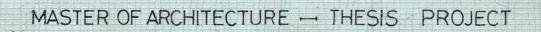
URBAN RESOURCE CENTRE MOMBASA OLD TOWN

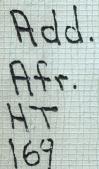
1



JULY 1976

GEOFFREY NGUG! GITHUNGURI

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI



.K4G5

ABSTRACT:

My thesis subject is URBAN RESOURCE CENTRE to serve the community of Mombasa old town. The designed facility constitutes a learning environment sensitized to respond to:-

(1) Employment needs within local industrial organizations.

(2) Self-employment needs in small scale industries.

(3) Skill improvement needs for life maintaining purposes.

(4) Socio-educational and welfare needs of the community.

MY OBJECTIVES ARE: (i) To enhance and reinforce established

(ii) To design a Resource Centre thatreaches every social strategem of my targetarea - Mombasa Old Town.

(iii) To permit through Architecture (economic)
sharing of scarce urban facilities by actual
physical sharing and through convenient
referral services.

(iv) To design for involvement and "Possession" of all participants.

It is observed that any attempt to sensitize a resource centre to community needs must be geared towards optimal response of the designed facility to the following Categorie's of Community requirements - at least to the best of the designers knowledge of a given Society:

4

(a) LIFE MAINTAINING NEEDS AND URGES:

e.g. (i) Hunger and thirst

- (ii) Shelter
- (iii) Rest and sleep
 - (iv) Acquisition urges e.g. lessons and learning
 - (v) Fabrication, making of tools
 - (vi) Making Symbols e.g. Art, Music, Sculptures, etc.
- (b) LIFE ENHANCING NEEDS AND URGES:
 - e.g. (i) Play and Sport
 - (ii) Companionship and intimacy
 - (iii) Group pride and self-identity
 - (iv) Need for psychological feelings e.g. Security

(c) LIFE COMPLETING NEEDS AND URGES:

These are the properties of the physical environment

- e.g. (i) Light
 - (ii) Textures
 - (iii) Spaces
 - (iv) Rhythms
 - (v) Sounds and Smells

Appendix 'A' shows the results of studies of the Community based on the above check-list

The "target area" is that of Mombasa Old Town and information was obtained through (i) Kenya Bureau of Statistics

(ii) Authors Observations on site.

All design decisions are based on the above mentioned Studies.

5