Chapter Two: Urban edge as positive and responsive urban space in the city
2.1 The spatial dimensions of the positive urban edge

Psychological attributes and physical attributes which are enhance the quality of the space and it can be used to derive the urban edges as positive and strengthening spaces in the city.

2.1.1 Psychological attributes to the urban edge

The urban edges have physically and psychologically attributes which are become an element of the city and they are combined with nodes landmarks, paths and districts to positive city image. Psychological attributes mean the human sensation of the place. Hence at the most fundamental level as a harmonized place, city edges should denote center, enclosure and continuity.

2.1.1.1 Center

This is the reference point of understanding the space, which is the utmost important fact. Man has then, thought of the whole world as centralized. To reach the center it self entails experience, interaction, journeys and goals. "From the very beginning then, the center represents to man what is known in contrast to the unknown to somewhat frightening world around" Schulz,(1971:19).Center while in detail urban situation designations a destination mark for the starting point or the beginning.

It is by being there that man refers himself to other surrounding spaces. There by it essentially carries a sense of attachment with it. It is the reference point of man for harmonic relationship with the tangible of man his existence space and whole space boarding. The ancient Greek placed the navel of the world (Comphalos) in Delhi, while the Roman considered their capital as Capcut Mundi, for Islam the Ka'aba is still the center of the world, that is described as Schulz, (1971:19).Therefore it is a symbolized vertical element or an axis contrasting form other elements of the city. In historical cities this was more prominent and a center of the positive city the urban edges have to be deliberately defined by city geographical location which affects the city image.
2.1.1.2 Enclosure

Enclosure makes an internal part in man's spatial experience, which brings meaning into the space. In this instance the enclosure is rather a quantitative creation which essentially brings out a qualitative spatial experience and it can be a visible entity or rather invisible creation presenting the desired sense of enclosure.

In urban situations building facades, streets and squares are the major man made elements of physical enclosure. They form a great variety of built structure as meaningful spatial entities. According to the urban edges, enclosure is thus a physical needed to well define an edge. Hence the urban edges become a separate element as well as psychological urban space of the city.

2.1.1.3 Continuity

Continuity is the implied of path or direction. When there is the beginning to path, a sense of direction commence and the destination. Continuity is common to all forms of man's spatial experiences. "Perceptual as a scheme any path is characterized by its continuity. Where as the place is determined by the proximity of its defining elements and eventually by enclosure, the path is imagined as a linear succession" Shults, (1991:22). Therefore Continuity is also experienced as having a character of its own.

In certain urban situations continuity has the function of being an organizing axis for elements by which it is accompanied while goal is relatively less important. Hierarchical composition is extremely important in urban situations. Therefore continuity is an essential psychological attribute to achieve the positive urban space.
2.1.1.4 Direction

The urban enclosure has a directional quality. People moving along the edges and moving towards "Urban edge" by making them laterally referable part also play a big role. The rhythm is established by columns, arcades and various other elements. The rhythm makes dynamic to the space.

2.1.2 Physical attributes to the urban edge

Physical attributes which can be physically graspable attributes can be used to create positive urban edges. These are visually graspable and immediately attached by eye. Physical attributes which are important to positive urban edge as unity, order, composition, balance, rhythm, scale, proportion, colour, textures, light and shade. Loose of the physical identification of the space in terms of physical and psychological identity. Loose the physical identity means the detachment of constant contact in visual, aural and psychological experience of the space.

2.1.2.1 Unity

Unity is the concept of perceiving with physical issues but at the deepest level it is directly related to the human mind. "All serious architecture aims at an effect of unity" (1992.2). Hence the unity express the completeness in it self and represents the perfect situation.

City is the collective entity by its elements. Therefore the perfect urban form must express complete unity. Hence the unity is plays a vital role of the city regarding with every other visual qualities of the urban edge.
2.1.2.2 Order

Order is hierarchical relationship in each elements are in correct order. In terms of achieving order there should be deeply established hierarchical relationship with functions, locations and architectural form etc. in an urban man made environment.

The urban edge and linear elements are directed along the line by ordered components. Thus it also affects the form of the city. Therefore for achieving good city, positive edge is an important element.

2.1.2.3 Composition, balance, rhythm

Composition, balance and rhythm are the rich visual qualities of an architectural place. Good composition derives both symmetry and asymmetry. In historical city forms this can be clearly identified as symmetrical composition was given grand expression while asymmetric composition given to the dynamic quality probably used as public places.

Balance is also derived from symmetrical and asymmetrical composition. The symmetrical balance denotes the grand effects of the stable and the asymmetrical balance denotes the dynamic quality of the public spaces.

"Rhythm" the word which is imposed in mind, waves, times tock beat of the clock, dance and music. "Rhythm in architecture is the product of grouping elements; of emphasis interval, accent, and direction. It is the sense of movement achieved by the articulation by the members making up the composition." Moughtin (1992:56). Therefore the grouping of elements produce the rhythm, but in an urban situation grouping can suggest monotonous effects over the rhythm. Therefore composition, balance and rhythm are visual qualities and physical dimension of the city.
2.1.2.4 Scale and proportion

Scale and proportion denote; the length, breadth and height, the fundamental dimensional relationship of the volume of a place. Hence, scale and proportion are closely related to each other strictly in architectural sense that represents the geometric concept.

The size of an object or form is the three dimensional values that determine the proportions of the form. Its scale will relate to other objects and forms in the surrounding context. Also the scale will be determined by the way in which each individual will perceive the solid or void volume.

The forms will relate to each other dimension and identify it among the objects; one in relation to another. Proportion in the basic sense is the relationship to width to height which denotes the most pleasing situation to the eye. But deeper in the concept it rather more complex, and is attached to the strict geometry. Hence the urban edges as public foci with especially refer the human figure, proportion and scale.

2.1.2.5 Light and shadow

Light and shadow effects make the place richness with its quality with shallow of the space, depth of the space and enhanced its spatial quality. This lighting effect can be categorized as direct lighting, indirect lighting and day and night lighting which are effects to the quality of the public space.
2.1.2.6 Colour and texture

Texture is the surface character as well as accent of the form. It helps to unite the form and enhance the quality of the object by emphasizing the edges. Texture is the surface characteristics of a form. This affects tactile and light reflective characteristics of a form surface.

The variation of a texture in a form mostly takes place according to its material. Also the texture of a form can be created by the detail, openings, and other forms of patterns created on the form. Many textures are created by the materials used and detailing that takes place on the street facades. Smooth plain surfaces depict a more intricate texture.

Colour is the strongest visual attributes that clearly distinguishes a form from its environment. Colour can create specific moods and atmospheres in the human percept of space or solid form. Colour can intensify the shape and form of an object or even make it dull.

The size of the object could be perceived usually in many ways according to its colour. The vision is captured by the brightness and light that is created by the colour of the object. "It is quite clear, though those colours generally do have meaning, both in them by contrast with non colours and in terms of increasing the redundancy of other ones. For example, in ancient Peaking most of the city was low and gray; the scared and hierarchically important section was centrally located, larger in scale, more elaborate and higher and the use of colours was restricted to that section." Amos Rapoport, (1982:113). It may be useful to consider colour in more detail, since there is evidence that it is one of the clearest noticeable differences.


2.2 Responsiveness and responsive urban space in the city

A responsive environment is an associated set of place with architectural style, nature and activity of its setting. Therefore associated set of buildings are the ones, which carry certain characteristic to show relationship between them. Making a city a responsive environment has become a complex process, as the city is experienced not in a state manner, but dynamically. By studying the responsiveness of man to his environment, one can actually understand what part of the city environment and relationship of the human habits and how it concentrates in the city.

2.2.1 Introduction to responsiveness

Bentley (1985) used an analytical framework of seven visual and physical attributes for achieving responsiveness in built environment. Thus Bentley defines the responsive places as, “The built environment should provide its users, with an essentially democratic setting, enriching their opportunities by maximizing the degree of choice available to them: we shall call such places responsive.” (Bentley, 1985:9). Hence according to Bentley, responsive places or settings can be identified as places where the users are provided maximum choice available in a place. Thus, it can be said that responsive has essentially social components.

2.2.2 Responsive urban space

This study is focused on affects on urban edges, activity pattern of the people and the intention in creating urban responsive urban spaces. Therefore it is crucial to understand the attributes of responsive environment. “A responsive built environment is where, human values are linked to activities and places in order to create an image that the nature of that environment. Therefore to link, human values to activities and places the designer should, appreciate the important components of the built environment, viz; spatial personal, temporal, psychological, private, public and value components.” This quotation expresses that clearly the qualities of responsive urban environment and identified the urban spaces as a place where the social and spatial attributes are intertwined. Therefore it explains that, no space exists, no place has making happened without conductive activities and social interaction. However the final goal of such a city is the cohesive and harmonic picture that is associated with unity.
2.3 Need of responsiveness

Responsiveness design approach should be start from the idea of relationship between social life and arrangement of the built environment is important. In the past, great cities in history give a spatial pleasure but today in a modern city the urban situation has been chaotic even with a phenomenal increase of urban growth and designers never made a concentrated effort to work out the form implication of their social and political ideas. Therefore designers must make sure that to link human values to activities and places. In other words, this can be identified as the path to achieve responsive urban space in the city.

2.3.1 Need of responsive urban space

Urban space may once more become communal space. Communal space is extended private space, while public space is akin to non space set aside to permit public movement and activities. Therefore the urban space has close relationship of the public realm.

Looking at the historical cities, they reveal the hierarchical order of connective block patterns. Public spaces are clearly identified and have been gives the meaningful identity of the city with the continuous built mass. In this environment clearly identified edges, streets, nodes, land marks and districts which are element of the city.

Considering the modern cities urban form is predominantly horizontal instead of modern vertical buildings, towers, slabs or sky separates which points out as objects and the spaces within them are confused. Therefore in modern cities largely confuse elements of the city and urban public spaces. As Perera, (2001:14) explains, it has become a trend among the present designers that, they consider private realm of built environment as the responsibility of Architects; public private interference; as the responsibility of landscape architects and public realm as the responsibility of urban designers.
But today modern cities, urban planners also attempt to affiliate the responsibility of built environment to their profession while taking urban design to their fold, and assigning only the task of building design to the architects. Therefore the field of urban design has to face the challenge of creating outdoor environment in a collective unifying frame.

This is a pathetic situation and a serious issue for the public environment. As Rapoport, (2002:7) describes designers, architects, urban designers and landscape architects will need to work interdisciplinary teams involving a variety of professions. But designers work individually and they specify to a specific role, has led to create unresponsive buildings and urban space. “To make a design whole, it is absolutely essential that the space created by the building have a positive character. This is difficult to grasp, because in our time urban space has become negative...the left over building are built. However, in all cultures which produce great cities and buildings, space was understood as a positive thing created by the building. Alexander, (1977:65). Therefore need of the responsive urban space is important and makes sure that, link human value to activities and places.

2.3.2 The need of responsive urban edges

The aim in the third chapter would be to study this relationship between man and urban space in order to understand to conserve the idea of urban edges of the city. The idea of how designers can preserve the time experiences of a city by preserving the life filled places along the edges; is very much a part of human existence and life.

Urban edges as lost space caused to implement serious of problems in the urban environment. This abandon and neglected edges that increase the crime and violence rate have become a crucial issue of the city.
Especially the abandoned water edges with ware houses are creating in perfect places for crime and violence. Therefore the need of attention to direct for desired city image in terms of prevents encroachment drug dealers and other criminal activities.

The squatter settlements and haphazard development associates with water edges caused to neglect the importance and value of the edge and also it is subjected to illegal activities. The entire length of water edge is used for dumping; both domestic and industrial refuse, sewerage and garbage also affect to create non-responsive urban space in a city.

In addition to the above aspects these factors are cause environmental and health hazards. Considering these neglected edges they are always accompanied by demoralization physical and social atmosphere which draws human senses away from it.

Within the local context, most of the urban streets are spontaneously developed. Urban building edges at presently use for car parking, parking area of carts belonging to Natamie’s and the edge plat forms of the shops have become only their resting spots. Hence the public not more use of the spare part of the building edges as public spaces.

The encroachment of building edges by private companies to mark their territories has managed them individually on their concern. This can be seen as dominating the building and almost over controlling the public pavement and undermine the pedestrian movement.

Therefore there is a greater need for the designers, and an issue relates to understand the relation to the “Urban space” and the “urban edge” in creating responsive urban space. Hence the knowledge and awareness directed to these subject area of the urban edge is used as the tool to observe and analyze the responsiveness to man.
2.4 Human response to the urban space

As a city is a place designed for man, it should respond to a man. "The casual experience and observation of the urban environment can lead to significant relationship to the individual" Maughtin, (1992:12). In other word, change entire meaning of the city to the human mind. In order to study and understand mans response to the built fabric a simple situation is taken as an example and the means of responsiveness as discussed earlier is applied to it. As a result one could understand how man could taper, change and create a built environment as a responsive place of sensitive architecture.

If the physical and social components are clearly understood it could be said that designers are meant to see this physical and social part of the site, but to go one step forward is to understand how these two elements are interwoven. The relationship or the link which is a mechanism that makes a site work must be understood. Therefore the study will especially try to find out this link or connection. Responsiveness or man will be the measure used to study these aspects. It is obvious that there should be socially responsive places in a city. Therefore this study is focused on socially responsive urban space, based on urban edges. Hence it is crucial to understand the attributes of responsive environment combining with human activities.

2.4.1 Permeability - move and connect

The number of alternative ways through an environment is therefore central to making environment. A desirable characteristic of a place is the ease with which one can move through and get to other locations. Such places are therefore integrated physically or psychologically connected to their surrounding areas. "The extent to which an environment allows people a choice of access through it from place to place is therefore a key measure of its responsiveness." Bentley, (1985:12). This can be identified as, only places which are accessible to places that can offer them choices. This does not mean that, the every where, accessible to everybody; physically or visually which effects greatly for the privacy of both public and private environments.
But as Bentley, (1985:13) says that private and public places cannot be isolate. They are complementary and people need access across the interface between them. Indeed this interplay between public and private gives people another major source of richness and choice. Therefore the private, public spaces and their interface should be implicated by permeability.

**Permeability and public place**

Both physical and visual permeability depend on how the network on public space divides the environment into blocks. Thus the permeability can be identified as an essential quality of an urban public environment for the purpose of this study. It is necessary to identify the permeable qualities associated with edges.

**a. Segregation of users and permeability**

Segregation of users in public spaces, it reduces permeability. For example vehicle users and pedestrians, if they segregate in different routes they don't get equal permeability in an environment. Therefore a high level of permeability for everyone should be made in initially.

**b. Visual and physical permeably**

Permeability can be identified as physical and visual permeability. Physical permeability provides access physically from one part to another but visual permeability is also prominent.

**Visual permeability**

Visual permeability between public and private space can also enrich the public domain. Therefore to maintain the public and private distinction, the most private activities must be kept away from visual contact with public space.

**Physical permeably**

Physical permeability between public and private spaces occurs at entrances to buildings or gardens. This can be enriched with increasing variety of activities around its edges.
c. Physical form and permeability

Most of the private spaces are closed with barriers, their fronts facing to the outwards like streets, parks or squares. But they are close enough to enjoy livability of public. Their back of facades faces the public places. Therefore public and private interface of edges should be made richer for both public and private life.

Maximizing the permeability

High permeability is the basis for any democratic sustainable urban form. Tibbaland, (1992:58) described that permeability for every one, not for a person or particular group of people in the city. "The aim as opportunities for the change around should create a barrier free urban space. One where people can easily see and get any where they want to go and where a person pushing a person or obliged to use crushers or person pushing a wheel chair can go around us easily as every one else." Therefore the permeability is significant both visually and physically.

There are three factors that occur for the decline public of permeability as described by Bentley, (1985:13)

- Increasing scale of development
- Use of hierarchical layouts
- Pedestrian / vehicle segregation

Therefore when designing initially make high level of permeability and secondarily achieve development and segregation. Otherwise it’s not a place for every one and livable area. Thus the permeability depends on a number of routes. But these routes must be visible, visually and physically otherwise people who know the area can take advantage of them but not those who are not familiar.

The most fundamental character in the urban edges as public gathering places most fundamental character is the permeability both visually and physically. In renaissance cities had higher permeability with grid iron pattern based in city structures. That was helpful for people to choices and change. Therefore permeability is important visually and physically and it should be the fundamental need of a public space to be considered in the early stage of design.
2.4.2 Variety - diversity ‘the spice of life’

Variety is locate users on the site and offer a choice of experiences and can be identified as a quality which expresses “The range of users" available to people. “Accessible places are only valuable if they offer experiential choice” Bentley, (1985:27). Thus the variety is identified as a key quality in urban space.

Variety of experience implies places with varied building types of varied forms. It attracts varied people at varied times for varied reasons. Because the different activities forms an people provide a rich perceptual mix, different users in interrupt the places in different ways. It takes on varied meanings, Bentley, (1985). Thus the variety of use is therefore the key to variety as whole.

According to the above argument promoting variety can be identified as increasing the choice. But the choice also depends on mobility, because people who are highly mobile can take the advantage of mobility. But children, poor people, disabled people and women generally cannot afford high mobility.

Introduce variety of experiences.

Variety of experiences implies that varied forms, uses and meanings as explained above. In renaissance cities, building facades provide variety of places that enhance the livability of the city. But in modern cities highly use of glasses, concrete facades or steel facades are added nuisance and monotonous facades to the city. According to Bentley 1985, the variety of uses can support depends on three main factors.

- The range of activities which want to locate there which we shall call demand
- The possibility of supplying affordable space in the scheme to house these activities
- The extend to which the design encourages positive interaction between them

Therefore variety directly depends on visual sensation and also psychological comfort. Thus, to improve the variety of built fabric, colors, textures, solid void compositions, architectural details, variety of materials etc. should be added.
Therefore it is full of these linear, built mass. Otherwise it is unresponsive urban edge not contributing livability of the city. "Multiple uses in a single place also add variety, in terms of activity. Places which can be used for many different purposes, offer their users more choice than places whose design limits them to a single fixed use." Bentley, (1985:56). Therefore the urban edges as a public place should be a memorable element of the city, mixing variety of activities experiences enhance the quality of it and provide responsive urban place to the city.

2.4.3 Legibility- where am I? How do I get there?

Legibility is a successful and legible development of a place that has a clear image and is easy to understand. It is a quality how people can understand what opportunities it offers or in other words; legibility is the quality, which makes a place grasable.

Bentley argues that legibility is important at two levels; that is "physical form" and "activity pattern". The legibility of both form and use is reduced in, modern environments. This is easily seen by comparing the traditional city with its modern concepts. Modern city buildings are worse, because important public buildings and publicly irrelevant private ones often look alike. Premathilaka (1993) has seen the similar problem in Sri Lankan cities as visual chaos. "Our cities and country side are a cacophony of ill-fitting buildings in uneasy relationship with their neighbors. We are unable to agree on the larger parameters of design. As a consequence our temples look like villas, villa look like police stations, and police stations look like temples. As a society we appear in phenomenal disharmony".

According to Bentley places may be read at level separately, (physical form and activity pattern). For example it is possible to develop a clear sense of the physical form of the place, perhaps enjoy it, Only on aesthetic level. Equally pattern of use may be grasped without much concern with form, but to use a place potential to the full, awareness of physical form and patterns of use must complement one another.

This is particularly important to the outsider who needs to grasp the place quickly. Therefore reduce or neglecting the quality of legibility in urban edges as mentioned before in present urban situation.
Enhancing the legibility

According to Lynch, (1992:46), city consist of five types of elements, as nodes, paths, landmarks, edges and districts. In a legible city these five elements support each other and they are separately identified. Therefore urban edges play a major role as a key physical element of the legibility. In renaissance cities these five elements can be easily identified. Public places were clearly identified and nodes and landmarks along the paths provide legible directions to the public space. Therefore the legibility is the must component of the city.

2.4.4 Robustness- change and adapt as required

A desirable quality of a development is to create a place which can be used for many different purposes by different people and can be changed and adapted for different uses. This quality, which offers this choice, can be identified as robustness.

Quality of robustness can be increased in both inside and outside of the buildings and also natural edges like water bodies. For the purpose of this study of the problems associated in present public outdoor spaces seems possible to be solved by increasing outdoor robustness.

In public out door spaces designers tend to create specialized spaces for different activities separated off from one another. But activities in public they rarely need to be separated from one another for reasons of privacy, security, etc.

Indeed in the public space it is the activities themselves that acts as the most important support for other activities. Hence the creation of robust spaces will greatly help for the supportiveness of such activities. Therefore as designers Robustness should always be pushed as far as possible especially in public spaces.

In urban situations the activities in out door places are strongly influenced by what goes on in the buildings around their edges and along the natural edges of the city. Hence the building edges and other urban edge adjacent outdoor places will be mostly affected to the robustness qualities in order to make them more livable for different users; different scales at different times.
Most of the robust outdoor spaces depend on what goes on in the parts of the building immediately next to them. This must be taken into account in order to create robust outdoor spaces. Thus some of the activities within the building may benefit from being able to extend outwards into adjacent outdoor spaces. When this occurs they will contribute to the activity in the public space itself or even other indoor activities may contribute to the level of outdoor activities. Visual contact with them can make the place more interesting for spectators.

Therefore public edges should address to the activities, which benefit from interaction with the public realm and contribute to the life of the public space itself. Hence, ground floor local public spaces and urban edges have a great potential to increase the robustness.

**Improve the robustness**

To increase robustness the edge between buildings and public space must be designed to enable a range of indoor private activities to co-exist in close physical proximity with a range of indoor private activities. This has a variety of design implications depending both of the building activities concerned and on the nature of the activities in the public space. For example active building front can be achieve by verity of activities in together.

**2.4.5 Visual appropriateness**

The decisions already made determine the general appearance of the scheme. Design the external image. This quality affects whether the detailed appearance of the place makes people aware of the choices available. The quality can be as visual appropriateness.

This is important, because it strongly affects the interpretations people put on the place; whether designers want them to or not, people will interpret places as having meanings. Therefore when their meanings support responsiveness the place has a quality we call visual appropriateness. Even though visual appropriateness is important both indoors and outdoors but this quality is mostly important in the more public spaces. So far as public outdoor space is concerned it is particularly relevant to the outside of the buildings which defines the public realm.
As discussed, interpretations people give to a place can reinforce it as responsive by different levels, supporting its legibility, variety, and robustness play a crucial role in reinforcing the responsiveness of a particular place as well as the detail appearance of a building has an important role to play in supporting responsiveness. Hence in order to encourage this responsiveness, it is important to understand how people interpret place.

According to Bentley, people interpret visual cues as having particular meanings because they have learned to do so. But people do not learn in a social vacuum. "A great deal of, both formal; and informal, is shared by groups of people whose members will therefore tend to make similar interpretation of a given place." Bentley, (1985:77)

As well as, members of different social groups may well make different interpretations of the same place. This happens for two main reasons.

- **Difference of environment experience**
- **Difference of objectives from other groups**

Thus the visual appropriateness is a major part in urban revitalization and designers have to be concerned about cues interpreted as supporting legibility, variety, and robustness.

**Unifying the visual appropriateness**

This quality affects whether the detailed appearance of the place make people aware of the choices available. Visual appropriateness places use cues which different groups of users are like to interpret as supporting legibility, variety, and robustness.

Variety contributed by visual appropriateness to the place is based on the principle of unity but not on the multiplicity. Therefore variety is a key element of the visual appropriateness and enhancing it can create responsive urban space. Two ways of legibility effects visual appropriateness

- Legibility of form
- Legibility of use
Therefore enhancing these two ways of legibility improve the responsiveness. For that color, textures, details etc. are to be well articulated to offer the opportunities of interpretation to users. The urban edges as a quality of gathering place should be unified the visual appropriateness along these edges.

2.4.5 Richness

Richness is the quality, which effects people choice of sensory experiences. For most people, sight is the dominant sense. "Most of the information we handle channeled through our eyes. Thus it can be visual richness". Bentley, (1985). Hence for the purpose of this study, it is concerned with visual richness. Not only visual matter, but other senses like sense of motion, sense of smell and sense of hearing also help for the design implications.

According to Bentley, (1985:89) "designers are offer sensory choices." This implies designs so that, people can choose different sense experiences on different occasions. Therefore it is necessary to understand, how users can choose different sense of experiences in fixed environment. Bentley argues there are two ways that the people can chose from different sense of experiences if the environment itself fixed.

- By focusing their attention on different sources of sense experience on different occasions.
- By moving away from one source towards another.

2.4.6 Personalization

Making the design encourage people to put their own mark on the places where they live and work. Personalization in other words can be identified as more physical reaction, because people only develop true participatory relationship with places they like. In robust environment this can be easily identified. In such an environment by encouraging each user to dress the building differently and personalization can make each use of place explicit. Useful literature on personalization is thin on ground, but Bentley has provided a good tone to understand personalization process. There Bentley has identified two clear ways of personalized space.
People mainly personalize places they regularly use for long periods; in practice, homes and work places. Nearly in all buildings sometimes designers may allow, at least a part for the users to obtain their stamp. But according to Bentley, personalization may overwhelm too fragile a pattern altogether.

2.5 Concluding Remarks

The urban edge possesses strong unique characters for harmonize relationship with city inhabitants as a public gathering foci as well as the perception of positive city image. Hence the positive urban edge is plays a vital role of the city image. Therefore the positive transformation though the realizing of such edges are extremely important in order to archive a responsive urban space in the city.

“Responsiveness” will be taken in to consideration as they are group of principles that directly relates to the way in people experience and perceive urban spaces. In this frame work, the responsive environment is the ultimate creation of man. Therefore these principles applied to urban edge in order to case studies.

Hence it is important to derive the methods and strategies which are applicable to Sri Lankan situations. Examination of theories and its applications are combined together which is need to make most suitable guide lines to Sri Lankan situations. For that few selected examples of urban edges in the city of Colombo are examined in order to find out the ways by which the discussed strategies are used to create a positive and responsive environment, a physically and qualitatively unified whole. Hence the case studies will be selected to cater to the broader picture or variety of urban edges, man made, geographical and transitional.

Therefore this second chapter can be considered as a key chapter which really trying to understand the principles, which links the people in to the urban space with positively and responsively. In broader manner; this will then elaborate in the Third chapter (example studies) in practical means considering their applicability in local conditions with merits and demerits.