Recall Cartography

memory | space | place | identity

Cathcart | Eastern Cape | South Africa

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it was a simple home, nothing fancy about it
fantastic memories of cooking with my mom and grandfather in the kitchen
coming from town, this was an interesting experience
there was no toilet
andfather's house had a beautiful view, you could see all the way up the road and down to the station and up to
the station had fireplaces inside with wooden benches
sad emotion of leaving but knowing you would come back soon
we would arrive at cathcart station by milk train
I'm the only one in my family that was born in cathcart
I was raised in cathcart for a short period of my life
grandfather didi not collect us, he had no car
as a child the mountain has always been there., the majestic mountain
I had an awareness of the mountain but remember never going to the mountain
grandfather bought me a draadkar
grandfather telling us of where the original station was
only thing that was here was the old reservoir
those grannies will sit and tell me about little things they knew or heard
we'd go up towards the mountain
I can use their experience and knowledge and their past
We lost our economy
with the advent of the diesel the train Cathcart was a changeover depot
There's been no massive development
it was the most beautiful marriage ever, even here in the park
Cathcart has more undertakers & bottle stores than anything else, unfortunately
the train would stop in Cathcart and the hole staff would change
Cathcart was a railway hub, the introduction of diesel engine means the train doesn't have to stop in Cathcart any
we would arrive at cathcart station by milk train
hen I got into Cathcart steam engines were running on the main lines then it was moved they introduced the diese
When I was a kid there was a lot more to do
when we were younger we would go to the mountain
there are no jobs. So now there's more crime in Kati K
when I was little, my grandfather worked at the railway station
he'd let me change the lines
he worked in the office
the meaning of phola is peace
there were no couriers in those days so you sent it via the train
for two years now the trains don't stop at the station anymore
You could get everything here when I first came here
Cathcart is just bottle stores and funeral parlours nov
I've been living in Cathcart since I was 7 years old
Eventually I got hold of one of these cottages and been here 11 years
they've taken our municipality away from us. No road works happening here
We used to be a thriving community. Cathcart is shrinking
there used to be soccer players
there is no
location here where my mother is, in Phola P
nothing is happening anymore, I will never forget that. I love soccer
I used to watch socer and players waiting for playoffs
this is my area and it is the most important to me
in my area the municipality don't come
want to see it developed
whenever we were miles out of cathcart you still see cathcart mountain until it simply disappear
I love Cathcart and I want to see development
you greet and the last thing you say goodbye to
something that has always been there, the mountain is the centre memory
it was a happy feeling seeing the mountain. when we left we were always sad to say goodbye
so we had an even bigger anticipation getting out the train
memories that made an impression on me was by train
we walked up with the mountain in the backdrop
there's no work, there's no colleges, there's
perfect full view of the mountain walking up
ng over the pedestrian bridge wasn't a case o going anywhere, we were going to my grandfather's house
in the street we had a sense of belonging a sense of freedom, a sense of peace
my favourite memory is my brother getting married in town hall
buying a litre of milk in the stree
the smell of the dirt roads interacting with siblings as we walked. sense of cathcart being rural
there was a place for me, I belonged there and I was loved in that house
his house was big as a small kid
sadness of leaving cathcart. a sadness because we had to gather all the little bits of happiness in one bag
we could identify
it was going to develop more but there is nothing
its very solid and noble
gives the feeling of protection and enclosure on one side and opened on the other
y memory of the first time we came to cathcart and climbing to the top looking down over the beautiful village
the views of the outskirts of town is an open space that draws you out
every time we arrive in cathcart that is the very first thing we connect with
there were leopards in the kloof and elephants ate thatch off your roof
the garden has much improved
it was always a place where people lay and threw their papers about
I love Kati Kati because it was a small town and not a lot of crime

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Abstract

A memory is inherently subjective and personal; contained within but not confined to the mind. The recollection of any memory unveils individual and collective identity attributed to a familiar space. Subsequently, retrieving an identity from a space converts that space into 'place'; a consequence of attaching significant experiential quality against a space. The body, and thus the mind, continuously interact with the immediate surrounding spatial environment. When encountering a space of familiarity, the mind is prompted with specific memories linked to that space. Prompted memories are memories of recollection.

The theory of 'Re-collective memory' is drawn upon to substantiate the interactive process between memory and space. This theory outlines personal and collective memory as an association with a particular experience, bringing oneself into direct contact with past events or places. Therefore a non-physical memory no longer remains contained within the mind but is manifested into the physical world; collective and individual identity is obtained and space is transfigured into 'place'.

The research conducted is an investigation into the relationship between space and memory; how a physical, tangible space manifests a non-physical, intangible memory.

Underlying aspects of memory are uncovered to establish its value as a significant design tool in landscape architecture for the acquisition of individual and collective identity in a place.

My understanding of memory begins at a personal level. As a child I grew up observing the memories of my mother pertaining to a very specific town; Cathcart, Eastern Cape, South Africa. This small town will serve as the case study for investigating the relationship between memory and space. As a methodological approach, a series of ethnographic interviews were conducted with my family and community members in Cathcart. Key memory locations were then identified, exhibiting significant positive and negative place-making characteristics.

An analysis of the memories led to an understanding that Cathcart is currently socially and physically divided. This is rooted in apartheid planning, where major emphasis had been placed on social and spatial segregation according to race. Post-apartheid however, the separation between spaces is still highly prevalent and discourages integration. Consequentially, precarious socio-economic issues are revealed including sanitation, housing, education and job security which continually threaten the town's existence.

A weakened sense of belonging and a fervent desire for identity becomes apparent. This is perpetuated through a loss of economy and inadequate service delivery resulting from a lack of spatial and social connectedness throughout the town. These issues are typical phenomena widespread across similar small towns in South Africa.

However, one observation of significant importance is that of timber collection by the local Xhosa people of Cathcart who rely on the wood for cooking, warming their homes and for constructing new dwellings. This process provides an opportunity to link memory locations aimed at decreasing socio-spatial disconnect while providing spaces with amenity to stimulate socio-economic growth. As an overarching framework, the process of timber collection will utilise strategic memory locations as spaces for design implementation. Woven together along an experiential route, these memory locations will be transformed into celebrated spectacle moments. The route seeks to reunite the town, providing opportunities to re-establish individual and collective identity. In this way, memory is used to facilitate spaces for place creation while simultaneously providing a platform upon which new memories can be created. As a model, such an approach for design could be applied to other small towns in South Africa that display similar conditions.

Key Words: memory, space, place, identity, spectacle moments, journey

Recall Cartography

Introduction

My understanding of memory begins at a personal level. As a child I grew up observing the memories of my grandmother, my mother and my mother's siblings pertaining to a very specific town; Cathcart, Eastern Cape, South Africa. Over time my curiosity with memory grew as I continued to listen about times and places they experienced in Cathcart long ago. These stories were the re-enactment of their memories in very particular and familiar places. Despite the memories originating from their own minds, I too could part-take in experiences of these places that were spoken of. The proposed project further investigates memory with regards to its 'place-making' capabilities.

A memory is inherently subjective and personal; contained within but not confined to the mind. Rummens identifies that the recollection of any memory unveils individual and collective identity attributed to a familiar space (Rummens, 1993). Subsequently, Norberg-Schulz says that the retrieval of an identity from a space converts that space into 'place'; a consequence of attaching significant experiential quality against a space (Norberg-Schulz, 1980). The body, and thus the mind, continuously interact with the immediate surrounding spatial environment. When encountering a space of familiarity, a specific memory is triggered linked to that space. Therefore a triggered memory, also known as a memory of recollection, no longer remains stored within the mind but is brought into existence within the physical world.

The project is an investigation into the relationship between memory and space. Through recollecting and reliving memories, it is argued physical spaces can be inscribed with meaning to become 'place', thereby attaining individual and collective identity. Consequently I am interested in how a physical, tangible 'space' might prompt a non-physical, intangible 'memory'. Therefore I will use my personal engagement with Cathcart to investigate the relationship between memory and space. The aim of this investigation is to identify and locate specific places of meaning in Catchcart through the process of documenting and spatially translating memories affixed to a sequence of superimposed maps.

The written component of the research document will firstly briefly discuss the town of Cathcart. The second paragraph discusses and positions the research within theories around memory. Thirdly, a description and positioning on space will be discussed. Fourthly, place will be investigated. Theories relating to identity will be discussed in the fifth paragraph. Thereafter the methodology of research will be explained in paragraph six followed by the conclusion paragraph.

Cathcart

Cathcart is a former English frontier town in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. It is situated approximately 1150 kilometres east of Cape Town, 150 kilometres north of East London on the coast and 50 kilometres south of Queenstown further inland. Cathcart is bordered by the Windvogel Mountain to the west and the rolling grassland hills to the east. The town is divided into 4 main areas; firstly the historic town centre, secondly the surrounding suburbs, thirdly, the formal satellite township to the north-east called Kati-Kati, and lastly the more informal township called Phola Park to the south-east.

Memory

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy describes memory as a diverse set of cognitive capacities by which humans retain information and reconstruct past experiences within the present moment (Stanford. Edu. 2010). John Sutton (1998) discusses three types of memory; Habit Memory; Propositional Memory; and Re-collective Memory. Habit Memory, also known as procedural memory, is the ability to learn through automated mnemonic conditioning mechanisms such as dancing or playing the piano. Mnemonic, meaning memory aid, alludes to a physical kinetic action taking place that spatialises memory. Propositional memory or semantic memory is the recalling of facts, figures and the ability to recall knowledge. Lastly, Re-collective memory or episodic memory pertains directly to one's personal memories of particular experiences. These memories are the 'remembering when' and are often of a deep personal nature that brings oneself into direct contact with particular past events and places. (Sutton, 1998). Remembering, like the original source of the memory, is therefore an event; an activity that transports one to another time and within a definite place.

Sutton's third memory type, Re-collective memory, is particularly relevant to this case study because it links memory and place. Sutton describes episodic memory or

re-collective memory as the memory of our experiences from which humans are able to reconstruct actual events that took place at any given moment in one's life (Sutton, 1998). This is to say that episodic memory is in fact autobiographical events of times, places, associated memories and other contextual knowledge that can be spoken of unambiguously. These memories are often met with an emotional charge which encapsulates the entire context around an event as part of the memory. The emotional energy that accompanies episodic memory is therefore relevant to the research because it adds significant meaning upon a space. Such a space would therefore be converted into 'place', uncovering one's identity therein.

Particular memories are highly subjective and intangible, conjured into existence through one's interaction with the tangible, objective world. The subjectivity and shapelessness of memories can therefore be precisely pin-pointed to an exact place, even if the memory itself is personal. Memories are peculiar because they cannot be seen, heard or felt but by interacting with the tactile, observable world, an immaterial memory becomes real again. This interaction transforms a space in which the memory is re-enacted to 'place' which unveils one's identity and belonging within that place. These terms will be discussed in later paragraphs. The research study intends to investigate how a particular, concrete space manifests an intangible, non-physical memory and in what ways this interaction creates place and identity.

I argue that there is significant design value in the interaction between memory and space. To investigate this proposition I attempt to uncover significant diverse memories of Cathcart in particular places that might share location but have overlapping or differing memories. The research attempts to uncover the dynamic condition between the subjective, personal memory and the real, objective site. This is a proposal to test a method of mapping memory.

Space

The Encyclopaedia Britannica defines spaces as a "boundless, three-dimensional extent in which objects and events occur and have relative position and direction." (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2014). Social aspects are another layer that defines is defined by space. Henri Lefebvre critiques space, specifically the production of social space. He argues that space is a social product based on values and the social production of meanings which, in turn, affects spatial practices and perceptions (Lefebvre, 1991). The spaces described in the research portray values and meanings inscribed upon by the people of Cathcart which has determined the spatial outcome of those spaces and the activities that take place therein.

Place

In his writings about place, Norberg-Schulz refers to 'genius loci'; defined simply as the feeling or character of a place (Norberg-Schulz, 1980). The genius loci, as defined by Norberg-Schulz, is described as representing the sense people have of a place and understood as the sum of all physical and symbolic values in nature and the human environment (Norberg-Schulz, 1980). When discussing Norberg-Schulz's understanding of place, Jiven et al. say that "nature, he feels, is the basis for people's interpretation and it is in relation to nature that places and objects take on meaning" (Jiven, G et al. 2003). Van Nes argues that Norberg-Schulz goes on to define place as the experience of one's interaction with the concrete world (van Nes, 2012). Therefore, places possess meaning and facilitate identity when at the centre of human activity. The places in Cathcart referred to in the research have significant meaning to the individuals

Identity

Identity is inherently connected to place and memory because it is relational and contextual. It requires a physical space to be present from which memories are prompted, thus transfiguring that same space into a place of inscribed meaning. This is often achieved through sharing distinct characteristics or, in this case, the memories of an individual as a shared entity amongst members of a group within a particular place (Rummens, 1993: 156-159). An individual identity is therefore transmitted within a larger group of individuals to arrive at a collective identity.

John Locke, a 17th Century philosopher of memory, argues that insofar as consciousness accompanies thinking, identity is a matter of consciousness that extends backwards in time to link ones' thoughts with one's actions (Locke, 1690). Being able to repeat the idea of a past action in a series thus constitutes an identity and is a matter of memory. Piccirillo refers to John Locke and describes how Locke suggests that one's identity is strongly linked to memory and place. In critiquing Locke, Thomas Reid refers to Locke's theories in his essays, saying that Locke sees identity equal to memory; "as far as a [memory] can be extended backwards to any past action or thought, so far reaches the identity of that person." (Reid, 1785).

Locke speaks of memories as an event, emphasising the emotional charge related to a specific memory. Locke's 'events' imply a vigorous engagement with one's memories as a prerequisite within a particular space before obtaining an identity. Locke goes on to say that "a person's identity over time is defined by a set of interconnected memory events." (Piccirillo, 2010). An event is "a thing that happens or takes place, especially one of importance." (Oxford Dictionaries, 2014). It can therefore be deduced that a memory event is the recollection of an emotionally charged moment. This moment might originate from an individual but is also able to transcend as a collective memory throughout a group of people. This occurs within a specific place, a mechanism by which an identity is linked to the physical world through the recollection of non-physical memories.

Methodology

I chose to conduct a range of ethnographic interviews with my family and the local community in Cathcart as the basis of my methodology. Through the process of interviewing I was able to gain an informed understanding of how memories exist in space. Personal engagement with family and the local community of Cathcart ensured clear and direct information from primary sources. A questionnaire was formulated based upon concepts of memory and place and identity, phrased in a manner that interviewees could understand and thoroughly engage with. The interviews were documented as voice recordings stored in a digital database. This enabled me to revisit the interviews and dissect relevant information pertaining to the relationship between memory and space.

Every interview was conducted in a comfortable environment whereby the interviewee could answer openly. The formulation of the questionnaire is a framework which aims to assist in answering questions about memory and its relationship to space. The nature of conducting individual interviews may prompt me to deviate slightly from the core questions to arrive at more specific answers pertaining to memory. This natural deviation from the general pre-assigned questions allows for each interview to remain unique. However, each interview attempts to address general sample questions which are located in Appendix A. Details pertaining to each interview are located in appendix B.

After completing the interviews, I physically went out into the Cathcart to visit the various memory locations as described by the interviewees. After arriving at each location, the spaces were documented in the form of photographs and digital video recordings. These items are used to graphically represent and spatialise the voice-recorded memories in an exact place.

As the final product, the research document analyses each individual interview, drawing out key memories which are then visually translated as significant memory events anchored to specific spaces on a map. Alongside these, critical observations are made which highlight the character of the place and the individual identity revealed therein. A comparison between individual memory locations are then made on a separate map that indicates collective memory locations, suggesting a collective memory of particular spaces scattered throughout Cathcart. This mapping technique serves as the evidence in uncovering the relationship between memory and space, the transition into place and its corresponding retrieval of identity.

Cathcart, Eastern Cape, South Africa

what is memory?

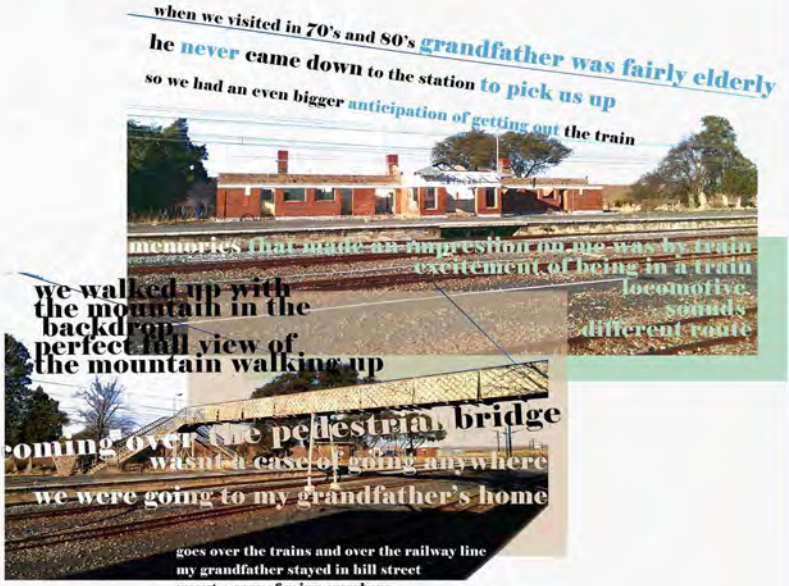
an event that one remembers

remembers partly or fully

memory can be of a phase of your life

whenever we were miles out of cathcart
you still see cathcart mountain until it simply
disappears
first thing you see
look! there's the mountain
never remember saying goodbye to the sea
however coming into cathcart
mountain is the centre of memory
it was a happy feeling seeing the mountain
when we left we were always sad to say godbye

grandfather
bought me a
draadkar
we'd come up towards the mountain
grandfather telling us of where the original station was
from here one can look all the way down into town
no homes nothing
only thing that was here
was the old reservoir


when we visited in 70's and 80's grandfather was fairly elderly
he never came down to the station to pick us up
so we had an even bigger anticipation of getting out the train
memories that made an impression on me was by train
excitement of being in a train
locomotive
sounds
different route
we walked up with
the mountain in the
backdrop
perfect full view of
the mountain walking up
coming over the pedestrian bridge
wasnt a case of going anywhere
we were going to my grandfather's home
goes over the trains and over the railway line
my grandfather stayed in hill street
wasnt a case of going anywhere
we were going to my grandfathers home

The mountain becomes a place of significance because of its eternal presence in the landscape. The mountain carries with it emotional connotations that are evoked within in my uncle when he closely observes it. Emotions of happiness and sadness are closely linked to the mountain based upon very specific memories that are triggered through the experience of the mountain.

Windvogel Mountain

Old Reservoir

The peculiar characteristics of the reservoir are the main attributes depicted in my uncle's memory of it. The old reservoir is remembered as the only object in the landscape, floating above a sea of tall grass. This particular place is significant because, as an object, it represents a personal experience my uncle shared with his grandfather, transforming this space into a particular place that they would walk together.

Railway Station

The train station represents a place of arrival and departure. An array of emotions are evoked in my uncle's recollection of the station. This space is transformed into a place of great significance because it resembles a time where family would reunite.

what is memory?

recollection of a combination of things

recollection of feelings, emotions

almost like visual data

mountain
awareness of mountain
never going to mountain
as a child
mountain has always been there
majestic mountain
nature aspect
enjoying the outside

I was raised
in cathcart
I'm quire
the only one in
family that was
born in cathcart
for a short
period of
my life
hospital

train station
sad emotion of leaving
but knowing you would
come back soon again
arrive at cathcart station by milk train
wonderful excitement
grandfather did
not collect us
he had no car
CATHCART
wonder
friendly
place
fireplace inside
with wooden benches

grandfather's house
had a beautiful view
could see
the road
no toilet, ablution block
was outside,
coming from town that
was an interesting
experience.
fantastic memories
of cooking food with
my mom and
grandfather in the
kitchen
had a simple home
nothing fancy about it

Even though a physical interaction with the mountain never took place in the memories of my mother, it made its presence very much known. The mountain remains an a majestic object in the memories of my mother. The mountain is therefore a significant place; a narrator and overseer of all my mother's experiences in Cathcart.

Windvogel Mountain

Cathcart Hospital

This space is particularly significant to my mother as it symbolises the place where she was born. Furthermore, this space connects my mother to all of Cathcart. It reveals to her, her own identity and that she will always find a sense of belonging in Cathcart.

Grandfather's House

This space resembled family and celebration. Emotions of love and joy are expressed in the memories of the house expressed as a second home. It is a place identified with as the centre of experiences in Cathcart.

Railway Station

Particular significance is shown in the railway station being an important place. Fond memories of sitting at the fireplace indoors and waiting for the train to arrive resonates clearly with my mother's remembrance of this space. It is a key location in which my mother can strongly identify with.

aunt *recall participant C*

C

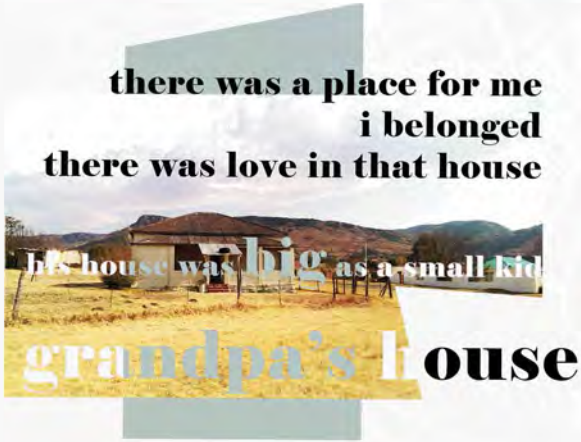
what is memory?

memory is more than what we think

memory is compiled of thoughts, senses and emotions

street
sense of belonging
sense of freedom
sense of peace
buying a liter of milk in the street
smell of dirt roads
interacting with siblings
as we walked
sense of cathcart living
rura

sadness of leaving cathcart
sadness because we had to
gather all the little bits of happiness
in one bag
train station
we could identify
with the train station


there was a place for me
i belonged
there was love in that house
his house was big as a small kid
grandpa's house

The streets of Cathcart is a place that my aunt pleasingly identifies with because it represents a space in which her and her siblings could freely roam without any adult supervision. Being able to walk the dirt streets and have new adventures transformed the mundane street space into a place of discovery and intrigue.

Town Centre

Railway Station

This space resembles transition, a space in which family would both meet and depart. Arriving and leaving with family and sharing joyous and unhappy experiences together has caused the station to remain as a significant place in the memories of my aunt.

Grandfather's House

The house depicts a happy space where my aunt was loved, transfiguring the space between the walls into a place she felt she belonged, obtaining an identity.

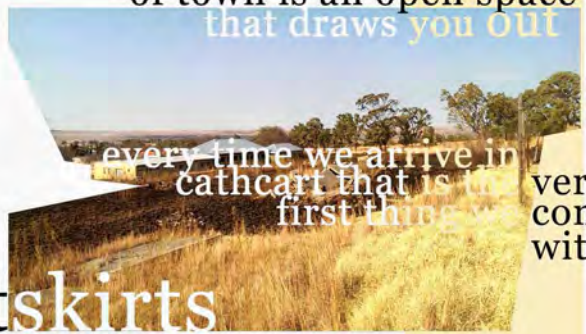
traveller *recall participant D*

what is memory?

memory is linked to a feeling

it's not just a picture that is recalled but what I felt

the views of the outskirts
of town is an open space
that draws you out



very
connect
with

outskirts

The traveller's memories of the mountain positions it as a caring object in the landscape. The mountain is perceived as a place that provides shelter and retreat and ultimately a location the traveller will always find an identity.

Windvogel Mountain

The outskirts of Cathcart possesses an undeniable power to draw one's sight over the vast rolling hills. This space is spoken of as a place the traveller can connect with because it is always remembered as the location that one can escape towards with the mind.

Outskirts

elderly woman ***recall participant E***

what is memory?

something that occurred to you,
to your father, your grandfather and so on

there were leopards
in the kloof and elephants
ate thatch off your roof

the garden has much improved
it was always place where people
lay and threw their papers about

Kloof

The elderly woman feels she has a rich connection with the area of Cathcart because of her long family lineage in the area. She recalls stories from her great grandfather of times long ago when wild animals used to wander the mountain valleys. The woman's identity remains strongly tied to the landscape surrounding Cathcart

War Memorial

This space is remembered as being an undesirable part of town. Up until recently however, the elderly lady recalls walking past the war memorial and noticing how it has been improved. Her sense of belonging and identity within this place has been restored.

museum director *recall participant F*

what is memory?

memory is a trip down memory lane

you recall and bring up happy moments

eras that have gone by, good old days as I'd put it

it's a fast life, the ability to go back to what was

C M Colliers Museum

those grannies will sit and tell
me about little things they knew
/ or heard

I can use their experience and knowledge and their past
to get me forward and help people coming to the museum

Callie Evans Lodge

the Lord brought me here

I have a heart for old people so I put my myself in
the old aged home
I had millions of mothers
and lots of grannies and
they made me feel welcome
and so loved

The museum is significantly important to the museum director because it is a place that she can honestly identify with. She sees the space as an opportunity to revitalise the town by positively engaging with the town's rich historical value, uplifting and providing and hope to those who visit.

C M Colliers Museum

Callie Evans Lodge

This home for the elderly in Cathcart provided a place where the museum director could feel loved and appreciated. The memories of this place is therefore very significant because it encapsulates strong emotions of joy and happiness.

g

estate agent *recall participant G*

what is memory?

Memory is what you've lived through, obviously

**You've got to be careful of memory
because memory can fade and become distorted**

with the advent of the diesel the train
Cathcart was a changeover depot

the train would stop in Cathcart and the whole staff would change
Cathcart was a railway hub
the introduction of diesel engine means the train
doesn't have to stop in CC anymore

Train Station

when I got into Cathcart steam engines were
running on the main lines
then it was moved
they introduced the diesel locomotive

Old Train Station

Cathcart has more undertakers
& bottle stores than anything else,
unfortunately

There's been no massive development as such

Town Centre

We lost our economy

G

The memories of having the railway station moved many years ago is vividly recalled by the estate agent. Now this space is empty, yet the memories live on which evokes an identity with the old station as a place of significant importance.

Old Railway Station

Town Centre

Negative memories of a lost economy are associated with the recollection of the town centre.
A lost sense of belonging reveals itself from the estate agent's memories of this space.

Railway Station

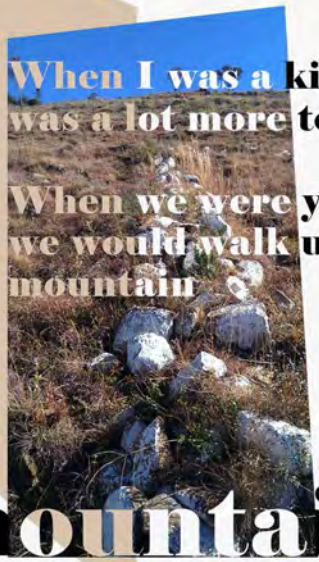
The new railway station had been relocation to this position after the old station was no longer needed. The estate agent recalls fond memories of the busy railway station. Today, however, no trains stop at Cathcart Station, and with it only the happy memories remain. The station is thus still arguably a significant place.

municipality employee *recall participant H*

what is memory?

memory from what I've heard is basically what you can remember from what you know or heard from other people

train station



mountain

H

Windvogel Mountain

The mountain plays a significant role as shown in the municipality employee's memory. She recalls having spent more time on the mountain as a child. Her identity with the mountain is deeply vested with these childhood memories.

Railway Station

The municipality employee has a personal connection to the railway station. Being the place that her grandfather worked, she sees herself finding an identity within this space. The trains no longer stop at Cathcart station and she will remember clearly the and lovingly the days she spent with her grandfather there.

kenya cottages sister 1 *recall participant 1*

what is memory?

memory means what you remember

things that you have committed to your memory

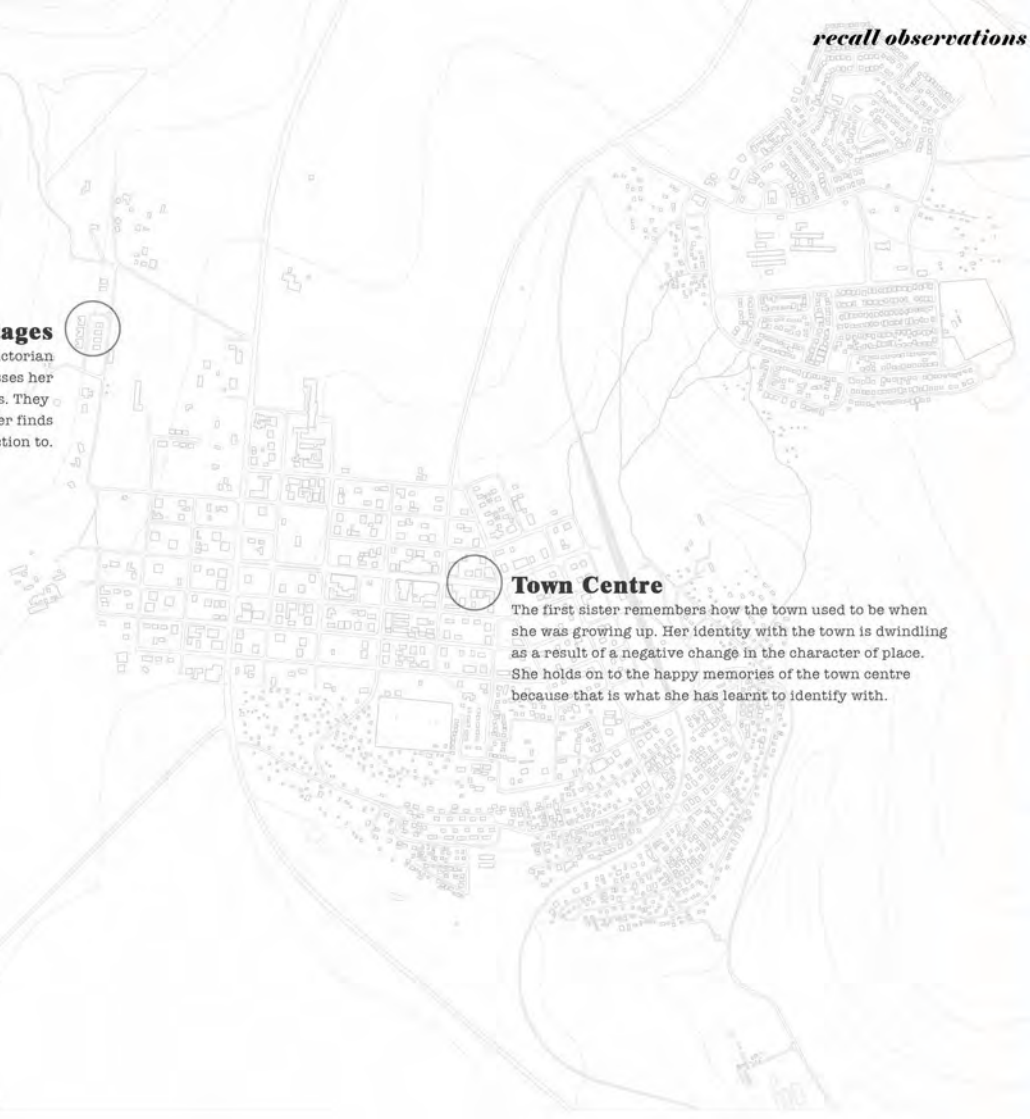
I've been living in Cathcart since
I was 7 years old

Eventually I got hold of one of these
cottages and been here 41 years

kenya cottages

You could get everything here when I first came here
Cathcart is just bottle stores and funeral parlours now

town centre



Kenya Cottages

The Kenya Cottages are special wood and iron Victorian heritage buildings. One of the two sisters expresses her memories being closely linked to these homes. They represent a lifetime of experiences that this sister finds a connection to.

Town Centre

The first sister remembers how the town used to be when she was growing up. Her identity with the town is dwindling as a result of a negative change in the character of place. She holds on to the happy memories of the town centre because that is what she has learnt to identify with.

kenya cottages sister 2 *recall participant J*

what is memory?

recalling things from the past

town centre

they've taken our municipality away from us
No road works happening here
We used to be a thriving community
Cathcart is shrinking

Town Streets

The second sister has her memory embedded in a town centre that no longer lives and is surely dying. She longs for the memories of days when services were adequately provided. As a resident of Cathcart she feels her identity with the town is diminishing.

what is memory?

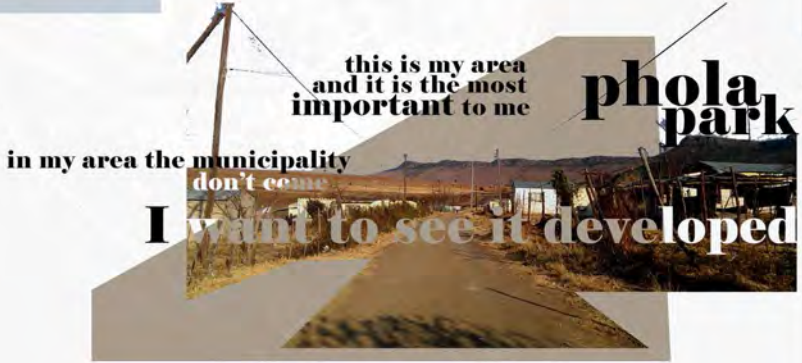
im going to tell someone about memory

memory is a good thing

your secrets

b&b caretaker ***recall participant K***

soccer fields
there used be soccer
players at the soccer
fields in katikati
nothing is happening anymore
I will never forget that
I love soccer
I used to watch soccer and
players waitng for playoffs


this is my area
and it is the most
important to me
phola
park
in my area the municipality
don't come
I want to see it developed

K

Soccer has played a critical role in the life of the caretaker. He could easily identify with the sport as it was an opportunity for friends to come together and enjoy each other's company. He says that he will never forget those days and wishes that they will soon return.

Soccer Fields

Phola Park

Phola Park is growing informal settlement. The caretaker's memory of Phola Park reveals that it is more than just a place to call home, it is a place that defines who he is. His memories have indicated the municipality has done very little to improve the quality of his home area.

what is memory?

when we talk about memory it is something that we need and we are not satisfied about it

kati kati resident 1 ***recall participant L***

Kati Kati

I love Kati Kati because it was a small town and not a lot of crime

but there [illegible]hings that affect crime

there are no jobs

So now there's more crime in Kati Kati

I love Cathcart and I want to see development

Kati Kati

now I thought Cathcart was going to develop more but there is nothing

L

Kati Kati North

This memory location is a formal satellite township on the outskirts of Cathcart. The memories depicted here reveals that crime and a lack of job opportunities are rife. Little to no identity to Cathcart is revealed.

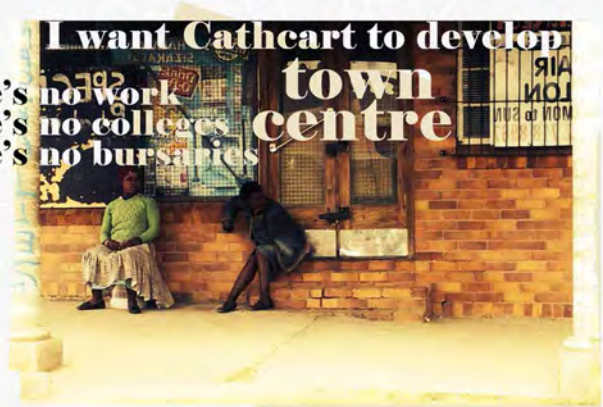
Kati Kati South

A sincere hope to see Kati Kati develop is at the forefront of this resident's memory. A loving description for the spaces in Kati Kati are shown but they are vastly disconnected from anything else in Cathcart.

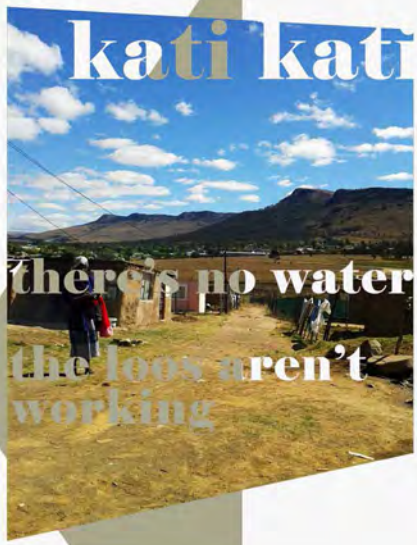
what is memory?

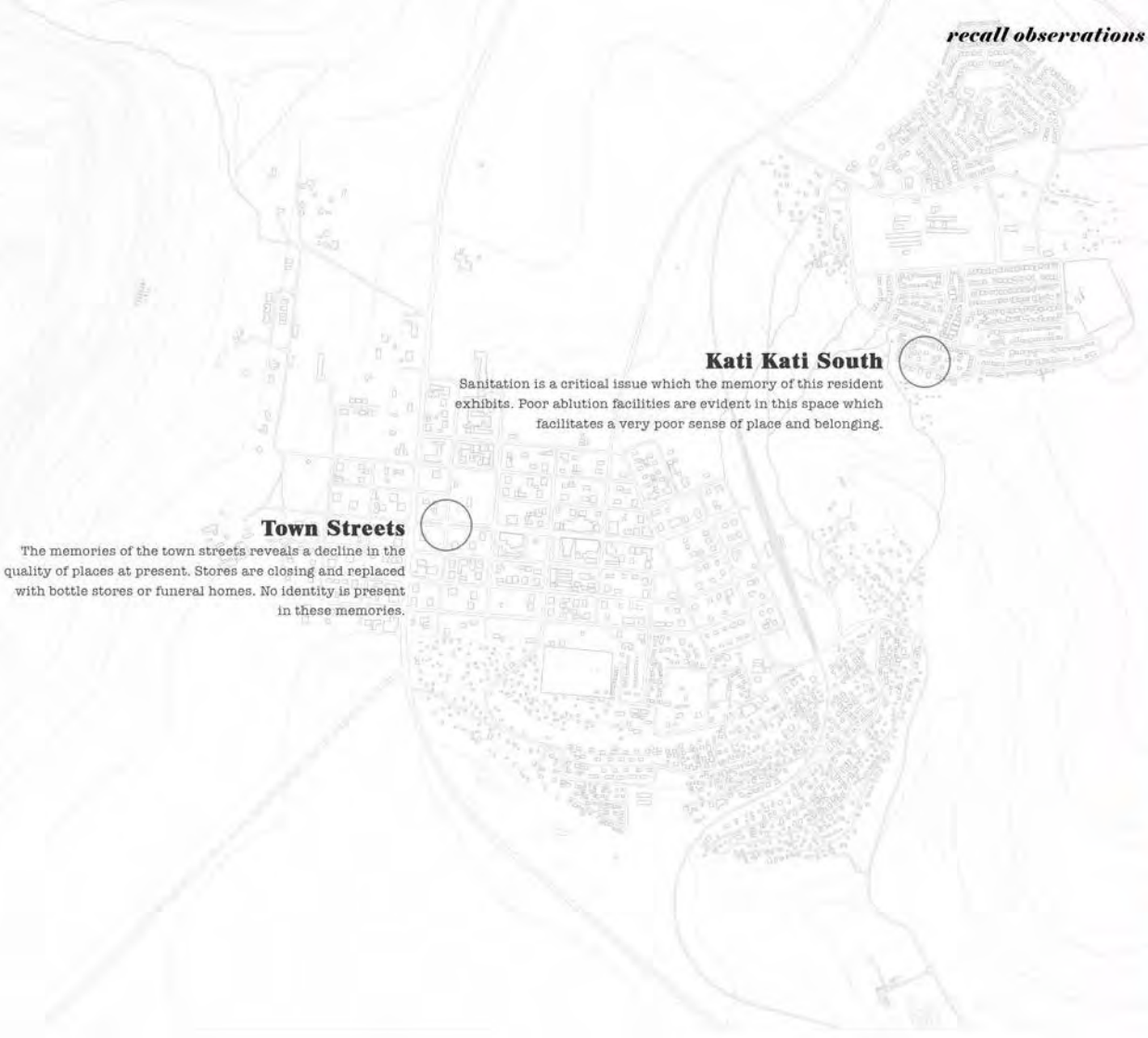
memory is a thing that speaks to your needs

kati kati resident 2 ***recall participant M***



there's no work
there's no colleges
there's no bursaries





Kati Kati South

Sanitation is a critical issue which the memory of this resident exhibits. Poor ablution facilities are evident in this space which facilitates a very poor sense of place and belonging.

Town Streets

The memories of the town streets reveals a decline in the quality of places at present. Stores are closing and replaced with bottle stores or funeral homes. No identity is present in these memories.

what is memory?

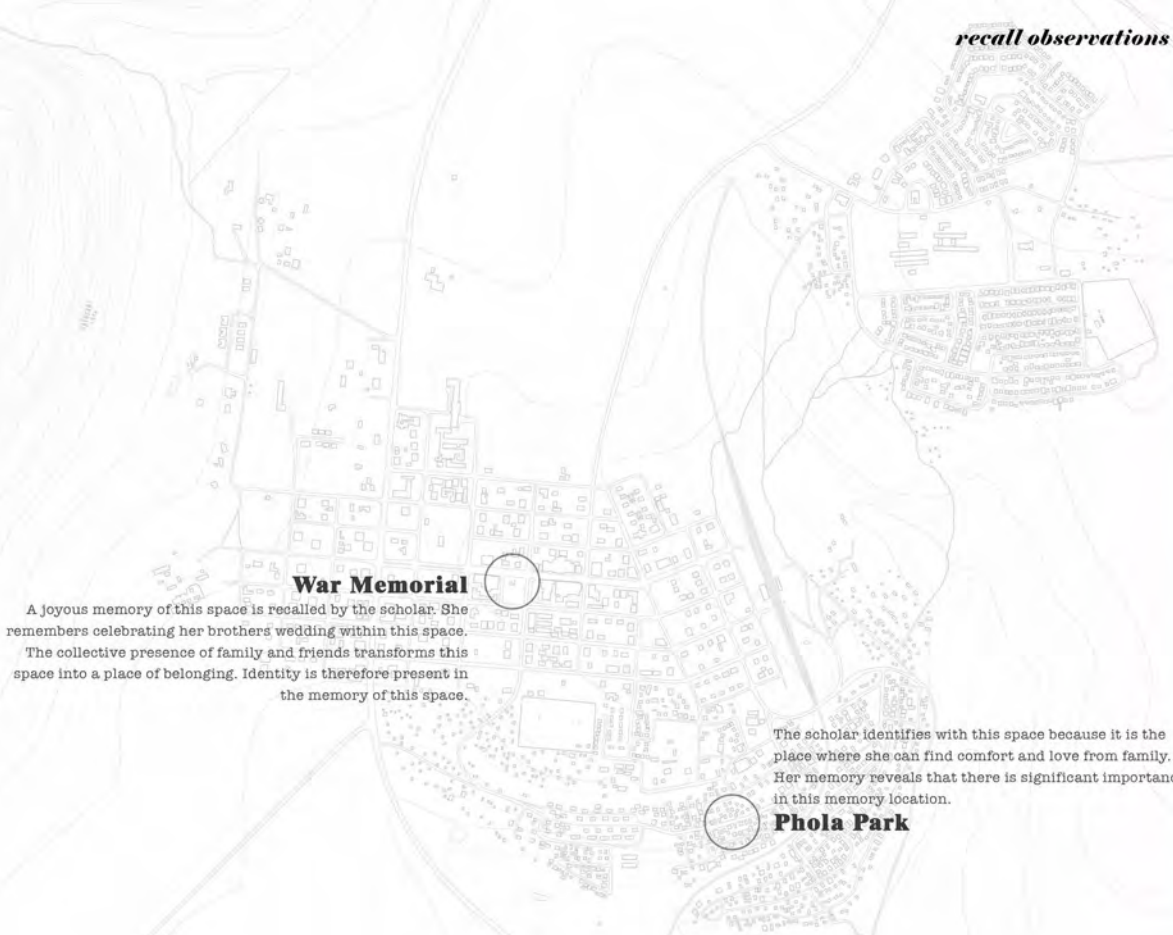
memory is a good thing you remember of the past

scholar 1 ***recall participant N***

war memorial
my favourite memory is my brother getting married in town hall
it was the most beautiful marriage ever, even here in the park

phola park
an immportant place is the location here where my mother is, in Phola Park
the meaning of phola is peace

recall locations
N



War Memorial

A joyous memory of this space is recalled by the scholar. She remembers celebrating her brothers wedding within this space. The collective presence of family and friends transforms this space into a place of belonging. Identity is therefore present in the memory of this space.

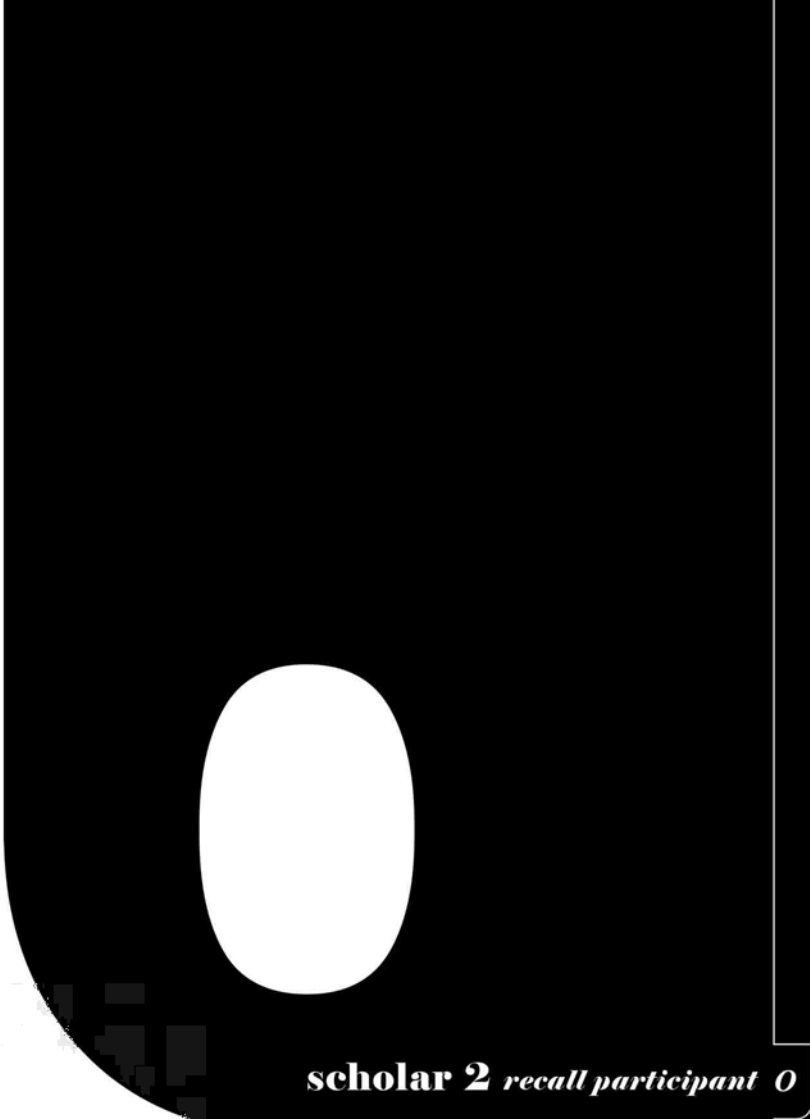
The scholar identifies with this space because it is the place where she can find comfort and love from family. Her memory reveals that there is significant importance in this memory location.

Phola Park

N

what is memory?

it should not be something that is bad



scholar 2 ***recall participant 0***

Cathcart is
more polite

when you are at a party
or gathering of community
you tell them how Cathcart
used to be

town suburbs

FNB was closed and a bar was opened

nothing important was opened,
only alcohol

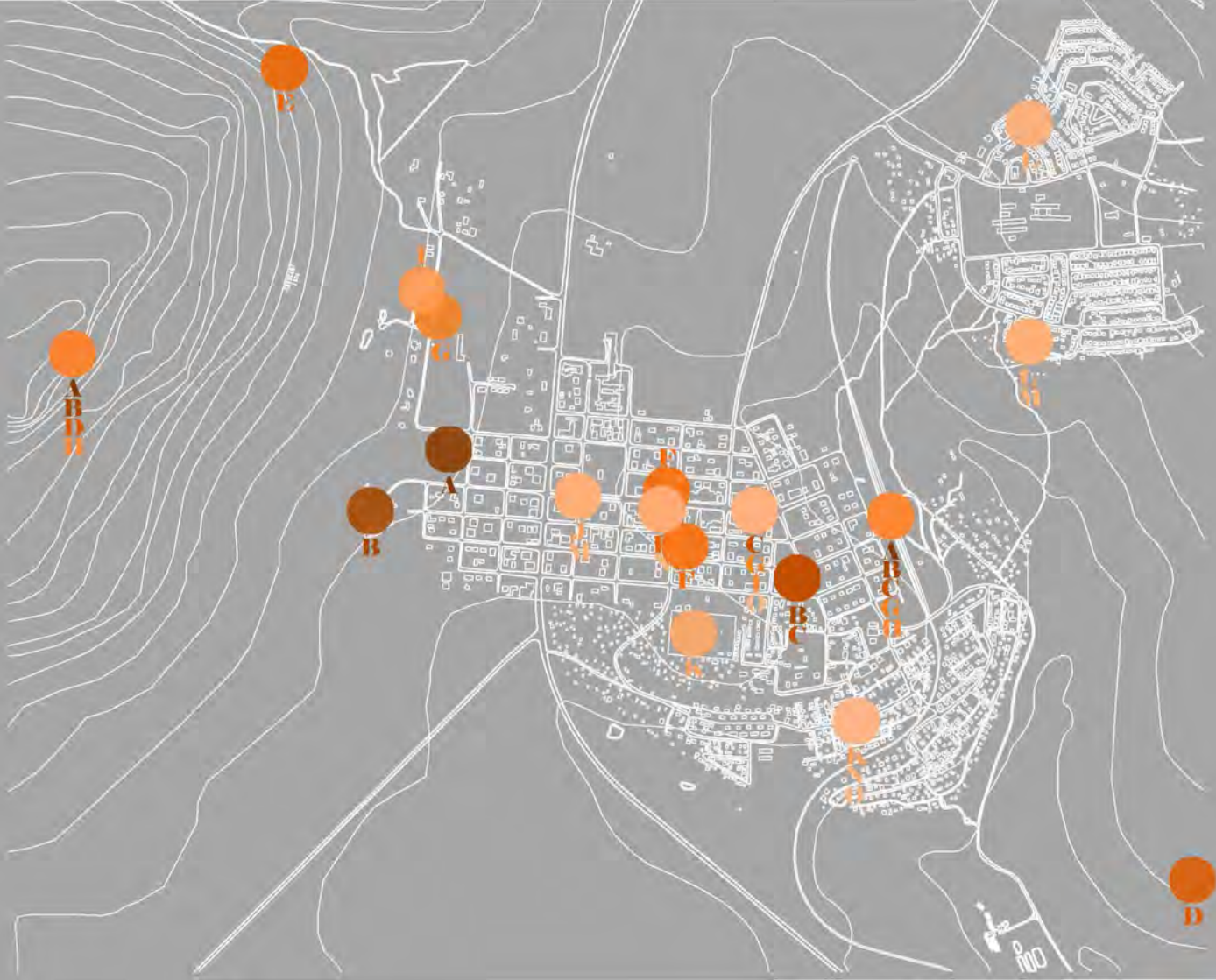
phola park

it used to be a peaceful place
But now it's crime, alcohol, corruption

recall locations

The memories from the second scholar showcase a festive celebration in the town streets with the local community. This memory is energised with happy emotions which allows the scholar to easily identify with this place.
Town Centre
The second scholar recalls only bitterness when confronted with her memories of Phola Park. This only promotes a loss of identity within a space.
Phola Park

recall locations overlay



Conclusion

The adopted method of capturing significant memory locations to investigate the relationship between memory and space led to several observations. What becomes apparent is that Cathcart is currently socially and physically divided. This is of course initially a result of apartheid planning where major emphasis had been placed on spatial and social segregation according to race. In the post-apartheid condition, the separation between spaces is still very apparent discouraging potential place creation and identity retrieval. The memories have revealed a secondary layer which depicts a weakened collective identity amongst the majority Xhosa speaking people in Cathcart. These communities are concentrated in isolated pockets and satellite districts on the outskirts of Cathcart. Their memories reveal a poor sense of belonging and a severe disconnect to most spaces in Cathcart. At the same time, however, a fervent desire to obtain identity and regain a sense of belonging becomes apparent. Socio-economic issues arise as a consequence of such blatant spatial and social segregation. These include poor sanitation and education, limited housing and a lack of local job opportunities which continually threaten the town's existence. The loss of the town's economic centre and inadequate service delivery perpetuate these issues which are commonplace phenomena within similar small towns in South Africa.

However, a positive outlook exists within the marginalised communities of Cathcart. An observation of significant importance is that of timber collection by the local Xhosa people. The timber is heavily relied upon as a source of energy for cooking food, warming households in winter as well as being used as a material for constructing fences and wattle and daub homes. Currently, the main source for timber collection is located on the mountain slopes of the Windvogel Mountain and consists mostly of black wattle (Acacia mearnsii) which is an alien invasive species in South Africa. The women from the outlying communities do the majority of timber collecting, commuting daily from their homes to the mountain slopes. The process of timber collection is a collective activity and also provides an opportunity for social interaction.

The resultant mapping of memory locations in the research document reveals a scattered footprint of disconnected spaces spanning from the mountain, through the town centre and out towards the outlying communities. The process of timber collection, as mentioned above, provides an opportunity to tie memory locations together. The aim of such an approach would be to minimise socio-spatial disconnect while providing spaces with amenity to stimulate socio-economic growth.

As an overarching framework, the process of timber collection would utilise strategic memory locations as spaces for design implementation. Woven together along an experiential route, these memory locations would be transformed into celebrated spectacle moments. Primary and secondary spectacle moments will then be defined along this journey of timber collection. Primary moments will utilise key memory locations, referencing specific memories that provide clues for the design of these spaces. Each primary moment offers a unique amenity that serves its immediate context while simultaneously providing facilities that cater to the process of timber collection. Secondary moments are located in amongst the primary moments and further accentuate the experiential route providing basic amenities such as seating, shaded zones and points for drinking water. The secondary moments become a collection of outdoor rooms which slot into small vacant or unused portions of land. The proposed design would also investigate opportunities in providing an appropriate indigenous alternative to the black wattle aimed at gradually replacing the invasive species over time.

The route seeks to reunite the town, providing opportunities to re-establish individual and collective Identity. In this way, memory is used to facilitate spaces for place creation while simultaneously providing a platform upon which new memories can be created. As a model, such an approach for design could be applied to other small towns in South Africa that display similar conditions.

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Appendix A

Questionnaire:

-Please introduce yourself providing a short description of yourself, where you come from and anything interesting about yourself.
-Do you know or have you ever heard of the word 'memory'? If so, could you please describe it in your own words?
-Are you familiar with the town of Cathcart in the Eastern Cape?
-What is your connection to the town of Cathcart?
-What would you say is your fondest memory of Cathcart? Could you please describe this memory in as much detail as possible?
-Do you have any negative memories of Cathcart?
-Do you remember any significant places in Cathcart that had a particular meaning to you?
-If you answered yes, why do you think these places are important to you?
-In your mind, has there been any significant change in Cathcart that you may have observed over the years?
-If you answered yes, where have these changes occurred?
-Do any other memories of Cathcart come to mind?
-In your opinion do you think the concept or idea of 'memory' could benefit society?

Appendix B

In order to conduct the interviews I travelled to the town of Cathcart. I stayed at my uncle's bed and breakfast for the duration of my stay which became the central hub for conducting my research. The duration of my stay totalled ten days, from the 28th of June to the 3rd of July and again between the 8th and 11th of July. Within that time I conducted the interviews which are listed below:

Interview one is of my uncle who used to visit Cathcart with his siblings as a child as well as the owner of the GIG bed and breakfast in Cathcart. This interview is conducted at the bed and breakfast in Cathcart on 29 July 2014 at 10h53.
Interview two is of an elderly lady who grew up in the Cathcart area. This interview is conducted at the Cathcart Museum on 1 July 2014 at 11h20.
Interview three is of a regular visitor to Cathcart. This interview is conducted at the Cathcart Museum on 1 July 2014 at 11h40.
Interview four is of the Cathcart Museum curator. This interview is conducted at the Cathcart Museum on 1 July 2014 at 11h50.
Interview five is of the local estate agent located in Cathcart. This interview is conducted at Kidson's Real Estate offices on 1 July 2014 at 15h20.

Interview six is of the cashier at the Cathcart Municipality. This interview is conducted at the Cathcart Municipal Building on 1 July 2014 at 15h31.
Interview 7 is of one of the local residents living in one of the Kenya Corner Cottages in Cathcart (which were the original railway workers' cottages). This interview is conducted at one of the cottages on Henry-Elliott Street in Cathcart on 9 July 2014 at 14h22.
Interview 8 is also of a resident living in one of the Kenya Corner Cottages. She is the sister of interviewee 7. This interview is conducted at one of the cottages on Henry-Elliott Street in Cathcart on 9 July 2014 at 14h38.
Interview 9 is of two young local residents of Cathcart. This interview is conducted on Main Street in Cathcart on 10 July 2014 at 16h30.
Interview 10 is of the caretaker at the GIG bed and breakfast. This interview is conducted at the bed and breakfast on 10 July 2014 at 17h22.
Interview 11 is of an employees at the local community centre in KatiKati, a formal settlement north-east of the Cathcart town centre. This interview is conducted at the community centre on 11 July 2014 at 08h45.
Interview 12 is of another employee at the local community centre in KatiKati. This interview is conducted at the community centre on 11 July 2014 at 08h54.
Interview 13 is of my mother who was born and raised in Cathcart for the first year of her life. She frequently revisited Cathcart with her siblings as a child. This interview is conducted at her home in East London on 17 July 2014 at 10h23. This interview was conducted outside of Cathcart as a result of not being able to meet in Cathcart over the same time period.
Interview 14 is of my aunt who used to visit Cathcart with her siblings as a child. This interview is conducted via an online video call to the between the interviewee's home in Vancouver, Canada and the interviewer's home in Cape Town, South Africa. This interview is conducted on 20 July 2014 at 18h20.

Recall Cartography

memory | space | place | identity
Cathcart | Eastern Cape| South Africa

what is memory?

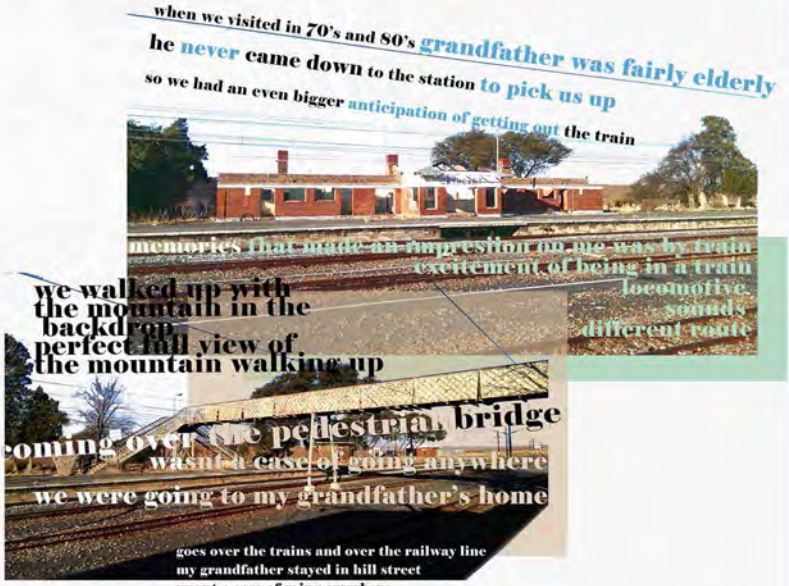
an event that one remembers

remembers partly or fully

memory can be of a phase of your life

whenever we were miles out of cathcart
you still see cathcart mountain until it simply
disappears
first thing you see
look! there's the mountain
never remember saying goodbye to the sea
however coming into cathcart
mountain is the centre of memory
it was a happy feeling seeing the mountain
when we left we were always sad to say godbye

grandfather
bought me a
draadkar
we'd come up towards the mountain
grandfather telling us of where the original station was
from here one can look all the way down into town
no homes nothing
only thing that was here
was the old reservoir


when we visited in 70's and 80's grandfather was fairly elderly
he never came down to the station to pick us up
so we had an even bigger anticipation of getting out the train
memories that made an impression on me was by train
excitement of being in a train
locomotive
sounds
different route
we walked up with
the mountain in the
backdrop
perfect full view of
the mountain walking up
coming over the pedestrian bridge
wasnt a case of going anywhere
we were going to my grandfather's home
goes over the trains and over the railway line
my grandfather stayed in hill street
wasnt a case of going anywhere
we were going to my grandfathers home

The mountain becomes a place of significance because of its eternal presence in the landscape. The mountain carries with it emotional connotations that are evoked within in my uncle when he closely observes it. Emotions of happiness and sadness are closely linked to the mountain based upon very specific memories that are triggered through the experience of the mountain.

Windvogel Mountain

Old Reservoir

The peculiar characteristics of the reservoir are the main attributes depicted in my uncle's memory of it. The old reservoir is remembered as the only object in the landscape, floating above a sea of tall grass. This particular place is significant because, as an object, it represents a personal experience my uncle shared with his grandfather, transforming this space into a particular place that they would walk together.

Railway Station

The train station represents a place of arrival and departure. An array of emotions are evoked in my uncle's recollection of the station. This space is transformed into a place of great significance because it resembles a time where family would reunite.

what is memory?

recollection of a combination of things

recollection of feelings, emotions

almost like visual data

mountain
awareness of mountain
never going to mountain
as a child
mountain has always been there
majestic mountain
nature aspect
enjoying the outside

I was raised
in cathcart
I'm quire
the only one in
family that was
born in cathcart
for a short
period of
my life
hospital

train station
sad emotion of leaving
but knowing you would
come back soon again
arrive at cathcart station by milk train
wonderful excitement
grandfather did
not collect us
he had no car
CATHCART
wonder
friendly
place
fireplace inside
with wooden benches

grandfather's house
had a beautiful view
could see
the road
no toilet, ablution block
was outside,
coming from town that
was an interesting
experience.
fantastic memories
of cooking food with
my mom and
grandfather in the
kitchen
had a simple home
nothing fancy about it

Even though a physical interaction with the mountain never took place in the memories of my mother, it made its presence very much known. The mountain remains an a majestic object in the memories of my mother. The mountain is therefore a significant place; a narrator and overseer of all my mother's experiences in Cathcart.

Windvogel Mountain

Cathcart Hospital

This space is particularly significant to my mother as it symbolises the place where she was born. Furthermore, this space connects my mother to all of Cathcart. It reveals to her, her own identity and that she will always find a sense of belonging in Cathcart.

Grandfather's House

This space resembled family and celebration. Emotions of love and joy are expressed in the memories of the house expressed as a second home. It is a place identified with as the centre of experiences in Cathcart.

Railway Station

Particular significance is shown in the railway station being an important place. Fond memories of sitting at the fireplace indoors and waiting for the train to arrive resonates clearly with my mother's remembrance of this space. It is a key location in which my mother can strongly identify with.

aunt *recall participant C*

C

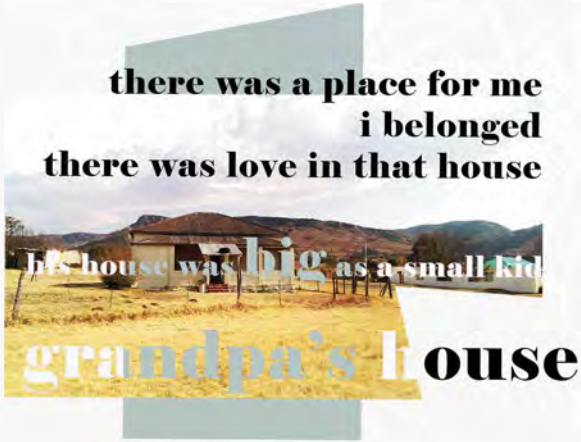
what is memory?

memory is more than what we think

memory is compiled of thoughts, senses and emotions

street
sense of belonging
sense of freedom
sense of peace
buying a liter of milk in the street
smell of dirt roads
interacting with siblings
as we walked
sense of cathcart living
rura

sadness of leaving cathcart
sadness because we had to
gather all the little bits of happiness
in one bag
train station
we could identify
with the train station


there was a place for me
i belonged
there was love in that house
his house was big as a small kid
grandpa's house

The streets of Cathcart is a place that my aunt pleasingly identifies with because it represents a space in which her and her siblings could freely roam without any adult supervision. Being able to walk the dirt streets and have new adventures transformed the mundane street space into a place of discovery and intrigue.

Town Centre

Railway Station

This space resembles transition, a space in which family would both meet and depart. Arriving and leaving with family and sharing joyous and unhappy experiences together has caused the station to remain as a significant place in the memories of my aunt.

Grandfather's House

The house depicts a happy space where my aunt was loved, transfiguring the space between the walls into a place she felt she belonged, obtaining an identity.

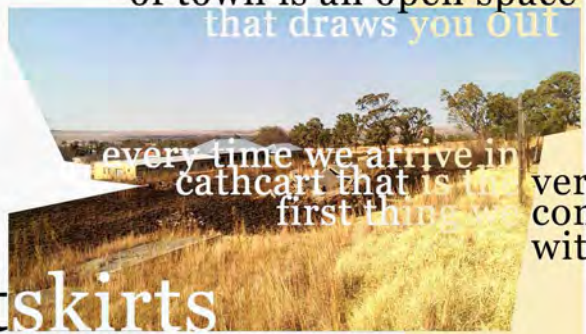
traveller *recall participant D*

what is memory?

memory is linked to a feeling

it's not just a picture that is recalled but what I felt

the views of the outskirts
of town is an open space
that draws you out



very
connect
with

outskirts

The traveller's memories of the mountain positions it as a caring object in the landscape. The mountain is perceived as a place that provides shelter and retreat and ultimately a location the traveller will always find an identity.

Windvogel Mountain

The outskirts of Cathcart possesses an undeniable power to draw one's sight over the vast rolling hills. This space is spoken of as a place the traveller can connect with because it is always remembered as the location that one can escape towards with the mind.

Outskirts

elderly woman ***recall participant E***

what is memory?

something that occurred to you,
to your father, your grandfather and so on

there were leopards
in the kloof and elephants
ate thatch off your roof

the garden has much improved
it was always place where people
lay and threw their papers about

Kloof

The elderly woman feels she has a rich connection with the area of Cathcart because of her long family lineage in the area. She recalls stories from her great grandfather of times long ago when wild animals used to wander the mountain valleys. The woman's identity remains strongly tied to the landscape surrounding Cathcart

War Memorial

This space is remembered as being an undesirable part of town. Up until recently however, the elderly lady recalls walking past the war memorial and noticing how it has been improved. Her sense of belonging and identity within this place has been restored.

museum director *recall participant F*

what is memory?

memory is a trip down memory lane

you recall and bring up happy moments

eras that have gone by, good old days as I'd put it

it's a fast life, the ability to go back to what was

C M Colliers Museum

those grannies will sit and tell
me about little things they knew
/ or heard

I can use their experience and knowledge and their past
to get me forward and help people coming to the museum

Callie Evans Lodge

the Lord brought me here

I have a heart for old people so I put my myself in
the old aged home
I had millions of mothers
and lots of grannies and
they made me feel welcome
and so loved

The museum is significantly important to the museum director because it is a place that she can honestly identify with. She sees the space as an opportunity to revitalise the town by positively engaging with the town's rich historical value, uplifting and providing and hope to those who visit.

C M Colliers Museum

Callie Evans Lodge

This home for the elderly in Cathcart provided a place where the museum director could feel loved and appreciated. The memories of this place is therefore very significant because it encapsulates strong emotions of joy and happiness.

g

estate agent *recall participant G*

what is memory?

Memory is what you've lived through, obviously

**You've got to be careful of memory
because memory can fade and become distorted**

with the advent of the diesel the train
Cathcart was a changeover depot

the train would stop in Cathcart and the whole staff would change
Cathcart was a railway hub
the introduction of diesel engine means the train
doesn't have to stop in CC anymore

Train Station

when I got into Cathcart steam engines were
running on the main lines
then it was moved
they introduced the diesel locomotive

Old Train Station

Cathcart has more undertakers
& bottle stores than anything else,
unfortunately

There's been no massive development as such

Town Centre

We lost our economy

G

The memories of having the railway station moved many years ago is vividly recalled by the estate agent. Now this space is empty, yet the memories live on which evokes an identity with the old station as a place of significant importance.

Old Railway Station

Town Centre

Negative memories of a lost economy are associated with the recollection of the town centre.
A lost sense of belonging reveals itself from the estate agent's memories of this space.

Railway Station

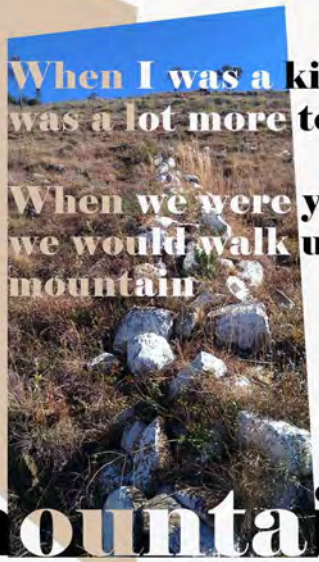
The new railway station had been relocation to this position after the old station was no longer needed. The estate agent recalls fond memories of the busy railway station. Today, however, no trains stop at Cathcart Station, and with it only the happy memories remain. The station is thus still arguably a significant place.

municipality employee *recall participant H*

what is memory?

memory from what I've heard is basically what you can remember from what you know or heard from other people

train station



mountain

H

Windvogel Mountain

The mountain plays a significant role as shown in the municipality employee's memory. She recalls having spent more time on the mountain as a child. Her identity with the mountain is deeply vested with these childhood memories.

Railway Station

The municipality employee has a personal connection to the railway station. Being the place that her grandfather worked, she sees herself finding an identity within this space. The trains no longer stop at Cathcart station and she will remember clearly the and lovingly the days she spent with her grandfather there.

kenya cottages sister 1 *recall participant 1*

what is memory?

memory means what you remember

things that you have committed to your memory

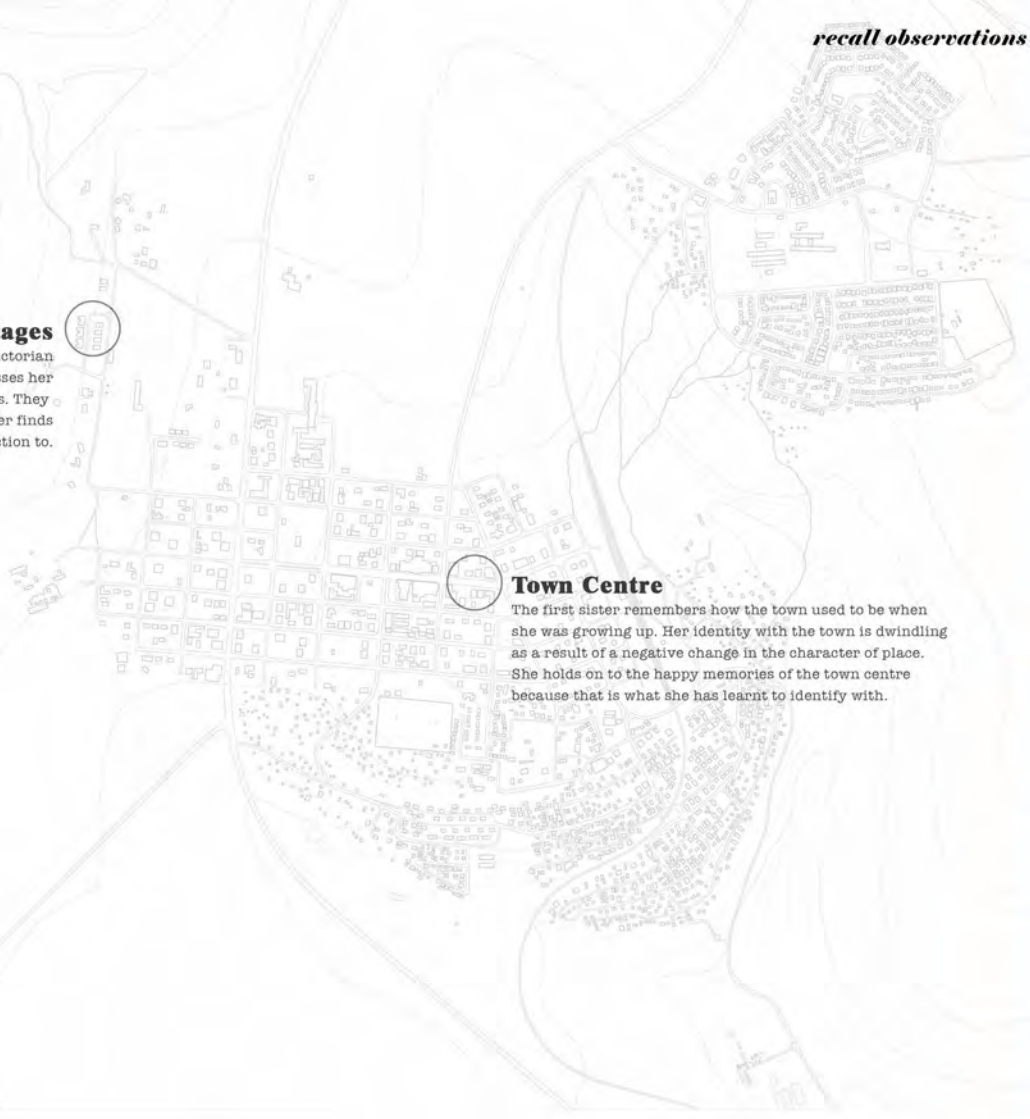
I've been living in Cathcart since
I was 7 years old

Eventually I got hold of one of these
cottages and been here 41 years

kenya cottages

You could get everything here when I first came here
Cathcart is just bottle stores and funeral parlours now

town centre



Kenya Cottages

The Kenya Cottages are special wood and iron Victorian heritage buildings. One of the two sisters expresses her memories being closely linked to these homes. They represent a lifetime of experiences that this sister finds a connection to.

Town Centre

The first sister remembers how the town used to be when she was growing up. Her identity with the town is dwindling as a result of a negative change in the character of place. She holds on to the happy memories of the town centre because that is what she has learnt to identify with.

kenya cottages sister 2 *recall participant J*

what is memory?

recalling things from the past

town centre

they've taken our municipality away from us
No road works happening here
We used to be a thriving community
Cathcart is shrinking

Town Streets

The second sister has her memory embedded in a town centre that no longer lives and is surely dying. She longs for the memories of days when services were adequately provided. As a resident of Cathcart she feels her identity with the town is diminishing.

what is memory?

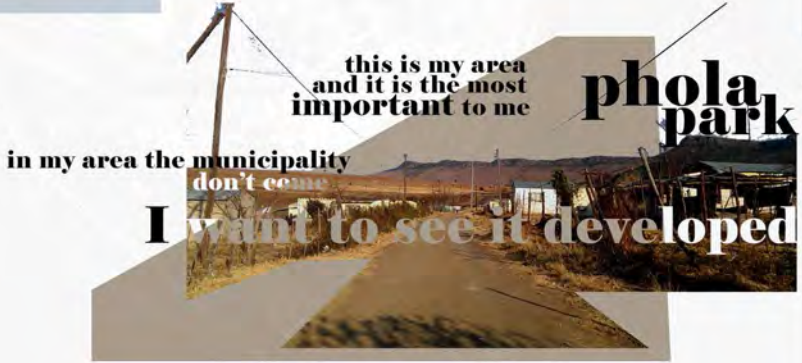
im going to tell someone about memory

memory is a good thing

your secrets

b&b caretaker ***recall participant K***

soccer fields
there used be soccer
players at the soccer
fields in katikati
nothing is happening anymore
I will never forget that
I love soccer
I used to watch soccer and
players waitng for playoffs


this is my area
and it is the most
important to me
phola
park
in my area the municipality
don't come
I want to see it developed

K

Soccer has played a critical role in the life of the caretaker. He could easily identify with the sport as it was an opportunity for friends to come together and enjoy each other's company. He says that he will never forget those days and wishes that they will soon return.

Soccer Fields

Phola Park

Phola Park is growing informal settlement. The caretaker's memory of Phola Park reveals that it is more than just a place to call home, it is a place that defines who he is. His memories have indicated the municipality has done very little to improve the quality of his home area.

what is memory?

when we talk about memory it is something that we need and we are not satisfied about it

kati kati resident 1 ***recall participant L***

Kati Kati

I love Kati Kati because it was a small town and not a lot of crime

but there [illegible]hings that affect crime

there are no jobs

So now there's more crime in Kati Kati

I love Cathcart and I want to see development

Kati Kati

now I thought Cathcart was going to develop more but there is nothing

L

Kati Kati North

This memory location is a formal satellite township on the outskirts of Cathcart. The memories depicted here reveals that crime and a lack of job opportunities are rife. Little to no identity to Cathcart is revealed.

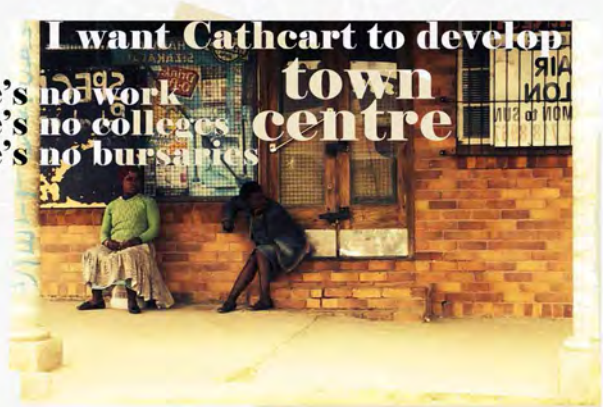
Kati Kati South

A sincere hope to see Kati Kati develop is at the forefront of this resident's memory. A loving description for the spaces in Kati Kati are shown but they are vastly disconnected from anything else in Cathcart.

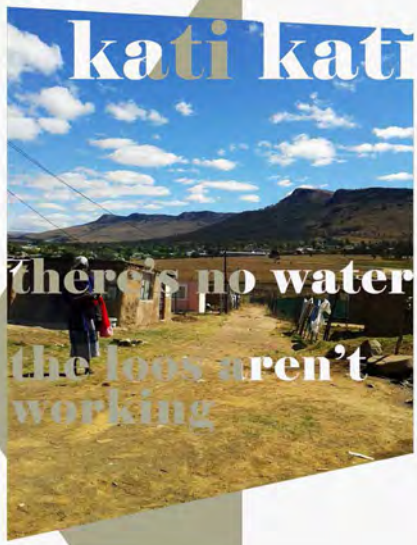
what is memory?

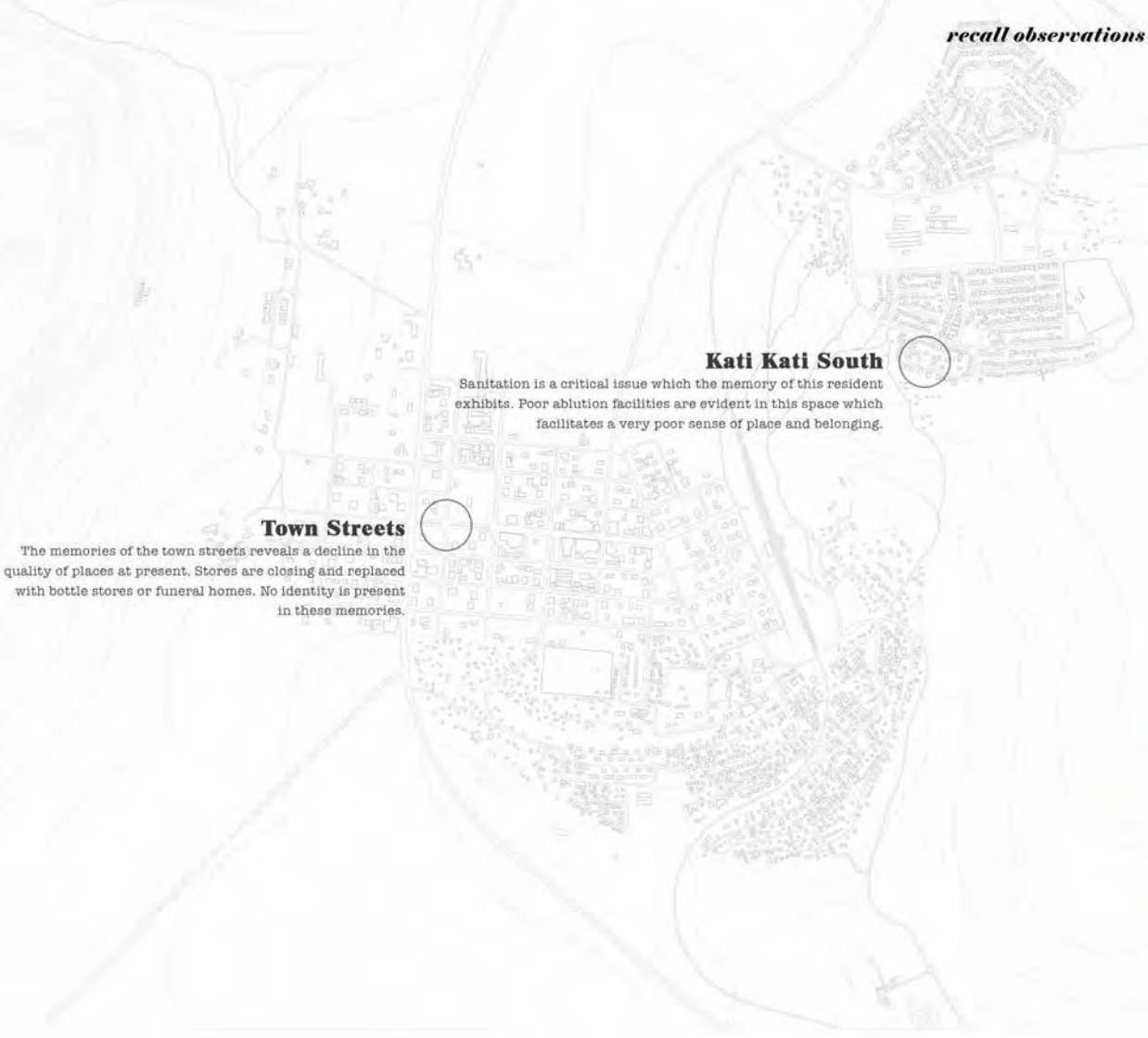
memory is a thing that speaks to your needs

kati kati resident 2 ***recall participant M***



there's no work
there's no colleges
there's no bursaries





Kati Kati South

Sanitation is a critical issue which the memory of this resident exhibits. Poor ablution facilities are evident in this space which facilitates a very poor sense of place and belonging.

Town Streets

The memories of the town streets reveals a decline in the quality of places at present. Stores are closing and replaced with bottle stores or funeral homes. No identity is present in these memories.

what is memory?

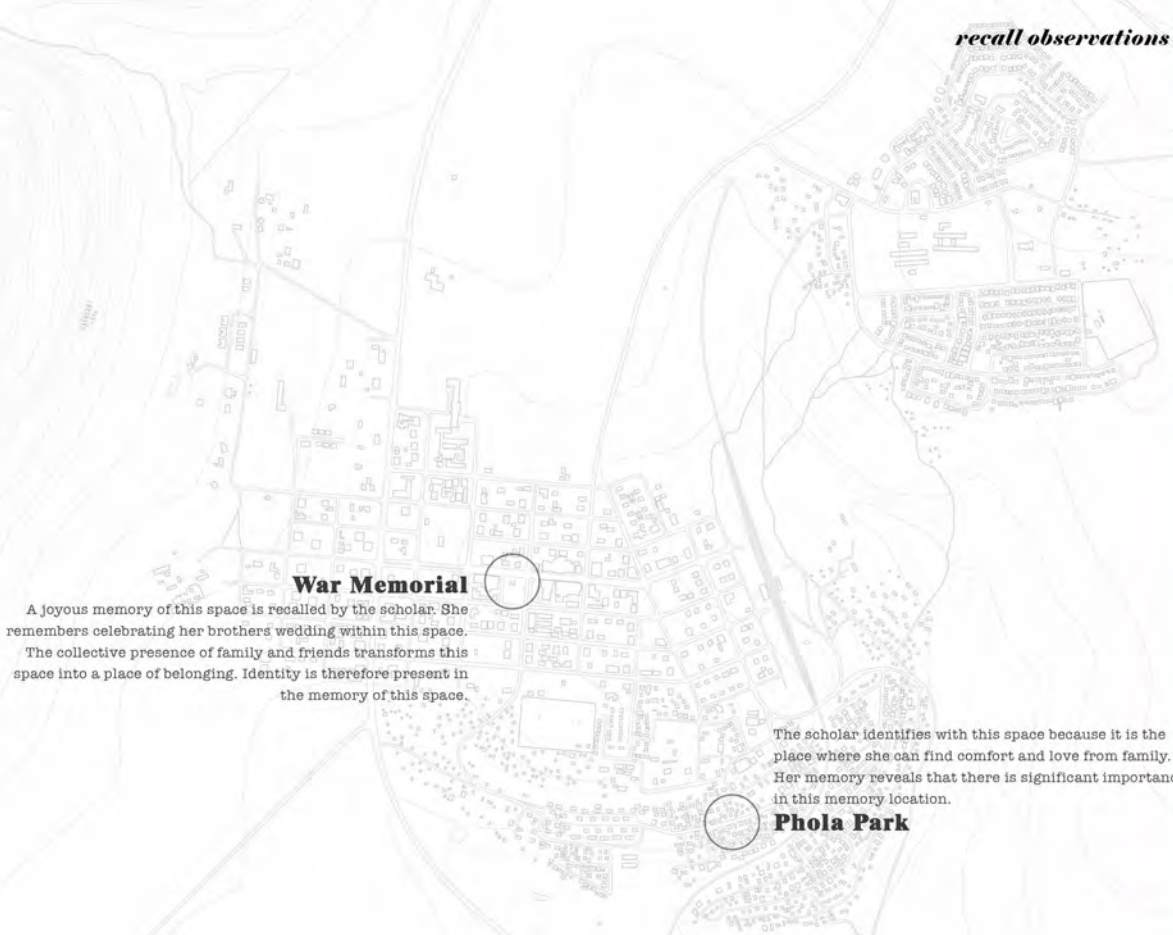
memory is a good thing you remember of the past

scholar 1 ***recall participant N***

war memorial
my favourite memory is my brother getting married in town hall
it was the most beautiful marriage ever, even here in the park

phola park
an immportant place is the location here where my mother is, in Phola Park
the meaning of phola is peace

recall locations
N



War Memorial

A joyous memory of this space is recalled by the scholar. She remembers celebrating her brothers wedding within this space. The collective presence of family and friends transforms this space into a place of belonging. Identity is therefore present in the memory of this space.

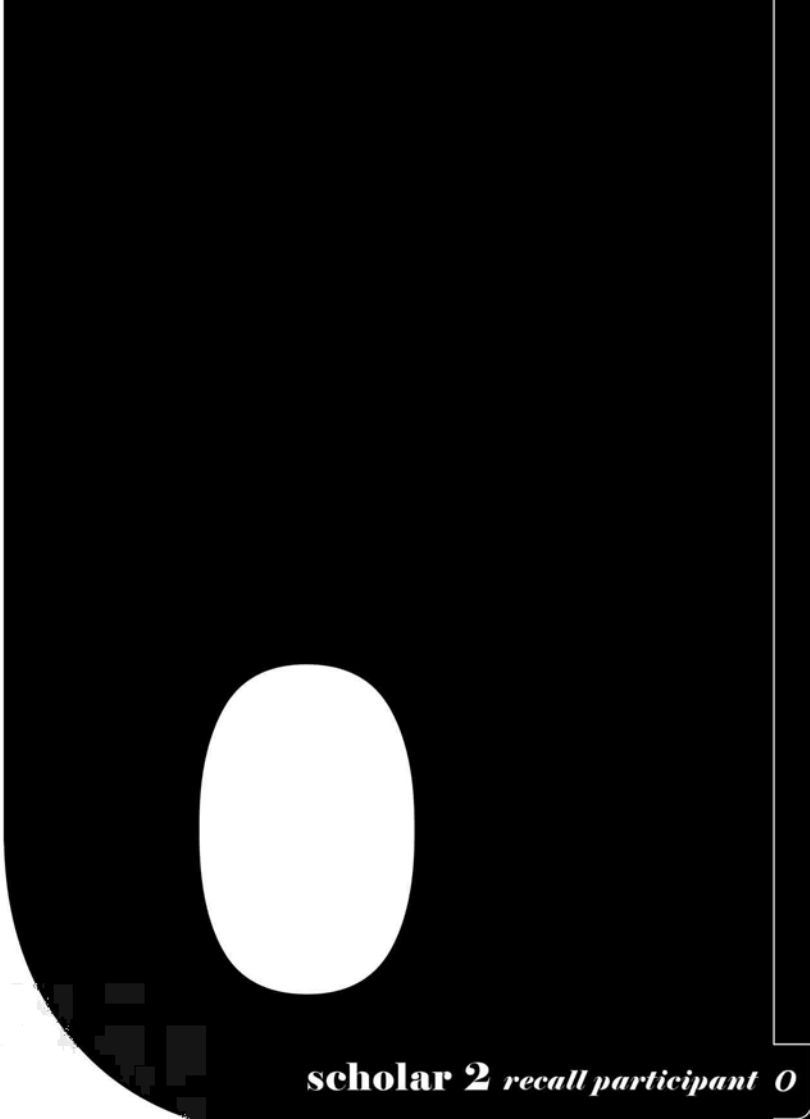
The scholar identifies with this space because it is the place where she can find comfort and love from family. Her memory reveals that there is significant importance in this memory location.

Phola Park

N

what is memory?

it should not be something that is bad



scholar 2 ***recall participant 0***

Cathcart is
more polite

when you are at a party
or gathering of community
you tell them how Cathcart
used to be

town suburbs

FNB was closed and a bar was opened

nothing important was opened,
only alcohol

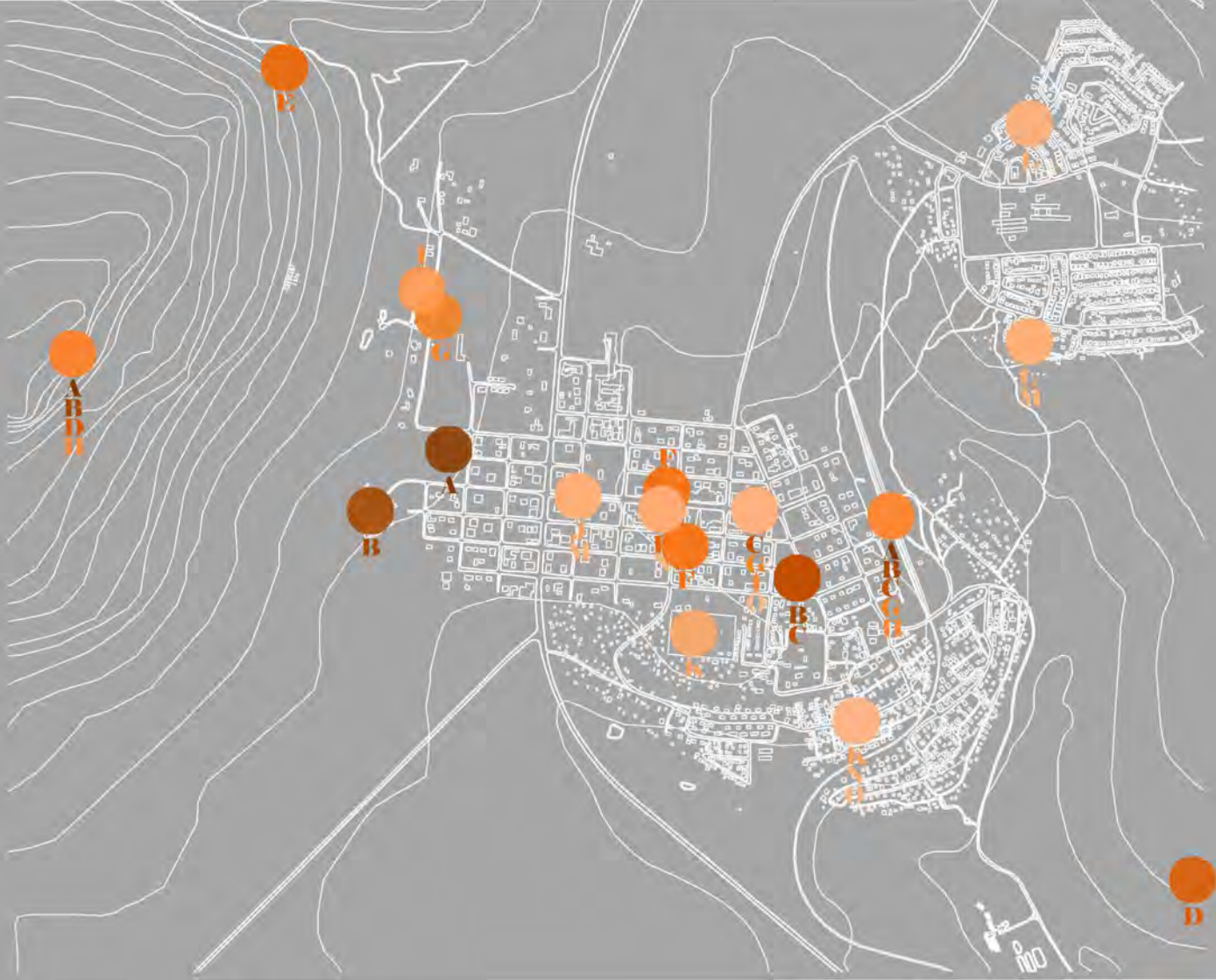
phola park

it used to be a peaceful place
But now it's crime, alcohol, corruption

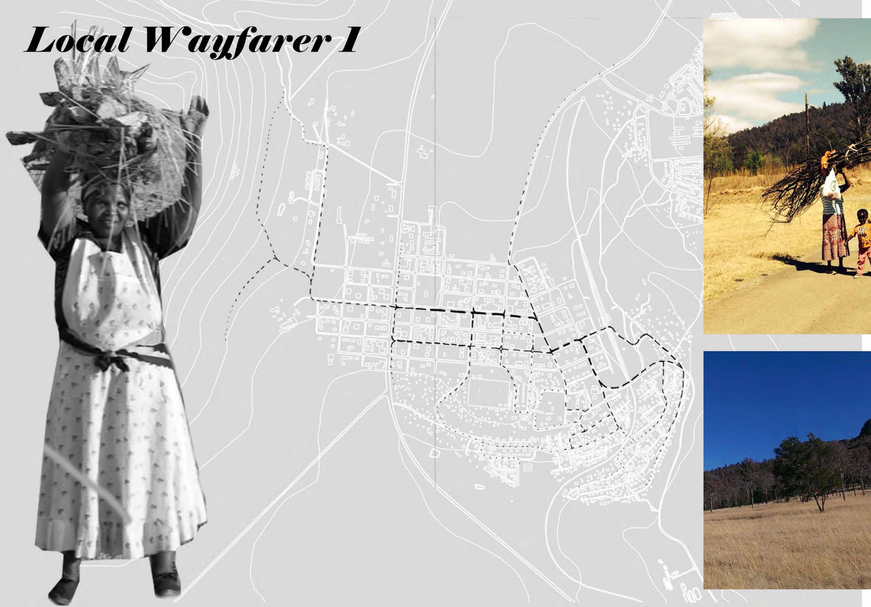
recall locations

The memories from the second scholar showcase a festive celebration in the town streets with the local community. This memory is energised with happy emotions which allows the scholar to easily identify with this place.
Town Centre
The second scholar recalls only bitterness when confronted with her memories of Phola Park. This only promotes a loss of identity within a space.
Phola Park

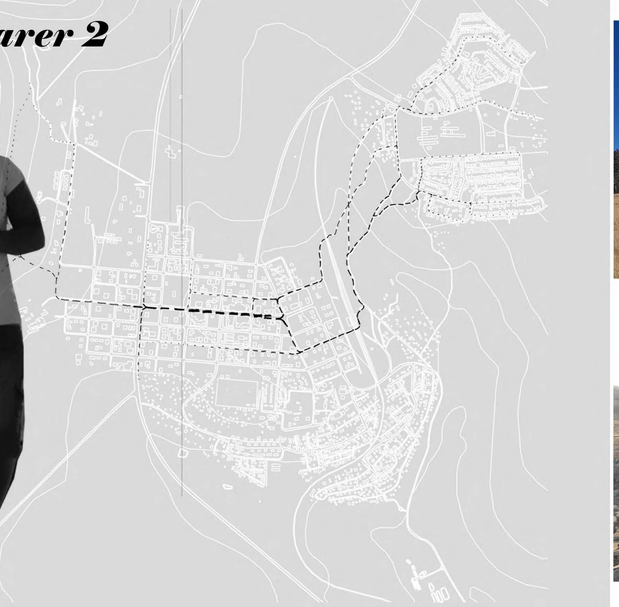
recall locations overlay



Local Wayfarer I



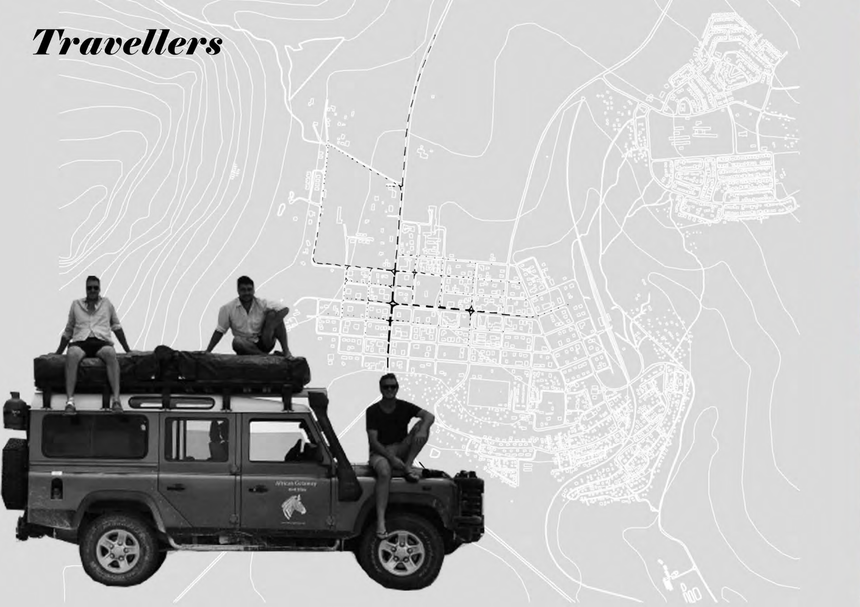
Local Wayfarer 2



Local Middle-class

Young Scholars

Travellers



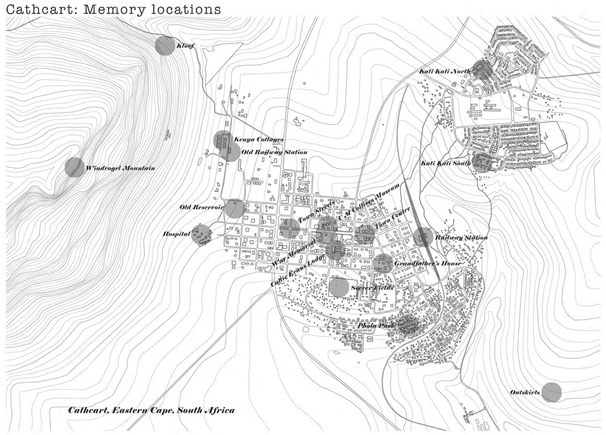
Arboriculture Recall

memory | space | place | identity
Cathcart | Eastern Cape| South Africa

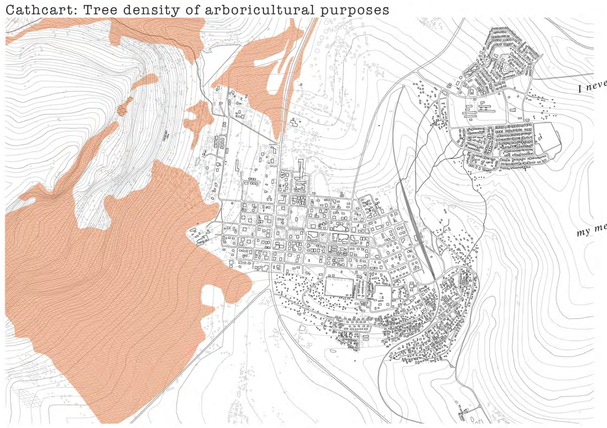
Memory mapping: an approach in providing a model to promote social transformation in disconnected small South African towns.

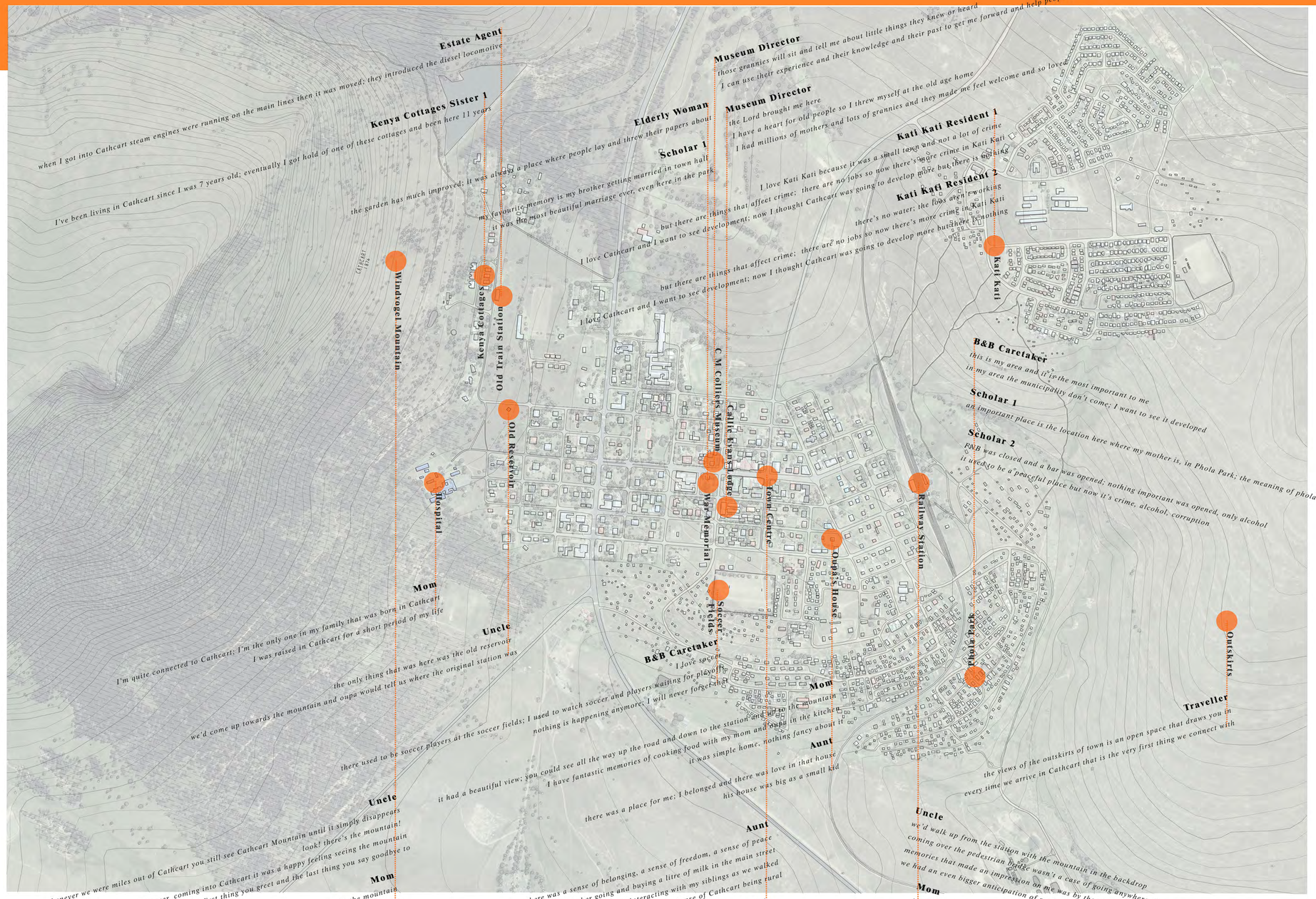
Cathcart: Locality in South Africa

Cathcart: Memory locations



Cathcart: Tree density of arboricultural purposes





Estate Agent
when I got into Cathcart steam engines were running on the main lines then it was moved; they introduced the diesel locomotive

Kenya Cottages Sister 1
I've been living in Cathcart since I was 7 years old; eventually I got hold of one of these cottages and been here 11 years

Elderly Woman
the garden has much improved; it was always a place where people lay and threw their papers about

Scholar 1
my favourite memory is my brother getting married in town hall
it was the most beautiful marriage ever, even here in the park

Museum Director
those grannies will sit and tell me about little things they knew or heard
I can use their experience and their knowledge and their past to get me forward and help people coming to the museum

Museum Director
the Lord brought me here
I have a heart for old people so I threw myself at the old age home
I had millions of mothers and lots of grannies and they made me feel welcome and so loved

Kati Kati Resident 1
I love Kati Kati because it was a small town and not a lot of crime
but there are things that affect crime: there are no jobs so now there's more crime in Kati Kati
I love Cathcart and I want to see development; now I thought Cathcart was going to develop more but there is nothing

Kati Kati Resident 2
there's no water; the bus aren't working
but there are things that affect crime: there are no jobs so now there's more crime in Kati Kati
I love Cathcart and I want to see development; now I thought Cathcart was going to develop more but there is nothing

B&B Caretaker
this is my area and it's the most important to me
in my area the municipality don't come; I want to see it developed

Scholar 1
an important place is the location here where my mother is, in Phola Park; the meaning of phola is peace

Scholar 2
B&B was closed and a bar was opened; nothing important was opened, only alcohol
it used to be a peaceful place but now it's crime, alcohol, corruption

Mom
I'm quite connected to Cathcart; I'm the only one in my family that was born in Cathcart
I was raised in Cathcart for a short period of my life

Uncle
the only thing that was here was the old reservoir
we'd come up towards the mountain and oupa would tell us where the original station was

B&B Caretaker
I love soccer
there used to be soccer players at the soccer fields; I used to watch soccer and players waiting for playoffs
nothing is happening anymore; I will never forget that

Mom
it had a beautiful view; you could see all the way up the road and down to the station and up to the mountain
I have fantastic memories of cooking food with my mom and oupa in the kitchen

Aunt
it was simple home, nothing fancy about it
there was a place for me; I belonged and there was love in that house
his house was big as a small kid

Traveller
the views of the outskirts of town is an open space that draws you in
every time we arrive in Cathcart that is the very first thing we connect with

Uncle
we'd walk up from the station with the mountain in the backdrop
coming over the pedestrian bridge wasn't a case of going anywhere, we were going to my oupa's home
memories that made an impression on me was by the train and the excitement of being in a train locomotive
we had an even bigger anticipation of getting out the train

Mom
we'd arrive at Cathcart station by milk train, it was a friendly place
we had wonderful excitement of the train pulling into the station
there was fireplace inside with wooden benches
there was a sad emotion of leaving but knowing you would come back soon

Aunt
I had a sadness leaving Cathcart; a sadness because we had to gather all the little bits of happiness in one bag
we could identify with the train station

Estate Agent
with the advent of the diesel the train Cathcart was a changeover depot
eventually, the introduction of diesel engine means the train doesn't have to stop in Cathcart anymore

Municipality Employee
when I was little, my grandfather worked at the railway station
he worked in the office; he'd let me change the lines
for two years now the trains don't stop at the station anymore

Uncle
whenever we were miles out of Cathcart you still see Cathcart Mountain until it simply disappears
look! there's the mountain!

Mom
I never remember saying goodbye to the sea, however, coming into Cathcart it was a happy feeling seeing the mountain
the mountain is the centre of my memory, it is the first thing you greet and the last thing you say goodbye to

Traveller
I had an awareness of the mountain but never going to the mountain
as a child I remember the mountain always being there, the majestic mountain

Elderly Woman
my memory of the first time we came to Cathcart and climbing to the top and looking down over the beautiful village
it's very solid and noble; it gives a feeling of protection and enclosure on one side and openness on the other

Municipality Employee
there were leopards in the kloof and elephants ate thatch off your roof
when I was a kid there was a lot more to do
when we were younger we would walk up the mountain

Estate Agent
there was a sense of belonging, a sense of freedom, a sense of peace
I remember going and buying a litre of milk in the main street
the smell of the dirt roads and interacting with my siblings as we walked
there was a sense of Cathcart being rural

Kenya Cottages Sister 1
Cathcart has more undertakers and bottle stores than anything else, unfortunately
there's been no massive development as such; we lost our economy

Kenya Cottages Sister 2
you could get everything here when I first came here; Cathcart is just bottle stores and funeral parlours now

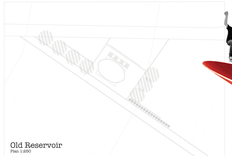
Kati Kati Resident 2
they've taken our municipality away from us; no road works are happening here
we used to be a thriving community; Cathcart is shrinking

Scholar 2
there's no work, there's no colleges, there's no bursaries

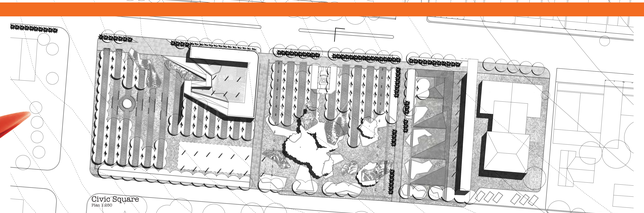
Cathcart is more polite; when you are at a party or gathering of community you tell them how Cathcart used to be

Framework Plan

1:3500

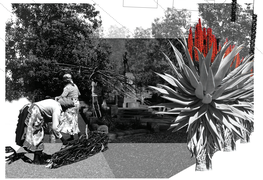


Old Reservoir
Plan 1:400



Civic Square
Plan 1:400

Section A
1:400



Section B
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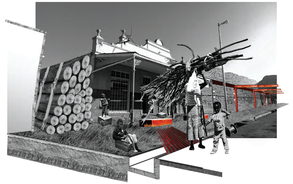
Section C
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