

ANALITICAL STUDY OF ARCHITECTURE AS A TOOL OF  
CREATES THE LANDMARKS IN SPECIAL REFERANCES AT  
GALLE ROAD

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A Dissertation presented to the  
Faculty of Architecture  
University of Moratuwa



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As a partial fulfillment of the  
M.sc (Architecture) Final Examination

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JANUARY 2007

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## DECLARATION

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

  
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## ACKNOWLEDMENT

My deepest gratitude goes to the following whose most generous contribution is innumerable ways facilitated the realization of this study;

Dr. Harsha Munasingha,

My dissertation coordinator; for directing many aspects comments and guiding in this respect

Dr. Jagath Munasingha,

My dissertation supervisor; for kind advice, guidance, supervising, patience and precious time expended in this respect,

And to the entire academic staff,

Of the Faculty of Architecture, for the valuable knowledge which they offered during the six year course of study,



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Specially to,

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Arch. Nalaka Krishantha and Arch. Nilakshi Dharmawardene, and Mr.

Wickramasingha, Who are gives the important guidance, in friendly, and my parent sister and brother, my friends Heashan, Anura, and classmates,


And special thanks to my friend who is near me and put on view some thing what I could not see, Chamika.

**ANALITICAL STUDY OF THE ARCHITECTURE AS A TOOL OF  
CEATER LANDMARKS WITH SPACIAL REFERENCE AT GALLE  
ROAD, COLOMBO**

CONTENTS	PAGE NO
<b>DECLARATON</b>	i
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	ii
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	iii
<b>LIST OF PLATES</b>	vi
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	ix
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
Topic explanation	x
The study	x
Need of the study	xi
Intention of the study	xi
Objective of the study	xii
Limitation	xii
Method of the study	xii

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**CHAPTER ONE URBAN CONTEXT AS A HARNONY OF NATURAL  
ENVIRONMENT AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

1.1	Introduction	1
	1.1.2 What is the landmark?	1
	1.1.3 Why landmarks important to Sri Lanka?	1
	1.1.4 How to see the landmark, Architects and General public	2
	1.1.5 The problem	2
1.2	The components in environmental image.	3
	1.2.1 Identity	3
	1.2.2 Structure	4
	1.2.3 Meaning	4
	1.2.4 Meaning associate with the physical environment	4
1.3	Conceptualization of 'person'	7
1.4	Conceptualization of 'place'	8
1.5	Imageable structure of a Place and Landmark.	8
1.6	How imageable structure determined.	9
1.7	Cognition of basic element in built environment	10

1.7.1	District	10
1.7.2	Edges	11
1.7.3	Landmark	11
1.7.4	Nodes	11
1.7.5	Streets	12
1.8	Application of qualities of urban streets as spatial continuum.	12
1.8.1	Permeability	13
1.8.2	Variety	15
1.8.3	Legibility	15
1.8.4	Robustness	17
1.8.5	Visual Appropriateness	19
1.8.6	Richness	20
1.8.7	Personalization	21
1.9	Distinctiveness of form	25
1.10	Visibility	26
1.11	Use and Significance	27
1.12	What is the suitable method to Sri Lanka?	29
 <span style="color: blue; font-size: small;">University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Electronic Theses &amp; Dissertations www.lib.mrt.ac.lk</span>		
<b>CHAPTER TWO – DESIGN THE RESEARCH</b>		
2.1	Introduction	31
2.2	Place for the research	31
2.3	sample for the research	33
2.4	Category of the participant	33
2.5	Techniques for the research	34
2.6	Research analysis	35
 <b>CHAPTE THREE – ANALYTICAL STUDY OF THE CASESTUDIES</b>		
3.1	Introduction	37
3.2	Deferent of research in this dissertation and Appleyard research	37
3.3	Analytical study of the case studies	40
3.4	Distinctiveness of form	40
3.5	Visibility	46

3.6 uses in significance	51
<b>CHAPTER FOUR – CONCLUSION</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>APPENDIX I</b>	<b>iii</b>



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**LIST OF PLATES****PAGE NO**

Fig.1	The urban space is a compound of the different urban elements	11
Fig.2	Visual permeability	13
Fig.3	Physical permeability	14
Fig.4	Continuity of a space determines physical and visual permeability	14
Fig.5	Variety along street	15
Fig.6	Lack of legibility leads to confusion	16
Fig.7	Legibility contributes to order (detailing, colures, texture)	16
Fig.8	Lack of legibility, street only becomes a continuity path	17
Fig.9	Robutness create a space variety of richness, which gives continuity	18
Fig.10	Visual appropriateness quality that facilitates Social continuation of the street	19
Fig.11	Sense variation of the urban street	20
Fig.12	A stump of ones own takes and values	22
Fig.13	Map of the Galle road.	32
Fig.14	Abstract form of liner development.	34
Fig.15	Abstract form of landmark in liner development	34
Fig.16	Guiyana region of Venezuela	37
Fig.17	Man made site conditions of Ciudad Guayana in 1963	38
Fig.18	Abstract form of the Galle road	38
Fig.19	Map of the research area in	39
Fig.20	Map of the selected buildings in Galle road with it's context	39
Fig.21	Entrance of the Majestic City to Galle road	40
Fig.22	Entrance of the Unity plaza to Galle road	41

## LIST OF PLATES

## PAGE NO

Fig.23	(1. 11): interior of Majestic City	41
Fig.24	Buildings contrast with their backgrounds	42
Fig.25	Wellawaththa market area surround with urban context	42
Fig.26	M.G.M. club in Bambalapitiya	43
Fig.27	Location plan of the Unity Plaza, Majestic City, and M.G.M. club	43
Fig.28	Meewella building to Galle road	44
Fig.29	Meewella building with it's surrounding context in Galle road	44
Fig.30	Kadirasan Kowil with it's surrounding context in Galle road	45
Fig.31	How buildings are contras with their context	46
Fig.32	Majestic City and Unity Plaza with it's surrounding context in Galle road	47
Fig.33	I.O.V. filling in Bambalapitiya, view from Galle road	48
Fig.34	National saving Bank in Kollupitiya, view from Galle road	48
Fig.35	Hatton National Bank in Kollupitiya, view from Galle road	48
Fig.36	Commercial Bank in Kollupitiya, view from Galle road	49
Fig.37	Savoy cinema in Wellawaththa, view from Galle road	49
Fig.38	Savoy cinema and it's surrounding context	49
Fig.39	Savoy Cinema and its surrounding context	50
Fig.40	Savoy Cinema is facing to Galle road, other sub road	50
Fig.41	National Saving Bank in Kollupitiya	51
Fig.42	National Saving Bank in Kollupitiya with it's surrounding context	51



## LIST OF PLATES

## PAGE NO

Fig.43	Sumathi court in Bambalapitiya, view from Galle road	52
Fig.44	Romafour building in Bambalapitiya, view from Galle road	52
Fig.45	Wellawaththa market area with its surrounding context	53



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## A B T R A C T

Architecture is problem solving process. Hence, how architecture bound with people mind? I think it is a responsibility of the architect as well as people. Because, architect creates physical object with his talent and people feel it and make the mental images psychologically, in their mine. But, important thing is create the place which are more simple and support to create positive mental images.



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## INTRODUCTION

### TOPIC EXPLANATION

“People have mental conception of the geographic space in which they live and their conception could be re-produced in form of mapped schemata. Such conception delineated their neighborhood territory”. (Lee, 1973)

“The common mental picture carried by large number inhabitant”. (Lynch, 1960)

Any person who are living in world he has a mental image about his surround. Likewise the society is also acts as one of the factor to create images in human mind. Person to person these images are variable. Here will be considering how the physical attributes are (significance character) affect to create the mental images in mind of people. Because of, architecture is using as a tool to creation of landmarks and emphasize the quality of the cities from history.



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Therefore, this is the analytical study of the way of creation of image in the selected urban context in Sri Lanka. In today people built the large buildings can be identify as landmarks. The question is “is it landmark?” According to above statement “The common mental picture carried by large number of inhabitant” (Lynch 1960). It can be landmark according to total mental images of inhabitant.

### THE STUDY

This study observe, what are the common mental images and what are the best remember buildings or places in selected area. Method is selecting the building is survey. According to the result of the survey fined the best remember buildings and places, and study their principle attributes and special physical character.

## NEED FOR THE STUDY

As a human we are living in intermediate point between two streams. Those are the natural environment and the physical environment. With urbanization these two are harmonizing. In high urban context, can be seen physical structures are more than natural elements. In other word, natural elements are use as design features in urban context. In this study mainly focused on how these physical structure effects to create the mental images in inhabitant mind.

The designers design buildings according to investors brief and their needs. Today it can be see as a competition in urban context. Architecture act as one of the tool to create the images in peoples mined. But, however final decision will be taken by inhabitant, is it landmark or not, through their mental images. People images can be change according to their social, educational, economical backgrounds. Addition to that age level, travailing mode and sex are effect. Other major reason is importance of the building and its function.

The need for the study is "what are the significance character to create images" and "is it affected to create the images in inhabitant mind?"

## INTENTION OF THE STUDY

The intension of this dissertation is to examine the selected buildings and observe their principle attributes to become the land mark. Because the building structure and their physical characters can be change according to, purpose of the building, function, users and location. To express these ideas designer uses form, size, shape, surface, and co lour. But it must be consider how far inhabitant familiar with it. So, the case studies are selected by survey. (Best remember building and place in high urban context). So finally study physical character and principle attributes of the selected buildings or places to create **mark** in familiars mind.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- Consideration the basic theories what are effecting understand mental condition and urban context.
- Principle attributes of the building what are affect to create images in human mind.
- Identify the building or places in selected area. (Survey).
- Critically examine the qualities responsible for create “mental image”, and exam the potential of accommodating such qualities with the selected buildings and places.
- Study the relationship between the building’s physical character and people activities in order to understand how principle attributes area effect to create the mental image.

## LIMITATION

 Intention of the study is to look at landmark and their value and characteristic for imageability. [www.lib.mrt.ac.lk](http://www.lib.mrt.ac.lk)

The study area will be limited for selection landmarks in Galle road (Kollupitiya to Wellawaththa). Urban context and understanding them through the qualitative analysis of them, according to the form of analysis derived after the review of literature and collective information.

## METHOD OF THE STUDY

The study starts with an examination of existing notions of landmarks and analyzing them to derive a form of analysis to various situations. A place is being examined for the imageability in relation to the structuring of elements (morphology) and the meaning. The study with a critical review of existing theories and move on to study of selected examples and the apply the identified theories to that situation. The study is based on a survey, which is directed towards knowing the ideas, opinions of people of the area. In this

regard questionnaire was used. The aim of the survey was to select the best remember buildings or places in Galle road. Then those buildings are become the case study for examine. Finally, study the principle attributes of the selected buildings and matching with guide line what are discussed in chapter one.



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