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An Examination of the concept of a "Layered City" and with special reference to the phenomenon of a "Chalk Layer"

A Dissertation presented to the
University of Moratuwa

For the



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Wedumpiliarachchi H.H.
Faculty of Architecture
University of Moratuwa

Sri Lanka.

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University of Moratuwa



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Declaration

I declare that this dissertation represents my own work, except where due acknowledgement is made, and that it has not been previously included in a thesis, dissertation or report submitted to this university or to any other institution for a degree, diploma or other qualification.

Signed.....
Student's signature... *UOM Verified Signature*

(Name of the student: Wedumpiliarachchi H.H.)



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Eng Landscape Archt.
Susira Udamanatthe.
(Internal Tutor)

This is to certify that this Dissertation has been supervised by me for 3 months, from end Sept. 2006 to end December 2006] of its development .

The work basically involved understanding the Topic , evolving the strategy for research and writing .

I understand that the Dissertation Programme had been introduced earlier but did not have any responsibility at the early stages of the Programme.



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Vidura Sri Nammuni

Architect

University of Moratuwa

Malignant alien excrescences erupt
From the diseased soil
Having spread insidiously
From the cancerous metropolis
Along subterranean runners,
To where idyllic existence
Once flourished:
 Steel concrete towers of Babel
 Vying with the powers that be.....
 Grim ogres
 Devouring the twilight
With jagged silhouettes
They gash the passive skyline.
And carve out chunks
Of inspiring daylight.

The contaminated atmosphere of subtopia
Comescreeping in-
Engulfing us, already languishing

In suburbia-
On all sides;
Laden, with the dehumanising spores
Of chilling indifference.
And infects the populace.

 Congealed congeniality.
 Renders soulless
 The milling masses,
 Scurrying willy-nilly
 In cybernetic glee.

Primal terrain
Which through the epochal flux
Remained pristine,
Recoils. Premutates,
In shifting



Supermatist patterns.

In shifting

Suprematist patterns.

Transmogrifies the ambience:

A regularized frenzy

Of pullulating cursors:

Life.

Is state of the art.

Utopia

We have arrived.

Ravin Guneratne



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Preface

Architecture as an Art and it as a means of communicating the truth about itself and its context. The more subtle this communicating is, the more successful will that piece of Architecture be. The more complex the system of truths communicated, the more successful the piece of Architecture becomes.

Often the building itself, its brief determines the truth it should communicate and the hierarchy these truths should adopt. Historically, these truths are seen to include the truth about the people that “use” it; the activity pattern that goes on within it; the context it is in; and often a higher purpose it may have to perform.

Achieve of Complexity, invariably becomes quite essential in urban Architecture since genuine responses to constraints offered by the context reinforce continuity of building fabrics and contribute it maintain the character of towns. At the same time built forms bearing complexity invariably add meaningful variety to cities where it is most needed, dispelling chaos and monotony.



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Insensitive way of designing of and within cities has not only thrown the evolutionary process of city development askew, but has also created a regrettable sameness among them, thus, stressing the importance of the identification of the correlation between the character of a city and the relative influence of the determinant factors in creating harmonious and satisfying city environment.

Cities telling the story of its past and future. This greatest creation of man, each city has its own character, harmony and rhythms, which result in its unique identity. Once a cityscape is appropriately designed, it becomes a delightful place to live in.

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