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TOPIC EXPLANATION

City as a complex human settlement has different origins and evolution patterns. Each city has its own origin due to many reasons. They have come to their present city form after many changes to the original city form. But the reasons change from one place to another.

Shri Lankan cities also change from one to another due to their origin and their evolution pattern. Therefore to understand the problems of urban designing there must be a proper idea about the evolution of a particular city. Therefore for this study Negombo was selected due to few reasons. They are the importance of the Negombo City which has a long history. The other reasons are that it's importance as a major city center in today's context, and the problems faced by the city due to various developments in and around the city.

Issue



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A settlement to become a city has to fulfil some physical and social aspects. But today these aspects are not been fulfilled. The actual reasons behind these haphazard situations need to be studied. Then the urban designers and planners can avoid these mistakes in their future proposals for Negombo.

Justification

Development of cities had become a prime need of today. Therefore it's important to study how society had respond to the cities designed at early stages and during the growth of cities. In this context these lessons from the past would be beneficial for future development proposals.

Methodology

In order to comprehend the nature of cities it was necessary to selectively read and gather information in a literature survey. Therefore, the first chapter looks at the characteristics and components of cities. After studying the basic problems of the city form and its evolution, based on that literature survey was used to find similar cases around the world.

The second chapter looks at the origin of Negombo as a settlement and its evolution up to the present situation. In order to do this both a literature survey were carried out.

The data and information gathered in the previous chapters were analyzed in the third chapter to identify the causes of the problems that are faced by the city of Negombo and hence try to find solutions for them,

Scope and limitations



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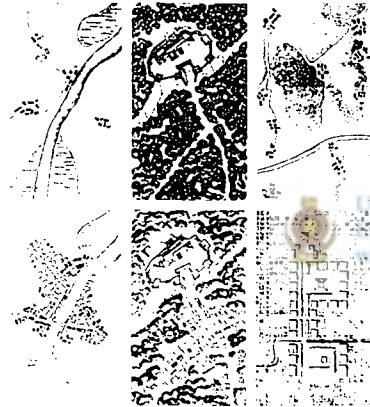
The study needed to study city forms and their evolution pattern. Therefore for a proper analysis the historical development has been studied. But this had to be limited to the old city limits.

Aims and objectives.

Aim of this study is to find causes for haphazard places of cities and the way they affect the city. By analyzing them it is intended to form guide lines for future development of the city.

Introduction

City making became an issue in the present context of urban designing. Cities in the different parts of the world belonging to different periods have their own stories to tell. There are good cities as well as bad cities. Once good cities may become bad places with evolution. Some cities die in their infant stage while some last long. Origin of cities was different from one to another. Some were planned and some had grown organically.



The concepts were varied with the cultural aspects. Cultural aspects consist of social, political, and economical aspects.

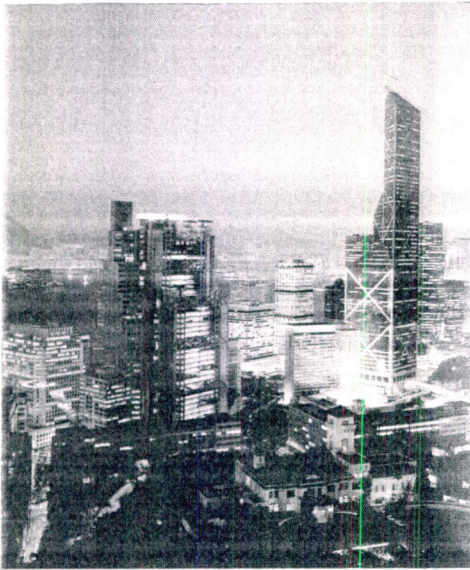
Illus. 1;-origin of the cities.near a river,palace
Urban form generated
by variety of settlementIndependent villages in to Single village.
ii-center service precinct near palace,
Temple, fortress
iii-Formal orthogonality for the pattern of villages
That originally occupied the site.

The orderliness, patterns and various physical and visual, and psychological attributes are always associated with the form of the city.

Regardless whether the city is planned organic they are places consisting of soul and spirit.



Cities belong to people no matter who it was designed for. City can be considered as an art effect produced by a single person or by many different generations. Cities are always shaped and changed from time to time. People exchange different messages through various art Forms, a City can be considered as a collection of those art forms.



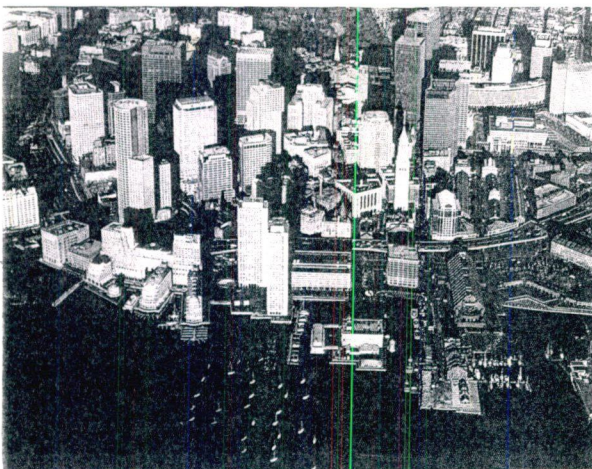
Components of the city can generate visual images, which can generate meaning and the memory of a place. According to the research done by Kevin Lynch certain components are capable of making more sense to people. But within different parameters each city becomes a different place.

Illus.2; City reaching the sky



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The origin, the evolution and its capability to serve a other generations will depend on the decesion makers of today. Policymaking and regulations are the responsible hands, which can shape, .the future city.



Illus -3-City meeting the water

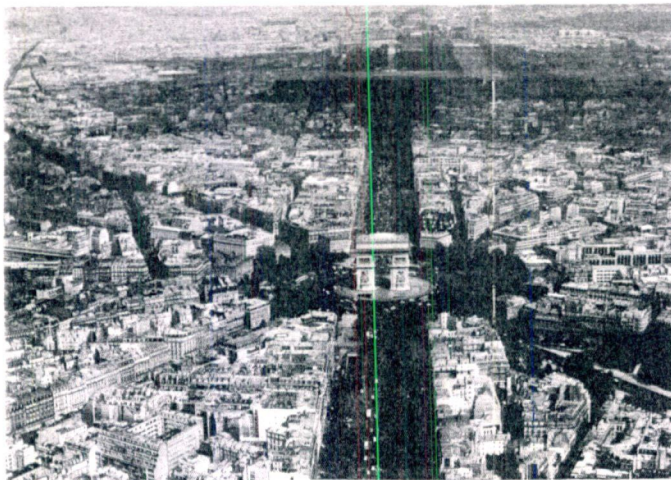
As a research object Negombo has different issues to be discussed. As a city having a long history it has grown under different types of generations. This city has planned component as well as unplanned components.

Negombo is a city center, which provides services to a large extent of regions it has a wide role to play. People are struggling to find their own ways and means of development. These developments make different impacts to the components of the city. This study will evaluate the issues related to the city of Negombo as a historical city center.

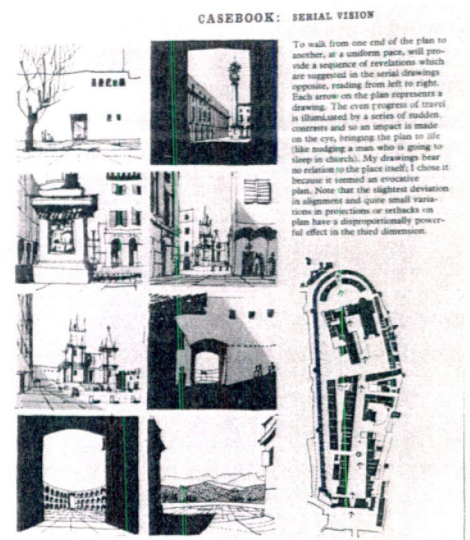


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Illus. 4; City and the people



Illus.5 ;City as an art



Illus. 6-Visual experience of the city



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Chapter One



Chapter one

1.0 Form of Cities and their evolution pattern.

Human settlements originated and developed as a collection of dwellings. They originated to fulfill the need of humans to stay as a group and to protect them from different forms of natural disasters to human life. When they needed to live closer to water sources they decided to dwell along rivers. When the surplus of their food has to be protected they formed a circles and assigned the center for the storage of food. However, they settlements had limitations. The primitive societies lacked the power to go beyond the forms of nature such as mountains, slopes, rocks, forest. So a settlements had to obey the natural forms. The functions, which were the concept for the settlement form, had to be moderated when they met natural forms of the topography.

With the development of the human civilizations people learnt the ways and means to extend their settlement forms against the nature. However, during the early periods when civilizations were forming there were many disasters originating from manmade reasons which made one group of people to become the enemy of another. As a result city walls were built around the settlement. The internal arrangements of such cities were organized by the activity which was determined by basic needs and wants such as the economy politics and other social needs. These social and cultural aspects changed from one settlement to another and the forms of the settlements have changed accordingly.

Culture of any given society had been changed from time to time. Settlements extend it's periphery due to either war or natural growth. Some had lost their own cities due to many reasons such as natural disasters, war, and the natural death of cities. Natural death occurs when the aspirations of the changing culture has not been fulfilled by the old cities.

1.1-Characteristics of a city

Character is the quality, which helps to derive a city from any other human settlement. The quality generated by certain components and their relationship with each other. The nature of these components changes from one city to another.

According to Kevin Lynch,

“City forms, their actual function and the ideas and values that people attached to them make up a single phenomenon”¹.

The city is seen and understood by people as a single whole although it had been made out of many components. These components according to Kevin Lynch ,

- (i)-The city form
- (ii)-The function
- (iii)-Ideas and values of people

The character they sense do not happen by a clear understanding about the components and the way the components meet each other to form the city. The image of the user who experiences the city for the first time differs from the image he gets after several visits to the same city. But this image can help identify the good cities from the bad cities.

It is more easier to identify these components as ,

- (i)-Physical attributes.
- (ii)Social attributes.

1.1.1-Physical Attributes

The buildings and other built elements in a city can be considered as physical attributes. Physical attributes determine the character of a city

“The most enduring feature of the city is it's physical build, which remains with remarkable persistence, gaining increments that are responsive to the most recent economic demand and reflective to the

Some times the other elements of a city can be memories to people because of their meaning given by their age .



Illus;9; *Street as a public space*

For example the fort cities and the elements of them has become important monuments of the present city.

1.1.1.2;Physical and legal boundaries and the city character.

Cities are places that have some physical circumscription. This can be in the form of material materiel or symbolic.

This has stood to separate those who belonged to the order from those who did not within the ordered historicalcities.

(Illus;11,12)



Illus.10; *Monument in the city*

For J F Sobry (1776,Del Architecture.)

"A city without walls is not a city"³.

Even with physical circumscription there is a legal perimeter within₁₀

latest stylistic vogue, but conserving evidence of past urban culture for present and future generations.”²

Spiro Costoff

The physical component stands as the communication media between each individual in a city. The theme they want to express mostly in historical cities were the expression of power. Later with capitalism the common message was the economy. The styles they applied had to convey the message more effectively than before. Therefore the competition between individuals has made a pathway for the creation of new styles. In that context the old styles left are less important. However, the value and meaning inherited in the old styles cannot be forgotten. When they are compared the different types of expressions gives the single message of economy during different ages.

The characteristics of the physical components can be identified in different aspects and in detail.

1.1.1.1;Identity of the components of a city.

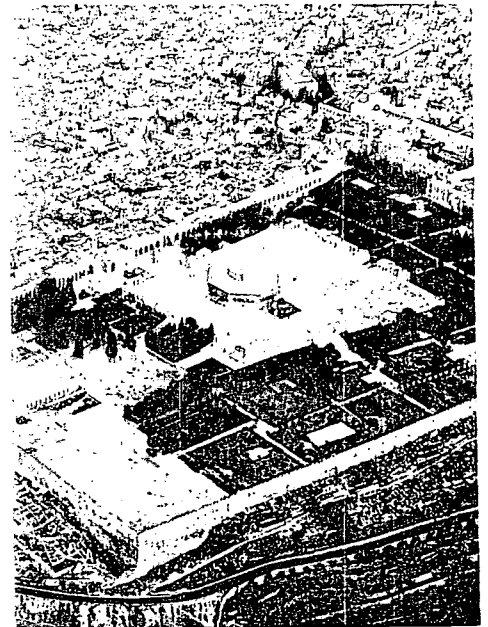
City can be identified as a collection of few outstanding

elements. They are,

- (i)-The Fabric
- (ii)-The Objects
- (iii)-The public places
- (iv)-The monuments.

(i)The Fabric-

Fabric of a city changes from a row of houses. The difference made by the diversity of the activities and by the nature of the city fabric. (Illu.7)

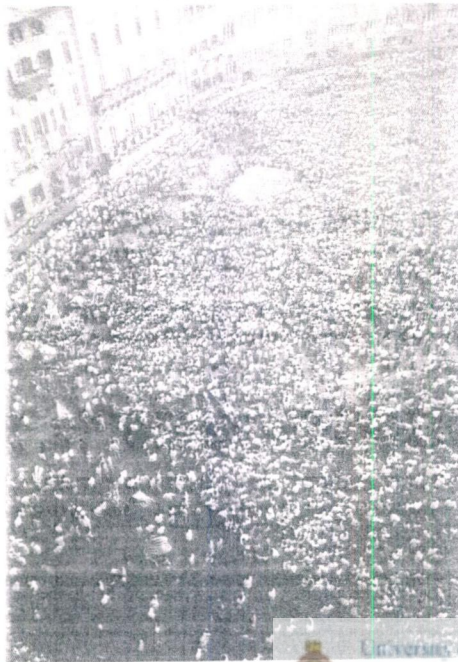


Illus.7;Fabric and the object

ii)The object

Citizenry monuments as well as technical monuments are important to an identity of a city. In some cities predominant places of a city were the palace and the temple. But in people's city the palace lost its dominance over the rest of the city and became a place of people.(Illus;7)

(iii)Public places



Public places of a city give a scale to the city. The public spaces can be further categorized into a few types.(Illus;8)

a-Streets

b-public gathering space

Illus.8-Public gathering space

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(a)-Street

Kevin Lynch defines them as paths and as a space which helps to experience the city character. The width of the street and the buildings along them and the vegetation determine the character of the street.

(b)Public gathering spaces.

This varies from open spaces to buildings. The nature of these public spaces change due to the cultural aspects of a city. Open public spaces were essential elements of the most of the good cities in the history with time the administration related civic public place was neglected and commercial public spaces became prominent.

(iv) Land mark

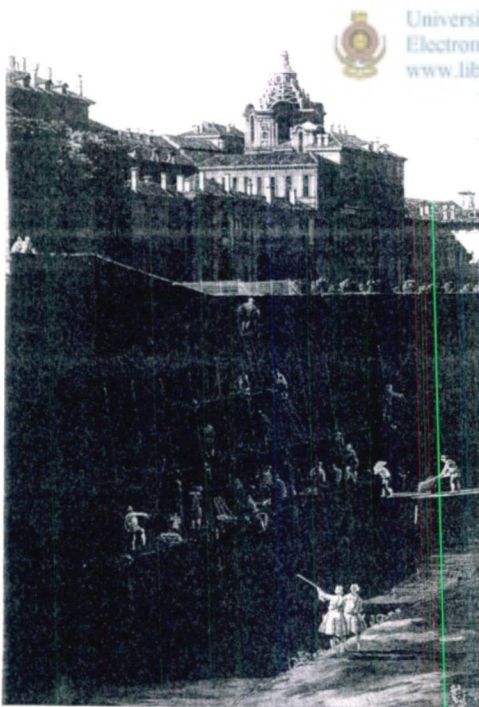
The physical elements made for the purpose of the memory of the people and the events of a city.



which restrictions and privileges apply. The nature of the boundary or the edge has changed with time. The edge has changed from huge walls with deep moats to a small board, which indicates the name of the city. Some has a gate to symbolize the edge.



Illus.11; City gate



Illus.12; City wall

For Kevin Lynch the edge is a linear element which connects two regions. According to him, this linear element can separate two regions and visually indicate the legal circumscription of the city form of today.

There are different solutions made by different cities to have an edge to demarcate the edge between the old city and the new additions

Thus certain cities fail to do so and with the growth not leaving a physical circumscription they merge with villages and towns and then loose the identity of a city.

1.1.1.3-Cities and their hierarchy among other human settlements.

Cities come in clusters. Never exist unaccompanied by other towns. Inevitably locked in an urban system an urban hierarchy. Even lowliest towns have their dependent villages

Braudel says

***"The town only exists as a town in relation to a form of life lower than it's own...It has to dominate an empire however tiny, in order to exist."*⁴**

City has to be prominent among other towns and this importance defines city character.

1.1.2-Social Attributes

***"Cities are most enduring of human artifacts and human institutions. Its duty is both duty and homage."*⁵ Spiro Costoff**



The artifacts would generate an attachment with the city and develop respect towards the meanings expressed through the art forms To be part of the system and to become an observer of the activities generate pleasure within the minds of the people. The great artifacts that can be seen in Rome, Greek and many historical cities had been shared by many generations throughout centuries.

Illus.13;People and the city



Illus.14;Economy and the city

***“Urban society change more than any other human grouping of
Economic innovation comes usually most rapidly and boldly in cities
Immigration aims first at the urban core forcing upon cities.
The critical role of acculturating refugees from many countryside’s, and
the winds of intellectual advance blow strong in cities.”⁶-Spiro Castoff***

The value and the aspirations are unique in those who wish to live in cities. They reach one goal after achieving another. Therefore cities have past evident, present, and the hopes for the future. The economic challenges they face create the battle against.

1.1.2.1; Relationship between the character of the city and the size of the population.

Cities are the places of certain energized crowding of people take place.

There is no relationship with the number of people and the character of the city.

Vast majorities of town’s pre industrial period are small. Holy Roman Empire had only about 12 to 15 had over 10,000 inhabitants,

1.1.2.2; Social hierarchy and the purpose of the city

In cities people specialize different work.

The City is a place where people are priests or craftsman or soldiers and where wealth is not equally distributed among the citizens. These distributions create social hierarchies; the rich are more powerful than the poor are; the priest is more powerful than the artisan is.

Different ethnic groups and races can be seen in cities. Besides ethnically homogeneous cities, as the original Yoruba cities were intended to be, there might be slaves or transient traders.

1.1.2.3; Source of income and the city

In the economical perspective the city is a place favored as a source of income.

Human settlement developed with the sources like trade intensive agriculture and the possibility of surplus food, a physical recourse like a mental or a

spring (bath), a geomorphic resource like a natural harbor or a human resource like a king.

1.1.2.4; Laws, and the ownership of the land in a city.

Cities are places that must rely on written records. It is through writing that they will tally their goods, put down the laws that will govern the community, establish titles to property, which is extremely important.

Because of that in the final analysis a city rests on a construct of ownership. The land subdivision has direct impact of the character of the city. The private ownership of land causes problems when considering the activity, scale, homogeneous character and the pattern of the urban form

1.2-Classification of cities.

The capability to relate the Medieval and Renaissance period styles to colonial Period City form in south Asian colonies is questionable. But there are similarities such as the city form and the street patterns, specially the city wall.

The form of the cities, belonging to different periods, have not properly related to their cultural contexts and no efforts have been made to distinguish the relevance between the style periods and the urban form.

“There is as yet no credible effort to distinguish a Romanesque or a gothic or a Rococo city, for example, except as a chronological convenience, but we are ready to recognize a Baroque urban aesthetic and at least one historian, Kert W. Foster, has interpreted the plan of Sabbionata, the Gonsaba town of the 1550, as a Mannarist Grid.”⁷

-Spiro Costoff

There are other typologies of cities categorized according to their policy and industrial revolution.

Therefore the colonial city form can be considered as a prototype which had been transplanted around the world without care either on the function or on the location.

These city forms express the need for defense. And became monuments of a past era of a place.

1.3-Cities As An Exclusive Settlement.

Among the different types of human settlements the "City" has it's own characteristics. There are different definitions for cities. The city is identified and defined in different ways.

***"Regardless of their origin, their birth place their form, their makers, a relatively large, dense, and permanent settlement of socially heterogeneous individuals"*⁸**

-L Worth

This sense more social content than the physical aspects of a city. To fulfill the purpose whether administrative, commercial or recreational, the human component has to be there. The complexity of activities, diversity and the capacity of services it can provide determine whether a settlement had reached the city-state.

For Mum ford, the city is, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
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***"A point of maximum concentration for the power and culture of a community"*⁹**

Power of the leader or the state in different means the wealth, technology man power (slaves) properly express through the physical component of a city. The grandness and the rich character of the cities given by and the scale the of the palaces, churches and the administration buildings, The administration system and it's power over the making of the city visible through the old grand cities in the world. The arts, the best they could produced were there for the city. The cities, which are having problems with its form, have the weaknesses of the power of the leader or the state, which has the responsibility to control the development of the city. And also the concept of the concentration of arts and crafts has been controlled by the wealth of technology as well as the poverty. The economic and political systems can make great impacts on the expression of different art forms for example. The need to express individual ideas to the city through one's own



art form break the harmony and composition of large components like street facades which belongs to many owners. (Illustration.)

The political and the economic system have created many different types of cities.

Among many different typologies the categorization made by Costof in his book *The City*

Shaped can be considered as the best system to study the social and political relationship to its city form.

Accordingly three types of cities can be identified.

1.3.1-The pre industrial city

1.3.2-The Industrial city

1.3.3-The Socialist city.

1.3.1-The pre industrial City.

These cities consist with a limited population of about 100,000 people. (Lack of land use specialization)(Lack of social mobility) Social structure consists of basically from two classes. They were the Elite and the lower class. The Government, Religion, and residents of the Elite occupied the City center. Rest of the society were grouped in to different occupational groups.

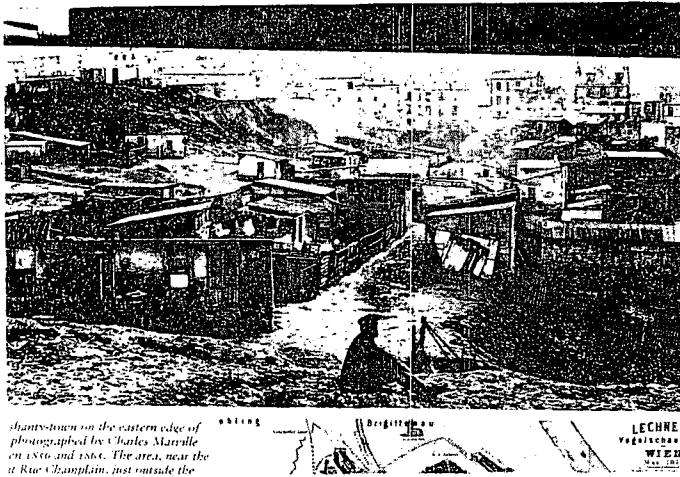
Though these cities can be selected as the great cities in the world the expressions of the true nature of the society and the expressions of the poor has been never allowed to be visible through the built fabric.

The harmony did not exist within the society though it was visible through the physical fabric. And the cities were not for all but for few to live luxuriously.

But the religious and the public places were more sympathetic for the lower classes and through the religious dominance they became a part of the city and the city became a part of their life.

1.3.2-Industrial City

These type of cities emerged in the 18th century. Capitalism dominated through every form of art. City form was affected by the concepts of capitalism in many ways.



*Illus. 15; Industrial city
and the shanty development*

J.E. Vance, Jr. says,

***"Ended the idea of the ordered city and economically encouraged the segregation of uses."*¹⁰**

The social aspects drastically changed with the economical aspects. The whole society moved towards a single target. More communication through the art form was important and everyone was able to express themselves to others. Some cities that have achieved the goal, which is the wealth, had been able to achieve the visual attributes of the city form also. Where they have gone through researching for advanced systems and technology to make better cities. Instead of widening the periphery of the city they decided to achieve space over the sky. With that the city core areas were replaced by economic activities. The core area became the top most level of the hierarchical order. Ex; Japan, Singapore, American cities.

But the capitalism failed to change the traditional system of the evolution in most cities

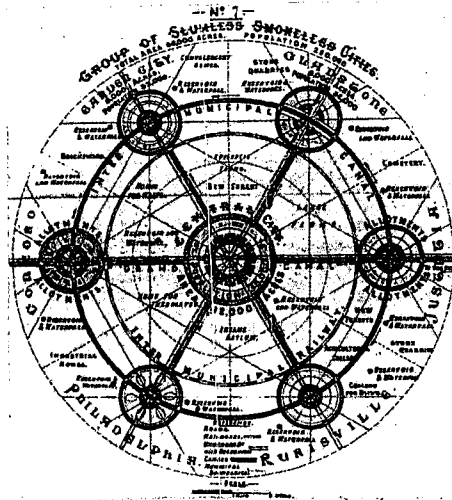
Due to the political, and economical disability of underdeveloped countries. These cities suffered from the lack of visual and social aspirations.

1.3.3-Socialist City(Garden city)

Central operation principle. -Abolition of capitalist ownership of land and property.

The government decides the size and look of public spaces, the amount of housing, size of the living units, pattern of transportation, and question of zoning. Rent and profit have nothing to do with these decisions.

Sofia and East Berlin, for example, had a vast public space of a



ceremonial nature occupying much of this central area where the thick of things had seen.

Illus.16; *Socialist city* by Ebanadze Howard

There is in addition, a park of culture and rest fore recreation of the working people, with promenades, tearooms, picnic areas, and the obligatory socialist monuments.

There are outstanding differences between socialist and capitalist –industrial city. Instead of large consumer good and banking areas seen in Capitalist City, the prominence had taken by public welfare goods and services

The population density is higher from the inner city to the periphery, where the lower density in the capitalist city.

Public transportation was fairly higher than the west. Urban growth followed the officially determined transport routes in the socialist city. Unlike in the western the socialist city successfully gets rid of the problem of squatter settlements.

1.4-Form of cities.

The city form can be categorized in to two basic typologies when considering their origin. They are ‘

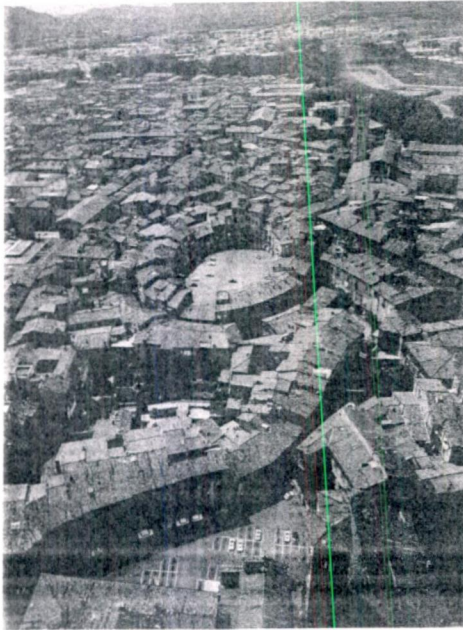
i)-The organic city

ii)-The planned city

1.4.1-The organic city

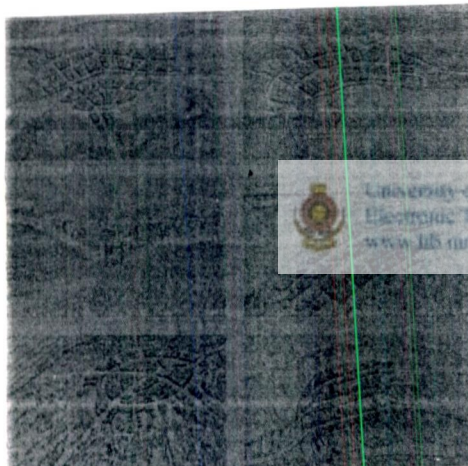
These settlements had built with a limited force against the nature. When the human needs become the prime goal to live in a settlement the organization pattern, the convenience, and other visual attributes as well as the other

conceptual attributes has to be sacrificed by an organic form.



But the organic cities were considered as better places for human habitation.

Illus. 17; Organic city.



As Lewis Mumford says,

*"Siena, as a city developed spontaneously the way it formed by filling and solidifying the shapes of its natural sites, the aesthetic and engineering superiority of an organic plan"*¹¹

Illus. 18; Different types of origins of organic cities

1.4.2-The planned city

Early cities which were planned had clear geometrical forms. The planned city has been given its form by different concepts of different planners or designers. These concepts backed by the cultural aspects of their society. Among the cultural aspects dominating aspect determined the city form. But when considering the city plan the organization of different spaces, the street layout and their composition had not always responded directly to any of the cultural aspects of the society. Therefore it's difficult to understand the

culture of a society through its city layout.

*"To the form seeker, for example, a grid is a grid is a grid. At best, it is a visual theme upon which to play variations. He might be concerned with issues like using a true check board design verses syncopated block rhythms, with cross axial or other types of emphasis. With the placement of open spaces within the decipling of the grid, with the width and hierarchy of streets."*¹²

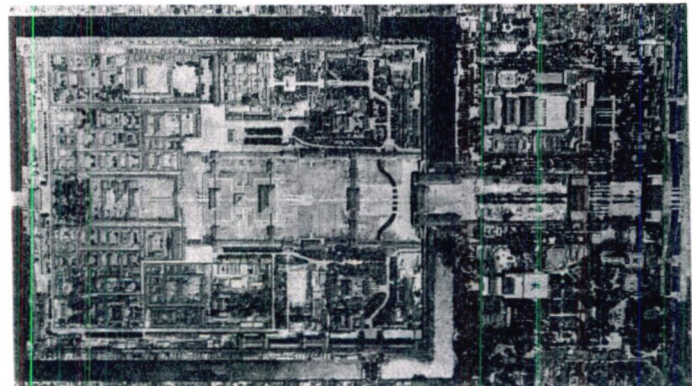
Spiro Costoff,

In most of the city plans the streets had been laid in to a grid system. Although this grid system is not identical to any particular culture; it is identical to the planned cities.

The most of the colonial period townships also were planned ones. They had a rigid form and the streets were always designed as a grid. Some cities had originated as planned cities and developed organically. Present City forms consisting planed sections as well as unplanned sections



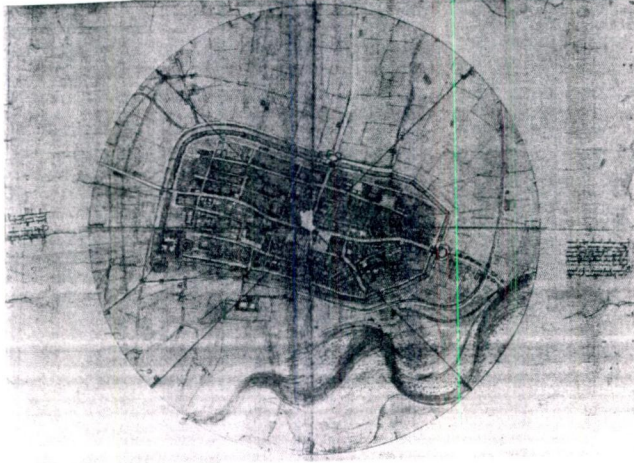
In some other examples planned extensions had been added to the planned old cities. In them also there are organically developed extensions can be find. In the present context the city forms are controlled and extended according to the regulations, and the policies.



Illus. 19; City as a diagram

But within that framework also there were unplanned areas in the cities.

They can be called the squatter settlements. In most of the underdeveloped



cities these unplanned deteriorated sections can be seen either as later extensions or as urban infills.

Illus.20; City plan by Leonardo Davinchi ;Consideration of cardinal directions

1.5-Evolution of the city form.

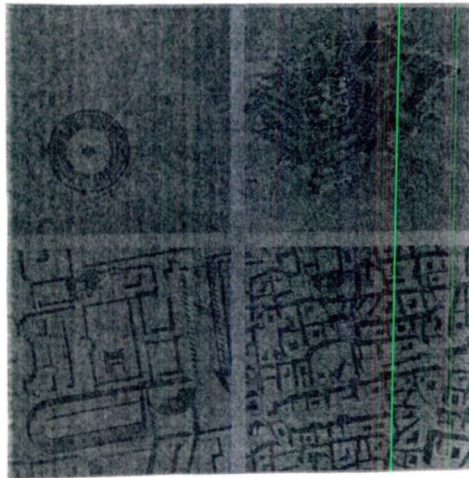
Although the cities had originated with a proper form they have not remained as static objects. They have changed with time. The culture of any society change with its evolution .The cities has changed their original city form due to various reasons. The original city form and its geometry have devalued by other needs of the city builders.

For Oley Graber,

“How many people beyond the immediate entourage and time of it’s founder, the caliph Al–mansard, experienced the famous round city of Baghdad It hardly ever lined in the perfect shape conceived for it”¹³

“Even during the lifetime of Al–Mansard suburbs were added, the carefully drawn internal divisions broke down, and the round city became only a part of the enormous urban complex of Baghdad.”(Illus;21)





Illus.21; *Urban process; The city form changing with time*



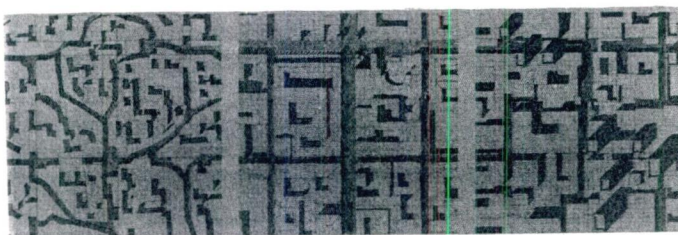
Illus.22; *The growth of cities. The process of leapfrogging As the built-up area expands, leaving gaps*

Some city forms could found under many layers of soil, which were formed over centuries. Ex: Ruined ancient city of Anuradhapura.

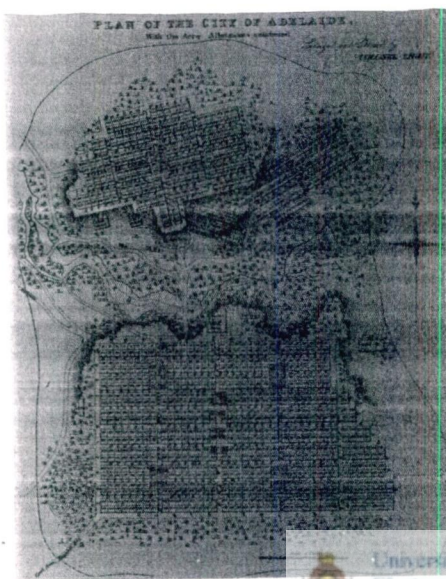
The younger cities are found with an older part and a new part. When the old part cannot cope with the new population and the nature of the activity a new part had generated.

Ex: Old Delhi and New Delhi)

Some cities built on top of the ancient cities. And some has many different styles representing different ages of the city.



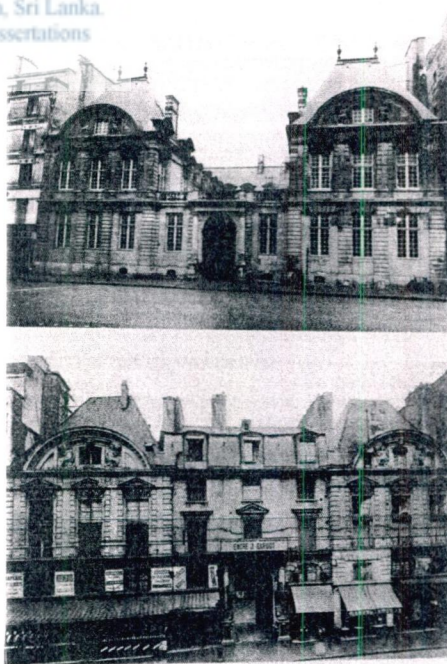
Illus.23; *Planted Roman Empire throughout the Mediterrarianean .
Left; Evolution of it in the city
Right-Modification done of the same town in Italy*



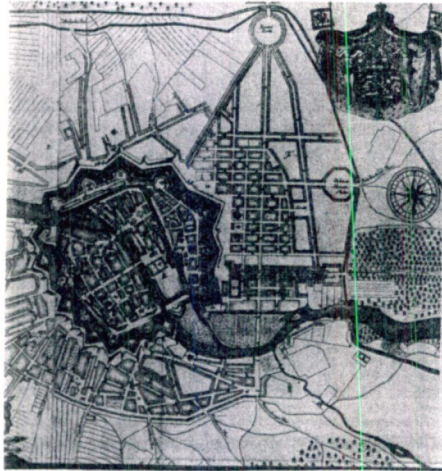
Illus.24; *Planned extentions for the same city*



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Illus.25; *Changes made to the city fabric.*



Illus.26; City
extended by two planned
suburbs.



Illus.27; Gdan's (Poland) Chose to create it's historic center. The restores work with immense
care Across the river old patterns were completely abandoned.

1.5-Historical Cities of Shri Lanka and their evolution .

The Urban settlements of Shri Lanka

According to the historical evidence the first urban settlements had started about two thousand years ago. The periods can be categorized as indicated below.

Period I-Mesolithic

Period II-Mesolithic iron age transition

Period III,Prehistoric Iron age :Ca

950-600 BC.

Period IV-,Based early historic:Ca

600-500 BC.

Period V-Lower early historic :Ca

500-250 BC.

Period VI-Mid early historic :Ca

250 BC –100AD

Period VII,Upper early historic :Ca

100-300 AD.

Period VIII-Middle historic :Ca 300-1250AD.

Period IX-,Lower late historic (Dry zone):Ca

1250-1350 AD.

Period X 10-Lower later historic (Wet zone):Ca

1350-1400 AD.

Period XI-Mid late historic :Ca

1400-1500 AD.

Period XII-Upper late historic :Ca

1500-1815AD.

Period XIII,British Colonial:Ca

1815-1948 AD.

Period XIV,Post independant period.:Ca

1948 onwards.

Illus.28: A periodic tabulation of the history of Shri Lanka

The urban settlements those have recovered ,indicate that there was a continuity in settlement and urban development in different physical forms found in these areas up to the end of Middle historic Period from the Mesolithic beginnings and it forms a long period of more than two thousand years of occupation. These settlements can be categorized as



Capital cities-Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Dambadeniya, Kurunagala, Yapahuwa, Kotte, Kandy, were the capital cities in Sri Lanka.

Ports (Teertha Gama)—Mathota, (North western coast) Devundara, Godavaya and Kirinda at south eastern coast.

Market villages –They were called 'Niyamgam'

Devalagam, Viharagam -These Villages were owned by feudal lords or temples and called 'Nindagam'. Examples for these villages are Gadaladeniya, Lankathilaka

Vapagam or Wawgam- (village settlements in relation to an irrigation reservoir or the Wawa.

Most of these villages were occupied by occupational clans or were sometimes mixed fulfilling a communal responsibility in service and existence among each other.

These were originated considering geographical factors such as locations for paddy cultivation near a water source, ports at natural harbors, and military routes in locations of unpenetrable topography. Has selected for the fortified cities. (Illus.29)

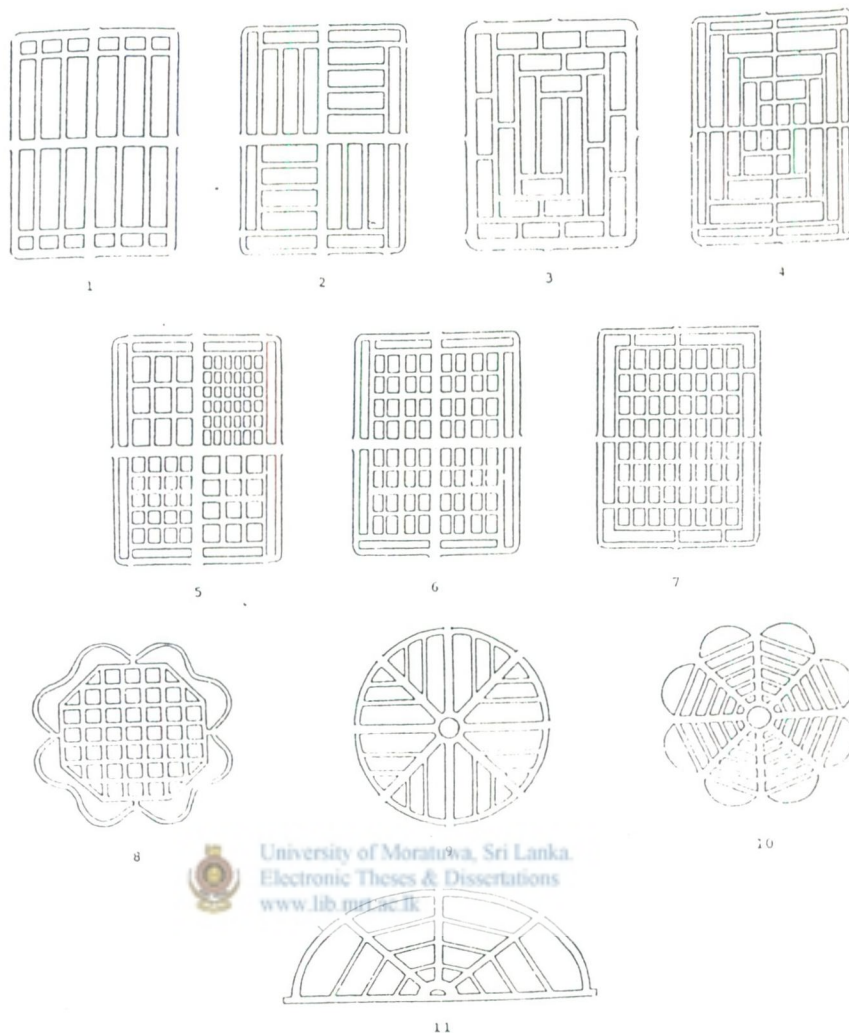


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As for Prof. Nimal de Silva ,

“The tradition of Sri Lankan urban form continued for a period of more than two thousand years. But the basic features and the urban elements continued in the same pattern even though the location, Form and scale changed from time to time.”¹⁴

With the Colonial invasion the ports were captured and built Fort cities along the coastal areas. These ports were captured by Portuguese, Dutch and the British respectively. Thereafter gradually they had penetrated in to the country. (Illus.30)



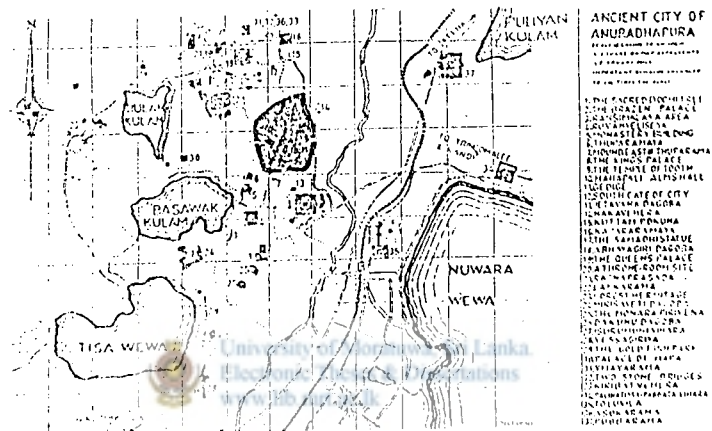
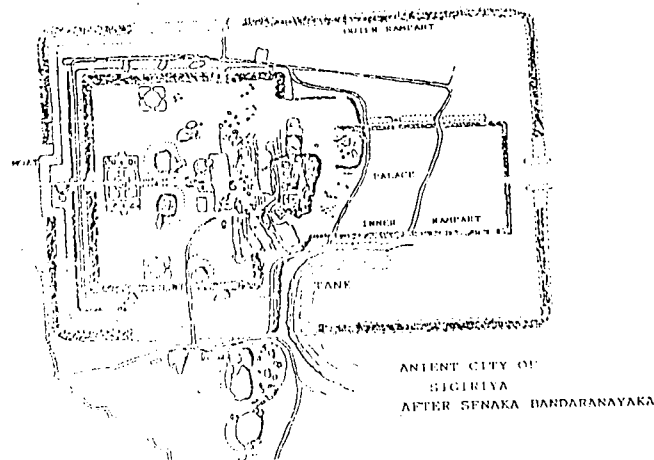
1. DANDAKA
2. SWASTIKA
3. NANDYAVARTA (in Sthandila)
4. NANDYAVARTA (in Manduka)
5. PRASTARA
6. CHATURMUKHA

7. SARVATOBHADRA
8. PADMAKARA (in Sthandila)
9. NANDYAVARTA
Circular Plan. After AMANTHALWAR
and RAES, Indian Architecture)
10. PADMAKARA
11. KARHUKA

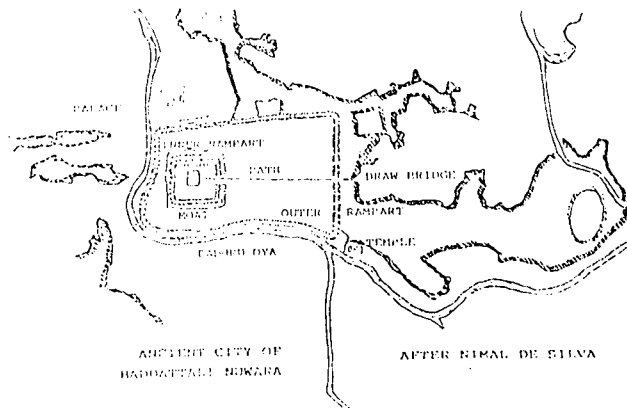
PLAN FORMS AS GIVEN IN SILPA TEXTS

Illus. 29; Plan forms as given in Silpa Texts

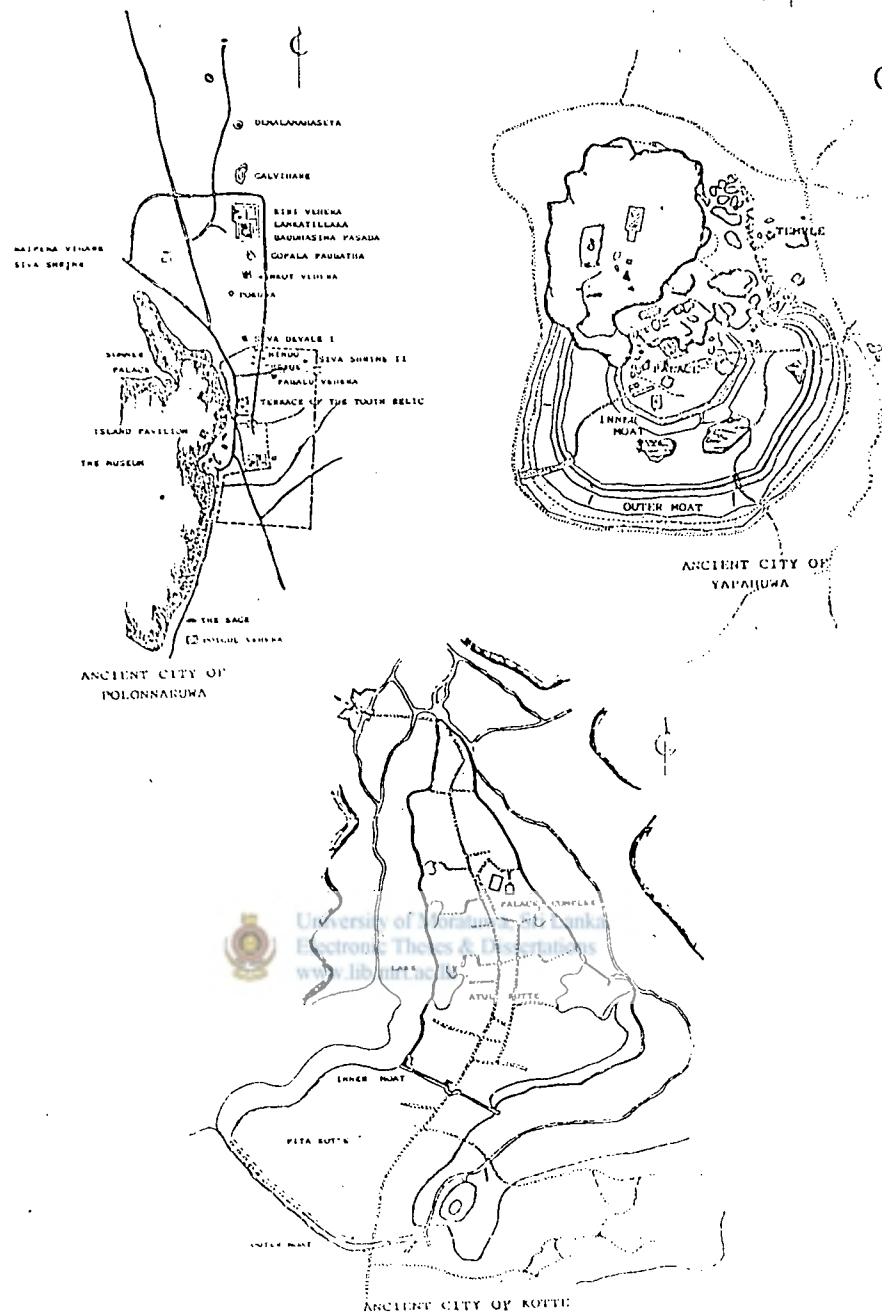




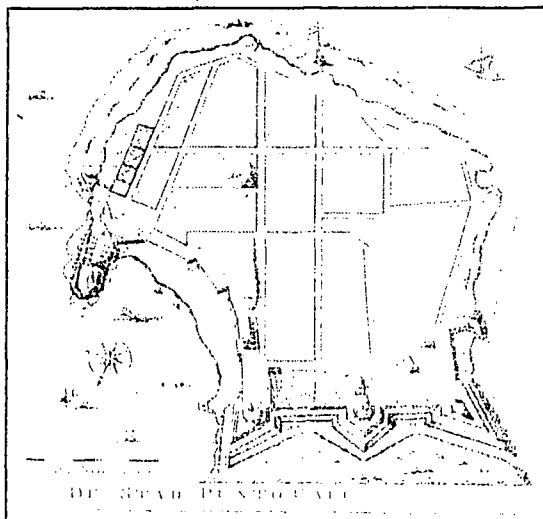
STUDIES, DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY



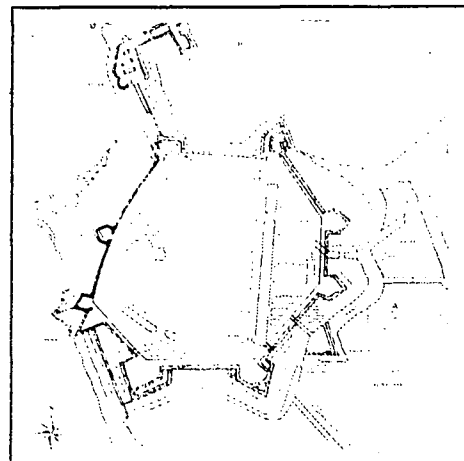
Illus. 29; Ancient cities of Shri Lanka



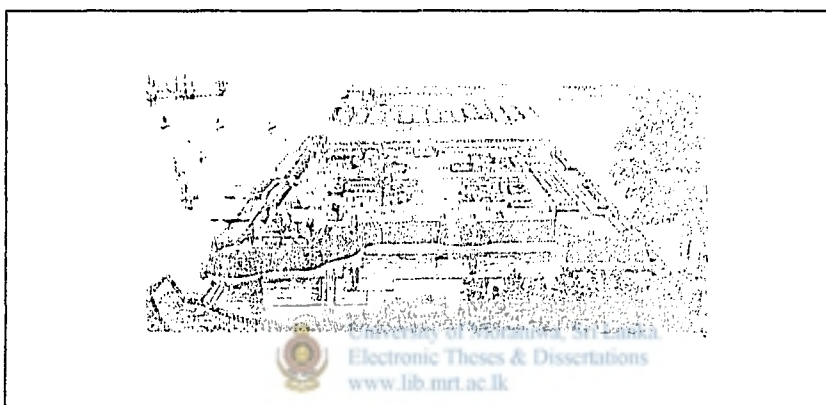
Illus. 29; Ancient cities of Shri Lanka



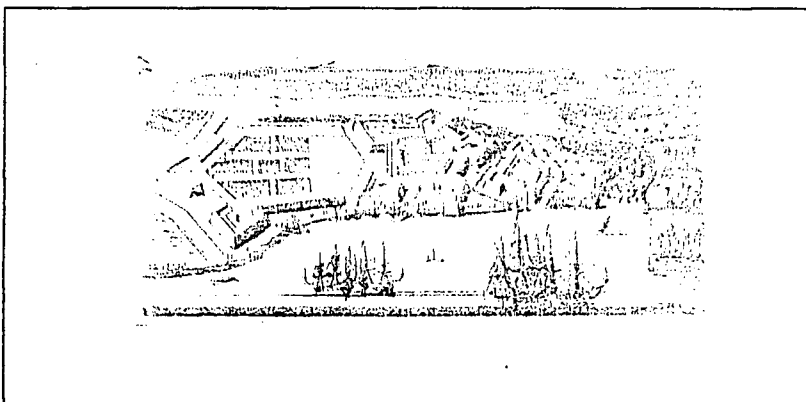
Galle Fort



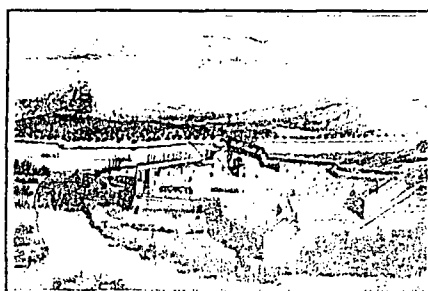
Colombo Fort



Jafna Fort



Negombo Fort



Baticloa Fort

Illus. 30; Colonial Dutch Forts in Shri Lanka

References

- 1-.Kevin Lynch,The City Shaped.Pg;
- 2 -Spiro Costoff-1991 ,The city shaped pg-
- 3 -J F Sobry (1776,Del Architecture.)Pg;
- 4 -Braudel , The City Shaped pg 38 Pg;
- 5 -Spiro Costoff 1991 The City Shaped.Pg;
- 6 -Spiro Castoff 1991 The City Shaped.Pg;
- 7 -Spiro Costoff, 1991,The city shaped, (pg26)
- 8-1938-L Worth Mum ford,The City Shaped.Pg;
- 9-J.E.Vance, Jr .The City Shaped.Pg;
- 10 Lewis Mumford The City Shaped.Pg;
- 11-Spiro Costoff, 1991,the city shaped.Pg;
- 12- Oley Graber,The City Shaped.Pg;
- 13-Proff. Nimal de.Silva.1991 SLIA journalVol100



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Chapter Two

Chapter Two

2.0-Negombo, it's origin and the evolution.

City form-The present city form constitute of two significant parts .First part is planned fortification constructed by the Dutch. and rest of the city consist of organically grown urban form along the main roads which were developed in later eras .The considerable extent of land belonging to the Dutch fort had been urbanized due to the recent developments. The commercial developments, and residential areas seemed to be emmerged within the city limits at a rapid speed.

2.1-Origin of Negombo as a settlement.

The very first settlement originated as a -Port city in 110AD

Seafaring communities were the first inhabitants of this settlement. They were belonged to the cast called "Karawa" and they were worshipers of Vishnu and Patthini deities.

In-the 12th century at time of King Parakramabahu, they moved from Polonnaruwa to the southwest of the country. In addition to that the settlements grew with the migrants from the migrants from other countries such as India and Maldives. Furthermore their main purpose was the trade. Apart from the above mentioned category, clans accompanied the sacred Bodhi tree, also had become permanent settlers of this settlement.

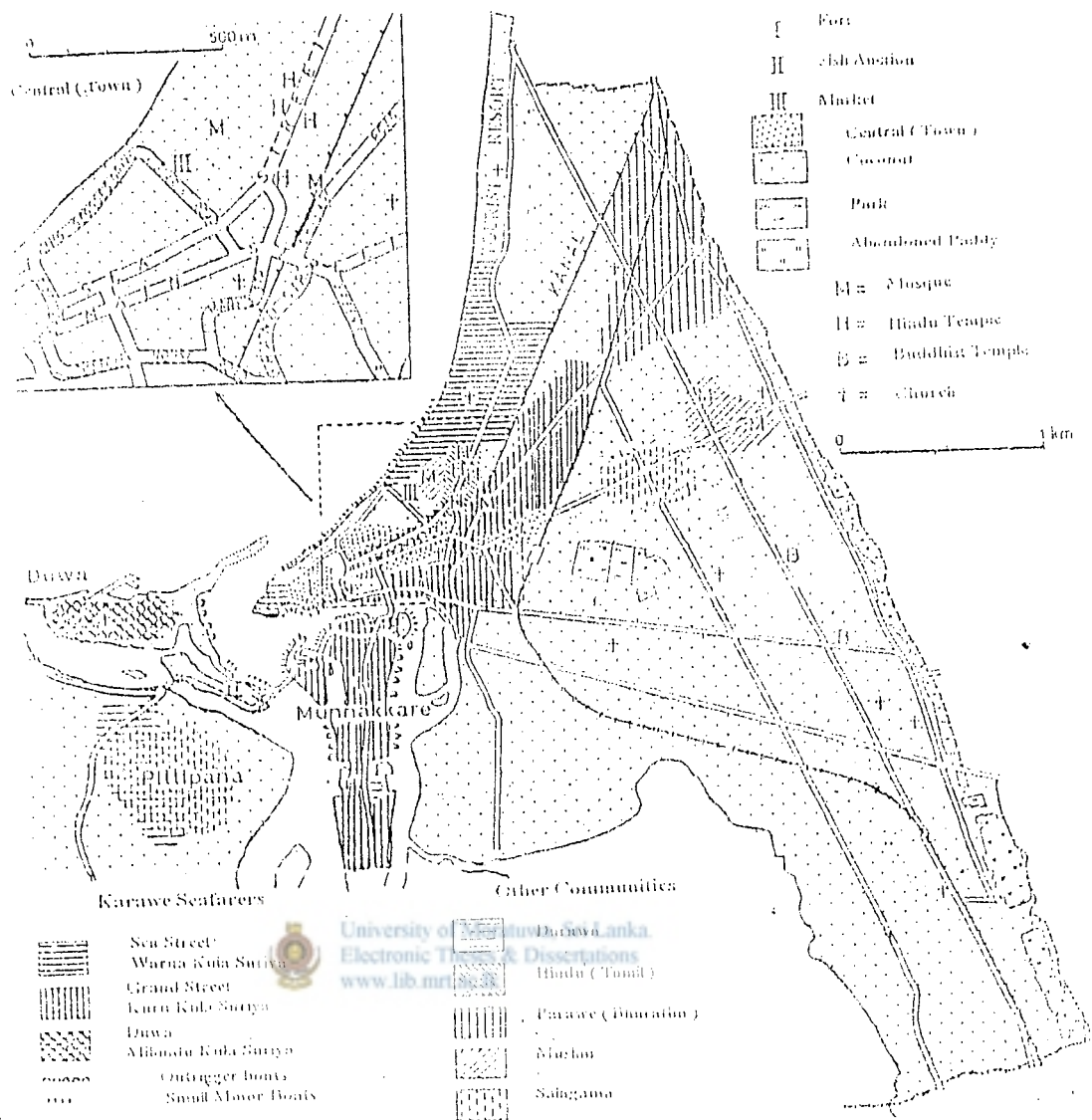
A special event which took place in the 14th century was the piracy in northern waters. This war was called 'Makarahatana and was a war between 'Mukkuwas' and 'Kaurawas'. Under the command of Sapumal Kumaraya Because of this land mark incident the three clans were gifted land for this successful campaign.

Grand street.-Kurukulasuriya.

Sea street-Warnakulasuriya.

Peninsula of Duwa -Mihindukulasuriya.

Before the Portuguese arrival Negombo was under Kotte Kingdom. (Illus.31) 31



Illus.31; first settlement map of Negombo

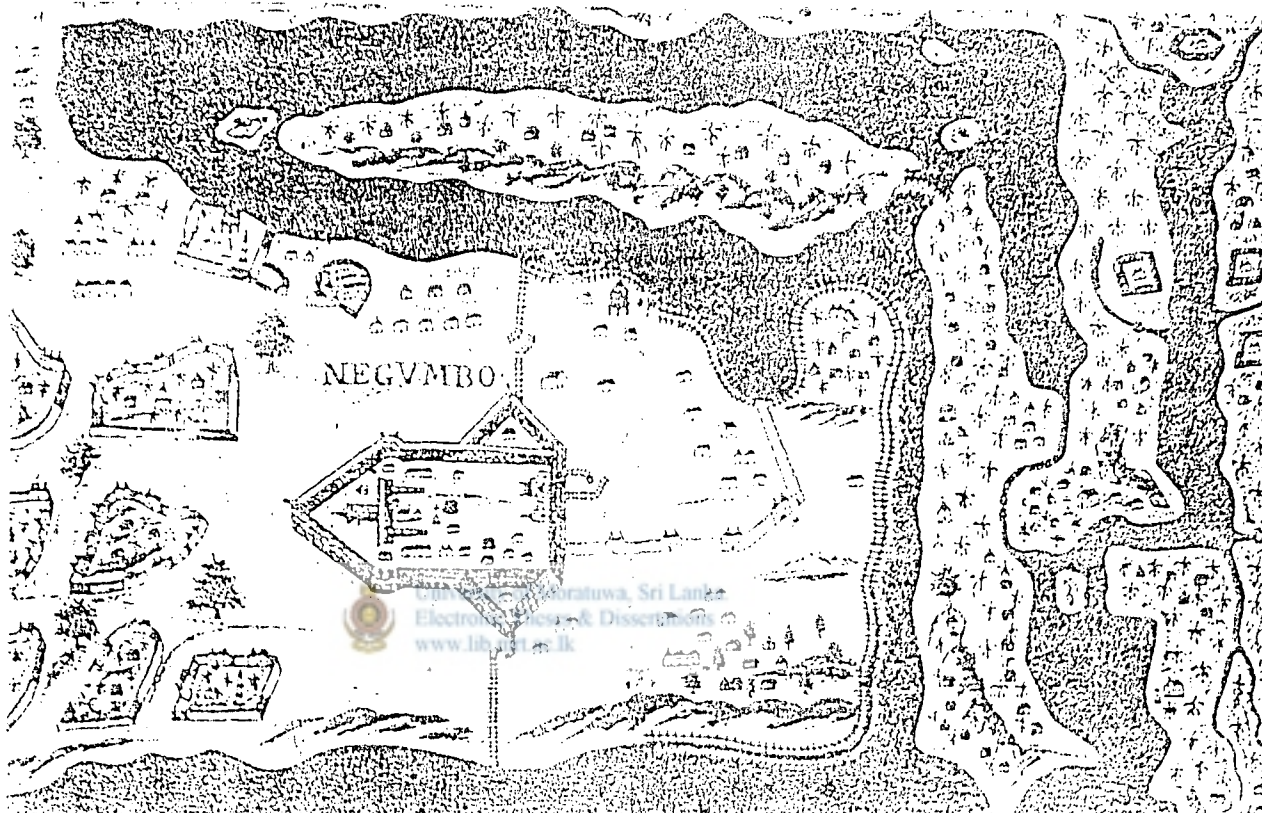
2.2-Colonial period

Negombo, as a port could easily accessible and captured by colonial invaders. The invaders were the Portuguese , the Dutch ,and the British respectively.

2.2.1-Portuguese Period

During the 16th century-(1515-1568)Negombo became a colony under the Portuguese Empire. The main impact of this arrival was towards the religion and it caused a major socio cultural change. Rulers as well as the commoners rapidly inhabitants converted to Catholicism.

This change in the socio cultural structure' reflected within the physical structure among the new constructions numerous amount of churches were prominent features. The Fort built by Portuguese built was a small enclosure and not consistent with necessary component features inherited to the Fort. The location of Negombo was important for trade and as a sanitary station. Negombo was a Cinnamon-producing district, which was highly favored spice at that time. (Illus.32)



Illus.32; Portuguese period map of Negombo

2.2.2-Dutch Period (1658-1798)

Dutch also introduced their social and cultural aspects to the inhabitants during this period. The most interesting feature is the creation of the Dutch Fort, the Dutch town and the Dutch canal. They brought a city character in to Negombo. (Illus.33)

Dutch Fort

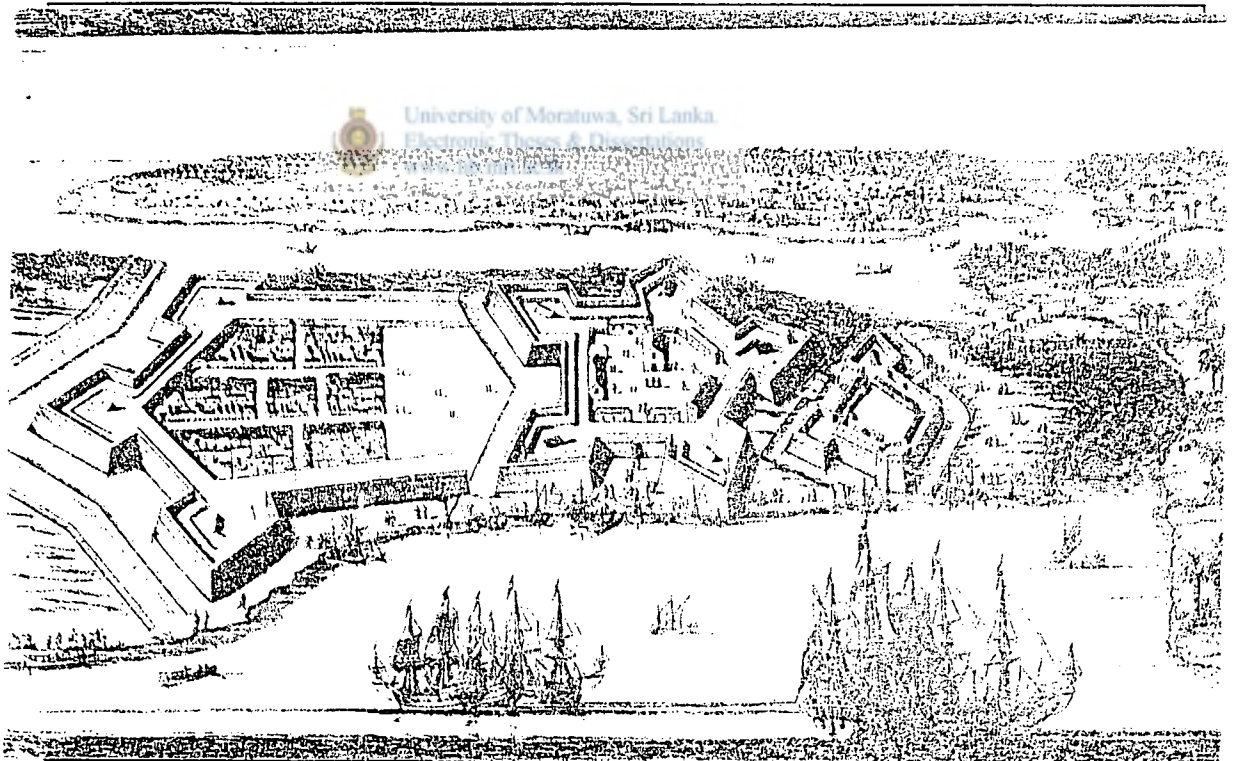
The so-called Dutch fort was the most important and remarkable development during this period. The main purpose was the defence activities.

In addition to that the ware houses were there in the fort to store cinnanamon John Jacob Saar obseved (1647-57),

that the ***"Fort built by the Hollanders was a strong place ,with four bastions two facing the sea called Hoorn and Enkhuizen ,two towards the land called Delft and Rotterdam with high walls made of sods about 22 feet broad ,with each Bastion holding 8 guns. There were two ports ,the water port ,water port and the land port .Inside there is a castle.,protected by two other bastions called Middelburg and Amsterdam."***¹.(Illus.34)

.Dutch town-This area was located within the fort. Streets were laid out in to typical grid system with avenues and streets.

The houses, facing the street grid, were called "town houses."The Dutch town was notably a residential area.(Illus.35)

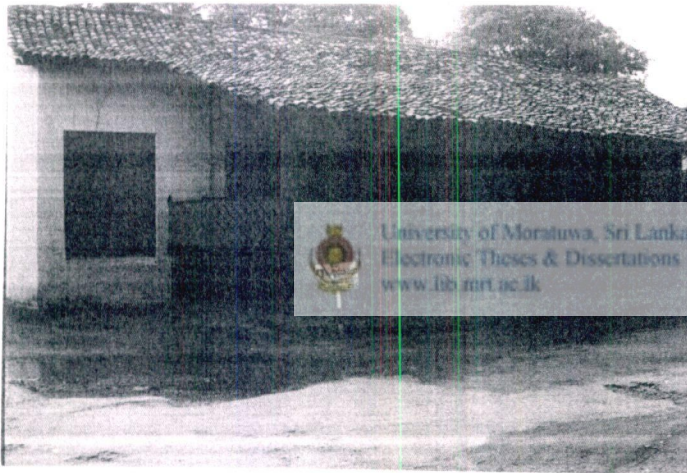
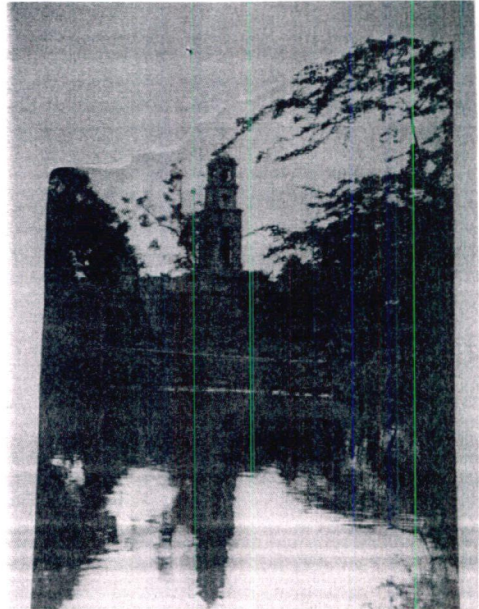


Illus.33; Map of the Dutch Fort and Dutch town.

Esplanade. -This an open space and an impotent element of the Dutch Fort.(Illus;36)



Illus.34; *The Dutch Fort*



Illus.35; *Dutch street.*



Illus.36; *The Esplanade*

Chapel-

. Dutch built enormous churches with large cruciform buildings, with a central tower, and large doorways. Local architectural traditions were very appropriately incorporated to Dutch building design principles.(Illus.37)

Dutch Canal- (Hamilton canal).

An important element of the Dutch town planning was who relied on great deal of water transportation. In that sense the canal was it built for the Transporting of goods and foodstuff from Colombo to other areas. In the 1706 was extended the Canal was extended from Negombo to 'Maha-oya' and later to 'Puttalam.'(Distance from Colombo - Puttalam is 120 miles.)

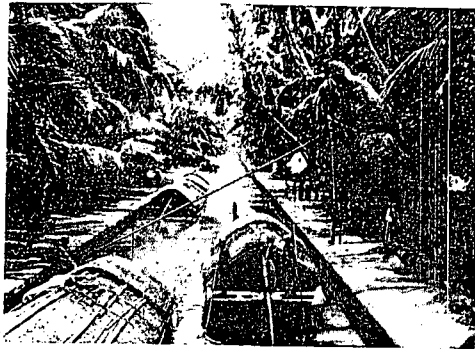
The second extension of the canal was connecting Kelaniya to Negombo.

The canal was built across Nindagam lands of the clans using forced labour .



Illus.37; The Chapel

This became a main reason for the inhabitants to leave the area. Apart from that In the same period this period, due to various reasons some inhabitants moved to Mannampitiya and settled in the same area. People in Mannampitiya intermarried with kindred clans in Eravur, Horuvila, Seruvila, Wah akotte, and few with kinsmen of Negombo. This resulted in change from Catholicism to their original beliefs in Hindu gods.(Illus.38)



Illus.38; *The Dutch Canal*

2.2.3-British period (1796-1947)

During the British period the plantation sector was developed quite significantly. With the rise of plantation industry the proper transport system as well as and road net work was developed. With the development of the roads and the railway line the city limits extended beyond the Dutch city limits. Many residential areas came up including housing built for the government servants. (Illus.39a.)

At that time the Dutch fort was not considered as a security zone any more. Improved administration system was needed according to the British governing and the fort area was occupied by administrative functions. Co laterally British high-ranking officials needed buildings and permanent residences in and around the fort area. Houses that British built were mainly for government officers such as government agents, assistant government agents, Judges and other high rank officials. Design and actual location of each of these houses were decided with due consideration to the hierarchical orders of the particular officials who were to be housed in them.

Administrative and public buildings within the court were the high court and the Magistrate courts, and the St Stephan Church. (Illus;39b.). When considering the rest of the town the buildings built during this period were typical to other towns planned by the British.

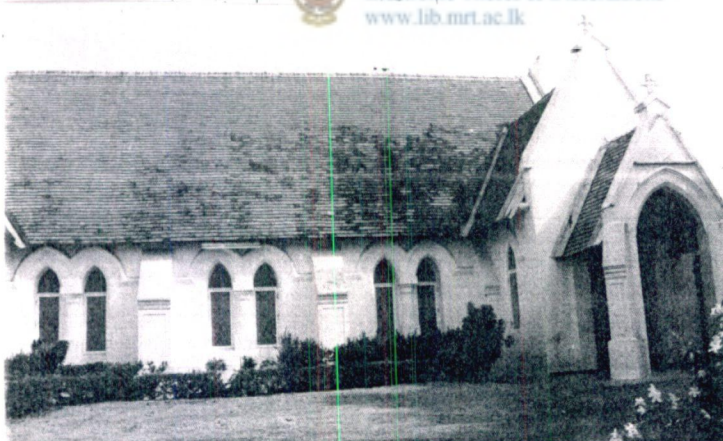


Illus.39a;
British period
city form
Of Negombo

— DSD Boundary
■ MC (Old Area)



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Illus.39; St. Stephan Church.



Illus.40; St Mary's Church



2.3-Post independent period.(1948)

After the Independence the political, economical and the social system was changed in the whole country. The new political system brought in new laws and regulations in relation to the administrative system. With this the feudalistic system was ended leaving some of it's social, and architectural remains with the city. New regulation and the laws related to the city planning and land ownership created new path for the development of the city.

Gradually the new democratic political system introduced new social reformations. Among them the most outstanding were the free education system, and free economy. These changes were resulted direct and indirect impacts to the city.

With the open economy which was introduced in 1977 accelerated tourism and many other industries in the city. At the same time the new developments which had come up around the city also caused a considerable impacts to the city. The Katunayaka International Air Port which was located 6 Kilometers away from the administrative center and free trade zone can be considered as the most outstanding among them.

The above mentioned political, social, changes which had happened after the independence and the developments interrelated with each other and resulted the present city form of Negombo.

When considering the relationship between political and social changes and the city form this has to be discussed under following aspects.

- (i) Fishing industry
- (ii) Tourism
- (iii) Development of other social and physical infrastructure
- (iv) Other developments around the city

Location of MC Area

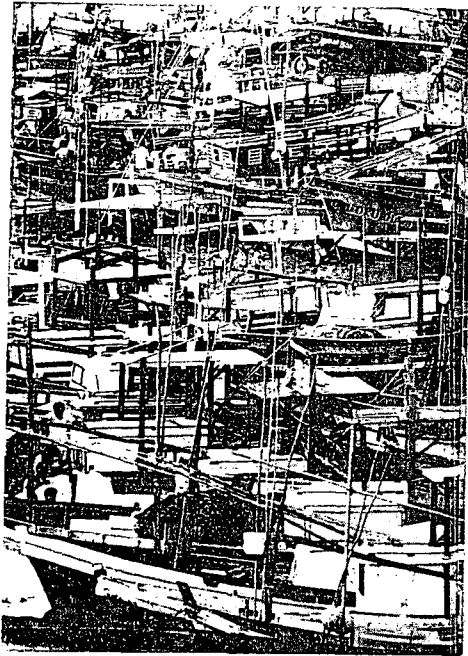


Development Plan Negombo M.C. - 1998

Western Province Division UDA

Illus. 41; Present City Form of Negombo

(i) Fishing Industry



Fishing industry can be considered as one of the main activities in the region. This provides 36% of the employment to its citizens. Indirect employment-created by its allied industrial activities are repair of boats and ice production,

Fishing related activities were spread along covering a large area along the coastal belt. There is a considerable growth can be seen in the technology and the size of the fishing community.

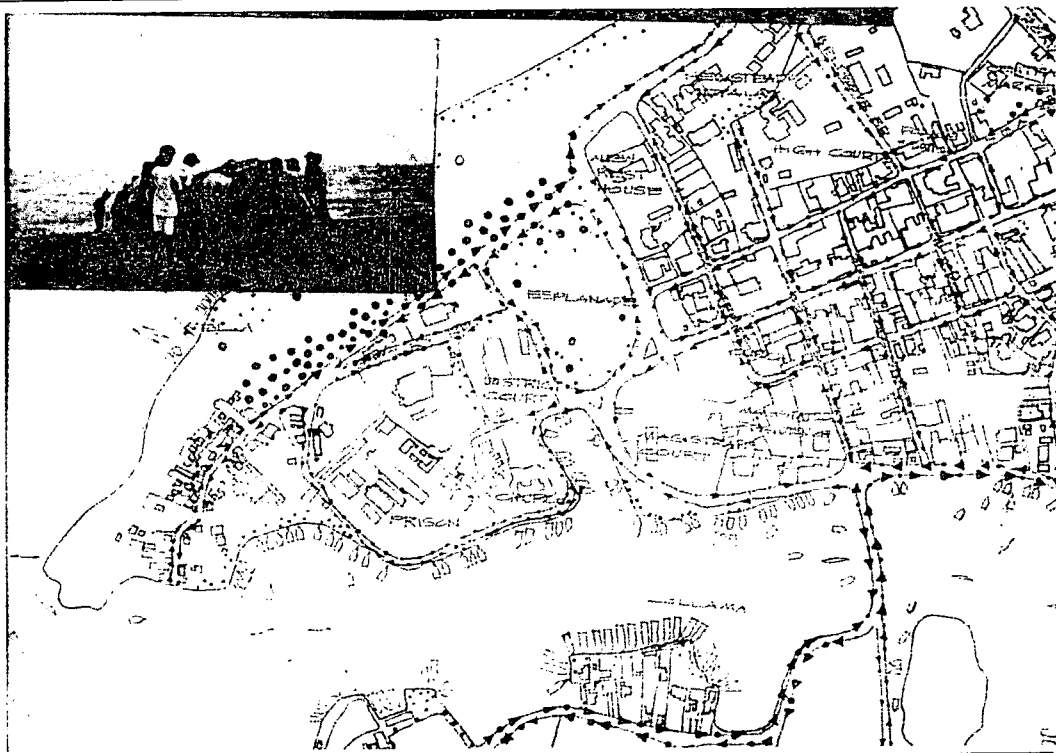
Illus.42; Fishing, gives an identity to Negombo



Illus.43; Fishing, and the conservation area.



Illus 44; Fishing activity along the beach. 41

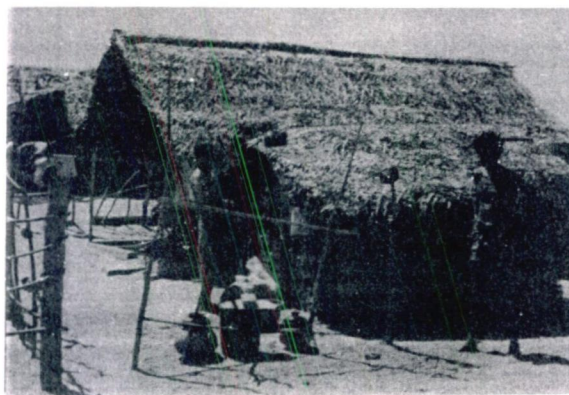


Illus.45; The activity map during weekdays.; Location-Dutch city area o Negombo .



Illus.46. Activity map in the Dutch town area during weekends

These fishing settlements are mushrooming around the Dutch Fort. The Moat which was an element of the Dutch fort is totally used for fishing related activities.(Illus ;47)



Dry fish is the main fishing related activity in Negombo. At present it is carried out at the area called "Kuda Lellama."). In addition to this there are small anchorage's at Porutota Kammalthota ,Etthukala and Kudapaduwa.

Illus.47; Shanty development .
With the fishing industry.

The whole sale and retail market functioning in and around the 'pola' area , which is one of the prominent market area where a large number of people concentrating in the city

(ii) Tourism

The tourism and allied activities are mostly concentrated along the Northern beach. Which can be demarcated as a Strip of approximately Negombo 3Km north to the town center.

According to the statistics 27 approved tourist hotels in Negombo provides 1200 rooms capacity with an average occupancy rate of 54.2%. This rate increases up to 60% during the tourist season.

In 1998, it is estimated 223,643 tourist nights in Negombo and out of which, 98% are foreign tourist nights. Apart from that, there are 16 approved guesthouses consist of room capacity of 200. Even though they were not very satisfactory in condition .The non-approved guesthouses too contributes enormously to the development of tourism in Negombo by means of



inexpensive meals and lodgings

According to the reliable sources tourism alone provides 3217 .Direct employment-and 2000 in direct employment through tourism allied activities such as Restaurants, Gem & Jewelry shops, Handy Crafts. Etc.

The tourists are especially interested on fishing activities, and to Negombo's historical importance as well the natural settings of the lagoon and the Mangroves.

(iii)Development of other infrastructure in the city

Many schools scattered in the town areas and other social infrastructure resulted residential suburbs and at the same time they had been created the residential areas developed towards the hinterland.

In addition to the houses belong to high or middle-income people considerable residential population was emerged creating shanties in the city. Shanties were immersed due to the job opportunities available in the city. The coastal area, by the sides of the canal and other neglected state owned land were captured by the squatter settlements.



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(iv)Other developments around the city.

The close proximity to the International Airport and the Free Trade Zone can be considered as a main source of income to the people live in Negombo. On the other hand for the outsiders who work in these, the Negombo is the dormitory town which provides all the services for them.

After implementing these developments the city growth could be noticed towards Colombo.

The Colombo –Putthalam main road also became another pull factor of the commercial development s.

Public-

Non public-

Non public open space-



Illus.48; Nollis Map indicating ,public ,non public ,and open spaces .Location the old Dutch city area.

Open areas		Roads	
Parks and play grounds		Beach	
Water bodies		Residential	
Commercial		Public institutes	
Religious		Mangroves	



Illus.49; Land use pattern .



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Chapter Three



Chapter Three

3.0:Negombo City-an analysis of the city form and it's Transformation

Negombo is a city which has a long history and it is interesting to note the evolution of the city form which has occurred due to the impacts of social and cultural changes happening in the area throughout a long period of time. Therefore, this situation is an important aspect to study and analyse for it would provide vital clues to understanding the city better.

After studying the transformation from time to time the major transformation could be observed from one era to another. These changes occurred in the city form and has affected every component of the city. This transformation can be further described as an outward urban growth of the city, movement of the commercial center from one place to another, haphazard developments, urban infills and demolitions within the old monuments, and the change of the activities within the city.

When analysing the changes which occurred, it is important to study every component of the city form from one era to another.



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3.1The Physical fabric

The character of the physical fabric had been changed from one period to another.

3.1.1:First settlement of Negombo

When studying the first settlement the indicates that the settlement grouped in three areas .But it does not indicate enough clues about the nature of the physical fabric of the settlement .According to the information the settlement consisted basically of the residences of the three clans .Accordingly the physical, fabric of that period cannot be considered as a 'city fabric'.

3.1.2:Negombo during Portuguese period

During the Portuguese period the introduction of new built components can

be seen. They are the Fort, the churches, and the residences built here and there . But development or formation of a physical fabric which consist the characteristics of a city cannot be seen during this period because the residences and the churches had been built in large isolated sites. Other buildings indicated in maps were not densely located to form a city fabric.

3.1.3:Dutch period city of Negombo .

Dutch period city had a properly planned city adjacent to the Fort .The Dutch town which is existing till today had a considerable density within the city to form a physical fabric which can be considered as a 'city fabric'.

3.1.4:The city of Negombo during the British period.

Some streets formed a fabric with commercial developments along the main roads out side the Dutch town. Considerable urban growth was there during the British period. Many residential areas which were emmerged during this period contributed the formation of the city fabric.

3.1.5:Negombo after the Independence.

After the independence the city grew out wards from the Dutch town. Along each and every road the commercial developments started to come up. This extended the physical fabric throughout the city except in the area closer to the Dutch Fort. This area had been occupied by administration buildings. So the commercial centre had less chance to penetrate in to this part of the city. The density increased in the areas which were formed after the independence.

3.1.2:The Objects

3.1.2.1:First settlement of Negombo

There is no evidence to identify the clear image of the built elements of the first settlement. Because of this it is difficult to describe the nature of the objects of the first settlement.

3.1.2.2:Negombo during Portuguese period

The Fort itself became an object within the settlements of the inhabitants. The Churches built can also be considered as objects of the city.

3.1.2.3:Dutch period city of Negombo .

The elevations drawn of the Dutch fort indicates A dome like structure in the Fort. This can be considered as an object of the city. In this city the Fort itself can be considered as an object.. Within the city the Churches were larger in scale and the dominating architectural styles made them to be seen as objects.

3.1.2.4:The city of Negombo during the British period.

The Dutch Fort and the and the Churches were the objects within the British period city of Negombo.

3.1.2.5:Negombo after the Independence.

Old churches, Buddhist as well as the Hindu religious places can be identified as the present city of Negombo.

3.1.3:The public spaces

3.1.3.1:Public open spaces.

The public spaces first appear as a design component in the Dutch city of Negombo.. Esplanade can be considered as a public open space. These areas were used for the recreational activities, parades and for trade fairs during this period.

Although, with the increased population and the their cultural changes caused changes in the nature of the usage of open public areas. The people who lived in the period after the independence found the beach as the best place to spend their leisure time. This society did not have parades in public spaces. In the present city the Esplanade is considered as another playground.

Although with the open economy many tourist hotels and activities of the fishing industry encroached to these open public spaces. Thereafter the form of the city was changed to a certain degree. This was the main obstruction to create interesting spaces facing the lagoon viewing the sensitive natural setting around it. At the same time the character of the activities of a city

center being deteriorated by the fishing activities happening closer proximity to the city center.

3.1.4:Streets

3.1.4.1:First settlement of Negombo

The streets were the regional linkages with links to the port of Negombo.

3.1.4.2:Negombo during Portuguese period

The old settlements did not change with the Portuguese invasion. The street layout was not changed during this period.

3.1.4.3:Dutch period city of Negombo .

The streets were arranged in a grid pattern in the Dutch City plan. .

3.1.4.4:The city of Negombo during the British period.

The streets were not laid in a particular pattern. but they had links with the lagoon and with other regions around Negombo. The laws and regulations had determined Road widths.

3.1.4.5:Negombo after the Independence.

With the growth of the city new urban areas were created and the street layout was determined by the land ownership and the subdivision of land. Only the road widths were controlled by the regulations .

3.1.5:The Landmarks

The value of the Dutch Fort for the British was just another built element. Because of that they had removed some parts of the fort and used the land for other activities.

Although the passage of time had given a historical value given by the meaning inherited in those structures which is identical to a particular time. Therefore almost all the elements belonging to the past have an archaeological value as well as a meaning to the people. Because of that the

whole area of the historical city center has become a monument. The Fort, the market, the Grand church can be considered as few of them.

3.1.5.1: British period and the changes in the development.

Fort was not considered as a security zone. Because of that the fort, Dutch town and the rest of the area was interconnected to form a single entity. On the contrary during the British period moats were neglected and because of that the old city had lost its original elements as well as the discipline.

A church that is still very outstanding with its elevated locations was built on top of the southern bastion. Courthouse was built on the bastion facing the north Rampart wall to the right of the entrance gate was modified and remoulded in to a base on which Victoria jubilee clock tower was raised A significant incident which took place during 1803 was the construction of Robert Percival Gateway and arched cupola for the bell.

Because of these new buildings the fort had changed in it's original function and the character. Therefore, earlier security zone of the Fort area gradually became an area constituting of a number of public places. Residential buildings added new character to the townscape. New administrative center made the city an important city center for the surrounding regions

3.1.5.2:- Post independent period developments and their impact to the original historical city.

Earlier the location for the fishing activities was encroached by the hotels and guesthouses. Because of that the fishing related activities moved towards the fort area.

By means of that beach around the fort was totally occupied by the fishing related activities Heavy transportation required for fish transportation created traffic conditions along the old narrow streets which are incapable to accommodate such a large number of vehicles during the particular hours of the day.

The beach was linked with the esplanade and formed a recreational open space before the fishing activities shifted to this area.



3.1.6:Physical and legal boundaries

The first settlement had separate areas. But they belonged to the same nation though they were named as separate clans. The three areas were not separated by built walls. but there could have been some kind of natural boundary to separate or identify them as separate from other regions.

But in the Portuguese period, a clear boundary was built for the purpose of defence. This was the wall of the fort. The Dutch fort city had a clear boundary for defence purposes. There were two walls and one wall was to protect the fort and the other one was for the protection of the whole city. The wall was integrated with a moat.

The British Period City did not need protection from external forces. Because of that they neglected and abandoned the city walls they considered only about the legal boundary of the city. After the independence the city limits further expanded according to the urban growth.

3.1.7:Social and cultural change of Negombo

Source of income and the city



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The seafaring community was the first settlers of Negombo. They were occupied with few activities such as port activities and fishing. The Portuguese brought in new religious activities and new trade activities. They also brought in educational, leisure and development activities for the city. Canal development of the streets can be considered as being carried out by them.

British period city had administration related activities, They also had commercial activities in addition to the port activities. Defence related activities were not prominent as Dutch, Portuguese and the early settlement periods.

Post independent city has brought in larger group of activities such as tourism.

The fishing activity has grown fast covering the whole strip of the lagoon. These two activities became outstanding activities in the city.

3.2: The City Form of Negombo

The city has formed throughout a long period of time. The present city form has different sections, planned and unplanned. Only the fort has identifiable planned city component while the rest of the city has been developed organically.

First settlement of Negombo can be seen as a scattered settlement. Therefore it did not have a clear geometrical shape. The Dutch City form had a clear geometrical form Dutch period brought in a city form, which was designed. Similar shapes can be seen in many colonies in the coastal area in the island as well as in another colonies in the world.

3.3: Evolution of the city of Negombo.

The city of Negombo can be categorized as a city which had originated as a port city with a unplanned settlement which cannot be considered as a city due to the components of the city.

This first settlement had been introduced with new components during the Portuguese period. The settlement was further changed by the introduction of the Dutch City. This had replaced some parts of the original settlement.

These were the results of the political power over the inhabitants.

The growth of the city during the British period can be identified as occurring in a few ways. The growth within the city, the changes done to the previous city form and the outward growth of the city.

Although the British period has introduced many developments in the city some of them had caused impacts to the elements of the Dutch City. During this period the city had extended its urban areas. The geometric city form started to take an odd shape with these developments. The growth resulted by the introduction of administrative and commercial activities, introduction of social infrastructure such as schools hospitals and the transportation during this period.

Changes made to the political aspects can be considered as positive aspects

to the inhabitants when compared to the Dutch period. The City transformed continuously with time. The evolution pattern changed and accelerated with the political and social aspects of the post independent period, followed by the open economy.

Unlike the other periods the industries and associated developments caused major changes in the city form. The fishing industry associated with many different aspects introduced activities to the city. Tourism also had similar impact to the city.

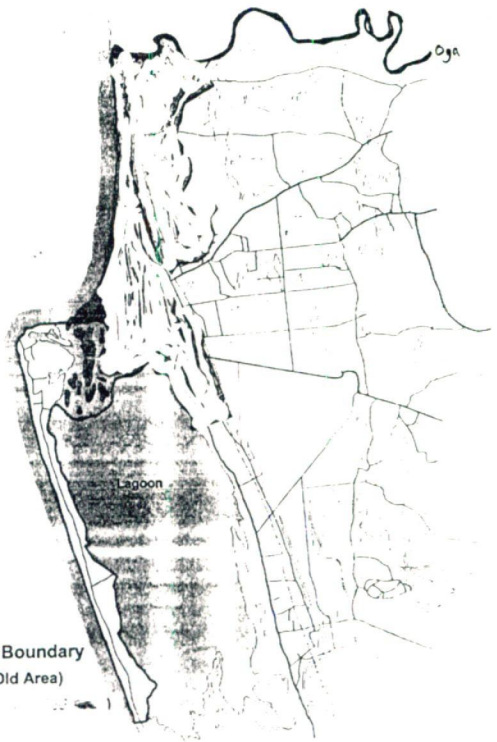


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Illus. 50; Change of the city character from time to time.





Illus. 51; Evolution of the city form of Negombo



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Conclusion

C o n c l u s i o n .

The city of Negombo had undergone different cultural and political changes, in its growth and accordingly the city form has changed. In the study of its history it is possible to find architectural evidence, which represent some eras while there is no evidence to be found for the other periods.

The first city form emerged during the Dutch period and lasted long. So the Dutch architectural styles had given the identity to the city of Negombo.

After the Dutch City there were no such emergence of a distinct new city form. Instead there were changes done to the elements of the city structure and at the same time new developments had come up.

These new developments has caused impacts to the Dutch City. Some changes which had been done to the city improved its character while the other changes and new elements had deteriorated the character. Some had not caused any impact to the city life and changed with its social needs. But their meaning as elements of the historical city can be considered as an important aspect.

The changes of the elements and its relationship to its political structure could be noticed as an outstanding aspect. The growth of the city had been caused by mainly due to the economic aspects. The developments, which had appeared due to the weaknesses of the legal structure, can be considered as an important aspect when considering the character and quality, and the liveability of a city. Even though they had responded to the regulations some have made impacts to the character of the city.

The road widths and the character of its place have a strong relationship. But when the roads have been widened to suit for the better functioning of the city some aspects of the city character can be changed or deteriorated.

The location of activities and their nature have to be considered according to its character.

When the city moved towards a certain direction some parts had been neglected, and undergone polarisation.

Especially the emergence of the industries caused indirect changes such as

the spread of housing and other residential areas. These caused the establishment of many suburban areas around the city. The increased population around the city expects services and the physical and the social infrastructure from the city center. The growth of traffic has increased proportionately with the increase of the population.

The major cause is that the growth has come about by unexpected economic objectives, which were created by political changes. This situation was the making of individual developers of an open economy in a democratic society

The other reasons were the violation of regulations, Their weaknesses in the guidance towards better architectural characteristics and conservation aspects.

But this has to be changed by the city designers by forming new goals which are economically feasible towards the city dwellers. For example the city of Negombo as a place surrounded by water and natural settings can be developed in to an ecotourist destination. The old monuments and the rich architectural characteristics can be developed in to an administrative, recreational and live commercial hub.

Therefore the directions of growth have to be understood by the city designers.

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