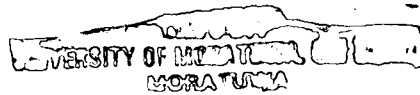


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**USER MODIFICATIONS IN ARCHITECTURE: AN
EXAMINATION OF THE ABOVE, THROUGH THE CONCEPT OF
FORM & SHAPE AS MANIFESTED IN ARCHITECTURAL
DETERMINISM.**



**A DISSERTATION
SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN**

ARCHITECTURE



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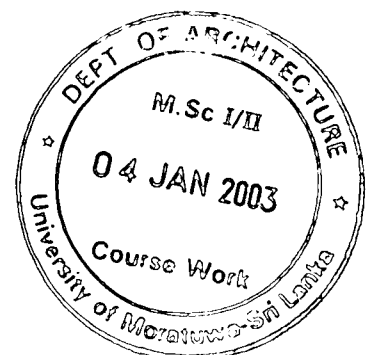
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Finally but not the least to my dear brothers and sisters for giving their helps in whatever I wanted and of cause to my dear parents for encouraging me always and illuminated my path providing their love.

To all of them again I express my heartfelt thanks!

PREFACE

This is for an Architectural research as the degree thesis of the Master of Science in Architecture in 2003.

Research degree in architecture began to be offered more than 40 years ago, it was only in the 1980 that architectural research began to emerge as a visible and bounded field of activity in the west.; the situation in Srilanka is still in its early infancy.;

Such a situation, not surprisingly, our society takes the professional decisions made in these field far more seriously than say, an architectural decision. If we are to be taken seriously, the profession must foster, encourage and indeed engage in serious and systematic inquiry in to reality that can inform its practice.

This thesis is the result of a number of months concern research with some building form of the houses and its implication by its architect and the architectural influences and by its user (dweller), from the point of view of me. The forces that shape this dissertation are by department of architecture, University of Moratuwa.

M.Sc. Dissertation is most probably to done as grandaunts encouragement within their study. It is possible to encourage the further research and studies when creating a deep analysis.

So very little work has been done from the point of view adapted here, and this study must be exploratory.

So this dissertation tries to propose a conceptual framework for looking at the great Varity of built form and shape and the concern by its two parties (Architect and the user). It attempts to bring some order to this profession and thus create a better understanding of the form determinant of dwellings.

In attempting to deal with the broader aspects of building form, this Dissertation is addressed to all those concerned with man and the elementary perception with the form and shape.

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Abstract

In many situations, we can observe that the user, relevant to the form and shape relationship modifies most of the buildings. One important reason for this is, many of the place makers did not clearly defined the form and shape when providing the individual spaces. Hence most of them were lack of qualitative aspects.

The uncomfortability or lack of necessary quantitative diminution destroys these qualitative aspects. In this regard the judgement of users of their built environment can be venerated as a significant feature in designing, better built environment and finding alternative strategies by studding the form and shape of the built environment. Therefore an attempt has been made in this research to analyze the housing scheme (low rise) and their quality of the built form relevant to the above factors through their modifier environment. It is hoped that this can be used or developed as a technique in assessing or in designing the built form that will be built in the future.

The content of the study has been categorized into three chapters including two case studies. In the first chapter, background of the issue is discussed. The magnitude and contains of the place making are briefly described. This description has been more provision to collect the data of the architecture and its theoretical part. Therefore it considers the importance of practitioners intimate perceptions. And it generates introduction to the next chapter. Hence, chapter two is a descriptive explanation of the theoretical approach and the methodology adapted.

In chapter three, the details of the analysis is introduced with selected settings for the study. Detail descriptions of the field work (how the pilot's test was carried out, how the components were derived from

the finding of the pilot's test and from pre-conceived theoretical framework, and how data was collected for the final research). It also included in the same chapter.

Finally its analysis is discussed in the form of profiles by dividing them to relevant categories. Then the observation is described to reveal the findings upon which the conclusion has been drawn.





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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

01. Preamble

Considering the topic this study is established some practical conceptions with using a relevant framework. But many of them have done in several ways according to user facilitates. So the user is named as particular person who lives in a particular space. He is named as dweller or occupant. But in this thesis author has taken different attitudes to establish this area as a very critical topic in the present situation. Because, in many of the situations, many places are modified extensively by its people. The present world is going towards the new technologies. So every professional have to look about this situation. Therefore people can't remove or demolished their dwelling wholly. They should have some gap to change their necessities. This topic tries to argue on how architect determines the form rather than the shape. It tries to establish form and shape are manifested from architectural determinism. With that situation how architect fills the gap between form and shape of the building.

According to that this dissertation was conceived as a brief introduction to the profession; because practice of architecture has various theories to enhance their philosophies. Among those they try to establish their philosophy. But in this conception, architecture can be introduced as a creative process. That creation has a live quality, rather than other art forms.

Architecture; it already has the feeling of quality of physical setting. Frandze Oswarld (1997) defines that "architecture is spatial art; form is less the ultimate end to that purpose... Form is the architect's tool, which he uses to fashion reality. At the same time, it is the tool for recognizing reality."

According to that, physical form is the ultimate end of the architect's process. In this condition form speaks with particular behavioral, type of people, locality and type of particular era. Because, immediate surrounding is conceived with the built form recognizing past and future.

In many situations, architect tries to capture particular human nature and to analyze before coming to the final solution. Since that, architect can be introduced as a determiner or decision maker. So he solves the problem regarding to the particular user (dweller).

Cities become urbanized. Then people ignore their agriculture-based economy in the village environment. So they involve with another professions within the urban areas. Regarding that, many people migrate and settle down around the city. They must have provided proper facilities according to the human needs. But there is a limited land area. Within that situation, providing external facilities many places are to be developed. For that purpose many professional attitudes are occurred such as planer, urban designer, architect, engineer...etc. But architect has to consider the problems behind this entire concept. That is people behave with their place. According to that, architects have to clear out some problems and facilitate the human needs with their houses, supplying commonly other public needs. So, then people began to live with the architect-designed buildings with their facilities.

02) Observation

The user modifies most of the buildings that are designed by the architect. Many of the situation user and architect involvement are there. After analyzing many problems building form is determined by the architect. But the user as new modification and re modification extensively modifies many of these.

03) Causes

There are some causes and possibilities to fulfill the above problem.

3.1) The architect doesn't know the concept of modification, its qualities and the degree of dissatisfaction and that it is understand the profession.

3.2) He knows the concept of modification and the implication. But there are other problems to recover something. So then the main problem is ignored.

3.3) He confuses with the concept of modification whether it is good or bad and they don't find the reason for the concept of modification of form and modification of shape. According to this they can come to the correct position, which situation is good for modification and which is not good?

04) Criticality

This phenomenon is very critical to examine. Because modifications are costly o.k. Sometimes the changes costly more than the critical capital outlay. It indicates a state of continuity dissatisfaction. Because, in some situations architect designed building is not completely affected to the people. That relevance for importance of profession is questioned by the society. Then society refuses the architect. Because public will think whether they (architect) are playing a role at all.

05) Intention of the Study

This study is seen no. 3 .3 as the cause. Therefore it is intended to examine the phenomena of the user modification through the concept of determinism vs. flexibility, where there is not accepted or accepted. This study looks for some Forms and Shapes of the buildings and how it is modified by the user after determined by the architect. And it will

understand that built forms are relatively less modified or not and this form and shape completeness is possess for this relevant environment.

According to that author tries to establish the phenomena of the concept of modification of form and shape. Because, the concept of modification is not a bad experience. Each place is innovated with the people and their needs. On the other hand architect can't determine everything in the building. So getting the balance sensation, architect should try to establish determination of form and people can involve with the shape of the building.

06) Limitations of the Study

Examination of the user modification in architecture is totally a practical and phenomenological situation. That is what we all call personalization. Architecture is capturing the sense of place making. Personalized space becomes easily modified. But when creating a place by architecture, it has particular set and array to determine spaces. When that particular conception, people innerve with modification. Therefore, to clear out the totality of the architecture service and his creativity as well as the keeping some gap to personalize to particular user should be cleared out. Therefore this scenario is vast spectrum. Therefore this study is to be store within some limited space. According to that, it is conceived with quality of the built form If the house and the architect-determined house form. This research has been selected to analyze architect designed housing schemes. Because there are some possibilities to analyze the form and shape conceptions rather than individual house. Because it can be measured under the quantitative method. On the other hand time period is most important to study the modification within the quality. Nearly 20 years old housing schemes are selected to fulfill this limited space. When considering the form and shape modifications, analysis not cater with

income level, number of people, limitless of the land, luxury facilities, rental space or not.

Main thing is to collecting the information not consider the social states of the people and their cultural background. Because it will consider as they utterly gather with this particular environment. Because many modifications are affected by the changing user.

07) Method of Study

The phenomena of user modification in architecture as explained earlier, will be described in details in following chapters. It is beyond all physical and theoretical aspects of "place making". The comprehension of the idea will not utterly examine since keeping some territory and limits such as time, available resources for the research etc. Following the hypothesis is the procedure is to be established a sequence of its application in order to suggest that "user modification in architecture" as a problem". It will not enable to create architect's involvement and meaningful architecture in a specific area such as personal houses.

The method establishing it will be

1. Idea of man-place under the social context. It will introduce the architecture as a social art.
2. From it, derives the architecture is a determination by the architect through the concept of form and shape of architecture. To identify components of architectural determinism and interrelationship which contributes to such a quality.
3. Analysis the personalized houses of the housing schemes and identification of the modification of form shape and its relationship to architectural determinism.

These methods of analyzing will be as follows.

1. It is intended to collect information about the modification of house form and shape of the housing scheme.(this will be done by the questionnaire as follows.)
2. The qualitative nature of modification namely: modification of form modification of shape.
3. The extensive nature of modification of the dissatisfaction.
4. Establish empirically what is bad and what is o.k.

As the methodology suggests a basic hypothesis is very important in understanding this research. To establish the research theoretical ideologies will be used based on the available literature. Those successful ideologies are being subjected to analysis, as place, which are people more, modify and next will be the case in analysis the architects and architectural implications for possible endeavors.

