


LB/Don/27/1998

**People's Contribution to  
URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
THROUGH PLACE MAKING PROCESS  
A Study With special reference to Housing Environments.**

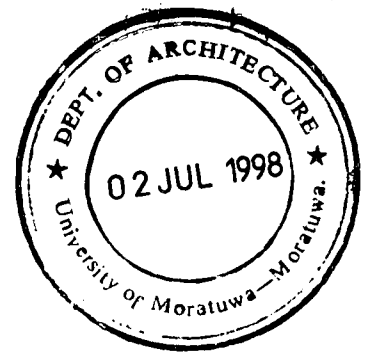
A Dissertation presented to the  
University of Moratuwa Sri Lanka  
 University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka  
Electronic Theses & for the  
M.Sc.(Architecture) Examination 1998  
and Part Two of the  
Royal Institute of British Architects.

69289

72'98"  
711.4

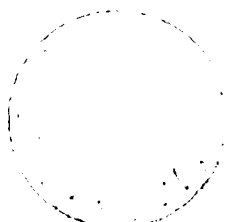
UM  
Thesis  
coll.

පුස්තකාලය  
මොරටුව විශ්ව විද්‍යාලය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව  
මොරටුව:



**C.A. Upul Dalpathado.**  
Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, June 1998.

69289



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My sincere gratitude to each and every person for their involvement to make this dissertation a reality.

- Dr. L.S.R. Perera, senior lecturer, Department of Architecture for his advise to select the dissertation topic and continuous guidance and advice given throughout the study.
- Dr. Ranjith Dayaratne, senior lecturer and course coordinator of M.Sc. final year, Dept. of Architecture, who has been a source of inspiration to me providing valuable criticism and patience guidance.
- Archt. Vidura Sri Nammuni, Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Architecture for his advise given at the initial stages of the study.
- Dr. Waduge and Dr. Emmanuel, Lecturers of Dept. of Architecture for their incisive comments and valuable discussions on the subject.
- Archt. Kapila Dharmasena, lecturer of Dept. of Architecture for his incisive comments and directing many aspects of the study.
- Mr. K.D. Fernando, Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Town and Country Planning, University of Moratuwa for the many eye opening discussions, for the suggestions, guidance and advice.
- I wish to express my thanks to all persons who given me valuable comments and discussions in NHDA, Environmental Authority and Urban Development Authority.
- Manoj de Croos and Dhammika my erstwhile colleagues who wholeheartedly became the source of help, assistance and encouragement which this study originated.
- I owe my thanks for many contributions made by my friend Dayantha Tissera.
- I am also greatly indebted to my colleagues Roshini, Lushan, Thamara, Prabath, Lilantha and Priyani for their valuable support in providing me with relevant reference materials.
- Finally to my parents for this restless support, which was always forthcoming and tolerating all the inconveniences caused.

## **LIST OF CONTENTS**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	i
LIST OF CONTENTS	ii
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	iv
ABSTRACT	vi

## **INTRODUCTION** 01

0.1	Topic Explanation	01
	0.1.1 The Problem	02
	0.1.2 The Cause	03
0.2	The Need For The Study	03
0.3	Scope And Limitations of the Study	04
0.4	Method of Study	05

## **CHAPTER ONE – URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

1.1.	Introduction to the Urban Environment	06
1.2.	Components of an Urban Environment	08
	1.2.1. Natural Environment	10
	1.2.2. Built Environment	10
	1.2.3. Socio- Economic Environment	10
1.3.	Urban Environmental Management ( UEM )	11
	1.3.1 UEM Makes Space Livable Place	12
1.4.	Policy Frame work for UEM	13
1.5.	Urban Communities and Participation in UEM.	15
	1.5.1 Need of People's Participation in UEM	18
1.6.	People's Participation in UEM and Place Making Process.	18

## **CHAPTER TWO – PLACE MAKING IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT.**

2.1.	Concept of PLACE and it's Constituents	20
	2.1.1. Concept of Place	20
	2.1.2. Constituents of Place	21
	2.1.2.1. Physical Constituents	22
	2.1.2.2. Psychological Constituents	23
	2.1.2.3. Social constituents	24
2.2.	Urban Environment as a PLACE.	25
2.3.	Need of the Place Making in an Urban Environment	26
2.4.	Significant places, Sense of Place and Placelessness.	27
2.5.	Placemaking	28
2.6.	People's Participation in Place Making Process.	29
	2.6.1. People's Positive Contribution to the Environment – Making Places.	32
	2.6.2. People's Negative Contribution to the Environment –PlacelessSpace	34
2.7.	Housing Neighborhoods as Significant Places in the Urban Environment	35

**CHAPTER THREE – PEOPLE’S CONTRIBUTION OF URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT THROUGH PLACE MAKING PROCESS.**

3.1.	Housing Environment	37
	3.1.1. Need of Consideration of Housing Environment	39
3.2.	Environmental Management through Place Making Process in Housing Environment.	40
3.3.	Managing the Non-physical Environment in Housing (Socio-economic Environment) through Placemaking Process	42
	3.3.1. Sociological Environment	42
	3.3.1.1. Psychological factors in Sociological Environment	42
	3.3.1.2. The Family as a Social entity in the Urban Environment	49
	3.3.1.3. The Community	50
	3.3.1.4. Social Life	52
	3.3.2. Economic Environment	54
	3.3.2.1. Employment and Income of People	54
	3.3.2.2. Cost of Living and Economic Cost	55
	3.3.2.3. Entrepreneurship	56
3.4.	Managing the Physical Environment in Housing through Placemaking Process	59
	3.4.1. Natural Environment	59
	3.4.1.1. Space and Resources	60
	3.4.1.2. Environmental Pollution	65
	3.4.1.3. Natural Disasters	72
	3.4.2. Built Environment	73
	3.4.2.1. Land Use Pattern	75
	3.4.2.2. Design for the Environment	79
	3.4.2.3. Infrastructure Facilities	80
	3.4.2.4. Building Materials and Construction Technologies	82
	3.4.2.5. Landscaping.	83
	<b>CONCLUSION</b>	85
	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY.</b>	87

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

01.	Size or Scale of a urban block	07
02.	Composition or orientation of form	07
03.	Composition of Facades	07
04.	The ratio of built to unbuilt	07
05.	Components of Built Environment	08
06.	People's participation in Urban Environment Management	16
07.	Collaborative Environment Management	17
08.	Window- Genius Loci	21
09.	York Street Colombo	22
10.	Territoriality- Totem poles in front of a house	23
11.	Seasonal event- A prayer at Galle Face Green	24
12.	Colombo City	26
13.	Inappropriate aesthetics appeals monotonous place	28
14.	Placeless Space- Beira lake surrounding	28
15.	Community based housing- Nawakelanipura	31
16.	Variety in dwelling forms	31
17.	Squatter settlement in Colombo	33
18.	Contribution to the environment by high income group	34
19.	People's negative contribution to the environment	34
20.	Housing as a system	38
21.	Components of housing environment	38
22.	Improved settlement form	41
23.	The dense housing environment	43
24.	Design for privacy- Maligawatte	44
25.	Transitional space as a barrier	45
26.	Personal identity- Contrast in shaping	47
27.	Lack of Identity	47
28.	Territoriality is deeply rooted man	47
29.	Territoriality – Maligawatte	48
30.	Demarcating territoriality by using physical elements	49
31.	Poor living condition of a family	50
32.	Community interaction Place	53
33.	Lay out plan- Housing units of Maligawatte	54
34.	Near the tap	54
35.	Poverty itself pollute the environment	54
36.	Middle income people rather aware to the environment	54
37.	Well managed urban housing complex in Japan	55
38.	No body's Land, Maligawatte	55
39.	Home operated enterprise- Middle income	56
40.	HOE- low income housing- Keera Kotuwa, Wanathamulla	56
41.	Lay out plan of Nawagampura HOE	60
42.	Diagrammatic presentation of the process of Construction	60
43.	Conserving Canal- Kirulapone Canal, Wellawatte	61
44.	Improper management of canal	61

45.	Floods create inhabitable places	46
46.	Discharge of waste into the canal	63
47.	Under a Nuga Tree, a place	64
48.	Conserving tree belt- Kamkarupura	65
49.	Contamination of lands- Wanathamulla	67
50.	Sewerage disposal into the canal	68
51.	Improper management of drains	68
52.	Haphazard Housing development	70
53.	Pollution of visual environment- Maligawatte	70
54.	Recycling of Waste	71
55.	Rains makes inhabitable spaces	72
56.	Unplanned unauthorized housing	73
57.	Bandaranayake pura Lay out	75
58.	Wanathamulla- lay out	76
59.	Public and private spaces	77
60.	Personal belongingness of place	77
61.	Soft facades- Maligawatte	77
62.	Solid dominating facades- Manning Town	77
63.	Houses around the central compound	78
64.	Continuity and growth of places	78
65.	Retain the character of the place- Bandaranayakepura	78
66.	Waste as a resource	79
67.	At the well- well interaction	80
68.	Process of community involvement	81
69.	Landscape – Wanathamulla	83
70.	Trees for Recreation	83
71.	Hidden Parking	83
72.	Buffer zone	84

## **ABSTRACT**

It can be seen that the urban environments are becoming disordered and meaningless due to lack of **Environmental Management**. It is also due to the lack of appropriate regulations for building in urban areas and Man builds more often not to suit his environments but for the personal glory. The people's lack of awareness of the environment is the basic reason of this unmanaged environment. To create an environmental sensitive people, **the sense of belongingness of place** comes into existence. This study views that people's **placemaking** process can contribute to the **Urban Environmental Management**, to achieve a livable place as an ultimate goal.

Urban Environmental Management is not only the management of **built** environment, but also the **natural, social and economic** environments. The study is engaged in both these components because it seems a single can't be managed without considering others, as all components are intimately tied to each other.

The Urban Environmental Management can be done in two ways. By the **professionals** and the **users** themselves. It is true that the people are in a better position to do that if the professionals can guide them. To see the people's contribution to the urban environmental management in a better way, the best place is their living environment that is **housing**, rather than concerning their working environments.

People make spaces into places. The Urban Environment to be a livable place, therefore Placemaking process plays a great role. Thus the **people's participation** is essential in the process of Urban Environmental Management. Therefore the study examines the role of **Placemaking in urban housing environments** from a people's point of view by studying examples, and illustrations using several situations from the existing surroundings in Colombo.

The study concludes that for a better UEM people's participation is essential and improving people's sense of belongingness of place leads to better livable environments in the Urban Environment.