





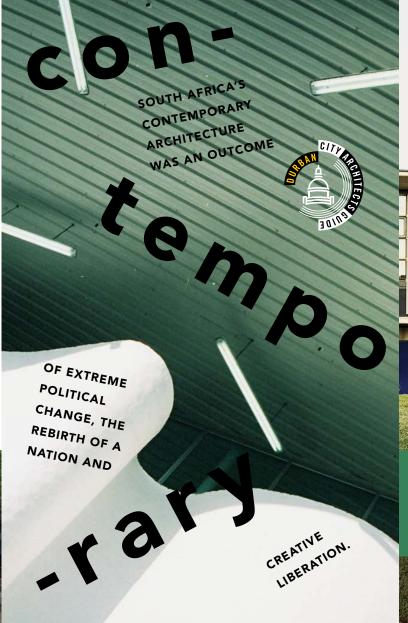
In 2001 the new municipality, eThekwini, came into being. It incorporated the historical city of Durban and its suburbs, and the surrounding towns and townships. Substantial development was needed in health, education, transport, welfare and housing, where architects had been largely excluded. Urban renewal had to be faced, and the benefits of privilege spread, while fighting the scourges of the HIV and AIDS epidemic, crime and corruption. At the same time, architecture could no longer be the result of functional planning, economy and sound construction only; the professional engagement and the process of realisation had to be broadened and skills transferred. In addition, buildings had to be energy efficient, sustainable and green. But, as always the best buildings are those both self-possessed and integrated with their contexts.

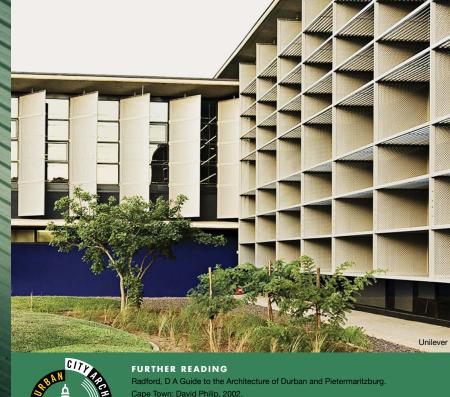
## **ARCHITECTURAL TRANSFORMATION**

In South Africa the contemporary scene began with the peaceful transition to democracy in 1994, with the late Nelson Mandela as head of a new government of reconciliation. These were euphoric times as the country was readmitted to the community of nations. The challenge on the home front was to reconstruct, develop and reflect the values enshrined in the new constitution of 1997.

## FINDING CON — tempo rary IN DURBAN







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