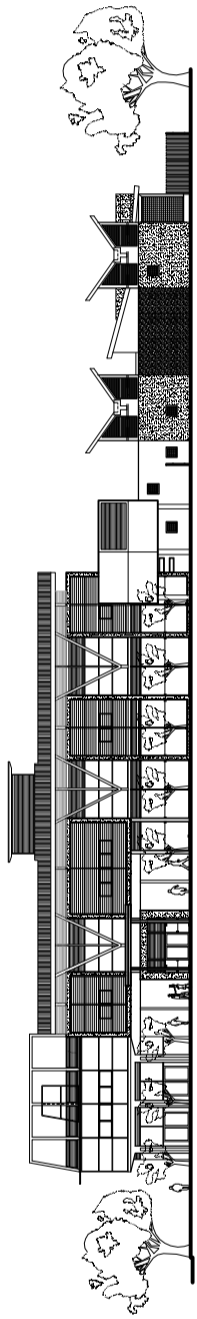


ALBERT PARK SAPS

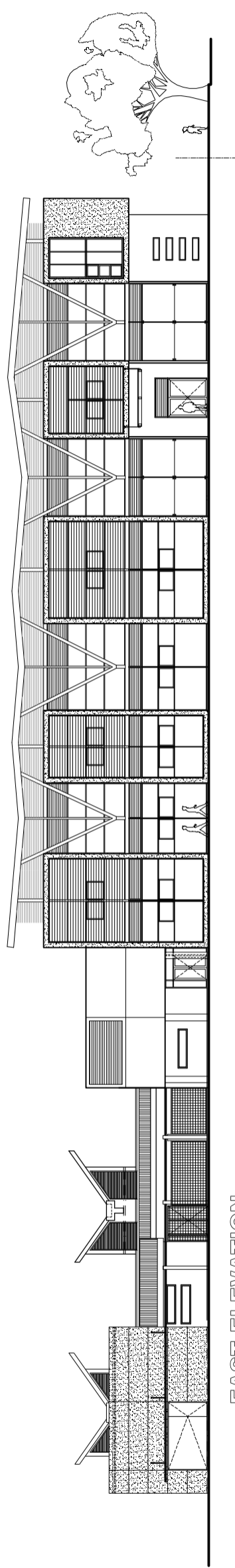




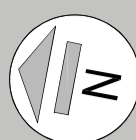
WEST ELEVATION
1:100



WEST ELEVATION
1:200



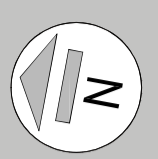
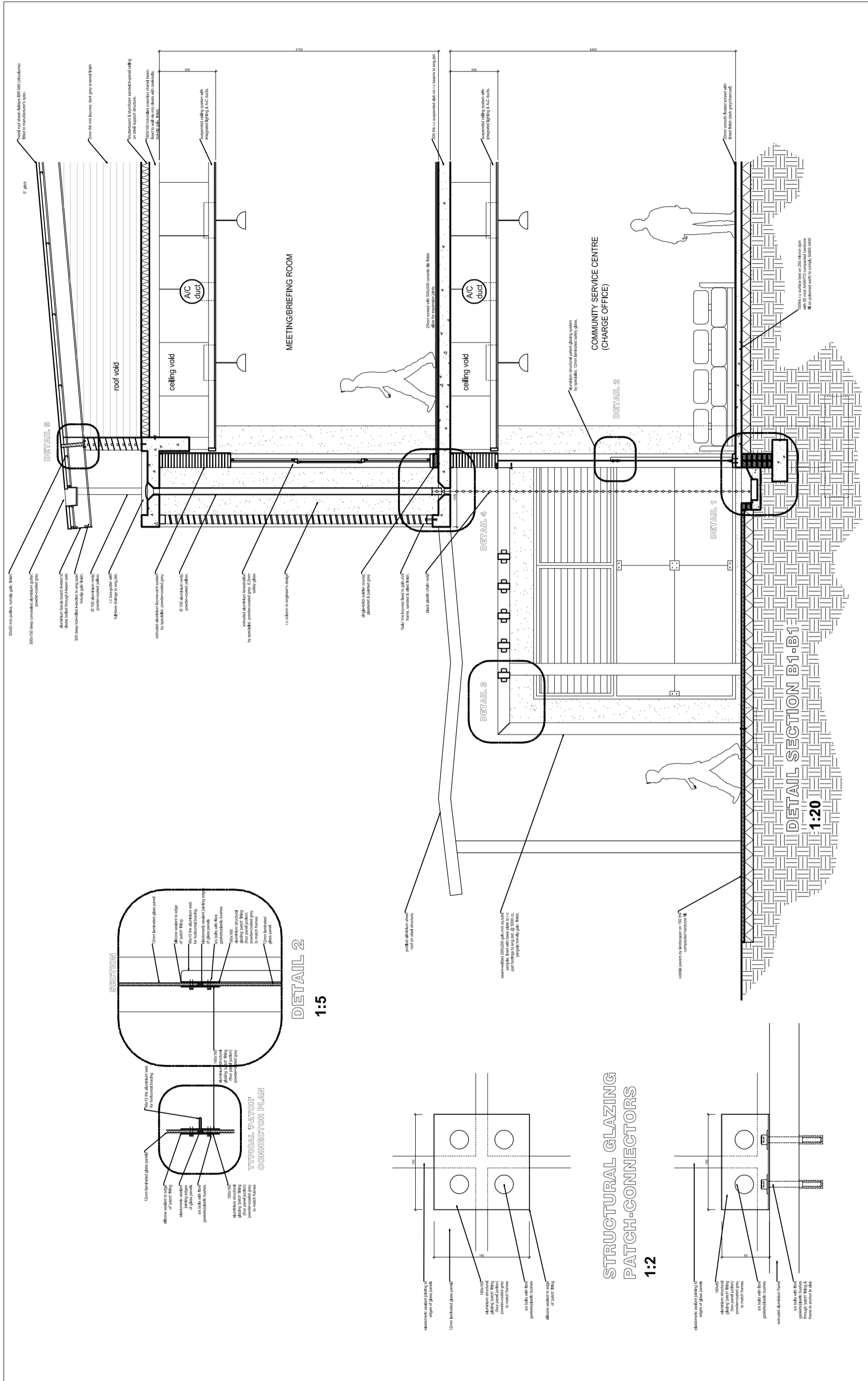
EAST ELEVATION
1:100



ELEVATIONS 1:00
SVEN HOFFMANN



ALBERT PARK **SAPS**

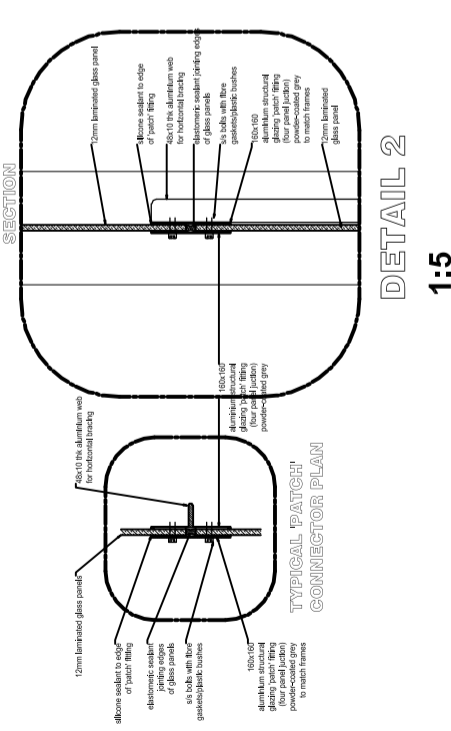
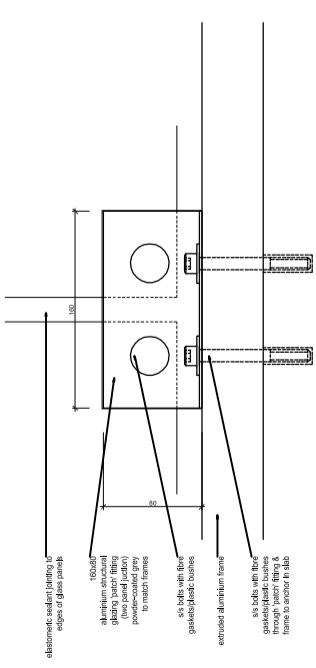


TECHNICAL DETAILS (CSC)
SVEN HOFFMANN

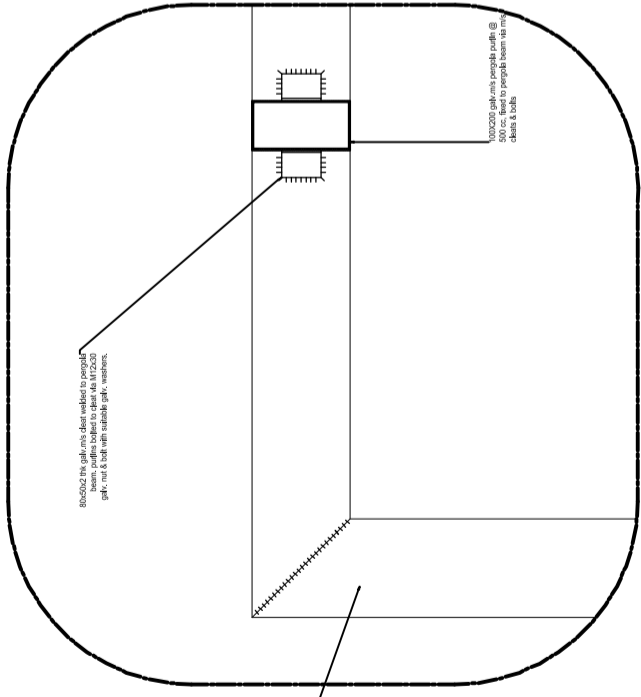


ALBERT PARK SAPS

STRUCTURAL GLAZING PATCH-CONNECTORS 1:2

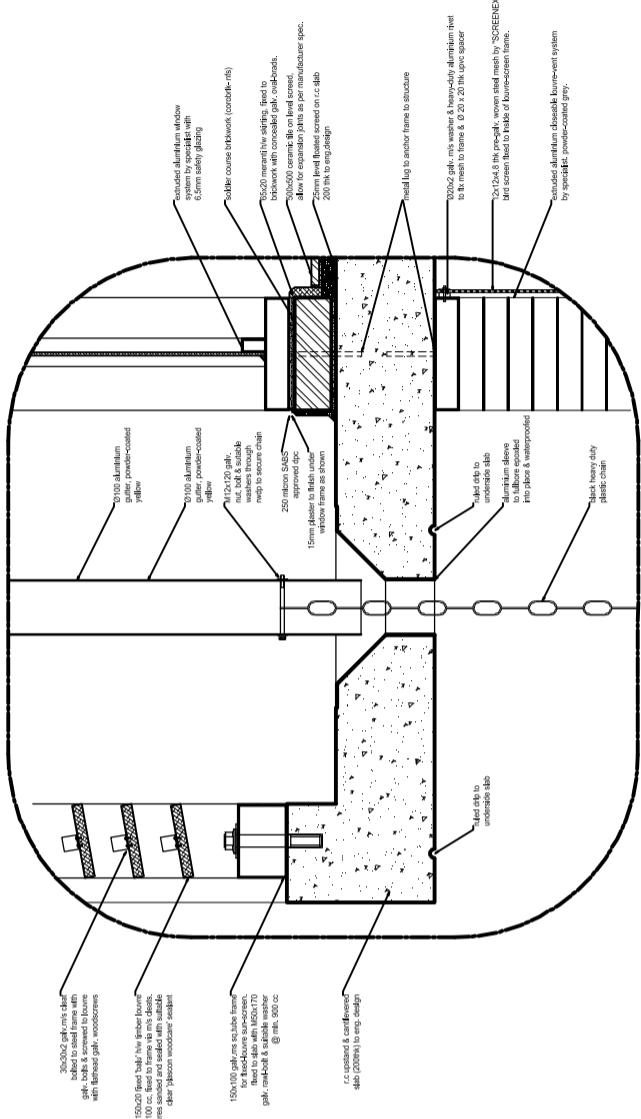


DETAIL SECTION B1-B1
1:20



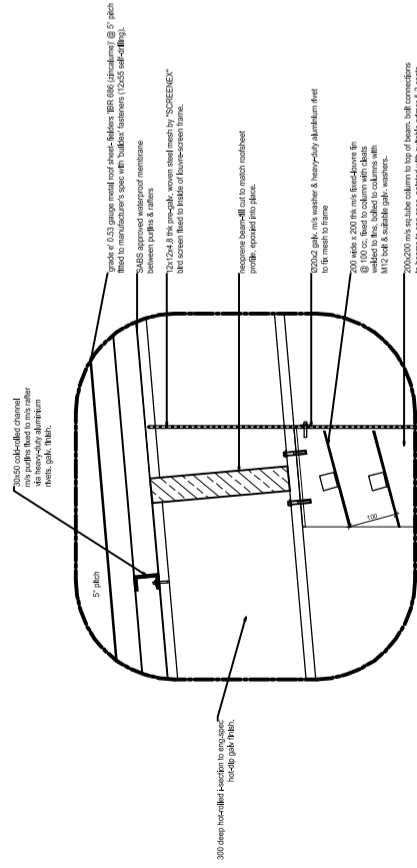
DETAIL 3

1:5



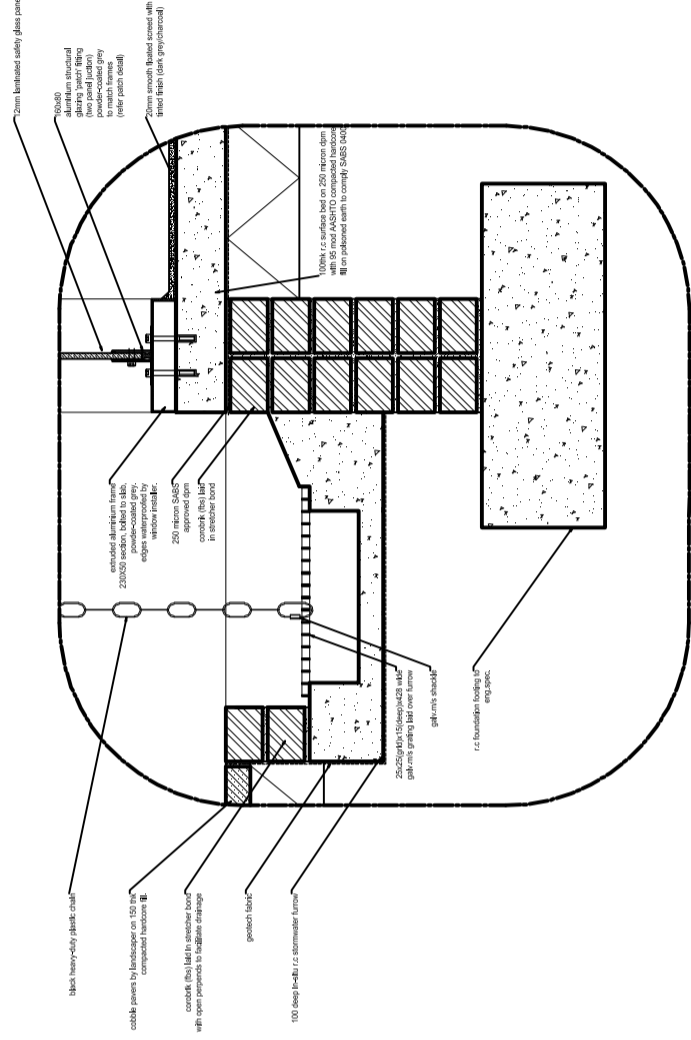
DETAIL 4

1:5



DETAIL 5

1:5



DETAIL 1

1:5



TECHNICAL DETAILS (CSC)
SVEN HOFFMANN



ALBERT PARK SAPS