

wynberg waystation

**A new gateway, serving the industrial precinct, and uplifting 'the-great-walk'
-pedestrians, through architecture.**

ABSTRACT :

The story of Alexandra and Sandton is a story of stark contrast of wealth between these two neighbouring communities. The city of Johannesburg has recently created in 2018, a pedestrian bridge over Grayston Drive, connecting the two communities over the M1 highway. Many residents of the Alexandra informal community work in Sandton, resulting in more than ten thousand people walking this journey daily. This is also known as "the great walk". The journey passes through the Wynberg industrial area, known as a built-up area with wall-to-wall factories.

This research report explores ways of also bridging the gap between Alexandra and Sandton. Not just the physical gap, but also the economic divide. This building acts as a metaphorical 'bridge' of the economic divide. This is done, not by transferring wealth, but enabling the generation of it. It reimagines the future of Wynberg and what the key is of entering this space of manufacturing. It examines the pedestrians' physical needs and desires, as well as emotional needs. It attempts to impart inspiration and hope along the journey.

Specific themes are explored to arrive at such a desired outcome. These include 'platforms of potential', 'allowing appropriation', 'celebrating the journey' and 'good inhabitation of space'. These form the main theoretical drivers. Furthermore I propose a building that provides identity and dignity, acting as an urban symbol that represents those who use it.

