IT IN MARCHAN

### Geometry of Courtyard Buildings as a Variable for Indoor Thermal Environment

A Dissertation presented to the Department of Architecture University of Moratuwa for the Final Examination in M.Sc. (Architecture)

> LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA, SRI LANKA MORATUWA



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Electronic Theses & Dissertations www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

72 07 72 07 72 (043)

89472

University of Moratuwa

Kaushal Jayatilaka

January 2007

89472

#### **Declaration**

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

## **UOM Verified Signature**

V .....

Kaushal Jayatilaka



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Electronic Theses & Dissertations www.lib

# **UOM Verified Signature**

Dr. Upendra Rajapaksha (Principle Supervisor) Senior Lecture Department of Architecture, Faculty of Town & Country Planning, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.

### Acknowledgements



My sincere gratitude to persons for their University involvement in make this study a success, Electronic Theses & Dissertations

www.lib. Professor Samitha Manawadu, Head of Department of Architecure, University of Moratuwa.

> Proffessor Rohinton Emmanuel, senior lecturer, Department of Architecture for the invaluable comments and guidance given.

> Dr, Upendra Rajapaksha, my tutor, senior lecturer, Department of Architecture, for guidance, comments and criticism, which encouraged me to do this study.

> Dr. Harsha Munasinghe, Archt. Jayanath Silva, senior lecturer and Archt. Arosha, lecture, Deparment of Architecture who offered valuable guidance specially in the beginning and on the way.

> My batch mates, who helped me in numerous ways

My mother and brother for providing me the support and encouragement to carry out the study

Finally those whose names have gone unmentioned who helped me in many ways to make this successful.



Abstract University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Electronic Theses & Dissertations www.lib.mrt.ac.lk This study analyses the effect of

geometry of courtyard dwellings for indoor thermal environment in Colombo Metro Region. Three Basic urban house forms exist in the CMR were selected for the study. Using parametric building simulation software called energy DEROB, the indoor Operative Temperature levels is analyzed. Four design options are analyzed to determine their potential to improve the indoor comfort levels. Further using two sets of climatic records (2000-2005 &1920-1960) final conclusion was taken by considering the upper limit of standard thermal comfort level is 27.5 °C.

Contents

| Acknowledgement<br>Abstract<br>Contents<br>List of illustrations<br>Introduction   | i<br>ii<br>iii<br>v<br>vii   |
|--|--|
| Chapter One<br>Historical Background and the Geometries of Courtyard dwellings   | 1  |
| <ul> <li>1.1 Historical Development of Courtyard <ol> <li>1.1 Evolution and meaning of courtyard</li> </ol> </li> <li>1.2 climatic meaning of courtyard</li> <li>1.3 traditional Sinhalese house <ol> <li>3.1 House of Kandyan Period</li> <li>3.2 Colonial period - Dutch house</li> <li>3.3 Immediate after colonial left</li> <li>3.4 Experimental era</li> </ol> </li> <li>1.4 Examination of the modern courtyard houses in Colombo and suburb</li> <li>1.5 Basic Courtyard House Forms in Urban Area</li> </ul>  | 1<br>1<br>2<br>5<br>6<br>8<br>10<br>10<br>11<br>12   |
| Chapter Two<br>Urban Climate and Thermal Comfort   | 13   |
| <ul> <li>2.1 Urban Climate of the CMR</li> <li>2.2 Effect of Natural Forces on Indoor Climate of Buildings</li> <li>2.2.1 Air temperature romic Theses &amp; Dissertations</li> <li>2.2.2 Humidity www.lib.mrt.ac.lk</li> <li>2.2.3 Solar Radiation</li> <li>2.4 Wind</li> <li>2.2.5 Ventilation</li> <li>2.5.1 Cross Ventilation</li> <li>2.3 Thermal Comfort</li> <li>2.3.1 Introduction to Thermal Comfort</li> <li>2.3.2 Definition</li> <li>2.3.3 First Conditions for Thermal Comfort</li> <li>2.3.4 The Comfort Equation</li> <li>2.3.5 Parameters Require for the Comfort Equation</li> <li>2.4 Contemporary Models of the Thermal Comfort</li> <li>2.5.1 Predicted Mean Vote (PMV) Scale</li> <li>2.5.2 Operative Temperature (OT)</li> </ul> | 13<br>15<br>15<br>16<br>16<br>16<br>17<br>18<br>19<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>22<br>23<br>23<br>23<br>24 |
| Chapter Three<br>Design Variables of geometry for indoor thermal comfort<br>3.1 Plan Form<br>3.1.1 Fully Enclosed<br>3.1.2 Semi-Enclosed<br>3.1.3 Semi-Open<br>3.2 Sectional Form<br>3.2.1 Shallow Courtyards<br>3.2.2 Deep Courtyards<br>3.3 Orientation<br>3.3.1 to the wind   | 26<br>27<br>27<br>27<br>27<br>27<br>27<br>28<br>28<br>28<br>29<br>29                               |

.

iii

| 3.3.2 to the Solar Access  | 30 |
|--|----|
| 3.4 Materials on Courtyard Floor   | 31 |
| 3.4.1 Light Weight   | 31 |
| 3.4.2 Thermal Mass   | 31 |
| Chapter Four   | 32 |
| Research and Analysis  | 32 |
| 4.1 Analytical Framework   |    |
| 4.1.1 Analysis for Thermal Comfort Variation between the Basic House Forms | 32 |
| 4.1.2 Analysis for Design Options  | 32 |
| 4.1.3 Analysis for Influence of the Urban Climate of CMR on                | 33 |
| Indoor Thermal Comfort   | 33 |
| 4.2 Selection of house types   | 34 |
| 4.3 Assumption of base cases   | 35 |
| 4.4 Parameters of study  | 35 |
| 4.5 Research data  | 35 |
| 4.6 Method of data measurements  | 37 |
| 4.6.1 DEROB – LTH 27   | 37 |
| 4.6.2 Operative Temperature (OT)   | 38 |
| 4.6.3 Predicted Mean Vote (PMV)  | 38 |
| 4.7 Results  | 39 |
| 4.7.1 House Type One   | 39 |
| 4.7.2 House Type Two   | 41 |
| 4.7.3 House Type Three   | 43 |
| 4.7.4 Results for Base Cases   | 45 |
| 4.7.5 Design Options<br>University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.                 | 46 |
| 4.8 Analysis Electronic Theses & Dissertations                             | 53 |
| Conclusion www.lib.mrt.ac.lk   | 77 |
| Bibliography   | 79 |
| Appendix   | 81 |

## List of figures

- Fig. 1.1 Plan and section of an Egyptian house
- Fig. 1.2 Arial view of compactly planned traditional courtyard houses in central area Baghdad
- Fig. 1.3 Ground floor, upper floor and section of oriental courtyard house in Iraq
- Fig. 1.4 Air flow from shaded court to sunny court
- Fig. 1.5 Plan and section of courtyard houses in hot dry areas
- Fig. 1.6 Traditional Moorish architecture, Al Hambra Spain, courtyard with deeply shaded walkways and fountains creates moderate microclimate
- Fig. 1.7 Open space of a traditional village
- Fig. 1.8 Yeoman house of a Kandyan period
- Fig. 1.9 Plan and section of a Kandyan Yeoman house
- Fig. 1.10 Plan and section of a walawwa type building with two courtyards
- Fig. 1.11 Small courtyard to provide lighting in a walawwa type house
- Fig. 1.12 Courtyard provide light and ventilation to the house
- Fig. 1.13 Plan of a longer narrow Dutch street house
- Fig. 2.1 Thirty year diurnal variations in temperature during the hottest month in CMR Day time
- Fig. 2.2 Thirty year diurnal variations in temperature during the hottest month in CMR Night time
- Fig. 2.3 Thermal Comfort Trends in the hottest month in CMR Day & Night time
- Fig. 2.4 Climatic data of Colombo
- Fig. 2.5 Formation of temperature inversion
- Fig. 2.6 Solar radiation on building surfaces at different latitudes
- Fig. 2.7 The temperatures in and around buildings can be tempered or aggravated by the nature of surrounding surfaces.
- Fig. 2.8 Wind velocity gradients
- Fig. 2.9 Lack of cross ventilation
- Fig. 2.10 Effect of opening positions
- Fig. 2.11 Air flow in a two storey building
- Fig. 2.12 The results of the experiments ity of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
- Fig. 2.13 Predicted percentage of dissatisfied (PPD) as a function of predicted mean vote (PMV)
- Fig. 2.14 Relationship of PMV and operative temperature
- Fig. 3.1 courtyard building type/tw.lib.mrt.ac.lk
- Fig. 3.2 courtyard building type 2
- Fig. 3.3 courtyard building type 3
- Fig. 3.4 the thermal system of a small courtyard house
- Fig. 3.5 the thermal system of a larger courtyard house
- Fig. 3.6 Orientation
- Fig. 3.7 changing the orientation of the courtyard form from 0° to 90° in 10° steps
- Fig. 4.1 Selected basic house types
- Fig. 4.2 Optimal operative temperature as a function of clothing and activity
- Fig. 4.3 Ground floor plan House type 1
- Fig. 4.4 Upper floor plan House type 1
- Fig. 4.5 Section House type 1
- Fig. 4.6 Ground floor simulated model House type 1
- Fig. 4.7 Upper floor simulated model House type 1
- Fig. 4.8 3 D view simulated model House type 1
- Fig. 4.9 Ground floor plan House type 2
- Fig. 4.10 Upper floor plan House type 2
- Fig. 4.11 Section House type 2
- Fig. 4.12 Ground floor simulated model House type 2
- Fig. 4.13 Upper floor simulated model House type 2
- Fig. 4.14 3 D view simulated model House type 2
- Fig. 4.15 Ground floor plan House type 3
- Fig. 4.16 Upper floor plan House type 3
- Fig. 4.17 Section House type 3
- Fig. 4.18 Ground floor simulated model House type 3
- Fig. 4.19 Upper floor simulated model House type 3
- Fig. 4.20 3 D view simulated model House type 3
- Fig. 4.21 Interior view of a centre courtyard house
- Fig. 4.22 House type 1

Fig. 4.23 Cross section of type 1

Fig. 4.24 Site layout

Fig. 4.25 Variation of operative temperature of house type 1

Fig. 4.26 Calculated PMV index for house type 1

Fig. 4.27 Interior view of an "L" shaped house

Fig. 4.28 House type 2

Fig. 4.29 Cross section of type 2

Fig. 4.30 Site layout

Fig. 4.31 Variation of operative temperature of house type 2

Fig. 4.32 Calculated PMV index for house type 2

Fig. 4.33 Interior view of an "U" shaped house

Fig. 4.34 House type 3

Fig. 4.35 Cross section of type 3

Fig. 4.36 Site layout

Fig. 4.37 Variation of operative temperature of house type 3

Fig. 4.38 Calculated PMV index for house type 3

Fig. 4.39 Variation of Operative temperature between basic houses forms (Base Cases)

Fig. 4.39' Effect of design options for house type 1

Fig. 4.40 Operative temperature variation for ceiling height - house type 1

Fig. 4.41 Operative temperature variation for RCC flat roof - house type 1

Fig. 4.42 Operative temperature variation for orientation - house type 1

Fig. 4.43 Operative temperature variation for roof angle 30 - house type 1

Fig. 4.44 Effect of design options for house type 2

Fig. 4.45 Operative temperature variation for ceiling height - house type 2

Fig. 4.46 Operative temperature variation for RCC flat roof - house type 2

Fig. 4.47 Operative temperature variation for orientation - house type 2

Fig. 4.48 Operative temperature variation for roof angle 30 – house type 2

Fig. 4.49 Effect of design options for house type 3

Fig. 4.50 Operative temperature variation for ceiling height – house type 3 anka. Fig. 4.51 Operative temperature variation for RCC flat roof – house type 3

Fig. 4.52 Operative temperature variation for orientation chouse type Bations

Fig. 4.53 Operative temperature variation for roof angle 30 - house type 3