

2021 Brief

MOBILITY AND THE HERITAGE ROUTE

With sincere thanks to Henk Marais, Director, Connect Architects for his time and effort in sourcing, investigating and collaborating on the writing of this brief.

Towards a World Connected

2021

Preamble

Most cities never begin their journey with tourism in mind. **They start as human settlements, centred around community, trade, religion or resource.** Once their permanence is established and population densities increase, systems and infrastructure grow to meet these needs first. **Tourism is often an afterthought.** It must adapt to existing systems and overcome infrastructural obstacles if it is to be successful.

Tourism, until very recently, was a thriving industry. This is mostly a result of improvements in modes of **transport, affordability, technology and access to information.** Things may have changed and there may be some level of uncertainty, but humans' adaptable nature, wanderlust and need for self-actualisation will ensure the business of tourism continues one way or another. But, it will be up to the tourist destination to offer enough appeal to overcome any residual anxiety or hesitation within the potential tourist.

Introduction

The City of Cape Town is a tourist hotspot. Natural beauty, an historic past and a cosmopolitan DNA attract millions of people to it every year. Like most cities, its tourist destinations are not conveniently located in one neatly cordoned off district. They are scattered across the landscape, **reflecting the diversity that makes them interesting and worth visiting.**

The City of Cape Town and Sanparks have an ambitious plan to overcome some of the inconvenience. They want to **create mobility** by connecting specific historic, cultural and natural tourist sites across the city in a seamless journey, called the **Heritage Route**. The route will take tourists from Robben Island to the Victoria and Alfred (V&A) Waterfront to the Lion Battery and Signal Hill and on to Table Mountain.

And they need your help!

Although some of the infrastructure exists, there is a gap in the middle.

To unlock the potential of this Heritage Route a link must be created that will join the existing routes.

Enter the Strand Street Quarry.

The Strand Street Quarry supplied much of the stone for the Cape's earliest buildings. No longer in use, the quarry slipped into disregard, left to silently guard the Bo-Kaap from Strand Street. Although planned to be proclaimed a national heritage site, **litter, vagrancy and crime have since filled the void.** In recent years, a public participation process was initiated looking for ideas on how best to utilise the disused quarry. But limited resources kept the process from getting underway until now!

The disused Strand Street Quarry presents **the perfect connection node**, linking the V&A Waterfront to the Lion Battery. By starting in the middle and converting the quarry into an attractive tourist destination and connection hub, the full Heritage Route concept can be **incubated and realised.**

Envisioned to be the gateway from the CBD onto the Heritage Route, the Strand Street Quarry also offers a number of excellent locational imperatives. It is situated close to the V&A Waterfront, the Cape Town Convention Centre, the foreshore hotels and much of the CBD.

The quarry will also be a stop on the City's **inner-city public transport bus route** operating along Strand Street.

Introduction



The intended heritage route comprises the following legs:

- Robben Island to V&A Waterfront by boat
- V&A Waterfront to Strand Street Quarry by cable car
- Strand Street Quarry to Lion Battery and Signal Hill by cable car
- Lion Battery and Signal Hill to Table Mountain by cable car

Robben Island

V&A Waterfront

Lion Battery

Signal Hill

Strand Street Quarry

Table Mountain

Brief

You must **design the Strand Street Quarry node** for the Heritage Route.

Thought starters

- **What** does your design offer that makes it a big drawcard for tourists?
- **Consider current pandemic protocols** in future-proofing your design.
- **How** does the site and its context inform your design?
- **How** do you consider inclusive design in your solution?
- **Consider environmentally responsible** and sustainable materials and methods.
- Do not fixate on whether this requires an architectural or interior design intervention. Use your strengths to design the experience, considering the internal and external needs to execute against the brief.

Your design must include:

- A pedestrian entrance point with bus drop-off area adjoining Strand Street.
- A learning centre.
- Tourist retail, a visitor information centre and ticket sales for the **Heritage Route**.
- The tourist retail element is intended to **offer opportunities to the local community**. You are required to design six functional pods only, in keeping with your scheme, that will house these individual businesses.
- A restaurant, with seating capacity for 50 patrons, including both an interior and covered exterior space.
- The Strand Street Quarry terminus for the Lion Battery cable car, to include gantry walkway to hold queuing tourists.
- A pedestrian gateway to a mountain promenade / viewpoint system linking to Lion Battery.
- The Strand Street Quarry terminus for the V&A Waterfront cable car, to include gantry walkway to hold queuing tourists.
- You are **not required** to consider or detail the actual retail offering within the local community-operated retail pods.
- You **do not have to consider parking** nor detail any back of house functionality or ablutions within the scheme.

Considerations:

- Weather conditions.
- Interventions to **relieve potential boredom** during longer queues in peak seasons / times.
- The route between the two termini should be **well considered to link and promote** the use of all the other functions on the site.
- Your design intervention must be **sensitive to its context** and needs to **reflect its Bo-Kaap heritage**.

Use your understanding of the given location to design more than just a pitstop or halfway station. This **must be a drawcard tourist destination** in its own right.

Practicalities

Your site is located at:

**STRAND STREET QUARRY, Strand Street (near intersection of Vos Street),
City of Cape Town**

Your presentation and entry must show

- Every function listed above must be included in your solution.
- An understanding of the context, properties and limitations of the site, by incorporating them into your design.
- **Interesting and innovative** use of PG Bison products to facilitate the look and feel of your design, be it moveable furniture and/or interior fittings and/or fixtures. The application of the products must be clearly indicated on your entry.

PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS SHOULD BE GROUNDED IN REALITY.

Resources

Details are available at www.1sixoneeight.co.za including the brief, photographs, drawings and other links.

Prizes

1st Prize

R50,000.00 cash for the winner
R50,000.00 cash for the lecturer

2nd Prize

R20,000.00 cash for the 1st runner-up

3rd Prize

R10 000 cash for the 2nd runner-up

The other 7 finalists each receive **R2,000 cash**

Submission format and requirements

Your entry must be presented on **3 x A2 pages**. You may choose between **landscape or portrait** orientation.

Please ensure **each page is numbered** and the directional flow (horizontal or vertical) is clearly evident, so your entry is presented to the judges as you intended.

Any explanatory notes must be kept to an absolute minimum (approximately 100 words or less) and must be included within the entry. **This is a design, not a literary, competition.**

Your submission will need to be **uploaded digitally** to the competition website before the competition closing date.

Your submission will be required in **both PDF and JPG format**.

The following details will be required at the time of uploading your submission:

- Student's name and surname
- Name of institution
- Lecturer's name and surname
- Contact telephone number of the institution
- Contact telephone number of the lecturer

Judging is anonymous. **Do not include any personal or institutional details** within the presentation of your entry, as your entry will be disqualified.



Terms and conditions

Submission deadline:

FRIDAY, 27 August 2021

No late submissions will be considered.

Address for electronic submission

www.1sixoneeight.co.za

Entry submissions remain the property of the PG Bison 1.618 Education Initiative.

No prizes are transferable.

Prizes are awarded at the discretion of the judging panel and competition organiser. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The values of the prizes are at the discretion of the competition organiser and can be amended from time to time.

● Contact details

Lian Markham

Communications Manager

011 897 5200

082 458 2595

markham@pgbison.co.za

www.1sixoneeight.co.za

www.pgbison.co.za

