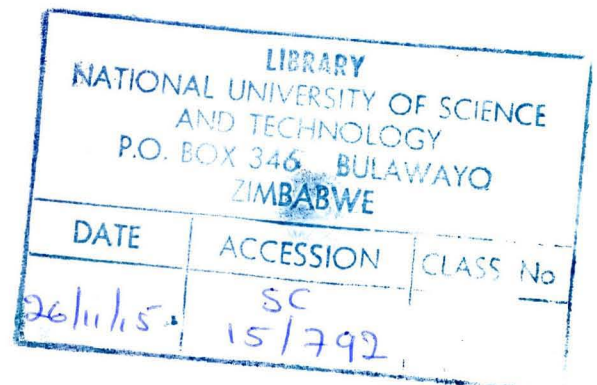


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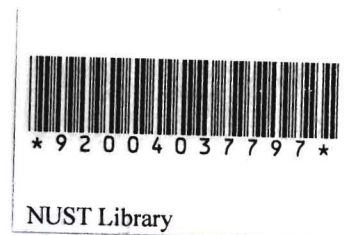


**STIMULATIVE ARCHITECTURE:
ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS FOR
URBAN HIGH DENSITY COMMUNITIES**

**PROPOSED ANCHOR COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR
KUWADZANA**

By

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ABSTRACT

When an architect designs a building he uses a concept as an inspirational tool for his design so as to give it meaning, but for the end user (the lay man), that concept is not the primary method of engaging with the building, but in fact the dynamic experience that the user has through the sensuous interaction the user has with the building is the main relationship between the building and user.

Thus the main objective of this thesis was to investigate architectural methods and theories of unlocking the concepts of the designer into a dynamic stimulating experience, so as to harmonise the users with the built fabric, for the purpose of improving the quality of life of the user of a high density community's in Zimbabwe.

The research interrogated the nature of the built environment of high density communities establishing that the architectural approach was traditionally geared towards only addressing mainly the functional aspect of the built environment, without ensuring that the design fulfils the other dimensions of architecture that would bring an enhancement into the lives of the communities. This thesis sought to establish in a non-exclusive manner the relationship with stimulative architecture on the improvement of the quality of life of the communities in these high density areas, taking into cognisance the economic limitations that pertained. The theories explored were found to be dynamic and focused on the impact that they had on the user of the facilities in a nonabrasive manner but with a view to engage more of the user's sense and stimulate positive emotional responses while interacting with the architecture.