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**MOTOR VEHICLE
IN THE
BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

An examination of the influence of motor vehicles in forming and shaping of residential environments.

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R.I.B.A. (Part II) EXAMINATION

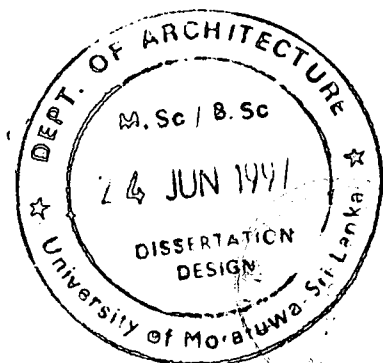
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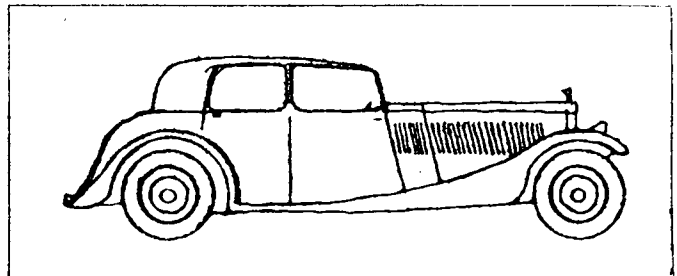


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" The style of architecture, which was formerly defined by Man alone, is now defined by taking Man together with his machines. It is the car that stands central to our concept of Man - Machine scale, the car is the most significant mechanical element to have entered our lives, changing our pattern of life, transport and thus influencing our architecture."

(Doxiadis, 1963 ; P.46)



ABSTRACT

The influence of vehicles on the built environment, specially the residential environment being focussed upon as industrialization and rapid urbanization had been encouraging more vehicles into the scene. The problem of space requirements for its dynamic and static situations are being the main issue in most of the urban areas today. Therefore the main-scale for defining human relationship to built environment has now become a scale of man and vehicle. But most of the urban areas have been generally under-played in the Architectural design. The main cause may have been, that the handling of vehicles had been handed over to traffic engineers completely and the significance of Architects role has been neglected.

In the light of above, the study aims at exploring the aspects which enhance the influence made by the vehicles on the residential built environment. It is hoped to waken the architects to look into the aspect with much awareness of need of their involvement.

In order to achieve this objective the study explores the possible aspects of the built environment which facilitate or retard the existence of vehicles in the context of contemporary living and functional patterns. The **macro** and **micro** housing environments are examined separately to bring out the arrangements for **static** and **dynamic** situations of vehicles. In a field research based on four categorized Housing situations, which incorporate number of examples, the above theories formulated on the design aspects are tested as to how they would apply to the contemporary context. The academic grounding is based on the research done in this field by various authors of international repute. The field research was based on data gathered by field surveys, interviews, questionnaires on vehicle owners and observations made by the author.

Major findings could be identified as the problem of vandalism and theft of vehicle or its parts and the design solutions which discourage and encourage such situations. The plan and 3D forms, the street facade of the houses being over-whelmed by the vehicles and the garage doors, shifting of living areas above, leaving room for the vehicles at the ground level and the residential roads being moulded to reduce speeds, danger and entry of non-access vehicles. Once the influence is clear it had shown the importance of integrating the vehicles with the residential environment from the inception of design. Thus enhancing its smooth absorption of vehicles, creating clean, safe and nuisance free environment for peaceful human habitation which handles vehicles carefully.

CONTENTS

Abstract

Acknowledgements

List of Illustrations

Chapter one

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Background to the study.
- 1.2 The issue.
- 1.3 Need of the study.
- 1.4 Aims and objectives of the study.
- 1.5 Scope and limitations.
- 1.6 Method of study.

Chapter two

MAN, SPACE AND VEHICLE RELATIONSHIP

- 2.1 Man and motor vehicle within space.
- 2.2 Socio-Psycho relationship of man and vehicle.
 - 2.2.1 Positive relationships influenced by vehicles.
 - 2.2.2 Negative relationships influenced by vehicles.
- 2.3 Moral and legal relationship of man and vehicles.
- 2.4 Man and motor vehicle within the residential environment.

Chapter three

HOUSES, HOUSING SETTLEMENTS AND VEHICLE

- 3.1 Vehicle and macro housing environment
 - 3.1.1 Juxtaposition of dwellings with other activities attracting vehicles.
 - 3.1.2 Moving vehicles and safety in the neighbourhood.
 - 3.1.3 Dwelling layouts and private vehicles.
 - 3.1.4 Group accommodation of private vehicles.

3.2 Vehicle and micro housing environment.

3.2.1 In-curtilage accommdation and spatial relationship.

3.2.2 Car connection to the dwelling.

3.2.3 Effect on the facade and the built form.

3.2.4 Theft and Vandalism.

Chapter four

VEHICLE AND CONTEMPORARY HOUSING SITUATIONS

4.1 Individual Houses.

4.2 Row Houses.

4.3 Cluster Houses.

4.4 Multi - storey Apartments.

Conclusion



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Bibiliography

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LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	Page
1) World Population Growth	1
2) The human scale of cities are replaced by many other scales.....	2
3) World Production of Motor Vehicles.....	11
4) Area Covered by Cars.....	13
5) Car Changes the Scale of Dimensions Previously controlled by Man.....	15
6) Dwellings used as noise barriers.....	20
7) Ways of avoiding visual intrusion of vehicles.....	21
8) Roads sunken in relation to dwellings.....	22
9) Use of vegetation and topography to reduce visual intrusion of vehicles.....	23
10) World Motor Vehicle Trend.....	29
11) Brownsville Housing, New York.....	34
12) Residential streets with curves and bends.....	36
13) New Galle Road, Moratuwa & Disertions.....	37
14) Hierarchchical Road System.....	39
15) Perimeter Roads.....	40
16) Access by means of cul-de-sacs.....	41
17) Looped Residential Roads.....	42
18) A Series of inter connected dual use courts.....	42
19) Unconnected Clusters.....	43
20) Layout of a grid iron street pattern.....	43
21) Deck parking in Multi-story apartments.....	52
22) Unpleasent large parking areas.....	53
23) Attractive small parking areas.....	54
24) In-curtilage accommodation of cars.....	60
25) Garage separated from the dwelling.....	63
26) Facades covered by the garage doors.....	67
27) Ground floors occupied by vehicles.....	68
28) Surveillance of Vehicles by residents.....	69
29) Basement parking viewed by pedestrians.....	71
30) Surveillability by pedestrians.....	72

31)	Layout for vehicles, British influenced house....	77
32)	Driveway leading to the dwelling from the entrance.....	78
33)	Separate gates for vehicular entrance and exit.....	78
34)	Porch sheltering vehicles.....	79
35)	Separate garage and driveway. British house.....	79
36)	House with an attached garage. Post independent house.....	80
37)	House with an attached garage and direct access to the house.....	81
38)	House at the edge of the street. Ganesen House Plan.....	82
39)	House with separate entrance and exit, Rosmead Place.....	83
40)	Attached garage under a solid bedroom, Rosmead Place.....	84
41)	Variation of a porch and the driveway, Rosmead Place.....	85
42)	Connection of the garage, Kitchen and living.....	86
43)	Direct access from the garage to the kitchen.....	87
44)	Area allocated for vehicles and spatial relationship. Ganesen House.....	87
45)	Car Connection to the dwelling. Flower Road.....	89
46)	Car Connection to the secondary entrance, Flower Road.....	90
47)	Street facades are overwhelmed by the garage doors.....	92
48)	Facade dominated by the garage door.....	92
49)	Garage dominated street facade. Ganesan house....	93
50)	Solid to void ratio of garage and living areas. Housing Block, Borella.....	93
51)	Solid to void ratio of the built form.....	94
52)	VOIDS created on the exterior view. Ganesen House.....	94

53)	Ground floor facade covered with the garage. Flower Road.....	95
54)	Living areas around the garage. Alles House.....	96
55)	Garage visually connected with living. Alles House.....	96
56)	Courtyard in between the garage and living, Alles House.....	97
57)	Physical connection of garage and living, Alles house.....	97
58)	Niche accommodating cars. Madanayake house.....	98
59)	Layout, Mattegoda Housing Scheme.....	100
60)	Vehicular entrance to the scheme. Mattegoda.....	101
61)	Road bends found here and there. Mattegoda.....	102
62)	Site plan. Waltham Abbey area, London	103
63)	Rye Hill, New Castle.....	104
64)	Front garden parking in conjunction with passing vehicles. New Castle.....	104
65)	Layout, Longdon Hills, Basildon, Essex	105
66)	Pedestrian routes parallel to the terrace. Longdon Hills, Essex	106
67)	Section across the terrace, footpath, play and parking near the road. Longdon Hills, Essex.....	106
68)	Curved alignment of roads. Longdon Hills, Essex.....	107
69)	Extended space for vehicle, Mattegoda	108
70)	Exposed carport. Mattegoda.....	109
71)	Partly exposed garage. Mattegoda.....	109
72)	Garages used to screen terraced dwellings.....	110
73)	An exposed extension for cars. De Saram house.....	111
74)	Two garages and the hardstanding beside the street. De Saram house.....	111
75)	Short wall used to define hardstandings for vehicles.....	112
76)	Connections from one hardstanding to the next....	112

77)	Party walls extended to screen cars, Herault, France.....	113
78)	Narrow access streets, Mattegoda	114
79)	Interconnected roads encouraging through traffic, Manning Town Housing Scheme.....	116
80)	Main road connected with the by lane, Manning Town.....	117
81)	Through traffic. Plan form, Manning Town	118
82)	The layout that facilitates the circulation of through traffic around all four sides of the block. Manning Town.....	118
83)	Loop roads discourage through traffic. Elvitigala Housing Scheme, Borella	119
84)	Looped roads in Peru.....	119
85)	Layout of a cluster, Manning Town	120
86)	Small car park at four corners, Manning Town.....	121
87)	Elements demarcating territory for vehicles	121
88)	Facade softened by the open car port. Manning Town.....	123
89)	Open carport encouraging short-cuts, Manning Town.....	124
90)	Layout of Cheshunt, Hertfordshire	125
91)	View of the development at Hertfordshire	127
92)	Development at Cherry Hinton, Cambridge	128
93)	Location of Raddolugama Housing Scheme.....	129
94)	Layout of Raddolugama Housing Scheme.....	130
95)	Cul-de-sac arrangement, Raddolugama	132
96)	Path leading towards the cul-de-sac	132
97)	Different road finishes to reduce high vehicle speeds.....	133
98)	Area of site devoted for vehicles, Development outer London.....	134
99)	Vehicle dominated and dual use areas, Development outer London.....	137
100)	Plan of 'F' type house unit. Raddolugama.....	138

101) Facade treated equally for both, vehicles and pedestrians	137
102) Additional space for vehicles. Raddolugama	138
103) Front lobby integrated with parking, Raddolugama	138
104) Vehicle accommodated within the house, Raddolugama	139
105) Garage at the edge of the street	140
106) Additional space for vehicles	140
107) Cluster functioning as a small car park	141
108) Cluster layout. Witham area	142
109) Different arrangements for parking. Dwelling clusters in outer London	143
110) Radburn Layout. New Jacey	144
111) A superblock. Radburn, New Jacey.....	145
112) Liberty Plaza Apartment building.....	147
113) Ground Floor Shopping Complex, Liberty Plaza.....	147
114) Parking and vehicular movement in commercial area, Liberty Plaza.....	148
115) Different levels of parking connected by ramps, Liberty Plaza building.....	150
116) Layout plan, Liberty Plaza.....	151
117) Gloomy isolated basement parking, Liberty Plaza building.....	152
118) Vehicular entrance, King's Court building	153
119) Layout Plan, King's Court Building.....	154
120) Structural column grid pattern, King's Court building.....	154
121) Queen's Court building.....	155
122) Connection between basement parking and living areas, Liberty Plaza.....	156
123) Front staircase and lift, King's Court	157
124) Rear staircase and lift, King's Court	157
125) Vehicular entrance through Dharmapala Mawatha, Liberty Plaza	158

126) Vehicular exit from R.A. de Mel Mawatha, Liberty Plaza	159
127) Ramp connecting ground and basement parking, Liberty Plaza	159
128) Vehicular entrance, Queen's Court building.....	160
129) Vehicular movement of Liberty Plaza and King's Court buildings.....	161

