

**Transactionism in the Built Environment;
An Examination on user personalization and modifications in urban
middle-income apartment complexes**

The dissertation submitted for the
Degree of Master of Science (Architecture)
At the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

March- 2005


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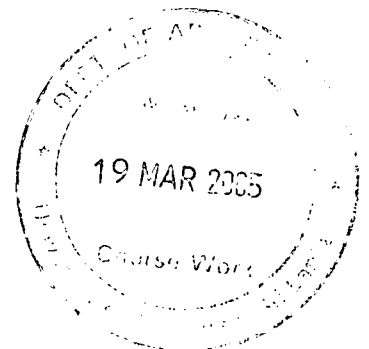
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Declaration

I declare that this dissertation represent my own work, except where due acknowledgement is made, and that it has not been previously included in a thesis, dissertation or a report submitted to this University or to any other institution for a degree, diploma or other qualification.



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Abstract.

Urbanization and the migration of population to the cities have raised an unavoidable question of accommodating those people in lands with high prizes. Today, some people have to deal with High-rise living whether they like it or not, considering other conveniences for their life and most of all, compromising their ideals on “home”, their most personal domain. It is evident that failure to understand the values and aspirations of the people has resulted in lukewarm spatial experience of people.

The needs of personalization of the spaces people occupy never changes. Though apartment complexes allow little variations to be done by the users, identification of probable user needs lead to more flexible designs, which can facilitate the user modifications according to their needs. But this approach needs a good understanding about the relationship between built environment and human behavior and what a “Home” means to a person.

Therefore, this dissertation is an attempt to identify the relationship between built environment and human behavior and the unchanging need to personalize the built space they accommodate. The identification of the ways to facilitate transactions in user personalization in a positive way will be the theme of the attempt.

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