

Original

LB/DOA / 104 / 06

376

CONSERVATION AND THE  
STRATEGIC INTERGRATION WITH THE  
DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE URBAN  
SPACE .

A CASE STUDY OF COLOMBO.



Electronic Theses & Dissertations  
www.lib.mrt.lk LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA, SRI LANKA  
MORATUWA

69 "05"  
-----  
711.4(043)

MUDITHA SENEVITATNE .

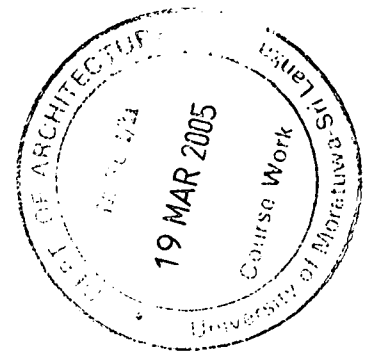
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE,  
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE  
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA .

M Sc2 2004/5

85504



University of Moratuwa



1

85504

85504

## **DECLARATION**

I declare that, the content of this dissertation is not a product done by any body, otherwise who hadn't being acknowledged. This product was not submitted to any other university or an institute prior to this occasion.



Signed by : S.R.M.P. Senevirathne

***UOM Verified Signature*** . . . -

Supervisor : Prof. Samitha Manawadu

## ABSTRACT

---

City of Colombo as a post Colonial – living Port City, is at present facing the Contradiction of the Conservation of the Historic Urban Fabric- which provides the opportunities ,Knowledge for the well being of the Humanity, yet, contradicts with the Trends and Impacts of the Current Development Inclinations, which the Market Behaves as a Protagonist , in the Context .

The Resulting formation of the City . Which , make a prompt for the contradiction in between the Conservation and the above development trends on the context ,thus in a need to be Integrated, to Sustain the Survival . and make manipulate Each other .

While Looking for a mode of Integration , a deep study is to be done ,with the transformation of the City of Colombo which caused the present face of Colombo .Thus, can be organized within several Periods of time Segments, in accordance with their similarity of the generators of Evolution .

Discussing in the Chapter one- the Pre-Colonial Colombo, Colombo under The Portuguese, Colombo under the Dutch and British is done to an in depth study

In the Second Chapter the need of conserving the evidences of the specific elements or the components of the periods will be Discussed.

Chapter three intends to Examine the contribution of the Colonial Structures to the City Fabric , prior to understand a Summery for a Strategic integration in the Fourth chapter of the Economically pressurized Historic Landscape of the City of Colombo.

The Historic Urban Fabric encoring with a vision and a planned basis which has given the City of Colombo its Original face -containing with the Appropriate Human Scale Structures, yet in a need to be Properly integrated to the Prevalent Socio-Economical needs of the Context . These , gadually has being replacing by Unplanned built achievements ,Pressurized by the higher economic-land value of the prevalent Colombo.

The needs of the capitalism of the context should be balanced and well integrated with the social development of the place .

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

---

I should place my Gratitude to Prof. Nimal De Silva ,Architect Vidura Sri Nammuni for the Guidance and Knowledge I have gained Throughout .

am deeply indebted to Dr. Samitha Manawadu, Dr R M K U Rajapakshe, Dr. Indrika Rajapakshe Mr. K S R Perera Head of the Department, PLanning, ,the Department of Economics,Mr Godwin Kodithuwakku NIE Mr Samarasingha Gunaesara- Instructor NIE, Dr. Harsha Munasinghe , Architect prasna Kulathilaka, Architect Jayanath De Silva, Architect Damith Silva, and Miss. Ayeshani De Silva, For the inspiring Guidance given to me Throughout, for I have benefited a great deal from their valuable advice and encouragement in completion of this work.

I must thank for Mr. Kalugampitiya , NITSL Staff and friends for the encouragement given to me in this study.

I must thank Mrs. P N Leelaratne and Ms. Chandima Ranatunge for assistance.

My sincere thanks are due to Kalyani, Kalum , and others for their valuable help ideas criticism they have given to me in various ways.

I must thank all those help in many ways to undertake this work and set to its completion.

Last but not least I would like to convey my thanks to loving Amma & Thatthha for the immeasurable help given to me on many occasions and in many respects throughout the completion of this Dissertation.

Finally , I should bow to those Silent Creators of those speaking places , which makes us find modes to integrate them to the Present, Future,.... For the rest. In Places .

## LIST OF CONTENTS

PAGE NO

ABSTRACT .	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .	
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS .	
INTRODUCTION .	
Significance of the Study .	
Need of the Study	
Definitions	
Urban Space	
Definition : Movement Space	
Urban conservation	
Definition.	
Development	
Definition : Earlier Version	
Definition : Later Version	
Integration	
Definition	



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka  
Electronic Theses & Dissertations  
[www.lib.mrt.ac.lk](http://www.lib.mrt.ac.lk)

### CHAPTER ONE : THE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY OF COLOMBO .

- 1-1 Emergence of the South Asian Port City
  - 2-1.1 Early history of Colombo
  - 2-1.2 South Asian Port City .
  - 2-1.3 The Development of the City of Colombo as a Port City .
  
- 2-1 The Portuguese Period of Colombo .
  - 2-1.1 The Historical Background .
  - 2-1.2 The City of Colombo and its Evolution
    - 2-1.2.1 Fort area and Evolution.

**2-1.2.2 The main elements of City formation**

**2-1.2.2.1 Street Formation**

**2-2 The Dutch Period of Colombo .**

**2-2.1 The Historical Background .**

**2-2.2 The City of Colombo and its Evolution .**

**2-2.2.1 Fort area and Evolution.**

**2-2.2.2 The main elements of City formation**

**2-2.2.2.1 Street Formation**

**2-3 The British Period of Colombo .**

**2-3.1 The Historical Background .**

**2-3.2 The City of Colombo and its Evolution .**

**2-3.2.1 Fort area and Evolution**

**2-3.2.2 The main elements of City formation**

**2-3.2.2.1 Street Formation**



**2-4 The Post Colonial Colombo .**

**2-4.3 The Background of the City Formation ..**

**2-4-3.1 The City of Colombo and its Evolution .**

**2-4-3.2 Potentials and Problem related with  
Colombo As a Post Colonial City**

**2-4-3.3 Fort Area and its Evolution.**

**2-4-3.3.1 Street Formation**

**2-4-3.3.2 Building Types**

## CHAPTER TWO : CONSERVATION STRATEGIES OF THE POST COLONIAL SRI LANKA

### 2.0 conservation aspect

#### 2-1 Definition

2.1.1 Philosophy of Conserving historic Buildings

2.1.2 The reasons for conserving historic buildings

#### 2.2 The principals of the Architectural Conservation .

2.2.1 Conservation and the social and Cultural Dimension

2.2.2 Study Aspects of the Conservation

## CHAPTER THREE: Transformation of the City of Colombo .

### CASE STUDY

:Mudalige Mawatha



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

### 3-1 Changing Pattern of the Mudalige Mawatha .

3-1-1 Original Formation of Mudalige Mawatha .

3-1-2 Evolution

### 3-2 Post-Colonial Mudalige Mawatha and the Architectural Contribution of the Historic Fabric to the existing Context of Mudalige Mawatha .

3.2.1.1 Physical Quality of the Mudalige Mawatha .

3.2.1.1.1 3D Study of the Mudalige Mawatha .

3.2.1.2 Mudalige Mawatha as a Movement Space .

3.2.1.2.1 location

3.2.1.2.2 Definitions of Beginning and the end

3.2.1.2.3 Directional Quality

3.2.1.2.3.1 Segmentation

3.2.1.2.3.2 Sense of Movement.

3.2.2 Functional Character of the Street

3.2.2.1 Land Use Pattern of the Mudalige Mawatha

3.2.2.2 Functions of the Existing Buildings .

3.1 Summary

CASE STUDY : York Street

3-1 Changing Pattern of the York Street.

3-1-3 Original Formation of  
York Street

3-1-4 Evolution



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.  
Electronic Theses & Dissertations  
[www.lis.mrt.ac.lk](http://www.lis.mrt.ac.lk)

3-2 Post-Colonial York Street and the Architectural Contribution of the Historic  
Fabric to the existing Context of York Street

3-2-1 Physical Quality of the York Street

3.2.2.2.1 York Street as a Movement Space

3.2.2.2.1.1 Location

3.2.2.2.1.2 Definitions of Beginning and the end

3.2.2.2.2 Directional Quality

3.2.3 Functional Character of the Street

3.2.3.1 Functions of the Existing Buildings .

3.2 Summary



CHAPTER THREE: Transformation of the City of Colombo

CASE STUDY : Upper Chatham Street

- 3-1 Changing Pattern of the Upper Chatham Street
- 3-2 Original Formation Upper Chatham Street.
  - 3-2.1 Evolution
- 3-3 Post-Colonial Upper Chatham Street and the Architectural Contribution of the Historic Fabric to the existing Context of Mudalige Mawatha .
- 3-4 Physical Quality of the Upper Chatham Street
  - 3-4.1 Upper Chatham Street as a Movement Space
    - 3-4.1.1 . Location
    - 3-4.1.2 Definitions of Beginning and the end
      - 3-4.1.2.1 Directional Quality
        - 3-4.1.2.1.1 Segmentation
        - 3-4.1.2.1.1.1 Sense of Movement.
  - 3.2.4 Functional Character of the Street
    - 3.2.4.1 Land Use Pattern of the Mudalige Mawatha
    - 3.2.4.2 Functions of the Existing Buildings .
- 3.3 Summary
  - 3.3.1 Degree of Integration with the Prevalent Context.

## CASE STUDY : Hospital Street

### 3-1 Changing Pattern

#### 3-1.1 Original Formation

#### 3-1.2 Evolution

### 3-2 Post-Colonial Hospital Street and the Architectural Contribution of the Historic Fabric to the existing Context.

#### 3.2.4.3 Physical Quality

##### Hospital Street as a Movement Space .

##### 3.2.4.3.1.1 location

##### 3.2.4.3.1.2 Definitions of Beginning and the end .

##### 3.2.4.3.1.3 Directional Quality

#### 3.2.5 Functional Character of the Street

##### 3.2.5.1 Land Use Pattern

##### 3.2.5.2 Functions of the Existing Buildings .

### 3.4 Summary

#### 3.4.1 Degree of Integration with the Prevalent Context.



University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.  
Electronic Theses & Dissertations

## CHAPTER FOUR Evolving A strategy of integrating the Conservation Aspect Of The Colombo fort with the Current Development Trends and Potentials

### 4.0 Evolving A strategy of integrating the on Conservation Aspect Of The Colombo fort with the Current Development Trends and Potentials.

#### 4.1 Introduction

#### 4.2 Aim Of Study .

#### 4.3 Methodology.

##### 4--3-1 Developing a Methodology.

##### 4-3-1-1 Analysis

##### 4-3-1-1-1 Identifying Key Areas Scoop Area .

##### 4-3-1-1-2 identifying Key Elements .

a- Functional Evolution .

b- Maintaining The character of the City .

4-3-1-1-3 Conclusion for potential areas in the Selected Zone .

4-4 Method of Implementation .

4-4-1 Fort are as an Interplay of the Development potentials and conservation Aspects of the Urban space.

4-4-2 Problems related to the Urbanization of the City.

4-4-3 The Contradiction of the Conservation and the Development Trends.

4-4-4 Urban Conservation Vs Development.

4-4-4-1 Conservation Aspects of the Space on the Cultural Knowledge Emblems.

A Cognitive Schemata of the Environment and the Identification of the space .

B The sign Value of the Built Form .

4-4-5 The comodification of the Urban Space with its Capitalism ,and the Sign Value of the space .

4-5 Mode of Implementation .

4-5-1 Problems .

4-5-1-1 Problems related to Urbanization .

4-5-1-2 Problems Related to Land Use conflict .

a- Problems related to Mixed Use / High Security Zone .

b- Current Mode of Integration of the two Zones .

4-5-2 Potentials.



4-5-2-1 The Neglected / Disconnected Cultural Zones .

4-5-2-2 The Top Tourist hotels at Vicinity .

4-5-2-3 Large Public Attractive Zone at Galle Face.

4-5-2-4 Top commercial bank Area .

4-5-3 Proposals.

4-5-3-1 Identify the Potential Of Cultural Tourism .

4-5-3-1.1 Potential Area .

4-5-3-2 Section And the Analysis of the Area .

4-5-3-2.1 .Method of Integration .

4-5-3-2.2 Identification

4-5-3-2.3 Stake Holder.

4-5-3-2.4 Mode of Implementation .

4-5-3-3 Integrate the Potential cultural zone with the Public Zone of the Area . Zone Identify the Potential Of Cultural Tourism . Both to Local / International Tourists .

4-5-3-3.1 Potential Area .

4-5-3-4 Section And the Analysis of the Area .

4-5-3-4.1 .Method of Integration .

4-5-3-4.2 Identification

4-5-3-4.3 Stake Holder.


4-5-3-4.4 Mode of Implementation

## *List of Illustrations .*

---

1. Chinese compass
2. Ptolomy's map
3. Chinese map of the ancient world
4. Arab peninsula
5. The ancient silk and spice route
6. Ptolomy's face in a cultural
7. Ornamental necklace found in England made by ancient Asian's precious stone
8. European compass
9. European trading natives in cultural zone
10. Early sailing ship of Portuguese
11. Gordon gardens boulder with Portuguese Coat-of-arms
12. the coat-of-arm
13. Portuguese planning of city of Colombo Electronic Theses & Dissertations
14. map of Colombo and the first Portuguese fort
15. the Portuguese bastion of Colombo
16. Dutch port arrangement of Colombo Sri lanka
17. delft gate stand and the elevation
18. galbokke gate
19. water gate
20. sally Fort and butterfly bridge
21. eastern Gate
22. northern eastern corner of the rampart
23. the Dutch plan of the city of Colombo
24. Dutch governor's residence
25. sunk gardens of the governors Residence
26. stone slab in the entrance door of the swartz door

27. the today's location of the door in script
28. captain slusken's house in the present day cargils site as a first location  
at the present days Cargils city
29. Dutch hospital of the Dutch period a real drawing
30. Dutch hospital plan ground floor and upper floor
31. Dutch hospital section and elevations
32. Dutch hospital perspective view from the northern side
33. old Dutch street in British Colombo
34. decorative gables on houses
35. bell tower at the kayman gate
36. country residence of the Dutch governor at grandpas
  
37. plan of the Colombo 18089 national archives
38. view of the kings street 1848
39. view of the Chatham street from the queen Street clock tower location
40. clock tower seen end vista of the Chatham street from the York street end
41. York street with British hotel
42. York street beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century
43. queen street from the Galle face
44. queen street from gordon gardens—G.P.O building at vicinity
45. Colombo harbor late 19 century
46. Colombo harbor early 20<sup>th</sup> century
47. Walls of Colombo
48. Military barrack from the galle Face
49. Dutch canal of the fort
50. Queen house
51. British governors residence
52. Map of the British Colombo 1901

53. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century fort
54. Harbor with the custom complex
55. Clock tower 19<sup>th</sup> century
56. Grand oriental hotel British period
57. Stone inscription of the hotel lobby
58. General post office early 20<sup>th</sup> century
59. General post office 1992
60. Cargils buildings 1990
61. Public work department
62. Old town hall petttah
63. Law court building hulsdorp
64. Bristol hotel British period Colombo
65. Bristol hotel Colombo
66. Colombo 1865
67. Colombo 1905
68. Colombo Harbor And the Stem Shipping Indian Ocean  

University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka  
www.lib.mrt.ac.lk
69. Governors Office
70. Queen;\s Victoria Statue at the Gordon Garden
71. Race Course Main Street Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century
72. Grandspass Early 20th Century .
73. petttah In the late 19th Century
74. Petttah 1990.