

# CS STUDIO ARCHITECTS

## HAWSTON TOURISM GATEWAY

LOCATION: HAWSTON, HERMANUS , WESTERN CAPE

DATE: CURRENTLY IN DESIGN PHASE

### BACKGROUND

Hawston is a seaside village with beautiful white sandy beaches, surrounded by dunes and mountains. Whales are often seen in this presteen area. The village has become stigmatised for its notorious gangsters and abalone poachers which many of the local residents want to shake off.

The Hawston Tourism Gateway project's main aim is to create a place for passers-by to stop and become involved with the Hawston community through various tourist activities.

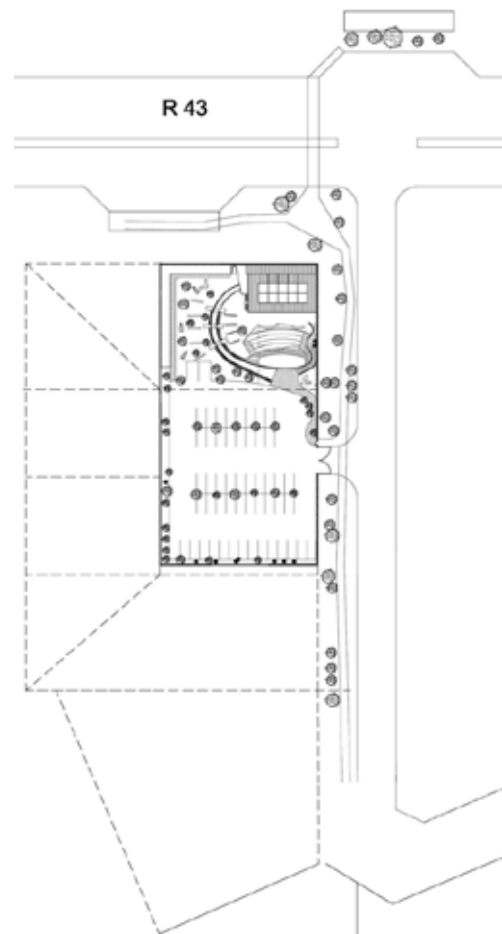
### DESIGN

The design process was an exciting one where local residents undertook 'visioning drawings' and through the process produced brilliant ideas. The main idea was for an aquarium and various commercial activities that allow for the stimulation of the local economy. The design will consist of a double story construction with containers creating an edge onto the road with abalone shell infill.

A 'wave like' roof will be constructed over a fish restaurant on the first floor where interactive programmes for children will also be located. An outdoor amphitheatre on the ground floor will be hugged by a ramp that allows access to all the first floor activities.

A tower with a lift and stairs will give access to a 'floating whale' 30 meters up in the sky. The whale will be an interactive information centre displaying screens with documentaries about the marine life, fauna, flora, conservation, local artist's info etc. It will also serve as an excellent lookout point for whale watching.

The facility will thus be an interactive visitor centre for international and local tourists. Due to the wealth of information about the aquamarine life in the region, educational information will be displayed in permanent and temporary exhibitions. At the ground level there will be commercial activities including a market and curio shops which also aims to bring employment opportunities to the area.



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