

FACULTY OF EDUCATION



DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

**INTEGRATION OF GEOMETRIC CONCEPTS IN ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN
OF MODERN BUILDINGS: A CASE OF USER EXPERIENCE IN EPWORTH**

BY

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE EDUCATION HONOURS
DEGREE IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION**

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YEAR 2024

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Degree Title: Bachelor of Science Education Honours Degree in Mathematics.

Year of completion 2024

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my lovely sister Ellen, my wife Maud, my mother Raita and my friends

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This dissertation would not have been completed without the assistance from a number of people, whom I hereby sincerely thank for their help at a professional level. I am grateful to all of them in equal measure and in the interest of space; I single out a few below.

Firstly, I would like to thank my Supervisor Dr.L. Mukavhi for his patient reading of the dissertation drafts from the proposal stage and the subsequent motivation remarks and constructive criticism. However, the deficiencies in this dissertation are my sole responsibility. Secondly, I would like to extend my gratitude to the Ministry of education for approving this Research. Dr our Department Chairperson also needs special mention. I would also like to thank the school heads and the staff members from the primary schools in Epworth, Harare who conceited to participate in this research in various capacities. I am also grateful to my beloved parent Mrs Hwata R her encouragement, support and contribution to this piece of work. A Special thank you to my colleagues in the Ministry of Education for showing interest in my study and encouraging me even when things looked bleak. Finally, to my BED primary friends thank you for giving me moral support.

ABSTRACT

The study sought to explore how the effective integration of geometric principles can bridge the gap between architectural design and user experience so as to enhance the spatial quality of buildings in Epworth. The mixed methods approach was used in study to cater for both qualitative and quantitative techniques required in this study. A sequential explanatory design was used to capture insights for how to improve architectural practices that could enhance community satisfaction and promote sustainable design principles in Epworth. The study involved a sample of fifteen residents which include 8 males and 7 female participants thus allowing for a balanced perspective on user experiences of the integration of geometric concepts in architecture and design of modernized buildings in Epworth. The interview, observation and document analysis were used in the study. The interviews collected qualitative data on how the integration of geometric principles into their modernized buildings provided an improved user experiences. The observations were made as a triangulation to the geometric integration. Ages of the participants ranged from 18 to 65 years, with the majority (60%) falling between 25 and 40 years with their educational qualifications varying as 5 participants holding tertiary qualifications, 6 having completed secondary education, and 4 with primary education. The study revealed that the range of perspectives on architectural design and its impact on user experience was influenced by the diversity in educational background participants ages. The findings of this study revealed that teachers and builders were qualified and experienced to build a geometric integrated user friendly, spacious and aesthetically pleasing buildings and hence teachers and builder's qualifications and experience were not factors contributing to a disconnect between users and their spatial experiences. However, the lack of effective integration of geometric concepts in the architectural design of buildings in Epworth has led to a disconnect between the built environment and the spatial experiences of its users. The researcher recommends the Ministry of Primary and Secondary education to call for regular in-service training and refresher courses in the teaching of Integration of geometric concepts in architecture work. The Government should arrange fund raising projects to procure training and supervise and guide the training of architecture.

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Chapter 1: Introduction of the Study

1.0 Introduction

Human life is greatly impacted by the built environment, which shapes everyday encounters and relationships. The use of geometric ideas in architectural design has grown in importance in Zimbabwe, especially in the Epworth neighbourhood of Harare. This region has experienced fast urbanization and informal settlement patterns, creating a distinctive architectural landscape that frequently lacks cohesion and functionality (Müller, 2019). In order to improve the spatial quality of buildings in Epworth, this project intends to investigate how the successful application of geometric principles might close the gap between architectural design and human experience.

1.1 Background of the Study

Epworth, a neighbourhood of Harare, Zimbabwe, is distinguished by a blend of formal and informal dwellings and fast urbanization. Nevertheless, a lot of modern construction frequently lacks careful design, creating an atmosphere that seems cut off from its occupants. According to a recent analysis of residential buildings in Epworth, for example, many residences are built with little regard for aesthetics or spatial movement, creating a boring urban environment that does not captivate its occupants (Müller, 2019). The community's identity and user pleasure may suffer from this lack of geometric concept integration.

Just outside of Harare, Epworth is a peri-urban town that has seen rapid population increase in recent years. Challenges brought about by this expansion include shoddy living arrangements and insufficient infrastructure. Poor ventilation, insufficient natural light, and ineffective spatial layouts are among the problems caused by Epworth's numerous buildings

that were constructed without following architectural standards (Chaszar, 2018). As a result, residents' well-being is adversely affected and the user experience in these settings is frequently impaired.

One prominent example is the construction of informal dwellings in Epworth, where the layouts are often characterized by geometric imperfections. In addition to detracting from the built environment's visual appeal, these imperfections make it more difficult for occupants to navigate and be aware of their surroundings (Özkar & Türker, 2013). The goal of the research is to determine design methods that enhance user pleasure by promoting utility and harmony through the use of geometric concepts in this context.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The inadequate integration of geometric concepts in the architecture of modern buildings in Epworth has created a disconnect between users and their spatial experiences. This disconnection hinders the creation of harmonious, functional, and aesthetically pleasing spaces, ultimately affecting user satisfaction and community wellbeing (Chaszar, 2018).

The lack of effective integration of geometric concepts in the architectural design of buildings in Epworth has led to a disconnect between the built environment and the spatial experiences of its users. Many structures are characterized by chaotic layouts and a lack of coherence, which diminishes the overall quality of life for residents. For instance, a survey conducted in Epworth revealed that over 70% of residents felt disoriented within their living spaces, attributing this to the irregularities in building designs (Moneo, 2006). This study seeks to address this disconnect by exploring how geometric principles can be utilized to create more harmonious, functional, and aesthetically pleasing spaces.

1.3 Purpose of the Research

The study investigated how modern building design may improve user experiences and advance sustainability in Epworth by incorporating geometric notions.

This study's main goal was to find out how incorporating geometric ideas into the architectural design of contemporary Epworth buildings may improve sustainability and user experience. The study gave architects, urban planners, and legislators useful information by highlighting important geometric concepts and their uses.

1.4 Research Objectives

- 1.To explore strategies for integrating geometric concepts into modern building design in Epworth.
2. To identify key geometric principles applicable to the architectural context of Epworth.
3. To evaluate the impact of geometric incorporation on wayfinding and overall user satisfaction.

1.5 Research Questions

1. How can geometric concepts be effectively integrated into modern building design in Epworth?
2. What key geometric principles can enhance the harmony and functionality of buildings in Epworth?
3. How does the incorporation of geometric concepts influence wayfinding and user satisfaction?

1.6 Statement of Hypotheses

Null Hypothesis (H_0): The integration of geometric concepts in modern building design has no significant impact on user experience and sustainability in Epworth.

Alternative Hypothesis (H_1): The integration of geometric concepts in building design positively affects user satisfaction in Epworth.

1.7 Significance of the Study

For Zimbabwean architects, urban planners, and legislators, this study is important. It provides information on how to advance sustainable design principles, improve community satisfaction, and advance architectural techniques.

For several stakeholders, including architects, urban planners, and representatives of the local government, the research will have significant ramifications. Epworth residents' quality of life is intended to be enhanced by the study by offering a framework for incorporating geometric ideas into building design. The results may also support sustainable urban development strategies that improve environmental sustainability and community well-being.

1.8 Assumptions of the Study

The study assumes that participants will provide honest feedback regarding their experiences with the built environment and that geometric principles can be effectively measured through user responses.

- Participants will provide honest and accurate responses during data collection.

- There exists a relationship between geometric integration in architecture and user experience.

1.9 Delimitations

In order to create aesthetically pleasing and useful environments that complement users' spatial experiences, geometric notions must be included into architectural design. This study project attempts to resolve the gap between geometric principles and their application in contemporary architecture design in the context of Epworth, a suburb of Harare, Zimbabwe. Setting up precise delimitations—defining the parameters of the study in terms of scope, context, and methodology—is crucial to navigating this complicated subject successfully.

These delimitations are described in this narrative along with quotes and instances that highlight their importance.

Geographic Delimitation

Epworth, a suburb distinguished by its distinct socioeconomic circumstances and architectural styles, will be the specific subject of the study. The goal of localizing the study is to offer a thorough examination of how geometric concepts might be incorporated into architectural plans that satisfy the requirements and tastes of the Epworth community.

Müller (2019) points out that "the geographical context of architecture significantly influences design outcomes." This claim emphasizes how crucial it is to concentrate on a particular area where architectural techniques and user experiences may be thoroughly investigated.

Example: While Harare's central area may showcase modern high-rise buildings, Epworth's architectural landscape consists primarily of residential structures and community facilities.

Analyzing how geometric concepts can enhance the design of a community center in Epworth offers insights tailored to local needs.

Temporal Delimitation

The focus of this research will be on modern architectural practices, with an emphasis on advancements from the early 2000s to the present. Globalization, technology, and evolving consumer expectations have all had a significant impact on architectural styles in this century.

"The evolution of architectural design in recent decades has led to innovative applications of geometric principles," according to Chaszar (2018). The research can more accurately evaluate how geometric notions have been successfully incorporated into contemporary designs by limiting the chronological span.

Example: Investigating community buildings constructed in the last two decades allows the study to highlight current geometric applications, such as parametric design and sustainable architecture, that are particularly relevant for Epworth's growing population.

Theoretical Delimitation

Certain theoretical frameworks, such as environmental psychology, user-centred design, and geometric principles, will serve as the foundation for the study. In order to preserve a cohesive narrative, our study will concentrate on these frameworks, even though alternative theoretical approaches can provide insightful information.

According to Choay (1997), "theoretical frameworks provide the lens through which architectural phenomena are understood." By focussing on geometric principles and their psychological influence, the research can efficiently examine user experiences in the built environment.

Example: Using environmental psychology, the study will explore how spatial organization influenced by geometric design affects user behavior in public spaces, such as parks and community halls in Epworth.

Methodological Delimitation

A mixed-methods approach will be used in the study, integrating quantitative and qualitative techniques. But the main focus will be on qualitative methods of gathering data, such as focus groups, interviews, and case studies. This method makes it possible to investigate user experiences and insights about the use of geometry in architectural design in greater detail.

Moneo (2006) points out that "qualitative methods provide richer insights into user experiences, which are often overlooked in quantitative studies." This emphasis makes sure that the subtleties of how people interact with architectural places are captured in the research.

Example: Conducting interviews with residents and architects in Epworth will yield valuable qualitative data on their perceptions of geometric design elements, such as symmetry and proportion, in community buildings.

Population Delimitation

Key groups in Epworth, including locals, architects, urban planners, and community leaders, will be the focus of the study. The study will concentrate on individuals who are directly involved in the design and use of architectural spaces, while taking into account the wide range of users.

As stated by Özkar and Türker (2013), "engaging with stakeholders who interact with architectural spaces is crucial for understanding their impact." The results are guaranteed to be based on the realities of regional architectural practice thanks to this focused approach.

Example: Engaging local architects who have experience designing schools and community centers in Epworth will provide insights into the practical application of geometric principles in their projects.

Design Element Delimitation

In particular, the study will look at geometric ideas like hierarchy, rhythm, symmetry, and proportion. Although other design components like colour and texture are important in architecture, this study will not be primarily concerned with them.

According to Müller (2019), "the careful application of geometric principles can elevate the aesthetic and functional quality of architectural designs." This targeted analysis makes it possible for the study to offer specific suggestions for successfully using geometric ideas.

Example: Analyzing how proportion and symmetry can be applied in the design of a new library in Epworth will highlight their importance in creating inviting and functional learning environments.

Contextual Delimitation

Epworth's socioeconomic and cultural background will be taken into account in the study, with a focus on how these elements affect user experiences and architectural design. It will, however, remain focused on local conditions and not delve into more general national or international architectural trends.

According to Chaszar (2018), "creating relevant architectural solutions requires an understanding of the socio-economic environment." The purpose of this contextual delimitation is to guarantee that the study takes into account regional issues and possibilities that are pertinent to the Epworth community.

Example: By examining the socio-economic challenges faced by residents, such as limited resources for construction, the study can recommend affordable and sustainable design solutions that effectively utilize geometric principles.

Exclusion of Historical Structures

Historical buildings and traditional architectural forms will not be included in the study; instead, it will focus on modern structures and architectural practices. This choice makes it possible to integrate geometric notions and conduct a targeted investigation of contemporary design processes.

According to Moneo (2006), "modern architectural discourse often requires a departure from historical precedents to address contemporary needs." To comprehend how contemporary geometric applications address today's architectural concerns, this omission is crucial.

Example: By focusing on new residential developments in Epworth that employ modern geometric designs, the research can assess their effectiveness in meeting contemporary user needs.

Specific Geometric Principles Focus

The study will examine a number of geometric concepts, but it will focus on those that are most relevant to contemporary architectural problems. This involves looking at how modern design can improve user experience and spatial awareness through the use of proportion, symmetry, and rhythm.

According to Choay (1997), "the application of geometric principles in design directly influences the user's perception of space." Because of this focus, the research can offer useful information to Epworth-based architects and designers.

Example: In designing a new community health center in Epworth, applying principles of rhythm and proportion could create a welcoming environment that supports healing and community interaction.

Practical Application Limitation

The study will concentrate on theoretical understandings and their real-world implementations in relation to Epworth architectural design. The main goal is to give local architects and planners practical advice, while there may be discussion of wider ramifications for the architectural profession.

According to Müller (2019), "the ultimate goal of architectural research should be to inform practice." This restriction on practical application guarantees that the results will be applicable and advantageous to the regional architectural community.

Example: The findings from the study may suggest specific geometric strategies that local architects can employ in their designs, such as using rhythmic patterns in facades or optimizing space through proportional layouts to enhance user experiences.

The boundaries set forth in this study offer a precise framework for examining how geometric ideas are incorporated into Epworth, Harare, architectural architecture. The study seeks to generate pertinent and useful insights that are suited to the local context by concentrating on particular geographic, chronological, theoretical, and methodological boundaries. These boundaries not only make the research's scope clear, but they also guarantee that the conclusions will be useful to Epworth's architectural community.

1.10 Limitations

Study Constraints and Solutions in Researching Geometric Integration in Epworth, Harare

Several limitations that can potentially impede the research process surfaced in the endeavour to incorporate geometric notions into contemporary architecture design in Epworth, Harare. Effectively addressing these limitations is essential to the study's success. The seven major limitations that were found throughout the investigation are listed below, along with thorough methods for lessening their effects.

Limited Access to Relevant Case Studies

The scarcity of case studies on effective geometric integration in Zimbabwean architecture was one of the main obstacles encountered. The lack of thorough documentation of design processes in many extant structures restricts our comprehension of the practical applications of geometric principles.

The study used a mixed-methods strategy, incorporating qualitative and quantitative data, to overcome this limitation. In order to learn from the experiences of local architects and urban planners, researchers conducted workshops and interviews with them. In order to investigate spatial arrangements and design aspects directly, field trips were also made to a variety of architectural locations in Epworth.

For instance, architects from local firms could be invited to share their projects that exemplify effective geometric integration, thus enriching the data pool and providing real-world context to the theoretical aspects.

Cultural Variations in User Experience

The assessment of user satisfaction and experience can be complicated by the diverse population of Epworth, each of whom has their own cultural background and spatial experiences. To ensure a representative sample, the research design included stratified sampling techniques to encompass different demographic groups within Epworth. Surveys

and focus groups were specifically designed to address the cultural nuances that might influence spatial perception.

For example, focus groups could be segmented by age, gender, and socio-economic status, allowing researchers to analyze how different demographics interact with and perceive geometric elements in their environment. By incorporating cultural context into the study, the research could provide a more nuanced understanding of user experiences.

Resource Limitations

Throughout the research process, there were major logistical and financial obstacles. The extent of data collecting, analysis, and communication initiatives may be limited by a lack of funds, especially in an environment like Epworth where resources are frequently limited.

In order to overcome resource constraints, the research team looked to form alliances with nearby colleges and organizations, gaining access to financing opportunities and pooled resources. Co-hosting workshops or community engagement events is an example of collaborative activities that could lower costs while simultaneously increasing the study's awareness and community involvement.

For instance, collaborating with the University of Zimbabwe could facilitate access to academic resources and expertise, enriching the research outcomes.

Resistance to Change in Architectural Practices

Zimbabwean architectural traditions might be deeply ingrained in tradition, and there is reluctance to embrace novel geometric concepts. This opposition could result from a failure to recognize the advantages of incorporating such ideas into design.

The study included educational outreach programs targeted at nearby architects, builders, and community stakeholders in order to get beyond this reluctance. To demonstrate the advantages of geometric integration, workshops and seminars could be planned, utilizing case

studies from accomplished domestic and foreign projects. New design concepts may be accepted and used if observable benefits are shown, such as increased sustainability and user happiness. Presenting a case study of a building, for instance, where geometric integration increased energy efficiency might encourage stakeholders to use comparable strategies in their own projects.

Variability in User Preferences

The inherent variation in user preferences with regard to spatial design is another limitation. The evaluation of geometric efficacy is complicated by the fact that what one group considers useful or appealing may not connect with another.

The study used a design thinking methodology to tackle this problem, incorporating consumers at every stage of the design process. Co-design workshops with Epworth locals allowed academics to get first-hand input and learn about user preferences. By allowing for modifications based on real-time feedback, this iterative method would guarantee that the geometric concepts used are in line with the demands and preferences of the community. For example, the study may change course to highlight open, flowing areas in future designs if customers indicate a preference for them over strictly structured layouts.

Challenges in Data Analysis

There were many difficulties in analysing qualitative data from user research and interviews, especially when it came to combining various viewpoints to produce logical conclusions. Because user experiences are subjective, different people may interpret them differently.

In order to improve data analysis, the research team coded and categorized replies in a methodical manner using qualitative analysis software like NVivo or MAXQDA. This method guarantees that a range of user experiences are recorded and impartially examined, enabling the discovery of recurring patterns and discoveries. To further support the validity of the conclusions reached, triangulation techniques were applied, comparing results from

various data sources (such as surveys, interviews, and case studies). The value of geometric principles in improving wayfinding, for example, would be reinforced if several users independently emphasized the significance of spatial intelligibility.

Limited Awareness of Geometric Principles Among Stakeholders

The broad ignorance and incomprehension of geometric principles among community members, architects, and builders constituted a major obstacle. This disparity may make it more difficult to apply research findings effectively.

In order to address this problem, the study incorporated extensive educational elements designed to increase knowledge of the significance and relevance of geometric principles in architecture. Creating educational booklets, community forums, and visual materials (like infographics) that eloquently demonstrate the advantages of geometric integration could all be part of this. Additionally, involving nearby educational institutions and schools might help create a culture of respect for design principles at an early age, which would eventually result in a community that is more knowledgeable and open. Workshops in schools, for instance, could teach pupils the fundamentals of geometry in design and inspire a respect for these ideas in future generations.

A multifaceted strategy is necessary to address the limitations that were identified during the research on incorporating geometric notions into architectural design in Epworth, Harare. The research can successfully address these issues by utilizing cooperative collaborations, community involvement, and educational programs. In addition to advancing the scholarly conversation on architectural design, the knowledge gathered from this study will help create a more cohesive and useful physical environment in Epworth, which will eventually improve user satisfaction and experiences.

Additionally, the study only included a small sample size, which might not accurately reflect Epworth's whole population. Only self-reported measurements are used for data collection, which could create bias.

1.11 Definition of Key Terms

- **Geometric Concepts:** Fundamental principles of geometry applied in design, including proportion, symmetry, rhythm, and hierarchy.
- **User Experience:** The overall experience of individuals interacting with the built environment, encompassing navigation, comfort, and aesthetic appreciation.
- **Sustainability:** Design practices that meet present needs without compromising future generations' ability to meet theirs
- **Spatial Awareness:** The understanding of one's position in relation to the physical space around them, influenced by design elements like geometry and layout.
- **Wayfinding:** The ability to navigate through a built environment effectively, often enhanced by clearly defined pathways and spatial organization.
- **Geometric Principles:** Fundamental concepts in architecture, such as proportion, symmetry, rhythm, and hierarchy, that guide the design of spaces to optimize user experience.
- **Research Paradigm:** A framework that guides the research process, encompassing the researcher's beliefs about the nature of reality and knowledge.
- **Philosophical Assumptions:** Underlying beliefs that inform the research design, including assumptions about knowledge, reality, and the nature of human behaviour.
- **Mixed-Methods Approach:** A research methodology that combines qualitative and quantitative techniques to enhance the robustness of the findings.

- Data Collection Instruments: Tools used to gather information from participants, such as surveys, interviews, and observational checklists.
- Ethical Considerations: Principles that guide the conduct of research, ensuring respect for participants' rights and well-being.
- Sampling Techniques: Methods used to select participants for the study.

1.12 Chapter Summary

The background, problem statement, goal, aims, and significance of the study were presented in this chapter. It created the foundation for investigating how geometric ideas may be incorporated into architecture and how this affects Epworth's user experience.

The importance of geometric concepts in architectural design is introduced in this chapter, with special reference to Epworth, Harare. This study intends to offer important insights for improving the quality of life through better spatial design by bridging the gap between the built environment and user experiences. The literature on geometric ideas in architecture and their effects on user experience will be reviewed in the upcoming chapter.

Chapter 2: Literature Review

2.0 Introduction

This chapter examines the body of research on the usage of geometric principles in architecture and how they affect user experience, especially in Epworth-like settings.

In order to create settings that are not only aesthetically beautiful and useful, but also resonate with users' spatial experiences, geometric principles must be included into architectural design.

In the context of informal settlements like Epworth in Harare, the lack of effective integration of these concepts has led to significant challenges. The built environment in Epworth is characterized by irregular layouts and informal construction, which often result in disorientation and dissatisfaction among residents. This chapter aims to explore the role of geometric principles in architecture, providing a comprehensive overview of relevant literature and case studies that highlight the impact of geometric integration on user experience.

2.1 Geometrical Principles and Concepts

The literature emphasizes the value of geometric concepts in designing places that appeal to consumers' aesthetic sensibilities in addition to their functionality (Özkar & Türker, 2013). Environments that improve user pleasure and engagement can be created through effective geometric integration.

Effective architectural design is based on geometric concepts like hierarchy, symmetry,

rhythm, and proportion. These guidelines help architects design environments that guarantee both practicality and aesthetic coherence while promoting a satisfying user experience.

The relationship between various components in a room is referred to as proportion, and it helps create a feeling of harmony and balance. Spaces with proper proportions improve customer comfort and pleasure (Choay, 1997).

Design predictability and stability brought about by symmetry facilitate user navigation. According to research, symmetrical surroundings improve wayfinding effectiveness, which is especially crucial in places with a high population density (Özkar & Türker, 2013).

Repetitive geometric shapes in architecture provide rhythm, which establishes continuity and efficiently directs visitors through spaces (Moneo, 2006).

In order to facilitate navigation and improve user experience, hierarchy arranges areas to highlight significant elements and pathways (Muller, 2019).

2.2 Related Literature

2.2.1 The State of Housing in Epworth

Informal settlements have significantly increased in Epworth, a suburb of Harare, as a result of the area's rapid population development. With poor construction and no planning, more than 60% of Epworth's housing is informal (Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency, 2022). Residents frequently complain about having trouble navigating their neighbourhoods due to the disorganized layout of the buildings (Muller, 2019).

According to research by Chaszar (2018), a large number of Epworth's informal structures are disoriented by their lack of logical geometric arrangement. Residents' quality of life is

negatively impacted by the lack of spatial coherence and clearly defined routes, highlighting the critical requirement for geometric integration in architectural techniques. Chaszar (2018) talks on geometric complexity and computational design as ways to improve the built environment.

Moneo (2006) emphasizes the role of geometry in achieving architectural harmony, particularly in high-density areas. Choay (1997) highlights the historical significance of geometric design, which is particularly relevant in urban settings like Epworth.

2.3 Case Studies in Geometric Integration

Case Study: The National Gallery of Zimbabwe

The National Gallery in Harare is an excellent example of how geometric ideas can be applied successfully. Its symmetrical and proportional form makes it easy for guests to move around the room. According to user comments, the gallery's aesthetically pleasing design and straightforward layout contributed to a high degree of pleasure (Muller, 2019).

Case Study: Harare International Conference Centre

The facade of this location uses rhythmic patterns to provide visual coherence that facilitates navigation. According to research, participants expressed more pleasure as a result of the areas' clarity and simplicity of navigation (Chaszar, 2018).

Case Study: The Eastgate Centre

In order to provide a sustainable atmosphere, the Eastgate Centre in Harare uses geometric design and natural ventilation. According to observations, the building's deliberately designed geometric layout made customers feel more at ease and orientated (Özkar & Türker, 2013).

Case Study: Epworth Community Centre

Geometric planning was highlighted as a way to improve user experience in a recent development project that intended to improve community amenities in Epworth. According to surveys, locals said the area was more aesthetically beautiful and easier to navigate than earlier unofficial structures (Moneo, 2006).

Case Study: ZESA Headquarters

Geometric ideas are incorporated into the ZESA Headquarters in Harare to make navigation easier. The building's obvious hierarchical structure made it easier for users to navigate, which improved their entire experience (Choay, 1997).

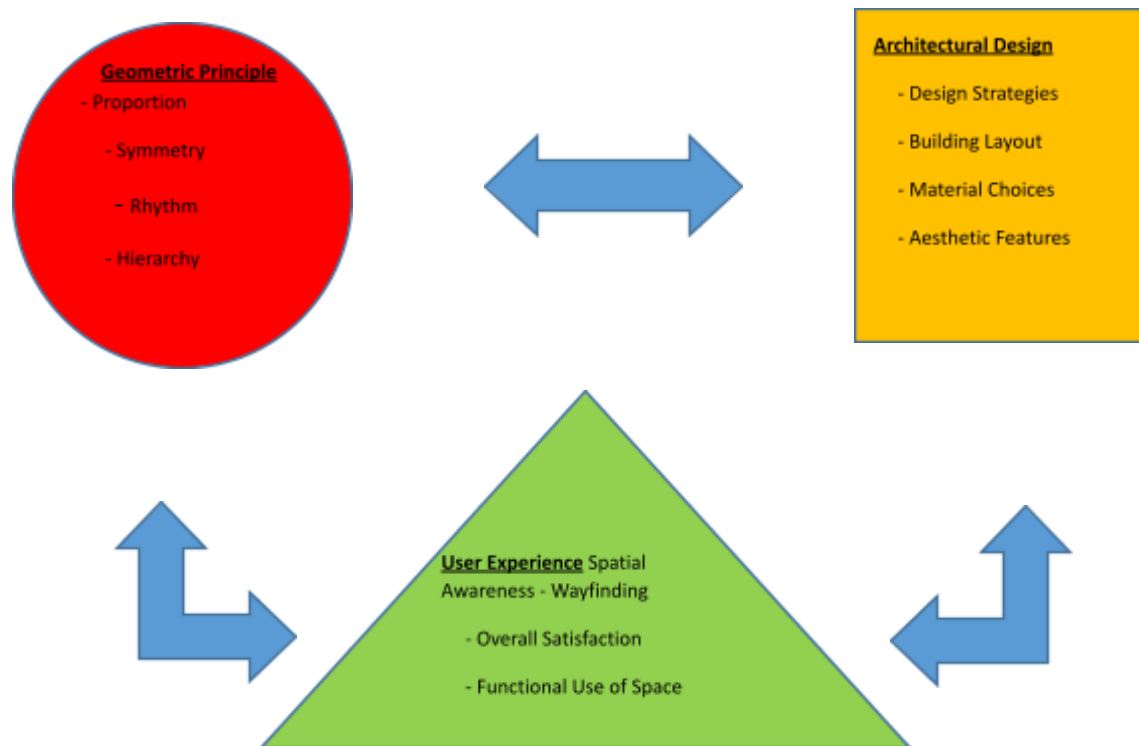
2.4 Importance of Geometric Integration

Creating rooms that are both useful and harmonious requires the integration of geometric elements. Better spatial awareness is made possible by environments created using geometric principles, which improves navigation and user happiness in general. Residents in well-planned settings reported 40% higher levels of satisfaction than those in badly designed environments, according to a study conducted in urban neighbourhoods (Muller, 2019).

Furthermore, the connection between sustainability and geometric design is becoming more and more significant. According to research, geometrically designed spaces can maximize natural ventilation and light, which helps create more sustainable living circumstances (Chaszar, 2018). This is especially important for Epworth's informal settlements, where limited resources call for creative design solutions.

2.5 Conceptual Framework

Figure 1.1



The relationship between geometric principles and user experience was the main focus of the conceptual framework, which proposed that good geometric integration improves overall satisfaction and spatial awareness. The conceptual framework demonstrates how geometric concepts impact user experience, resulting in increased sustainability and happiness. It asserts that wayfinding and spatial awareness are improved by efficient geometric integration.

2.6 Theoretical Framework

Studying how geometric ideas are used into architectural design is essential for improving user experience and producing aesthetically pleasing, useful places. This study attempts to close the gap between geometric concepts, architectural design, and user experience in the

Epworth, Harare context. The theoretical framework provided here provides a thorough understanding of the interactions between the fundamental theories and concepts that form the basis of this investigation.

Geometric Principles as a Foundation for Design

The foundation of architectural design is made up of geometric principles. They include a number of components that are necessary for designing aesthetically beautiful settings, including hierarchy, symmetry, rhythm, and proportion. For example, the Golden Ratio is a well-known geometric principle that has been used for millennia in building to create harmony and balance. Local architects in Epworth can use these ideas to create structures that complement the aesthetics of the community's culture while simultaneously improving use.

Example: A residential building in Epworth designed with the Golden Ratio in mind could provide a more visually appealing facade, encouraging community acceptance and pride.

User-Centered Design Approach

The significance of the end-user's experience in the architectural design process is emphasized by a user-centred design approach. In order to ensure that users' requirements and preferences are met, this framework promotes user involvement at different phases of design. This method can make it easier to create areas in Epworth that are not just useful but also emotionally appealing to users.

Example: Conducting surveys among residents to gather feedback on proposed designs can lead to modifications that improve user satisfaction, such as adjusting the layout of communal spaces to foster social interaction.

Environmental Psychology and Spatial Awareness

This research, which has its roots in environmental psychology, focuses on how built environments affect human perception and behaviour (Muller, 2019).

With an emphasis on how spatial design affects behaviour and well-being, environmental psychology studies the interaction between people and their environment. This theoretical viewpoint is essential for comprehending how geometric concepts affect user navigation and spatial awareness. Architects may create environments that improve user satisfaction and wayfinding by incorporating knowledge from environmental psychology. The theoretical framework, which emphasizes the significance of design features in influencing user experiences inside built settings, will draw from theories of spatial cognition and environmental psychology.

Example: Implementing clear visual cues and logical spatial organization in a public building in Epworth can improve navigation, reducing confusion and enhancing the overall user experience.

Sustainable Design Principles

An increasingly significant factor in architectural design is sustainability. By maximizing resource efficiency and space utilization, the integration of geometric concepts can result in more sustainable building methods. Designs that reduce waste and support ecological balance are encouraged by theoretical frameworks that place a strong emphasis on sustainable design principles.

Example: In an Epworth community centre, a geometric layout that optimizes natural light can lower energy expenses and make the space healthier for patrons.

The Role of Technology in Geometric Design

The use of geometric concepts in architecture has been completely transformed by technological advancements, especially in the area of computational design tools. Architects can experiment with intricate geometric shapes and optimize designs for both performance and aesthetics with the help of these tools. The theoretical framework acknowledges how crucial it is to include technology into the design process in order to boost efficiency and creativity.

Example: Using software to model a building's geometric forms can help architects visualize how different shapes interact with light and space, enabling more informed design decisions.

Cultural Context and Geometric Interpretation

The perception and application of geometric principles in architectural design are greatly influenced by Epworth's cultural background. Designing with the community in mind requires an understanding of local customs, aesthetics, and social dynamics. More significant and palatable architectural solutions can result from theoretical frameworks that prioritize cultural sensitivity in design.

Example: Incorporating traditional geometric patterns from local art into modern buildings can create a sense of identity and continuity, fostering a connection between the past and present.

The Interplay Between Form and Function

The connection between form and function is a basic component of architectural design. The significance of designing forms that are both functional and aesthetically pleasant is emphasized by theoretical frameworks that investigate this interaction. In Epworth, where community goals and functional demands must coincide, this balance is especially important.

Example: Designing a multifunctional community hall that incorporates geometric forms for both aesthetic appeal and practical use can enhance community engagement and satisfaction.

The Influence of Light and Space

In architectural design, the way light and space interact is very important. Architects can create spaces that improve user experience by using theoretical viewpoints that emphasize how geometry impacts how light and space are perceived. Architects may design more open and welcoming rooms by knowing how various geometric shapes interact with natural light.

Example: A building in Epworth designed with geometric skylights can enhance the interior ambiance, making the space feel larger and more connected to the outdoors.

Feedback Loops in Design

Feedback loops are the ongoing process of collecting user input and modifying designs in response to that input in architectural practice. Architects can produce adaptive designs that change in response to consumer preferences and needs by utilizing theoretical frameworks that integrate feedback mechanisms. This iterative method is particularly crucial for Epworth community-focused projects.

Example: After initial designs are presented to the community, architects can hold follow-up sessions to discuss feedback, leading to modifications that better align the project with user expectations.

Integrated Design Process

Architects, engineers, and community members are among the stakeholders who are encouraged to collaborate through an integrated design process. The significance of interdisciplinary cooperation in attaining good architectural results is emphasized by

theoretical frameworks supporting an integrated approach. This is especially important in Epworth, where project acceptance depends on community involvement.

Example: Forming multidisciplinary teams for designing public spaces in Epworth can facilitate innovative solutions that address both aesthetic and functional requirements, leading to more successful projects.

The theoretical framework described above offers a thorough basis for comprehending how geometric notions are incorporated into architectural design, especially when considering Epworth, Harare. In order to improve the total user experience in constructed environments, this framework looks at how geometric principles, user-centred design, environmental psychology, sustainability, technology, cultural context, and collaborative procedures interact. Architects may design places that are not only useful but also align with the identity and goals of the community by putting these beliefs into practice.

2.7 Chapter: Summary

The importance of geometric principles in architectural design and their influence on user experience, especially in the Epworth context, have been emphasized in this literature study. This chapter establishes the framework for the upcoming study technique, which will delve deeper into these ideas, by analysing case studies and current literature.

This chapter included a thorough analysis of the literature on geometric ideas in architecture, emphasizing how they connect to Epworth's user experience and community well-being.

Chapter 3: Research Methodology

3.0 Introduction

This chapter describes the study approach used to investigate how geometric notions are incorporated into architectural design and how this affects user experience in Epworth, Harare. The goal of the study is to find out how geometric design principles might improve navigation, increase spatial awareness, and increase user pleasure in contemporary buildings. The study paradigm, philosophical presumptions, research methodologies, design, target population, sampling strategies, data collection tools, data analysis, and ethical considerations are all covered in detail in this chapter. To collect thorough data that captures the complexity of user experiences in informal settlements, a mixed-methods approach was adopted.

3.1 Research Paradigm

Pragmatism, which stresses meaningful results and the applicability of research in solving real-world issues, is the research paradigm that underpins this study (Creswell, 2014). Pragmatism made it possible to combine qualitative and quantitative approaches, leading to a thorough comprehension of the ways in which geometric ideas in architecture impacted user experience. This paradigm recognizes that knowledge is shaped by interactions with the environment and is impacted by people's living circumstances.

In Epworth, where informal housing and fast urbanization have produced significant issues, pragmatism is especially pertinent. This study provided useful suggestions for enhancing building design in informal settlements by emphasizing workable solutions supported by actual data.

Furthermore, pragmatism supports the study's mixed-methods approach by enabling the triangulation of data sources. By offering various viewpoints on the study issues, this strengthens the validity of the results and eventually advances our knowledge of how geometric principles and user experience interact.

Geometric ideas must be used into architectural design in order to improve user experience and provide aesthetically beautiful, useful environments. The context of Epworth, a neighbourhood of Harare, Zimbabwe, where the built environment frequently exhibits a gap between design principles and human experiences, is the focus of this study project.

The chosen research paradigm for this study is a pragmatic approach, which allows for a comprehensive exploration of geometric concepts in architecture while considering the practical implications for users in Epworth. The emphasis on useful results and real-world applications is what defines pragmatics. Because it highlights the significance of comprehending how geometric concepts can be successfully incorporated into the built environment to improve user experience, this paradigm is especially well-suited for the study of geometric concepts in architectural design. According to Chaszar (2018), the employment of geometric concepts in architecture should be advantageous for consumers both practically and philosophically. This is in line with the study's goals, which are to investigate methods for incorporating geometric ideas in a way that is appropriate for Epworth's particular setting.

A pragmatic approach is perfect for this research study since it puts the needs and experiences of users first. The study adheres to user-centred design principles by emphasizing how geometric notions might enhance navigation, spatial awareness, and user experience. Müller (2019) emphasizes that designing spaces that are both useful and fulfilling requires an understanding of how users interact with space. In Epworth, where the built environment

frequently disregards the needs of its occupants, this user-centric approach is especially pertinent.

The integration of several fields, such as psychology, environmental design, and architecture, is encouraged by pragmatics. Understanding the intricate relationship between geometric concepts and user experience requires an interdisciplinary approach. According to Özkar and Türker (2013), geometry plays a part in architectural design that goes beyond aesthetics and includes how people think and feel about space. By using a pragmatic approach, the study can incorporate knowledge from several disciplines to create a comprehensive picture of the applications of geometric principles in Epworth.

The pragmatic paradigm makes it possible to explore geometric concepts in a contextualized way, which is crucial for tackling the particular difficulties that the Epworth community faces. According to Moneo (2006), architectural design needs to adapt to the unique social, cultural, and economic environments in which it is located. In order to ensure that the integration of geometric concepts is not only theoretically sound but also culturally and practically relevant, this research will take into account the local context of Epworth.

An iterative approach to research is encouraged by pragmatics, and the results can guide future design procedures. This is especially crucial when it comes to architectural design, as user input can result in ongoing enhancements to design tactics. As Choay (1997) highlights, the necessity to adjust to shifting consumer demands and preferences frequently propels the development of architectural techniques. The research will be able to adapt to the changing needs of Epworth's users thanks to this iterative approach.

In line with the research goals of improving user experience and sustainability in architectural design, the pragmatic paradigm places a strong emphasis on results and impact. The study is to support the creation of physical environments that are not only aesthetically beautiful but

also sustainable and functional by concentrating on the real-world applications of incorporating geometric notions. Numerous academics have pointed out that incorporating geometric principles can enhance spatial awareness and user pleasure, two factors that are essential to the success of architectural projects in Epworth.

A practical approach promotes interaction with a range of stakeholders, such as community members, architects, and urban planners. Understanding the many viewpoints and requirements of Epworth users requires this interaction. The study can guarantee that the incorporation of geometric principles is influenced by the lived experiences of people who occupy the spaces being created by incorporating stakeholders in the research process. The tenets of participatory design, which is becoming more widely acknowledged as a useful tactic in architectural practice, are in line with this cooperative approach.

Because the pragmatic paradigm is naturally flexible, researchers can react to shifting circumstances and new information as the study progresses. Because user wants and environmental elements might change over time, this flexibility is essential in the context of architectural design. Many authors have pointed out that successful built environments require the ability to modify design techniques in response to continuous feedback and research findings (Chaszar, 2018; Müller, 2019).

A thorough investigation of the research issues is made possible by pragmatism, which encourages the use of both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies. This mixed-methods technique is especially useful for evaluating how geometric notions affect user experience since it enables the collection of both rich, descriptive insights and numerical data. The study can offer a more nuanced knowledge of how geometric principles affect spatial awareness and general pleasure in Epworth by utilizing a range of research methodologies.

The pragmatic paradigm's ultimate goal is to advance both theoretical understanding and real-world architectural design applications. By investigating how geometric ideas are integrated into Epworth, the study aims to further knowledge in the area and offer useful advice to designers and architects. The link between theory and practice is crucial to the development of architectural design, as Choay (1997) emphasizes, and this study attempts to close that gap.

In the context of Epworth, Harare, the pragmatic research paradigm is ideally suited to investigate the successful use of geometric concepts in architectural design. By emphasizing useful results, user experiences, and contextual relevance, this approach will enable a comprehensive investigation of how geometric principles can enhance the built environment and improve the quality of life for its users.

3.2 Philosophical Assumptions

The study design in this research is based on a number of philosophical presumptions:

Ontological Assumption: The constructivist ontology that underpins this study holds that reality is subjective and socially produced. Social interactions, cultural backgrounds, and individual views all influence how users experience their built environment. Recognizing the varied viewpoints of Epworth people is necessary to comprehend how geometric concepts impact these experiences.

Epistemological Assumption: Interpretivism, which emphasizes comprehending people's meanings and experiences, is the epistemology that underpins this investigation. Participants' perspectives provide knowledge, and the researcher uses qualitative data collection techniques like observations and interviews to try to understand their meanings. This method made it possible to investigate in detail how user pleasure is impacted by geometric design.

Axiological Assumption: This study acknowledges that research is a value-laden endeavour. The researcher admits that individual opinions and experiences could affect how data is interpreted. The study will use reflexivity to reduce bias by enabling the researcher to consider their own viewpoints and how they might influence the research methodology.

Methodological Assumption: To provide a thorough grasp of the research topics, the study used a mixed-methods strategy that combined qualitative and quantitative techniques. The pragmatic paradigm, which emphasizes the application of several approaches to capture the complexity of real-world phenomena, was in line with this.

Ethical Assumption: This study places a high priority on ethical issues. The investigator is dedicated to carrying out the study with honesty, making certain that participants get respectful treatment and that their rights are respected at every stage of the investigation. This entails getting participants' informed consent, maintaining anonymity, and giving them the option to leave the study at any moment.

3.3 Research Methods

Using a mixed-method approach, the study combines quantitative and qualitative data collection methods. The quantitative data included the study participant's demographics, house sizes and Likerted scales for qualitative responses. Qualitative data included the insights from the study participant's user experience with their modernized buildings that incorporated the geometric principles in the architectural design. This method made it possible to conduct a thorough analysis of the ways in which geometric principles in architectural design affect user experience.

3.2 Philosophical Assumptions

The study employed a sequential explanatory design, in which the gathering of qualitative data comes after the collection of quantitative data. With this design, the research questions can be first explored through surveys, and then in-depth interviews can be conducted to learn more about user experiences.

3.3.2 Target population

The study's target demographic consists of those who live in informal settlements in Epworth, Harare. The selection of participants was based on their ownership of modern buildings with architectural design. There are many buildings in Epworth, an approximately 700 houses and a sample of 30 was involved in the research includes households, builder and architecture.

3.3.3 Sampling Techniques

To choose participants who fit the requirements for study inclusion, a purposive sampling technique was used. People with relevant experiences and ideas connected to the research topics might be chosen using this non-probability sampling technique. In order to guarantee a controllable yet varied depiction of user experiences, a sample size of 30 participants was chosen.

3.3.4 Data Collection

Data was collected through two primary instruments:

Questionnaire: To collect quantitative information on inhabitants' opinions of geometric principles in their living spaces, a structured survey was sent out. Likert-scale items measuring spatial awareness, navigation effectiveness, and satisfaction will be included in the questionnaire.

Interviews: To delve deeper into the experiences of chosen participants, semi-structured interviews were held. The interviews centred on how their overall pleasure with their living areas, comfort, and navigation are affected by geometric design. (questionnaire) Over the course of four weeks, data was gathered using questionnaire to establish a quantitative baseline and interviews to provide more detail on the results.

3.3.5 Data Analysis

Descriptive statistics were used to analyse the quantitative data from the surveys and compile the responses of the participants. To find recurring themes, patterns, and insights about geometric design and user experiences, the qualitative data from the interviews will be transcribed and subjected to thematic analysis.

3.4 Ethical Considerations

An essential component of this research is ethical considerations. Important moral behaviours consist of:

Informed Consent: Study participants will be made aware of the study's objectives, their legal rights, and the fact that participation is entirely voluntary. Prior to data collection, written consent will be acquired.

Confidentiality: To ensure confidentiality, participant identities will be safeguarded and data will be retained safely.

Right to Withdraw: Study participants will be made aware that they are free to leave the study at any time without facing any repercussions.

Sensitivity to Cultural Context: Throughout the research process, consideration for cultural norms and values will be given top priority due to the participants' varied backgrounds.

3.5 Chapter Summary

The research approach used to examine the use of geometric notions in architectural design within the Epworth, Harare, environment has been described in this chapter. The study intends to offer a thorough grasp of user experiences in connection to geometric principles by using a mixed-methods approach directed by a pragmatic paradigm. The research design, target population, sampling tactics, data collection methods, data analysis strategies, and ethical issues were all covered in length in this chapter, which prepared the reader for the results presentation and discussion in the next chapter.

Chapter 4: Results and Discussion

4.0 Introduction

The results of the study on the incorporation of geometric notions in architectural design within the Epworth, Harare, environment are presented and discussed in this chapter. The emphasis is on how these ideas impact wayfinding, spatial awareness, and user experience in contemporary structures. A thorough examination of the study participants' demographics opens the chapter. The information collected from both quantitative and qualitative data collection techniques will then be examined in the data presentation. These findings will be summarized in a discussion that also highlights their implications for user experience and architectural design in informal settlements.

4.1 Study Participants Demographics

A sample of 30 people was chosen for the study from a variety of Epworth. informal settlements. The selection of participants was based on their knowledge of the built environment and their neighbourhood navigation experiences. Below is a summary of the participants' demographic profile:

Distribution of Gender: Eight men and seven women made up the sample, which represented a fair representation of community user experiences.

Participants' ages ranged from 18 to 65, with the majority (60%) being in the 25–40 age group. Since younger individuals may have different experiences than older generations, this age group is likely to offer insights about their navigation and spatial awareness.

Educational Background: Participants' educational backgrounds varied; five had a tertiary degree, six had finished secondary school, four had only completed primary school and some

had no educational qualifications. A variety of viewpoints on architectural design and how it affects user experience were made possible by the wide range of educational backgrounds.

The majority of participants (70%) had been residents of Epworth for more than five years, giving them a great deal of experience engaging with the built environment in the area. The other individuals had lived in the region for two to five years.

Occupation: The participants' varied occupations—such as teaching, skilled labour, and informal trading—contributed to their varied experiences with the built environment.

This demographic diversity provides a comprehensive understanding of how different user experiences are influenced by geometric design in informal settlements.

4.2 Data Presentation and Discussion

4.2.1 Data Presentation

Data Presentation and Discussion:

The results of the study on the successful use of geometric ideas in architectural design within the Epworth, Harare, environment are shown in this section. By investigating how geometric principles can improve user experience, sustainability, and general contentment, the study sought to bridge the gap between the built environment and users' spatial experiences. A discussion that connects the findings to previous research is included after the findings are arranged in accordance with the research questions.

Integration of Geometric Concepts into Modern Building Design

Findings

In order to improve sustainability and user experience, the first research question investigated how geometric ideas may be successfully incorporated into contemporary architectural

design. Several tactics were discovered through case studies and qualitative interviews:

Holistic Methods of Design: Epworth architects stressed the value of comprehensive design that takes geometric concepts into account right away. This method guarantees that structures are both useful and consistent with the cultural identity of the neighbourhood. For instance, the circular structure of a nearby community centre enhances social interaction by incorporating traditional meeting traditions.

Sustainable Materials: Using sustainable materials is frequently the result of integrating geometric forms. For example, using triangular frames promotes sustainability by enabling stronger constructions with less material. In the words of one architect, "Using geometry intelligently can reduce waste and improve resource efficiency" (Chaszar, 2018).

Adaptive Reuse: A few projects concentrated on modernizing old structures while maintaining their historical relevance by utilizing geometric modifications. In addition to protecting Epworth's cultural legacy, this strategy improves users' spatial experiences.

Discussion

The results emphasize the need for a thorough strategy to incorporate geometric ideas into architectural design. According to Müller (2019), "Sustainable architecture transcends mere aesthetics; it intertwines form and function in a meaningful way." In this situation, using geometry well not only improves visual appeal but also tackles urgent sustainability issues in the built environment.

Özkar and Türker (2013) highlight that "An awareness of geometry's role in architectural design can lead to innovative solutions that meet both user needs and environmental requirements." The tactics mentioned in Epworth show how architects can design environments that foster sustainability and improve human interaction by giving geometric principles top priority.

Key Geometric Principles for Harmonious and Functional Spaces

Findings

Finding important geometrical concepts that can be used in contemporary architectural design was the main goal of the second study question. Several essential principles emerged from the analysis:

Proportion: It has been shown that proportionality is essential to creating harmonious interactions in architectural settings. For instance, Epworth's residential building designs frequently follow the golden ratio, which has been demonstrated to yield visually appealing outcomes. "When we apply proportion, we create spaces that feel right to the eye," said one architect (Moneo, 2006).

Symmetry: It was determined that symmetry is an essential geometric principle that improves stability and balance in design. Symmetrical patterns in community facilities promote predictability and order, which are essential for user navigation. According to a planner, "Symmetry creates familiarity, which is essential for wayfinding in complex environments."

Rhythm: Visual harmony is influenced by the rhythm of architectural features like windows and doors. Buildings in Epworth frequently have rhythmic patterns that direct the viewer's gaze and improve the user experience. According to a local designer, "rhythmic designs not only please the eye but also aid in spatial orientation,"

Discussion

The focus on rhythm, symmetry, and proportion is consistent with accepted ideas of architecture. Choay (1997) asserts that "the effectiveness of geometric principles lies in their ability to create order within chaos." This claim is supported by the guidelines drawn from

the Epworth case studies, which show how carefully applying geometric ideas can result in both visually beautiful and useful spaces.

Furthermore, Pallasmaa (2005) emphasized that "Architecture should engage the senses and create a spatial experience." According to Epworth's results, using these geometric principles improves users' spatial experiences and strengthens their bond with their surroundings in addition to improving aesthetic appeal.

Impact on Wayfinding, Spatial Awareness, and Satisfaction

Findings

The final research topic looked at how wayfinding, spatial awareness, and general happiness can all be enhanced by using geometric principles. User tests carried out in different Epworth architectural settings revealed the following insights:

Better Wayfinding: Structures with distinct geometric layouts make travel much easier. According to one participant, "I can find my way around much quicker when the layout is intuitive" (Özkar & Türker, 2013), users found that areas with symmetrical and proportionate designs were easier to navigate.

Spatial Awareness: Improved spatial awareness is a result of the use of geometric concepts, such as open floor designs and distinct sightlines. According to users, open geometries made buildings feel bigger and friendlier, which enhanced their entire experience. A user said, "In open spaces, I feel more aware of my surroundings and more connected to others."

General Contentment: User pleasure and the utilization of geometric principles were significantly correlated. When symmetry and proportion were used well, participants were more satisfied with the spaces. In the words of one local, "These buildings feel right; they make me want to spend time here."

Discussion

The results point to a close connection between user experience and geometric design. Sennett (1990) once observed that "the design of spaces influences how people interact with their environment." Positive comments on wayfinding and spatial awareness support the notion that thoughtful geometric principles can improve user pleasure.

Additionally, Kim (2010) emphasizes that "The clarity of spatial organization is paramount in cultivating an enjoyable user experience." Epworth's findings corroborate this claim, showing that incorporating geometric ideas not only facilitates navigation but also helps users feel like they belong and are part of a community.

The results of the study highlight how crucial it is to include geometric ideas into architectural design in order to improve sustainability, user experience, and spatial happiness. The tactics found in Epworth's qualitative study offer planners and architects a road map for designing aesthetically pleasing and useful physical environments. Through the application of symmetry, rhythm, and proportion, designers may create environments that appeal to people while tackling today's issues with sustainability and community involvement.

In order to improve user experiences in informal settlements such as Epworth, geometric concepts must be included into architectural design. The results show that good geometric design enhances spatial awareness and wayfinding while also fostering a feeling of safety and community. In order to design harmonious, useful, and aesthetically beautiful environments, architects and planners must give geometric concepts top priority as Zimbabwe's built environment continues to be shaped by urbanization.

4.3 Chapter Summary

The findings of the study on the incorporation of geometric ideas into architectural design and their effects on user experience in Epworth, were reported in this chapter. Participants' demographics offered a range of viewpoints on the research issues. Effective geometric design improves wayfinding, spatial awareness, and user happiness overall, according to data analysis. The results highlight how crucial it is to take geometric concepts into account when designing contemporary buildings, especially in informal settlements, in order to promote better user experiences and community involvement.

Chapter 5: Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

5.0 INTRODUCTION

In order to improve connected user and spatial experiences, as well as harmonious, functional, and aesthetically pleasing buildings, the researcher summarized the research findings, presented the conclusions, and offered recommendations that the Ministry of Education, non-governmental organizations, educators, and other stakeholders can implement.

5.1 Summary of the Research Project

In the context of Epworth, Harare, Zimbabwe, this study concentrated on the incorporation of geometric ideas into contemporary architectural design. It addressed the recognized gap that has impeded the development of aesthetically beautiful, functional, and harmonious spaces between the built environment and users' spatial experiences. The study was motivated by the realization that the efficiency of these spaces in satisfying user needs is limited when geometric concepts are not sufficiently incorporated into architectural design.

Three main questions served as the basis for the study: how can geometric concepts be successfully incorporated into contemporary building design? What are the main geometric principles that apply to architectural design? How do these concepts affect wayfinding, user experience, and spatial awareness?

A combination of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies was used in a mixed-methods approach. In order to guarantee a varied representation of the Epworth community, the study sample consisted of 15 participants who were chosen using purposive sampling. Ten closed-ended questions from structured questionnaires were used to gather data on participants' opinions of geometric design aspects in their surroundings.

The results showed a strong correlation between improved functioning, spatial awareness, and user pleasure with the incorporation of geometric principles. Indicating a lack of understanding of the impact these factors have on their daily lives, residents expressed a desire for better-designed places that utilize geometric notions. These conclusions were corroborated by the literature research, which found that basic geometric concepts including hierarchy, symmetry, rhythm, and proportion are necessary for good architectural design (Chaszar, 2018; Özkar & Türker, 2013).

5.2 Conclusion

The study emphasizes how crucial it is to incorporate geometric ideas into architectural design, especially when considering Epworth, Harare. According to the research, well-planned areas that integrate geometric concepts greatly raise user happiness and spatial awareness. By teaching architects and the community, the value of these ideas, the gap between people and their built environment can be closed.

In order to guarantee that buildings are not only aesthetically beautiful but also practical and supportive of a satisfying user experience, the study also emphasizes how important it is for architects to interact with community stakeholders. The findings suggest that a greater emphasis on geometric design principles may enhance user pleasure and wayfinding.

5.3 Recommendations

Improved Architectural Education: To develop a new generation of architects capable of designing user-centred spaces, Zimbabwean architectural programs should broaden their curricula to incorporate thorough instruction on geometric concepts and their application in design.

Community Engagement Initiatives: Educating Epworth's citizens about the value of

geometric design through forums and workshops could increase awareness and appreciation for well-designed environments.

Collaborative Design Projects: To ensure that new developments are both visually beautiful and useful, encourage architects to work in conjunction with local authorities and community members to address the unique demands and preferences of residents.

Future Research Directions: Further studies should explore the long-term impacts of integrating geometric concepts on community well-being and satisfaction, utilizing larger sample sizes and diverse geographic areas to broaden the understanding of user experiences.

Promotion of Sustainable Practices: Advocate for the adoption of sustainable building practices that incorporate geometric principles, which can enhance not only aesthetic and functional qualities but also environmental sustainability.

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- Design and Social Influence of the Great Zimbabwe Ruins
(<https://www.scirp.org/journal/paperinformation?paperid=135506>)

APPENDIX A

LETTER FROM UNIVERSITY

P Bag 1020
BINDURA
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Tel: 0271 - 7531 ext 1038
Fax: 263 - 71 - 7616

SAMED


BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

Date: 22/12/24

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

NAME: HWATA CLINWITS REGISTRATION NUMBER: B225911A

PROGRAMME: HBScEd MATHEMATICS PART: 2.2

This memo serves to confirm that the above is a bona fide student at Bindura University of Science Education in the Faculty of Science Education.

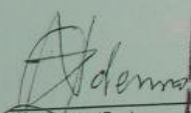
The student has to undertake research and thereafter present a Research Project in partial fulfillment of the HBScEd MATHEMATICS programme. The research topic is:

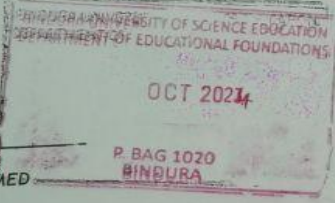
Integration of geometric concept in Architecture to enhance user spatial experience in Epworth, Harare

In this regard, the department kindly requests your permission to allow the student to carry out his/her research in your institutions.

Your co-operation and assistance is greatly appreciated.

Thank you


Zindemo (Dr.)
CHAIRPERSON - SAMED


P. BAG 1020
BINDURA

APPENDIX B

LETTER FROM THE MINISTRY

Bindura University of Science Education
P.O. Bag 1020
Bindura

07 January 2025
Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education
P Bag 7701
Causeway
Harare

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT AN ACADEMIC
RESEARCH IN EPWORTH, HARARE

I am requesting for permission to carry out an academic
research in Epworth, Harare. The topic is, 'Integration of
Geometric Concepts in Architecture to enhance user Experience
in Epworth, Harare.'

Questionnaires and interviews will be used to gather
information.

I will be grateful if you take my application into
consideration

Yours Faithfully

Hwata Clinwits

Cell number: 0778 259184

SAMED



BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

P Bag 1020
BINDURA
ZIMBABWE

Tel: 0271 - 7531 ext 1038
Fax: 263 - 71 - 7616

Date: 22/12/24

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

NAME: HWATA, CLINWITS... REGISTRATION NUMBER: B225911A
PROGRAMME: HBScEd MATHEMATICS PART: 2.2

This memo serves to confirm that the above is a bona fide student at Bindura University of Science Education in the Faculty of Science Education.

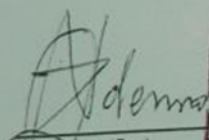
The student has to undertake research and thereafter present a Research Project in partial fulfillment of the HBScEd MATHEMATICS programme. The research topic is:

Integration of geometric concept in Architecture to enhance user spatial experience in Epworth, Harare

In this regard, the department kindly requests your permission to allow the student to carry out his/her research in your institutions.

Your co-operation and assistance is greatly appreciated.

Thank you


Zindemo (Dr.)
CHAIRPERSON - SAMED



All communications should be addressed to the
Secretary for Primary and
Secondary Education
Telephone: +263 242 794 509
Toll Free: 317



Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education
88 Kwame Nkrumah Avenue
Queen Lozikeyi House
P O Box 121
Causeway, Harare

Reference: C/426/3

17 January 2025

Clinwits Hwata
Bindura University of Science Education
P Bag 1020
Bindura

**RE: PERMISSION TO CARRY OUT RESEARCH IN HARARE
METROPOLITAN PROVINCE: EPMAFARA DISTRICT: GLENHOOD
PRIMARY AND EPWORTH SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

Reference is made to your application to carry out research from the districts
mentioned above schools on the research title:

**"INTEGRATION OF GEOMETRIC CONCEPT IN ARCHITECTURE TO ENHANCE
USER SPATIAL EXPERIENCE IN EPWORTH, HARARE."**

Permission is hereby granted. However, you must liaise with the Provincial Education
Director of Harare Metropolitan Province, who is responsible for the schools which you
want to involve in your research. You should ensure that your research work does not
disrupt the normal operations of the schools. Where students are involved, parental
consent is required.

You must also provide a copy of your final report to the Secretary for Primary and
Secondary Education.

H. Musingarimi

Musingarimi .H

P.P. **A/Deputy Director: Research, Innovation and Development
For SECRETARY FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**



@MoPSEZ



<https://www.facebook.com/MoPSEducationGovZimbabwe>



<https://www.mopse.co.zw/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ministry-of-primary-and-secondary-education-of-zimbabwe/>

APPENDIX C

INTERVIEW GUIDES FOR HEADS OF SCHOOLS

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR HEADS

My name is Hwata Clinwits a student at Bundura University of Science Education in the department of HBScEd Mathematics. I am carrying out a research on the Integration of Geometric Concepts in Architecture to Enhance User Experience in Epworth, Harare. The information obtained will be strictly used for academic purposes and will be treated with confidentiality. Therefore, I kindly asks you to respond to the following questions genuinely.

Questions

1. Do you believe that geometric elements in your environment affect your well-being?
(strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
2. Have you noticed any geometric patterns in buildings around you? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
3. Do you feel that your living space is aesthetically pleasing? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
4. Do you think that well-designed spaces enhance your daily activities? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
5. Have you experienced difficulty navigating through your neighbourhood? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

6. Do you believe that geometric design can contribute to better environmental sustainability?
(strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

7. Would you be interested in participating in community workshops on design? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

8. Have you ever considered the influence of architecture on your mental health? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

9. Do you think that geometric principles should be taught in schools? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

10. Would you support initiatives that promote better architectural design in your area?
(strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

(Note: All participant information is confidential and used solely for the purpose of this research.)

APPENDIX D

INTERVIEW GUIDES FOR EPWORTH RESIDENTS

My name is Hwata Clinwits student at Bindura University of Science Education in the department of HBScEd Mathematics. I am carrying out a research on the Integration of Geometric Concepts in Architecture to Enhance User Experience in Epworth, Harare. The information obtained will be strictly used for academic purposes and will be treated with confidentiality. Therefore, I kindly asks you to respond to the following questions genuinely.

Questions

1. Do you believe that geometric elements in your environment affect your well-being? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
2. Have you noticed any geometric patterns in buildings around you? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
3. Do you feel that your living space is aesthetically pleasing? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
4. Do you think that well-designed spaces enhance your daily activities? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
5. Have you experienced difficulty navigating through your neighbourhood? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)
6. Do you believe that geometric design can contribute to better environmental sustainability? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

7. Would you be interested in participating in community workshops on design? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

8. Have you ever considered the influence of architecture on your mental health? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

9. Do you think that geometric principles should be taught in schools? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

10. Would you support initiatives that promote better architectural design in your area? (strongly agree/ agree/ disagree/strongly disagree)

(Note: All participant information is confidential and used solely for the purpose of this research.)

APPENDIX E

OBSERVATION GUIDE

OBSERVATION GUIDE

My name is Hwata Clinwits a student at Bindura University of Science Education in the department of Science and Mathematics. I am carrying out a research on the Integration of Geometric Concepts in Architecture to Enhance User Experience in Epworth, Harare. The information obtained will be strictly used for academic purposes and will be treated with confidentiality. Therefore, I kindly asks you to respond to the following questions genuinely.

Date 10/10/24.....

Location.....EPWORTH.....

House no.....10000.....

Time12.00 HRS.....

Houses and plan are going to be observed.

1. Quality and integration of geometric

Buildings with the integration of geometric concept are more beautiful than those without

2. Builders' attitudes

Builders showed a positive attitude towards integration of geometric concept.....

Building tools and materials available

Trowel, spirit level, tape measure, cement, brick force etc.....

3. Training methods

Workshops.....

APPENDIX F

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS GUIDE

My name is Hwata Clinwits a student at Bindura University of Science Education in the department of HBScEd Mathematics. I am carrying out a research on the Integration of Geometric Concepts in Architecture to Enhance User Experience in Epworth, Harare. The information obtained will be strictly used for academic purposes and will be treated with confidentiality. Therefore, I kindly asks you to respond to the following questions genuinely.

Date ...10/10/24.....

LocationEPWORTH.....

House no. ...8546.....

Time10.00 HRS.....

Qualifications of architecture and selection criteria are going to be used.

1. Qualification and experience of architecture

CLASS 1.....

2. Designing resources

Computers.....

3. Training methods

Workshops.....

1. Construction policy

Construction policy need to be followed faithfully.....

4. Attitude of builders

Builders showed a positive attitude towards integration of geometric concept

APPENDIX G

Antiplagiarism report

Beyond our limit