



**PERSONAL SPACES WITHIN THE URBAN PUBLIC
AREAS A BASIS FOR THE FORMATION OF
EFFECTIVE URBAN PUBLIC
GATHERING SPACES**

A DISSERTATION PRESENTED TO
THE UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA
FOR THE FINAL EXAMINATION IN M.SC. (ARCHITECTURE)

KEKULANDARA K.M.M.I.D.
M.SC. TWO
DEPT. OF ARCHITECTURE
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA
SRI LANKA.

2006

89496



Abstract

Architecture can define as the Art of space. It suggests human capacity to use their intellect and natural instinct to organize spaces around him for better way of life.

Public open spaces are very important things in urban context.

".....Designers of urban space must be cognizant of importance of human sense as they apply to the function of square. "

Grove & Cresswell (1983), P. 81

Personal spaces within the public spaces are very important factor to create effective urban spaces. Ability to facilitate personalization within urban space is very challenging for urban designers.

This study is mainly focuses on the important of *"personal spaces"* within the urban public gathering spaces as a major factor of creating effective urban gathering space, with special reference to selected existing gathering spaces in urban areas,

- Parliament Esplanade, Kotte
- Beach Park, Negombo
- Independent Square, Colombo 07

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 submitted to this University or to any other institution for a degree, diploma or other qualification.

UOM Verified Signature

Kekulandara K.M.M.I.D.



A Dissertation Presented to the Department of Architecture,
University of Moratuwa,
Sri Lanka,

For the Final Examination in M.Sc. (Architecture) and
RIBA Part II Examination.

UOM Verified Signature

Dr. Jagath Munasingha

(Principle Supervisor)

Department of Town & Country Planning,

Faculty of Architecture,

University of Moratuwa,

Sri Lanka.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

It is a pleasant duty to thank those who have helped me in various ways in the preparation of this dissertation.

First of all I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Jagath Munasigha (Department of Town & Country Planning, University of Moratuwa) - principle supervisor, who has been a constant source of inspiration, offering me valuable guidance with constructive comments. Also, I wish to express my gratitude to him for devoting his precious time, reading the draft and offering me many useful suggestions.

With gratitude I wish to thank Dr. Harsha Munasingha and Dr. Manawadu (Head of the Department, Faculty of Architecture, and University of Moratuwa) for the guidance and valuable comments at the initial stages.

I am also grateful to Eng. Susira Udalawatta (Department of Landscaping, Faculty of Architecture), - assistant supervisor, who's important comments shaped the approach to the study.

Very specially, I wish to thank my Father, Mother and Brother for all the assistance, encouragement and guidance offered to me in the preparation of this study.

LIST OF FIGURES

- FIG. 01 - Personal Space as an Invisible Bubble
- FIG. 02 - Individuals and Groups within their Personal Space Bubble
- FIG. 03 - Individuals Forming Person Space Bubbles.
- FIG. 04 - Individuals Forming Their Personal Spaces
- FIG. 05 - Varied of Groups Forming Their Personal Spaces
- FIG. 06 - Different Activities of Groups Forming their Personal Spaces in Public Places
- FIG. 07 - Create Psychological Barriers against Intrusions
- FIG. 08 - Diagram of Maslow's hierarchy of needs
- FIG. 09 - Diagram of ERG theory
- FIG. 10 - Privacy is the Interest that Individual
- FIG. 11 - How to Turn a Place Around
- FIG. 12 - Individuals and Groups within their person space bubble
- FIG. 13 - Violation of Personal Space Bubble
- FIG. 14 - Distant Seat Patterns
- FIG. 15 - Personal Space "Bubble"
- FIG. 16 - Bubble Being Violated and Harsh Punishments May Ensue.
- FIG. 17 - Space between Persons is filled with Meaning
- FIG. 18 - Personal space
- FIG. 19 - Reaction on violation of own space
- FIG. 20 - Creating Personal Spaces within the Public Gathering Space,
- FIG. 21 - Central Place -A Place of Social Interaction
- FIG. 22 - Creating Sense of Enclosure
- FIG. 23 - Element of Enclosure
- FIG. 24 - St.Mary's Square, York
- FIG. 25 - Sense of Enclosure of public Gathering Space,
- FIG. 26 - Continuity through visual path, Viharamahadewi Park
- FIG. 27 - Diagram of Nucleated Type Space

- FIG. 28 - Millennium Park -Downtown Chicago
- FIG. 29 - Diagram of Directed Type Space
- FIG. 30 - Jinji Lake Waterfront Gathering Area, Suzhou, China
- FIG. 31 - Diagram of Directional Path Type Space
- FIG. 32 - Plaza de la Constitution (Zocalo), Oaxaca City, Mexico
- FIG. 33 - Positive and Negative Public Gathering Spaces
- FIG. 34 - Esplanade Park, Helsinki, Finland
- FIG. 35 - Prospect Park -Brooklyn
- FIG. 36 - The Five-Element Ethological Space Model
- FIG. 37 - Strong Territories of Early Cities
- FIG. 38 - A Conceptual Diagram of Gathering Pockets
- FIG. 39 - A Pocket of Activity Which Bulges the Square
- FIG. 40 - Pockets of Activity
- FIG. 41 - Views towards the Open Area
- FIG. 42 - Space Arrangement in the Gathering Space
- FIG. 43 - Orientation of Sitting Area
- FIG. 44 - Stairs for Sitting
- FIG. 45 - Sit on Briefcase due to Lack of Ample Seat
- FIG. 46 - Garden Seat
- FIG. 47 - Location Map
- FIG. 48 - Main element of attraction
- FIG. 49 - Schematic Diagram - Sri Jayewardenepura Esplanade
- FIG. 50 - A Family creating their Personal Space comfortably
- FIG. 51 - Couple within the Personal Space Bubble
- FIG. 52 - Some peer groups create their personal spaces within protective inside ness of the space
- FIG. 53 - Open, Free and Flexible Quality Encouraged to Form Various kind of Personal Spaces
- FIG. 54 - Some Personal Spaces are Overlapping
- FIG. 55 - Individuals can maintain their personal spaces within the space
- FIG. 56 - Family groups create their personal spaces

- FIG. 57 - The Setting Map of Parliament Esplanade, Kotte
- FIG. 58- Dioramic representation of space hierarchy of the Parliament Esplanade
- FIG. 59 - Map - Location of selected Beach Park at Negombo
- FIG. 60 - Schematic diagram of Beach Park, Negombo
- FIG. 61- Enclosure of the space encourage many groups of activities
- FIG. 62- Aimless Sauntering with
Observing Beauty of the Sea
- FIG. 63 - Couples within the Personal Bubble
- FIG. 64 - The Enclosure Space Between the Vehicle and Tree Encouraged
Forming Their "Personal Space" with Alone From Dynamic
Environment.
- FIG. 65 - The Sign Board and the Vehicle Making Privacy for Maintain Their
"Personal Space" Within other Dynamic Activities
- FIG. 66 - Spending Time as Aimless Sauntering With Observing Beauty of
the Sea
- FIG. 67- Some Couples Maintaining their "Personal Space" with Umbrella,
Within the 'Open, Free and Flexible' Quality of the Space
- FIG. 68 - Maintaining Personal Space under the shady three
- FIG. 69 - Forms Their Personal Spaces and Place to Face Activities
- FIG. 70 - Peer Groups and Couples Maintaining their "Personal Space"
within the Trees Shadows
- FIG. 71 - Many Groups within Their Personal Spaces
- FIG. 72- They have Formed Their "Personal Space" between
Tree and Built Element
- FIG. 73 - Flexible Quality of the Space Encourage Various Kind of Leisure
Activities
- FIG. 74- Creating Personal Spaces with Varied Activities
- FIG. 75 - Babies within Personal Spaces
- FIG. 76 - The Setting Map of Beach Park, Negombo

- FIG. 77 - Dioramic representation of space hierarchy of the Beach Park at Negombo
- FIG. 78 - The Central Nuclear -Independence Hall
- FIG. 79 - Independence Square and Surrounding
- FIG. 80 - Schematic Diagram of the Avenue
- FIG. 81 - Schematic diagram- Independence Hall and surrounding
- FIG. 82- Groups maintain their "Personal Spaces" in the open turf landscape space
- FIG. 83- The couple maintaining their own space against the wall
- FIG. 84 - Couple within Personal Space
- FIG. 85 - Families and Individuals Maintaining Their "Personal Spaces" Around the Pond
- FIG. 86 - Some Individuals Marinating Their Personal Space with Flexible Quality of Space
- FIG. 87 - The Setting Map of Independence Square, Colombo 07
- FIG. 88 - Dioramic representation of space hierarchy of the Independence square
- FIG. 89 - Dioramic representation of space hierarchy of the Parliament Esplanade
- FIG. 90 - Dioramic representation of space hierarchy of the Beach Park at Negombo
- FIG. 91- Dioramic representation of space hierarchy of the independence Square
- FIG. 92 - Dioramic representation of space hierarchy in public gathering space

LIST OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

LIST OF FIGURES

1. CHAPTER ONE – INTRODUCTION

1.1	Topic explanation.....	01
1.2	The study & its objectives	02
1.3	The method of study	03
1.4	Scope & limitations	04

2. CHAPTER TWO – UNDERSTANDING PERSONAL SPACE

2.1	Concept of personal space.....	05
2.1.1	Types of personal space	10
2.1.2	Personal space and personality	12
2.1.3	Personal space and culture	13
2.1.4	Personal space and biological requirements	15
2.2	Human behavior and psychological constituents for Encouraging personal spaces	16
2.2.1	Sense of privacy	18
2.2.2	Sense of security	19
2.2.3	Sense of belonging	21
2.3	Personalization of space	24



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

2.4	Concept of territory and Importance	34
2.5	Concluding remarks of chapter two	37
3. CHAPTER THREE – PERSONALIZATION WITHIN URBAN PUBLIC GATHERING SPACE		
3.1	Understanding urban public spaces	38
3.2	Elemental attributes of urban public space	40
3.3	Physical constitutions of urban public space	46
2.3.1	Factors which effect the major environmental quality	47
3.4	Creating of territory within urban public space	53
3.4.1	Personalization within urban public gathering space	56
3.5	Concluding observation of chapter three	62
4. CHAPTER FOUR - AN EXAMINATION OF SELECTED EXAMPLES		
4.1	The Examination	65
4.2	Rational of Selection of the Case Studies	65
4.3	Examination of Selected Examples	
4.3.1	Parliament Esplanade, Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte	67
4.3.2	Beach Park, Negombo	75
4.3.3	Independence Square, Colombo	85
4.4	Comparatively Analysis of selected areas	91
CONCLUSION		96
BIBLIOGRAPHY		100



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