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FUTURE LIVING

LISBON

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International Forum on Urbanism (IFoU)

Book of Abstracts

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ORGANIZING INSTITUTION 23
EDITION 24
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE 24
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 24
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE 25
IFOU DISTINGUISHED FELLOW / SCIENTIFIC BOARD / BOARD OF SUPERVISORS / EXCUTIVE TEAM 26

1. Dwelling 28

The Discrepancy Between Institution and Practice: Dilemmas of Participatory Planning in Public Space Renewal within Privatized Residential Areas in Beijing
Alin Li / Lin Li / Xiaoxi Hui 31

Rethinking Housing: Exploring Innovative Models for Future Urban Living
Ana Moreira / Hugo Faria 35

Beyond the Binary: Inclusive Housing Strategies for LGBTQIA+ Communities
Anna Marocco 39

Dwelling Beyond Commodities: Affordable Living Through Reimagining the Production of Objects in Domestic Space
Chih Yuan Huang 43

ReNew Cooperatives: Updates on the Cooperative Housing System in Uruguay
Fernando Perez/Marta Pelegrín 47

Informality, Climate Adaptation and Infrastructure: Making Karachi a Resilient City
Fizza Qureshi 51

Development through Decommodification: How Community Land Trusts Advance Reparative Urban Visions
Gabriel Cuéllar 55

Disputed Territories In Latin America And Their Integration: A Case Study Of The Buenos Aires Metropolitan
Galadriel Gruaz....59

Modeling Urban Gentrification through Machine Learning: A Predictive and Explanatory Approach
Hao Huang / Yu Hu / Heming Zeng / Jin Yeu Tsou....63

The Role of Environment Perception in Older Adults' Place Attachment Formation: A Case Study in a High-Density Residential Neighbourhood in Hong Kong
Jin Yeu Tsou / Jin Yeu Tsou / Jeroen van Ameijde....67

Living together: threshold spaces of collective expression
Joao Silva Leite / Youri Spaninks-Amaro....71

An (Almost) Perfect Dystopia
José Jorge....75

New cultures of dwelling and the law
Lucinda Correia....79

Public Housing Policies: Diversity as a way to Weather the Crisis
Luís Sanchez Carvalho....83

VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE AND EMERGING SOLUTIONS: Stilt Houses On Combu Island In Belém-Pa.
Marcia Cristina Nunes / Matheus Gonçalves Nunes....87

Upcycle social housing in Germany, case study: prototype design in Frankfurt-Mainz Area
Marta Pelegrin-Rodriguez / Fernando Perez-Blanco....91

Revisiting Modern Dwellings in Macau - Sustainable and Resilient Living Solutions for Contemporary Urban Challenges
Niccolò Arnaldo Galliano / Daniela Arnaut / Ana Tostões....95-

Public Housing and Housing Program: EPUL Restelo, Lisbon, Portugal
Pedro Jorge Dias Pimenta Rodrigues....99

Envisioning Future Rural Community Living: A Climate-Responsive Aging-in-Place Model in Yunlin, Taiwan
Shenglin Chang / Yipei Hsu / Szu-hung Fang....103

Portugal's Housing Policies Under the Recovery and Resilience Plan: Tackling Precarity and Promoting Justice.
Sílvia Jorge....107

From Housing to Habitat: Scales of Social Interaction in the Urban Environment
Simão Botelho....111

A study on the classification reconstruction of chinese villages and key influencing factors of carbon emissions from the perspective of rural housing construction
Xiaohan Wang / Hong Zhang / Xiaodong Liu....115

The Embodied Embeddedness of Hygienic Modernity: Spatial Practices and Lived Experiences of Home Quarantine in China during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Yongming Chen / Zhanzhang Huang / Lirong Zhong....119

Reinterpreting the Role of the Reception Room in Korean Housing: Ahn Young Bae's Design Approach
Youngmyung Kim / Jin Baek....123

The Formation of Government-led Urban Renewal Resulting from the Dazhi neighboring damage Incident
Yu-wen Chen....127

Design for the Change: Sustainability and Affordable Housing Design in Scattered Settlements in the Badain Jaran Desert
Yushu Liang / Xiao Ma....131

2. Connecting....134

Periodic-functional use of space in cities – connecting needs of different actors
Agata Pięt....137

Urban Choreography as a Framework for Bridging Fragmentation in Post-Modern Cities
Anjeza Llubani....141

Public Space: disruption and connectivity. The case study of Covilhã
Carolina Batista....145

ATLAS of the Lisbon Intermittent Practices: case studies, classification and the Intermittent Circuit
Chloé Darmon / Alessia Allegri / Rita Ochoa....149

Is Lisbon walkable? Evaluating pedestrian accessibility at two different scales to optimize public space interventions
David Vale....153

Nieuw Roffa 2105 Beyond Defense: Engaging Communities in Climate Resilience Strategies for Rotterdam
Hasan Hashas / Luca Iuorio / Vera Safronova / Qian Ke....157

Seeing the Bosphorus: A Study on Public Space Usage in İstanbul's Bosphorus Shoreline
İrem Bayraktar Gultekin / Hande Tunç / Gizem Efendioğlu....161

Verb to Connect: A holistic approach to the urban challenges of the 21st century
Luísa Valente....165

Sumapaz, an insular territory in the middle of the Andes Mountain range. Itinerant residence for pendular inhabitants of education
Maria Paula Correa Muñoz....169

Landscapes of social cohesion
MarilinaRomero/MatíasDell/VictoriaPlunkett/CarlaBenvenutto/AnabelaFerreiro....173

Public Space Interventions and Socio-Spatial Integration: Insights from the Lisbon Metropolitan Area
Marina Carreiras / João Rafael Santos....177

Social capital and housing conditions: housing expropriation in Qingdao, China
Mengyuan Li / Minna Sunikka-Blank....181

From Streets to Screens: How Digitalization is Reshaping Indonesia's Informal Economy
NadiaAyuRahmaLestari/ReginaSuryadjaja/SuryonoHerlambang....185

From the road to the street: the role of mobility infrastructure in the transition of urban levels
Raoni Muniz....189

Collective Spaces Networks and Metropolitan Urban Centralities in São Paulo, Brazil
Renata Priore Lima....193

Spatial practices in tenure-mixed residential estates: What connects and divides residents from different tenure types
Rikke Sundstrup....197

A Comparative Analysis of Transit-Oriented and Smart Mobility-Centric Urban Planning: Urban Mobility and Housing Integration in Sejong City's 1-1 and 5-1 Districts, South Korea
Seohyeon Yeo / Jin Baek....201

Translocal Ties: The Social and Spatial Connectivity of Transnational Migrants and Translocal Individuals
Shaharin Annisa....205

Understanding the Effects of Physical Environment Factors on Intergenerational Co- presence and Interaction in Neighbourhood Public Spaces
Yanhan Liu / Ye Zhang....209

The Impacts of the Low-Altitude Economy on Sustainable Urban Planning: A Case Study from Hong Kong
Yanlai Zhou / Sylvia Chan / Jeroen van Ameijde....213

Mobility Network Planning: A Methodology for the Global South Based on the Case of Recife, Brazil
Yara Baiardi / Laury Liers....217

(Re)thinking Urban Planning: The Gap of Urban Design at Faria Lima and Pinheiros Stations Areas, SP, Brazil
Yara Baiardi / Angélica Alvim....221

Assessing the Synergy Between Shared Bike Systems and Public Transportation: A Spatiotemporal Analysis of Chicago Divvy Data
Zhihao Zhou....225

Lyon Part-Dieu, "Contemporary Metropolitan Hub"
François Decoster / Telmo Escapil-Inchauspé....229

3. Integrating....232

Mapping urban discontinuities. A High-Resolution Cartography of Fringe Spaces in Barcelona
Alvaro Clua / Gonzalo Díaz Correa....235

Exploring the role of Public Space as a synergic vector for the optimization of landscape systems at the metropolitan scale. Reflections from the MetroPublicNet research project.
Ana Beja da Costa / João Rafael Santos....239

Public Spaces and Heritage in Portimão. Capturing the Unnoticed through Urban Photography
Ana Bordalo / Silvia Covarino / Minora Hafez....243

From dispersal to cohesion in the suburbs: A critical analysis of public spaces in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area
Ana Brandão / João Cunha Borges....247

Multifunction is not enough: free drawing and the human factor in the urban design process
Ana Rainha....251

Ecology Beyond Green. Debunking Nature-Society dualism through dwelling in Barcelona's 'Tres Turons' park.
Andreu Ribes....253

Current Status and Trends of Sustainable Design Research for High Density Cities in Asia
Caixuan Yang / Jingbin Tan....259

Urban agriculture as urban-rural interfaces in a megacity in China
Diwen Tan....263

Integrating Urban and Natural Landscapes: Reimagining the Riverside Urbanity through Porsuk River of Eskişehir
Elif Merve Nalçakar / Zeynep Eraydın....267

The (re)definition of the peri-urban landscape of Santiago, between hamlets and the "walled city"
Filipe Temtem / Sebastián Correa....271

Transition cartographies: visual narratives of value, land use, and city (re)production at the Besòs riverside.
Helena Majó Ylla-Català....275

Enhancing Future Living – Integrating Housing, Public Space and Public Facilities: A Case Study of Hong Kong
Hendrik Tieben / Jose Chong / Jing Ren / Yigang Li....279

Rethinking Urban and Rural Water Spaces: From Abandonment to New Uses
Inês Francisca Oliveira / Catarina Da Silva / Bruno Branco Castro / Ivo Oliveira / Cidália Ferreira Silva / Paulo Cruz....283

Understanding China's rural construction actions from the metabolism of villages' space structures
Jianing Wu / Hong Zhang / Junqi Yang / Ying Zeng / Xiaoyu Xu / Xiaodong Liu....287

Identification of Urban-rural Continuum in China Based on Population Grid Data —— Critical Thinking on The Degree of Urbanization
Kai Shang / Jian Liu....291

Squares as Fundamental Elements of New Forms of Urbanity
Manuel Teixeira....295

Mediated Urban-Rural Narratives: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Kemer Country
Merve Eflatun / Uz Funda....299

PUBLIC SPACE AND TOPOGRAPHY. FORM, FUNCTION AND CHARACTERISATION. Syncretic landscape and urban image in Lisbon and the Tagus Estuary
Pablo José Martín Barrera....303

Promises Aestheticized: Visualization's role in property speculation and visual culture in Tainan
Patrick Cheng-Chun Hwang / Justin Wai-Tat Cheng....307

José Luís Pinto Machado and the journey to Italy: The Italian rural world as a paradigm of an applicable future.
Raffaella Maddaluno....311

25 Years of Urban Transformation in Matosinhos: The Impact of Porto's Metro Project
Rodrigo Coelho / Ivo Oliveira / Frederico Moura e Sá....315

From Ancient Depths to Digital Heights: Exploring Place Attachment in the Age of Attention
Tejaswini Deshmukh / Provides Ng....319

Towards inclusive living space: The role of residential environment in facilitating social integration for cross-border elderly migrants in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area
Tianyao Zhang....323

(Un)Disputed Space? Testimonies of European Cultures of Remembrance
Victoria Grau / Max Welch Guerra....327

Reimagining Urban Imageability: Decoding Meaning of Urban Places through Place Reviews and Large Language Models
Yihan Zhu / Ye Zhang....331

What makes the Attractiveness of the Renovated scene of the Urban Village? based on a dynamic visual Experiment in Nantou Ancient-City
Yinan Yang / Shan Jin / Jingxuan Xia / Minmin Li / Yongming Chen....335

4. Adapting....338

Composition of Biophilic Quality Index of the Urban Landscape through Geodesign Application in the Community of the Upper Course of the Paciência River in São Luís, Brazil
Ana Borges / José Crespo / Barbara Prado....341

For an Emerging Dwelling in Lisbon, a Landscape and Urban-Architectural Strategy for Resilient Cities Facing Natural Disasters
Analin Alcalá Wrooman / Ljiljana Čavić....345

Resilience and Climate Adaptation in Informal Settlements of the São Paulo Metropolitan Region: Urban Strategies and Challenges
Angélica Benatti Alvim / Viviane Manzione Rubio / Andresa Ledo Marques....349

Building Flood Resilience: A Transformative Toolkit for Coastal Slums
Anubhav Goyal / Maria Matos Silva / Sérgio Proença....353

It Runs With the Land: Designing for Place, Foodways and Kinship in Palestinian Villages
Athar Mufreh....357

Evaluation of Public Policies for Urban Rivers in the Municipality of São Paulo through the Lens of Environmental Justice
Barbara Fernanda Frutuoso / Luciana Travassos....361

Re-Politicizing Urban Metabolism through Mapping: A Methodological Exploration through the Lens of Urban Political Ecology
Benedetta Pastena / Federica Vingelli / Sara Piccirillo....365

Flooded Futures: Living with Water in Isla Trinitaria – A Decolonial Scenario Framework for Urban Resilience in Informal Settlements
Christian Corral Burau....369

Towards a Sustainable Future: Valparaiso's ravines as a basis for a landscape-based planning and design process
Cristian Seguel Medina / Steffen Nijhuis / Diego Sepulveda-Carmona....373

Lessons From African Coastal Heritages: Adaptation strategies in face of extreme-events
Cristiana Valente Monteiro / Sérgio Barreiros Proença / Francesca Dal Cin....377

Architecture, Water and Project - The case of the Inland Algarve
Emídio Miguel Narciso Oliveira / Luis Miguel Ginja / Rita Ochoa....381

Flooding and Agriculture in the Age of Anthropocene. The Disaster and the Relocation of Metamorphis Palamas in the Thessalian Plain.
Fabiano Micocci....385

Franciacorta: Brand territory and emerging geographies of living
Fulvio Adobati....389

Confluences and contrasts in the challenges for Fluvial Urban Regeneration: a comparative analysis of the cases of São Paulo (Tietê and Pinheiros rivers) and Barcelona (Besòs river)
Henrique Muniz de Castro e Silva....393

Speculations on Abandonment - Erosion and Architectural Production
Humna Naveed....397

Re-thinking Steelscapes – A Cross-Systemic Urban Design Approach towards a Sustainable Circular Society for the Metropolitan Region of Linz
Jakob Pesendorfer....401

Mapping Heat Exposure: A Framework for Selecting Case Studies Based on LST Analysis
Laura Badia....405

Projecting Practice Values in Ecological Governance of Complex Mega-Regions: The Case of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area
LeiXia/DiegoAndrésSepulvedaCarmona/GerhardesBruyns....409

Management and operation of greenspaces in high-density cities: A crowd density-based classification optimization
Liang He / Jiaxiu Cai....413

Social Sustainability in University Student Accommodation, in Portugal
Maria Isabel Brito / Filipa Serpa....417

MAPPING LISBON'S LIQUID FRAMEWORK - A Research by Design Cartography
Maria Margarida Maurício....421

Adaptive Master Plans: Integrating Urban Performance, Governance, and Regenerative Planning
Marina Borges....425

Public Connectivity. Strategies for buildings reuse as urban joints.
Miguel Freitas Silva....429

Post-airport urbanism: A comparative study on the planning infill and landscape transformation of Taipei's disused north and south wartime airfields
Min Jay Kang....433

MEDiterranean Ecological Adaptation. Strategies for urban and landscape regeneration
Mosé Ricci / Diana Ciufo / Giacinto Donvito / Francesca Rossi....437

Harnessing Tide and Heritage: Sustainable Futures for the Waterland of Seixal, Portugal
Patricia Trindade Monteiro....441

Balancing Growth and Sustainability: The Role of Logistics Infrastructure in Lisbon's Urban Evolution
Pedro Bento....445

Enhancing local planning policies and practices to curb soil sealing - The UnSealingCities project
Rita Nicolau / Beatriz Condessa....449

[re]think, [re]use, [re]adapt - The Water Reservoirs in the municipality of Sabugal
Roberto Antunes Pereira / Luis Miguel Ginja / Rita Ochoa....453

The role of human intermediaries in environmental and climate risk management
Sara Cruz / António Ferreira / Lara Bomfim....457

Intermunicipal Public Space System: Network and Structure through a Design Exploration of the Relationship between Urbanization and Nature
Sara Sucena / Beatriz Ramos Pinto....461

The Modern and Contemporary Evolution and Influence of "Fan Zai Lou" from an Architectural Typology Perspective — A Case Study of Historical Quanzhou City
Shuxiang Cai....465

Resilient Regeneration for remote villages in rural Hong Kong: The Case of Kuk Po from cross-disciplinary education research to sustainable revitalisation partnership
Thomas Chung....469

Preparing common ground for living: a cartographic and photographic essay on the Zambezi River Basin's landscape system.
Wim Wambecq....473

Maricá Mobility Plan
Yasmin Pereira / Monica Campos / Will Coelho / Matheus Prado....477

Exploring the Climate-adaptive Urban Design Guidelines of Green and Blue Spaces for Sea Level Rise Response: The Case Study of Singapore
Yiwei Zhang / Rudi Stouffs / Hendrik Tieben....481

5. Visioning 484

Urban Cracks as Adaptive Playgrounds for Future Living
Ardalan Tayefehhosseinlou 487

Beyond the Linear: Robinson and the Essayistic Paths to Urban Futures
Aygen Erol Çakır 491

Street transformations towards mobility, collective and urban nature spaces: a survey of case studies
Catarina Dias 495

Façade as a Threshold: Exploring Spatial Depth, Negotiation and Urban Interaction
Diana Gouveia Amaral / Liselotte Vroman / André Fontes / Maarten Gheysen / Marta Labastida 499

Envisioning urban natures: comparing imaginaries of nature in planning policies across urban areas in Europe, Latin America and North America
Fiona Kinniburgh / Andresa Ledo Marques / Olivia Bina 503

Fuzzy Boundaries: Certainties Amidst Uncertain Futures
FrancescaDalCin/JoanaMesquitaLima/SérgioBarreirosProença 507

Appropriation of Madang: Interpretation of Intermediary Space in Korean Urban Collective Housing
Geonil Lee / Junhui Park / Jin Baek 511

Facial Recognition Technology in both Physical and Virtual Environments: Its Measurement, and Mechanism
Hee Sun (Sunny) Choi / Wang Zhang / Tian Cheng / Xinmei Liang 515

Tangles of time. Soil perturbations as instruments of potential relationality for transition in the project.
Ilaria Maurelli 519

Beyond the Screen: The Convergence of Cinema, Virtual Reality, and Architecture in Shaping Future Cities
Inês Laborinho 523

Citizen Controlled Urbanism? Unearthing 150 Years of Dweller Control Actor-Network
Jere Kuzmanic 527

Linking the past to the future: Evaluating Virtual Heritage Through Large-Scale Immersive Experiences
Jiahao Yan 531

Stories of inhabiting Dili: listening to the past, witnessing the present, reflecting for the future
Joana de Mesquita Lima / Lilia Barreto Fernandes 535

A territorial design toolbox for a metropolitan public space network: bridging experience and policy-oriented contributions
João Rafael Santos....539

XYZ Salt City - Envisioning UrbArch Futuristic Narratives
Jorge Cruz Pinto / Ljiljana Čavić / Merve Eflatun....543

Transdisciplinary Architectural Storytelling: Towards a new sense of belonging
Jorge Cruz Pinto / Ljiljana Čavić / Clara Germana Gonçalves....547-

Tidalectic portraits of the Tagus river estuary: an experimental spatiotemporal drawing methodology for multispecies relations.
Katerina Inglezaki / Mariana Pestana / Nuno Jardim Nunes....551

Building Knowledge from Climate Child Imaginaries to Create Sustainable Futures
Lara Bomfim / Sara Cruz / António Ferreira....555

From Concept to Implementation: Spatializing Inclusive PED Strategies in Cureghem, Brussels
Laura Shllaku / Dieter Bruggeman / Fabio Vanin....559

Learning from the past: Rediscovering, and valorising the hidden landscape patterns to envision planning strategies in Monza (Italy)
Mario Paris....563

City and Fiction: Representations of Lisbon in A Bolsa da Avó Palhaça (2007) by Baptista- Bastos, and the Relevance of Literary Fiction for Contemporary Urbanism
Miguel Baptista-Bastos....567

Leaf Plan. 3 New Paradigms and 5 Challenges towards Ecological Transition
Mosè Ricci / Sara Favargiotti....571

Exploring the Interim: the power of uncertainty in urban planning
Pablo Costa....575

Envisioning caring connections with self, others and spaces: a creative encounter between thick mapping and psychotherapy.
Sabina Favaro / Yoav H. A. Van der Heyden....579

Mapping Community Narratives in Public Spaces: The Case of Katendrecht, Rotterdam
Sahar Asadollahi Asl Zarkhah....583

CREATING A REGION - City Visions and Collateral Effects
Sofia Morgado....587

Zoos as Future Heritage: Reimaging the Politics of Human-Animal Relations Through Gaming
Yun-Pei Hsiung....591

6. Steering....594

Towards a Metropolitan Approach to Housing Policy in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area
Ana Pinho / Cristina Cavaco....597

Human dimension of urbanism: from local creativity to social innovation
AndreAraujoAlmeida/AngelicaTanusBenattiAlvim/JörgSchröder....601

Baby Boom - Housing Boom: Are we entering the concept of living as a service?
António Ribeiro Amado....605

Policymaking narratives for walkability in Lisbon city planning
Carolina Ramos / Joao Mourato / David Vale....609

The impacts of metropolisation on socio-environmental transition, current and future challenges
Diego Sepulveda-Carmona / Diego Moya-Ortiz....613

Is there a future for the sacrifice zone? Understanding Mining Conflicts and Local Community Engagement in Bor and Majdanpek, Serbia
DušankaMilosavljević/MarijanaPantić/TamaraMaričić....617

Reimagining the productive city: Manufacturing inside the city. A comparative study of Barcelona and Rotterdam cases.
Enric Villavieja-Martinez / Carles Crosas-Armengol....621

Warm Bodies in Cold War Underground Socialist Capital: Bodily Practices, and Collective Memory in Beijing's Civil Defense Shelters Project (1969–1979)
Geng Li....625

Territorial opportunities and the politics of everyday life in the fight against the worst forms of child labor in Santos (Brazil)
Hulda Wehmann / Leticia Costa / Victor Iacovini / Larissa Viana....629

Soft Planning and Territorial Governance in Brazil: Lessons from the Lisbon Case for the Greater ABC Region
Igor Matheus Santana Chaves....633

Interpreting Duo-City Morphological Transformation from Layer Approach: Mapping the Urban-rural Landscape in Hong Kong-Shenzhen
Jiaxiu Cai / Runze Liu / Hendrik Tieben....637

Municipal Spatial Planning as a tool to support the local governance in Timor-Leste
João Pedro Costa / Joana Mesquita Lim / Cavaco Cristina....641

Cultural Heritage in Matsu Island: Struggles in Late Modernity
Lee An Hsu....645

Analysis on the morphological characteristics of urban blocks based on the perspective of policies: a case study in Xinjiekou, Nanjing
Lina Zhang....649

Shekou Industrial Zone- An Early Chinese Experiment for Future Working and Living
Liqin Ju / Hendrik Tieben....653

Political Trust and Potential of Participatory Dialogue in Mining Areas in Serbia: The Perspective of Local Population of Bor and Majdanpek
Milena Tokovi ć / Milovan Vukovi ć / Tamara Mari čić....657

Framing Power Dynamics in peripherical places: The Case of Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) policy in Portugal.
Miriam de Oliveira Goncalves....661

Challenges faced by participatory urban planning during the Covid-19 pandemic.
Mônica Campos / Will Coelho / Matheus Prado....665

Advancing Social-Ecological Inclusivity: The Role of Spatial Design and Community-Led Governance in Dutch Residential Neighbourhoods
Monica Veras Morais....669

Urban Land Use and Just Cities: a literature review seeking contributions to new public policies
Nadia Cibele Besciak....673

Revisiting Polycentrism: A Literature Review Towards Criteria for Territorial Assessment and Development
Pedro Cruz / Cristina Cavaco....677

Tourism, housing and real estate prices in Lisbon and Porto metropolitan areas
Rui Florentino....681

Evaluating the policy effects of Location Normalization Plans: empirical evidence from 354 cities in Japan
Yalu Guo / Mitsuru Ota....685

Institutionalization of Famous Historical and Cultural Villages: The Regime and Tension of Rural Cultural Governance in China
Yao Wang....689

Understanding Household Solar PV Adoption for Energy Justice: An Innovative Approach with Large Language Model
Yifan Yang / Zian Wang / Erkinai Derkenbaeva / Aksel Ersoy....693

Operational Governance Mechanisms in Public Heritage Conservation: A Polycentric Path to Sustainable Revitalization in China's Peitian Ancient Village
Yongming Chen / Shijun Wang....697

Combing, Experience Summary and Prospect of the Urban Development Context of Macao in Modern and Contemporary Times
Ziye Zhuang / Yue Fan....701

7. Sharing....704

The Role of "Tributaries": Insights and Data for Developing a Collaborative Water Network
Amina Chouairi / Gloria Carolina Fiallo / Francesca Dal Cin....707

The Co-OP Method Sharing knowledge on urban form between research and practice
Ana Mélice Dias / Vítor Oliveira....711

Designing in Fragmented Contexts: Public Space Regeneration in a Semi-Urbanized Village
Chenxi Gong....715

Subjective Pattern – From Phenomenon of Semi Urbanized Village to Architecture Design
Chenxi Gong....719

Across literature and practice: Opportunities and barriers of integrating digital participatory planning tools in Singapore's urban planning processes
DeniseHuiminLee/JoshuaVargas/EviSyariffudin/NiralyMangal/PariSenBiswas/RositaSamsudi....723

Not everything known today is shaping what comes tomorrow: Learning from young people's spatial knowledge to envisage alternative future cities
Ignacio Castillo Ulloa / Sarah Friedel....727

New way of learning: an online database and collaborative platform for urban design research methods teaching
Jiaxiu Cai / Yanyu Sun / Shixian Xie....731

João António de Aguiar and The City In The Estado Novo.
Joana Malheiro....735

Open access research and education on public space: democratising knowledge to advance the global agenda for human-centred design of our cities
Luisa Bravo....739

Bridging Communication Gaps: Methodologies for Effective Children's Participation in Architectural Design for Environmental and Social Impact
Manal El-Shahat / Sarah Jamjoum....743

From Police to Practice: Examining Participation in Local Urban Planning and Designing within the Portuguese context
Maria Angela Cunha / Teresa Calix / Cristina Cavaco....747

Cultural, aesthetic and ecological principles of action: lessons from Portuguese Landscape Architecture history
Maria Matos Silva....751

Global Urban Agendas: Challenges and Strategies in Implementing the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda at the City Level in Developing Countries
Nayana Castro / Cristina Cavaco / Cristina Henriques....755

The results of the housing finacialisation process in Lisbon
Nuno Castro Caldas....759

A Fieldwork on Everyday Space, Case Study of Xi'an Railway Station as Urban Platform
Qian Lu / Xinhui Zhao / Jiayi Wang....763

From words to 3D: a frameworkfor connecting urban form regulations to digital data.
Rafael Ramirez Eudave / Anna M. Hersperger....767

Towards a child-friendly city: Unraveling the complex relationship between child and parent perceptions of the environment and neighborhood affordances for children.
Sara Hogye / Renske Keizer / Machiel van Dorst....771

Ensuring Healthy and Safe Access to Basic Services in Geziert El-Dahab - A Participatory Research Approach to Overcoming Infrastructure Challenges
Shaharin Annisa / Manal El Shahat....775

From Sustainable Campus to Career: A Hybrid Education and Entrepreneurship Campus for Post-Disaster Regions
Zeliha Şahin Çağli....779

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Track 1 - Dwelling ...

Emergent solutions for affordable housing and spatial justice



Figure: Two Existing Modes of Participatory Planning in Practice
(Left: The government-and professional-led mode under the logic of socialistic public ownership;
Right: The mode of decision-making by owners under the logic of private ownership)

The Discrepancy Between Institution and Practice: Dilemmas of Participatory Planning in Public Space Renewal within Privatized Residential Areas in Beijing

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The approach to urban planning is intrinsically linked to socio-economic systems. With the shift from Keynesianism to neoliberalism in Western economic systems since the 1970s, urban planning transitioned from top-down spatial blueprint planning to policy-driven, bottom-up governance. Under private property regimes, the latter emphasizes the protection of private property and interests, giving rise to communicative planning that negotiates interests among stakeholders. China's urban planning trajectory parallels this shift. During the transition from a planned economy to a market economy, the private property system for urban housing was gradually established. Particularly in recent years, as urban development priorities shifted from expansion to the renewal of existing built-up areas, planning methods have evolved from large-scale spatial blueprints to participatory governance, aiming to address complex interest dynamics arising from the privatization of property rights.

However, China's housing privatization process reveals a critical divergence between institutional frameworks and practical realities. Institutionally, since the early 20th century, laws such as *Condominium Ownership Regulations* and the *Property Rights Law* have clarified private property rights. In post-1998 commodity housing estates, individual owners hold residential property rights, while public spaces and land-use rights are collectively owned. For pre-1998 public housing estates, privatization transferred ownership and management responsibilities of individual units to residents, while public spaces remained under the ownership of original property entities until homeowner associations assumed collective management. In practice, however, socialist legacies, the cultural inertia of the planned economy, infrastructural maintenance challenges, and constraints from large-scale development have perpetuated a de facto public ownership model for these

spaces. Consequently, the governance structure of residential areas remains vertically nested among governments, property entities (and their subordinate management agencies), and residents. This institutional-practical gap reflects the dilemmas of China's housing privatization.

This divergence creates dilemmas for participatory community planning. Current participatory planning follows two institutional logics: (1) state- or professional-led approaches under socialist public ownership norms, and (2) resident-led decision-making frameworks under private property laws, such as *Condominium Ownership Regulations*. Yet both face distinct challenges. The former often reduces public participation to symbolic gestures, neglecting residents' daily needs and triggering dissatisfaction and complaints. The latter overlooks residents' entrenched cognitive and behavioral habits shaped by hierarchical social relations, mobilizing only a minority of homeowners and enabling participatory processes to be co-opted for private gains, exacerbating inequities.

Reflecting on these institutional-practical contradictions, this study proposes reorienting participatory planning toward governance rooted in real-world social, power, and rights structures—emphasizing practice over legalistic frameworks. Given the hierarchical governance nexus of government-property entities-residents in Chinese communities, the paper advocates a participatory planning model that ensures fair and effective allocation of public spaces as collective living resources among all residents (not just property owners).

Keywords

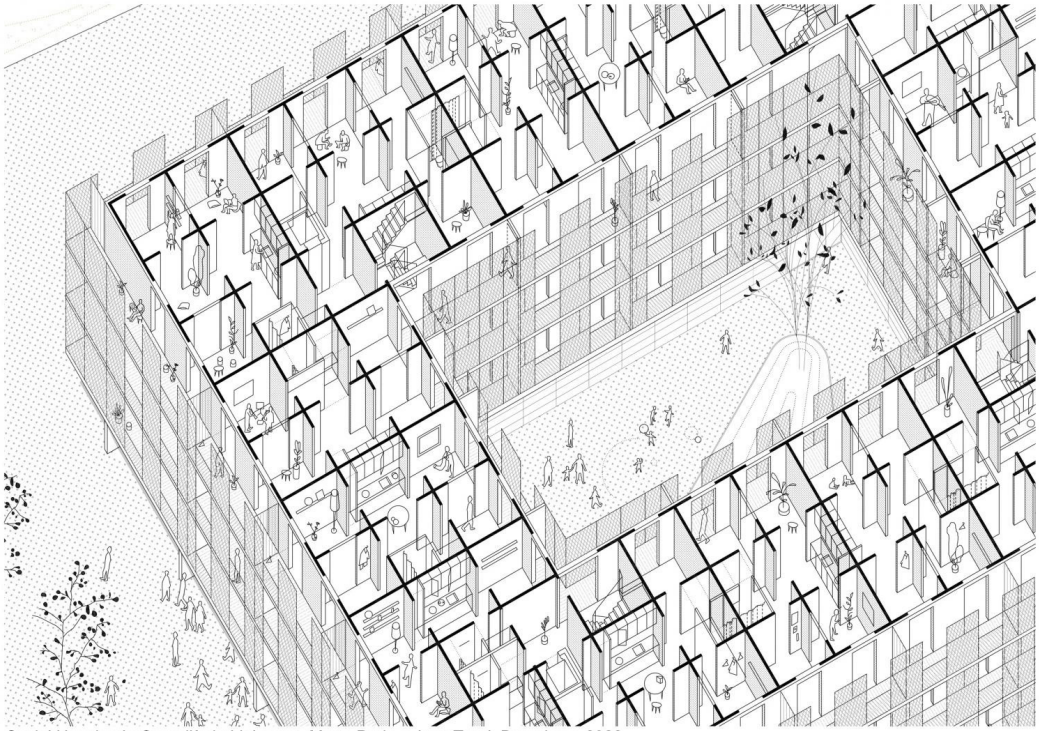
Participatory Planning;Public Space Renewal;Privatized Residential Areas in Beijing

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Social Housing in Cornellà de Llobregat, Marta Peris e Jose Toral, Barcelona, 2022
(source: https://arquitecturaviva.com/works/85-viviendas-sociales-en-cornella-de-llobregat-barcelona)

Rethinking Housing: Exploring Innovative Models for Future Urban Living

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Social contexts and transformations greatly impact housing. On the one hand, the evolution of social structures and changes in household composition and dynamics affects dwelling performance and adequacy, shedding light into the disconnection between contemporary living modes (domestic practices and behaviours) and housing models. On the other hand, socio-economic aspects like the current housing crisis and shortage, intensify disparities in access to affordable and adequate housing. In this present context, it becomes increasingly important to explore innovative solutions for diverse, inclusive and affordable housing, reinventing housing and living models for collective urban living. Housing design remains largely influenced by mid-20th-century rationalist models, which, while innovative for their time, were tailored to now outdated societal structures. These models prioritize efficiency over adaptability, resulting in rigid, functionally pre-determined layouts that fail to address contemporary demographic challenges, such as the rise of single-person households and an aging population, making them increasingly inadequate for today's evolving society and culture specificities. Rather than presenting an opportunity to explore new and more adequate programs, the challenge of housing shortage represents a risk of further perpetuating outdated and rigid models, accentuating social and economic disparities. Limited access to affordable post-occupancy spatial modifications further deepens inequalities, hindering social justice and equity.

Highlighting the importance of housing in the present context, the study proposes to comprehend how the new urban dwelling can address emergent social challenges, contemporary demands and practices – both design wise and living arrangements wise. The aim of the paper is, therefore, to identify new paths for innovative urban dwellings that respond to the complexities of

contemporary society. To accomplish this aim, the paper proposes an examination of European case-studies, illustrating the potential of emergent and groundbreaking housing solutions, understanding the design principles and living models that underlay them. Results from this analysis show that innovative models are grounded on concepts of versatility, flexibility, adaptability, intergenerational living, participatory processes and co-habitation models, adopting a human-centred approach to the design process.

In light of these findings, the concept of future living emerges as a vital framework for rethinking urban housing models to align with the dynamic realities of contemporary society. Future living envisions dwellings that are not only adaptable and inclusive but also reflective of diverse cultural, demographic, and socio-economic contexts. By prioritizing human-centered design, flexibility, and collective living arrangements, this approach has the potential to bridge the gap between evolving social practices and the built environment. As housing continues to play a critical role in shaping equitable and sustainable urban futures, embracing innovative solutions grounded in the principles of future living can redefine the way we conceive and inhabit our homes, fostering resilience and social cohesion in the face of ongoing transformations.

Keywords

Urban Dwelling, innovative housing solutions, 21st century living arrangements

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Beyond the Binary: Inclusive Housing Strategies for LGBTQIA+ Communities.

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How can the spatial claims of urban queer communities inform planning programs, policies, and governance processes in terms of socio-spatial justice? How can tactics promoted by LGBTQIA+ associations to counter housing vulnerability and social exclusion reorient urban policies? What models of living and domesticity are promoted by these space-making practices? These questions, which feed into a broader PhD research project, guide the trajectory of this contribution, wishing to contribute to the field of interrogation and problematization on future living perspectives. The aim is to investigate the critical articulations between housing vulnerability and social inclusion of urban LGBTQIA+ communities in southern European cities, adopting an intersectional and interdisciplinary approach to observe some of their spatial claims and foster a reflection on emergent socio-spatial practices and policies. Despite decades of queer spatial scholarship that questions the heteronormative assumptions embedded in the design and management of cities, LGBTQIA+ supportive social inclusion has not yet been integrated through plans and policies into the everyday work of urban governance (Bain & Podmore, 2021). While recent discussions in the international geographic literature have focused on the urban aspects of gender and sexualities in public spaces, there has been a noticeable lack of attention to inhabitation spaces—specifically, how these spaces are accessed, contested, inhabited, and organized. Concurrently, the acceleration of urban processes, the global housing crisis, the rise of neoliberal policies, and the erosion of the welfare state have exacerbated socio-spatial inequalities, leading to increased displacement and expulsion processes (Sassen, 2014). These trends, in combination with the economic crisis and weak housing welfare, are particularly evident in tourist cities such as Rome and Lisbon,

which have been affected by a voracious phase of financialization and profiting from housing platforms over the last few years, leading to an exponential increase in rent prices and the expulsion of inhabitants unable to afford these costs (Rolnik, 2019). These processes call for an urgent rethinking of our inclusive policies on both local and transnational scales in light of the growing interconnection between social inequalities and current global emergencies. In particular, the LGBTQIA+ population suffers from specific forms of vulnerability throughout their lives due to various forms of discrimination and stigma that limit their spatial and socio-economic opportunities. The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights annual survey on LGBTQ equality shows that discrimination is experienced in areas such as education (15%), healthcare (14%), housing (12%), and social life (17%) in which LGBTIQ people are not protected from discrimination by the EU law in force (FRA, 2024, p.18). Therefore, this contribution aims to reaffirm the right to housing as a key pillar of social reproduction in contemporary societies by looking at the development of an LGBTQIA+ senior co-housing project promoted by the Agapanto Association in Rome and the activities of Opus Diversidades Association in Lisbon engaged in supporting LGBTQ+ urban and social integration. We will reflect on how queer agencies can rethink our models of coexistence toward the construction of more inclusive urban communities as infrastructures of mutual solidarity and care.

Keywords

LGBTQIA+ husing; spatial justice; inclusive urban development

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Dwelling Beyond Commodities: Affordable Living Through Reimagining the Production of Objects in Domestic Space

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The increasing financialization and commodification of housing have made homeownership increasingly inaccessible, transforming living spaces into unaffordable commodities and affecting people's quality of life. While traditional research primarily dissects the macro-level structural, historical, and institutional dimensions of this crisis, this study shifts focus to the micro-level of practical implementation, specifically on the modification processes within rental spaces. This study aims to understand the actors involved, the constraints residents face, and potential affordable modification strategies to enhance living quality. To further explore these aspects, taking Taiwan, Taipei as an example, this research examines how residents can reclaim agency over their living spaces by engaging in the modification and creation of objects within their homes.

This research delves into the interaction dynamics and power relations among various actors—residents, local manufacturers, materials, and other stakeholders—involved in the modification process. It also analyzes the constraints that influence modification decisions. In today's consumer culture of mass production and planned obsolescence, people often feel disconnected from daily objects. This study investigates how actively participating in the production and modification of these objects can combat this alienation. Using a service design framework, it proposes practical solutions to improve residents' living conditions, specifically within the context of Taipei's often limited-budget rental market. The framework aims to create a network connecting residents with local manufacturers and available resources, enabling them to customize their spaces affordably. This includes addressing diverse needs, from space-saving furniture for compact living to assistive adaptations for aging residents. The focus is on both creating and

repairing objects, empowering residents to actively participate in the entire lifecycle of their belongings, from production and repair to reuse.

By facilitating collaboration and user engagement, this approach helps residents personalize their rental spaces within their budgets, building a stronger connection to their material surroundings and reducing feelings of alienation. The research explores practical strategies, such as utilizing open-source information and partnering with local manufacturers, suppliers, and other community actors to facilitate the manufacture, repair, and reuse of objects. This collaborative approach offers potential pathways to improved living conditions and greater community resilience.

Through practical implementation, this research demonstrates how residents can regain control of their domestic environments by actively interacting with the objects around them. This creates more meaningful relationships with their material possessions, ultimately enabling them to authentically dwell in their homes and the city.

Keywords

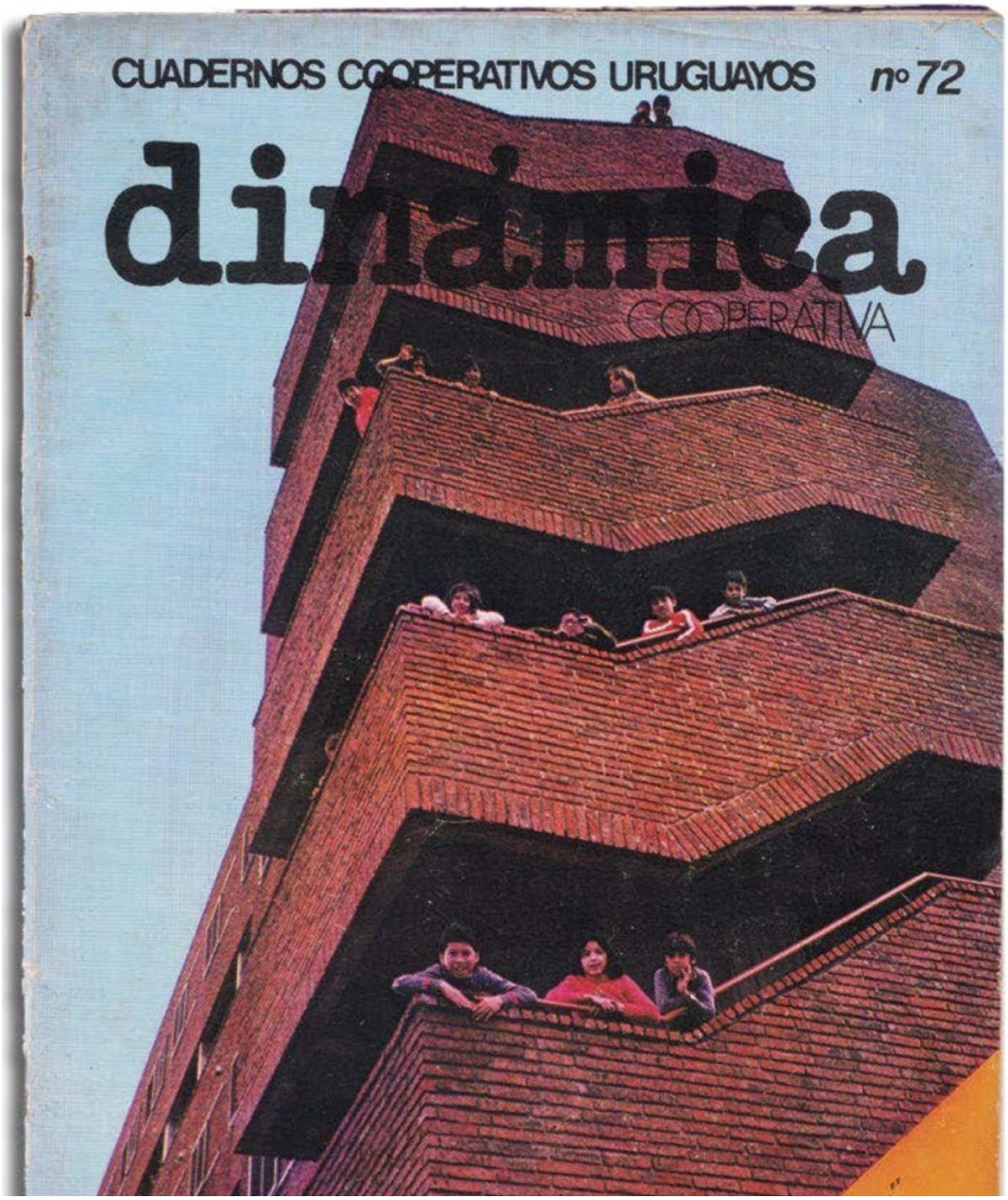
domestic space, affordable living, human-object relationship,

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CUADERNOS COOPERATIVOS URUGUAYOS nº 72
dinámica
COOPERATIVA

ReNew Cooperatives: Updates on the Cooperative Housing System in Uruguay.

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The cooperative housing system in Uruguay is already known as a reference in the social production of housing and habitat. Based on collective ownership, self-management and technical assistance, has provided quality social housing solutions, while helping to maintain the social function of housing against the dynamics of the market and real estate speculation.

During more than 50 years of experience, this system has shown a high capacity to adapt to the different economic, social and political conditions it has faced, while being a genuine laboratory of social, urbanistic and architectural proposals.

Starting from both small and large complexes in the periphery of the cities; continuing with experiences either in building renovation by self-construction, as well as new constructions —some of them high-rise— in the central areas; and recently, with pilot experiences of 'dispersed cooperatives' in the historic centre; Uruguayan cooperatives have produced a great diversity of housing solutions and have contributed in the consolidation and regeneration of urban areas, shifting the vision of housing as a product with exchange value towards housing as a scenario and mechanism for the collective production of habitat and the right to the city.

This adaptive capacity has not only been applied to the local context. Through the 'South-South Cooperation project' promoted by FUCVAM and We Effect , the principles, experience and knowledge accumulated by the mutual aid cooperatives have been transmitted to other Latin American countries where new versions of the system have been developed according to local circumstances.

Now, more than 50 years after the first cooperatives were built and inhabited, a third way of actualisation is emerging. The changes in the social com-

position of their inhabitants as well as the diversity of family and cohabitation models, the incorporation of productive work in dwellings, or the need to de-hierarchise spaces, attend to active ageing and care -not only for elderly groups-, demand to investigate and examine how the spatial conditions of these first cooperatives have progressed, and whether the spaces —individual and collective— produced in those years remain valid, adequate or adaptable to the needs of contemporary life and the current social groups that inhabit them. (Del Castillo & Vallés, 2014)

What are the spatial and functional mismatches and what are the possibilities for spatial updating of the existing cooperatives? How to work and operate from and with what already exists?

Based on case studies, this work carries out a categorised analysis of spatial mismatches, and proposes principles and criteria for working towards the update of spaces through small interventions that transcend the idea of individual refurbishments to pose collective challenges and decisions in specific circumstances.

As Nägeli & Tajeri (2016) state, small interventions emerge as a project method whose actions derive from the specific tangible and intangible characteristics of each circumstance: structure, materiality, spatial organisation, as well as the needs, practices and knowledge of the inhabitants. It is a careful but creative design method that introduces effective changes from comprehensible designs, allowing architecture to explore new fields of aesthetic translations.

Keywords

Housing-cooperatives, adaptative re-use, Latín America

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Informality, Climate Adaptation and Infrastructure: Making Karachi a Resilient City

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In the aftermath of unprecedented rainfall in 2020, Karachi experienced catastrophic urban flooding. However, government interventions in the aftermath targeted residents of informal settlements located along the drains through relentless demolition campaigns aimed at ‘streamlining’ the city’s stormwater drains. This research investigates the nexus between top-down climate adaptation policies and housing informality in Karachi by looking at the case of the Gujjar and Orangi Nullah streamlining project(s). Specifically, the research examines how planning regimes interact with informal housing settlements built along the drains, especially as residents battle with the dual crisis of affordable housing and a rapidly changing climate. In looking at the narrativization around demolition campaigns in service of 'building resilience', this research challenges definitions of resilience, adaptation and planning within the context of a rapidly growing mega-city of Karachi. Ultimately, it is argued that resilience is relationally negotiated in the lives of everyday residents, and in the absence of adequate resources and political will on a governmental level, residents of informal settlements find ways of adapting to natural disasters in communal and relational ways. As the vast majority of Karachi’s residents are faced with an acute crisis of housing and adequate infrastructure provision, these findings make a strong case for an epistemology of planning grounded in community knowledge and everyday practices of resilience.

Keywords

Informality, displacement, climate resilience

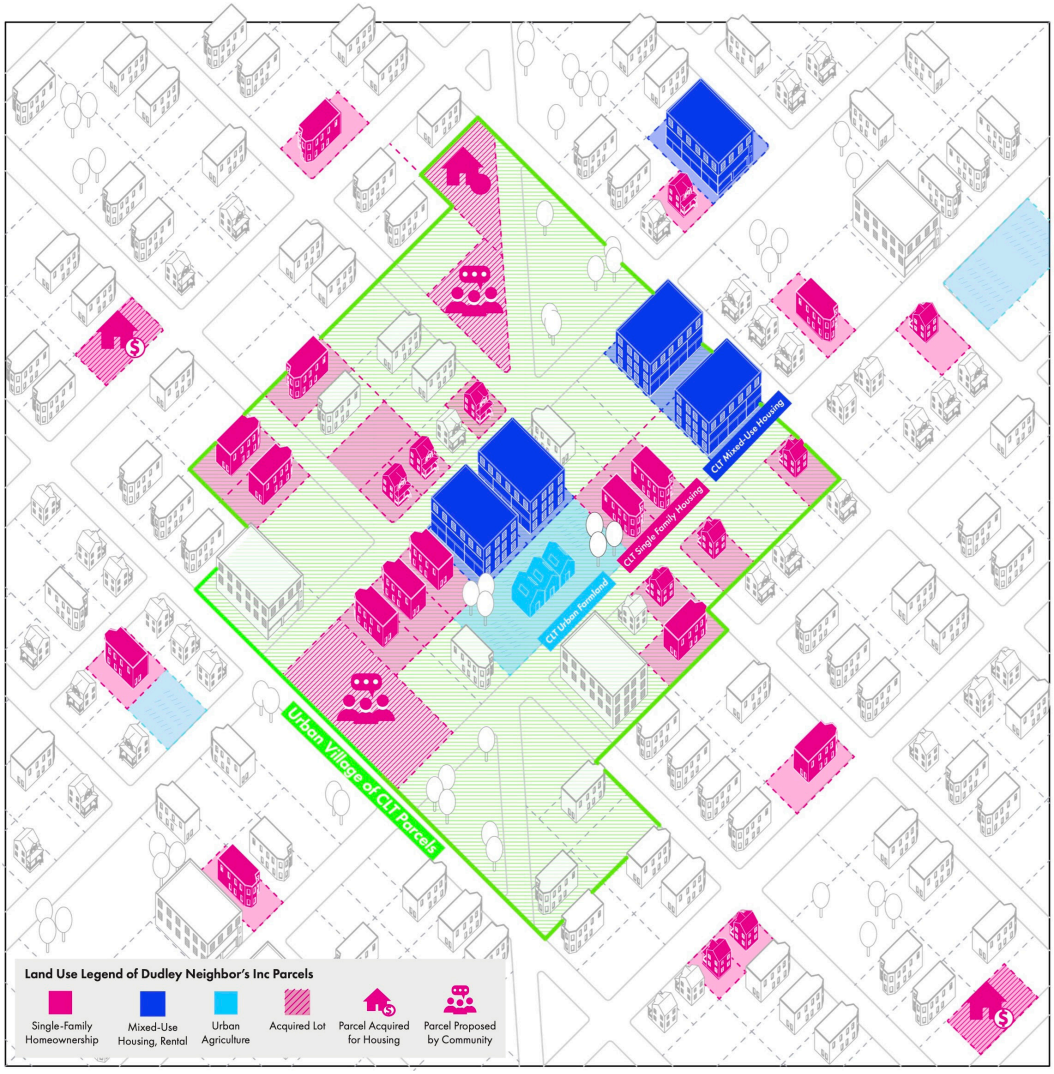
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Community land trusts, a non-profit housing and land development model in the US, contribute to the strategic decommodification of land. In the process of acquiring land, they take on an urban footprint that is scattered across their area of impact. One such land trust, Rondo Community Land Trust, has clustered its dispersed footprint along a cultural-economic corridor that is important to African-Americans in the city of Saint Paul. This urban strategy aims to repair the harm caused by neighborhood demolitions from the mid-19th century.

Development through Decommodification: How Community Land Trusts Advance Reparative Urban Visions

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This article examines the reparative urban practice of three well-established community land trusts (CLTs) in the United States. Whereas commercial land developers tend to favor concentrated, market-driven projects with quick returns, CLTs are mission-driven non-profit organizations that strive for systemic change by strategically taking land off the market. CLTs' manner of operating enables them to advance urban visions that commercial developers would not and could not undertake. Building on the concept "grounded urban practice," (Nagati et al, 2019) this paper demonstrates how CLTs use space as an agent of urban transformation, rooted in community and with experimental organizational methods that defy the status quo. More specifically, the paper elaborates the key factors that have allowed exemplary, long-standing trusts to succeed in advancing spatial justice in cities and territories across the US. For these trusts, the key factors to success include the following: having a long-term, place-based agenda for justice; having a diverse range of programs to activate different actors, financial tools, and land interests; and having explicitly spatial strategies that negotiate the social and urban field. The paper presents these key traits, which the trusts have in common and which we argue are the foundation for their accomplishments. These findings—drawn from semi-structured interviews, GIS mapping, and spatial analysis—are relevant to multiple actors: municipalities who committed to addressing historical harm; emerging community-based organizations aiming to intervene in their urban land markets; and designers and planners eager to contribute to land-based movements.

CLTs engage with the property market by decommodifying portions of it, making these portions suitable for affordable, community-driven projects. In effect, properties incorporated into a CLT are decommodified of their land

value, such that only the value of the right to use the land and any existing buildings remain on the market. With the land value (what is colloquially called "the dirt") removed from the equation, CLTs are able to offer economic integration through affordable housing but also—and much more significantly—in the cases described here, the advancement of spatial justice through neighborhood-scale urban transformation.

This paper draws from rich scholarship on CLTs from sociocultural and economic standpoints (DeFilippis et al, 2019) and starts to fill the knowledge gap of CLTs as alternative urban planners-developers, especially ones which have a track record of success, identify as an urban actor, and position themselves in political terms. For the three trusts discussed in the paper, the concept of urban reparation is key, because each has emerged out of contextually-defined historic injustices related to racialization and colonization (Forester et al, 2022). For Rondo CLT, this translates to a revitalized commercial corridor enlivened by Black American culture; for North Shore CLT it means conservation of the indigenous ahupua'a valleys under the threat of urbanization; and for Dudley Neighbors CLT this manifests as a vibrant, mixed-use village centered on resident empowerment. In a moment of escalating, interconnected environmental crises, these CLTs offer an inspiring and well-established model that demonstrates the importance of communities in shaping the property market to address issues of environmental and social sustainability.

Keywords

Community land trust, urban design, decommodification

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Mapa síntese das sessões participativas em Paredes de Coura. A leitura coletiva do território destaca a relação histórica com a água e a importância das práticas socioecológicas na construção da paisagem.

Disputed Territories In Latin America And Their Integration: A Case Study Of The Buenos Aires Metropolitan Area

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Latin America's urban landscape is characterized by the existence of numerous disputed territories. These legally grey areas are the main setting for significant social and economic disparities. In these disputed lands, informal settlements with high illiteracy rates and precarious housing, little to no infrastructure or access to social services, coexist with gated communities, surrounded by brick walls and security posts, disrupting the urban layout. More often than not, these realities are juxtaposed, highlighting the rupture in both the social and urban fabric of Latin American countries, whose rapid degeneration began with the neoliberal policies of the 1970s and 1990s across the entire continent; particularly economic and urban deregulation, massive privatisations and the end of the welfare state. The government shifted its focus from building public infrastructure —such as schools, hospitals and social housing— to allowing and promoting the design of "urban artifacts"; consumer-driven infrastructure —shopping malls, skyscraper complexes and highways—. This shift contributed to the rise and proliferation of gated communities, which often have their own schools and health centers designed into their urban logic. They also feature private pools and artificial lakes, aggravating both social and environmental issues, as they alter the ecosystem to settle on areas unsuited for these kinds of constructions, such as wetlands, causing flooding in the adjacent informal neighborhoods. Residents of these informal settlements remain segregated, isolated from transportation and basic services, and lack access to clean water and sewage systems. This research focuses on the AMBA (Área Metropolitana de Buenos Aires), one of the largest and most significant urban agglomerations in Latin America. Covering 3,833 km² and containing 35% of Argentina's national population, the AMBA presents substantial opportunities for revi-

talizing its disputed lands, which are often state-owned, such as former railway tracks, train stations, or vacant lots. These areas offer the possibility of intervention, with the objective of redesigning them as communal, democratic and sustainable spaces. This study examines small and medium-scale urban processes that aim to reconnect the urban fabric and provide sustainable, inclusive solutions for these borders. It presents strategies that complete the urban fabric of these contested lands, not by expanding the metropolitan area, but through micro-interventions using commercial and popular approaches to enrich the local identity and economy with the support of the local government and non-profit organizations. These interventions involve small-scale, community-driven projects, such as parks and fairs, which integrate into the existing urban structure. This study emphasizes the importance of interconnected lands and active communities that participate in urban design, as well as the significance of transforming these contested areas into public landmarks. In doing so, they can become democratic spaces for all, bridging the gap between informal and gated settlements, reimagining the urban fabric and playing a crucial role in building local citizenship.

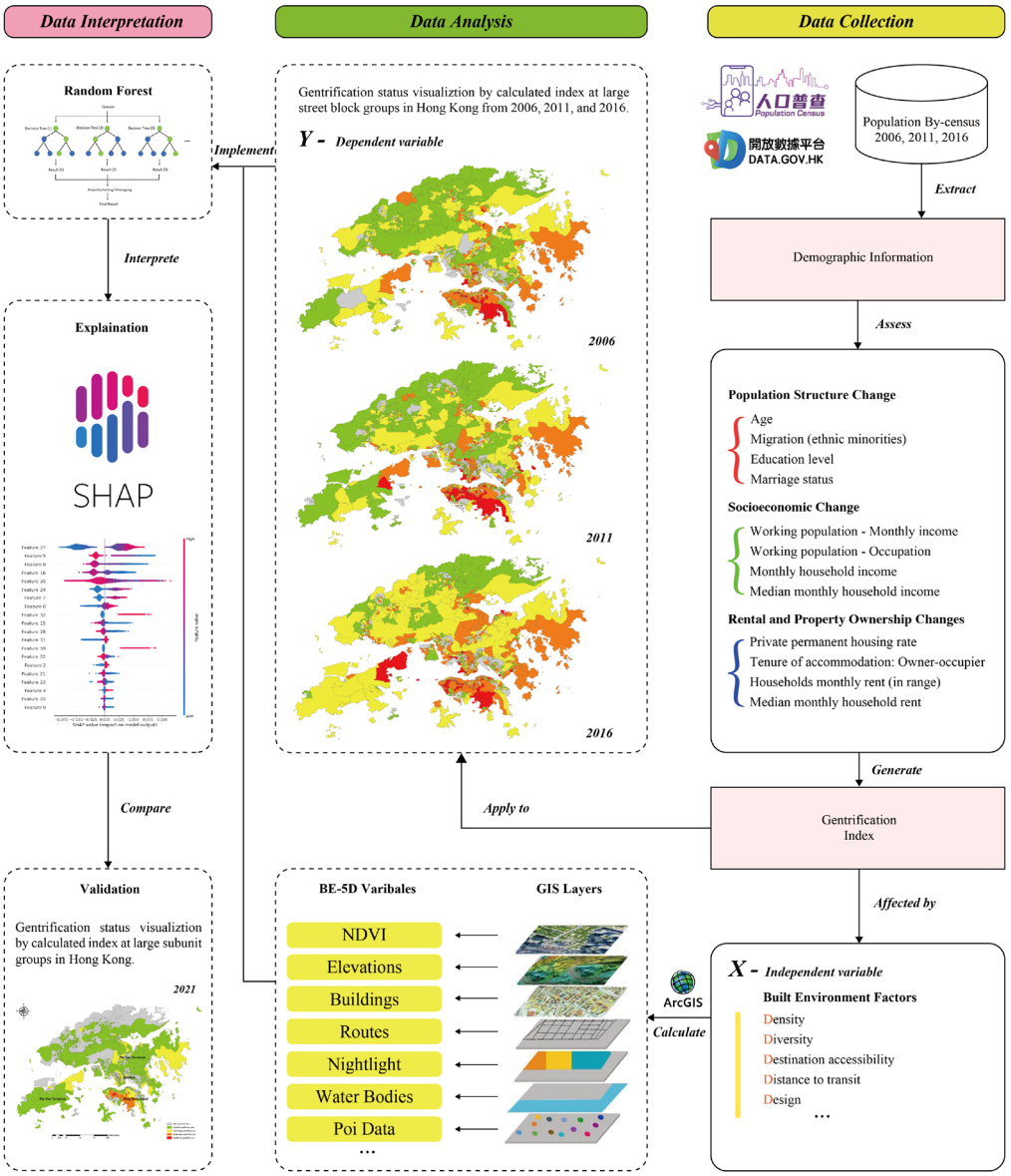
Keywords

disputed territories; informal settlements; urban segregation

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Research Framework



Modeling Urban Gentrification through Machine Learning: A Predictive and Explanatory Approach

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Gentrification, a significant urban issue, arises from complex relationships among socio-economic, spatial, and physical factors, frequently resulting in substantial effects on housing affordability, urban environments, and community dynamics. In the context of fast urbanization and increasing global prosperity, gentrification has emerged as a notable phenomenon impacting cities globally. Policymakers and planners' capacity to tackle social equality and spatial justice, especially in housing, increasingly depends on proactive intervention measures. The advent of technologies like machine learning (ML) and explainable AI enables the exploration of non-linear factors affecting gentrification and the prediction of its developing patterns.

Hong Kong, known as a hyper-dense and dynamic metropolis, provides an imperative context for comprehending these transitions. Conventional gentrification research frequently emphasizes single aspects, such as housing costs or demographic changes, so constraining their capacity to develop holistic assessment metrics or determination procedures. This study applies ML to model and forecast gentrification patterns via temporal urban data. A Gentrification Index (GI) is created by analyzing characteristics like demographic composition, educational attainment, income levels, and housing tenure across three distinct time periods (e.g., 2006, 2011, and 2016). The GI functions as the dependent variable, whilst independent variables are obtained from multi-source datasets, covering 5D built environment (BE) attributes computed using Points of Interests and computer vision

approaches, including deep mapping.

The proposed method integrates two complementing models: an explanatory model and a prediction model. The explanatory model employs variables to ascertain the principal factors of gentrification from 2006 to 2016. Advanced ML approaches, including Random Forest and XGBoost, are utilized to manage non-linear interactions and evaluate feature importance, whereas regularization approaches are implemented to mitigate multicollinearity and improve model resiliency. The predictive model relies on built environment factors to anticipate GI alterations in subsequent years (e.g., 2021) and juxtaposes these forecasts with the GI computed using the assessment tool used in this study. This facilitates anticipatory analysis of gentrification patterns in years after that (e.g., post-2021).

The primary findings indicate that factors including educational achievement, real estate ownership, and economic inequality significantly influence gentrification trends. The five-dimensional BE features provide considerable predictive accuracy in forecasting gentrification trends. This research seeks to enhance understanding of gentrification processes to inform urban planning efforts aimed at achieving more equitable outcomes, particularly for vulnerable populations affected by gentrification and community revitalization.

Keywords

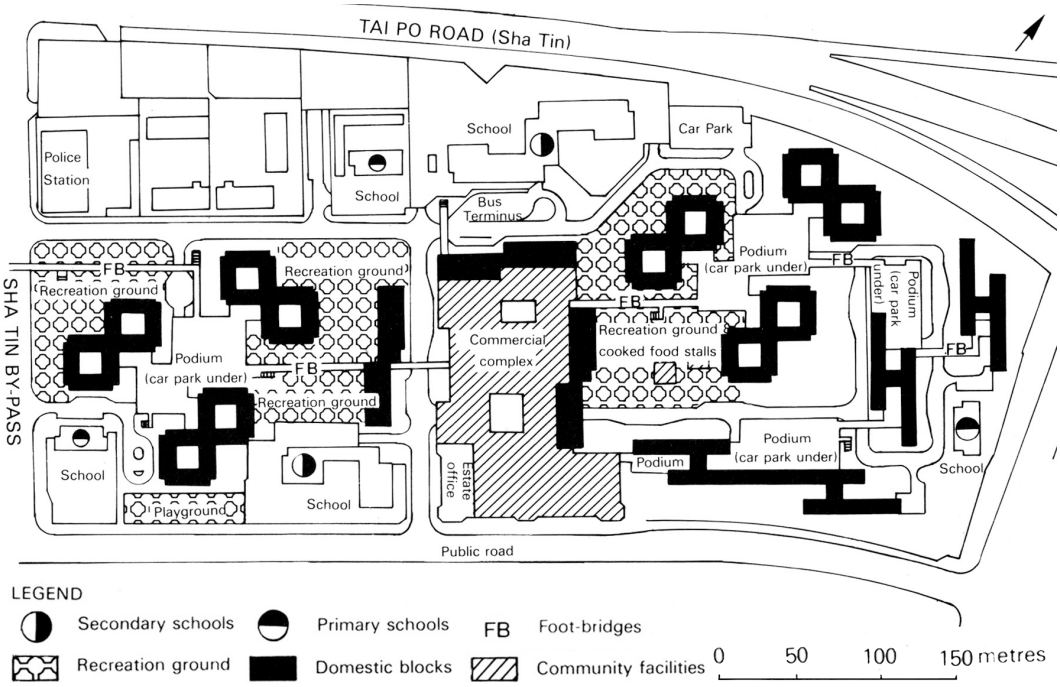
Urban gentrification, machine learning, urban planning

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TAI PO ROAD (Sha Tin)
Police Station
School
School
Car Park
Bus Terminus
Podium (car park under)
FB
Recreation ground
Recreation ground
Podium (car park under)
FB
Recreation ground
Commercial complex
Recreation ground
cooked food stalls
Podium (car park under)
FB
SHA TIN BY-PASS
School
Playground
School
Estate office
Podium
Podium (car park under)
School
Public road
LEGEND
Secondary schools
Primary schools
FB
Foot-bridges
Recreation ground
Domestic blocks
Community facilities
0
50
100
150 metres

The Role of Environment Perception in Older Adults' Place Attachment Formation: A Case Study in a High-Density Residential Neighbourhood in Hong Kong

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The perception of everyday life environments is fundamental in developing place attachment, which is crucial for the mental well-being of older adults in particular (Tuan, 1975; Pretty, 2013; Zhang, 2022; Sun, 2023). The perceived quality of the environment is a result of subjective and objective reasoning, related to aspects such as the spatial and social qualities of the environment, a person's activity purpose and background (Hidalgo & Hernandez, 2001; Scannell & Gifford, 2010). Older adults often form strong emotional ties within their neighbourhoods, which helps them cope with ageing and reduced mobility, especially within high-density neighbourhoods (Wu et al., 2020). Scholars have extensively discussed the place-related factors influencing the development of place attachment, including the scale of place (Lewicka, 2010; Raymond et al., 2010), and physical factors (Gokce, 2017; Sun, 2018). It is generally believed that high-quality public space, community amenities and facilities contribute to the stabilisation of place attachment (Buffel et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2020). However, there is a lack of understanding of the inter-relationship between the perceived quality of the environment, activities and place attachment from an urban design perspective.

In this context, this paper aims to examine how older adults develop place attachment in the process of perceiving everyday life environment and its interplay with behaviours. Through proposing and adopting a conceptual framework based on Ewing and Handy (2009), the complexities and nuances

of place attachment are described. The study used a participatory approach, collecting older residents' perceived quality of the design of high-density neighbourhoods through surveys. It engaged 20 older local residents of Wo Che Estate, a high-density housing project constructed over 50 years ago in Shatin New Town, Hong Kong. Adopting the Photovoice method, participants were provided with cell phones and took photographs to illustrate their sense of place attachment. The photographs and comments were organised according to the themes of identity, safety, comfort, attraction and function. The design attributes of the places that were identified as less and more significant were then discussed according to themes.

The findings of this study reveal that consistent design and form of building blocks and podium parks contribute to the formation of place attachments, which play a crucial role in high-density-based seniors' everyday lives. The analysis of amenities and facilities suggests that a safe and accessible pedestrian network within the community can support these daily functions. A willingness among seniors to participate in the design and organisation of public space was also uncovered. Given the urgent need to improve and redevelop these ageing high-density residential neighbourhoods, the study provides important insights into which spatial conditions should be retained during urban renewal, to safeguard the well-being of the ageing population.

Keywords

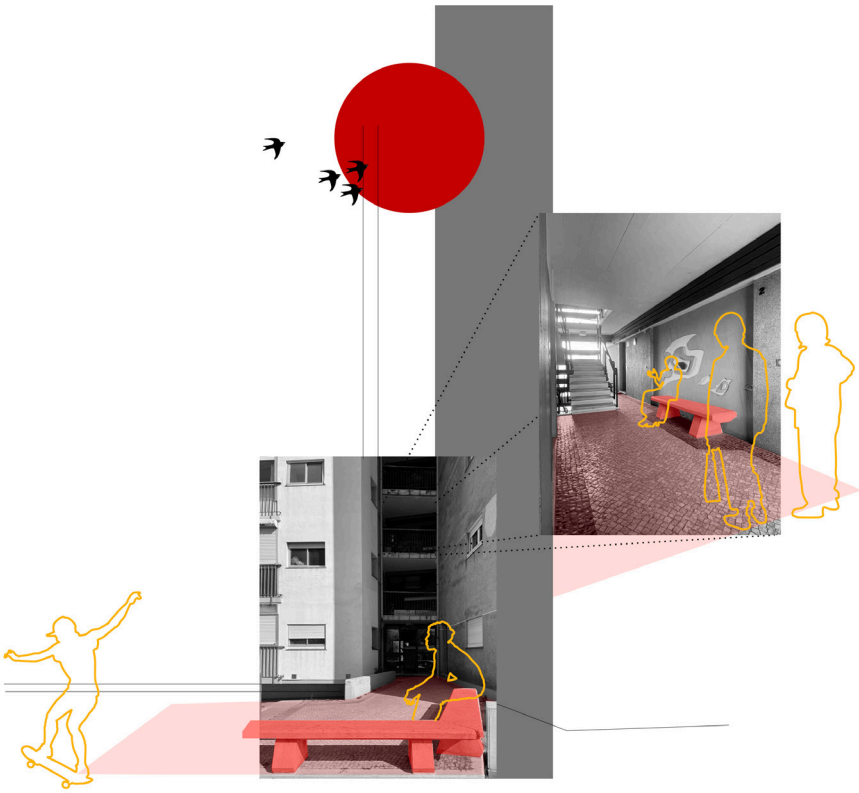
Urban Space Perception, High-Density Neighbourhoods, Place Attachment, Older Adults

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Collective Domesticity. The case of Olivais Norte (Joao Silva Leite)

Living together: threshold spaces of collective expression

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Co-living, in recent years, has emerged as an alternative response to the liberal housing market. The development of contemporary types of collective housing, including their complementary spaces of common use, seek to offer alternatives where living together represents an added value in strengthening interpersonal relationships and social integration. Among these typologies, housing co-operatives have made a name for themselves in the European context, as an option for building affordable housing, enhancing new models of living together, where sharing common spaces question the housing typology. Departing from the interweaving relation of house, building and city, the aim of this article is to address the hinging character of collective spaces within the binomial public-private conflict.

These experiments have reclaimed principles of spatial composition that promote living in common spaces. From spaces – or rooms with a collective use – to simple architectural elements, spatial systems are created, merging with building's internal distribution circuits and, simultaneously, redefining the rigid boundaries between house, building and city. Taking Lisbon as a field of analysis, the article presents a detailed reading of the transition system that articulates the urban public space and the domesticity of the house. Through a main case study, the Oliviais Norte Housing Towers (1968), designed by Nuno Teotónio Pereira, Nuno Portas and António Pinto de Freitas, a cross-sectional and multi-scale decomposition of the transition system is proposed with the aim of highlighting the various architectural elements and space composition strategies, influencing distinct behavior patterns within the building's common space.

The combination of photographic report with a process of drawn systemic decomposition allows to decode the relationship between form, space,

and architectural elements. By doing so, the articulation between private, collective, and public spaces can be easily interpreted. In this way, the design of communal spaces of collective housing buildings is valued as places of opportunity, granting meetings, sharing and collective conviviality, endowing them with spatial qualities that go beyond simple functional circulation. The common spaces' ambivalence of use, and their accredited spatial features, foster relations that enrich and expand the domesticity of each house, whilst asserting themselves as places that transcend public space within the building. Therefore, collective spaces are both spaces of sharing and gathering, of openness and connection with cities' public life.

The exercise of reading and decoding Olivais Norte Housing Towers, and the comparison with other examples in the city of Lisbon, opened the possibility to establish a systematized matrix of collective housing transition spaces. Consequently, the blurry figure that this system could serve the production of new typologies, capable of articulating both urban fabric and the domesticity of the private sphere. Paraphrasing Manuel de Solà-Morales, collective spaces are every place where collective life unfolds, where public spaces are absorbed by private activities, and private spaces acquire a collective use, demonstrating their meaningful expression.

Keywords

collective housing, common space; threshold;

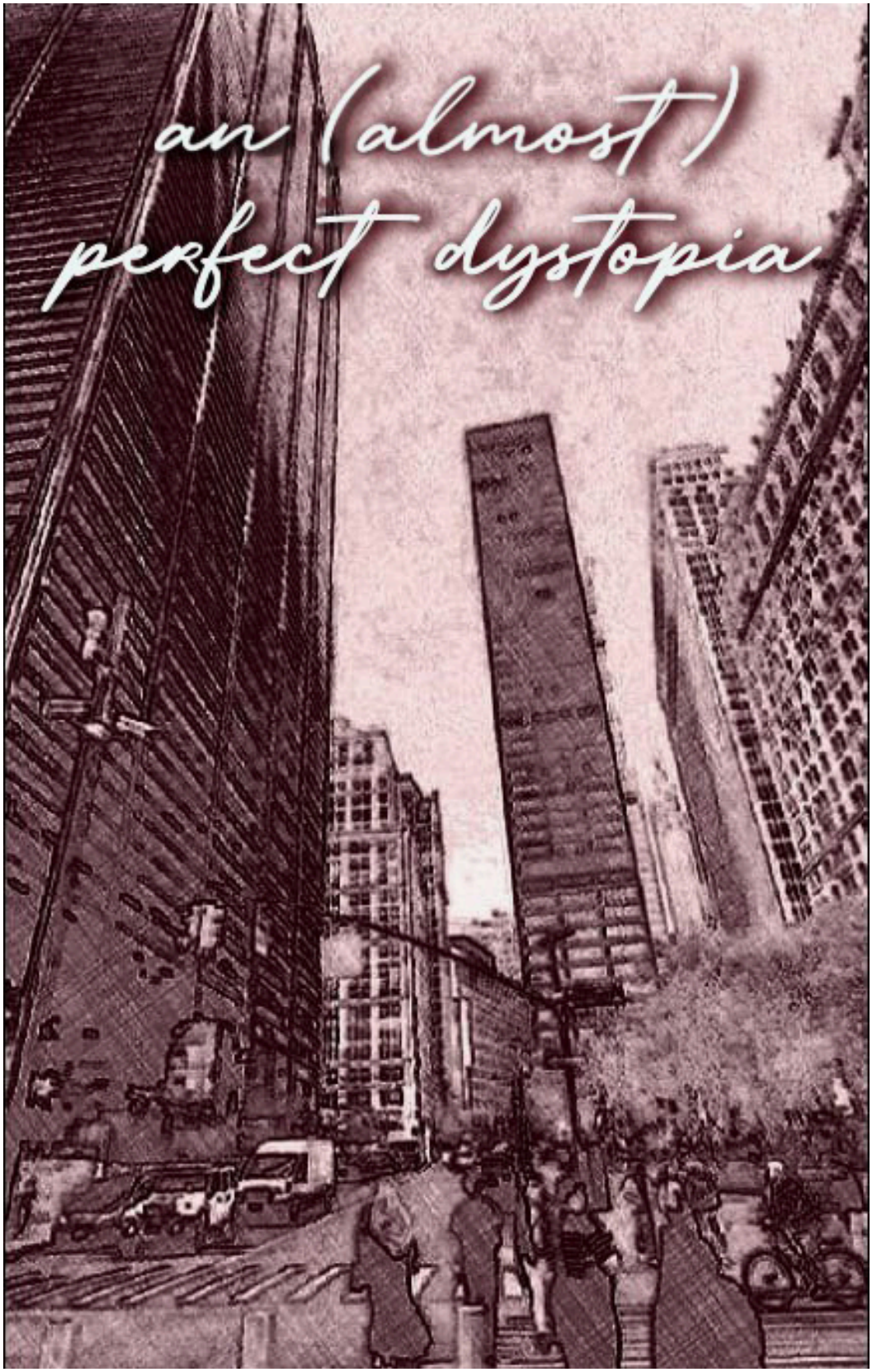
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an (almost)
perfect dystopia

An (Almost) Perfect Dystopia

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Architecture is the spatial conquest of the Environment because it supports human habitation in decisive aspects, such as a physical protection and a psycho-social setting, in the way it qualifies the territory and keeps the memory of communities in what we call 'places'. But for this very reason, Architecture disrupts the 'natural order', establishing another kind of 'order' that ultimately results from an attempt to 'domesticate' Nature. But Nature is not domesticable: it does not 'behave' like an animal subjected to a specific 'training', subordinating the animal behavear to a cultural order. By analogie, this principle 'allowed' us to create an image of the world that subordinates everything that is alive (or moves) to our usage program, from the wind to animal species, including vegetation (as Agriculture) or geology (as volcanic activity). Under 'natural' conditions, that is, without artifacts or mechanisms, this would not be possible. Thus, Mankind has created a sort of a gigantic machine that covers almost all the Earth's territory to meet human needs established by that image of the world which Culture—each Culture, in fact—has forged. For Mankind, Nature must, then, function as a huge 'factory'.

On the other hand, because of the representational nature of Architecture (even if it only represents function) man creates space he can appropriate for his own purposes – it is man's way of staging his life, satisfying his need for symbolism. Doing that, opposing human space to natural space, Architecture thus creates another space that, in Nature, works as a kind of 'discontinuity'. But, doing so, however, man failed to realize that he gave shape to what we could call 'an (almost) perfect dystopia'. In fact, it is urgent to understand how the Architectural Discipline has distanced itself from Science, allowing, in the production and use of space, an impact on the Environ-

ment that depletes the resources of the human habitat itself, destroys its biological capital, and prevents Nature from restoring an order that would keep the safeguard of that habitat.

Perhaps we have not fully realized that, in every transformation, there is a philosophy of destruction, very difficult to control, which always works alongside the philosophy of construction. Why is it that all the attempted Utopias have resulted in violent Dystopias? Shouldn't we, or even must we not, question the very roots of architectural and urban thinking, given that Architecture has always become one of the main instruments of the whole process? The answer will certainly involve reviewing the foundations of the discipline of Architecture and Urbanism. Only by becoming aware of this will Humanity be able to overcome the challenges of our time. In brief, we can therefore consider that there is a set of inconsistencies and mistakes (still waiting to be reported and interpreted) that have confused the Discipline and conditioned the making of Architecture and Urbanism in such a way that we have reached a point where we must consider the paradoxical and contradictory consequences in our 'current' way of inhabiting this planet.

Keywords

housing — culture — discipline

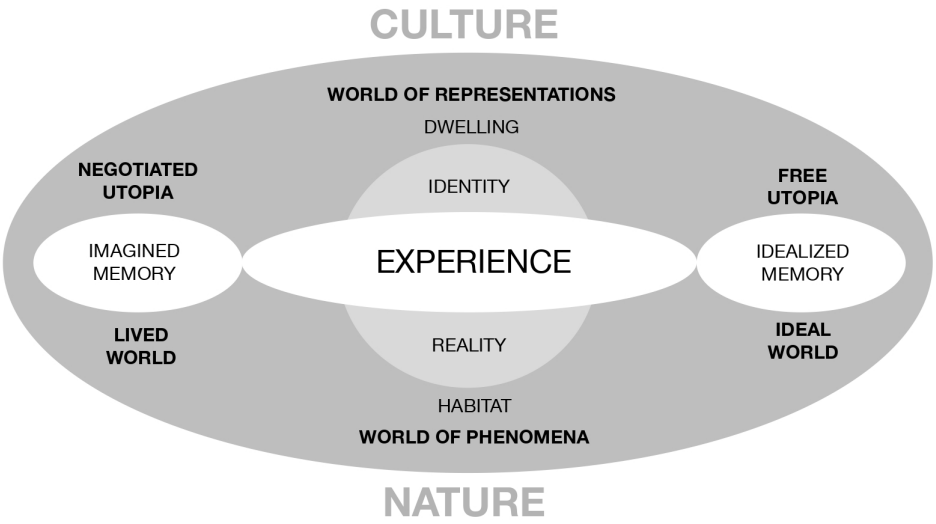
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THE HABITAT-EFFECT



New cultures of dwelling and the law

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If any other animal species acted upon the environment with such a devastating effect as we humans do, the planet's biodiversity would certainly no longer exist. It seems to be a rule of ecosystem's evolution that domination of a habitat by a single animal species causes the so-called 'cloaca effect' , prefiguring its near extinction. The depletion of food and the 'aggressive' behaviour of individuals are symptoms of that . Why didn't this phenomenon already affect the human species? Law itself seems to ignore the real consequences of our ordinary attitude towards environment. In these circumstances, Architecture, which literally produces an artificial habitat to assist and settle human activities in space, becomes ecologically expensive: the soil loses its permeability, disrupting the natural water cycles; the contamination of groundwater with toxic substances favours the emergence of ecosystems that are harmful to human health; the large-scale displacement of building materials that industrial activity requires changes the very geography of the planet, and so on ... In practical terms, the planet as a whole is no longer able to be a shelter for the globe's human population. However, we don't know how long that radical change of our survival conditions will take. Thus, the prospect of the critical moment when environmental transformations will become irreversible, puts a 'Damocles sword' hanging over the head of Humanity: the ambition to submit everything to the desire for a 'comfortable' world (for the 'first world', of course) does indeed involve risks of an apocalyptic dimension for all humans. It's also true that assessing the conditions for conserving an environment which supports the 'ecological footprint' of human activities in today's world can only be achieved from a concept of 'survival' that requires a review of the logic of production, distribution and product consumption in the global economy. The idea of a com-

promise between respect for the principles of sustainability and the performance of the market economy is no longer taken seriously by any current of political thought. Even the very notion of 'good' 'green' Architecture no longer gives us a precise idea which architects can deal with.

On the face of so many contradictions, the concepts are becoming meaningless. The solution will certainly involve revising other types of concepts: those that determine the production of the Law itself, beyond the various cultural horizons. Order, Rule, Legitimacy and even Law, as concepts, as well as Discipline itself, which Architecture claims as the foundation of its method for thinking about 'dwelling' in the habitat, will have to be rethought in the light of a critical logic, reinstituting a sense of 'norm' already freed from cultural or market conditioning. 'Property', 'governance' and even 'power' will have to regain their anthropo-historical, political and economical perspectives and, above all, their humanistic 'dimension', possibly against almost all dominant mentalities. We intend to analyse the very roots and the logic of the Discipline in a structured way so that Architecture can face a viable future.

Keywords

dwelling — legislation — urbanism

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Public Housing Policies: Diversity as a way to Weather the Crisis

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The so-called 'housing crisis' is a persistent phenomenon that has affected most European countries (and beyond) over time, generally deepening in severity and expanding in scope. In the European context, Portugal stands out as one of the countries most severely impacted by this crisis (OECD, 2025). The exceptional rise in housing prices—both for purchase and rental—recorded between 2011 and 2024 has far outpaced income growth over the same period (CM Lisboa, 2023).

This widening gap between housing costs and household income has had profound structural consequences, making housing a central issue on the political agenda in the second decade of the 21st century. In Portugal, several factors have contributed to this 'perfect storm', including: i) the sharp decline in housing supply following the sovereign debt crisis, which nearly decimated the construction industry; ii) the significant growth in tourism over the past decade; iii) the recent and substantial increase in immigration; and iv) Portugal's attractiveness as a destination for international real estate investment (INE, 2021).

In response to this situation, a broad range of public policies have been implemented since 2018, aiming to mitigate the effects of the crisis and address the challenges it presents. However, after nearly seven years (2018–2025), the political, economic, and social impacts of the crisis continue to intensify, and the 'storm' shows no signs of abating.

Given this context, the present study does not seek to evaluate the implementation of public policies but rather aims to address the underlying assumptions shaping the design of these policies. It advances the hypothesis that public housing policy design should be grounded in the principle of diversity.

Focusing on two territorial areas—the Algarve and the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (AML)—and covering the period between 2011 and 2024, the study seeks to demonstrate that the accurate identification and characterization of diverse dimensions must be the central pillar of effective public policy design (Pinho et al., 2022; CM Lagos, 2024).

Two key objectives are defined: i) to identify and characterize the various dimensions of diversity and their presence or absence in public policies; and ii) to assess this presence or absence through a comparative analysis across the two regions (Algarve and AML) and over time (2011–2024).

In its initial phase, the study focuses on four dimensions of diversity: i) territorial diversity, which can operate at regional, municipal, and intra-urban levels; ii) generational diversity, intersecting with evolving family structures and access to the housing market; iii) socio-family diversity, based not solely on economic factors but also on the distribution of land and property ownership; and iv) labor diversity, reflecting the relationship between housing and employment.

Considering these four dimensions—and based on preliminary findings—it becomes evident that public housing policies, particularly those with legal and fiscal implications, have a greater likelihood of addressing the crisis and easing its impacts when they embrace multiple forms of diversity.

Keywords

housing policies, territorial diversity, municipal planning

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Vernacular Architecture and Emerging Solutions: Stilt Houses on Combu Island in Belém-PA.

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The Brazilian Amazon faces unique challenges related to housing and spatial justice, especially in riverine areas where the population lives in precarious conditions and informal housing, such as stilt houses. These homes are mostly built in an improvised manner, lacking proper infrastructure, and are highly vulnerable to flooding and natural disasters. The Ifou25 event aims to discuss emerging solutions for affordable housing and how spatial justice can be applied to transform the reality of riverine houses, improving the living conditions of local communities.

The reality of stilt houses in the Amazon is marked by the absence of basic services such as sanitation, electricity, and transportation, exacerbating social and environmental inequalities. The precarious construction, combined with the vulnerability of the Amazon ecosystem, results in a constant risk for families living in these areas. For example, while stilt houses resist rising river levels, this is far from being an ideal solution, as it does not guarantee long-term safety and contributes to local environmental degradation.

Among the emerging solutions discussed, the use of sustainable technologies and ecological materials stands out as a way to build safer and more resilient homes. The integration of traditional building practices with technological innovations, such as rainwater harvesting systems, solar panels, and bioconstruction, offers viable alternatives that respect both the environment and the cultural specifics of the riverine communities. These alternatives can also promote social inclusion and ensure that new constructions meet accessibility and sustainability criteria.

Moreover, it is crucial to incorporate the perspective of spatial justice, which defends the right of marginalized populations to live in a dignified and

safe space. In riverine contexts, this not only means improving housing conditions but also strengthening community participation in decision-making processes regarding urban planning and territorial interventions. Spatial justice, therefore, involves the redistribution of resources and the recognition of local populations' rights to a truly inclusive city.

The integration of public policies with local needs also proves essential for the success of the proposed solutions. The implementation of housing policies that consider the specificities of the Amazon region, focusing on ecological and inclusive solutions, could be a way to combat social exclusion and promote sustainable development. Collaboration among governments, non-governmental organizations, universities, and riverine communities themselves is fundamental to ensuring the effectiveness of these solutions.

Finally, this event aims to stimulate the discussion of these issues and promote the exchange of ideas and experiences that could be applied to other regions of the Amazon and other riverine areas worldwide. The construction of affordable and just housing, coupled with environmental preservation, is a fundamental goal for promoting human dignity and strengthening riverine communities, contributing to the creation of a fairer and more sustainable future for the Amazon.

Keywords

Vernacular arquitecture, Stilt House, Combu Island

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HOME&OFFICE? Case Study of Berliner Siedlung, Mainz, Germany, Own illustration: M. Pelegrín, 2024

Upcycle social housing in Germany, case study: prototype design in Frankfurt-Mainz Area

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Herewith we present the research project "Home&Office?: prototype design for Upcycle social housing in Germany aims to design an adaptable, modular and easily installable functional reprogramming device, to be incorporated into the housing typologies of German post-war neighbourhoods, to integrate their programmatic adaptation in parallel with constructive and energy rehabilitation, and thus achieve more accessible housing, adapted to home office and care, and affordable housing.

In a generalised context of a pressing and urgent need for affordable housing in many European capitals, a research project on how to adapt existing residential complexes to the new housing requirements of the changing society, within a regulatory framework predominantly dedicated to energy optimisation and accessibility, is presented.

The upcycle programms of the housing stock, in most cases this problem has been focused in three directions: improving accessibility, energy efficiency or facilities. These actions are absolutely pertinent, but they do not, however, address the fact that this housing stock has also become obsolete in terms of the housing requirements of today's society, as the groupings of individuals and groups living together today no longer respond, on a large number of occasions, to the traditional family model with which they were designed. Also, by paying attention to new ways of living in order to rethink domestic spaces, it is possible to incorporate ideas of health and well-being in care. For the WHO, improvements in housing can 'save lives, prevent disease, increase quality of life and reduce poverty' (WHO, 2018, p.4).

Between 1950 and 1970, 1.4 million multi-family residential buildings were built in Germany, which accounted for 41% of the total residential stock. Despite the architectural and urban values (Harnak, 2020) of these

neighbourhoods, almost a third of them show not only construction and energy deficiencies, but also programmatic obsolescence, resulting in their unsuitability for the new needs of non-domestic work, care for the elderly, as well as new family patterns and configurations (Sarquis, 2010, Eleb and Bendimerad, 2011, Aureli, 2018).

Various state plans have supported energy and building renovation and accessibility improvements without addressing the new spatial and functional requirements of housing, such as de-hierarchisation and spatial integration. Therefore, an instrument is proposed to integrate from the architectural project, spatial and environmental improvements in five post-war Siedlungen designed by Ernst May's studio located in Mainz, which exemplify standard typologies and urbanisations of those decades, and allow establishing guidelines for the design of a prototype of a modular device adaptable and attachable to the dwellings in a sustainable and serial way.

The article summarises the phases, such as the collection of spatial data from the Wohnbau Amt (Municipal Housing Service) and its digitalisation by BIM-Labor HS-Mainz; the digital simulations during the design of the device (virtual and real); the design of a device as a physical and virtual prototype on a real scale; and the insertion in different domestic scenarios, which has allowed to evaluate the contribution of the device to the improvement of the use and comfort of the studied dwellings.

Keywords

Upcycle middle-class-housing, affordable dwelling

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Revisiting Modern Dwellings in Macau - Sustainable and Resilient Living Solutions for Contemporary Urban Challenges

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The present paper aims to explore and address the evolving needs of urban environments through an in-depth analysis of a set of Macau's 1960s dwellings experiments, as promoters of healthy and sustainable solutions and key references for contemporary refurbishment and new construction, fostering valuable insights into sustainable, climate-adapted, and resilient urban development.

The focus goes to domestic space's architectural conception of emergent solutions for affordable housing and minimum-format dwellings in high-density living conditions, examining how spatial justice principles can integrate social and spatial dimensions to enhance the essential role of the housing production within the current built environment.

By identifying Macau within the broader discourse of architectural experimentation in colonial contexts, the present paper highlights the significant interplay between modernist principles of Eurocentric conception and other seas' spatial practices shaped by the ancestral cultures of the East and its subtropical climate conditions. As a former Portuguese concession facing the South China Sea, Macau represents a unique case study, in terms of investigation, where Western planning models and construction techniques intersected with Asian cultural traditions and environmental adaptations. Its rapid urbanisation throughout the 20th century, under conditions of extreme density strengths, reflects a broader pattern observed across East Asian urban scenarios - where Western architectural paradigms were continuously reinterpreted, adopted and reviewed in response to contextual conditions.

Within the framework of Modern Movement conservation and heritage valorisation, presenting pressing intricate challenges intimately tied to cul-

tural significance, this proposal aims to examine and present housing solutions that balance historical value with contemporary demands for sustainability, flexibility, and spatial comfort. As buildings must nowadays comply with stringent environmental and technical standards while adapting to shifting sociocultural and economic paradigms, the present reflection assesses how modern housing typologies can inform future-oriented solutions, in order to uncover design strategies that optimise housing configurations, collective spaces, and technical systems, enhancing urban resilience in high-density living conditions.

The achievement of such goals is to be developed through a comparative analysis between a set of selected case studies, establishing a typological and holistic understanding of dwelling patterns and spatial distributions. This dual approach, mapping theoretical matrices while identifying practical variations, enables a nuanced exploration of architectural responses to evolving urban challenges. By reassessing Macau's historical housing models, the present paper aims to contribute to the contemporary housing question's debate on adaptive reuse and the integration of sustainable design principles in transforming cities.

The present essay seeks to foster a collaborative approach to urban and territorial planning by leveraging historical precedents to address future living environments. Through an interdisciplinary lens, it aims to underscore the potential of modern housing legacies, to inform resilient, climate-conscious, and socially inclusive urban development strategies.

Keywords

Modern Housing, Dwellings, Built Environment

Bibliographic references

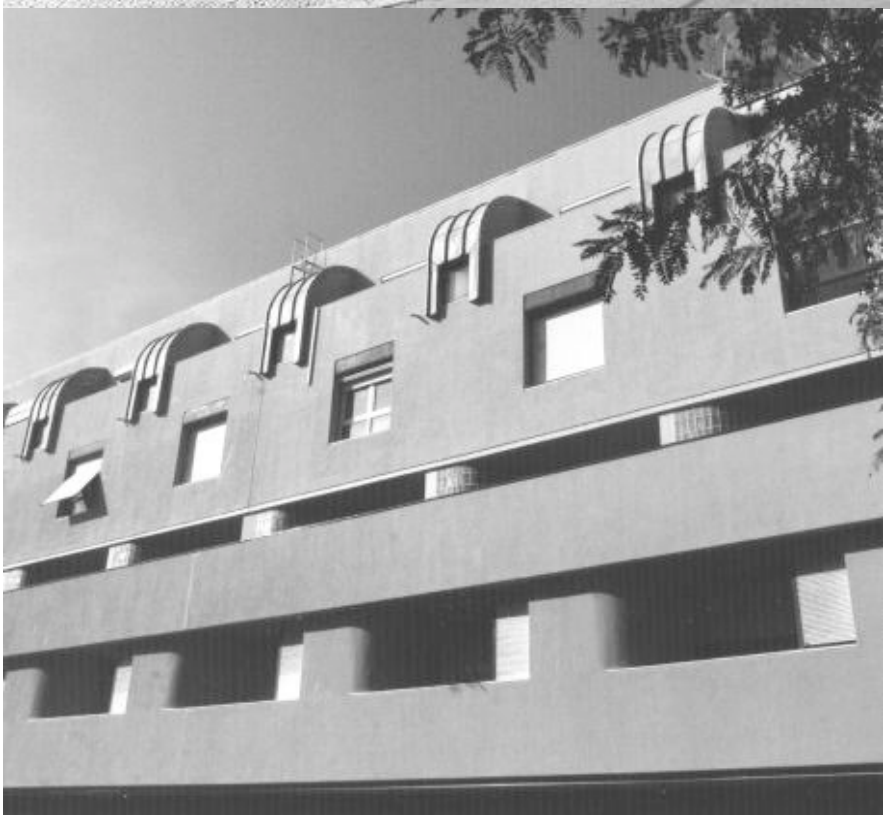
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EPUL Restelo
Pedro Rodrigues
no date

Public Housing and Housing Program: EPUL Restelo, Lisbon, Portugal

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In its 40 years of activity (1972-2012), the Empresa Pública de Urbanização de Lisboa (EPUL) was responsible for the urbanization, construction, and commercial promotion of several housing developments in the city of Lisbon, having created housing programs for two different sectors: the traditional (Sousa, 2011) and the EPUL Jovem (created in 1996 to provide affordable and new housing to young adults up to 40 years old searching for their first home in the city centre). Apart from these two segments, EPUL also produced dwellings for rehousing (PER program) and developed urban rehabilitation, both in a smaller scale. In the program EPUL, Restelo is a Study Case.

Objectives

The main objectives of the research are:

The importance of this research lies in the fact that EPUL Rewstelo, since its foundation, was responsible for the promotion of a great part of the housing developments in Restelo, Lisbon and up until now no significant research and registry has been made of the dwelling types, typologies and program models that were built and marketed.

Objectives

The main objectives of the research are:

1-to understand and register the programmatic and typological evolution of the built dwellings in 20 years and understand the differences between the traditional segment and EPUL Restelo;

2-to collect and present innovative knowledge regarding public housing promotion in Lisbon from 1972 to 2012, to better comprehend the different moments (what was most valued and the design characteristics) and to inform present and future public developments.

Scientific Relevance for the Discipline

The relevance of this research lies in the accomplishment of a digital inventory of publicly built and promoted housing, for the traditional and young adults' sectors, as an historical registry of EPUL's production. The innovative and most relevant aspect of the study is the collection and presentation of a typological and programmatic map .

Expected Economic and Social Impact

The results of this project are expected to have a significant impact on the knowledge of built and marketed housing programs and typologies which can be essential as a basis for the conception and development of future publicly funded urban collective housing, having thus both economic and social effects.

The recognition of the importance of publicly funded housing and the study of the housing program, should also have a substantial impact in the further development of this type of housing and on the public opinion of such undertakings.

Keywords

Public Housing, EPUL, Restelo, Lisbon

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使用者素描 + 日常路徑模擬

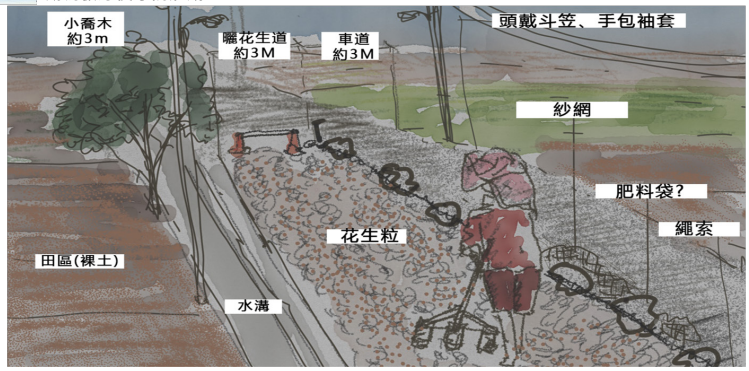
總計劃與三子計劃透過個別使用者的日常進行資訊整合，子計劃一為穿戴式醫健資訊收集研究方法，總計劃在第一年度主要配合子計劃一從上百位使用者，篩選適合的長輩進行訪談與追縱。

種田路徑與村民生活：探討村民的住宅與農田間的互動及其對日常生活的影響，包含路燈設施（結合微型環境空污感測器）

(1)大部分村民家騎摩托車5分鐘左右到自家田地。
(2)各種農作物耕種方法不同，春夏水稻，秋冬花生
e.g.花生: 有分為一期(11~12月)與二期(1~3月)。
1. 一期剛剛種下去須馬上灌溉。
2. 二期為發芽後才需灌溉。

(3)當天如需農耕分為早上與下午:
早上:5~6 點出門大約到10點結束。
下午:13~17(冬天)或13:30~17:30(夏天)。
(4)路燈除了主要幹道有等距設立，其餘為村民向政府機構申請在自家門口設立。





Envisioning Future Rural Community Living: A Climate-Responsive Aging-in-Place Model in Yunlin, Taiwan

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This research explores the future of community living by designing optimal environments that foster active and healthy aging in response to the rapidly shifting demographic landscape. By 2026, one in five individuals in Taiwan will be aged 65 or older, necessitating innovative strategies for aging in place. Yunlin County, with its high proportion of elderly residents and constrained local resources, serves as a critical testing ground for pioneering solutions that integrate climate-responsive environmental design, health sciences, residential safety, and human-centered technological innovation.

With the multiple-years research grant from National Science and Technology Council's Sustainable District since 2020, our team has employed a living laboratory approach, incorporating user persona analysis to systematically evaluate environmental safety and health information flows in the Wukuai Community of Yuanchang Township, Yunlin County. This two-phase research integrates service-based solutions tailored to aging-friendly communities. The first phase focuses on testing and validating integrated health and environmental safety systems, while the second phase formulates evidence-based design and planning guidelines. Our service-based innovations include (1) a prototype for an integrated health and environmental safety alert system deployed in a demonstration area and (2) specialized training programs for community caregivers, ensuring the practical support of elderly populations across Taiwan.

Looking ahead, our vision extends to developing an aging-friendly industry-living lab. This ecosystem integrates the Internet of Things (IoT) and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to create an adaptive, data-driven future living environment. This lab will facilitate comprehensive monitoring, predictive health and environmental adjustments, and proac-

tive aging management. By leveraging human-centered design and robust caregiving networks, our approach ensures seamless transmission of critical health and safety information, even to home-bound seniors.

The broader impact of this research advocates for establishing aging-friendly health zones in Yunlin County, positioning them as innovation hubs for lifelong adaptive housing, universally accessible open spaces, climate-responsive comfort management, muscle-strengthening programs, and enriched social support networks. By addressing the intersection of future living and sustainable active aging, our findings contribute significantly to shaping aging-friendly industrial practices. Securing funding for this initiative is crucial to scaling its impact across Taiwan and beyond, paving the way for a more resilient and future-ready aging society.

As Taiwan transitions into a super-aged society, our project aims to integrate academic research, local healthcare systems, and community development teams to shape future aging scenarios in Yunlin. This initiative supports interdisciplinary collaboration, covering themes such as preventive medicine, environmental health assessments, climate forecasting, social networks, participatory sensing, and interactive technology. Through multi-year, cross-disciplinary research bridging technology, humanities, and local expertise, this study proposes guidelines for building a comprehensive health-supportive environment for super-aged societies. Additionally, it develops prototype technologies for caregiving integration and safety training programs for community caregivers at local C-base service points. The outcomes will offer a scalable support system for elderly care, benefiting local communities, township health centers, and village leaders, ultimately enhancing the quality and accessibility of aging-in-place services.

Keywords

Aging-in-place, Rural aging community design and planning, climate-adaptive aging services

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ROMANOFF

Portugal's Housing Policies Under the Recovery and Resilience Plan: Tackling Precarity and Promoting Justice.

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The COVID-19 pandemic exposed deep structural issues in Europe, particularly in the realm of housing precarity and vulnerability. The "stay-at-home" orders underscored the struggles of individuals living in overcrowded conditions, substandard housing, or experiencing homelessness. These challenges are intrinsically linked to spatial justice, as inequities in housing distribution and access to essential services disproportionately affect marginalized and vulnerable populations, exacerbating social, economic, and territorial inequalities.

Before the pandemic, an estimated 273 million people in Europe faced housing precarity, measured through indicators such as security, affordability, quality, and access to services (Clair et al., 2019). Recent evidence suggests that this situation has deteriorated further (Debrunner et al., 2024). The growing severity of the issue has prompted structural changes in European governance, including the appointment of a Commissioner for Energy and Housing in September 2024 and the introduction of new funding mechanisms for housing. Among these initiatives is the Recovery and Resilience Facility, operational from February 2021 to August 2026, which was established in response to the pandemic.

After decades of market-driven policies, the European Union has recognized access to decent and affordable housing as both a fundamental right and a critical component of spatial justice. This recognition has catalyzed the allocation of significant funds for housing-related initiatives through Recovery and Resilience Plans (RRPs), which are closely aligned with the European Green Deal and Cohesion Policy. Given the substantial impact of buildings on energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, these initiatives prioritize renovation as a pathway to recovery, resilience, and social

inclusion, adopting an integrated and multidimensional approach to housing issues (Delclós and Vidal, 2021).

However, despite a financial commitment of EUR 28.8 billion to social protection and housing (Housing Europe, 2021), these resources are insufficient to fully address the scale of the problem. Furthermore, pronounced disparities persist in the capacity of Member States to meet housing objectives (Delclós and Vidal, 2021). For instance, Nordic and Continental systems, where housing precarity is less acute, benefit from robust social and third-sector housing stocks. In contrast, Southern European welfare regimes, including Portugal, face significant challenges due to limited housing supply, making it difficult to achieve established goals and timelines. These territorial disparities underscore the centrality of spatial justice in ensuring equitable housing policies that respond to the specific needs of different regions and populations.

This presentation examines Portugal's housing strategies under its RRP, evaluating their potential to address housing precarity and promote spatial justice. It highlights the pivotal role of the 1st Right - Housing Access Support Programme, the cornerstone of Portugal's RRP housing component, designed to tackle housing precarity and foster more equitable territorial development. The study assesses the programme's implementation by exploring definitions of housing precarity, governance frameworks, and territorial allocation of funds. Additionally, it identifies key challenges, including bureaucratic inefficiencies, funding disparities, and insufficient alignment with national and EU priorities, which undermine efforts to ensure both housing security and spatial justice.

Keywords

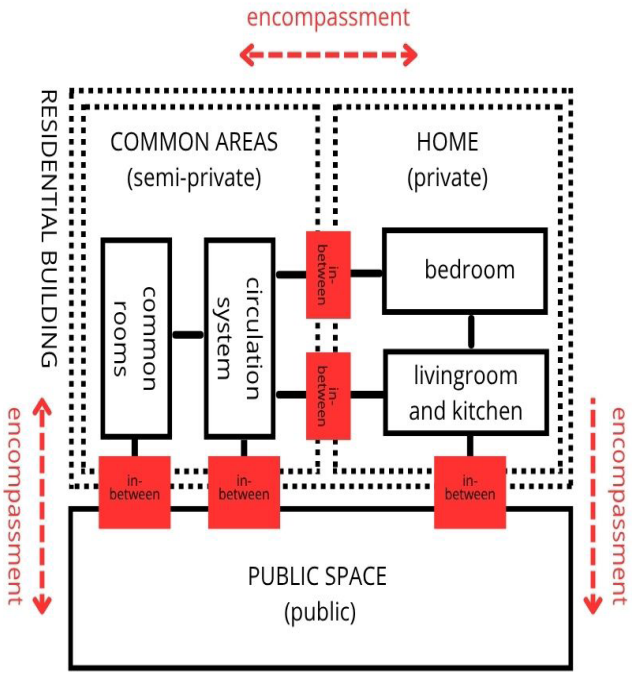
housing precarity, Recovery and Resilience Plans, Portugal.

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Diagram: in-between areas and operations of spatial encompassment in residential buildings (Author, 2025)

From Housing to Habitat: Scales of Social Interaction in the Urban Environment

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This essay explores the relationship between housing models and social interaction, highlighting how architectural design and spatial organisation influence neighbourhood dynamics. It examines the concept of graded privacy, which transitions from public to private and intimate spaces, and highlights its role in fostering meaningful interactions and building community ties. Key themes include the integration of residential buildings into their urban environment, the connection between buildings and streets, and the importance of transitional and communal spaces within buildings to encourage social engagement among residents.

Collaborative housing models such as co-housing and co-living are analysed to understand how their spatial configurations can enhance social ties and community identity. The essay assesses how these housing models balance private and communal needs while creating inclusive environments that encourage interaction at different levels - from casual encounters to deeper connections. It also highlights the value of shared and semi-public spaces as central elements in fostering a sense of belonging and mutual support within residential developments.

Methodologically, the essay draws on a theoretical review and on the analysis of architectural projects to identify scalable and adaptable solutions for urban housing that respond to contemporary challenges. By prioritising human-scale design and emphasising the integration of residential and communal spaces, it offers insights into innovative housing strategies capable of strengthening neighbourhood identities and enhancing social resilience. This contribution enriches urban studies by addressing the complex interplay between architecture, urban planning and the social dimensions of housing in modern cities.

Keywords

neighborhood community cohesion, graded privacy, co-housing

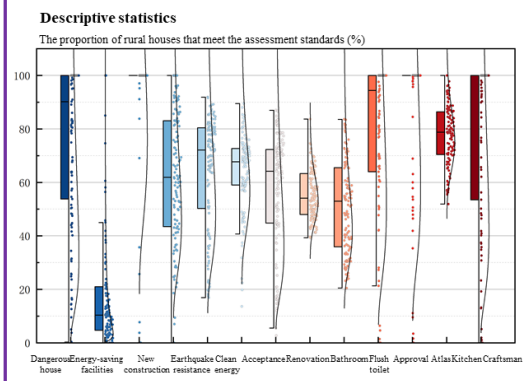
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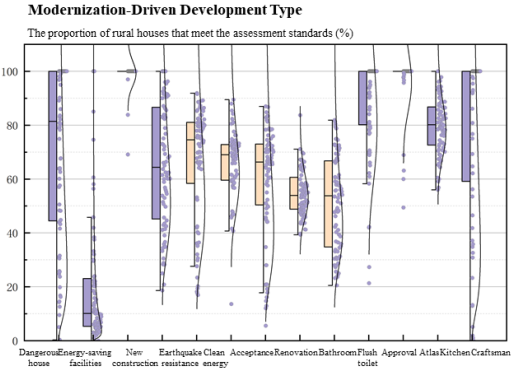
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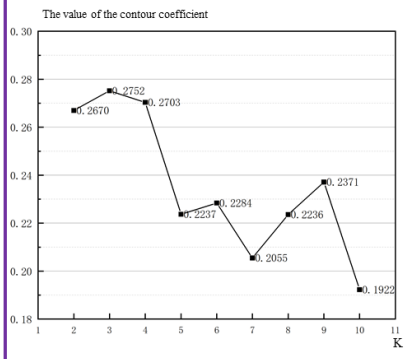
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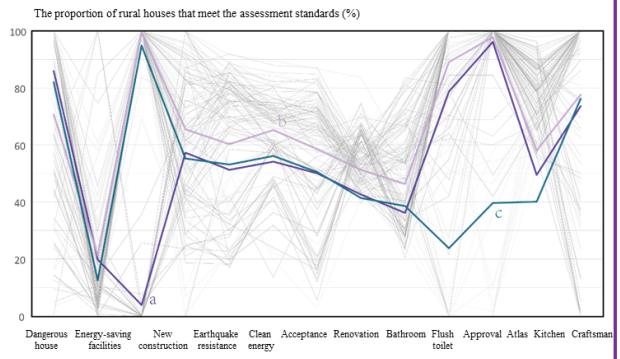
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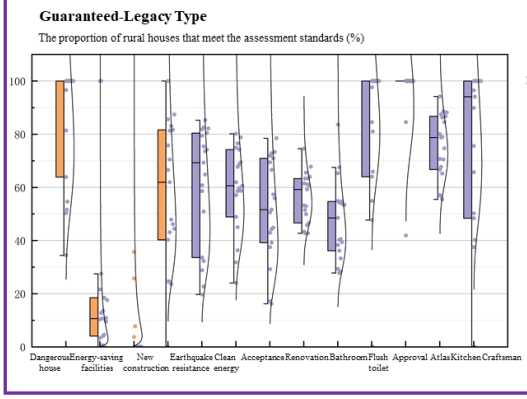
Low-Carbon Transition of Vernacular Settlements: Policy-Oriented Village Typology Reconstruction and Emission Mitigation Mechanisms in Rural China

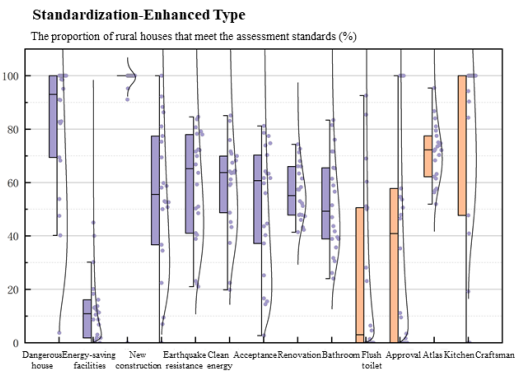












A study on the classification reconstruction of chinese villages and key influencing factors of carbon emissions from the perspective of rural housing construction

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The world is currently facing both climate change and an ecological crisis. In response to these challenges, China has set the Carbon Peaking and Carbon Neutrality Goals to mitigate environmental impacts. Concurrently, the country is advancing a rural revitalization strategy, placing significant emphasis on rural development. Rural housing plays a central role in the lives of farmers, and there is a strong demand for improving the quality of these homes as part of their aspiration for a better life[1]. Carbon emissions associated with the construction and operation of rural housing are a significant contributor to the overall carbon emissions in rural areas. To meet China's carbon reduction goals, it is crucial to develop effective strategies for decarbonizing rural housing, achieving a balance between enhancing housing quality and controlling carbon emissions [2]. Given the vastness of China's rural areas, the economic development, natural environment, and other conditions vary significantly across regions, resulting in considerable disparities in agricultural housing construction[3]. Therefore, classifying and restructuring villages based on the characteristics of rural housing construction, and identifying key factors influencing carbon dioxide emissions in these different categories, are essential steps for achieving carbon reduction in rural areas. In this study, we collected data on rural housing construction and socioeconomic conditions from 132 counties across 28 regions in China through field surveys, and we calculated there CO2 emissions. Using the k-means clustering method, we categorized the villages into three types, and spatial visualization was then carried out using ArcGIS. Lastly, we analyzed and compared the heterogeneity of these three types of villages, and quantitatively assessed 14 indicators, such as housing construction elements and CO2 emissions, using statistical methods like correlation analysis. The

results indicate that modernized and developed villages have the largest proportion, and their distribution in China follows a pattern of "higher in the south, lower in the north" and "higher in the east, lower in the west" with a gradual decrease across regions. Additionally, we found a strong correlation between rural housing construction indicators, such as the degree of kitchen modernization and the vacancy rate of farm houses, and the carbon dioxide emissions of villages in this category. Based on the perspective of rural housing construction, this study reconceptualizes the classification of Chinese villages and explores the key factors influencing carbon emissions, in order to help policymakers design more targeted decarbonization strategies for rural housing. Ultimately, this approach supports a balance between reducing carbon emissions and improving the quality of rural housing in the future.

Keywords

Rural areas; Sustainable development; residential carbon emissions;

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The Embodied Embeddedness of Hygienic Modernity: Spatial Practices and Lived Experiences of Home Quarantine in China during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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This study investigates urban residents' home quarantine practices during China's COVID-19 pandemic, critically reconstructing the "hygiene-body-space" triad to unveil the mechanisms through which hygienic modernity becomes embodied at the scale of everyday life. Moving beyond conventional public health narratives that emphasize institutional and technological domination, we foreground the co-constitutive interplay between bodily perception and spatial practices in generating locally adaptive experiences of hygienic modernity.

Theoretically, this paper synthesizes critiques of hygienic modernity with embodied cognition theory to propose the core concept of embodied embeddedness. We argue that modern hygiene technologies do not exert power through abstract spatial discipline alone but through three dialectically intertwined processes: body-sensory rituals, materialized spatial translations, and culturally negotiated practices.

Empirical analysis of rich ethnographic cases reveals three critical dimensions: Firstly, spatial translation of epidemic prevention technologies reconstructs urban dwellings into biopolitical apparatuses. Ritualized health code verification procedures materialized "clean/contaminated" boundaries in transitional entryways, and sensory governance of airflow through airtight retrofits demonstrate how global hygiene standards undergo re-embedding via localized spatial logics. Secondly, the politicization of sensory systems exposes the microphysics of power. Tactile sensitization (mask-wearing rituals) constructs bodily boundaries of "safe contact". Olfactory certification (disinfectant odors) translates abstract hygiene metrics into perceptible governance intensity. Visually mediated pandemic theater emerges through video surveillance and performative livestreaming. Thirdly, embodied resist-

ance through spatial production reveals human agency. Residents tactically reconfigure quarantine spaces through functional reorganization (gender-negotiated spatial reallocation), technological counter-domestication (performative health reporting), and virtual presence (livestream-mediated alternative sociality). Such adaptive resistance demonstrates that the localization of hygienic modernity inherently involves dynamic negotiations between governance technologies and corporeal practices.

The study concludes that China's pandemic experience offers crucial insights for rethinking global theories of hygienic modernity. Home quarantine transcends emergency response to fundamentally reconfigure localized epistemologies of hygiene through persistent "body-space" interactions. Post-pandemic, these embodied sensory-spatial experiences will continue shaping residential design, community governance, and bodily techniques, constituting vernacular hygienic modernity inadequately explained by Western paradigms. This research opens new analytical pathways for studying spatial politics and future architectural design in crisis contexts by transcending the dichotomy of technological determinism and cultural exceptionalism.

Keywords

hygienic modernity; embodied embeddedness; spatial politics

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Reinterpreting the Role of the Reception Room in Korean Housing: Ahn Young Bae's Design Approach

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In contemporary South Korea, the increasing prevalence of gated communities has raised questions about the role of communal spaces in private housing developments. Historically, one of the last semi-public spaces within private residences was the Eungjeopsil (應接室, reception room), also referred to as Eungjeopgan (應接間) or Yangsil (洋室). Introduced during the Japanese colonial period, the reception room was intended to incorporate Western-style living into Korean homes while functioning as a guest reception area, paralleling the traditional Sarangchae (the men's quarters in traditional Korean houses). Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, the reception room remained a prominent feature in residential designs. However, with the shift towards high-rise apartment living and modern housing developments, this space has largely disappeared, raising questions about the transformation of public-private boundaries in Korean residential architecture.

This study examines the spatial and social role of reception rooms through the architectural works of Ahn Young Bae. Ahn is a prominent figure in modern and contemporary Korean architecture, recognized for his research on exterior spaces in traditional Korean houses. As a two-time winner of the National Housing Design Competition in Korea, he played a significant role in shaping residential architecture. From this perspective, his residential works, documented in Ahn Young Bae's Architectural Works (1993), provide valuable insights into the integration of reception rooms in private homes and their role in structuring spatial hierarchies. This research selects ten housing projects from Ahn's portfolio that feature reception rooms and examines them through two key analytical approaches: (1) spatial hierarchy and circulation, tracing movement from the main gate to the entrance and from the entrance to the reception room; and (2) the integration of tradi-

tional Korean architectural principles—such as hierarchy and spatial progression—into modern housing design. The selected projects were chosen based on their inclusion of reception rooms and their representation of Ahn's evolving residential design philosophy.

Through case study analysis, this research highlights the reception room's function as an intermediary space that negotiates the boundaries between public and private realms. In contrast to contemporary housing developments, where communal spaces are either externalized (such as community centers in apartment complexes) or eliminated altogether, historical reception rooms provided a distinct semi-public function within the private home. This study argues that reinterpreting the role of the reception room can provide new perspectives on communal living models in contemporary urban housing.

As South Korean housing trends increasingly emphasize gated residential complexes with restricted access, understanding past spatial arrangements may provide valuable lessons for reintegrating shared spaces within private dwellings. The findings suggest that reviving the concept of the reception room, whether in its original form or through reinterpretation, could contribute to more flexible and socially connected residential designs. By revisiting historical spatial arrangements, this study not only provides architectural insights but also contributes to broader discussions on housing policy and urban planning. Ultimately, it seeks to bridge historical architectural traditions with contemporary urban housing challenges, proposing new perspectives on communal space in private residences.

Keywords

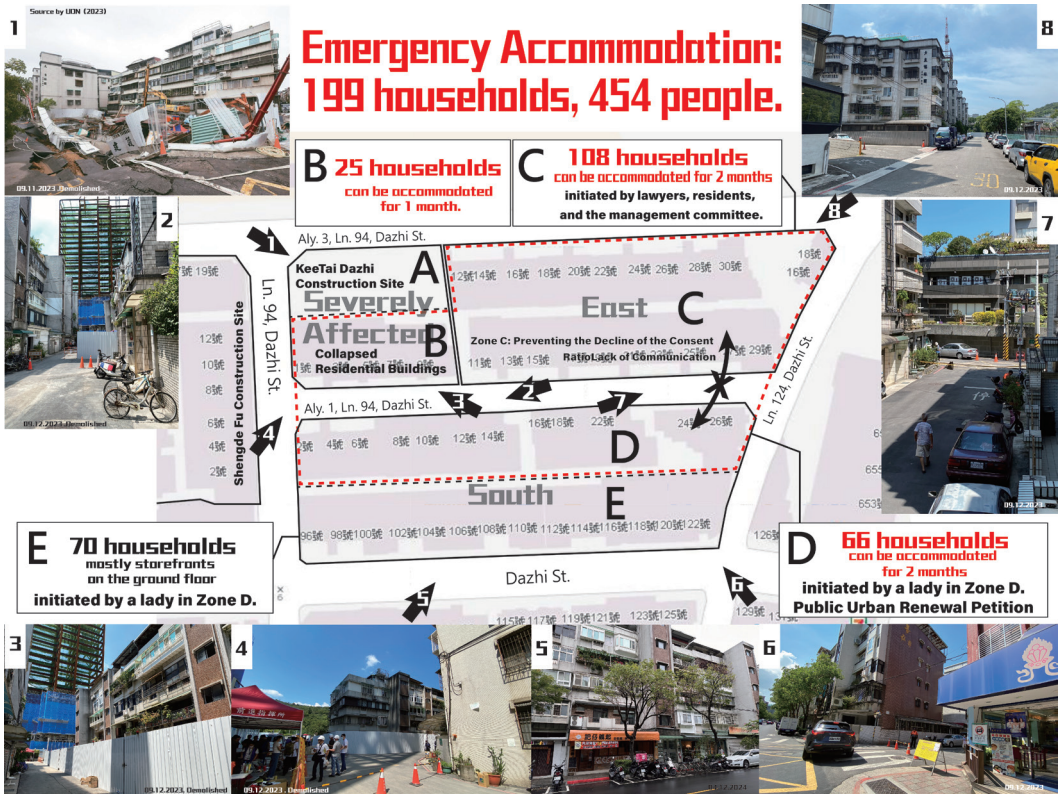
Eungjeopsil, semi-public space, Ahn Young Bae

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Emergency Accommodation:
199 households, 454 people.
B 25 households
can be accommodated
for 1 month.
C 108 households
can be accommodated for 2 months
initiated by lawyers, residents,
and the management committee.
KeeTai Dazhi
Construction Site
A
Severely
Affected
B
Collapsed
Residential Buildings
East
C
Zone C: Preventing the Decline of the Consent Ratio/Lack of Communication
Aly. 3, Ln. 94, Dazhi St.
Aly. 1, Ln. 94, Dazhi St.
Ln. 94, Dazhi St.
Shengde Fu Construction Site
Ln. 124, Dazhi St.
D
South
E
Dazhi St.
E 70 households
mostly storefronts
on the ground floor
initiated by a lady in Zone D.
D 66 households
can be accommodated
for 2 months
initiated by a lady in Zone D.
Public Urban Renewal Petition
1
2
3
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7
8

The Formation of Government-led Urban Renewal Resulting from the Dazhi neighboring damage Incident

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In Taipei, Taiwan, the existing high density of urban neighborhoods has made urban renewal and housing reconstruction projects extremely challenging. Increasingly, urban renewal projects have brought about construction-related damages to neighboring properties, highlighting inadequate preventive measures and insufficient regulations. The collapse of neighboring houses in Taipei's Dazhi area in September 2023 brought this critical issue to public attention. Under these circumstances, affected residents often face difficulties in evidence collection and lengthy rights protection processes. The power dynamics between the government, developers, and affected residents reveal tense relationships and expose inadequacies in the rights conversion and compensation systems.

As the government and developers sought quick solutions to resolve their political crisis, and residents hoped to secure their safety and rights in the shortest possible time, the neighboring damage incident affected the psychology and behavior of residents, city government, and developers, catalyzing various coping strategies. This crisis accelerated the formation of government-led urban renewal projects, which had previously been difficult to promote in Taiwan. However, this hasty and disaster-driven urban renewal has triggered substantial social agency. While it may be exploited by the government and businesses to advance policies that might have faced opposition, it could also benefit vested interests, becoming a form of gentrification in capitalist society (Peter Moskowitz, 2018).

Nevertheless, the resistance shown by affected residents at public hearings and in voting during the Dazhi incident demonstrates that Taipei City's shock doctrine (Klein, 2009) approach is not always successful. Instead, it exposes systemic loopholes and inequities. In terms of total property value

calculation and compensation, the roles of government and appraisers are particularly crucial. However, the current urban renewal system design makes it difficult for neighboring damage compensation to fully cover residents' actual losses, including psychological damages and other intangible harm. These issues, despite being discussed in academic and practical contexts for over a decade, remain unresolved, with the Dazhi incident further highlighting the institutional gaps in Taiwan's urban renewal process.

Through in-depth interviews and analysis of the Dazhi incident, this study examines how neighboring damage facilitated rapid consensus formation among stakeholders, investigating the power dynamics and trade-offs between different parties. Furthermore, the research explores how affected residents understand and expect urban renewal proposals under the neighboring damage project, particularly focusing on their aspirations toward housing justice (LIAO, Kuei-Hsien , 2023).

Keywords

Neighboring damage incident, social agency, government-led urban renewal

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Design for the Change: Sustainability and Affordable Housing Design in Scattered Settlements in the Badain Jaran Desert

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Under the drastic situation of climate change, the living environment of desert settlements has become an important object of concern. The sustainable development of settlements in arid desert areas needs to be taken into account. Badain Jaran Desert is located in an arid region of northern China. Since the 1660s, the Badain Jaran Desert has been the home of Mongolian people because of its scattered basin lake pastures, and hundreds of basin lakes are distributed within its range. Combined with the magnificent landscape of the towers of sand and lakes, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2024, more and more tourism enthusiasts enter the desert, and the herdsmen, who originally only needed to meet the needs of sheep and camels as a means of production to support their families, start to turn to the continuous expansion and operation of tourism, and the housing problems related to construction, maintenance, and design are exposed. More and more families have invested a lot of money to expand the rooms in the desert ranch. On the one hand, the original traditional materials and construction techniques have gradually disappeared, and instead, more and more expensive building materials not applicable to the desert environment have been transported and built in the desert, but tourists are not satisfied with such a tourist living experience. On the other hand, rapid housing expansion leads to the inadaptation of desert climate, high maintenance costs, and continuous expansion of construction, which results in ecological burdens and environmental impacts on desert heritage sites. The government hopes to control the construction behavior of residents, but due to the particularity of the geographical environment, it cannot achieve effective intervention. Facing the increasing pressure of tourists, it cannot provide effective guidance and support. In addition, the government set up tourism companies, and the local

herders in the land for more than 20 years frequently conflict.

Through the investigation of the built environment of 28 scattered family ranches in the desert, the first half of this study describes the change process of residential buildings in the desert in the past 20 years, to observe the problems of residential development involving the complex relationship between tradition, tourism and identity in the pastoral rural society of this special World heritage site. In the second half, this research focuses on exploring a bottom-up social housing development and design strategy that can be promoted by local herders. Through the introduction of a new experimental house project in the local community that the author will personally lead to the building during 2021-2023, the author uses an innovative experimental house design to respond to the core issues in the previous part and provides a case study for exploring the future affordable residential buildings in the area. It also provides a referential direction for places and social groups that are suffering from the contradiction between tourism development and the traditional identity of indigenous inhabitants in the special cultural background of deserts and desert areas around the world.

Keywords

affordable housing, desert settlements, nomadism

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Track 2 - Connecting ...

Multiple social, spatial and mobility networks



—
View of the water square Benthemplein, Rotterdam, Netherlands (photo by Agata Pięt)

Periodic-functional use of space in cities – connecting needs of different actors

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Cities nowadays face many challenges that make life increasingly difficult for their inhabitants. These include climate change, urban sprawl and overpopulation. People commute to work for long hours as cities grow in size and inner-city locations become less affordable. This leads to the need to implement solutions in the urban structure that are in line with the principles of X-minute cities and compact cities, which focus on the most effective use of existing areas and protect cities from urban sprawl.

One of the ways to combat these threats could be the periodic functional use of space, where a piece of land is used for different purposes over time. It can be organised in a top-down manner, controlled on a daily or weekly rhythm (e.g. open-air street markets or the use of school yards for different purposes also related to mobility) or on a specific occasion related to urban rituals such as religious ceremonies and processions.

Spontaneous gatherings organised by people are also an example of periodic-functional use of space, e.g. events in the streets and squares. Multifunctional use of space in a periodic way can also be linked to climate change, helping to cope with and adapt to sudden threats. This can be applied to sudden flooding, which is usually unexpected. One way to deal with this situation in urban space is to design above-ground retention basins that serve other functions when not filled with water.

All of the urban spaces presented can be used in multiple ways over time, connecting different actors and their needs.

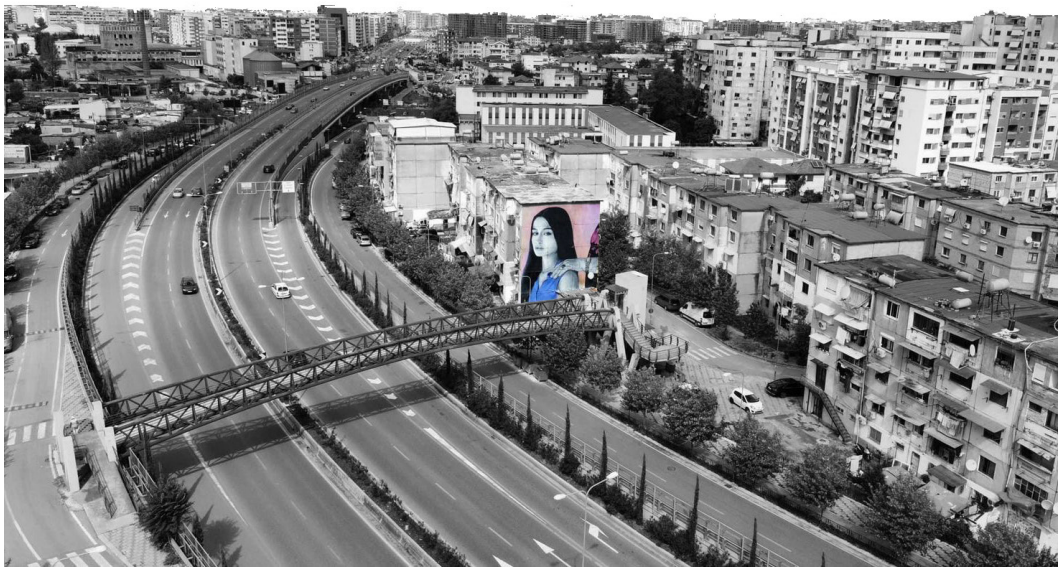
Keywords

periodic-functional use | multifunctionality | public space

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Urban Choreography as a Framework for Bridging Fragmentation in Post-Modern Cities

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Fragmentation, as recently seen in postmodern cities, is now a constant feature of almost every city in the world today. It manifests as spatial disconnections, socioeconomic disparities, and contested cultural identities. The driving forces behind all these are small-scale planning, commercialization, consumerism, spontaneity, informality, and architectural eclecticism, which includes neo-classicism and pastiche (Hirt, 2012). Unlike the standardized function of modernist urbanism, a postmodern city embraces the idea of diversity and eclecticism. This pluralism can, however, intensify fragmentation and yet be a platform for a new imaginative reconfiguration of the city.

In the above context, the study introduces urban choreography as an overarching conceptual metaphor to think anew about the city as a dynamic stage that would reconfigure the design, social interactions, and cultural narratives that form urban life. Most studies would try to relate the spatial patterns with the economic inequalities but never pay attention to how cultural identities and everyday practices are somehow able to bridge, reinforce, or disrupt these inequalities. Furthermore, the potential of hybrid urban typologies-those spaces generated by both planned intervention and organic processes-remains largely unconsidered in how they may ameliorate or exacerbate urban fragmentation.

In addressing all these issues, the present research has provided an integrative notion of urban choreography, which in turn can be applied to three interrelated dimensions: a) City-space as praxis: The Role that design and physical Form will have in shaping urban environments; b) City-space as living: The social engagement and interactions that animate urban spaces; c) City-space as drama: The cultural narratives and

identities embedded within the urban fabric.

Employing mixed-methods methodology, the research combines ethnographic fieldwork-documenting the lived experiences of residents--with historical mapping tracing urban forms' evolution. Neighborhood level case studies analyze how design practices, social behavior, and culture interact across multiple scales.

The discovered data indicates that fractured cities exist as choreographed places where the physical design intersects the social dynamic and cultural expression. The study argues a reciprocal relationship linking human behavior and the urban form so that one becomes the agent along which design, social practices, and cultural narratives interplay, while the other is the result. Considering cities choreographed spaces opens up the theoretical terrain of urban discourse and provides some operational insight into how they can create more inclusive and cohesive urban environments anywhere in the world.

Key Concepts of Urban Choreography:

• Urban Design: Those spatial arrangements and architectural features that characterize cityscapes

• Social Interactions: The myriad ways in which people interact with each other and with their environment

• Cultural Identities: The various cultural expressions within urban spaces

• Shaping Forces: Praxis (execution of design), living (daily practices), and drama (urban narratives)

Keywords

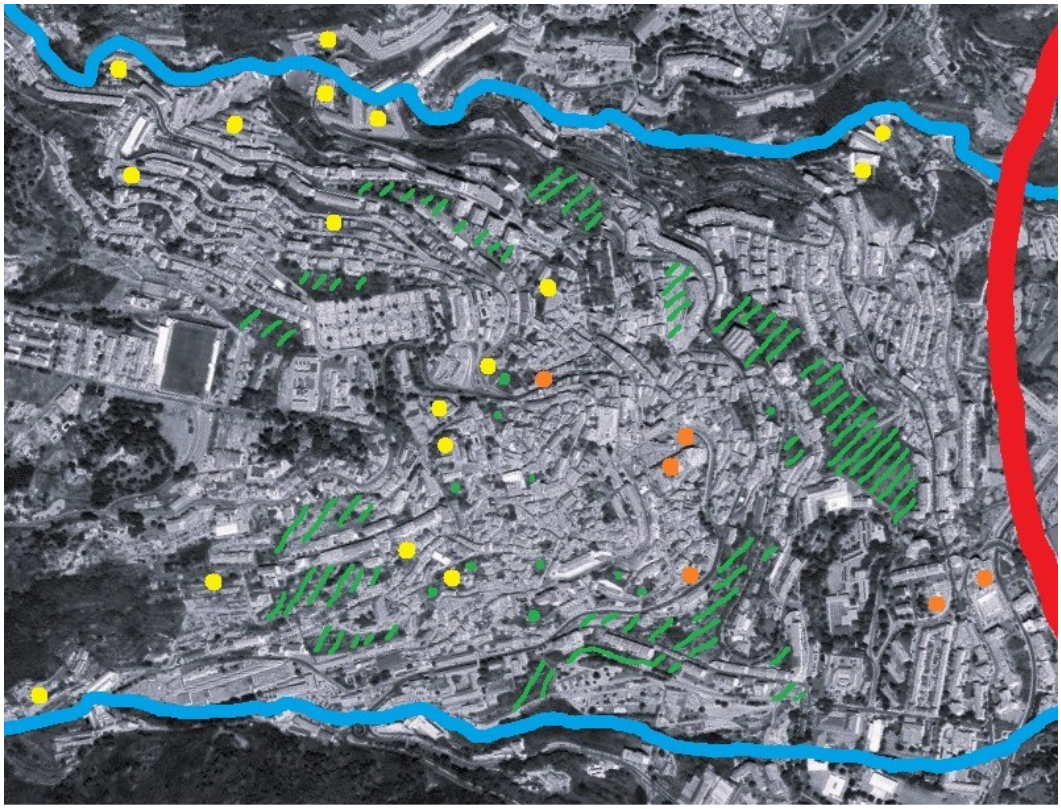
Urban Choreography | Urban Fragmentation | Postmodernism

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LIMITES: Ribeira da Carpiteira (norte); Ribeira da Goldra (sul); Linha de caminho-de-ferro
DISRUPÇÃO: Vazios; Ruína; Devoluto







Public Space: disruption and connectivity. The case study of Covilhã.

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To ensure the construction of a development model based on the principles of social equity and environmental balance, in harmony with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda, communities must be seen as part of the solution. Thus, we need to rethink the current urban planning processes, in which the scope of public intervention is very limited, both regarding the execution of the plan itself, as regarding the timeline in which the intervention occurs. New community governance methodologies based on bottom-up intervention schemes must be interconnected with the existing planning processes, so that urban design can be applied to the city.

European cities are now striving to balance between population shrinking and housing affordability, which must be seen as an opportunity to run urban sustainability transition within the city limits. Public space disruptions, either natural or man-made, can be the starting points in redesigning the city from within, for people, with people, and materialising a type of planning engaged in the flexibility and adaptability of uses, acknowledging hybrid space and intermittent use as a reflection of the cognitive disengagement that widespread throughout society as rapidly as technology evolved.

In a city like Covilhã, the disruptions in public space are multiple and very visible. The mountainous city condition of its locus is a natural condition of rupture, which transmutes into the city's mobility infrastructure. The causes of disruptions can be framed and parameterized physically, spatially and temporally, from as far as the XII century. But more than the causes, we need to understand the consequences, and how they restrained the structuring of the city's public space, the development of the urban fabric and the configuration of its urban occupation. The accumulation of disruptions has resulted

in a fragmented urban territory, inefficient, lacking mobility, with a deficit supply of public equipment and quality public space.

Identifying, mapping and detailing the disruptions, will allow the disclosure of areas for densification in which to create connectivity through public space. But connectivity is more than mobility, even in a city like Covilhã, where its mountainous locus prevails, and triggers public space solutions to focus on creating mobility infrastructure within the principles of urban decarbonisation, allowing displacement from point A, to point B, but overseeing the content in between the two points. Connectivity allows a much wider scope than mobility, because it includes in it, the context of physical and emotional linkage with the public space, and the perception that the public space will imprint on its users.

New models for the operationalization of planning when regarding public space are needed, not only to include a more transversal and comprehensive participation of the community, like the ones in the New European Bahaus, but also, to replace the current planning processes to accommodate urban project. Designing public space requires more than the bi-dimensionality contained in a plan, it requires the three-dimensionality given by the section and elevation, and fundamental for the public space project to materialize its relationships with the built environment.

Keywords

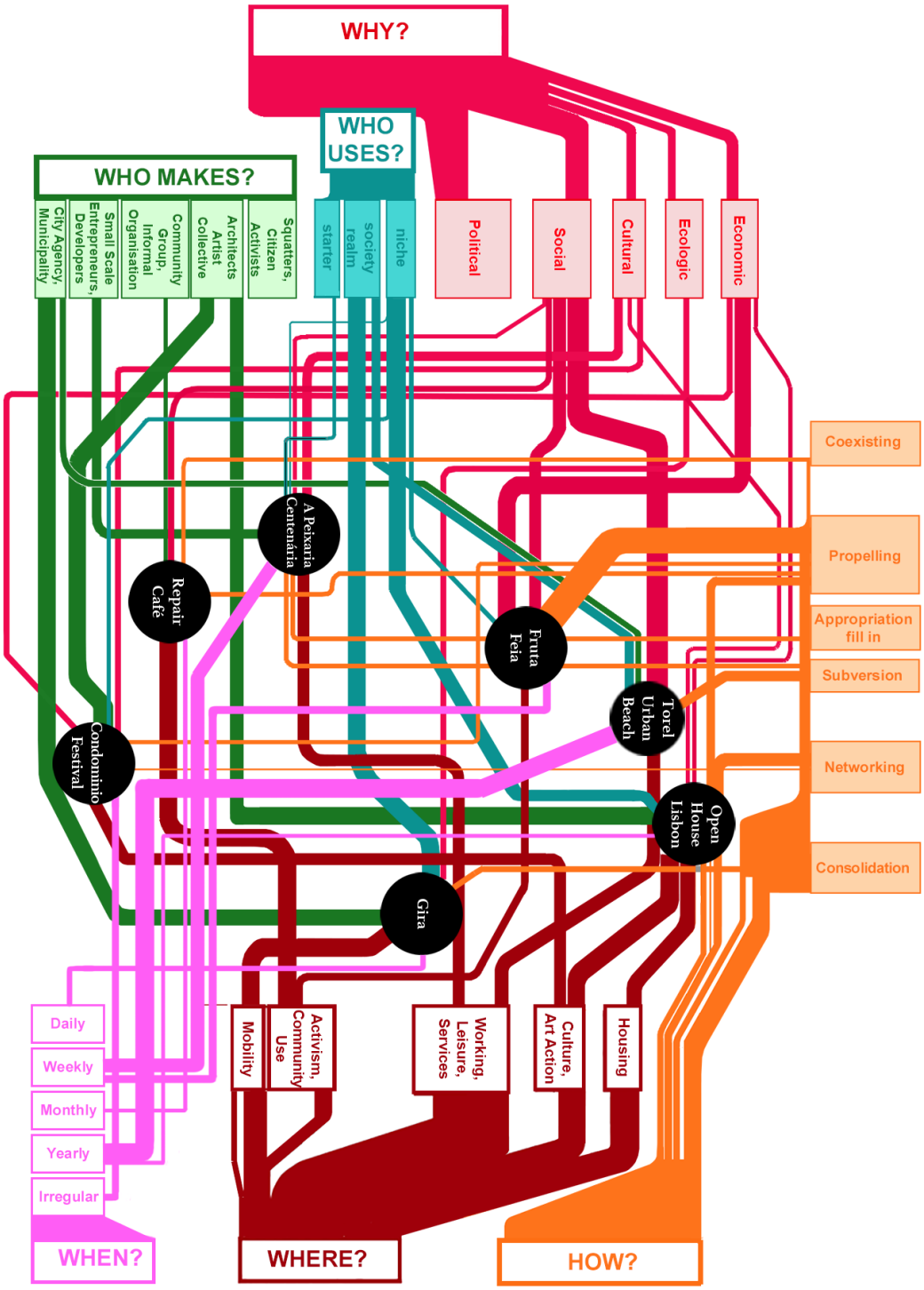
Public governance | Vertical public space | Planning methods and processes

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New European Bahaus ToolBox (2023)European Comission.


WHY?
WHO USES?
WHO MAKES?
City Agency, Municipality
Small Scale Entrepreneurs, Developers
Community Group, Informal Organisation
Architects Artist Collective
Squatters, Citizen Activists
starter
society realm
niche
Political
Social
Cultural
Ecologic
Economic
Coexisting
Propelling
Appropriation fill in
Subversion
Networking
Consolidation
A Peixaria Centenária
Repair Café
Fruta Feia
Torel Urban Beach
Condomínio Festival
Open House Lisbon
Gira
Daily
Weekly
Monthly
Yearly
Irregular
WHEN?
Mobility
Activism, Community Use
Working, Leisure, Services
Culture, Art Action
Housing
WHERE?
HOW?

ATLAS of the Lisbon Intermittent Practices: case studies, classification and the Intermittent Circuit

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The present study, based in the city of Lisbon, Portugal, analyzes the phenomenon of temporary uses and the sharing practices of the urban fabric. Through meticulous mapping of urban practices, it unveils the intricate dynamics of the intermittent city, where uses and activities materialize in real-time. These uses and practices, when mapped, serve as a representation of the dynamic interplay between inhabitants, workers, and public spaces. The analysis encompasses a comprehensive collection of over fifty case studies, each illuminating the heterogeneity of practices across temporal and spatial dimensions. These case studies also underscore the intricate layers and interconnectedness that characterize the urban fabric.

The classification of case studies is predicated on the following parameters, which demonstrate the pluridimensional character of the sharing practices and temporary uses. These parameters are further subdivided into additional categories derived from the case studies. As the classification process unfolded, it became evident that certain cases exhibited shared characteristics across multiple parameters. The degree of similarity between cases varies across parameters, enabling the comprehension of each case as part of groups of temporary uses and sharing practices.

The "when" component indicates the temporal framework within the designated context, encompassing categories such as "daily," "weekly," "monthly," "yearly," and "irregular." The "where" element signifies the spatial dimension of the project, as well as the nature of its utilization, and is translated as "housing; work and services; leisure; culture and art; mobility; activism and community use." The "who uses" category is concerned with the classification of the public of the initiatives and the impacts on the overall society, and these are translated as "niche," "society realm," and "starter." The

"who makes" identifies the type of people that founded the practices, such as "architects + artist collective; small scale entrepreneurs + developers; city agency + municipality; squatters + citizen activists; community group + informal organization". The "why" component elucidates the underlying purpose, which is translated as "economical; cultural; social; ecological." Finally, the "how" symbolizes the methods and means that are used by the several case studies and translates as "networking; appropriation; propelling; subversion; consolidation; coexisting."

This methodological approach enabled the development of a novel urban cartography, wherein case studies are interconnected to establish a new network. The on-site study and mapping facilitated the systematization of methodologies for collecting uses and practices, paving the way for novel applications in the design of public spaces. These spaces are designed to foster connectivity, adaptability, and shared resources, thereby redefining the future of urban living. The integration of case studies establishes an intermittent circuit, capable of activation to yield regenerative and adaptive public spaces. While this methodology was initially implemented in the context of Lisbon, its application has revealed principles that can be generalized to other urban contexts. Consequently, it can be posited that this intermittent circuit is an inherent and unique feature of each mapped city.

This work is incorporated into the scope of the following conference track: "Connecting," as it pertains to the development and implementation of interconnected networks and practices.

Keywords

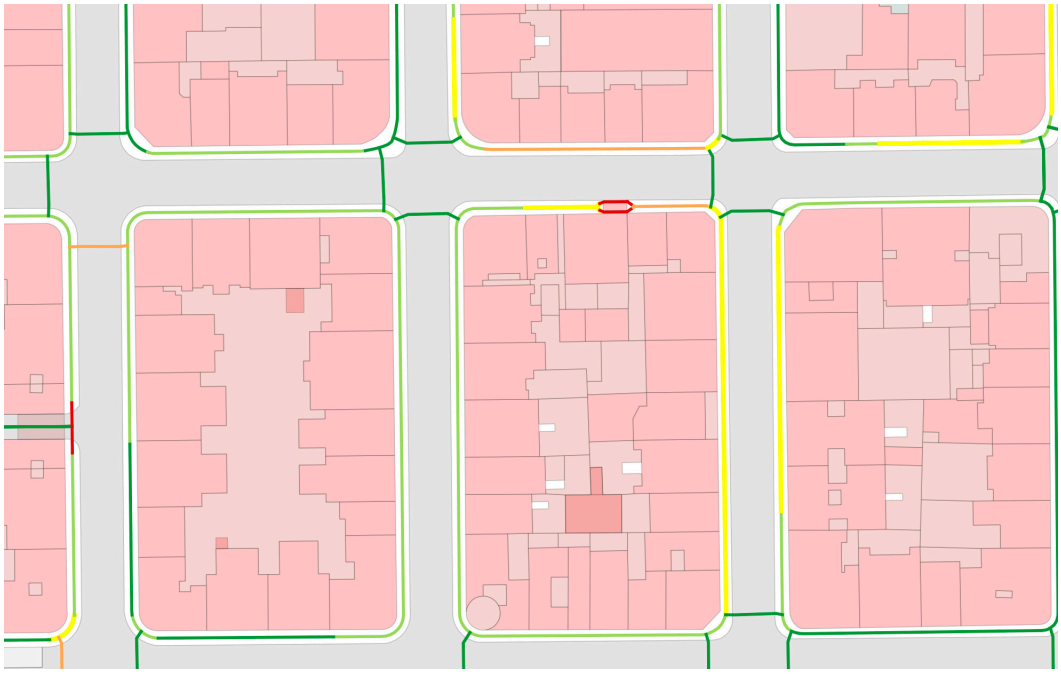
Intermittent City | Lisbon | Practices

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Is Lisbon walkable? Evaluating pedestrian accessibility at two different scales to optimize public space interventions

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Walking has gained importance as a travel mode. Several public authorities are trying to improve walkability conditions of their territories, by improving the pedestrian network and public space overall. However, often the problems to be solved surmount the available budget, and a strategy is required that prioritize certain areas and/or types of interventions.

In this paper, we present the methodology the municipality of Lisbon has adopted to improve the walkability conditions of places, which is based on a two-stage process. First, an overall walkability evaluation is performed for the entire territory, by identifying the relevant opportunities and considering the 'gross' pedestrian network of the territory. Without any evaluation of the concrete walking conditions of the network, results are treated as the 'potential walkability' of the territory. Second, by selecting some neighbourhoods based their potential walkability as well as on demographic, land use and traffic/safety issues, an evaluation of the net pedestrian network is made, and the impact on walkability is evaluated.

This complementary evaluation allows to identify key-places that can trigger major changes, and which interventions are more relevant for the neighbourhood, optimizing budget allocation and walkability impacts. With this two-stage, two-scale methodology, it becomes possible to define where to start intervening to maximize the impact of public space interventions to promote walkability. With adequate adjustments, this methodology can be applied in any other city that wants to improve walkability by maximizing the impact of the available budget.

Keywords

Walkability | Public Space | Pedestrian Network

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Nieuw Roffa 2105 Beyond Defense: Engaging Communities in Climate Resilience Strategies for Rotterdam

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Cities worldwide are experiencing the effects of climate change, including drought, heat stress, and flash floods. In the Netherlands, the main risks relate to the capacity of water management systems to drain excess riverine inflows and mitigate sea level rise impacts. As a low-lying delta, the country is particularly vulnerable, and Rotterdam provides an exemplary case of urban adaptation.

In this paper, we explore how the living with water paradigm can enhance climate resilience while emphasizing the role of social dynamics, local knowledge, and community decision-making in shaping effective, inclusive adaptation strategies.

The research adopts an interdisciplinary approach, bridging urbanism, architecture, engineering from TU Delft, and social sciences from Erasmus University. It focuses on Oud-Mathenesse, a neighborhood on Rotterdam's western periphery where different social groups, lower-income communities, and multiple forms of segregation intersect with climate-related risks such as flash floods. By analyzing residents' employment status, national backgrounds, and financial situations, we examine how these factors influence adaptation decisions.

A combination of fieldwork, ethnographic mapping, archival research, and critical spatial analysis captures past and present interactions with water. Additionally, community-based participatory research and integrated

knowledge translation methods, such as participatory workshops, research-by-design, and photovoice, engage residents to understand their risk perceptions and willingness to adopt adaptation measures. Structural assessments and hydraulic modeling provide a technical foundation for evaluating potential spatial interventions at both building and public space scales

Findings highlight the complexity of community-driven adaptation. The study develops a series of design strategies to support gradual transitions toward higher water levels due to increasing precipitation and potential overflow from the Maas River. However, financial uncertainty significantly impacts decision-making: many lower-income residents consider relocation rather than investing in adaptation measures. Additionally, uncertainty over responsibilities and cost-sharing contribute to inaction.

The study concludes with an adaptation strategy for Oud-Mathenesse, offering scalable, community-centered solutions that integrate spatial planning, policy frameworks, and social considerations. By embedding climate adaptation in local realities, it demonstrates how socially responsive urban design can create more equitable and effective solutions. This research contributes to discussions on green gentrification, climate justice, and participatory governance, offering a model for co-producing adaptation strategies that reflect the lived experiences of urban communities.

Keywords

Climate adaptation | Interdisciplinary design | Community agency

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Çengelköy Shoreline

Green Canopy
Large, mature trees provide shade throughout the day, enhancing comfort for outdoor activities. They offer natural cooling and visual appeal.

Boardwalk Path
The wooden walkway directs visitors straight to the waterfront view. It acts as a guiding spine through the space and blends naturally with the surroundings.

View-Facing Seating
Benches facing the water offer ideal spots for both individual rest and social interaction. They enable uninterrupted viewing of the seascape.

Waterfront Activity Zone
Café tables, strollers, and pedestrians create a vibrant and dynamic environment. The area supports flexible and temporary uses.

Framing Nature
Trees and open spaces frame views of the Bosphorus Bridge and the sea, creating visual focal points and providing ideal spots for photos or quiet breaks.

Local Identity Elements
Flags, the waterfront, and traditional architectural elements reinforce the local identity. These features foster a sense of place and belonging.

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Public realm elements fostering comfort and usability in Çengelköy

Seeing the Bosphorus: A Study on Public Space Usage in İstanbul's Bosphorus Shoreline

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The shores of the Bosphorus in Istanbul offer a historically and culturally significant urban landscape, providing public spaces for residents and visitors. However, despite being designated as public spaces, the actual accessibility and usability of these areas remain uncertain due to dynamics such as spatial constraints imposed by physical accessibility, visual connectivity, and the relationship between private property and urban infrastructure, all of which influence user experience.

This study focuses on the open spaces and piers along the shores of Kuzguncuk, Beylerbeyi, and Çengelköy in the Üsküdar district, exploring how users interact with these areas through the scope of environmental psychology, public space usage, and spatial behavior. The research employs various methods, including behavioral mapping, visibility analysis, accessibility assessments, and spatial analysis, to interpret how waterfront spaces are structured and how these spatial arrangements influence movement patterns, social interactions, and perceptions of publicness.

In particular, it investigates how private properties and commercial establishments shape the visibility of the Bosphorus and influence the use of these spaces, at times facilitating but also restricting accessibility. Additionally, the study presents whether waterfront open spaces function primarily as transit points or as gathering and recreational areas, examining spatial permeability, access routes, visual continuity, and the role of social spaces opening to the waterfront.

While piers serve as essential public transportation nodes, the study explores their broader role as integral elements of urban life, analyzing how physical features shape user preferences and engagement.

This research aims to provide a deeper understanding of the accessibility

and use of Istanbul's waterfront spaces and to contribute to future urban strategies for public space design. The findings offer insights into the inclusivity and publicness of these spaces, shedding light on how waterfront areas can be made more accessible and user-oriented.

Keywords

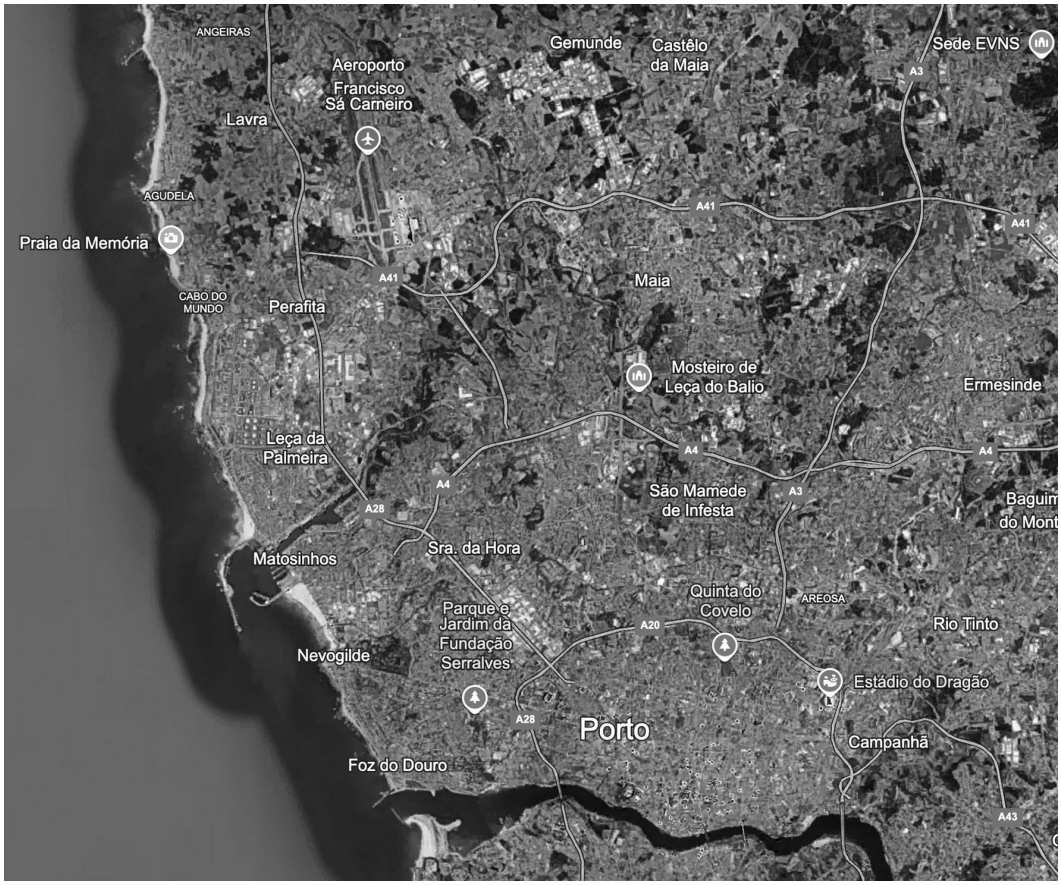
Public space | accessibility | social interaction

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Campanhã
Foz do Douro
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Verb to Connect: A holistic approach to the urban challenges of the 21st century

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This article proposes a reflection that evokes the essence of contemporary urban dynamics. The city, in its constant mutation, is a living organism pulsating with connections. Architectural fact and urban fact, as arts and sciences of form and space, have the fundamental role of facilitating and optimizing these interactions, creating environments that promote the full human experience.

Cities are complex organisms subject to constant and multifaceted change. Population growth, migration, globalization, new technologies, and climate change are some of the factors shaping the urban landscape. The cities of the 21st century are characterized by diversity, complexity, and the speed of change, which transcend traditional sectoral divisions and represent complex and interconnected dynamics.

Architecture, at its core, is an act of connection. It connects people, spaces, functions, and stories. Contemporary architecture must find new ways to connect the inside and the outside, the public and the private, the individual and the collective. The use of innovative materials, the creation of multifunctional spaces, and the integration of nature into the built environment are some of the strategies for creating buildings that are more connected to their surroundings and the people who inhabit them.

Urbanism of the 21st century has the responsibility of connecting the different elements of the city, creating a coherent and functional urban fabric capable of integrating the different scales of the city, from the neighbourhood to the metropolis, and promoting the diversity of uses and activities, as well as the participation of citizens in the construction of the city, through the creation of public spaces with urbanity.

The main challenge of linking contemporary architecture and urbanism

is to generate a holistic understanding of future living environments and promote collaborative approaches to urban and territorial challenges. This would create more connected, humane, sustainable, and resilient cities that promote social inclusion, equal opportunities, cultural diversity, and environmental protection.

To achieve this goal, it is essential to adopt an integrated, multidisciplinary and multi-scalar approach that involves different sectors of public administration, civil society and the private sector. It is essential to create mechanisms for social participation, such as councils, public hearings and popular consultations so that citizens can contribute to building the city. Urban governance must be strengthened, promoting transparency, accountability and efficient management of public resources, involving the community in decision-making and encouraging citizen participation in urban development.

In conclusion, the verb to connect invites us to reflect on the role of architecture and urbanism in creating more humane, equitable and sustainable cities. We therefore propose a model of Integrated Urban Connectivity based on the articulation of the different parts that connect in the same space, as well as the integration of different socio-spatial and mobility networks, with the aim of improving connectivity. The integration will address a unified spatial morphology based on

the evolution of each area and the synergy between urban and rural fabrics, cultural heritage and history in the creation of resilient and sustainable spaces, moving from impossible globalization to ecologically responsible and connected territorial networks.

Keywords

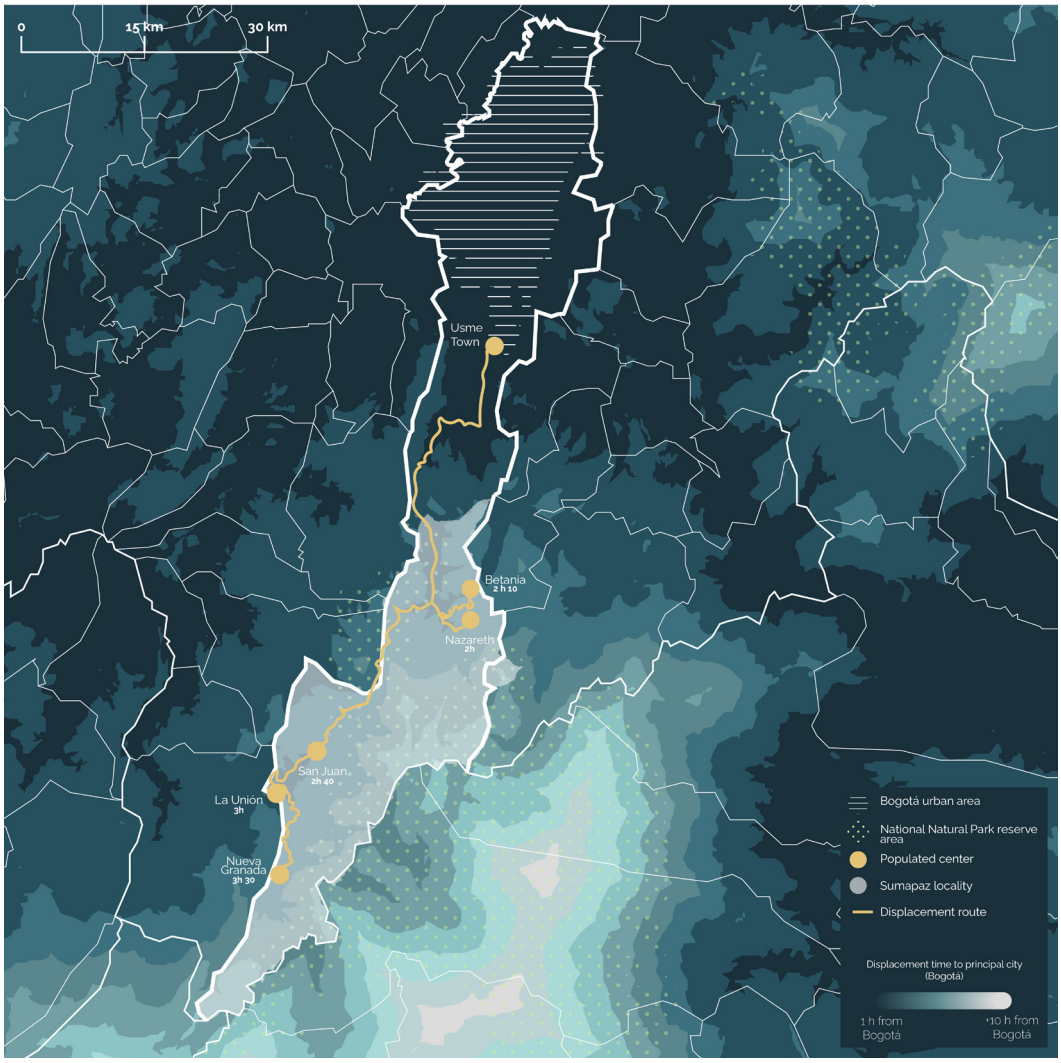
Connect | People | Spaces

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Illustrating the spatial disconnection between Bogotá and its rural locality, Sumapaz. By showing the average travel times from different populated centers in Sumapaz to the city—ranging from 3 to 4 hours each way—it reveals the territory's functional insularity.

Sumapaz, an insular territory in the middle of the Andes Mountain range. Itinerant residence for pendular inhabitants of education

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Bogotá, the capital of Colombia, divides its territory into 20 localities. Sumapaz is the last of them, and its uniqueness lies in the fact that, although it is part of the city, the entire area—about three times the size of the urban core—is classified as rural land. Reaching Sumapaz requires a journey of approximately 80 kilometers to the southernmost point of the city, a 3-4 hour trip to the nearest populated center of this locality. This results in a significant disconnection and isolation of this territory in economic, social, and cultural spheres, granting Sumapaz a condition of insularity, which triggers specific dynamics and flows. There are different actors in the territory involved in this condition. Teachers, for example, commute daily between Bogotá and Sumapaz, adopting a "pendular" way of living that swings between their permanent residence in the city (urban) and their work in this locality (rural), forcing them to live in constant itinerancy.

Although efforts have been made to stistfy the housing demand created by this dynamic in Sumapaz, the lack of understanding of the specifics of pendular living has led to a housing offer that does not meet the particular needs of teachers, making their adaptation to the insularity of the territory more difficult. Therefore, this research seeks to characterize itinerant housing in the region as a tool to contribute to the construction of what it means to live pendularly, considering the spatial and functional requirements of housing for teachers living between urban Bogotá and Sumapaz.

The research methodology combines a theoretical approach and a qualitative analysis of the territory. Conceptually, the differences between itinerant, permanent, and temporary housing are explored to clarify their meaning. At the same time, fieldwork includes mapping, architectural surveys, site observation, and interviews, allowing a comprehensive characterization of

itinerant housing and its spatial, technical, and functional attributes.

Preliminary findings suggest that the existing housing offer in Sumapaz has arisen empirically, based on the economic possibilities of its inhabitants, rather than state planning. This has led to technical deficiencies and a lack of response to the needs of itinerant teachers. For this reason, the research aims to identify both the shortcomings and positive aspects of current solutions, with the purpose of proposing strategies for improvement.

Thus, the characterization of itinerant housing not only enriches the debate on social and spatial connectivity in the urban-rural relationship, particularly in Sumapaz, but also provides a series of replicable considerations to guide the development of housing offerings in other territories with insular characteristics and pendular dynamics.

Keywords

itinerant housing | insularity | urban-rural connection

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Soldati social housing, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Landscapes of social cohesion

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Based on the observation of various high-density housing complexes built by the State in the City of Buenos Aires, and considering the lack of socio-urban integration that most of them represent, an interest arises in analyzing the exterior common spaces these complexes possess. These spaces not only constitute a necessary area for community life but also represent a large green space within the urban fabric. They could potentially be enhanced and connected with the city's other public spaces, thus creating a landscape of social cohesion.

In the 1960s and 1970s, high-density housing complexes were built in the City of Buenos Aires to provide housing for families that had been relocated due to urban transformations (new avenues and territorial planning) as well as for sectors of society with limited resources. Their large dimensions, different morphologies, and the disruption of the orthogonal urban grid created a unique urban environment.

The intermediate spaces in these collective housing complexes are mostly leftover areas from the original design that were not given a specific use. These are the exterior areas, the common spaces of the complexes where the social life of the inhabitants takes place, as well as spaces for expansion and exchange with both internal and external populations. The neglect affecting the quality of these sites is the result of a lack of maintenance, unclear public-private boundaries, absence of vegetation, inadequate equipment, and

poor materialization. Therefore, an integrated design that responds to these needs is required.

The goal is to delve into the morphologies, uses, and territorial management of these exterior common spaces, evaluating both the positive and negative actions impacting the territory within the framework of housing policies and interventions. The potential for connecting these spaces with other public areas in the city will also be evaluated to develop a socio-urban integration that improves the cityscape and the quality of life for its residents.

In this sense, collective housing, when related to urban projects rather than treated as an isolated object in its context, allows us to understand it as a fundamental piece in the formation of the city, creating concrete and varied urban spaces for the neighborhood. Therefore, the common spaces are ideal places to develop projects that enhance quality and achieve integration with the rest of the city.

It is necessary to continue studying these spaces as territories of opportunity, where it is possible to work towards generating new social dynamics that transcend the physical and legal boundaries of each neighborhood, thus fostering the creation of an urban landscape of integration and environmental quality.

Keywords

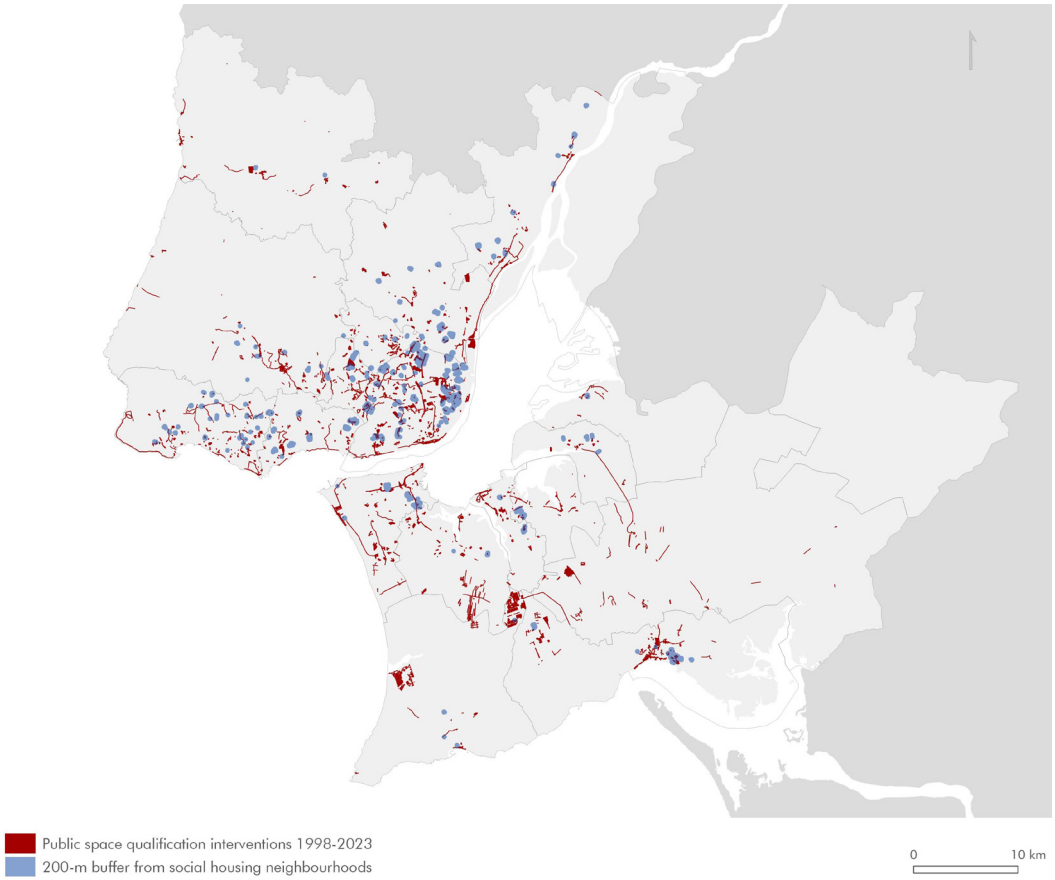
Collective housing | integration | common spaces

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Public space qualification interventions 1998-2023
200-m buffer from social housing neighbourhoods
0
10 km

Public Space Interventions and Socio-Spatial Integration: Insights from the Lisbon Metropolitan Area

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Public space is widely recognized as a key element in promoting socio-spatial integration. It is assumed that public space has the potential to serve as an element of connection between territories, combining social and spatial dimensions, contributing to social interactions and spatial linkages (Aelbrecht & Stevens, 2019). The aim of this study is to discuss the contributions of public space to socio-spatial integration. This study is part of the scope of the MetroPublicNet research project – 'Building the foundations of a Metropolitan Public Space Network to support the robust, low-carbon and cohesive city: Projects, lessons and prospects in Lisbon'. An essential resource of this study is the data on public space qualification interventions implemented between 1998 and 2023 systematically collected and analysed (Santos et al., 2024). The territorial focus is the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, which holds a central position in the Portuguese territory in terms of economic, political, urban and administrative significance.

After grounding and presenting the central theoretical concepts, the study is designed around one specific question: What proximity relationships can be identified between the most vulnerable socio-spatial territories and public space improvement interventions in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area. Two spatial analyses, using geographic information systems, were conducted to explore the geographical coincidence of public space qualification interventions with the most vulnerable territories in the metropolitan area. The first analysis draws parallels between the database of public space interventions and an index of socio-spatial vulnerability, encompassing indicators of the social condition of the resident population and the precariousness of buildings by statistical section. The second analysis establishes a link between public space interventions and the location of social housing neigh-

bourhoods, which are areas in Portugal characterised by a high degree of vulnerability (Pinho et al., 2022).

While the findings of the analyses highlight important trends, it is essential to consider the limitations of the study in the discussion to provide a more nuanced understanding of the results. The study shows that the most vulnerable areas were significantly covered by interventions to improve public space, following the principles of socio-spatial integration defended in urban policy programmes. Notwithstanding being a key feature both of the physical dimensions and the strategic and funding rationales behind the studied public space qualification interventions – namely by bringing dignity and multifunctionality to the urban living space of vulnerable communities – there is still a path to explore public space's potential as metropolitan network and as an effective socio-integration tool. Considering the often peripheral location of many social housing neighbourhoods, along with low accessibility conditions and detached spatial clustering, MetroPublicNet project and its public policy recommendations highlight the importance of public space programming at the metropolitan scale in order to devise a more cohesive response to structural social and territorial inequities.

Keywords

Public Space | Socio-spatial integration | Lisbon Metropolitan Area

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Social capital and housing conditions: housing expropriation in Qingdao, China

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From 2010 to 2020, approximately 44 million domestic housing units in China have been expropriated and renovated, causing more than 120 million people left their original neighbourhoods. Most previous studies on housing expropriation policy in China focus on the impact on residents, however, in mixed-use communities, the practice of large-scale housing regeneration projects also has radical impacts on social capital among residents, shopkeepers, and transitional users in the area.

This research adopts a practice-based approach to understand the changes in physical environment and social capital caused by the expropriation of Liyuan houses in Qingdao, China. By using a mixed-methods approach, including document analysis, semi-structured interviews, and participatory filmmaking, this study explores the perspectives of different stakeholders on housing conditions and social relationships.

The empirical findings show that different types of social capital existed in the Huangdao Road neighbourhood before housing expropriation. The bonding and bridging social capital were found, and the key role of shopkeepers in bridging capital was observed. However, linking social capital is missing in the neighbourhood. In addition, all stakeholders reported poor housing conditions but also strong social connections in the community. In the next step, the research will focus on shopkeepers and residents who have to move out of the neighbourhood, and will explore the changes in their experiences and social capital after the relocation..

Keywords

social capital | housing expropriation | housing conditions

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From Streets to Screens: How Digitalization is Reshaping Indonesia's Informal Economy

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The rapid evolution of digital technology is reshaping the landscape of all economic sectors, including informal economies in cities particularly in the Global South (UNDP, 2023). The informal economy constitutes the largest global employer, encompassing 60% of the workforce worldwide and around 90% in the lowest-income areas involved in informal employment. As technology continues to develop, traditional informal labor and micro-entrepreneurship are undergoing substantial transformation, thereby redefining urban work and economic structures. Although several studies emphasize the difficulties that digitalization presents to the informal economy, an expanding amount of research indicates its advantages, including enhanced financial inclusion and improved market access (Rakhmawan, 2002; Yang, 2024; Li 2024).

Historically, the informal economy has been a crucial component of urban life, promoting urban sustainability and providing livelihoods to millions who operate outside formal regulatory and financial frameworks (Chen, 2016; Magidi, 2021). Small shops, food vendors, conventional motorbike hailing and small enterprises have long been integral to city economies, offering accessible and affordable services to the citizens. However, with the rise of technology, these informal economic actors are being integrated into a new digital ecosystem, blending formality with their traditionally unregulated nature.

The transformation driven by digitalization surely will have implications for the future of cities. It fosters greater economic inclusivity by blurring the lines between formal and informal sectors. The emergence of online marketplaces and digital financial tools further challenges traditional retail landscapes, potentially displacing brick-and-mortar micro-enterprises while

simultaneously creating new entrepreneurial opportunities. However, this transformation also brings new challenges. Informal workers may face concerns related to job stability, fair wages, and independence as digital platforms increasingly control their work conditions. Furthermore, there is a divide between those who can profit from these developments and those who are left behind because not everyone has equal access to digital technologies.

This study explores these dynamics, offering insights into the evolving relationship between informal economies and digitalization. It focuses on Indonesia by analyzing the impact of platforms like Gojek and Tokopedia, which have revolutionized the conventional ojek industry and small enterprises. Gojek has digitized the ride-hailing service, facilitating financial inclusion, job security, and improved earnings for drivers, while instituting new forms of control and dependency on platform algorithms. Likewise, Tokopedia has enabled micro and small enterprises to access broader markets, digitize transactions, and enhance competitiveness, yet also confront increased rivalry and platform costs. Moreover, the implementation of digital banking services has facilitated seamless transactions for informal vendors, reducing reliance on cash and improving financial accessibility. Understanding the intersection of informal economies and digital technology is essential for promoting sustainable urban development as cities move towards an increasingly digital future.

Keywords

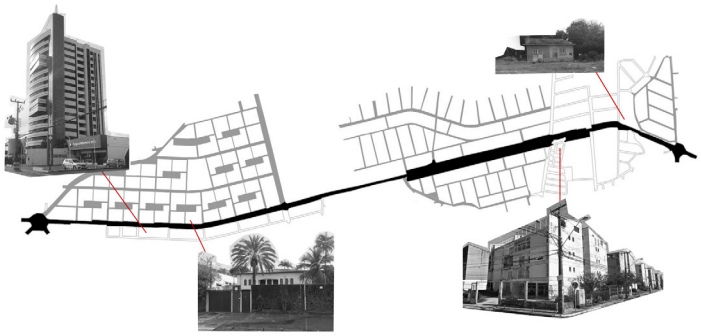
Informal Economy | Digital Transformation

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Diversity of housing typologies along the route, from urban dwellings to rural homes.

From the road to the street: the role of mobility infrastructure in the transition of urban levels

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Living under the notion of the urban, distinct from the idea of the city distinct from the city as a delimitable artifact, is an inherent yet still highly conflicting characteristic of contemporary times. The discussion about urban living in contrast to the form of contemporary cities is becoming increasingly pertinent. The time, space and form are linked to mobility infrastructure, hierarchically structured since the early 20th century, under the divisive paradigm of 'being' and 'circulating,' restricting city living to two levels: restricting city living to two levels: human at the neighborhood cell and machine at the arterial circulation system. The city living depends on space-conditioned connections, and thus, it is necessary to reconsider the established paradigm. The role of the arterial system roads, which should function as elements of connection and transition between the global and the local, is questioned.

This investigation falls within the domain of urban morphology and focuses on urbanization processes supported by linear elements that assume a hybrid role of streets and roads (Domingues, 2010). The objective is to understand the role that such infrastructural elements play in the morphological transitions and connections between urban levels from the perspective of form structuring, public spaces, and land use. This understanding is fundamental for unraveling urban fabric impacts and designing solutions for connected cities.

Employing a type-morphological approach, the study uses systemic and elementary decomposition (Dias Coelho, 2013) as a reading tool, based on different morphological levels methodologically constructed according to the studies of Moudon (2019). The case study is characterized as an infrastructural element that originates as a road but, absorbed by the urban fab-

ric, plays the role of a centrality in the city of São Luís, in the state of Maranhão, Brazil.

The results highlight the need to reconsider the role of urban infrastructures as facilitators of coexistence and mobility. There are barriers for elements that cater to higher scales of mobility to perform the role of public spaces, circulation, and permanence in the transition to a local scale. The priority necessary for automobiles to exercise the function of mobility at the municipal level is incompatible with the pedestrian use required for the experience of public space and support for everyday activities at the neighborhood level. Despite having a built set of uses related to centralities of levels lower than the global scale of the municipality, the circulation infrastructure overlaps the forms associated with urban streets. It is possible to verify the absence of an intermediate level of uses and urban infrastructure between the global and local scales.

The analysis from different morphological levels, beyond the objective results, leads to considering that the paradigm established in the 20th century of the 'cell and corridor' for structuring new scales of contemporary cities requires further discussion and propositions for new transition levels, aligned with the aspirations of 21st-century urbanism. The structuring of networks, fundamental for the natural aspect of cities (Alexander, 1966), must be understood in and between all levels, avoiding ruptures between morphological scales.

Keywords

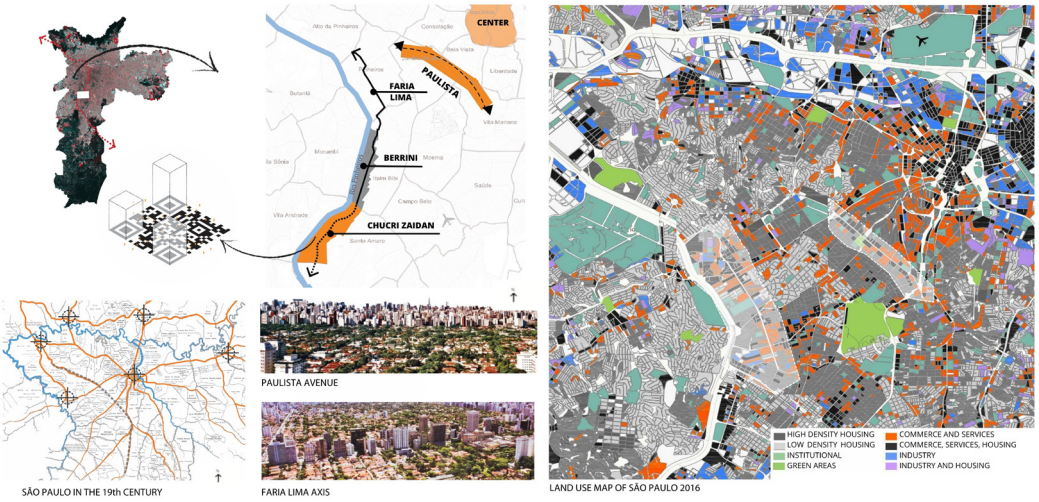
Urban Morphology | Road Hierarchy | Urban Levels

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Centralities axes in São Paulo. Source: LIMA, R. P. La Avenida Paulista como centro urbano lineal: espacios colectivos, plugins e interfaces urbanas. Madrid: Editorial Arquia (2020)

Collective Spaces Networks and Metropolitan Urban Centralities in São Paulo, Brazil

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Contemporary cities are undergoing profound structural transformations, including the reorganization of their central areas. A common phenomenon is the formation of linear centers along transportation corridors, characterized by a diversity of uses, users, and transportation systems (Mayorga, 2013). These centers also gain strength as symbolic spaces for social encounters and practices.

On a smaller scale, collective spaces emerge on the ground floors of buildings, connected to public spaces, forming microstructures that establish interfaces between public and private, interior and exterior, organized as networks (Lima, 2020). These common-use spaces create porosity in floor plans, enhancing walkability, activating ground floors—many of which are landscaped—and providing comfort to users. They can extend to underground levels or other building floors, multiplying the pathways of urbanity.

Their morphology reflects changes in lifestyles and technology, where social relationships are increasingly numerous but also more fragile (Ascher, 2010). They can be understood as "motherboards" that connect different parts of the urban system.

Another possible metaphor is to think of networks of collective spaces as QR codes (Quick Response), which provide access to other environments, establishing interfaces between different spaces. These networks gain significant capillarity and complexity in urban centrality networks, often being flexible, highly mutable, and transforming when a sidewalk is widened or a new building is introduced with its architectural plug-ins promoting cohesion between buildings and the city (Lima, 2020).

Related to this issue, this article analyzes networks of collective spaces in the metropolis of São Paulo, focusing on its main linear centers: Avenida

Paulista and the Faria Lima-Berrini-Chucri Zaidan axis. It seeks to understand how urban and architectural projects from different eras (Paulista consolidated as a centrality between the 1950s and 1980s, and Faria Lima-Berrini-Chucri Zaidan from the 1990s to the present) manifest themselves within this network of collective spaces, catalyzing urbanity. The comparative analysis between the two axes seeks to identify morphological, functional, and dynamic changes and continuities, highlighting the role of public and private spaces in shaping linear centralities. Additionally, it aims to understand the design strategies of these spaces, their impacts on the urban landscape and social relations, as well as their integration with infrastructure networks.

The methodology includes a literature review, collection of official data (urban projects, architectural projects, aerial and satellite images, cadastral maps, master plans, regulation), on-site mapping, and the production of maps and diagrams, with an emphasis on ground floors and open spaces between buildings. The analysis is conducted at different scales and within historical perspectives.

The study reveals significant transformations in urban centralities, reinforcing the need for integrated urban planning adapted to contemporary dynamics. It also highlights the importance of collective spaces as urban infrastructure, emphasizing their ability to promote social interactions and connect multiple urban networks, enhancing walkability and integrating the various layers that organize urban space—whether material, economic, social, or environmental. Understanding them can explain pertinent aspects of urban culture and establish criteria for future interventions.

Keywords

Urban centrality | Collective spaces | Metropole of São Paulo

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Spatial practices in tenure-mixed residential estates: What connects and divides residents from different tenure types

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Securing social mix through tenure mix has influenced the development of residential estates in larger cities across Denmark over the past decade. Driven by the expectation that physical proximity between residents from different social positions fosters social interaction and cohesion, new residential estates and disadvantaged neighborhoods are being developed or transformed into tenure-mixed communities. However, international literature has questioned whether physical proximity between different tenure types leads to everyday encounters between residents from different social positions.

This paper aims to contribute to this discussion through an investigation of residents' spatial practices in tenure-mixed residential estates in Denmark. Based on a case study of six tenure-mixed residential estates, this paper examines what connects and divides residents from different tenure types. Data were collected through mapping of residents' spatial practices and everyday encounters, supplemented by in-depth qualitative interviews to explore the underlying motivations and perspectives shaping these practices.

The paper contributes nuanced insights into everyday encounters—and their absence—in tenure-mixed residential estates, and how different amenities and facilities can connect or divide residents from different tenure types.

Keywords

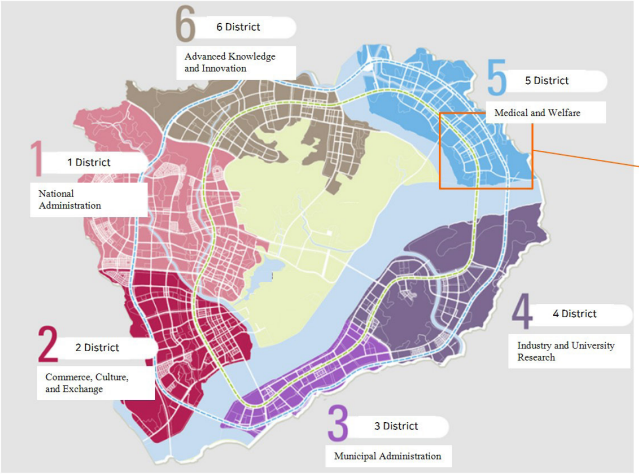
Tenure mix | Residential estates | spatial practices | everyday encounters

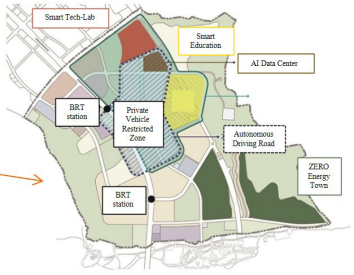
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5-1 Smart City

Seojong administrative capital, South Korea

A Comparative Analysis of Transit-Oriented and Smart Mobility-Centric Urban Planning: Urban Mobility and Housing Integration in Sejong City's 1-1 and 5-1 Districts, South Korea

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Sejong Special Self-Governing City, South Korea, was established on July 1, 2012, to alleviate the overpopulation of Seoul, the country's capital. It was designed as an administrative capital, integrating and relocating previously dispersed government institutions across South Korea. Sejong spans 464.84 km² approximately 70% of Seoul's area, and had a population of 386,525 as of December 2023. The city is projected to expand to a population of 500,000 by 2030.

Sejong was the first city worldwide to receive Smart City International Certification from the British Standards Institution (BSI) in 2018, recognizing its project performance and urban maturity. In particular, the 5-1 district was designated as a national smart city pilot zone, serving as a testbed for 4th Industrial Revolution technologies on a previously undeveloped site. This contrasts with other cities, such as Kalasatama (Helsinki, Finland), and the Cerdà Expansion Plan (Barcelona, Spain), where technological implementations are constrained by pre-existing urban structures. Additionally, Sejong operates based on citizen-generated data, enhancing its research significance.

Sejong adopts a dual-loop urban structure, with central green spaces surrounded by six functionally distinct districts: District 1 (National Administration), District 2 (Commerce, Culture, and Exchange), District 3 (Municipal Administration), District 4 (Industry and University Research), District 5 (Medical and Welfare), and District 6 (Advanced Knowledge and Innovation). This study focuses on a comparative analysis of District 1 and District 5.

District 1, developed under the 2006 Multifunctional Administrative City Master Plan, employs a transit-oriented urban design, incorporating a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, exclusive bus lanes, and railway transfer hubs. In

contrast, District 5, developed between 2017 and 2021, was designated as a national smart city pilot zone, emphasizing shared mobility, smart transportation infrastructure, and pedestrian-centric planning, with a focus on personal mobility (PM) and walkability.

Despite District 1's transit-oriented urban planning, long distances between residential areas and workplaces or commercial facilities resulted in accessibility challenges, leading to a continued reliance on automobiles. This case highlights the limitations of conventional transit-oriented new towns, particularly when residential-mobility connectivity is insufficient. In response, District 5-1 was designed to address these issues by integrating PM and shared mobility hubs within residential areas, promoting walking, cycling, and PM-based mobility patterns. Furthermore, smart transportation infrastructure and autonomous shuttles were introduced to enhance last-mile connectivity and optimize transport efficiency.

This study compares transportation and housing-related guidelines in Sejong City's transit-oriented 1-1 district and smart mobility-focused 5-1 district, evaluating their impact on collective housing and future residential environments. The analysis is based on the Sejong City Master Plan, district unit plans, smart mobility policies, and transportation strategy reports, focusing on transit hub design, spatial distribution of mobility hubs, and intermodal connectivity.

Through this research, we seek to derive policy recommendations for establishing optimal mobility strategies in future new town development and urban regeneration projects in South Korea and internationally. Furthermore, by analyzing the relationship between urban mobility and housing environments, this study aims to propose policy directions to strengthen the integration of residential areas and mobility infrastructure in future urban planning..

Keywords

Urban Planning Guidelines | Smart Mobility-Centric planning | mobility-housing connectivity

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Translocal Ties: The Social and Spatial Connectivity of Transnational Migrants and Translocal Individuals

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Migration, as a phenomenon, epitomizes the theme of Connecting, as it inherently involves the interaction of multiple social, spatial, and mobility networks. Traditionally, migration theories have been critiqued for their static, linear, often eurocentric perspectives, which fail to account for the multidimensional and dynamic nature of migration (Castles, 2010; De Haas, 2010; Adepoju, 2010). In response to these critiques, the concept of transnationality emerged, emphasizing migrants' ability to sustain networks across geographical borders (Faist, 2000; Schiller et al., 1992; Smith, 2001). More recently, the concept of translocality has gained traction, focusing on grounded, circular, and multidirectional forms of movement (Brickell & Datta, 2011; Greiner 2011; Greiner & Sakdapolrak, 2013; (Steinbrink & Niedenführ, 2019). This paper examines how these evolving theoretical frameworks can be applied to real-world contexts, using the case studies of Bangladeshi migrants in Oman and internal migrants in Zambia to explore how interconnected networks shape the lives, practices, and spaces of migrants.

The paper asks: How do transnational and translocal networks shape migrants' spatial and social practices in diverse contexts? To address this, the paper begins with a conceptual framework (Annisa, ongoing) that examines the interaction of social, spatial, and mobility networks within translocal spaces. It then applies this framework to two distinct case studies. The first focuses on Bangladeshi low-skilled migrants in Oman, exploring how they navigate life in the host country while maintaining active transnational connections. This includes: (a) their integration into the host society while sustaining strong ties with their home country (Annisa, 2019); (b) how their transnational networks influence their spatial practices, such as the use of

living and working spaces (Annisa, 2019); and (c) the impact of these networks on their home country, including the flow of remittances, ideas, and cultural exchanges. The second case study examines internal migrants in Zambia, showcasing how translocal spaces emerge through interactions between spatial and non-spatial anchor points (Annisa, ongoing). It highlights: (a) how place-based networks enable migrants to establish livelihoods in the host city and (b) how space-spanning networks maintain cultural identity and foster cross-linkages between locations (Annisa, ongoing).

The findings underscore that in today's globalized, digitalized, and hyper-connected world, the concept of translocality provides an essential lens to understand migration and connectivity. Migrants leverage multiple networks to adapt, thrive, and remain connected in both transnational and local contexts. This raises critical questions about urban planning and policy: How can cities integrate the realities of translocality into their development to create inclusive spaces for migrants? By reflecting on these case studies, this paper calls for rethinking how cities are designed to account for the dynamic, networked lives of migrants..

Keywords

Tranlocality | Transnationality | Connectivity & Networks |Social Capital

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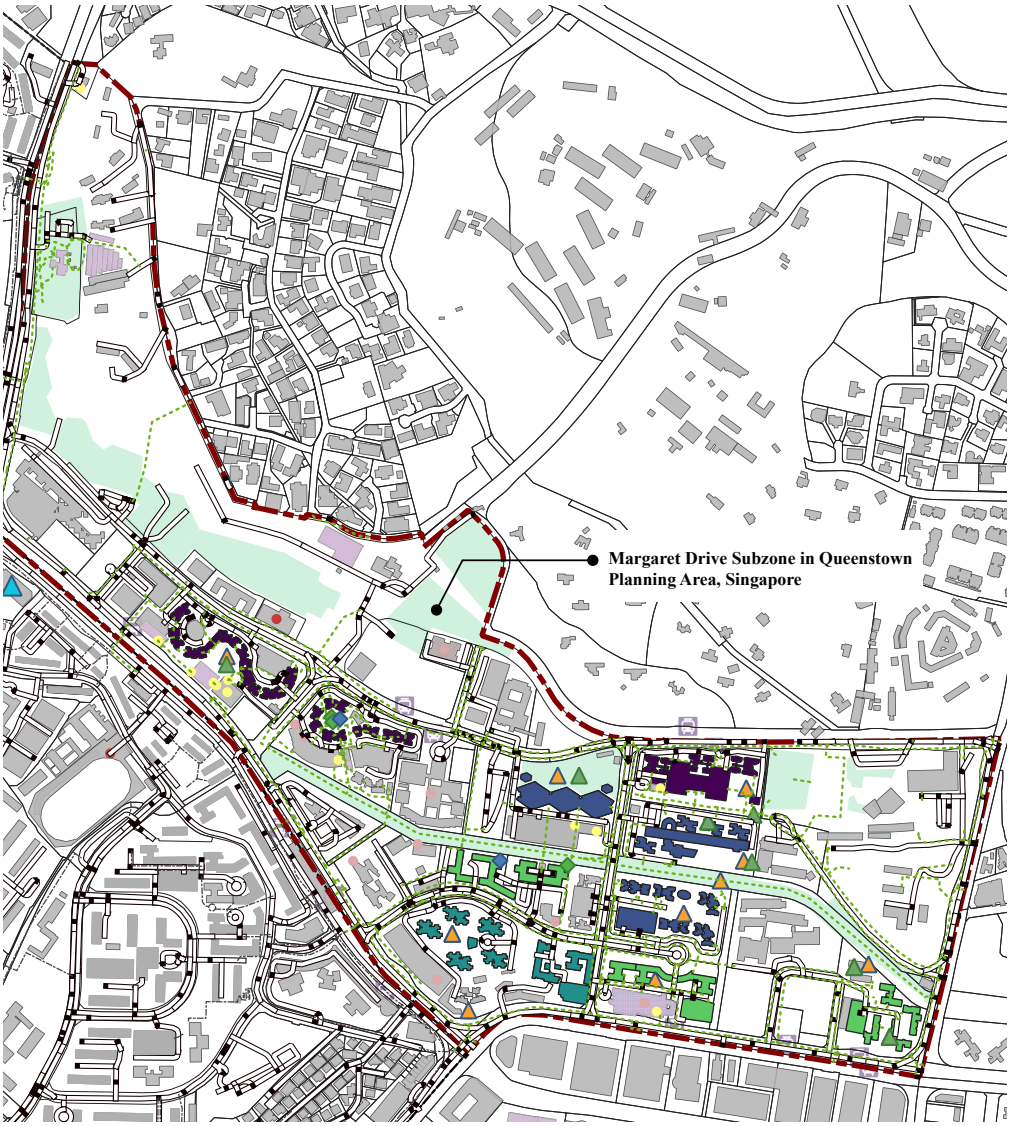
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Margaret Drive Subzone in Queenstown
Planning Area, Singapore
Buildings
Existing Buildings
Public Housing
1992-2000
2001-2010
2011-2020
2021-Now
Road_Network
Pedestrain paths
Vehicle Routes
Facilities
Age-related Facilities
Fitness Facilities
Playground
Commercial_Food Court
Commercial_Retail
Cultural Facilities
Study Areas
Study Zone
Study Sites_Playground
Study Sites_Fitness
0 100 200 m

Understanding the Effects of Physical Environment Factors on Intergenerational Co-presence and Interaction in Neighbourhood Public Spaces

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Rapid urbanization and ageing populations have heightened the importance of fostering interaction between children and older adults in urban communities, as intergenerational interaction plays a crucial role in reducing ageism and promoting both individual and community well-being (Kaplan et al., 2020). Neighbourhood public spaces provide everyday settings where both children and older adults could potentially interact (Nelischer & Loukaitou-Sideris, 2023). Current research on public spaces for these age groups typically addresses age-friendly and child-friendly environment principles as separate domains (Biggs & Carr, 2015). While this separation has generated valuable insights, a critical gap exists in understanding how physical environment factors influence both co-presence – the simultaneous presence of different age groups – and their meaningful interactions in the public space.

This study employs a sequential mixed-methods approach to examine how physical environment factors influence both intergenerational co-presence and interaction patterns in Singapore's neighbourhood public spaces. The research combines quantitative spatial analysis with innovative technological methods, utilizing video documentation enhanced by deep learning and computer vision techniques to analyse patterns of space usage and interaction. This approach is complemented by systematic observational protocols that capture detailed classifications of both co-presence patterns and intergenerational interactions. These behavioural data are analysed alongside detailed physical environmental factors mapped through QGIS.

The findings provide insights into which physical environment factors effectively support both co-presence and intergenerational interaction in public spaces. Specifically, initial analyses indicate that the proximity of

public spaces to residential areas significantly influences intergenerational co-presence and interaction. Commercial and cultural facilities show positive associations with intergenerational interaction, while higher residential density exhibits negative correlations with both co-presence and intergenerational interaction. By distinguishing between features that facilitate co-presence and those that encourage interaction, this research contributes to developing evidence-based design strategies for creating public spaces that can effectively support meaningful intergenerational interactions, particularly in rapidly aging Asian cities like Singapore where such spaces are increasingly crucial for social cohesion.

Keywords

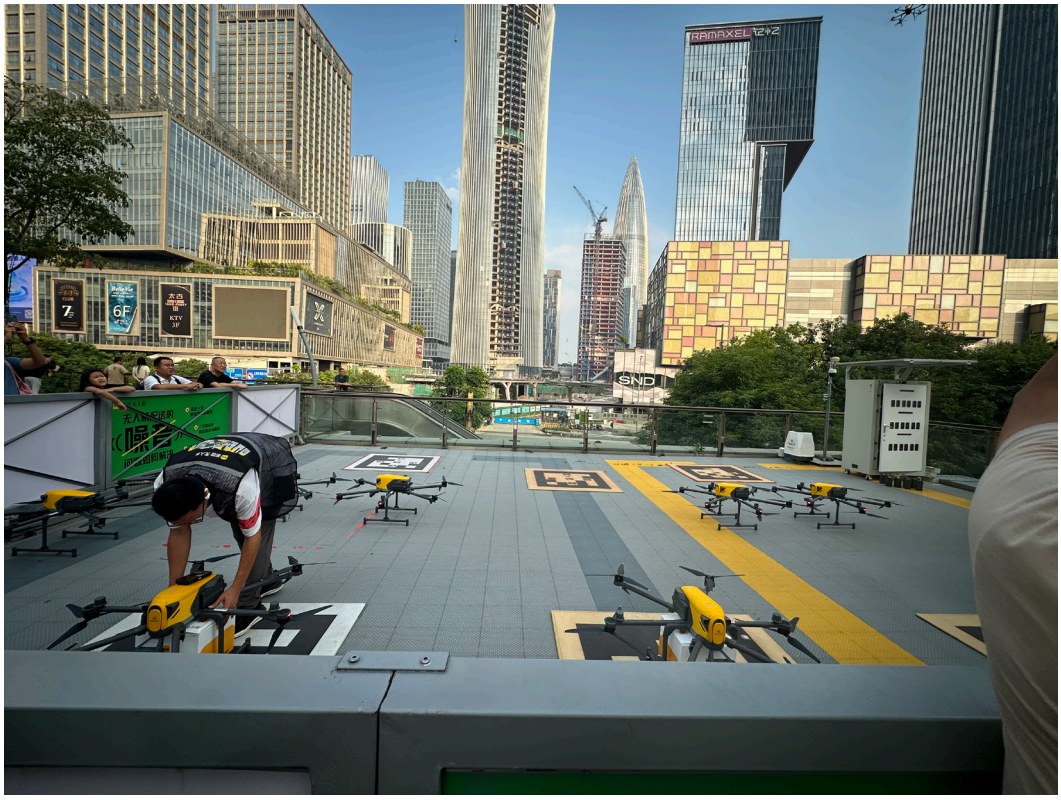
Intergenerational interaction | neighbourhood public space | physical environments factors

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The low-altitude economy integrates with urban environments

The Impacts of the Low-Altitude Economy on Sustainable Urban Planning: A Case Study from Hong Kong

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The Low-Altitude Economy (LAE) is an emerging economic sector involving manned and unmanned aircraft activities such as passenger transportation, emergency and rescue, deliveries, inspection and maintenance, surveillance, etc., within 1,000 meters above the ground (Jiang et al., 2024). As an extension of Urban Air Mobility (UAM) and Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), the LAE originates as a solution to transportation issues such as traffic congestion and emissions, aiming to improve delivery efficiency, especially in last-mile logistics and travel (Guan et al., 2024). Expected benefits include reduced emissions, alleviated pressure on ground transport systems (Egis, 2024; Goyal, 2018), and significant economic contributions such as industrial cost savings (Pandey & Wilson, 2024).

However, the emergence of the LAE introduces numerous urban planning challenges, including noise and safety concerns, air traffic management, a lack of support infrastructure and community acceptance (Cohen et al., 2021; Pak et al., 2024; Perperidou & Kirgiafinis, 2023). Strategies to integrate the LAE into urban planning have been proposed to address these concerns, such as simulating strategic locations and sizes for vertiports (ground infrastructure for vertical take-off and landing), to mitigate noise and safety risks and improve system efficiency (Fadhil et al., 2018; Vazquez, 2021). Regional planning studies have focused on creating strategic roadmaps for managing Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) (Guan et al., 2024). Despite these efforts, there are noted limitations regarding UAVs' ground infrastructure in urban planning, including zoning, landing and take-off sites, social acceptance and planning issues (Bauranov & Rakas, 2021).

In Hong Kong, where the economy faces land constraints and high emissions from traditional transportation, the LAE could reduce traffic pressures

and improve urban services. This study examined the integration of LAE in Yuen Long, Hong Kong, which is part of the Northern Metropolis development area. Through literature and precedents analysis, expert interviews, and GIS suitability analysis conducted with an Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP-Delphi), the research illustrates how a logistic scenario for LAE integration could be implemented in Hong Kong. The study introduces several vertiport prototypes and infrastructure. It also proposes a LAE urban planning framework by analysing the related land-use factors to address spatial limitations, noise, and security challenges. The framework identifies optimal locations for logistics infrastructure and their selection criteria, such as parks, playgrounds and commercial buildings' rooftops based on safety and noise impact assessments, and integration with existing urban infrastructure. These findings show how the comprehensive integration of the LAE in Hong Kong's urban landscape can be achieved through a multi-faceted and data-driven urban planning approach, promoting harmonious and sustainable forms of future urban development.

Keywords

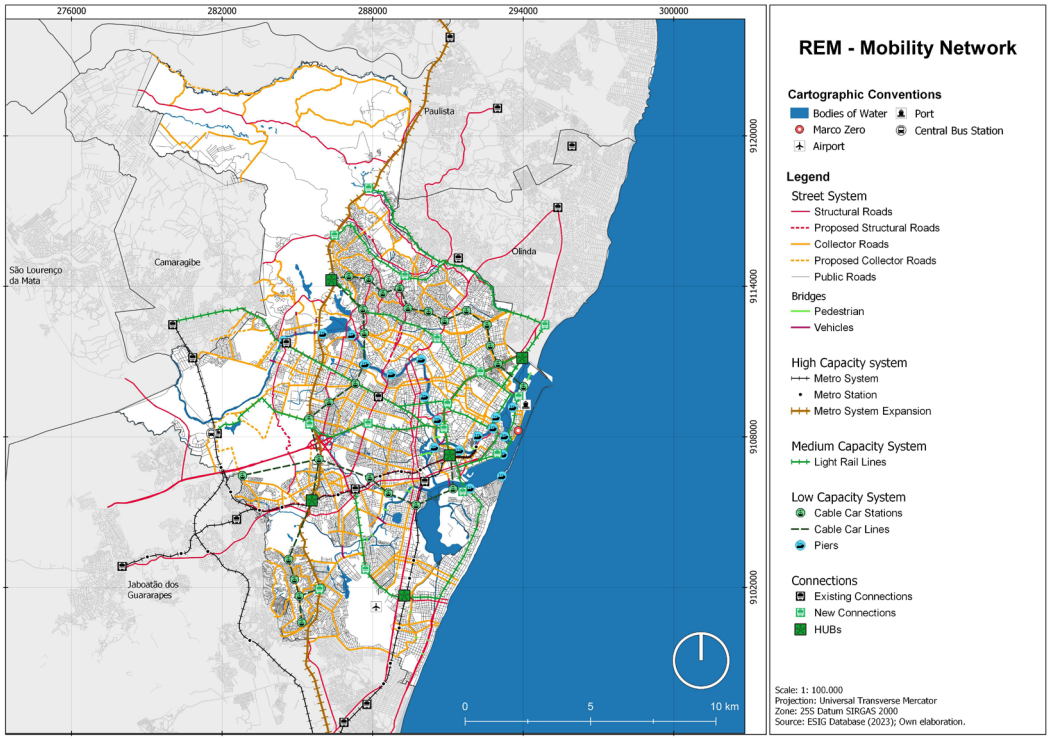
Low-Altitude Economy | Urban Planning | GIS Suitability Analysis

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276000
282000
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294000
300000
9120000
9114000
9108000
9102000
Paulista
Olinda
Camaragibe
São Lourenço da Mata
Jaboatão dos Guararapes
0
5
10 km
REM - Mobility Network
Cartographic Conventions
Bodies of Water
Port
Marco Zero
Central Bus Station
Airport
Legend
Street System
Structural Roads
Proposed Structural Roads
Collector Roads
Proposed Collector Roads
Public Roads
Bridges
Pedestrian
Vehicles
High Capacity system
Metro System
Metro Station
Metro System Expansion
Medium Capacity System
Light Rail Lines
Low Capacity System
Cable Car Stations
Cable Car Lines
Piers
Connections
Existing Connections
New Connections
HUBs
Scale: 1: 100.000
Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
Zone: 25S Datum SIRGAS 2000
Source: ESIG Database (2023); Own elaboration.

Mobility Network Planning: A Methodology for the Global South Based on the Case of Recife, Brazil

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The 21st century requires overcoming the paradigms of the 20th century, marked by the hegemony of the automobile and planning approaches focused exclusively on motorized vehicles. The prevailing culture prioritized traffic forecasting based on demand, relegating the street to the function of a thoroughfare, a passageway, traffic forecasting based on demand, etc. Studies such as those by Bertolini (2023), Baiardi et al. (2024), and Banister (2007) highlight the urgency of sustainable alternatives for mobility, focusing on people, the inclusion of all modes of transport, valuing streets as places, integrated mobility management, among others.

In the Global South, many cities lack simplified methodologies for drawing up transport plans linked to urban development. These cities face limitations in data, financial resources, and technical capacity, making it difficult to create integrated Mobility Networks (MoN or REM in portuguese - Rede de Mobilidade) that transform paradigms and promote sustainable solutions.

Recife, located in the northeast of Brazil, exemplifies this scenario. The city doesn´t have an integrated Mobility Plan, and decades of discontinuity in strategic planning have resulted in gaps in the formulation of consistent policies.

Given this scenario, the question arises: how can different transportation systems be planned and integrated to make up an Integrated Mobility Network (MoN) that meets the dynamics of the form-function of transportation infrastructures as environments in an unequal and expanding city?

The work proposes a physical-spatial methodology for integrating different transport systems into the existing territory, by building cartographies of a comprehensive MoN.

It assumes that MoN cartographies are essential tools to support plan-

ning and negotiation between the population, public managers, and private agents, promoting transparency during the process.

The qualitative research was conducted in partnership between the Municipality of Recife and the Federal University of Pernambuco. The methodology was based on three categories of analysis: (i) street systems, (ii) public transportation (Train, Metro, Tram, BRT, bus, boat, cable car), and (iii) cyclomobility. The study was structured in three phases:

1. Survey: Compilation and georeferencing of proposed plans related to transport in which some design was available.

2. Diagnosis: Critical evaluation of the implemented plans (of which there were very few) and their shortcomings, observed on site.

3. Proposals: Preparation of an integrated MoN, based on the guidelines of the "Recife Cidade Parque" Plan, which aims for a sustainable, equitable, and humane environment. The design of the maps took geographical, urban, and environmental factors into account, linking high and low-capacity systems to ensure homogeneous spatial coverage.

Considering the three categories of analysis as innovative projects around the world, the main contribution of the research is the construction of a methodology for creating MoN, based on the simultaneous integration of transport systems.

The methodology developed can be replicated in other municipalities, providing a basis for further studies and funding. It contributes to a vision of an integrated urban mobility network rather than fragments or systems that compete, changing the current paradigm of sectoral planning.

Keywords

Integrated Mobility Networks | Mobility Plans by cartography | physical-spatial methodology for mobility

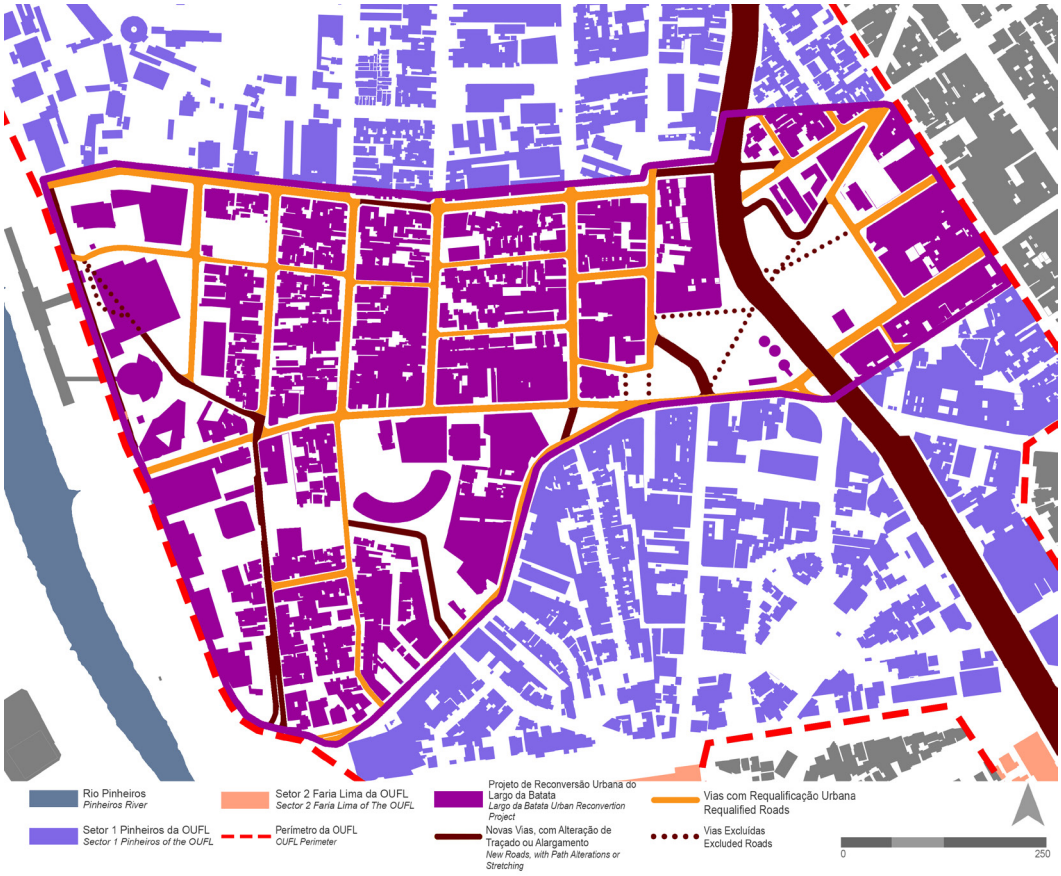
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Rio Pinheiros
Pinheiros River
Setor 1 Pinheiros da OUFL
Sector 1 Pinheiros of the OUFL
Setor 2 Faria Lima da OUFL
Sector 2 Faria Lima of The OUFL
Perímetro da OUFL
OUFL Perimeter
Projeto de Reconversão Urbana do Largo da Batata
Largo da Batata Urban Reconvertion Project
Novas Vias, com Alteração de Traçado ou Alargamento
New Roads, with Path Alterations or Stretching
Vias com Requalificação Urbana
Requalified Roads
Vias Excluídas
Excluded Roads
0
250

(Re)thinking Urban Planning: The Gap of Urban Design at Faria Lima and Pinheiros Stations Areas, SP, Brazil

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This paper explores the deficiencies in urban design and planning processes within Brazil's urban development framework, emphasizing the urgency of revising strategies for urban designs projects. It argues that the absence of urban design tools contributes to the degradation of local territories and hinders integrated urban development, especially in Stations Areas which naturally have ambivalences between the Node and the Place.

The study uses a post-occupation analysis of the urban project that won the national competition for the "Urban Redevelopment of Largo da Batata" (Reconversão Urbana do Largo da Batata, own translation, 2001) in São Paulo.

Using qualitative and empirical research, the spatial transformations were evaluated from the proposed project in 2001 to its completion in 2022, where two new metro stations have emerged, supposedly connected to either a metro station or a bus terminal in a historical Place. They were evaluated in three urban scales through categories – Node and Place.

In the empirical case, Faria Lima and Pinheiros Station areas, despite being strategic, did not overcome spatial dilemmas between the transport Node and Place in its Station Areas due to gaps in the planning process between different urban intervention scales. As a first result, they reinforce spatial ambivalence (Baiardi, 2018).

To address these challenges, the study advocates for a paradigm shift towards a more integrated urban development model, anchored in the implementation of a Local Masterplan. This tool would facilitate the coordination of planning and design strategies by addressing interdependencies among urban elements while promoting long-term sustainability in neighborhoods. Following Bullivant's (2012) perspective, the study highlights the

importance of inclusive public participation in planning processes, where frameworks are flexible and adaptive rather than rigid.

The paper aligns its approach with Portas' concepts (2011) of the Meta-Program, Meta-Project, and Meta-Design. These frameworks promote holistic urban strategies by establishing aspirations (Meta-Program), structuring functional programs (Meta-Project), and translating these into tailored projects that respect specific contexts (Meta-Design). Such tools enable the integration of infrastructure, public spaces, transportation networks, and local identities, fostering vibrant and sustainable urban environments.

A critical concept explored is the Mobility Urban Hub (MUH), which integrates urban and transportation functions to eliminate spatial ambiguities. These hubs transform spaces of flow, permanence, and exchange into seamless connections between transportation and urban life. However, the analysis of Faria Lima and Pinheiro's stations underscores planning shortcomings, where not only gaps in integrating scales of intervention perpetuate spatial ambivalence but, as second result, it is revealed the lost of opportunity to develop these areas as efficient MUHs.

By focusing on the intersection of urban design, planning, and local identity, especially in Station Areas, this paper contributes to the necessity of transforming Brazil's urban landscape through new processes. It proposes that by addressing the gaps in current urban planning and emphasizing the role of urban design, it is possible to create more connected, resilient, and thriving urban spaces, particularly around Mobility Urban Hubs, where integration is most needed..

Keywords

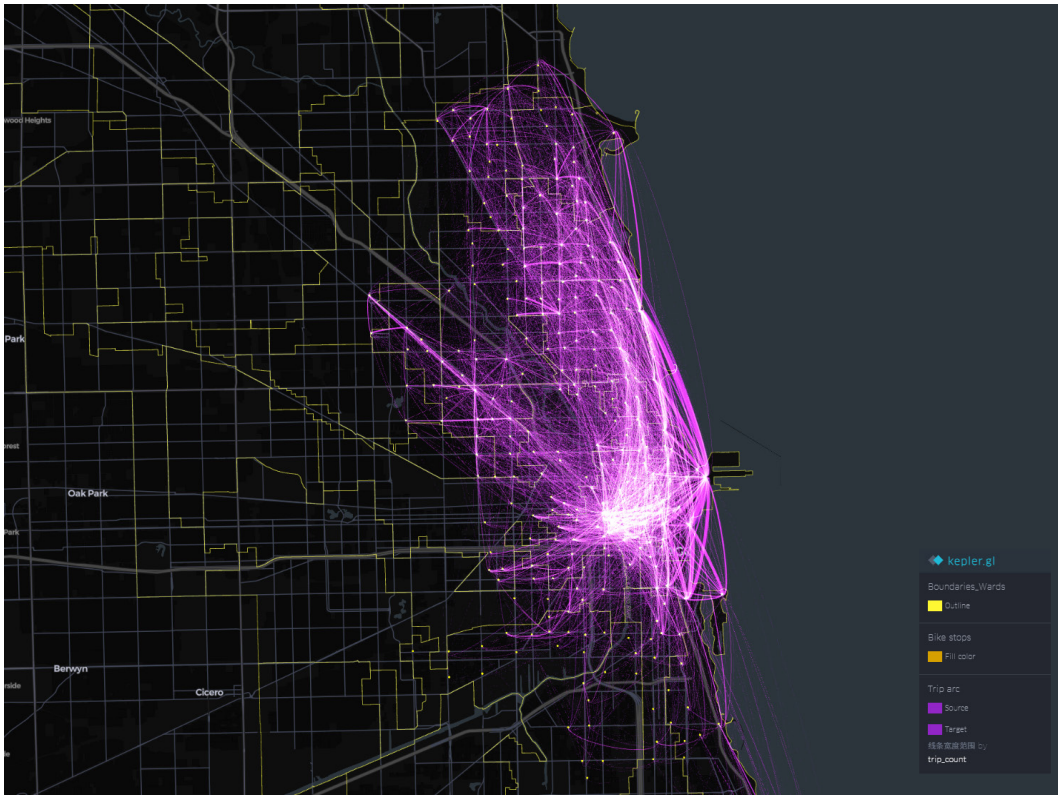
Local Masterplan | Urban Design Stations Areas | Faria Lima and Pinheiros Station

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Spatiotemporal visualization of shared bicycle origin-destination flows in Chicago, highlighting high-density urban corridors and multimodal mobility nodes.

Assessing the Synergy Between Shared Bike Systems and Public Transportation: A Spatiotemporal Analysis of Chicago Divvy Data

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With the acceleration of urbanization, traffic congestion and environmental issues have become increasingly serious, making the integration of multimodal transportation systems a critical strategy for alleviating urban traffic pressure. As a key component of the urban micromobility system, bike sharing has attracted significant attention due to its potential synergy with public transport. However, most existing studies rely on macro-level data and lack fine-grained spatial analyses. To address this gap, I conducted an in-depth analysis of Chicago's Divvy bike-sharing system using limited public data. The study specifically examines the spatiotemporal matching between shared bikes and transit facilities (bus stops and train stations) and their impact on traffic flow.

By overlaying heatmaps of Divvy origin points with public transport facilities, the analysis reveals a strong complementary effect in high-density central areas. Two quantitative methods were developed: (1) an intersection-based method calculating the total walking distance from bike trip endpoints to the nearest station on the same transit line, and (2) a perpendicular distance method that computes the sum of the minimum vertical distances between bike endpoints and transit lines. Preliminary results indicate that shared bikes significantly reduce travel times near transit hubs, although competitive effects may emerge in peripheral areas.

Overall, the findings demonstrate that in dense urban centers, bike sharing primarily serves as a "last mile" supplement, while the similar distributions of departures and arrivals across other areas suggest balanced travel demand. This study, leveraging limited public data through spatial overlay and OD matrix analysis, successfully constructs a refined quantitative model that provides new insights for urban transport planning and operational

optimization.

Keywords

Bike sharing | Public transport | Last mile

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The new metropolitan Hub of Lyon Part-Dieu under construction, Maxime Delvaux for l'AUC, april 2025

Lyon Part-Dieu, "Contemporary Metropolitan Hub"

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Lyon Part-Dieu project is currently among the most ambitious urban redevelopments in France and probably Europe. Located at the heart of Lyon metropolitan area, around France first high-speed train station (1981), Lyon Part-Dieu district acts as an entrance and stimulator to regional economy. It is also a hyper-public space where about two million commuters, travellers, employees, tourists, inhabitants... cross their ways every day. Stations are not just specialized venues for transportation, but more than ever, becoming "initiators", essential levers for urban interconnectedness, development and regeneration in today's major cities. Since 2009, l'AUC has overseen this regeneration, advising the city and managing urban and public space projects. The goal was to transform France's second-largest CBD, known for its 1960s mineral, slab, car-centric design, disconnected tissue and mono-functional spaces into a European-scale metropolitan hub of the future. A key part of this bold vision was to paradoxically integrate while expanding saturated, new, and future mobility networks to facilitate intermodal transport and enhance connectivity. The intricate situation of buildings and infrastructures generated complex technical issues that the project had to solve, while at the same time fostering high public space and urban quality. This comprehensive intervention entirely reimagined the district, making interconnectedness a unifying supportive element.

'Contemporary Metropolitan Hub'

The metropolitan positioning of the project relies on Part-Dieu's multiscale figure.

At European scale, the augmented high-speed rail station (once a national end, now an international node connecting Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Bel-

gium, Luxembourg & Germany) and the efficient connexion to the airport make it an obvious international and regional metropolitan gate.

At metropolitan scale, as a hub, Part-Dieu is a point of affluence, transit, and redistribution that deals with all sorts of mobility flows at all scales.

'Open Station'

A major component of the plan was Part-Dieu station's extension as the CBD heart, doubling its capacity to serve 300,000 passengers daily by 2030. The 'Open Station' concept transformed the station into a multi-connected hub and the surrounding public space in its extension, linking various transport modes (buses, trams, cars, cabs, bikes, …). The extension increased the station's area and entrances, making it a lively, interconnected crossing space. Today, it turned into a real crossroad, crossed daily by 30,000 people not taking trains, and the surrounding public spaces have become vital interchange zones for seamless travel.

'Easy Ground'

The 'Easy Ground' concept introduced a new way of designing connectivity, based on the action of loosening the multi-modal transport hub, rather than tightening it. Public space, designed based on flows and connections, becomes the main catalyst of this transformation, devoting the surface to pedestrians, cycles, buses and tramways, while accommodating tube and car traffic below. This extensive and intensive notion of public space blurs the lines between inside/outside, above/below, private/public, creating smooth connections across various types of mobility.

The aim of this communication is to share the experience of an international ongoing 177-hectare project, which has been evolving for nearly two decades, combining theoretical and practical innovations, contributing to the creation of a clear, integrated, interconnected, and sustainable metropolis.

Keywords

metropolitan connectivity | network integration | mobility hub

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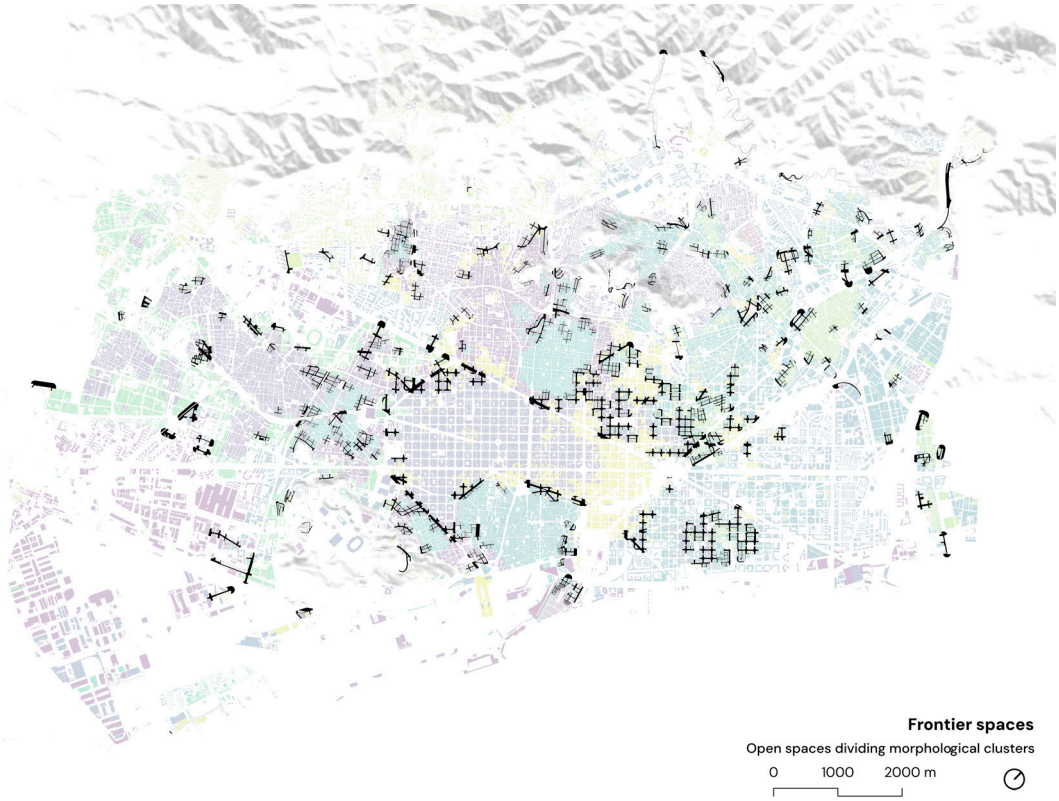
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Track 3 - Integrating ...

Urban and rural fabrics, culture, and history towards a cohesive public space


Frontier spaces
Open spaces dividing morphological clusters
0
1000
2000 m

Mapping urban discontinuities. A High-Resolution Cartography of Fringe Spaces in Barcelona

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Contemporary metropolises are increasingly characterized by processes of pronounced urban segregation. While this is often evident in everyday experiences, it has also gained significant attention in the collective consciousness and urban policy agendas aimed at mitigating urban inequalities and fostering social interaction and inclusion. However, despite a growing body of research and numerous initiatives addressing urban segregation through geographic, socioeconomic, mobility, and statistical analyses at the scale of the metropolis or region, there remains a significant gap in urban spatial studies regarding methodologies that accurately detect and characterize liminal public spaces that emerge between different urban entities.

On the one hand, these border spaces encompass the classic transition zones between urban fabrics with distinct morphological characteristics. On the other, they include areas created as a side-effect of large-scale transportation infrastructures such as highways and railways that disrupt urban continuity. However, they also refer to more subtle spatial exceptions or micro-irregularities, such as small-scale discontinuities that generate inflexions within otherwise homogeneous urban structures, such as regular grids. These spaces often remain overlooked in larger-scale urban analysis, yet they play a crucial role in the dynamics of spatial segregation and social exclusion.

This paper presents a high-resolution cartographic detection and description of those liminal spaces that contribute to urban segregation in Barcelona and adjacent municipalities. By employing a combination of morphometric, topological, and accessibility analyses, the study reveals the spatial geography of urban edges and discontinuities of different sizes and types. The findings are structured into three main categories, influenced by the

tripartite structuralist approach to the understanding of urban tissues developed historically at the Barcelona Laboratory of Urbanism, i.e., border spaces defined by road network parameters, those shaped by parcellation patterns, and those emerging from building configurations. Additionally, the study considers the complex interactions between these different elements, as many urban boundaries result from combining multiple spatial factors.

Through this analytical approach, the research aims to provide a replicable methodology applicable to different urban contexts. By refining the detection and characterization of urban liminal public spaces, the study seeks also to contribute with new analytical tools and frameworks that could better inform future urban design strategies. This work aspires to serve as a preliminary step for formulating new urban policies and design solutions that address the specific locations where urban boundaries materialize, thereby fostering more inclusive and coherent urban environments.

Keywords

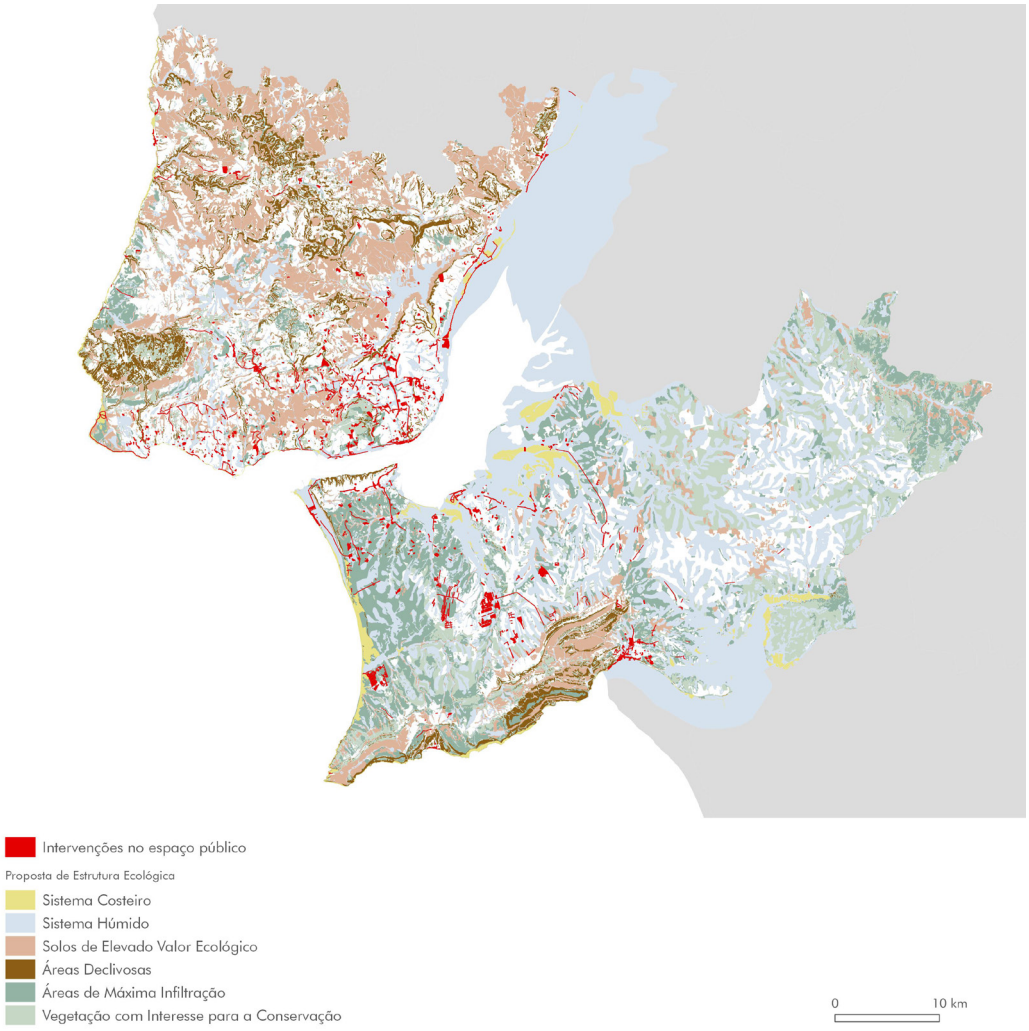
Liminal spaces, cartography, segregation

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Overlap between public space qualification projects (1998-2023) and the proposal for the Ecological Structure of the Lisbon Metropolitan Area
MetroPublicNet, based in Franco et al., 2013

Exploring the role of Public Space as a synergic vector for the optimization of landscape systems at the metropolitan scale. Reflections from the MetroPublicNet research project.

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Public space qualification projects identified and mapped throughout the MetroPublicNet research project in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area in the past 25 years, add into confirming the hypothesis that a metropolitan public space network is 'under construction', providing multiple services, namely under one of the three main research rationales, of green and blue infrastructures. In the MetroPublicNet concluding manifesto, four points strongly relate to this rationale: 1. Landscape, as base support of the territory; 2. Continuity, acknowledging flows of ecological systems (and others); 3. Green and blue, which define the fundamental elements of natural and ecological continuity; and 4. Time, fundamental shaper of all natural and man-made processes (Santos & Beja da Costa, 2025).

Based on results from previous GIS mapping analysis that cross-referenced the metropolitan ecological structure (Franco et al., 2013) with public space projects mapped within the MetroPublicNet scope (Santos et al., 2024), it is clear that a considerable amount of public space requalification projects have the capacity, and further potential to reinforce both the ecosystem services provision and the ecological structure of the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (LMA). Through this process, the paper explores how the quantitative results obtained in the final stages of the research project confirmed the qualitative results of the 'Studio Lisbon' intensive design workshop carried out in the beginning of the project.

The 'Studio Lisbon' workshop studied the Trancão floodplain, Loures, with 19 international students from KU Leuven. In this exercise, the students developed a broad set of systemic site readings, and developed innovative regional and urban design proposals, strongly based on an immersive fieldwork experience and intensive studio work. The workshop

entailed collaboration, contributions and support from several institutions, including KU Leuven, the Lisbon School of Architecture, with direct involvement from the MetroPublicNet research team and several experts from the Loures Municipality.

The workshop results showcase not only the potential for public space requalification projects to be part of the broad ecological structure – be it as small patches, or as systemic ecological corridors - , but also of the potential of valuing landscape references – such as the Trancão floodplain - as a vector for articulating incremental strategies for a network of public spaces, as a support for the response to the environmental robustness enhancement in adaptation in the LMA, and for territorial regeneration, aligned with the above mentioned points of the closing manifesto of the MetroPublicNet research project.

Keywords

Public space; ecological infrastructure; MetroPublicNet.

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Participants in the Portimão Photo Walk, standing by Rio Arade, July 2024 (Photo credit: Minora Hafez)

Public Spaces and Heritage in Portimão. Capturing the Unnoticed through Urban Photography

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The city of Portimão is the largest city in Portugal's touristic Algarve region's windward (Barlavento) side, and the second largest overall; most famous for its beaches, which attract over 220,000 (Instituto Nacional de Estatística [INE], 2025) of the approximately 5.7 million tourists per year that visit the Algarve (Luz, 2024), Portimão actually has an extensive history as an urban settlement, which stretches as far back as prehistoric times. This history is diverse, and remains reflected today, starting from the aforementioned prehistoric megalithic mounds, followed by medieval-era defensive forts and the vestiges of the industrial-era boom in canning, with the main industry of the city now pivoting towards tourism with beachside hotels (Câmara Municipal de Portimão, n.d.); accordingly, both the visual presentation and current usage of Portimão's public spaces displays a diversity of physical elements, and users – sometimes locals, sometimes tourists – that only a city of its nature could have.

As part of the summer workshop "Portimão Photo Walk", conducted within the 2024 Erasmus+ funded Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) Comunidades Sustentáveis ("Sustainable Communities"), university-level architecture students from Germany (Fachhochschule Erfurt), Poland (Politechnika Kraowska), and Portugal (Instituto Superior Manuel Teixeira Gomes) had the opportunity to follow a pre-planned route that passes by several unique heritage buildings and plazas, busy touristic-commercial streets, and quieter parks and residential neighbourhoods in and around the historic city centre. Guided regarding the route's history, architecture, and modern dynamics by Minora Hafez, an Erasmus+ scholarship awardee from the German University in Cairo who conducted an almost four-month long mobility in Portimão at ISMAT for her master's thesis research on cultural

heritage interpretation and accessibility, students were encouraged to conduct photographic observation in an urban photography vein under three themes: capturing Portimão's unique cultural heritage, its distinct architectural features, and people's behaviour within and usage of public spaces, with a focus on the contrast between more touristic and less touristic areas along the route.

The results of this workshop were uniquely insightful to all three themes, with students capturing plazas, churches, and old pastelerias from the historic city centre, among other landmarks, along with uniquely Portuguese architectural elements around the neighbourhood, including cobogós, calçadas, and azulejos, and, most of all, the indelible impact of public space design on people's behaviour within them. Within these public spaces, students noticed contrasting activity levels and user profiles in areas based upon the level of touristic activity or lack thereof, and noticed further still potential areas of improvement for some of Portimão's most notable public spaces, including Praça da Republica and Largo do 1° Maio, based on the observed behaviour of users in response to these spaces choice of design and plantation. At the end, the future life and design of Portimão will only come as it does now, deeply rooted in its past and present; and so, taking time to observe more deeply all the imagery, culture, and different usage that makes the city unique can only lead to more meaningful and more sustainable potential urban design and development.

Keywords

Image of the city, visual perception, people and spaces

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From dispersal to cohesion in the suburbs: A critical analysis of public spaces in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area

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During the 20th century, suburbanization processes became a constant reality around the world, being the spatial basis of many different social contexts and livelihoods. However, despite sprawling throughout the territory, suburbs correspond to heteroclite configurations with different morphologies, polarities, networks and functions. In such a context, the dichotomy city – suburb is no longer explanatory, requiring a more careful examination in the light of current urbanisation processes (Schmid & Streule, 2023).

In metropolitan contexts, the periphery tends to be composed of fragmented or discontinuous areas - a patchwork of urban fabrics hardly readable. Public space, its forms, roles and functions may not be evident in such a context, presenting very different situations than those of more central, traditional or compact urban areas (Madanipour, 2023). Thus, suburban public space has often been overlooked in research and practice; but also underrepresented in public and private investment. Since these places are the habitat of a significant portion of metropolitan residents, it is important to reassess and properly understand their public spaces. The lack of concern or quality in ordinary public spaces is manifested in a poor understanding of its functions, usually as access and mobility supporter, while other social, environmental and symbolic purposes are relegated to central locations or facilities.

This presentation stems from ongoing research on the characteristics of public space in the extensive city, discussing its role in tackling sustainability and socio-economic inequalities. The main case study is the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, one precisely characterized by highly contrasted urban fabrics with a plethora of space production processes and

morphological characteristics. Here, the provision of public space was highly varied throughout the past decades, leaving much of it to be created through investments and refurbishing operations seeking to retroactively incept in suburban residential fabrics the urban amenities they lacked for long (Cavaco et al., 2025).

Focusing more specifically on the Almada and the Odivelas municipalities, this presentation provides insights into the characteristics of these public spaces, exploring (1) how the urbanisation processes shaped them and (2) how they have been transformed and approached through public interventions. The analysis stems from a multi-methods approach, combining public space surveys, mapping, fieldwork, and documental analysis of official sources.

First, the presentation describes the processes of urbanisation and transformation of the suburbs, analysing how they have shaped the production of public space over time. Then, a review of the main policies and interventions promoted by the public sector in both municipalities will be presented, confronting them with the spatial distribution of those actions. A synthesis, confronting the processes of space production and the existing public space interventions, will systematize the results of the local analysis, usable for similar contexts.

By establishing the relationships between 1) processes of production of suburban space; 2) resulting morphologies; and 3) the current situation of public space; the presentation suggests pathways for improving these areas, bringing legibility and intelligibility to suburban public spaces while taking heed of their forms and usages to promote an urban transition towards sustainability and cohesion.

Keywords

Public space; suburbia; space production process

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Multifunction is not enough: free drawing and the human factor in the urban design process

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In the end of the sixties of the 20th century, the concept of "zoning", the magical model for the Modern Movement, in what concerns urban planning, showed it could not solve the problems of the city, specifically in the European context (post-wars and consequent economic and social crisis).

The first reactions, in the early seventies, were rich in theories and meant to apply the return to the bourgeois city of the XIX century, as a contrasting attitude to the "industrial city", towards a city for the people, versus a city for the car. Others echoes and reflections were followed, whose concerns were synthesized from the conclusions of Habitat I (Canada, 1976) until the goals in the Strategy for Agenda 2030 (New York, 2016), having in common the importance of multifunctionality, a legacy key concept from pos- modernism. Together with the theories of renovation, rehabilitation, recuperation, smart cities, urban space became the center of a new research and multidisciplinary practice. But even so it seems not to be enough. In this context, free drawing appears as an important element in the process.

We go on observing, in a large scale, mischaracterized, monotonous cities and architecture, which bring the need to revisit the main purpose of architecture and urban space: people, human rights, environment, cultural, social and historical context, local resources, local technologies, climate, in a conscient attitude towards the needs of people, and where free drawing may be a starting point, from research to practice.

Drawing must be the tool between the beginning and the end, avoiding common mistakes in the production of urban spaces, acting as the element that considers all parts beyond multifunctionality. As a research method, drawing introduces new compositional contents, and appears as a disciplinary field, a laboratory experience, that deals with the physical-environmen-

tal dimension of the city, and with a set of physical and spatial systems, which activities interact with the population, through their daily experiences, routines, perceptions and actions.

Free drawing and a real concern for people, may transform what is vulgar in extraordinary. It is not a matter of forgetting the global world that we have today but being aware of the different specificities of each culture. It is supposed to present this subject at a more developed level, reviewing concepts, rewinding the classics, and bring it to academy, where everything begins with our responsibility as teachers.

Keywords

Free drawing; Multifunction; Human factor.

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928
BARCELONA
Escala 1:500
ECOLOGY BEYOND GREEN

Ecology Beyond Green. Debunking Nature-Society dualism through dwelling in Barcelona's 'Tres Turons' park.

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Today, urban greening is one of the central challenges faced by large and densely populated cities in the pursuit of sustainability. This concept can be understood in two distinct ways: greening as advocating for environmentalism or as the mere act of covering spaces with vegetation. While these two interpretations are intertwined —given that vegetation plays a fundamental role in the city's metabolism— conflating them without nuance can be misleading. This prevailing discourse on greening fosters a scenario in which green space emerges as a moral imperative in contemporary urban environments (Angelo, 2021), imposing an unequivocal link to ecology. At the same time, this moral incentive draws from the dualistic Nature-Society imaginary. Greening is symbolically framed as the salvation of an idealized, pristine nature from human intervention. The concept of nature is thus constructed as a mythical and ahistorical entity which, in turn, depoliticizes it and hinders democratic debate on the subject (Swyngedouw, 2011). In this way, the role of urban greening is obscured behind the imaginaries of Nature. This research tries to bring light to this question by examining the historical production of green space through the 'Parc del Tres Turons' (Three Hills Park) in Barcelona.

Since 1953, an urban park project spanning approximately one hundred hectares has been awaiting realization in northern Barcelona. The city council aims to integrate those three hills into a single extended green area, aligning the park with a strategic network of green spaces across the city. However, over the past seven decades, the primary obstacle to the project's development has been the presence of several hundred preexisting low-rise homes within the green limit and the resistance of its residents. This low-density urban fabric has evolved over various

historical periods throughout the 20th century, resulting in a diverse mix of housing typologies —from bourgeois summer villas with surrounding gardens to self-built working-class homes adjacent to garden plots. Nevertheless, the realization of the park necessitates the demolition of all existing dwellings.

This contemporary conflict between greening and housing raises fundamental questions about the dualistic framing of the issue itself. Should the focus be on the material content in the park's area: houses or trees? Or should we instead explore the historically evolving relationships of humans with —and within— nature to redefine what ecology is made of, beyond greening? Understanding this dynamic through a relational perspective —examining human and non-human nature links in a complex and dialectical manner— allows us to move beyond historical narratives centered on the Nature-Society antagonism (Moore, 2015). Instead, it invites us to conceive dwelling as an action deploying new historical configurations of nature, where greening, housing, and humans are not ontologically distinct. From this perspective, reinterpreting the urban history of the Three Hills of Barcelona could foster a renewed space for political debate on the future park, facing urban greening through historical relations, not through green.

Keywords

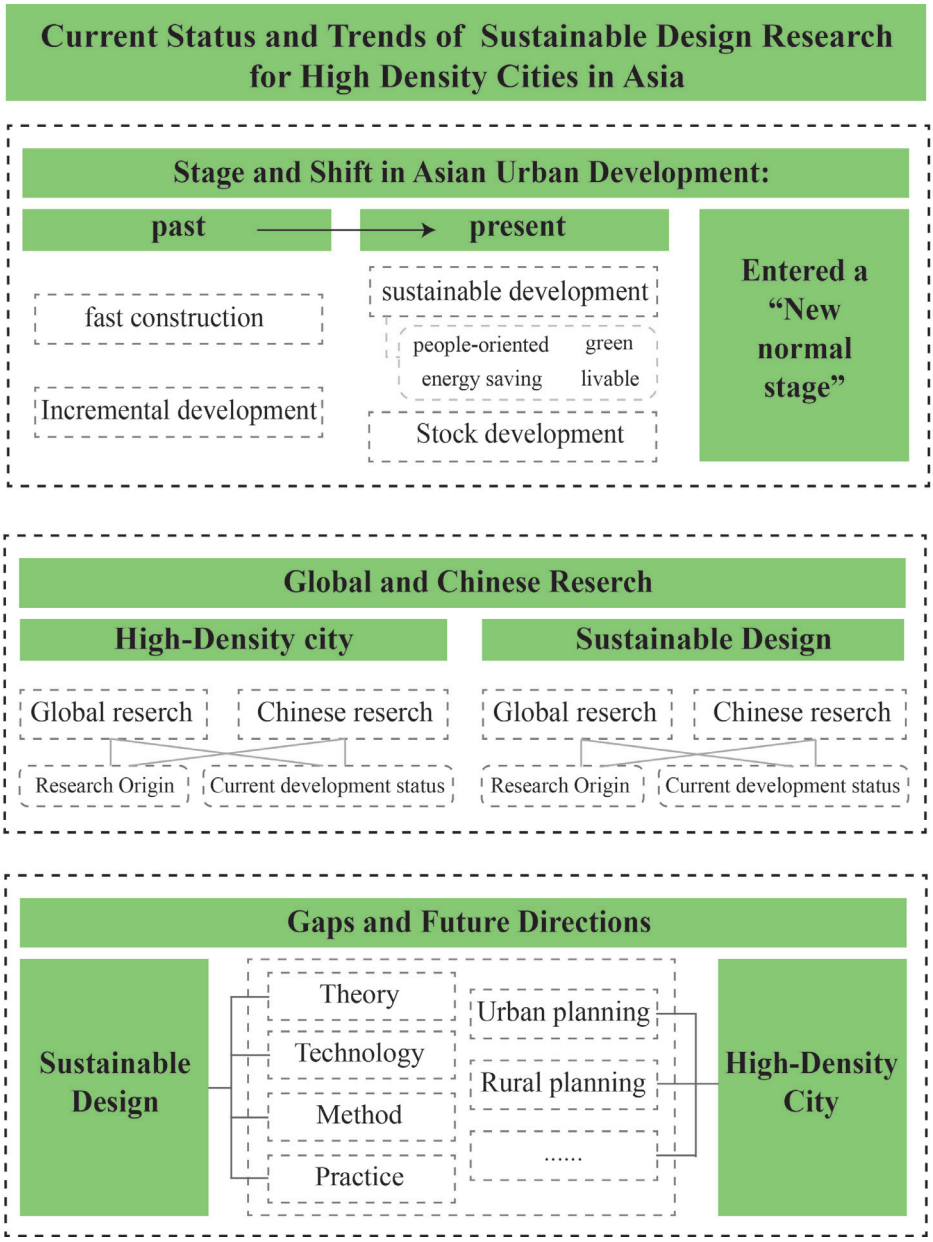
Nature; urban history; urban greening.

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After decades of rapid growth, Asian cities have shifted to a "new normal" of sustainable urban management, prioritizing people-oriented, green development to address issues from traditional high-speed growth.

Current Status and Trends of Sustainable Design Research for High Density Cities in Asia

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After decades of rapid development, Asian cities have entered a new normal stage, and their development models have undergone significant changes. They have gradually shifted from the past focus on fast construction to a focus on urban management, making the sustainable development concept of people-oriented, green energy-saving, and livable a top priority. They strive to overcome various problems left by the traditional high-speed development model in the natural ecology, cultural environment, social structure, and economic fields. In the past 30 years, China has experienced a rapid urbanization process, and some of its top central cities are also developing towards high-density cities. In the future, high-density and high-intensity development will spread from the central area to the entire urban spatial system. Under this situation, how to carry out sustainable design for high-density cities has become a hot topic. The importance of sustainable development concept in urban development is becoming increasingly prominent, and introducing sustainable design into the research of high-density cities in Asia is of great practical significance. Starting from the origin of high-density cities and sustainable design development, this article systematically reviews the current research status and trends of sustainable design in high-density cities in China and other countries. Research has found that Western countries have proposed the concept of compact cities (mainly advocating high-density development, mixed land use, and prioritizing public transportation) to address urban expansion issues, and have identified high-density urban development as one of the methods to address urban problems under the compact city theory; China's research on high-density cities mainly focuses on solving a series of problems that arise in various parts of high-density cities, such as insufficient greenery, lack of public

space, outdated urban facilities, and building construction technology. Corresponding solutions are proposed, such as sky gardens, pocket parks, urban renewal strategies, and building space planning. At the same time, it was found that the concept of sustainable urban design has been widely applied in the disciplines of architecture, landscape, and planning in Western countries with the proposal of the "Principles of Sustainable Development Design"; However, in China, the application of sustainable design mainly focuses on landscape architecture, landscape design, and building construction. In the application of planning disciplines, more attention is paid to the renewal strategies of small-scale plots or specific types of plots (industrial heritage areas, historical protection areas, etc.), and there is insufficient exploration of urban scale sustainable design research. In addition, there is still a lack of exploration and practical research on the application of sustainable design concepts in high-density cities in various countries. Based on the current background of China's national spatial planning, this article believes that incorporating the concept of sustainable design into the theoretical and methodological construction of urban and rural planning, integrating it into the implementation path of the national spatial planning system, and relying on smart technology to promote the application of sustainable design in high-density cities are the current and future research frontiers and hotspots.

Keywords

High-density cities; sustainable design; urban design

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Urban agriculture as urban-rural interfaces in a megacity in China

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The rural is often regarded as 'left-behind' places in the modernization and urbanization progress, which bears a deep urban-rural dichotomy in both scholarship and urban planning and design practices. The study challenges this divide perspective and proposes that urban-rural interfaces can be places of possibility pioneering alternative pathways towards a more diverse, inclusive, and civic living future.

Urban agriculture is seen as an example of urban-rural interfaces, with the definition of rurality beyond the administrative boundary, emphasizing on interrelationships that are embedded not only within local communities but also bigger places, as well as between society and nature (Brown & Shucksmith, 2024). The study suggests an overlooked fact that a city is always tied to agriculture and the rising food insecurity leads the relationship even stronger. Urban agriculture emerged as a phenomenon that the traditional cultivation practices persist in the urban and peri-urban areas. It shows mixed landscapes of a city where the age-old rural-urban dichotomies seem to be blurred. Moving away from the solely supportive role for food production and provision, the productive agricultural landscapes are also important urban green spaces that may preserve biodiversity, promote physical activities, maintain individuals' mental health, and facilitate civic discourse, for both migrants and citizens. In other words, with mixed urban and rural fabrics, it plays an integral part of a settlement system for the collective wellbeing.

Shenzhen, China, a metropolitan area where urban agricultural practices are situated in different social and ecological contexts from urban to peri-urban, is taken as a case study. In the course of urbanization associated with land acquisition and conversion, traditional agricultural vil-

lages change towards urban villages featured with industrial lands and densified housing areas. Agriculture has sustained and persisted along the mountain ranges of Shenzhen and become urban agriculture with multiple agencies acting on the land. At the same time, a new layer of agriculture in diverse forms, including rooftops, emerges on top of the urbanized areas. This shows a different view from the zoning-centered state planning that the agrotourism and high-tech demonstration parks are limited to peri-urban area, and the food production and processing are then in rural hinterland (Horowitz & Liu, 2017).

Urban agriculture can be read as a multi-layered palimpsest to unravel the long-term perspective on land, which is an earth surface where people settle, produce, and create culture and meanings. The study explores urban agriculture in terms of its forms, functions, and quality of rural life in Shenzhen, with a close examination orchards and home gardens. Ethnographic mapping (Kaijima et al., 2018) is used as the main method along with narrative interviews to document agriculture-related spatial practices and activities as part of daily lives. The study concludes by suggesting that studying urban agriculture could lead to a new urbanism with the potential for food security with a local food supply, social inclusiveness with mixed rural and urban living qualities, and environmental justice with space for nature.

Keywords

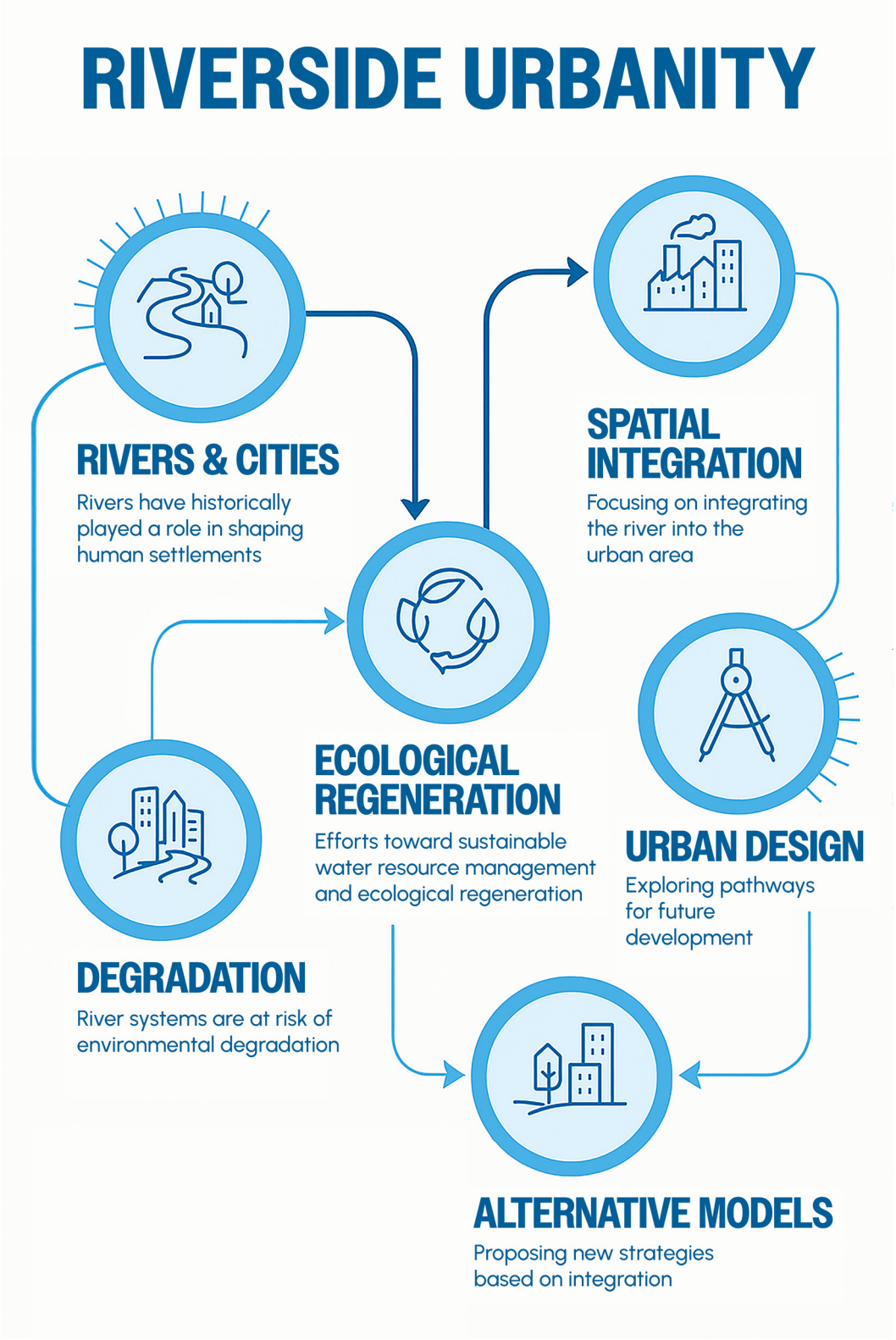
Urban productive landscapes, palimpsest, post-pandemic urbanism

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Riverside urbanity pursues a new alternative models for spatial integration of rivers and human settlements, with using urban design.

Integrating Urban and Natural Landscapes: Reimagining the Riverside Urbanity through Porsuk River of Eskişehir

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Rivers have historically played a fundamental role in shaping human settlements, particularly in the context of agriculture, transportation and industrialization. However, with rapid urban and population growth, many river systems, including Porsuk River in Eskişehir, have faced environmental degradation. In the context of urban sprawl, Eskişehir's historical and spatial bond with the Porsuk River was strained, and the river came to be seen as a backdrop to the city, rather than an integral, active and public component of urban life. On the other hand, recent urban design interventions have sought to reintroduce the river into the city's fabric, focusing on ecological regeneration, sustainable water resource management, and spatial integration of the riverscape into the urban fabric. This study aims to explore the "riverside urbanity" concept, proposing alternative urban development models based on the integration of the Porsuk River and Eskişehir's urban settlement. The paper will first outline a theoretical framework interwoven with the historical and spatial relationship between rivers and cities, synthesizing literature from urban design, ecological regeneration and spatial integration. It will then detail the study's methodological frame, which includes qualitative spatial analysis, case study evaluation, and urban modeling, focusing on Eskişehir as a suitable and unique example due to its historical reliance on the river and contemporary urban challenges. These dual aspects provide an exceptional opportunity to examine how human-made and natural environments can be integrated to reinvigorate public spaces and promote sustainable and balanced urban development. The research will also contribute new insights to the literature by developing an innovative framework for integrating rivers into urban environments within the context of urban design. Through the Eskişehir case, this study provides a real-world example of how

rivers can be treated not as passive geographical but as dynamic and active elements of cities. By offering alternative models based on ecological regeneration, spatial integration, and social equity, the study aims to present new pathways for future urban development that integrate natural ecosystems and foster cohesive cities. Therefore, the paper will contribute to the discourse on integration, by providing a thorough examination of the ways in which urban and natural systems can be reconnected to create a unifying, forward-thinking approach to urban design.

Keywords

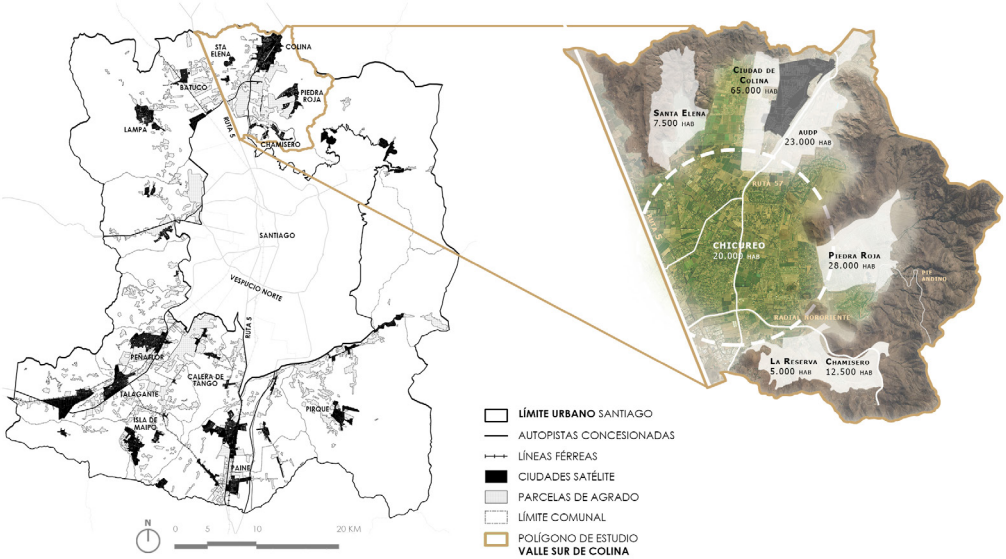
Riverside urbanity, urban design, regeneration

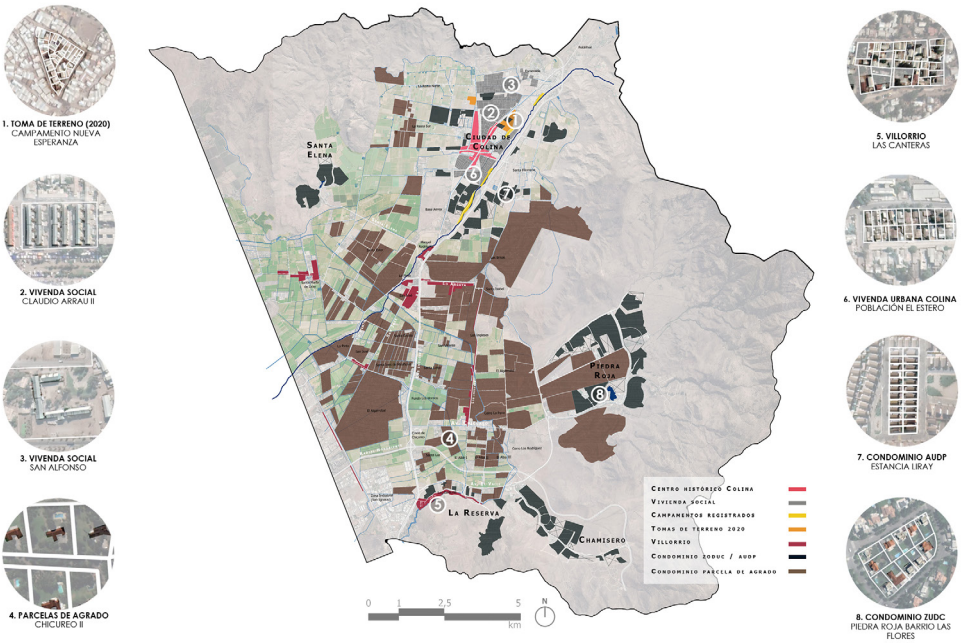
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STA ELENA
COLINA
BATUCO
PIEDRA ROJA
LAMPA
CHAMISERO
SANTIAGO
VESPUCIO NORTE
RUTA 5
PEÑAFLOR
CALERA DE TANGO
TALAGANTE
ISLA DE MAIPO
PIRQUE
PAINE
0 5 10 20 KM
CIUDAD DE COLINA 65.000 HAB
SANTA ELENA 7.500 HAB
AUDP 23.000 HAB
RUTA 57
CHICUREO 20.000 HAB
PIEDRA ROJA 28.000 HAB
RADIAL PONIENTE
LA RESERVA 5.000 HAB
CHAMISERO 12.500 HAB
LÍMITE URBANO SANTIAGO
AUTOPISTAS CONCESIONADAS
LÍNEAS FÉRREAS
CIUDADES SATÉLITE
PARCELAS DE AGRADO
LÍMITE COMUNAL
POLÍGONO DE ESTUDIO
VALLE SUR DE COLINA


1. TOMA DE TERRENO (2020)
CAMPAMENTO NUEVA ESPERANZA
2. VIVENDA SOCIAL
CLAUDIO ARRAU II
3. VIVENDA SOCIAL
SAN ALFONSO
4. PARCELAS DE AGRADO
CHICUREO II
SANTA ELENA
CIUDAD DE COLINA
LA RESERVA
CHAMISERO
PIEDRA ROJA
CENTRO HISTÓRICO COLINA
VIVIENDA SOCIAL
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6. VIVENDA URBANA COLINA
POBLACIÓN EL ESTERO
7. CONDOMINIO AUDP
ESTANCIA LIRAY
8. CONDOMINIO ZUDC
PIEDRA ROJA BARRIO LAS FLORES

The (re)definition of the peri-urban landscape of Santiago, between hamlets and the "walled city"

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Santiago de Chile has experienced processes of peri-urban expansion characterized by the proliferation of closed residential spaces in its metropolitan periphery. These mega-real estate projects cover large areas of land and urban-scale facilities, installing a new housing typology that aspires to be a city in itself. We are talking about "fenced cities" that have produced the progressive deterioration of spaces that were never urban and lost their exclusively rural condition, generating problems such as the degradation of the natural environment, the destruction of agricultural plots and the growing banalization of the peri-urban landscape.

This is a phenomenon that is clearly expressed in the southern valley of the Colina commune, where we carried out an action-research project, whose exploratory and propositional character seeks to originate design solutions that, theoretically and critically informed, are capable of reversing the growing degradation of said landscape.

Under this methodological approach, the article constructs a graphic narrative, which takes the survey as the primary form of research in architecture, using drawing to describe What has been? What is? ¿and What could be? the peri-urban landscape of the southern valley of Colina. Following this tripartite structure, we begin by delving into the understanding of the urban history of the commune, to understand the configuration of its current dynamics, until reaching the formulation of a project for the future.

In this way, a morphological-historiographical journey is constructed that documents the transition of the Colina commune from the rural matrix of the Picunche people; passing through the deterioration and loss of its agricultural systems promoted by the real estate development

of the “high-income cone”; until reaching the definition of design solutions based on nature, which contemplate the insertion of eco-neighborhoods and sustainable mobility systems with the potential to change and/or reverse the current peri-urbanization patterns.

Keywords

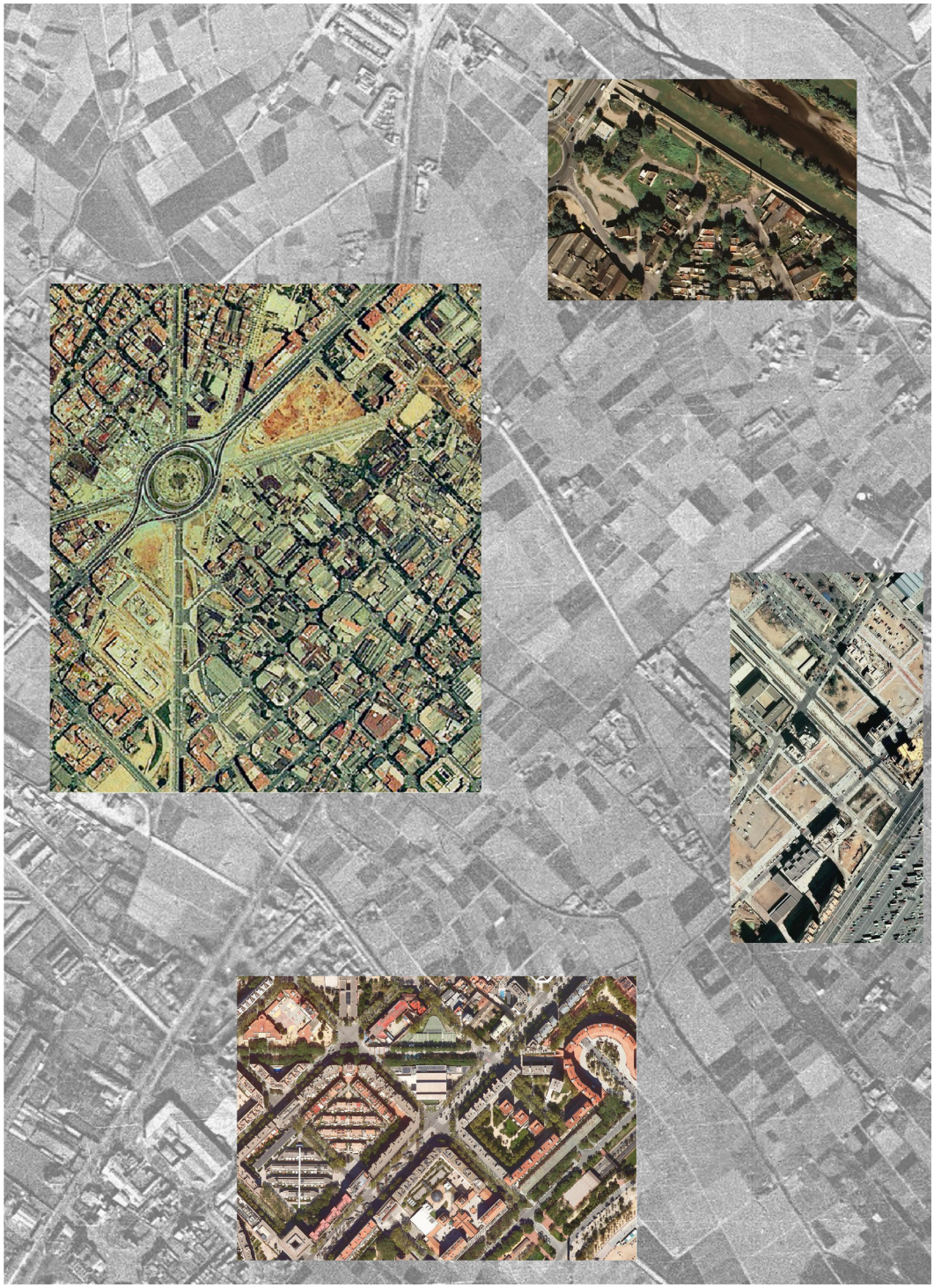
Rural Landscape; Periurban; Action-Research.

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(Re)Production Transition areas in northeast Barcelona. Besòs Delta 1945 orthophotography with fragments of urban transformation case studies (Glòries-1993, La Mina Industrial-2008, Vila Olímpica-2023)

Transition cartographies: visual narratives of value, land use, and city (re)production at the Besòs riverside.

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This contribution presents the initial approach of a doctoral research project carried out within a collaboration framework between local public administrations and academia, specifically focused on the productive areas along Barcelona's northern river. The research takes a historically broad definition of productivity and analyses land transformations - from food production to industrial to housing - to better understand how past urbanization transitions have occurred and what lessons they can offer for future urban planning. As such, two main objectives are chronologically intertwined; firstly, to understand how economic dynamics have contributed to the construction and transformation of today's built environment (Harvey,1982), and secondly, to provide insight into how future development of the area might occur. The Besòs River Delta and its surroundings have historically been peripheral to several urban centers, constituting a complex setting used to locate urban infrastructure and other uses traditionally undesirable near residential areas. However, with the current growth paradigm, these previously marginal areas are expected to undergo a major urban transformation and play a key role in the region's necessary ecological transition. In this context, this research questions the limitations of current planning methods and aims to offer possible new approaches to urban transition (Moore, 2015). In this initial phase, the research focuses on analyzing three previous transformations within the city of Barcelona (Vila Olímpica, 22@ and La Mina Nova), comparing the approaches taken in these cases with those expected or contemplated in the areas still to be redeveloped. In this sense, the comparison offers several ways of handling urban transformation: (1) The residential neighborhood built for the Barcelona Olympics offers a tabula rasa approach, erasing pre-existing conditions. (2) The 22@ mixed-use area aims

to coexist with previous industrial and residential uses as part of an innovation and technology hub initiative. And (3) the renovation of La Mina's industrial state exemplifies the substitution of manufacturing facilities for R&D. Technically, this first phase explores the possibilities of graphic representations for an ethnographic understanding of the built environment (Boria & Rossetto, 2017). As such, the approach combines techniques traditionally associated with social research (participant observation, interviews, and literature review for specific case studies) with architectural and urban visual communication tools such as drawing, mapping, and historical satellite imagery. Through these techniques, the research aims to provide a chronological understanding of the three transformations identified, the planning methods implemented, and the subsequent critique produced by social urban studies. The research emphasizes the importance of incorporating ecological and social values alongside economic ones, to develop urban planning methods that are coherent and responsible with the complexity of the transition that the built environment requires.

Keywords

Productive areas, socio-ecological transition, urban transformation.

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Enhancing Future Living – Integrating Housing, Public Space and Public Facilities: A Case Study of Hong Kong

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According to an estimation of UN Habitat, "[…] by 2030, 3 billion people, about 40 per cent of the world's population, will need access to adequate housing. This translates into a demand for 96,000 new affordable and accessible housing units every day." (UN Habitat) With such a high pressure for policy makers and planners and the complexity to create places which are suitable for future living, there is a high chance that much of such new housing units might fail to meet residents needs and eventually become a future liability. Among the few places which were able to produce in such short time large quantities of high- quality public housing estates were Singapore (UN Habitat, 2020) and Hong Kong.

This paper is part of a larger international research project and focuses here on Hong Kong's housing estate planning and designs, while identifying key principles for the integration of public space and public facilities in larger housing estates and new towns. Since the start of Hong Kong's housing programme in 1954, we identify four stages related to the provision and integration of public spaces and facilities, from (1) the first resettlement estates, to (2) comprehensive new town developments, to (3) the privatization of essential facilities, followed by (4) the recent ambitious program to invest in public spaces and facilities to strengthen community building and wellbeing. In 2024, Hong Kong's Housing Authority launched is new Well • Being Design Guide, following the experiences of the COVID-19 Pandemic and reflecting on the fast-aging society. The paper analyses the steps made in the four

identified phases, while unpacking the latest approach which offers detailed considerations how to improve well-being in housing estates by integrating a wide range of facilities in their public space design.

With policy makers and planners facing the need to address the urgent demand for affordable housing, this paper aims to contribute lessons from Hong Kong and reflect to their applicability in a wider international context especially considering the different conditions in the Global South, and the need for more resilient livelihoods, preparing for future health and climate crises.

Keywords

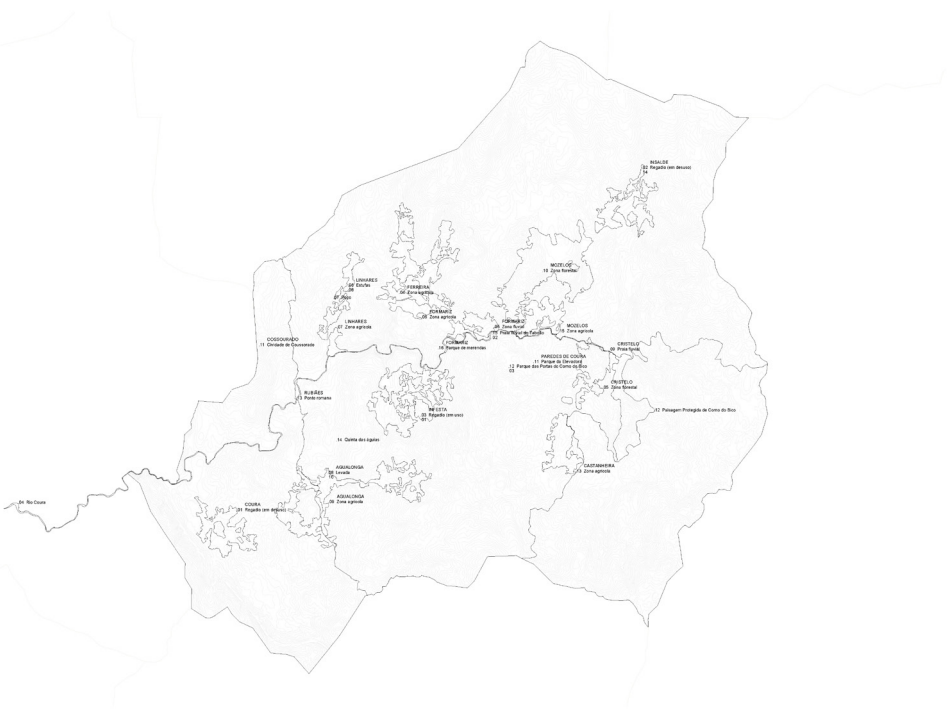
Public Housing, Public Space, Public Facilities, Resilient Livelihoods, Hong Kong

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Mapa síntese das sessões participativas em Paredes de Coura. A leitura coletiva do território destaca a relação histórica com a água e a importância das práticas socioecológicas na construção da paisagem.

Rethinking Urban and Rural Water Spaces: From Abandonment to New Uses

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Cross-border cooperation in Northern Portugal is driven both by historical and contemporary socio-environmental transformations. The close relationship with water, relates with territorial dynamics, highlighting the importance of landscape's social dimension as a key in shaping urban and rural fabrics. Council of Europe states that "landscape is a social product resulting from interaction between nature and society, its management must incorporate the social dimension, with both its aspects of being an object of study and a subject of management". In this article, there is a reflection on how water uses and its built heritage changes translate in Guimarães and Paredes de Coura territories. As traditional socio-ecological practices have been abandoned, many structures have been left behind, creating opportunities to incorporate green infrastructures into urbanism. These can foster new ways of managing water-related devices. A public space design that integrates community involvement and enhances cultural ecosystem services is key to this transformation.

Keywords

Green Infrastructures; Water; Public Space

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Understanding China's rural construction actions from the metabolism of villages' space structures

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China is vigorously carrying out rural construction actions in recent years. At the point of comprehensively promoting rural revitalization, there should be a systematic way to understand the results of constructions taken and guide the upcoming steps.

The research takes typical villages as samples in southern Jiangsu, China which represents the highest level of rural construction in China. The research aims to find out how rural construction took place during the past 20 years and evaluate the quality and effectiveness of the construction, taking 17 different cases of the villages throughout the 20-year period into consideration.

By oblique photography modelling and related post-processing, the DOM of the cases in recent years (2023-2024) can be acquired manually, while the DOM of the earlier cases originates from Google Earth. The DOMs are then further processed so that a graph representing the topology of the case is built where vertices are the public spaces (squares, junctions, turning points, etc.) and edges are the road centerlines.

Thus, a graph analysis algorithm is carried out referencing the famous space syntax theory where the concept of "integration" is replaced with "angular integration"(Hillier et al. 2005). By calculating the angular integration of radius R3, R5, ..., to Rn of each edge, an eigenvector of integration is constructed. Measures are taken to make sure that all eigenvectors are the same dimension. Clustering methods are then introduced to divide all

edges into 4 different types.

After the classification, chronological analysis of the sample villages are now possible. By analyzing the counts and proportions of edges of each type, one can tell the changing patterns of the space structures; by correlating the types of the edges with the actual functionalities of space (e.g. groceries, public infrastructures, village councils, etc.), it's possible to tell whether the current layout of the villages maximizes its functionality and efficiency.

The research finds out that except villages who has undergone massive relocation due to multiple reasons like constructions for public warfare, the space structures of most cases stay alike, only shifting in a minor scale. Note that the rural construction consists much of roads and pavements, the general accessibility of the villages improve, resulting in new subcenters and new cores. Also, there is a high correlation between the cores and subcenters with the actual public functionalities for most cases, indicating that the undertaken rural construction actions play a positive role in improving space qualities.

However, it's necessary to point out that during the relocation process, there is a lack of respect to the original rural fabrics. The original organic street network is demolished, while new barracks-like streets are built, featuring lower possibilities for friendly neighborhoods.

The research sets up a brief quantitative criteria for rural public space identification in terms of integration or 'possibility as a destination' which provides the basis for further construction actions after more detailed diagnoses. With the powerful tool in hand, it's possible that China's rural planning and construction be more scientific and effective, the underlying problem being solved gradually.

Keywords

Space syntax;clustering;rural construction

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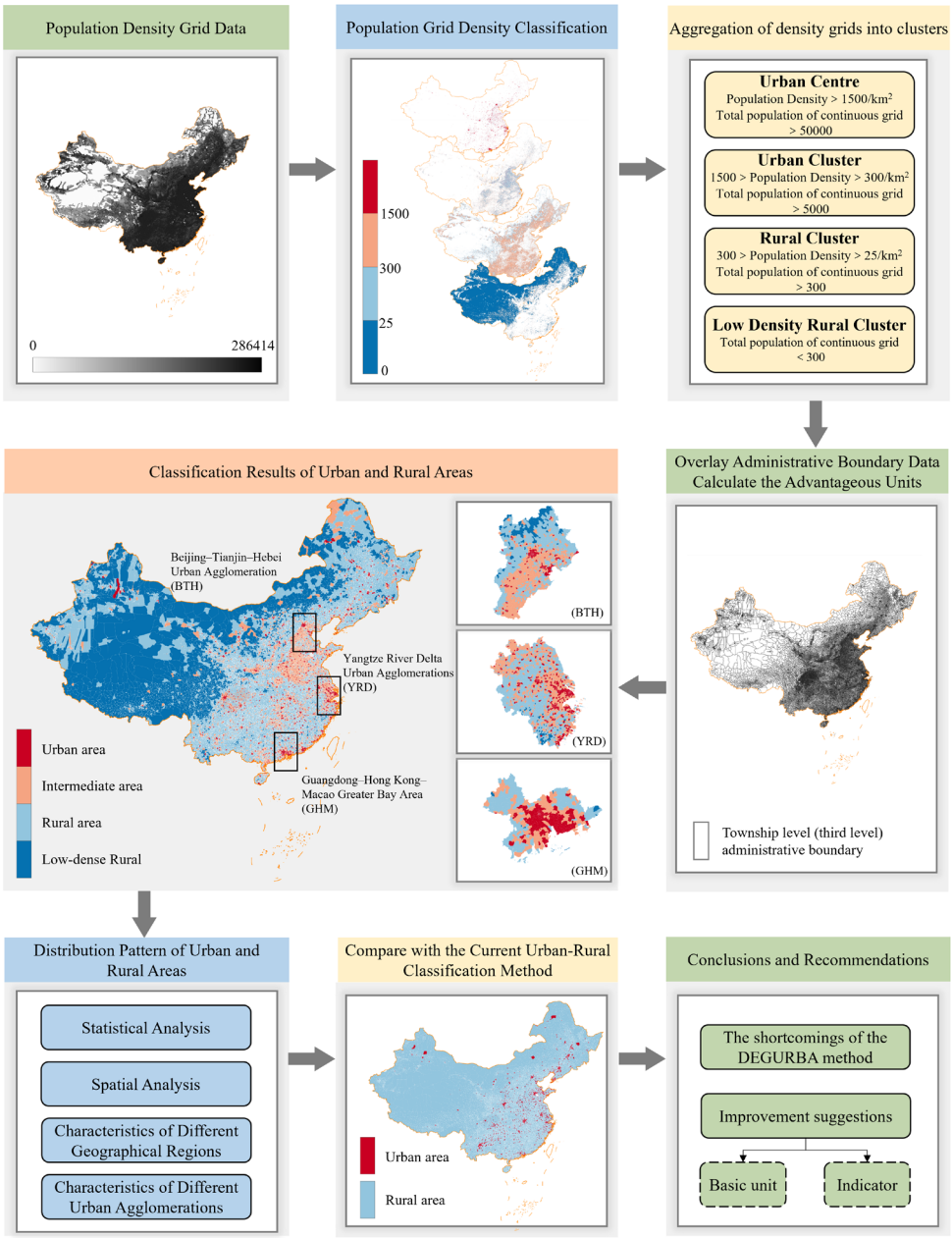
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Identification of Urban-rural Continuum in China Based on Population Grid Data
——Critical Thinking on The Degree of Urbanization

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Identification of Urban-rural Continuum in China Based on Population Grid Data——Critical Thinking on The Degree of Urbanization

Identification of Urban-rural Continuum in China Based on Population Grid Data ——Critical Thinking on The Degree of Urbanization

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Globally, since the 1980s, territorial classification based on the urban-rural dual system has been seriously challenged. On the one hand, with rapid urbanization, urban expansion led to the emergence of an intermediate zone between the urban and the rural areas. On the other hand, the advancement of information technology reshaped the interaction between the city and the countryside. Rural areas have undergone demographic and economic reconfiguration, leading to the tendency of being urbanized to some sense.

Under this background, some countries and regions, as well as international organizations, such as France, the United Kingdom, EU, and OECD began to redefine urban and rural areas in different ways for different purposes in line with two main principles, i.e., no longer strictly distinguishing either urban or rural areas and adopting a new method of territorial classification based on population density grid data. In 2020, the United Nations Statistical Commission officially endorsed the so-called DEGURBA method, i.e., Degree of Urbanization, for territorial classification, in hope of facilitating international comparisons.

China has nearly one-fifth of the world's population, of which about two-thirds live in urban areas, and the reasonable classification of its urban and rural areas holds particular significance for the world. Based on the Worldpop population density grid data at 1km scale, this paper uses the DEGURBA method to classify China's urban and rural areas, as its first application to China, and then analyzes the spatial pattern of the results using the methods of kernel density estimation (KDE) and spatial autocorrelation to verify the applicability of the DEGURBA method to developing countries like China.

Starting with a literature reviews on the research and practical progresses of territorial classification methods, the paper elaborates the current method

of urban-rural classification in China and analyzes its shortcomings and the necessity of a new one. It then delineates the urban-rural continuum in China by using the DEGURBA method to the township level, visualizes the classification results, and analyzes the spatial pattern of the classification results. Finally, it discusses the findings and shortcomings of the DEGURBA method, and concludes with suggestions to improve the applicability of the method in developing countries like China.

The main findings of the paper are: 1) There are a large number of intermediate areas between the city and the countryside in China, and the urbanization rate is overestimated using the current territorial classification method of China; 2) The effectiveness of the DEGURBA method varies in different regions, with a better effect in developed eastern coastal areas, while a poorer effect in less developed regions with a lower economic level and a weaker urban-rural integration. 3) For a better effect in various regions, the DEGURBA method should take into account the levels of economic development and urban-rural integration and extra indicators, such as economy and spatial continuity, to achieve more accurate classification and monitoring of urban and rural areas at different levels.

Keywords

Population Density Grid; Urban-rural Continuum; Territorial Classification

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Squares as Fundamental Elements of New Forms of Urbanity

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The character of a city is given through their architecture as well as – if not more – by their urban spaces. Squares are the noble spaces of a city, ordering elements of urban design: built in singular locations, associated to central functions, and appropriated by the population. Both physically, functionally and symbolically, the squares are one of the main elements of a city's individuality.

Squares are privileged location for meeting and exchange, for conviviality, and sociability, constituting the essence of the social, political and economic reasons that gave rise to the urban phenomenon. One must recover their role as main elements of urban spaces and urban life.

For that, one should not copy, reproduce or mimic traditional urban morphologies, but understand their subjacent principles and reinterpret them in the light of contemporary conditions and needs. The continuous adaptation to new situations, implying an active process of renovation and innovation is a necessary condition for the permanence of the cultural identity of urban spaces.

To carry out this process of continuous reinterpretation of urban culture, one should bear in mind that the city s a collective work, an immense collage carried out by society through time, a work of generations. The morphological structure of cities is the result of the sedimentation of their successive phases of construction, each one of the them corresponding to specific social, economic and cultural contexts. Despite the great diversity of these contexts and design solutions, cities have a core of continuity and permanence that allows – through time – the identification of their inhabitants with their living spaces.

Both rationality and imagination are involved in the process of urban

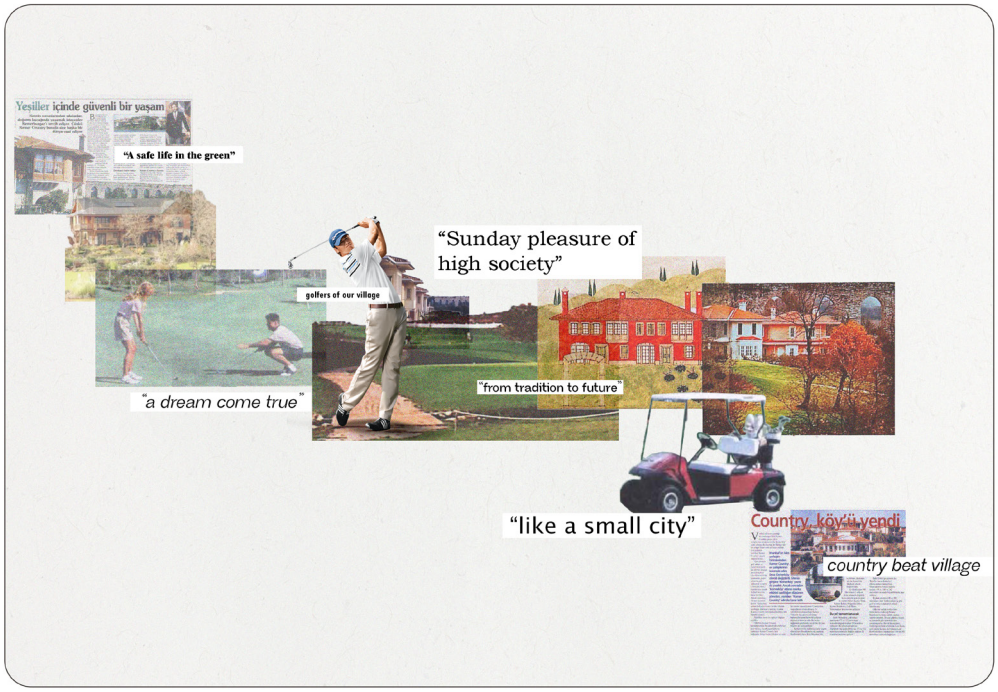
development and urban design, allowing the integration of multiple references, from different origins, both erudite and vernacular, belonging g to multiple cultural universes and traditions. The recreation of the symbolic and functional role of squares, as well as of their design, is an essential task. Squares must be the fulcrum of both urban rehabilitation operations and the creation of new forms of urbanity for future livings.

Keywords

Squares, Urban history, New forms of urbanity.

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A collage of media representations concerning Kemer Country

Mediated Urban-Rural Narratives: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Kemer Country

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The rapid urbanization after the Industrial Revolution redefined the rural-urban relationship globally. However, this process took a distinct trajectory in Istanbul after the 1950s due to accelerated migration. Kemer Country is one of the unique examples of rural construction in the periphery of the city in the 1990s in which rural aesthetics were selectively applied; therefore, it can be considered a nostalgic approach to urbanization. Furthermore, this selective approach is reflected in the socio-demographic composition of its residents, reinforcing an elitist exclusivity. Thus, Kemer Country and similar projects have created an impact not only in a physical sense but also in a social one. This study contributes to urban and media studies by critically examining how urban-rural relations are discursively constructed in gated communities.

In this sense, the study aims to examine how the project affects social perception through its representation in the media. The objective of the research is to focus on the discursive construction of power, ideology, and urban-rural narratives by analyzing how Kemer Country is portrayed in various media. Because media has a noteworthy role in shaping reality and constructing meanings (Hall, 1997). In particular, certain types of media create dominant narratives that influence the social perception of the project and build its public image and future perception.

To interpret the effects of media, Norman Fairclough's (2010) Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is used to investigate how the discourse constructs power relations and ideological structures, social practices, and as well as how these can be transformed in the future. Hence, the study examines advertisements, brochures, and news about Kemer Country analyzing how urban-rural relationships are discussed and represented within these media.

First, texts will be analyzed at the micro level. Then, the key actors involved in the creation of these media will be examined. Finally, the influence of political powers on these discourses will be considered.

The analysis reveals that Kemer Country deliberately constructs an urban-rural dichotomy. The urban (Istanbul) is framed as chaotic, overcrowded, and decayed while Kemer Country is portrayed as an exclusive, nature-integrated space symbolizing a civilization beyond time (Kemer Yapı ve Turizm A.Ş., 1995). This dichotomy is also underlined social division, neoliberal urbanization, center-periphery alliances, and globalized real estate trends. The discourse obscures the actual conditions of rural life by selectively appropriating rural aesthetics while simultaneously marginalizing or excluding rural communities. The project integrates urban amenities—including education, sports, social engagement, and security—while evoking an idealized vision of rural tranquility. Nevertheless, this representation of rurality is largely aestheticized, lacking any substantive connection to agricultural production or traditional village structures. Nostalgia, fear, and aspiration operate as affective forces that justify exclusion, gentrification, and privatization.

The discursive structure of the Kemer Country project reminds us that language is a powerful tool in shaping perceptions of the project. However, it also suggests that seeking for urban-rural ties in the past may lead to a pattern of exclusion. Urban design and rhetoric must embrace integrated urban-rural paradigms that address current socio-spatial disparities rather than reenacting a fictional past.

Keywords

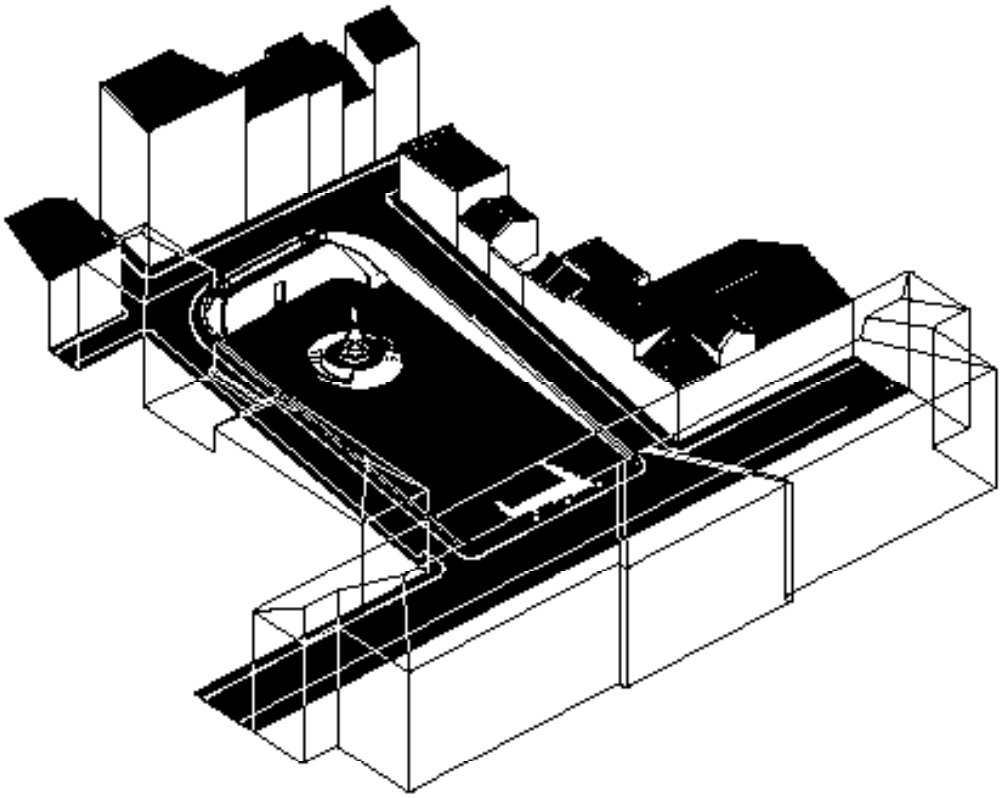
Kemer Country, Critical Discourse Analysis, Urban-Rural Integration

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Public Space and Topography. Form, Function and Characterisation. Syncretic landscape and urban image in Lisbon and the Tagus Estuary

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The current research addresses the complexity and heterogeneity of the public space of the city of Lisbon and the Tagus estuary. Through a morphological and functional analysis, the research focuses on how topography defines and characterises an urban phenomenon that, although not exclusive to the city, ends up defining its identity and configuring a specific urban image, a syncretic landscape to be deciphered.

A first exhaustive reading on the scale of the territory has made it possible to list a varied sample of more than 400 case studies located on both the north and south banks of the mouth of the Tagus estuary. In this catalogue, different formal typologies have been identified, grouped into 4 main genres according to their relationship with the topographical factor and the coastline (beira, fundo de vale, meia encosta and topo). A second complementary reading seeks to clearly reveal the vocabulary of compositional elements with which the public space is characterised.

What are the conditions of this sloping habitat? Is there a design tradition specific to the geographical area analysed or are we just in front of a simple accumulation of solutions to the constant problem of a rugged relief? What place do these historic spaces occupy today in the life of our cities? What lessons can be drawn for the design of public space today?

After the analysis of the compositional elements of the urban image, a third and final reading is proposed to provide the understanding of complex relationship and interdependence between these morphological and semantic units with the territory on the scale of the city-estuary. 4 major categories or dynamic systems are identified which make it possible to codify the urban reality in a map of syntactic relations strongly adapted to the topographical structure.

In the current phase of this research, several of the existing systems in the area of analysis have been identified. After the final selection of the case studies, a detailed study is being developed in collaboration with the research group Forma Urbis Lab of the Faculdade de Arquitetura of the Universidade de Lisboa, which will involve representation and archiving work adapted to the objective of the thesis.

Keywords

Public Space, Slope, Lisbon

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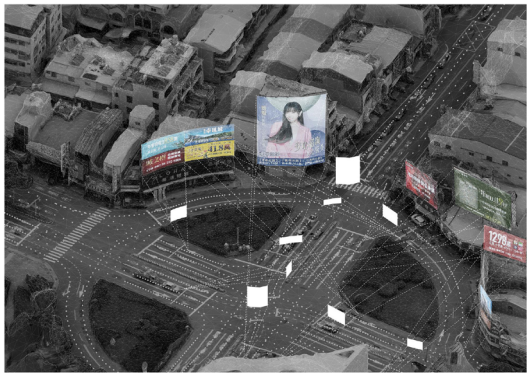


Illustration of Pix4D's point cloud reconstruction of Houjia's (後甲) roundabout. Each point in the cloud contains spatial information (x,y,z coordinates) as well as a color attribute. The colored AoB's are located through triangulation. The same point is identified in at least two images, the camera location creating the third point, allowing for its coordinates to be determined. The same point was identified in no more than twenty images in our scans. Over 100,000 points were identified in this image. (Original image generated by PI's research team).



Samples of prototypical AoB situated in old city core and SinShih. The image vignettes captured three primary AoB types: Perpendicular, Appendage, and Intersection. (Original image generated by PI's research team).

Promises Aestheticized: Visualization's role in property speculation and visual culture in Tainan

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The proliferation of architectural billboards in Tainan reflects the intersection of urban aesthetics, real estate speculation, and geopolitical shifts. This study examines how digital visualization has become a dominant tool in shaping urban perception and real estate transactions. As Taiwan experiences a surge in investment due to shifting global economic dynamics, areas surrounding Tainan's Science and Technology Park have seen a rapid transformation. Billboards featuring hyper-realistic architectural renderings have become integral to the city's visual landscape, influencing both prospective buyers and public perceptions of urban life.

Through an analysis of billboard placement and typology—categorized as The Perpendicular, The Intersection, and The Building Appendage—this research explores how these visual markers embed speculative urban futures into everyday experiences. The strategic positioning of these billboards, coupled with their aestheticized representations, not only markets developments but also redefines urban identity and consumption patterns. We argue that these digital visualizations contribute to a broader phenomenon wherein architecture is commodified, and the city itself is reimagined as a curated spectacle.

Our research documented these architectural visualizations and compared them with the as-built condominium as promised by the developers. By juxtaposing these two "reals" - the promise and the actual, we uncovered the real purpose of these Architecture-on-Billboards, which is not to predict the future, but rather the goal is to present the narrative of a good life. Our observations revealed discrepancies between the actual buildings and their hyper-realistic renderings are often minor in terms of

their outlook, the visual representations are truthful to a certain extent, as when the viewer is looking at the building as a standalone object. However, the context and background in these digital visualizations are often ambiguous, failing to reflect current or future conditions while obscuring essential social, economic, and political tensions. The depictions of greenery and blue skies—often associated with the idea of the "good life"—are used as a manipulative medium to "stage, costume, and intensify" particular, sensorily seductive, atmospheric visions of urban life, in order to sell them. It is also the case, of course, that in visualizing the buildings in an 'atmospheric' manner, the digital visualizations rendered various other aspects of this redevelopment project invisible.

This paper situates Tainan's evolving urban aesthetic within the context of global real estate trends and the increasing role of digital media in urban development. It highlights how such visual strategies obscure deeper socio-economic issues, such as housing affordability and urban homogenization, while simultaneously shaping the aspirations and expectations of city dwellers. By critically engaging with the role of digital visualization in urban development, this research underscores its power in constructing not just buildings, but entire narratives of urban desirability and modernity.

Keywords

Digital visualization, urban aesthetics, real estate speculation, architectural billboards, urban identity, Science and Technology Park.

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RIFORMA FONDIARIA
ASPECTOS DA REFORMA AGRÁRIA EM ITÁLIA
Relatório de uma visita de estudo
1957

José Luís Pinto Machado and the journey to Italy: The Italian rural world as a paradigm of an applicable future.

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In a letter dated 8 August 1962, architect José Luíz Pinto Machado (1927 -2020) informed Dr. José Azeredo Perdigão, President of the Board of Directors of the Gulbenkian Foundation, that he had just returned from Italy, where he had defended his thesis entitled 'A reforma agrária italiana e a sua contribuição per um urbanismo rural', directed by Professor Luigi Dodi. The thesis was the culmination of a course in Urban Planning Technique, also attended thanks to a scholarship granted by the Foundation in 1958, lasting 12 months, which had given arch. Machado, to specialise in Architecture and Rural Town Planning,

The Gulbenkian grant gave him the opportunity to develop a programme of work that included the study of the 'Urbanisation of Rural Centres - Construction Methods and its Consequences in Rural Architecture - General Town Planning'. This gave him the opportunity to study many Italian areas, including Tuscany, Apulia, Emilia Romagna, Basilicata, Campania, etc.

Interest in the figure of Pinto Machado is placed on a broader level if we consider his role in the Junta de Colonização Interna, founded in 1932 and active until 1972. Up until 1960, the Junta promoted, realised, projects dedicated to the rural agricultural world (see the seven agricultural colonies), tried to structure a methodology over the years, which increasingly focused on precise architectural models from foreign experiences.

Study visits sponsored by the Junta to countries considered to be models in this field, such as Italy, Spain and Holland, are frequent, and documented by detailed reports: see among others the trip of José Garcéz Pereira Caldas, engineer and agronomist, who travelled to Italy in 1937 to study land reclamation works in the Roman countryside, and to Tuscany;

Alberto José Lagos de Freita, an engineer and agronomist and also a Gulbenkian Foundation scholarship holder (grant awarded from May to November 1957), who travelled to Italy in 1957 and studied in detail the Land Transformation, the economic structure on which a whole series of rural construction initiatives were based, described and photographed in his relatorio entitled 'Aspectos da Reforma Agrária em Itália. Relatório de uma visita de estudo', and a reflection on the "Cassa per il Mezzoggiorno".

The aim of this contribution is therefore to recount the context from which architect José Pinto Machado's interest in the Italian model arose, the rural world as a paradigm of a foreseeable future through urban planning, and the consequences and influences in his professional activity as an urban planner. A reconstruction made possible by the direct reading of the documents in the Gulbenkian archives and the former Junta de Colonização interna, which on the one hand provide an official reading of the historical processes, but on the other hand, through the letters and written notes, give the opportunity to reconstruct a human dimension and a personal story that is hidden behind every action of an official nature.

Keywords

Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Reforma Agrária, Junta da Colonização Interna

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25 Years of Urban Transformation in Matosinhos: The Impact of Porto's Metro Project

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Over the past 25 years, the urbanized territory of Matosinhos has undergone significant transformations, deeply influenced by the expansion of Porto's Metro network. This paper aims to study and examine the spatial, social, and economic evolution of the municipality, mainly focusing on the areas traversed by the metro lines. By aligning with the core themes of the "Future Living" conference, the research explores key dimensions of urban change, from connectivity and integration to adaptation, housing, and visioning.

The introduction situates Matosinhos within the broader metropolitan framework of Porto, highlighting its strategic role as a dynamic interface between urban, coastal, and industrial typologies. With an extensive maritime boundary, Matosinhos plays a crucial role in both economic and social terms, influencing both local and metropolitan development strategies. Over the past 40-50 years, the municipality has experienced a dispersed and fragmented urbanization process, characterized by the coexistence of urban and rural landscapes and heavy infrastructures. However, the introduction of the metro system in the early 2000s acted as a pivotal urban catalyst, helping to reorganize and integrate these previously isolated zones. By enhancing connectivity and creating a unified mobility network, the metro project has played a central role in structuring the city's growth and urban requalification. As a result, the metro has not only improved accessibility but also acted as a tool for orderly urban development, fostering more coherent spatial planning across the municipality.

In the Connectivity dimension, this study aims to evaluate how the metro system has restructured urban mobility, reducing car dependence

and facilitated multimodal transport options. It is key to examine the integration of metro stations into the existing urban patterns, analyzing how this infrastructure has redefined commuting behavior, and altered social dynamics, particularly in transitional areas where rural and urban environments converge. In terms of mobility, it is also essential to highlight the intersections between the metro and new soft mobility corridors, such as the Leça Green Corridor and the future metrobus linking the airport to the refinery.

From an Integrative perspective, this paper explores the intricate relationships between urban renewal, historical preservation, housing demands, and the enhancement of public spaces. The transformation of peri-urban areas and the increased demand for affordable housing coincide with the metro's spatial influence, presenting both challenges and opportunities for urban densification and the creation of inclusive public spaces. Matosinhos Sul is a key example of this dynamic, where former industrial have been redeveloped into mixed-use neighborhoods with public parks and green spaces.

A major focus of this paper is on the development of urban areas around metro stations, particularly in locations where the metro has become a central point for urban regeneration. These stations play a key role in improving not only infrastructure but also the quality of public spaces. In summary the study critically examines how metro integration has revitalized and requalified different urban sectors assessing the challenges of preserving local identity through architectural and urban strategies, emphasizing the need for urban policies that balance development with cultural heritage conservation.

Keywords

Urban Design, Public Space, Infrastructure.

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Xi’an’s depth vs. Shenzhen’s stimuli: Spatial identity lost in dopaminergic urbanism’s glare.

From Ancient Depths to Digital Heights: Exploring Place Attachment in the Age of Attention

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In the attention economy, time and attention have emerged as functional currencies of social life, reshaping human companionship, identity formation, and attachment through digital platforms (Greenfield, D. N. 2021). Social media's emphasis on content novelty and unpredictability transcends Heidegger's concept of being-in-the-world—where self-identity is rooted in contextual engagement with physical environment. This foster fragmented relationship between attention and attachment, existential detachment, as individuals increasingly prioritize virtual interactions over embodied experiences (Greenfield, D. N. 2021). Concurrently, urban environments, which historically served as repositories of cultural and temporal depth, now reflect the homogenizing pressures of technological progress (Pallasmaa, 2012). In particular, IT-driven cities, characterized by ocular-centric design and Silicon Valley mimicry, often lack spatial and temporal layering necessary to cultivate a sense of place identity. (Stallmeyer, J. C. 2008).

While environmental psychology establishes links between urban form, mental well-being, and psychological restoration, the interplay between attention economy and place attachment remains underexplored (Hajrasoulih, A., del Rio, V, Edmondson, J. 2018). Also, existing research focuses on social media's role in isolation and addiction but neglects how urban design might counterbalance these effects by fostering secure attachment through physical spaces (Greenfield, D. N. 2021; Scannell, L., & Gifford, R., 2010). How do attention economy dynamics influence the relationship between urban design, place attachment, and self-identity, and what design principles can mitigate the existential detachment fostered by ocular-centric, IT--driven cities?

Our comparative research analysed three ancient cities (Kyoto, Varanasi,

Xi'an) with three IT hubs (Tokyo, Bangalore, Shenzhen) in East Asia. The method employed Scannell and Gifford's (2010) tripartite place attachment framework, triangulating psychological processes (emotions, memories), place characteristics (aesthetics, functionality), and sociocultural dimensions (community ties). Using an inductive approach, the study outcome synthesized scholarly writings, historical records, and case studies to interrogate how design principles in ancient cities fostered multilayered attachment, contrasting these with flattened spatial logic of IT-era cities.

The preliminary results reveal a contrast between ancient and IT-driven cities in fostering place attachment. Ancient cities cultivate enduring identity through temporal depth, ritualistic landscapes, and vernacular materials that embed collective memory into their fabric. In contrast, IT cities prioritize efficiency and visual spectacle, often exacerbating social isolation through gamified, transactional interactions, such as LED billboards and app-based navigation. However, hybrid spaces like Bangalore's tech-adjacent street markets demonstrate resilience by blending tradition and modernity. Also, grassroots interventions—such as Xi'an's digitally augmented hutongs—suggest pathways to reconcile technological progress with multisensory, place-based identity.

Based on the analysis, our study suggests the idea of "dopaminergic urbanism" to describe urban development phenomena driven by attention economy logic, which could risk reducing place attachment to ephemeral engagements. The findings contribute to addressing social isolation issues and explore whether design, beyond the ocular-centric culture of the attention economy, can instil a sense of attachment and identity within its inhabitants. The study argues for recalibration of urban design to prioritize tactile authenticity over visual hyperstimulation, proposing strategies including participatory placemaking and material storytelling to restore attachment. Future research will quantify attachment metrics across city typologies and explore policy frameworks for dopamine-aware urbanism.

Keywords

Attention Economy, Place Attachment, Dopaminergic Urbanism

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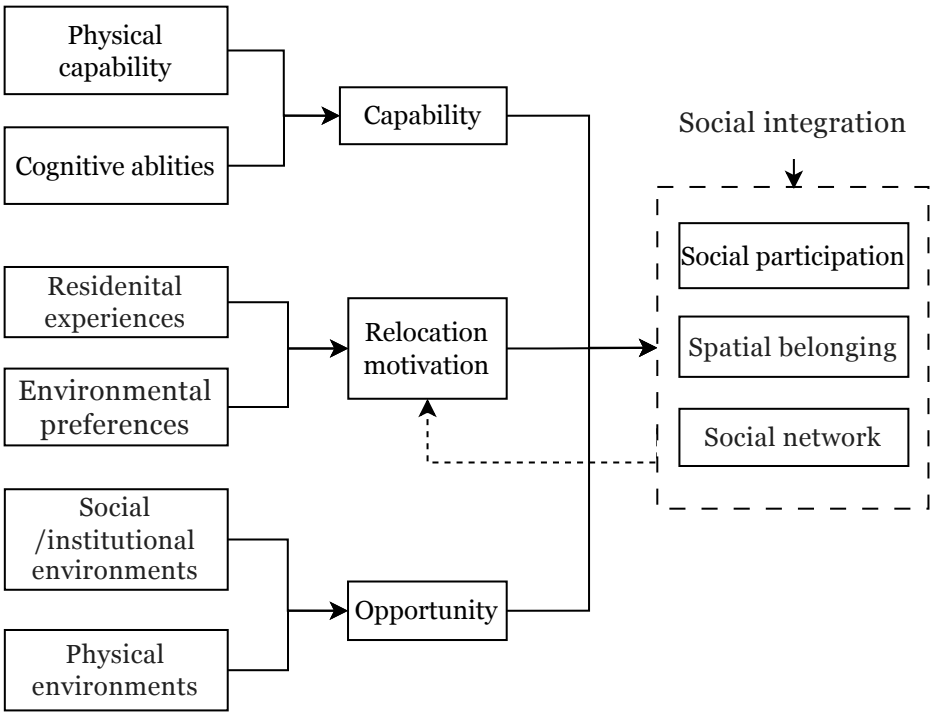
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Conceptual framework

Towards inclusive living space: The role of residential environment in facilitating social integration for cross-border elderly migrants in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

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The increasing social integration challenges faced by cross-border elderly migrants in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) have raised significant concerns regarding their quality of life and well--being. Their decision to relocate to and remain in Guangdong cities hinges critically on both residential environment characteristics and their level of social integration. While existing literature addresses social integration among either the elderly or migrants, the specific vulnerabilities and needs of cross-border elderly migrants in the GBA context are largely unexplored, constituting a significant gap within both gerontology and migration studies. Studies focusing on Chinese domestic elderly migrants consistently highlight feelings of marginalization and social exclusion in their new urban environments. However, the unique experiences of those migrating from Hong Kong and Macao to Guangdong differ substantially from both transnational elderly migration patterns (which often involve significant cultural and linguistic differences) and domestic translocational migration, demanding a distinct analytical approach. Moreover, most studies prioritize individual, family, social, and policy determinants of social integration, neglecting the crucial mediating role of the built and social environment.

This study addresses this critical knowledge gap by investigating the multifaceted relationship between residential environment and social integration among cross-border elderly migrants in the GBA, ultimately providing evidence-based recommendations for more inclusive urban planning and policy. We utilize the Capability-Opportunity-Motivation--Behavior (COM-B) model, a widely-used framework in health psychology, adapted to the unique context of translocational elderly migration.

Individual capabilities (functional and cognitive abilities) are controlled, while residential environment opportunities—encompassing both the material/physical (accessibility, safety, green spaces) and social/institutional (healthcare, social services, community governance) dimensions conducive to healthy aging—serve as key explanatory variables. Relocation motivations, incorporating pre-migration residential experiences and environmental preferences, are also integrated to understand the interplay between individual agency and environmental influence. Social integration, operationalized through validated scales measuring social participation, belonging, and network strength, constitutes the dependent variable, reflecting the behavioral outcome of successful integration.

Employing Zhongshan City, a rapidly developing city within the GBA with a growing population of elderly migrants from Hong Kong and Macao, as our case study, we adopt a mixed-methods approach. Quantitative data are collected through structured face-to-face surveys. Qualitative data, gathered through semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with key stakeholders (elderly migrants, community leaders, service providers), offer nuanced insights into the lived experiences and perceptions of social integration. Structural equation modeling will be used to test the hypothesized relationships within the COM-B framework, while thematic analysis of qualitative data will illuminate the underlying mechanisms linking residential environment to social integration. The findings will inform the development of evidence-based strategies for inclusive place-making within the GBA, contributing significantly to the ongoing efforts for regional coordination of elderly care and inclusive environment development.

Keywords

Social integration; residential environment; elderly migrants;.

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LUCIE BERLOWITZ

(Un)Disputed Space? Testimonies of European Cultures of Remembrance

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We are currently experiencing a turning point in the culture of remembrance throughout Europe. What can be observed all over Europe is a renaissance of nationalist remembrance. Today, the build legacies of European dictatorships are the subject of intensifying controversies regarding the politics of remembrance (cf. Assmann, 2018, pp. 39–52).

As Maurice Halbwachs wrote in his groundbreaking work La Mémoire Collective: "[…] every memory unfolds within a spatial framework. […] we recapture the past only by understanding how it is, in effect, preserved by our physical surroundings" (Halbwachs, 1980, pp. 140–141). Significant urban planning testimonies to the dictatorships of the first half of the twentieth century have often encountered significant transformations. These sites are being or have been reassessed, re-used, and often modified – however, in every country in completely different ways and the context of completely different public discourses. The spatial perspective on memory offers broad insights into the sometimes extensive public discussions on often painful chapters of the political past and the historical and political understanding of the raison d'état (cf. Grau & Welch Guerra, 2024, p. 206).

This contribution illustrates current national patterns of approaching central architectural and urban planning legacies of the dictatorships of the 1930s and 1940s and captures the different histories and realities of space and politics. With four examples we will discuss the role of space and memory within the political discussions in Spain, Poland, Germany, and Italy. The Valley of Cuelgamuros in the rural area around Madrid was Francisco Franco's burial place until 2019 and serves as an example of the fierce conflicts in Spain over the treatment of the built evidence of the

dictatorial past and the politics of remembrance. The Palace in Poznan showcases a very different approach to tackling the complex history of a place. What used to serve as Adolf Hitler's residence during the German occupation, is today one of the most important cultural centres and highly frequented public sites of the city. The German example of Nuremberg Nazi Party Rally Grounds demonstrates the local struggles of a city where one of the most integral and large-scale projects of the Nazi dictatorship was built. Plans to integrate cultural facilities into the remains of the congress hall in 2022, started a nationwide debate on the self-set limits of transforming spaces of the nazi era. Lastly, in Rome, the Palazzo della Civiltà Italiana which is considered one of the most important buildings of the twentieth century in Italy is an example for the exclusion of the general public. Build for the World Exhibition in 1942 but never finished, the building was privatized in 2013 and now serves as a showroom for Fendi.

The contribution aims to open spaces for discussion about joint European history and a pan-European dialogical culture of remembrance.

Keywords

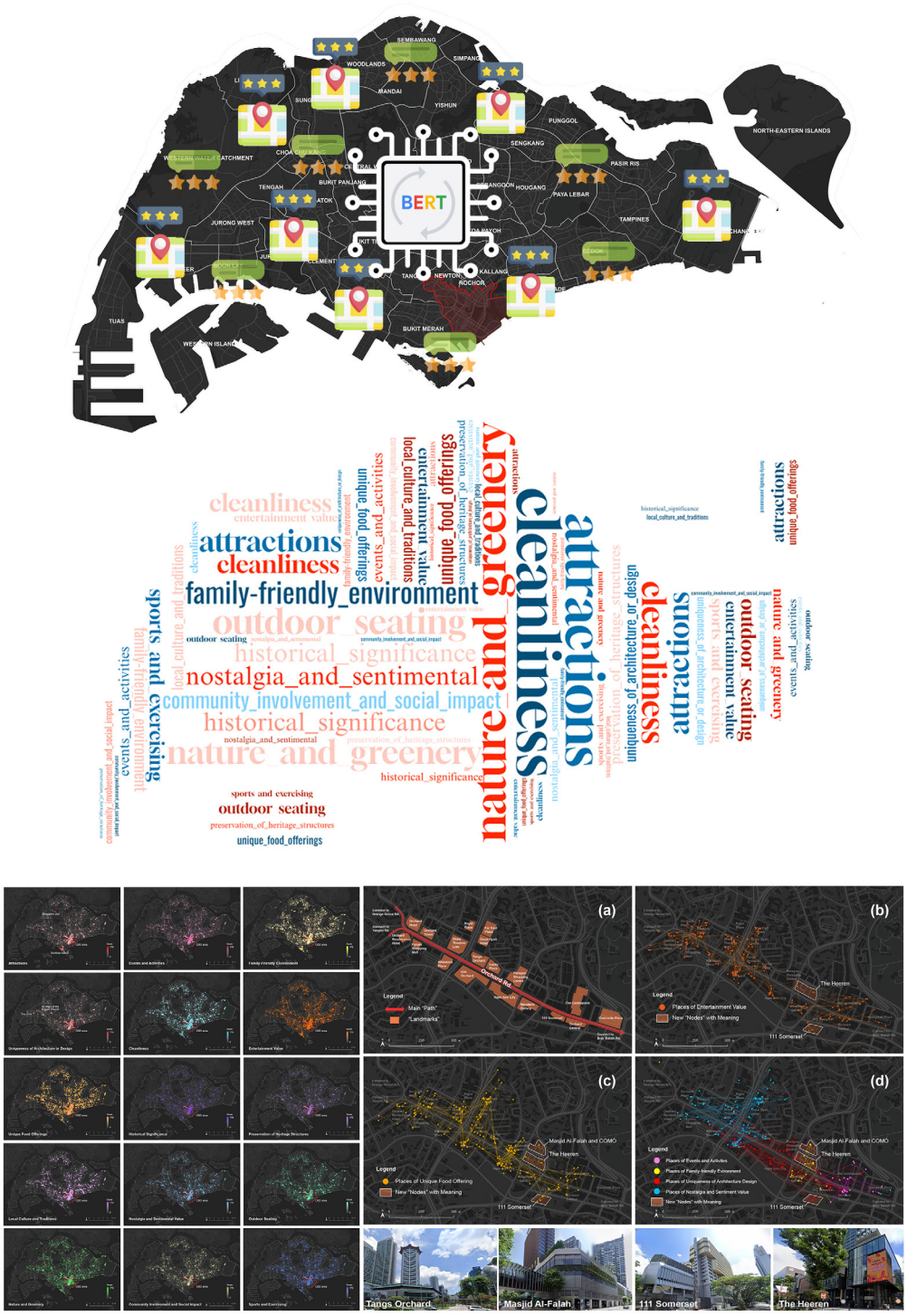
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Reimagining Urban Imageability: Decoding Meaning of Urban Places through Place Reviews and Large Language Models. (Top: Using fine-tuned BERT model to analyze the Place Reviews of 17k places in Singapore. Middle: The 15 Imageability Meaning Categories (IMCs) in Singapore. Bottom: The spatial distribution of the 15 IMCs and a focused case study of Orchard Road area.)

Reimagining Urban Imageability: Decoding Meaning of Urban Places through Place Reviews and Large Language Models

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Imageability is a crucial concept in urban design and planning field (Lynch, 1960). For a long time, imageability has been one of the most critical qualities of urban space (Ewing & Clemente, 2013; Lynch, 1960). However, Lynch's original imageability framework focused primarily on physical characteristics, overlooking the "meaning" component. This component, including local traditions, community familiarity, and emotional connections to specific places, also significantly affects how cities are experienced (Carmona, 2019). Moreover, in the increasingly complex urban context, how people perceive the city has fundamentally changed, especially with the usage of digital devices and large amounts of online information. Understanding imageability in the digital era requires addressing both physical elements and the intangible dimensions, such as the meaning components people attribute to places.

The rise of online platforms and user-generated content has paved a new way for examining urban environments. Online reviews, such as those on Google Maps or TripAdvisor, can offer detailed insights into how people perceive places. Therefore, online reviews represent a rich and largely untapped resource for studying the meaning of places. Furthermore, advances in NLP technologies, particularly Large Language Models (LLMs), enable the analysis of vast amounts of text data in a more structured way.

This research leverages a massive online review dataset and LLMs to revisit Lynch's framework of imageability by incorporating the meaning component and exploring how the city's image evolves in the digital era, using Singapore as a case study. The research has four steps: (1) Collecting geo-located Google Maps Review (GMR) data for Singapore, totaling 1.879 million reviews across 17,201 places. Identifying and extracting meanings from the dataset

using a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) model, which resulted in 15 imageability meaning categories (IMCs). (3) Fine-tuning a BERT-based text classification model to score each IMCs of all reviews. (4) Analyzing IMC scores to examine their correlation and spatial distribution (Figure 1) and their influence on the city's image.

This research has two key findings. First, the existing five elements (nodes, paths, edges, landmarks, and districts) could be strengthened by incorporating the meaning component. For the landmarks or nodes that are defined by their physical characteristics, their meanings amplify their distinctiveness by adding more social and cultural significance. Additionally, meaning can create new "nodes" --- places that may not be considered imageable before but gain prominence through their meanings. Second, the continuing study of the meaning component could add new layers to the structure of the city image. It represents the clusters of multiple places with shared meanings, forming cultural and emotional connections beyond spatial relations.

This research pioneers the integration of "meaning" as a potential sixth element in Lynch's imageability framework, bridging the gap between physical form and intangible cultural and emotional dimensions. By revealing how meaning influences the city image, the research strengthens the understanding of perceiving cities. The clustering of places with shared meanings introduces a novel analytical dimension and the innovative approach offers groundbreaking insights for urban studies while charting a bold agenda for future research on meaning-driven urban dynamics.

Keywords

Imageability, Place Reviews, Large Language Model

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What makes the attractiveness of the renovated scene of the Urban Village? based on a real visual cognitive experiment in Nantou Ancient-City

Introduction

To answer this question "what makes the attractiveness of Urban Village in Nantou Ancient City", this paper conducts a dynamic visual perception experiment. We want to collect information about the trajectories of tourists and their points of interest. There are tourists inviting to wander around freely and take photos freely.

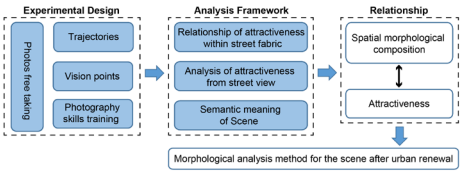


Figure 1: Methodological framework

Analysis

To study the relationship between the attractiveness and its morphological structure, the data is analyzed on following aspects: street fabric, street view and its semantic meaning. The scene density measurement and the visual scene classification are drawn in this way.

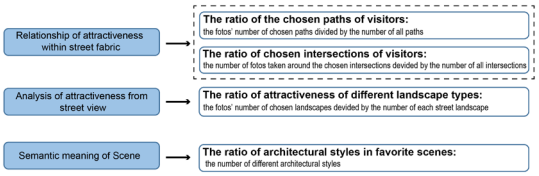


Figure 2: The morphological indicators

Results

Intersection

To identify the paths whether they are along the main axis, we count the intersection number for each cross. When the path is along the main axis, it is illustrated with an "o".

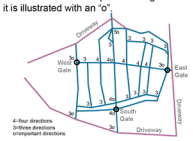


Figure 3:The number of intersection directions

Street fabric

The highly chosen paths of visitors are composed of four parts: 80 percentage of the main northsouthern axis, 85 percentage of the main eastwestern axis, as well as the two footpaths around the new established Chunjing market.

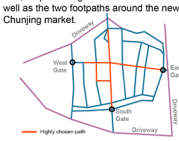


Figure 4: The highly chosen paths of visitors

Trajectories of attractiveness

With "Liangbu Lu" Software, the trajectories of visitors are recorded. After the data imported in GIS Platform, it is presented where the most attractive places are.



Figure 5: The free chosen paths of visitors

Semantic scene

The layers are drawn, with the illustration of the historical elements, old town wall, ancestral hall etc.

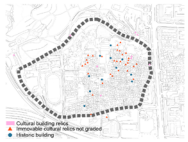
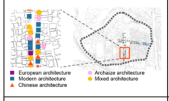
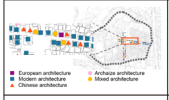
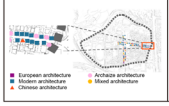


Figure 6: Distribution of historical buildings

Table 1: The architectural style of the free chosen paths by visitors

Position	Situation	Number of buildings	Architectural style
	No. 39~70-1 Zhongshan South Street	23	Traditional architecture: 4 Handshake Building: 19 Modern memorial archway: 1
	No. 77~97 Zhongshan South Street	11	Traditional architecture: 2 Handshake Building: 9 Modern memorial archway: 1
	No. 43-96 Zhongshan East Street	22	Traditional architecture: 6 Handshake Building: 16 Ancient memorial archway: 1 Square: 1
	No. 22-20 Zhongshan East Street, No. 4-8 Zhongshan East Street	20	Traditional architecture: 2 Handshake Building: 16 Ancient memorial archway: 2 City Gate: 1

Results

Table 2: Analysis of street elements

Methods of analysis	Spatial elements of streets and alleys							
Number of photos	Ground floor elevations (257)		Detailed decoration (228)	Building facade (197)	Street facade (109)	Historic landscape node (76)	Green Landscape (54)	Public space activitie (29)
Number of photos divided by number of subjects	Green Landscape (10.80)	Historic landscape node (5.85)	Public space activitie (5.80)	Street facade (2.53)	Building facade (2.38)	Detailed decoration (1.69)	Ground floor facade window (1.09)	Transitional space on the ground floor facade (0.95)

Conclusion

Through the analysis of trajectories and visual attractiveness, the following conclusions were drawn:

1. The elements that most interest tourists are along the main axis of the block.
2. Not only historical buildings and structures but also modern scenes are interest points for tourists.
3. It stimulates tourists' curiosity through the transparency and richness of street scenes .
4. The interface continuity of plots after regeneration plays an important role in attracting tourists.

This research not only reveals the relationship between the attractiveness of Nantou Ancient City and its spatial morphological composition, but also develops a morphological unit analysis method for spatial composition.



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What makes the Attractiveness of the Renovated scene of the Urban Village? based on a dynamic visual Experiment in Nantou Ancient-City

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The urban villages in Guangdong, China are modern village communities located within cities, featuring connections between the spaces inside the villages and those of the cities outside. After the implantation of modern living landscapes, the urban villages of the historical and cultural type have become highly attractive places.

What is the reason for the attractiveness of the urban village scenes? Is it related to the renewal method of street and its overall spatial composition? To answer this question, this paper conducts a dynamic visual perception experiment in Nantou Ancient City. This article breaks through the traditional perspective of material space research, which emphasizes the interactive relationship between human dynamic perception and the attractiveness of places.

First, a morphological research framework is established to analyze the relationship between local spatial elements and the overall space. Then tourists are invited to wander around freely and take photos. Through the analysis of the trajectories of tourists' points of interest, the classification of visual scene information as well as the corresponding scene density, the conclusions are drawn as follows:

1.Architectural landscapes, street landscapes, architectural details and activity landscapes are the most visual attractiveness.

2. The interface continuity after the renewal of unit plots plays a guiding role in attracting tourists to gather.

3.Tourists are interested not only in historical landmarks but also in the scenes of transparent modern living communities.

4.Tourists' sight focuses more on the street facade on the ground level, detailed decorations of buildings, individual building facade, and the overall views.

5.The transparency and richness of street scenes play an important role in stimulating tourists' curiosity.

This research not only reveals the relationship between the attractiveness of Nantou Ancient City and its spatial morphological composition, but also develops a morphological unit analysis method for spatial composition.

Keywords

Renewal of Urban Villages, Spatial Composition Relationship, Visual Attraction

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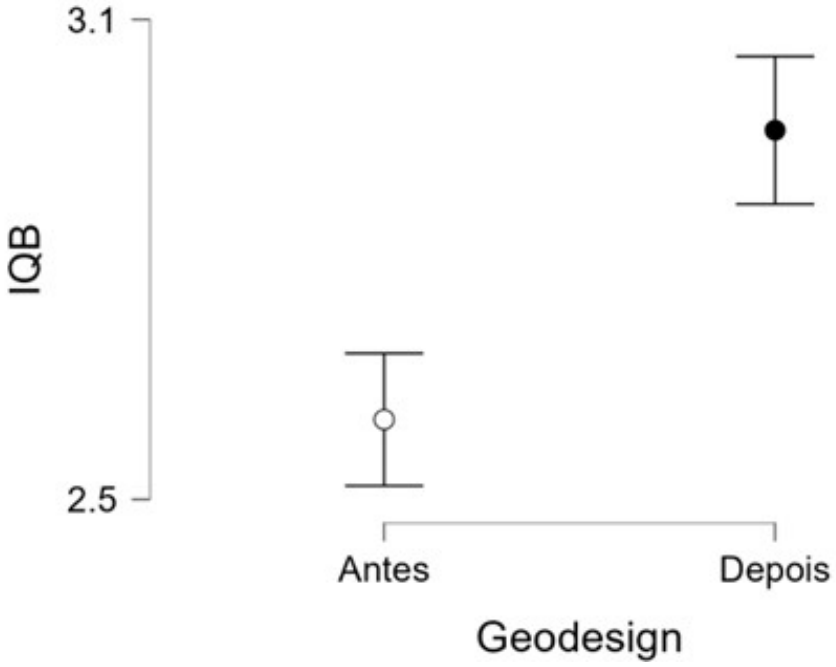
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Track 4 - Adapting ...

Territories and landscape towards sustainability, resilience, and circularity


3.1
IQB
2.5
Antes
Depois
Geodesign

Composition of Biophilic Quality Index of the Urban Landscape through Geodesign Application in the Community of the Upper Course of the Paciência River in São Luís, Brazil

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This study aimed to examine the relationship between the built environment and nature within the framework of Biophilia, based on the premise of a continuous dialogue between architecture and its surroundings. The case selected for this study was an urbanized stretch of the upper course of the Paciência River in the city of São Luís, Brazil. This was considered a key factor in improving the quality of living in the environmental conditions present in cities, especially within the context of climate change and pandemics.

The research aims to compose a Biophilic Quality Index of the Urban Landscape using the study area through the application of Geodesign, which assumes the potentialities and weaknesses through its mapping in GIS. This mapping reflects where people live and leads to a proposition for a participatory and dynamic intervention, comparing this new approach with the efficiency of traditional urban interventions, enhancing the quantification of biophilic principles that are often considered subjective in scientific analysis.

Achieving this goal was essential to identify the technical aspects of the indicators, such as the Direct and Indirect Nature of Spaces and Elements Analogous to Nature, among other criteria. The multiplication of the indicators by their respective weights, which were then divided by the sum of these weights, resulted in a score that indicated the biophilic quality. This individual data was then normalized in the population dataset, from which significant data and standard deviations in opinions were extracted.

As a methodology for building cohesion between nature and the built environment, the research relied on field data collection with statistical tabulation obtained through quantitative research. The result contributed new guidelines in which psychometry, as an epistemological tool, assisted in the creation of a quantitative Index. This innovation impacts urban planning by

establishing a new way to analyze the quality of urban projects and housing policies as a whole, thus improving various biophilic indicators in cities and homes.

It was identified that Geodesign interventions significantly improved the quality of biophilic aspects compared to traditional interventions, demonstrating the effectiveness of this method for interaction with nature.

As a practical connection to public policies on climate change and urban resilience, the results obtained through the indicators reflect the actions being taken to correct the course of cities with a long-term horizon.

Keywords

Biophilia. Geodesign. Biophilic Quality Index.

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Urban Void in Camide
Urban Void in Camide
Urban Park in Quinta da Granja
Urban Void in Benfica
Aerial Command of the Air Force
Tapada da Ajuda
Playground of the neighborhood 2 de Maio
Urban Void in Marvila
Urban Void in Marvila
Comodor Vasco's Park
Eduardo VII's Park
Urban Void in Campolide
EPAL's Reservatory in Amoreiras
Urban Void in Estrela
Tapada da Ajuda
VULNERABILITY AND HIGH RISK AREAS
High to Very High Seismic Vulnerability
Moderate to Very High Flood Vulnerability
Low to Very High Wildfire Vulnerability
Lowest Risk Areas and Potential Intervention Zones
0
1 000
5 000
10 000 m
INTEGRATED RISK MAP OF THE CITY OF LISBON

For an Emerging Dwelling in Lisbon, a Landscape and Urban-Architectural Strategy for Resilient Cities Facing Natural Disasters

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Architecture and urban planning play a fundamental role in responding to human needs and natural constraints by shaping how people inhabit and transform territories. However, the act of inhabiting is inherently susceptible to transformation and impermanence due to climate change. Natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and wildfires pose significant challenges to cities, demanding approaches that foster urban and social resilience.

Resilience, as a quality of the built environment, is particularly relevant in contemporary cities with high vulnerability to natural risks. Lisbon serves as a paradigmatic case, known for its rich cultural and architectural heritage but also for its historical catastrophes. The city's exposure to various risks can be exacerbated by climate change, increasing both the frequency and impact of these events. Urban expansion without proper planning has led to constructions in hazardous areas and a scarcity of permeable surfaces, further compromising the city's resilience.

This study examines how architecture and urban planning can enhance disaster prevention and preparedness through a strategic intervention that integrates landscape restoration, emergency-responsive urban spaces, and an adaptable architectural prototype to support affected communities. This study also follows different approaches: first, strengthening local resilience; second, implementing emergency shelters for displaced populations; and third, restoring the territory while evaluating the architectural impact on the environment.

To achieve this, a landscape-based and urban-architectural methodology is proposed, enabling a comprehensive reading of the territory to identify locations with lower vulnerability and greater resilience for future emergency interventions. The methodology follows a three-phase approach.

First, a territorial analysis is conducted to assess topographical, hydrological, historical, and social characteristics. In the second phase, identified key locations undergo a more in-depth evaluation using the same parameters to establish guiding principles for emergency construction. Finally, in the third phase, these principles are applied to a design study for an emergent living environment in an area of Lisbon.

Lisbon is examined as a case study due to its significant vulnerabilities. The city's high population density and unregulated urban expansion have led to an increased risk of disasters, particularly earthquakes, floods, and wildfires. In the event of a major catastrophe, such as a high-magnitude earthquake, a large portion of the population is expected to be displaced. Consequently, developing an emergency housing plan is essential. This plan must consider not only the use of existing buildings but also the creation of temporary shelters in strategically selected locations.

Urban space analysis in Lisbon facilitates the identification of less vulnerable areas suitable for such interventions. These spaces can be transformed into temporary shelter centers, ensuring accessibility, safety, and support for the affected population until permanent solutions are implemented. The proposed methodology provides a framework for increasing urban resilience and preparedness, reinforcing the critical role of architecture and urban planning in mitigating disaster impacts.

By addressing the challenges of resilience in Lisbon, this study contributes to the broader discourse on sustainable urban planning, disaster preparedness, and architectural innovation, offering actionable insights for resilient urban futures.

Keywords

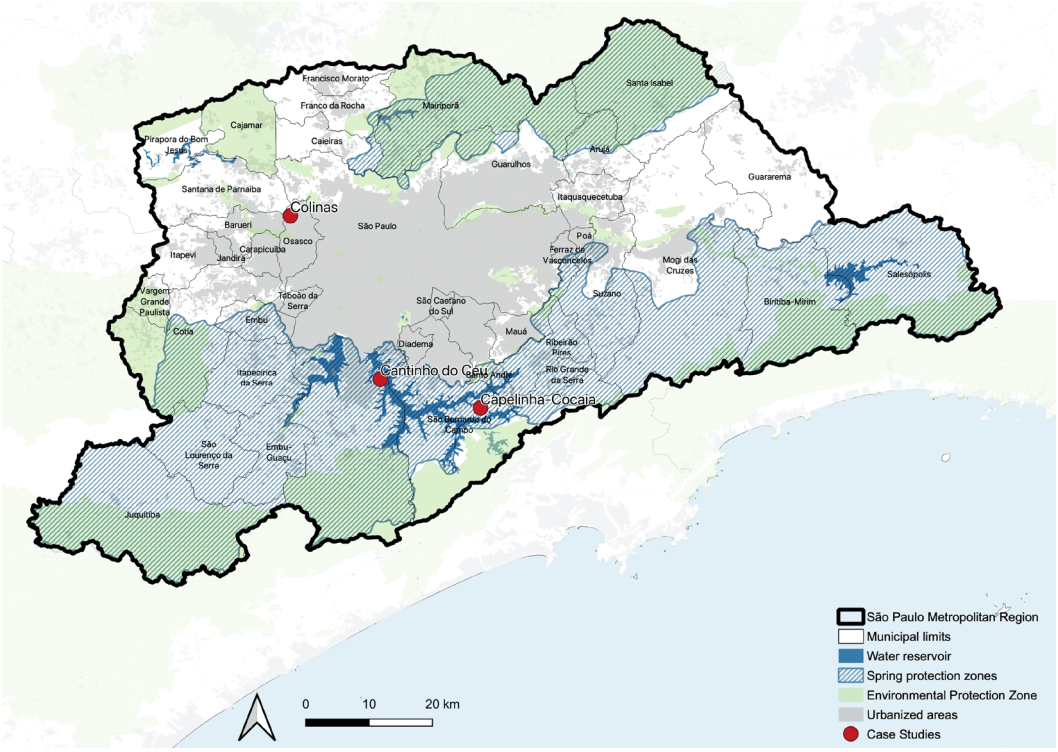
Emerging dwelling | Resilience | Territory.

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Guarulhos
Guararema
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Itaquaquecetuba
Colinas
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São Paulo
Osasco
Poá
Itapevi
Carapicuíba
Jandira
Ferraz de Vasconcelos
Mogi das Cruzes
Salesópolis
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Santo André
Rio Grande da Serra
Itapecerica da Serra
Capelinha-Cocaia
São Bernardo do Campo
São Lourenço da Serra
Embu-Guaçu
Juquitiba
0
10
20 km
São Paulo Metropolitan Region
Municipal limits
Water reservoir
Spring protection zones
Environmental Protection Zone
Urbanized areas
Case Studies

Resilience and Climate Adaptation in Informal Settlements of the São Paulo Metropolitan Region: Urban Strategies and Challenges

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The intensification of climate events in cities requires strategies that reconcile environmental preservation and adequate housing for all social classes. In Brazil, the urbanization of informal settlements located in environmentally sensitive areas represents one of the central challenges of climate resilience and urban sustainability. The concept of urban resilience (Folke et al., 2021) refers to the capacity of cities and communities to absorb, adapt to, and transform in response to environmental and social pressures. In the context of informal settlements, resilience depends on the implementation of projects that integrate environmental planning, participatory governance, and adaptive infrastructure solutions.

The São Paulo Metropolitan Region (RMSP), Brazil, has a history of public policies that, despite advances and setbacks, have sought to integrate sustainability and social inclusion into informal settlement urbanization projects. However, the effectiveness of these interventions varies depending on the strategies adopted, the degree of intergovernmental coordination, and community participation.

This article, presents the partial result of ongoing research, analyses three urbanisation projects that incorporate different resilience strategies in the RMSP: Parque Linear Cantinho do Céu (São Paulo), Colinas D'Oeste (Osasco) and Capelinha-Cocaia (São Bernardo do Campo).

The methodology combines document analysis, interviews, and field visits, using a multidimensional framework (Alvim, Rubio & Marques, 2022) structured into four dimensions -political-institutional, environmental, urban, and socioeconomic - that interface with the concept of resilience. The political-institutional dimension examines governance and the coordination between different levels of government. The environmental dimension

assesses the integration of green infrastructure, the preservation of water resources, and climate risk mitigation. The urban dimension considers the connectivity of the settlement with the formal urban fabric, mobility, and the provision of public spaces. The socioeconomic dimension analyzes the impact of interventions on income generation, housing permanence, and community participation in the urbanization process.

The results indicate that Parque Linear Cantinho do Céu adopted an integrated green infrastructure approach, promoting the recovery of the Billings Reservoir margins and the installation of sustainable drainage systems to reduce flooding. However, community participation was limited, as was the ongoing maintenance of the environmental infrastructure to ensure the effectiveness of the measures to preserve the water sources. The Colinas D'Oeste project prioritized slope stabilization and sanitation improvements, reducing geotechnical risks and improving environmental quality. However, the closed channeling of streams compromised climate adaptation by increasing soil impermeability. Meanwhile, Capelinha-Cocaia combined housing resettlement, sustainable infrastructure, and community participation. Nevertheless, the partial implementation of environmental measures limited the anticipated climate adaptation benefits.

The analysis of the three cases demonstrates that urbanization projects in informal settlements must overcome challenges such as administrative discontinuity, fragmented public policies, and low community participation. Urban resilience should not be understood merely as infrastructure development but as a social process that involves adaptive governance, environmental justice, and long-term planning (Ahern, 2011). Strategies that combine green infrastructure, socioeconomic inclusion, and active community participation have greater potential to foster resilience. Future interventions should incorporate nature-based solutions, strengthen integrated planning, and encourage active resident participation, promoting resilient urbanization and environmental justice principles.

Keywords

Urban Resilience; Climate Adaptation; Informal Settlements.

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Parsimony in practice to address floods in slums

Building Flood Resilience: A Transformative Toolkit for Coastal Slums.

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The increasing vulnerabilities posed by climate change demand local and community-driven approaches to enhance flood resilience in coastal urban slums. These densely populated settlements, often lack adequate infrastructure and resources, are particularly vulnerable to recurring floods. This study seeks to develop a transformative toolkit tailored to the flood adaptation needs of coastal urban slums in developing countries. It investigates how such communities can effectively respond to recurring flood events through localised and participatory strategies. The research builds on the premise that a structured framework of adaptive measures and spatial interventions can strengthen flood resilience in coastal slums. Utilising insights from global practices and empirical analysis of Dharavi in Mumbai, the study employs morphological interpretation and typological classification to identify spatial elements that contribute to flood adaptation. The proposed toolkit shall equip local communities with actionable knowledge to enhance their flood preparedness and response.

Keywords

Flood resilience, Transformative toolkit, Urban slums.

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Overview of family farms in the village of Wadi Fukin, Land use and transformation here is mediated by kinship and mutual respect

It Runs With the Land: Designing for Place, Foodways and Kinship in Palestinian Villages.

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This paper explores the role of Palestinian villages as spatial units central to kinship, agriculture, and resistance to the Israeli occupation. It examines how these communities' resilient land-based practices contribute to the local food system and struggle for liberation (Manna, 2020). Villages offer one of the important ways to understand Palestinian spatial culture. In her seminal text on Palestinian architecture, Suad Amiry discusses them as a key "spatial and social unit" (Amiry, 2017). They are valuable in the study of environmental patterns here, because they are embedded in the land through agriculture and embody place and community. We focus on Wadi Fukin, an agricultural village near Bethlehem, as a network of spaces enmeshed with the land and kin relations. We build on this architectural understanding to present designs that support the village's land-based living and its ability to navigate uncertain futures. In conclusion, these landways translate to broader concerns, including cooperative stewardship, circularity, and land decommodification.

Life in Palestinian villages, especially its spatial characteristics, invariably center on kinship and the local food system. Palestinians have historically enjoyed a region rich with agriculture and foodways rooted in smallholding and foraging (Khalidi, 1992), but this ecocultural foundation faces increasing hardships. Despite these setbacks, local food is highly valued, smallholders possess generational farming knowledge, and strong kinship relations around land and food remain intact. With this in mind, this project asks, what is the architecture of land-based living in Palestine? What kind of design can support village communities in maintaining their foodways and land relations?

Drawing from work completed in an undergraduate architecture design

studio at University of Michigan in fall 2023 and grounded design-research in the West Bank, we argue that kin-based land relations define the spatial patterns of the place. Departing with the role of villages in Palestine, the essay frames the local food system as a network of cultural heritage sites that confront the occupation. We then present a series of design strategies that build on this network, aiming to support the local foodways and kin relations of villages in the West Bank. Through spatial analysis and design, we show how land-based practices can be harnessed to preserve and support the local cultural landscape in the face of occupation and climate change. We present two examples: a toolkit addressing different challenges, developed through discussions with Wadi Fukin village council co-president and local smallholders, especially experienced farmers; and the work of architecture students who were tasked with developing a design for a foodways hub in the center of Wadi Fukin.

Keywords

Agriculture, Palestine, kinship.

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Evaluation of Public Policies for Urban Rivers in the Municipality of São Paulo through the Lens of Environmental Justice.

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The urbanization process in São Paulo is characterized by the construction of valley-bottom avenues and the occupation of environmentally fragile areas by informal settlements on the outskirts of newly urbanized territories. These two types of land use have shaped the relationship between the built environment and urban rivers throughout the 20th century. In the context of a climate emergency, the lack of effective protection for urban riverbanks exacerbates this situation, increasing risks and deepening socioeconomic and environmental inequalities.

In Brazil, riverbanks are legally designated as Permanent Preservation Areas (APPs) under Law No. 16.651/2021. These areas are considered environmentally sensitive and must be preserved and restored to ensure the conservation of natural resources, protection of the landscape, and maintenance of water quality.

Given this context, the ongoing research aims to assess public policies for APPs between 2002 and 2024, investigating why municipal government interventions have failed to ensure environmental justice. The central hypothesis is that urban planning processes may perpetuate existing socio-environmental inequalities by reproducing established patterns and failing to address the diverse challenges present in the territory.

A survey of implemented projects identified 274 interventions carried out by the municipal administration across 209 streams and rivers during the analyzed period. The data show that 46% of these interventions involve large-scale drainage works, while 34% are intersectoral projects that also include drainage-related measures. Although these findings indicate a departure from the historical trend of prioritizing valley-bottom avenues (Travassos, 2010), most interventions are still characterized by stream chan-

nelization or the restoration of banks along already channelized streams, highlighting the persistence of traditional approaches to managing urban rivers.

The next phase of the research will complement this analysis by reviewing plans, programs, and projects targeting APPs. This will involve comparing municipal government proposals over the past two decades with what has been effectively implemented.

By examining public policies for environmentally fragile areas, the study seeks to identify acts of omission—when policies prioritize more privileged groups—and acts of commission—when policies negatively affect vulnerable populations (Anguelovski et al., 2016). This analysis aims to reveal gaps in these policies that contribute to their shortcomings, particularly the ineffective protection of these areas and the exacerbation of inequalities.

This research is part of the project "Territories of Water" (Territórios da Água), which aims to develop a Conservation and Recovery Program for Permanent Preservation Areas (APPs) in São Paulo. It is funded by the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP), Brazil, under Process Numbers #2024/10614-0 and #2023/10072-0.

Keywords

Environmental justice, urban planning, urban rivers.

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Re-Politicizing Urban Metabolism through Mapping: A Methodological Exploration through the Lens of Urban Political Ecology.

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The concept of Urban Metabolism (UM) has become increasingly prominent in urban planning and design studies and practices as an approach to reframe those places that have exhausted their lifecycle (Zhang, Yang, Yu, 2013). This reframing is critical in addressing urban decay and environmental degradation, particularly in territories that have experienced intense deindustrialization, which has led to high concentrations of contamination and abandoned infrastructure. Abandoned, polluted, and contaminated soils require regeneration strategies based on circular economy, sustainable development, and new forms of balance between urban centers and peri-urban areas. However, this approach has been criticized for focusing on functional and technological aspects, centering on flows of matter and energy while struggling to include UM impacts on communities, especially the most vulnerable. This is a central aspect in the definition of metabolism according to Urban Political Ecology (UPE).

Using mapping as a tool, this study investigates the political dimension of UM by examining and comparing several international case studies and research projects. Mapping, in this context, serves not only as a tool for spatial representation but also as a mechanism for unearthing the power structures that influence urban development and access to resources. The aim is to identify and systematize the political implications of mapping within urban planning, especially in vulnerable areas.

The proposed methodology lays its foundation on the UPE methodological interventions outlined by Kaika, Keil, Mandler and Tzaninis (2023) declined as follows: (1) the manifestation of intangible metabolic lifecycles; (2) the interaction between cycles of economic investment and crisis and cycles of socio-ecological transformation and destruction; (3) the reconstruction

of the metabolic lifecycles palimpsest; and (4) the evaluation of socio--environmental wins and losses in Urban Transitions and Transformations (UTT). The UPE critical apparatus is addressed in this study by mapping UM, moving forward from the focus on metabolic flows to spatializing and monitoring metabolic lifecycles. The shift from flows to lifecycles is fundamental to pursuing a UM qualitative analysis and reflecting on the impact of linear UM on vulnerable territories, communities and ecologies, resulting in marginalization and dysfunctional lifecycles. Mapping becomes a tool for deconstructing dominant narratives based on exclusion, extractivism and accumulation dynamics, and for imagining alternative, more equitable UTT pathways towards environmental justice and sustainability, together with local communities, potentially giving voice to the most vulnerable actors in UTT processes.

This study is part of the RETURN research project, Task 5.4.4 "Towards a circular metabolism for urban and metropolitan settlements", whose focus is research on circular UM concerning multi-risk conditions , and Task 5.5.2 “City-scale exercise for risk scenarios evaluation”, aimed at constructing the ULL methodology.

Keywords

Urban metabolism, mapping, environmental justice.

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Flood risk and climate-adaptive typologies in Isla Trinitaria, Guayaquil. Left: Flood risk under SSP5-RCP8.5, 50th quantile, 100-year return period. Created by the author based on data from Climate Central. Right: Elevated typologies for climate adaptation in Isla Trinitaria. Created by the author using Adapt and Midjourney.

Flooded Futures: Living with Water in Isla Trinitaria – A Decolonial Scenario Framework for Urban Resilience in Informal Settlements

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The legacy of colonial planning, compounded by neoliberal development models, has fragmented urban landscapes and reinforced socio-spatial inequalities (Escobar, 2004; Harvey, 1973; Roy, 2005). As Dovey (2012) argues, informal urbanisation has been the predominant mode of settlement for decades, driven by industrialisation, coloniality, and socio-spatial exclusion (Escobar, 2004; Harvey, 1985). Urban planning remains dominated by Eurocentric paradigms that inadequately address the complexities of cities in the Global South ((De Sousa Santos, 2014; Dovey, 2012; Escobar, 2004). These frameworks often define informal urbanisation as a deficiency rather than recognising its adaptive capacities (Roy, 2005). De Sousa Santos (2014) critiques this structural dichotomy, where cities in the Global North are framed as centres of power while those in the Global South are marginalised as peripheral. This perspective imposes rigid, top-down planning models that fail to account for local socio-spatial dynamics, rendering them ineffective in addressing urban vulnerabilities. Informal settlements, frequently excluded from mainstream planning, serve as critical spaces for economic innovation and the creative economy (Brugmann, 2010).

The challenges posed by climate change further intensify the precarity of informal settlements. The Anthropocene, marking a shift in Earth's geological history, underscores the unprecedented impact of human activity on environmental systems (IPCC, 2014, 2022; Kim, 2022). Urbanisation, driven by an extractive, linear model, depletes resources while generating pollution and environmental degradation (De Graaf, 2012). In this context, cities in Latin America face compounded socio-economic inequalities, exacerbating climate vulnerabilities (United Nations, 2017). The IPCC (2022) emphasises the need for further research on water-related climate extremes.

The proposed decolonial scenario framework advances contemporary scenario methodologies by integrating context-specific knowledge, participatory approaches, and transcalar perspectives. It offers a transferable methodology for informal settlements in the Global South, addressing climate vulnerabilities and socio-economic inequities through adaptive and inclusive planning strategies. Guayaquil, Ecuador's largest port city, exemplifies these intersecting challenges. Since the 1960s, rapid formal and informal urban expansion has led to deep socio-economic disparities, geographic segregation, and environmental disconnection. As a low-lying delta city, Guayaquil faces significant risks from coastal flooding, disproportionately affecting informal settlements such as Isla Trinitaria. This study examines Isla Trinitaria (see Figure 01) as a case study to explore decolonial, scenario-based methodologies for envisioning alternative urban futures in the context of sea-level rise and informal urbanism. Employing an interdisciplinary, mixed-methods approach, it integrates qualitative research and empirical-diagrammatic explorations to develop a decolonial scenario planning methodology tailored to Isla Trinitaria. Central to this approach is recognising water as a fundamental dimension of resilient urbanism. The study advocates for reimagining flood-prone and informal areas as catalysts for new urban paradigms that integrate water and community-driven strategies to foster sustainable urban futures.

Keywords

Urban Resilence, Scenario Planning, Decolonial Urbanism.

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Towards a Sustainable Future: Valparaiso's ravines as a basis for a landscape-based planning and design process.

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The ecological and social fragmentation of cities, along with the increasing diversity of risk factors due to excessive urbanisation, ineffective planning, design and environmental management in critical natural areas and the growing effects of climate change, contribute to processes of segregation and degradation in both urban and natural landscapes. This research focuses on territorial transformation through a landscape-based approach, moving away from current spatial and territorial planning models. It emphasises the interconnectedness of geomorphology, ecology, and social variables as foundations for social and economic progress (Nijhuis, S. 2022).

In the context of Chilean metropolises like Santiago, Valparaíso, and Concepción, rapid and unplanned urban growth leads to the privatisation of natural resources and environmental services. This unbridled expansion promotes the extension of built-up areas and the substitution of natural cover with urban uses such as housing, commercial, and industrial developments. Such uncontrolled growth results in significant environmental disturbances, including changes to the urban climate, loss of biodiversity, and the gradual suppression of ecological corridors and native habitats, ultimately increasing risks and deteriorating the quality of life for urban inhabitants.

The city of Valparaíso faces a pressing challenge characterised by the deterioration and fragmentation of its urban and natural landscape. A lack of proper planning and the failure to recognise its natural elements and geomorphological conditions have led to the atomisation of natural ecosystems and segregation within urban spaces. This situation concentrates risks, creating various conditions of socio-ecological vulnerability, particularly in the steep slopes and ravines that define the city's territory. Multiple biophysical and social factors play a role in this complexity across different contexts and

scales (Billi, M. et al., 2021).

The development of residential areas, roads, infrastructure, and informal settlements into the ravines has reduced green areas, contaminated soils and watercourses, and diminished ecosystem services. These once-valuable landscape structures have transformed into remnants of urban growth, adversely affecting ecological integrity.

To address this issue, a paradigm shift towards a landscape-based approach (Seguel Medina, C. 2024) is essential. This perspective integrates territorial variables and geomorphological conditions to mitigate the residual state of the ravines and contrasts sharply with the current urban development model. The city's adaptability and landscape resilience can be enhanced by recognising and incorporating geomorphological and socio-ecological factors into planning and design processes.

Long-term territorial interventions are necessary to link urban systems with environmental and cultural dynamics. The ravines, which define the public spaces of Valparaíso, present a unique opportunity to establish a network of green and blue infrastructure within the city. This network would provide connectivity between open spaces and promote mobility between hills and basins. By strengthening socio-ecological variables, the degradation of these natural corridors can be reversed, transforming them into platforms for public recreation, fostering connections between neighbourhoods, and enhancing the provision of ecosystem services while simultaneously linking urban areas with the surrounding natural landscape.

Keywords

Landscape approach; Ravines; Planning and design.

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Lessons From African Coastal Heritages: Adaptation strategies in face of extreme-events.

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The frequency of extreme weather events, such as flooding and coastal erosion, intensified by climate change, makes cultural heritage sites vulnerable on a global scale. These phenomena result in the total or partial destruction of monumental and historic urban settlements, compromising the formal characteristics that define their identity and cultural value. In Africa, approximately 42% of World Heritage sites are located, in high-risk areas, as evidenced by the African World Heritage Fund. Moreover, according to Levermann & Marzeion (2014), around 40 sites, corresponding to 6% of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, will be affected by rising sea levels by the end of the century. The water-related increased vulnerability not only places the physical integrity of the heritage sites at risk, but also their historical, social and economic importance for local communities.

Coastal urban heritage, particularly in low-lying areas, is, increasingly, fragile due to the occurrence of extreme weather events. Ilha de Moçambique, for example, has urban spaces that are at risk of being affected by rising sea levels, due to their location near the water. Similarly, Senegal's Saint-Louis island and Gorée island, both UNESCO Heritage Sites, are becoming increasingly vulnerable to the rising frequency of coastal flooding. The erosion phenomena has caused the loss of significant stretches of sandy areas, compromising the integrity of historic and contemporary buildings, located close to the waterline. This scenario has consequences that extend from material to economic damage.

However, the contemporary buildings are also under increasing threat, as the fragility of recent constructions - , often due to limited resources, low-durability materials, and the absence of effective urban plans, - significantly increases their vulnerability. In fact, inadequate planning tools can result

in buildings being constructed in high-risk areas, such as low-lying coastal zones, which exposes them to flooding.

Understanding the role of cultural heritage in urban planning adaptation plans, is essential for guiding decisions about adaptation, restoration or preservation in face of climate change. Consequently, the aim is to understand which adaptation strategies have been applied to safeguard urban coastal heritage, from the effects of extreme weather events, along the African coast.

Methodologically, the case studies are discussed in two phases: the first phase will be supported by documentary research, including photographs and maps, about the case studies. The second phase is supported by an interpretation framework to decode the case studies, which allows us to identify types of adaptation measures, already applied, in heritage areas vulnerable to extreme events. The use of drawing as a disciplinary research tool makes it possible to interpret the case studies, in a systematic way ensuring consistency, the same criteria, in decodification.

Lessons From African Coastal Heritages, aims to highlight the strategies that have been applied to protect the coastal urban heritage, embracing both vernacular techniques - which have been transmitted through generations, - and erudite contemporary approaches, based on scientific and technological knowledge. In conclusion, seek to understand how communities and experts have responded to water-related challenges, aiming to develop a lexicon of solutions.

Keywords

Urban Adaptation; Extreme weather events; Urban Heritage.

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Architecture, Water and Project - The case of the Inland Algarve.

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Traditional architecture is vital in preserving a region's cultural and social identity. However, there has been a gradual loss of this identity in recent years due to various factors. The de-characterization of the built heritage, particularly in the Algarve region, is becoming increasingly noticeable because of growing tourist demand and the pressure to expand urban areas rapidly. At the same time, we are facing the challenge of climate change, which means an immediate water shortage in southern Portugal. However, this scarcity can be viewed as an opportunity to upgrade traditional buildings, notably by implementing rainwater harvesting systems and documenting existing ones. These systems can alleviate water scarcity while encouraging practices that conserve and restore traditional construction methods and systems focused on resource conservation.

Considering the current global context in which climate change leads, among other factors, to decreased water scarcity, we propose a reflection on the actions of the Project to mitigate these problems. Through the reading and integration of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we suggest a study on how Architecture can mitigate, promote, or, at the very least, not worsen the current situation. In other words, how can water or its scarcity influence Project decisions? By exploring possible models, we hope to discover ways to translate them into architectural responses aimed at maximising and conserving the natural resource that is water (SDG number six). However, it is also important to connect this relationship to the region's new buildings, which are intrinsically linked to how new construction and environmental methods can foster community life in the Algarve region, as supported by SDGs seven and ten to fifteen. Therefore, it is relevant and urgent to seek ways to aid architectural evolution to value and maximise the use of

this natural resource.

Through bibliography analyse and contextualising the object of study, which focuses on traditional Algarve architecture and its historical and regional context, we plan to explore issues that can revive traditional construction methods while adapting them to new materials, techniques, and structures in the Algarve's interior. Our aim is to understand the real problems of the region and how architectural design can contribute to addressing what we now recognise as a global challenge. Its relevance is tied to promoting sustainable construction practices that can minimise the impact on the region's ecosystems, fostering architectural and environmental preservation through water as a primal concern.

Keywords

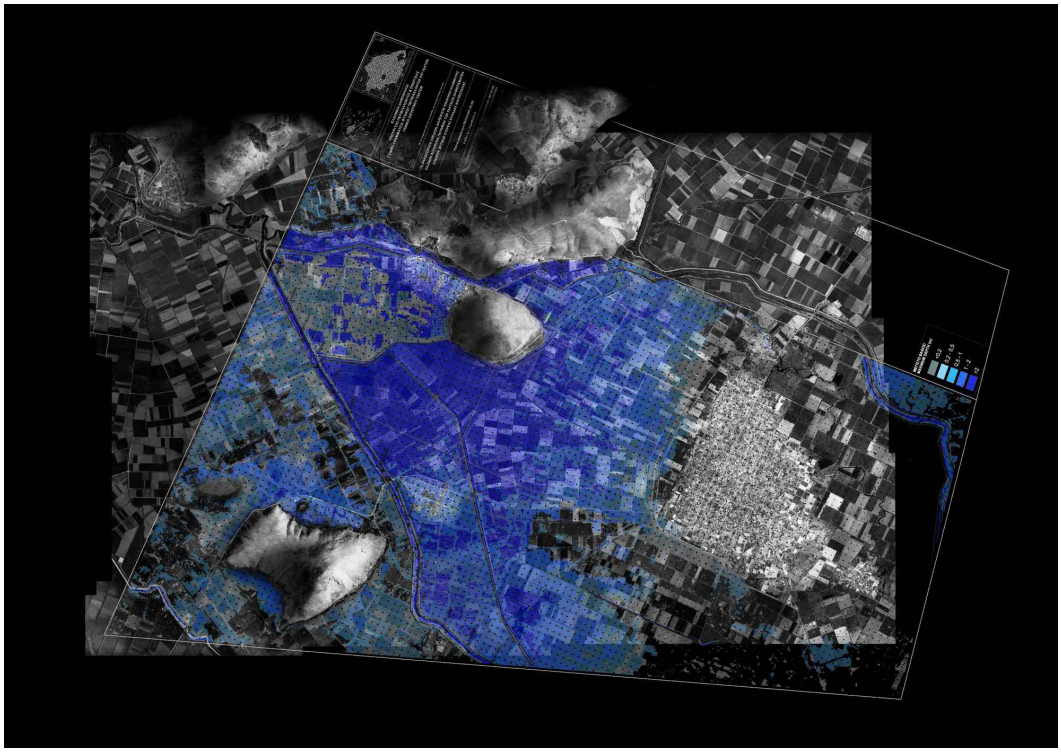
Traditional Architecture, Contemporary Architecture, Water Scarcity.

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Collage Map of the Flooding of Metamorfosi
Karditsas, Thanos Karanikas and Luk Salvador,
2024.

Flooding and Agriculture in the Age of Anthropocene. The Disaster and the Relocation of Metamorphis Palamas in the Thessalian Plain.

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During the last years, the Mediterranean region has known an increase of harsh weather phenomena with dramatic impacts on the humans. These events bring to the fore the conflictual relationship between the constructed man-made environment and the natural ecosystem in the light of global climate change. The Thessalian Plain, a large agricultural land surrounded by mountains in Central Greece that was dramatically hit by a disastrous flooding in September 2023 with severe damages on settlements, infrastructures and productive activities, shows how modern agricultural and urbanistic policies that had been implemented unconcerned of how Nature works, have altered landscapes placing rural communities at risk.

This paper aims to investigate the fragile relationship between modern urbanism, agrarian policies, and natural ecosystems in the Thessalian Plain with a focus on the history of the village of Metamorphosi that recently flooded and that will be relocated on safer zones. The first section will cover the historical evolution of the spatial organization of human settlements of the valley and their relationship with the regional topography and ecosystem from the Bronze Age since the Middle Ages. The second part will be focused on the establishment of large estates during the Ottoman Rule, the increase of agricultural land, and the repositioning of some settlements. The third part will describe the impact of XX century liberal agrarian policies in the spatial planning of the Plain, with the alteration of the ecosystem to increase agricultural productivity, and the consequences on rural communities. Finally, during the fourth part the urban organization, the complete flooding, and the policies that has been implemented by the Government for the relocation of Metamorfosis - a village that stand on an area of high risk - will be discussed.

The case-study that will be presented will highlight the interlaced problematics that concerns the attempts to face climate change. At first, the paper aims to analyzed how human interventions have transformed the Earth in the age of Anthropocene, and how they have plans may suggest a change of paradigm of future interventions. In the light of this study, the final aim is to discuss what kind of policies can be implemented to challenge environmental crisis, in particular with the question of settlement relocation.

Keywords

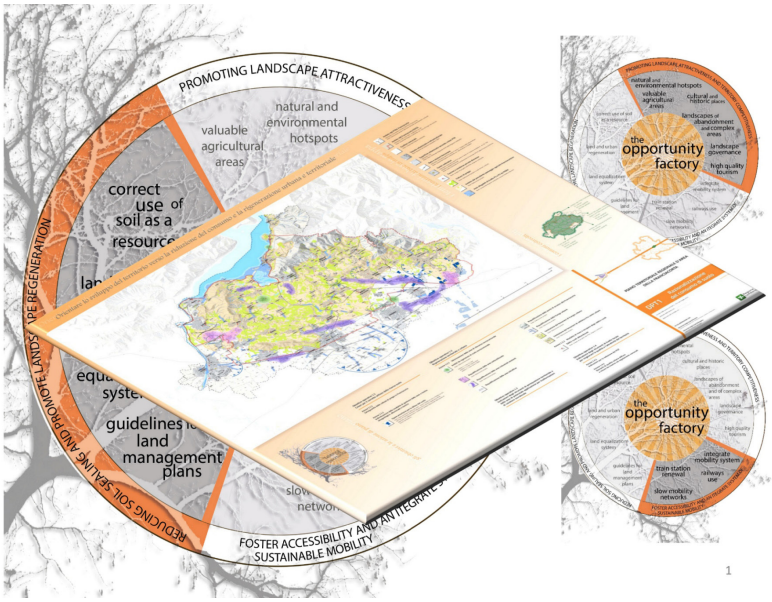
Flooding, diffuse city, relocation.

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PROMOTING LANDSCAPE ATTRACTIVENESS
natural and environmental hotspots
valuable agricultural areas
correct use of soil as a resource
guidelines land management plans
FOSTER ACCESSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY
the opportunity factory
1

Franciacorta: Brand territory and emerging geographies of living.

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The 'productive landscape' of Franciacorta (Lombardy region, Italy), represents a significant territorial promotion and landscaping experience, founded on the brand, and on the territorial image, of wine production.

For over a decade, local institutions and territorial entities have undertook a path characterized by the sharing of spatial policies, widely supported by economic actors and authorities. Lombardy Region in 2015 has launched a process of Sub-Regional Territorial Planning (with the scientific support of the Universities of Bergamo and Brescia) that involves 22 municipalities: 18 included in the DOCG (Controlled and Guaranteed Designation of Origin) Franciacorta Area and 4 neighboring municipalities. The Regional Territorial Plan of Franciacorta (PTRA) sees the participation of local institutions and socio-economic stakeholders and it represents an opportunity for multilevel planning and governance experimentation on a wide scale, as well as for critical and academic reflection.

The core objective of the Franciacorta PTRA is the promotion of landscape as a resource in terms of: (i) territorial planning: land consumption and soil sealing related landscape measures, itineraries/greenways and leisure mobility infrastructures, public and rural real estate heritage renewal, road network and access; (ii) governance: inter-municipal planning and cooperation among local institutions, common urban and building regulations, opportunities for enhancement.

The necessity to refer to a multi-scalar governance is, in the case discussed, even more crucial, in light of the specific conditions of the territory: a post-metropolitan, suburban, “in-between” area, wrapped in metropolitan dynamics but with a strong and significant identity and sense of belonging, threatened by ‘branding’ and homogenization processes.

The current Italian phase of government levels reassessment is an extraordinary opportunity to experience the potential of integrated spatial planning tools, such as the PTRA, which proposes itself as a means of connection between sectoral planning, European and national levels, and local planning ambitions. Specifically, the PTRA of Franciacorta builds on horizontal (among municipalities) and vertical (between different overlapping institutions and other stakeholders) collaborations, which made it a flexible tool, instead of being an eminently regulatory instrument (as intended by the Regional Law).

The framework outlined by this process aims therefore at capturing and enabling endogenous and exogenous opportunities, under a common landscape scenario. The challenge is being able to sustain and promote those local initiatives, which will turn planning aims into specific projects and actions.

Key features of the Franciacorta Plan

Vertical collaboration (region and municipalities)

Horizontal collaboration (local stakeholders)

Maximising the effort on specific (but vital) territorial themes

Risks and opportunities of a brand

Homogenisation vs. Multiple Identities; Commodification vs. Collaboration; Museification vs. Sustainable Tourism

Challenges in governing transformation processes

Landscape quality context attractive for tourism and life in an enclave between the dense and dynamic urban region between Milan, Brescia and Bergamo (everyday landscapes “way of life”; landscape as resources and heterogeneity; future landscape changes).

Keywords

Landscape scenarios, Multilevel governance, Post-metropolitan territories.

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Orthophoto collage at same scale of Barcelona's Besòs River ans São Paulo's Tietê River waterfronts, showcasing large highway infrastructure, extensive residual land, industrial and retail plots, segregated housing polygons and fragmented fabrics.

Confluences and contrasts in the challenges for Fluvial Urban Regeneration: a comparative analysis of the cases of São Paulo (Tietê and Pinheiros rivers) and Barcelona (Besòs river).

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This paper marks the beginning of a broader PhD research project, within a cooperation agreement between university and city council, aiming to study feasible urban regeneration strategies for fluvial neighbourhoods in Barcelona. These areas, like many worldwide, have undergone a process of environmental degradation (both ecological and urbanistic) caused by nearly two centuries of fragmented urban growth, industrialization, simplification of ecologic systems and large infrastructural projects. This resulted in largely segregated and incohesive urban fabrics, with marginalized populations, a distanced relation to the polluted river, flooding risks and uninhabited zones. Although past decades have seen efforts to restore environmental quality, significant work remains. This is relatable globally, especially post-industrial metropolises, and a topic of growing interest in academic production, government and civil initiatives.

The general objective, to be pursued further along, is to identify urban regeneration strategies in these fluvial neighbourhoods. But to do so with the right criteria, with a holistic and integrative approach without repeating errors of the past, we must first comprehend the logic and processes that shaped its current conditions. Therefore, the specific objectives are to [a] understand the historical urbanisation processes in two contrasting fluvial contexts, and [b] to find parallels and contrasts in the problems and challenges of their present physical environment. This first approach will set the foundations to the thesis, comprehending the historical and present context of two case studies: the fluvial neighbourhoods of the Tietê and Pinheiros rivers in São Paulo, and the Besòs River in Barcelona.

At first, these may seem like two completely different cities with nothing in common, both in scale and context, to justify this comparison. Still, they

share: [1] the same present problematic (metropolitan infrastructure barriers, socio-environmental degradation, and water security risks); [2] similar urbanization patterns as rapidly industrializing metropolises in the 20th century; and [3], currently, a strong collective will and growing political synergy to holistically regenerate these urban contexts over the next decades. This tendency must be encouraged, and it's an opportunity to reshape these fundamentally ecological areas, as habitable, inclusive, prosperous and resilient, for a sustainable future. Recognizing these shared challenges highlights the global relevance of such issues and suggests that regenerative strategies may be transferable across contexts.

To comprehend the historic urbanisation, the paper will try to create a clear narrative of the degradation processes in both fluvial contexts, finding confluences and divergences, with a graphical timeline and cartographic analysis. It will reference local historical bibliographies and various forms of cartographic and iconographic documentation. To compare present environmental challenges, a comparative analysis will be established through a multi-layer table analysis, with different topics to be described, and a multi--layer map analysis, for spatial or graphical-specific content.

The conclusions of this research are expected to accomplish the proposed specific objectives, in order to serve as an introductory step in this PhD thesis, setting the basis for comprehending the historical processes that produced the current realities, and to analyze the scenarios to be further diagnosed and intervened on.

Keywords

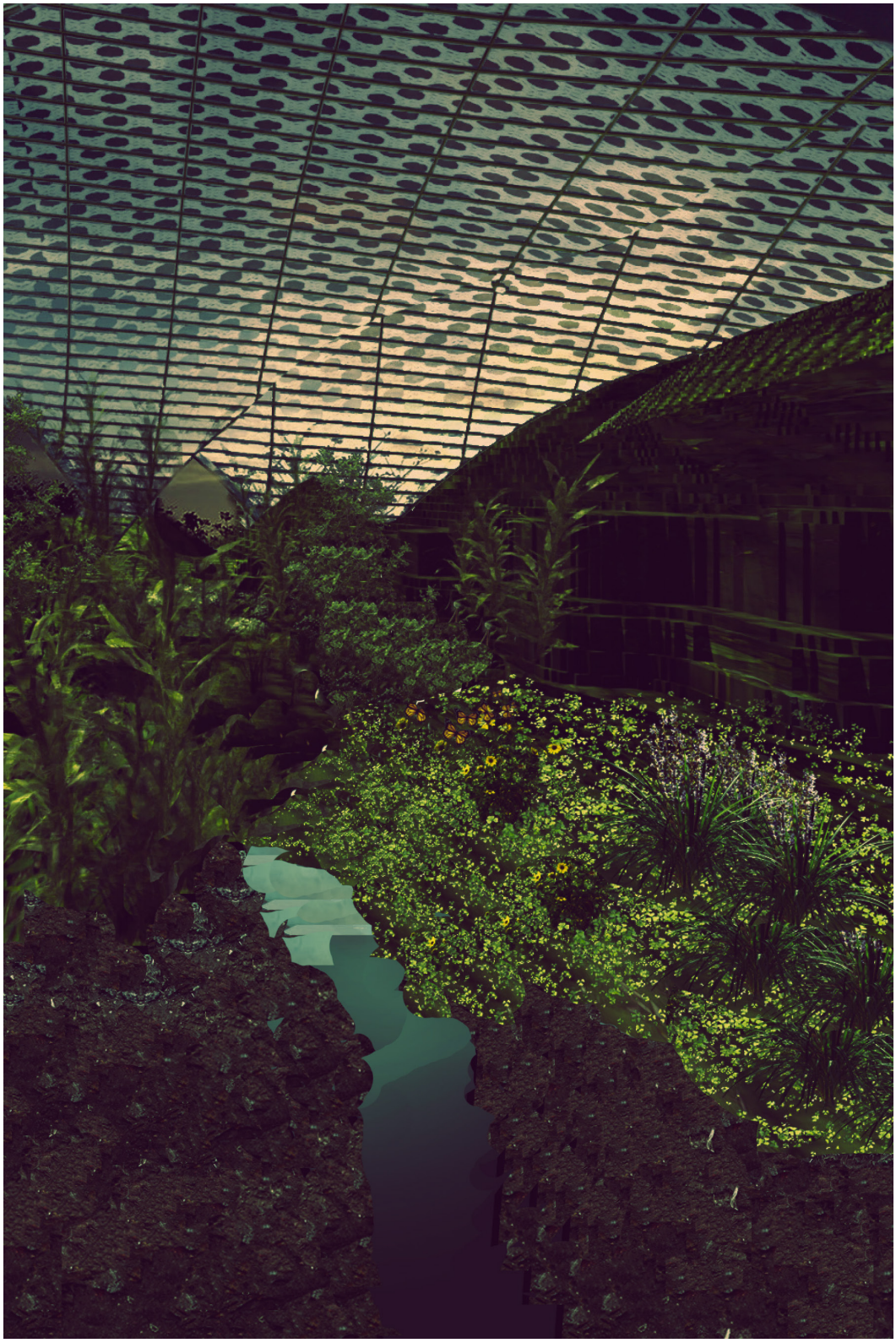
Fluvial urban landscape, urban regeneration, infrastructure integration.

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Speculations on Abandonment - Erosion and Architectural Production.

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Erosion as a constant slow process is often overlooked in the explorative field of architecture and landscape design, where it chips away edges of land and reshapes the geological objects of our ecosystem, the same erosion when operates at the scale of coastal communities, causes a larger loss of life and livelihoods when the land is lost to water. The topic explores the polemic that whether landscape can be salvaged by the process of slow sculpting and designing of land through gently curating and responding to erosion.

Landscape architect and theorist, Gilles Clement points out in his "Manifeste du Tiers Paysage" the third landscape, a desire to convert the residual and left over landscape into pockets of gardens, "a garden movement", offering an intrusive yet stimulating action for the residual spaces to form them into a new landscape, while designing with nature and not against it. In his essay, "On Nature", architectural theorist Sanford Kwinter suggests that "the abandoned parcel – delaisse' space – proceeds from the withdrawal from formerly worked and developed land. Its origins are multiple: agriculture, industrial, urban, touristic etc."

The paper explores the uncharted territories in architectural production, the abandoned sites such as eroded edges along the water bodies, rivers and urban dump sites. It aims to trace the flow of erosion as a natural process in our urban environments and explores if the processes of displacing and extracting soil can yield a productive design methodology, from the lens of geology and terraformation,while salvaging our environment. Can the production of architectural design inculcate the landscape as surface generated through hybridization of natural landforms juxtaposed next to artificial landforms? Where does the boundary for architectural sites begin on an eroded edge? What is the design of the new "nature" for the eroded and extracted

land, and can it carve an architectural enclosure as a by-product? The paper explores these polemics through the lens of case studies and qualitative speculations on existing territories.

The topic investigates a larger dimension of architectural design in the form of the lens of geological processes equated with time and proposes to see architectural design in the post Anthropocene era, at an intersection of scientific research and design, framed as a depositional by product of not just the physical and sociocultural context, but also a geological context. It aims to trace the method of architectural research from a post-human perspective, from the perspective of nature in a non- archaic lens, as a dynamic systematic ecological process that acts in simultaneity to the architectural production in the post anthropocene era.

Proposed research paper advocates to put anthropogenic activities and geological research as an exchangeable conversation that we as architects and practitioners need to become aware of during this challenging century of climate change and its impact on the planet earth.This research proposes a deeper integration of geological context into architectural practice, promoting designs that acknowledge the continuous, evolving interaction between erosion, natural systems, and human habitation in the post-Anthropocene era.

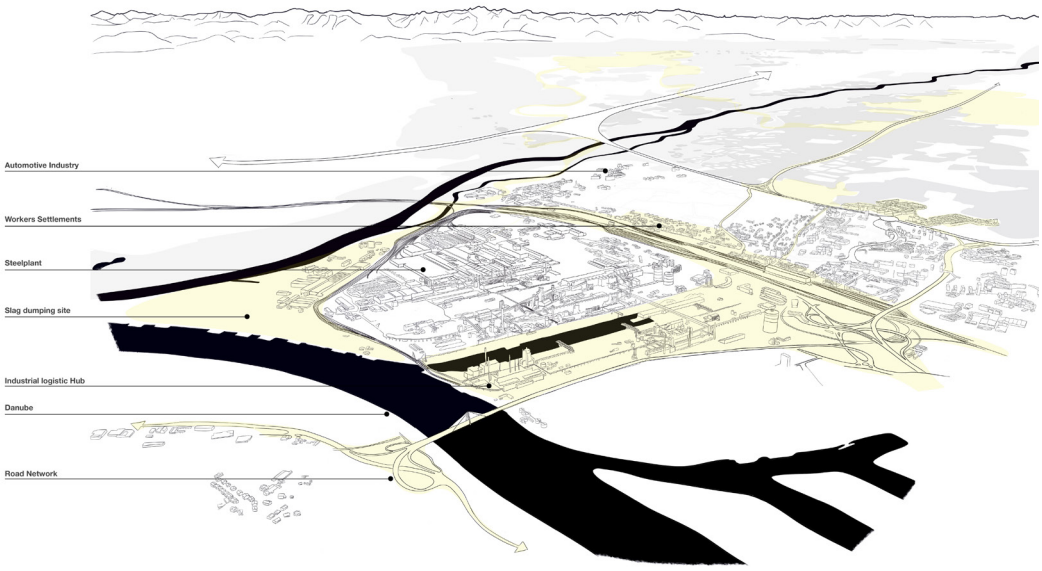
Keywords

Erosion, Post Anthropocene, Landscape Design.

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Steelscapes of making, living and learning.
Image by the Author (2025)

Re-thinking Steelscapes – A Cross-Systemic Urban Design Approach towards a Sustainable Circular Society for the Metropolitan Region of Linz.

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The steel industry is both a crucial economic sector and a major contributor to the climate crisis. In Linz, located in the Austrian province of Upper Austria, the steel factory of Voestalpine plays a key role in the national, regional and local economy while being the country's largest CO_2 emitter. As the company aims to transition to greener production methods by 2050 align with the European Green Deal ambitions, this transformation presents future challenges and opportunities for urban and regional development of the Metropolitan Region.

Existing research on Circular Economy principles in the steel industry often prioritises technological aspects such as material flows while overlooking societal dynamics and their spatial implications. In Austria, urban sprawl and fragmented development have historically been linked to growth-driven planning models, as seen in the Metropolitan Region of Linz. In the region, peri-urban areas serve multiple functions including housing, agriculture, and industrial production. These territories face significant pressures such as environmental degradation, land scarcity, and traffic congestion.

This research addresses the gap in Circularity theories by examining how industrial transformations in the steel sector can act as catalysts for shifts towards a Circular Society. It explores the spatial and programmatic organisation of urban and peri-urban areas, emphasising alternative, interdisciplinary planning strategies that integrate economic, environmental, and social needs. By analysing past urban development patterns and projecting future potentials, the research proposes regenerative spatial strategies and urban design solutions that promote sustainability and resilience in the Linz Metropolitan Region.

Through a research and design approach, the project critically challen-

ges conventional planning paradigms by testing radical alternatives to existing urban and regional development practices. The findings aim to provide professional-level insights and actionable strategies for policymakers, urban planners, and industry stakeholders, fostering a transition towards a more sustainable and inclusive future.

Keywords

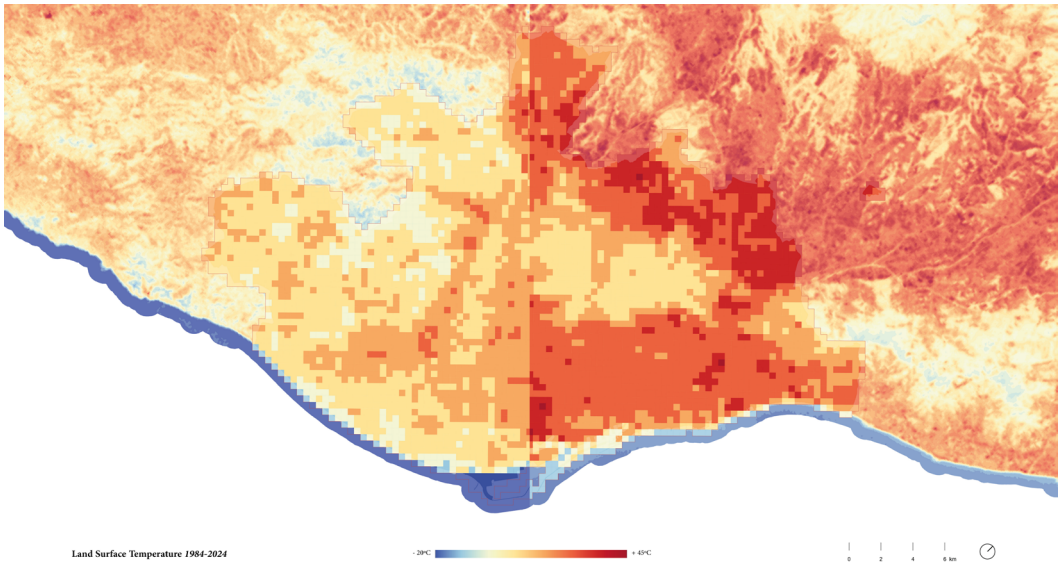
Steelscapes, Circular Society, Regenerative Territories.

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Land Surface Temperature 1984-2024
- 20°C
+ 45°C
0
2
4
6 km

Mapping Heat Exposure: A Framework for Selecting Case Studies Based on LST Analysis.

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One of the most significant urban challenges is tackling the effects of urban overheating as a consequence of the climate crisis that has led to considerable concern due to its impact human health. By 2050, 70% of the world's populations will live in cities, intensifying climate-related risks such as extreme heat. This issue is exacerbated in urbanised regions by a phenomenon known as the Heat Island Effect (UHI). This phenomenon can cause temperatures to rise by up to 10°C, thereby amplifying the effects of heat waves and extreme heat events, particularly in dense urban environments.

Currently, heat vulnerability assessment primarily focuses on sociodemographic and economic aspects. However, these assessments often focus on residential buildings, neglecting critical factors in public and open spaces. Additionally, while Land Surface Temperature (LST) analysis has become increasingly prevalent in identifying vulnerable areas, most studies are static, analyzing a single point in time without capturing spatial trends over the years. Furthermore, they focus on identifying vulnerable areas rather than proposing actionable strategies for adaptation.

This research addresses a critical gap in existing literature by conducting a 40-year diachronic analysis of LST trends in the Barcelona's Metropolitan Area. The study aims to (1) identify long-term spatial patterns of LST and (2) detect representative and contrasting case study areas to analyse in depth their adaptive capacity.

Unlike existing studies, which have concentrated primarily on residential areas, this research prioritises open public spaces, acknowledging their crucial role in urban adaptation. By integrating long-term LST trends with a focus on public space, this study advances existing frameworks and offers a novel perspective on urban heat vulnerability, emphasising adaptive capa-

city as a core aspect of resilience-building.

The research employs a diachronic study of LST from 1984 to 2024 at five--year intervals, using satellite imagery captured during the summer months when heat effects are most pronounced.

This has been accomplished using geographical information systems (GIS), which have become powerful tools for characterisation and diagnosis at the city scale. A single image from the selected period (July-August) has been selected and analysed, with a cloud cover of less than 10% in the area studied. Data has been derived from the thermal Band Collection 2 Level 2 data of NASA's Landsat missions (Landsat 5 to Landsat 9).

This methodology allows for identifying distinct LST spatial patterns over time, supporting the selection of representative case studies for further analysis. By focusing on open public spaces, the study considers how urban environments respond to long-term temperature changes and explores factors influencing adaptive capacity.

Future research will build on this analysis by examining case studies in greater depth to understand their specific characteristics and potential for adaptation. A place-based methodology will be developed to link geospatial knowledge with local urban conditions, providing a framework for evaluating adaptation strategies in public spaces.

This study aims to improve the understanding of urban adaptation and resilience by offering a comprehensive methodology, shifting from static vulnerability assessments to dynamic adaptation strategies for more effective urban climate solutions.

Keywords

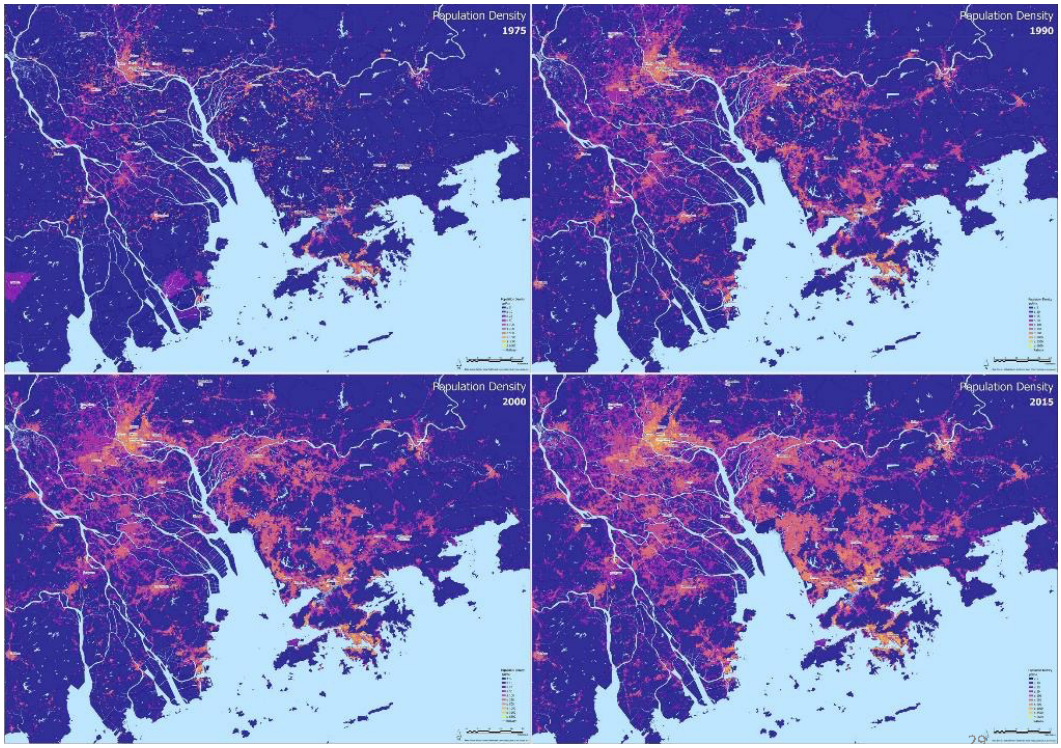
Land Surface Temperature (LST), Adaptive Capacity, Urban Resilience.

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Population Density
1975
Population Density
1990
Population Density
2000
Population Density
2015

Projecting Practice Values in Ecological Governance of Complex Mega-Regions: The Case of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

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The projection of regional development trends is influenced by high urbanization rates and the economic efficiency inherent in large urban areas, trends that are likely to endure in the near future. Simultaneously, the impacts of climate variability and erratic hydrological cycles have intensified over the past two decades, presenting increasing challenges for regional and ecological governance. The Hong Kong and Shenzhen region faces heightened vulnerability in its future development projections, contending with critical risks due to its ecologically sensitive areas amidst rapid and intensive urbanization. A vital coastal ecosystem along the Shenzhen-Hong Kong border, the mangrove wetland, is under significant stress from the competing demands of urban expansion and ecological conservation. This study applies collaborative governance theory and the Social-Ecological System (SES) framework to explore governance mechanisms involving governments, social organizations, and stakeholders in ecological restoration efforts. Through case analyses, it reveals systemic issues within the current governance framework, such as fragmented interdepartmental coordination, limited public participation channels, and conflicts between corporate interests and ecological objectives. Additionally, the study emphasizes Shenzhen's practical experiences, including cross-border pollution control collaboration with Hong Kong, conservation initiatives led by the Mangrove Wetland Conservation Foundation, and corporate-driven conservation actions through corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs. These findings lay a foundation for testing and refining the "government-led, multi-stakeholder co-governance" model, which could inform ecological governance practices in global mega-regions. By institutionalizing essential stakeholder agreements as foundational elements of governance, this approach addresses both immediate

and cumulative challenges while enhancing the value of natural ecosystems across local to regional scales. Ultimately, it advances informed strategies for environmental management in mega-regions.

Keywords

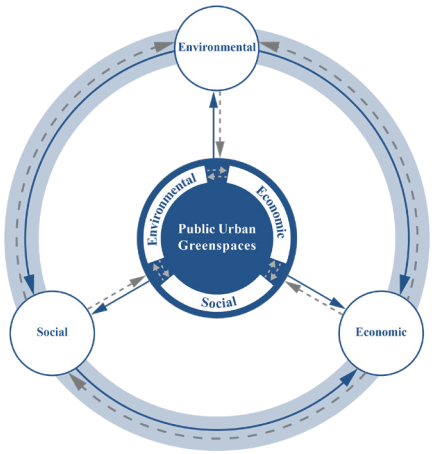
Ecological governance, the Greater bay area, collaborative governance.

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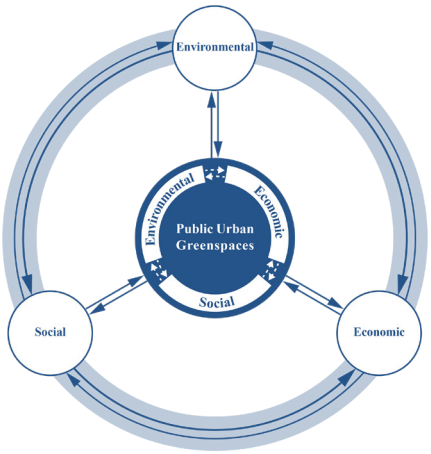
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Existing interpretation of relationships and transitions between environmental, social, and economic components of sustainable public urban greenspaces.



Anticipated interpretation of relationships and transitions between environmental, social, and economic components of sustainable public urban greenspaces in this study.

Management and operation of greenspaces in high-density cities: A crowd density-based classification optimization.

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In high-density cities, the management and operation of greenspaces are essential for enhancing ecosystem benefits and improving the quality of life for residents. As most cities in China transit towards stock-based urbanization and experience a deceleration in land finance, greenspaces encounter significant challenges, including constrained governmental budgets, varied functional requirements, and deteriorated service facilities. The current classification system for urban greenspaces in China is mainly based on scale, function, and location, which inadequately reflects the dynamic spatiotemporal patterns of greenspace utilization and public requirements. This research integrates mobile signaling data to analyze the intensity and spatiotemporal patterns of greenspace usage in Shenzhen while examining their associations with accessibility, land use, and crowd distribution. The findings are used to develop a dynamic classification optimization framework for greenspaces, which categorizes them into two primary types: operation-oriented and conservation-oriented. Preliminary differentiated management and operational strategies are proposed for each category. This study establishes a scientific foundation for the optimization of China's urban greenspace classification system. It introduces new perspectives for the sustainable management of greenspaces in high-density urban areas, providing both theoretical support and practical references for improving the efficiency and functionality of urban greenspaces.

Keywords

Urban greenspaces; Greenspace management and operation; High-density cities; Greenspace classification.

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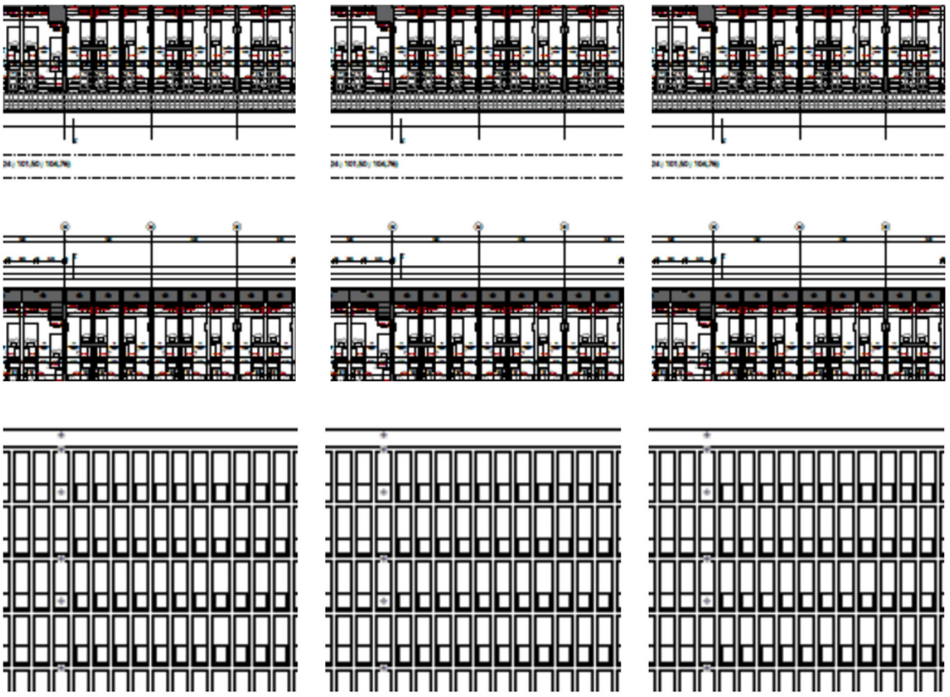


Image based on a project by Saraiva+Associados and Alexandre Marques Pereira

Social Sustainability in University Student Accommodation, in Portugal.

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Difficulties in accessing student housing, due to its scarcity and high prices, are widely recognized and particularly felt by university students and their families, in Portugal.

To counter this situation and with the aim of doubling the existing number of beds, the Portuguese Government has implemented the National Plan for Student Accommodation (PNAES – 2018/2030), funded by the Recovery and Resilience Plan (PRR).

In this context, Ordinance No. 35-A/2022, dated 14/01, was published, which "Approves the technical standards defining the installation and operating conditions that student accommodations in higher education must comply with, focusing on accommodation units, increasing comfort levels, and energy savings.

These aspects, along with the PNAES funding model per bed (maximizing the number of beds at minimal cost), may have led to a greater emphasis on economic and environmental sustainability, potentially neglecting social sustainability to the same degree.

Moreover, international authors have noted a growing trend toward increased user privacy at the expense of socialization. If massively adopted (Bramley, G., & Power, S., 2009), these solutions comprising identical and minimally sized accommodation units could inhibit students from using common areas, leading to a tendency to remain in their private units, which negatively impacts interpersonal relationships and inclusion.

McCartney, S., & Rosenvasser, X. (2022) conducted studies on privacy and socialization in university student accommodation, describing how investment trends in the USA and Canada have responded to increased student demand for privacy. Their findings indicate that design models are increa-

singly incorporating more private spaces per student, yet there is growing awareness of the repercussions of these new paradigms, given that socialization is positively associated with engagement, inclusion, and better academic performance.

These authors developed a methodology that enables spatial analysis of how built environment agents can create different perceptions of privacy, crowding, isolation, and socialization in university student housing.

This study fosters reflection by evaluating the relationship between private and social spaces within the design outcomes resulting from the National Plan for Higher Education Student Accommodation (PNAES).

The research is based on:

a) Surveying and analyzing new building construction projects, particularly the relationship between private and communal spaces;

b) Analyzing Ordinance No. 35-A/2022, dated 14/01, which defines technical recommendations for these spaces, and identifying criteria for assessing social sustainability;

c) Examining design solutions concerning social sustainability criteria and identifying trends and patterns.

The study aims to assess the adequacy of new building projects in promoting better levels of social sustainability in university student accommodation in Portugal.

Keywords

University student accommodation, design, social sustainability.

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Mapping Lisbon's Liquid Framework - A Research by Design Cartography.

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The United Nations reports estimates two thirds of the world population will be living in cities by 2050 while prospecting water scarcity and flood risk in specific world regions, including Lisbon and Mediterranean context.

In the face of accelerating urbanization emerges the need to adapt to a urban water model that accompanies the emerging redefinition of the scarcity value of this natural resource.

The formal articulation between the urban form system and the freshwater infrastructural and landscape system in the built environment is a fundamental design premise. How can architectural discourse propose new design premises or urban typologies that may contribute to building a more sustainable water model? How can a multidisciplinar problem be translated into architectural lexicon?

The 'Antropocene' concept took root in the wider debate and problematization of planetary urbanization (Brenner & Schimdt, 2011), proposing to suceed to the Holocene geological epoch where agriculture and architecture started to give shape to civilization and urbanization by human progressive domination of water productive potencial and territorial flows. Wether or not may have resulted adequate, in Stratigraphy scientific terms, to call the current geological epoch as irreversibly human shaped, there is an undeniable palimpsest in long term urbanized territories where water architectures and infrastructures shape cities, urban contexts and, thus, natural dynamics. A cartographic argument exists on the territory, to be mapped. From the Fertile Crescent's Nile to Rome aqueducts to Haussmann sewers to today, the history of urban form and architectural typologies is linked to the cultural and technological handling of the water resource; providing also an spatial explanation for most current urban water unbalances (for example, Valencia

flooding in 2024).

Following a 'research by design' methodology, this study aims to look for an underlying 'liquid framework' in Lisbon's built environment, beyond conventional architecture scope, intersecting landscape and infrastructure (Ghandy, 2014). Situating the question in a complex multidisciplinar debate, this work aims to develop a methodological essay to map the debate in cartographic discourse, bringing together layers of geology, hydrology, technology, urban form, among others, while looking for formulating new perspectives that can foster new epistemologies, informing architectural practice and theory in optimized ways to integrate water. The study is situated in Avenida Infante Santo, a secondary Lisbon valley deeply urbanized through different time frames.

The integrated reading of urban form in terms of inherent freshwater systems through a proposed interpretative model - liquid framework - constitutes a conceptual tool to promote multidisciplinary knowledge anchored in architectural thinking, capable of evaluating an existing urban context and informing new design and planning premises aligned with the emerging redefinition of the planetary scarcity value of the freshwater resource.

Keywords

Urban water; planetary urbanization; Lisbon.

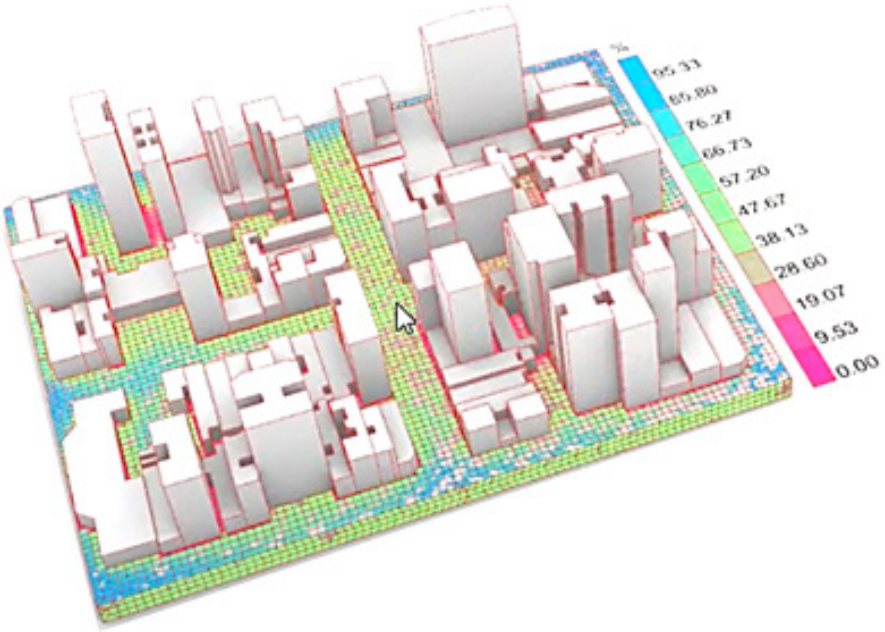
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Sky View Simulation Model for Adaptive Master Plan. Source: Author.

Adaptive Master Plans: Integrating Urban Performance, Governance, and Regenerative Planning.

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Contemporary challenges, such as climate change, unplanned urbanization, and social inequalities, require innovative approaches in urban planning. This study introduces a methodology based on Adaptive Master Plans, as discussed in the literature on artificial intelligence and urban planning (AS; TALWAR; BASU, 2022). Recognizing the dynamic nature of cities, it integrates data, parametric simulations, and adaptive processes to shape flexible urban interventions. Governance is highlighted as a key element for enabling collaborative decisions aligned with social and environmental demands, reflecting principles of responsive and dynamic cities (GOLDSMITH; CRAWFORD, 2014).

The proposed model was applied to Belo Horizonte, utilizing advanced computational tools and georeferenced data from the BHMaps platform. Parametric simulations in Grasshopper, using the Ladybug and Urbano plugins, assessed urban performance based on criteria like environmental regeneration and energy efficiency. This aligns with the need to analyze urban performance and the interplay between urban form and systems, essential for integrated urban planning (GRAS; BURKE, 2024). The process fostered stakeholder interaction, underscoring governance's role in adaptive planning, consistent with the idea that smart cities should enhance social participation and quality of life (AS; TALWAR; BASU, 2022).

Key urban variables addressed included the potential for green area expansion, rainwater harvesting, and photovoltaic energy generation in highly dense areas. Simulations demonstrated how regenerative strategies can mitigate environmental impacts, such as urban heat islands and flooding, while improving urban sustainability and quality of life. The model also assessed density scenarios, identifying limits and opportunities for land use,

and aligning planning decisions with governance principles. These principles emphasize innovative technologies and strategies to enhance quality of life, promote social inclusion, and create efficient urban environments.

Adaptive Master Plans emphasize flexibility and responsiveness to change over time. Governance ensures the process remains collaborative and inclusive, integrating real-time data and simulations to enable continuous planning adjustments. This approach combines technology and governance, fostering sustainable decisions that reflect local needs while strengthening dialogue among managers, communities, and experts. Flexibility and adaptability are central to this urban planning framework.

The study demonstrates that computational methods for urban design enable efficient analysis, generation, and optimization stages while maintaining transparency and inclusivity for stakeholders. Results indicate that combining parametric tools, governance, and regenerative methodologies transforms urban planning into a dynamic, iterative process.

This work contributes to the theoretical and practical discourse on urban planning by presenting a concrete example of how Adaptive Master Plans integrate technological innovation and governance to address contemporary challenges. The proposed methodology serves as a reference for other cities, highlighting the importance of flexible and sustainable urban decisions with high design variability and transparent decision-making processes.

Keywords

Adaptive Master Plans, Urban Performance, Regenerative Cities.

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Public Connectivity. Strategies for buildings reuse as urban joints.

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The possibilities of reusing hitherto subsidiary private built elements as urban articulations to create new public space connections may be of interest in the contemporary processes of transformation and adaptation of the 21st century city. In other words, the process of reuse emerges as a fundamental manifestation of sustainability and circularity in the practice of architectural and urban design, transforming useless and obsolete structures into dynamic, multifunctional and integrated spaces that strengthen the connectivity between private space and the public city.

The theme focuses on the value of the urban scale in the architectural artefact, seeking to decode how certain buildings, or built ensembles, which often belong to the private domain, develop spatial or systemic strategies that emerge as new public connections or for public use. The aim is to build a theoretical framework of solutions using paradigmatic cases in different geographical contexts: in Lisbon the wealth of vertical transition solutions found in the built fabric; in Yokohama the ability to adapt the infrastructure interstice into spaces for cultural and social enjoyment; in New York the reuse of the infrastructure as a linear park that connects different urban fragments; at King's Cross in London the transformation of an 'industrial railway yard' into a centre for mixed uses and sustainable mobility; among others. In these recombined urban landscapes, the porous nature of the obsolete built fabric - former convents, markets, common buildings, industrial and railway structures - becomes a potential source of social integration and urban mobility, transformed into systems of public fruition.

Methodologically, the study seeks to establish a reconstructive and morphological analysis of each case under study, organised according to six specific criteria: (1) mixed-use corridors, (2) urban walkways and paths, (3)

vertical and multi-level connectivity, (4) integration with public transport, (5) flexible public spaces, (6) sustainability and green structure. Each criterion corresponds to a diverse reading of the theme, characterised by a series of drawings and photographs that allow a clear reading of the evolution or transformation process.

By combining mobility, heritage and sustainability, each of the proposed cases show that unused buildings can be reinvented to connect people, cultures and circular economies, as well as contribute to reduce the carbon footprint. In this way, it is thought that the study could help raise awareness to the importance of integrating the past into an idea of the future, influence by present issues, allowing for the creation of more resilient and adaptable cities.

Keywords

Public connectivity, buildings reused, urban joints.

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Post-airport urbanism: A comparative study on the planning infill and landscape transformation of Taipei's disused north and south wartime airfields.

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In this research of post-airport urbanism, "post-" carries multiple meanings: it refers both to the period after the physical closure of the airports and to the changes in the relationship between the airports and its adjacent environments. It also pertains to the phenomenon where neighborhoods that once viewed the airport as an undesirable facility are subsequently integrated into the airport's hub-centered development, evolving into the once-peripheral development zones of an "aerotropolis." The substance of post-airport urbanism is contingent upon the adaptive reuse of the large tract of airport land itself, yet the transformation of its immediate neighborhoods and the collective memory of the airport may also trigger the post-airport spatial evolution and redefine the spatial legacy of the airport.

Taipei's North and South Wartime Airfields were abandoned after World War II and transformed into two types of housing clusters signifying modernist planning. Since the 1960s, the major part of the South Airfield (or South Airport, Nan-Ji-Chang) was made over into a big urban park while a greater expansion of the adjacent landscape was built up into a series of high-density resettlement and public housing. The social degeneration of the housing compound followed the spatial decline after half a century, the South Airport neighborhoods became stigmatized due to their informalized conditions while bottom-up tactical/everyday urbanism and community empowerment projects thrived within the their marginal urban fabrics.

Comparatively, the third runway of the North Airfield was gradually filled in with military-dependents villages of various scales, and its vast adjoining land at the north became the first master-planned Min-Sheng Community with modern public facilities and green infrastructure connecting neighborhood parks and green alleyways amongst walkup flats. These two post-

-airport planning paradigms shaped different urban forms and the urban life therein. Though disarticulated from the physical contexts of the airfields, the vestige of military culture is traceable from the modern-day urban form.

This research employs the "case study" method to analyze and interpret the transformation of post-airport urban spaces and their impact on the overall urban environment through historical documents, maps, and related discourses; and explores the processes and structural causes of the landscape transformation of the two airfields and their contiguous environments after their closures. The dynamics of post-airport spaces not only involve the adjustment of land use for the decommissioned airport itself but also encompass the transformation of related infrastructure sites, such as runways, taxiways, and hangars. By comparing with the regeneration mechanisms of other shutdown airports all over the world, it also delves into the contention of urban meanings and the political wrestling for the release of substantial open spaces, and further reflects on the practical experiences of different urban design theories implemented in Taipei's post-airport spaces.

Keywords

Post-airport urbanism; new urbanism; landscape urbanism; landscape transformation; informal urbanism.

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MEDEA Carloforte Tuna Fishing Station
Medea Pavilion
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with:
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MEDiterranean Ecological Adaptation. Strategies for urban and landscape regeneration.

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In a 1969 film reinterpreting Euripides' tragedy, Pier Paolo Pasolini describes Medea as torn apart by the unresolved relationship between the past and the present, which in her experience, coincide with two different lands and two different stages of civilization. Medea is a combative woman who teaches self-determination. The landscape for the film's setting is a Mediterranean landscape, transfigured into an imaginary but possible geography. "The Mediterranean is a constant merging of the past and the present time … an endless concert freely performed in two voices…to have been is still a condition for being" (Braudel, 1997). A palimpsest of landscape exaptation that adapts to new conditions of living and continually sublimates into new landscapes as the expression of a metabolic resilience that increases their value instead of depressing it. Landscapes that continuously transform and are constantly able to produce beauty, happiness and a sense of belonging through the layering and interweaving of narratives, environmental performance and social actions. A living field of experimentation in ecological adaptation to environmental, social, economic and cultural challenges. A manual on how to design the landscape but also on how to create and develop civilisation. The MEDEA Sapienza Large Research focuses on Mediterranean Ecological Adaptation strategies and investigates sustainable development scenarios in relation to major climate and social changes, through the evaluation of sustainable physical transformations in specific and sensitive fragile habitats to produce contemporary and adaptive common spaces.

The MEDEA Research originates from the scientific results of the research "Le Vie del Mediterraneo MedWays" (2019-2022), awarded by the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei and coordinated by Mosè Ricci for the Beniamino Segre Interdisciplinary Lyncean Center, which involved 86 Mediterranean Ways and 170 international scholars from different countries, and now aims to develop urban, architectural and landscape devices capable of addressing climate change, sustainability and green contemporary goals.

Keywords

Climate change. Sustainability. Ecological adaptation

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Harnessing Tide and Heritage: Sustainable Futures for the Waterland of Seixal, Portugal.

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The estuarine landscapes of the Tagus River, particularly the waterland of Seixal, present a unique opportunity to rethink energy production and territorial management within the framework of sustainability and resilience. Historically, tidal mills and other hydraulic structures exemplified the intelligent use of renewable energy, leveraging the inexhaustible power of tides. These systems stand in stark contrast to the environmentally detrimental production models ushered in by the advent of coal and steam power during industrialization. Today, these historical solutions offer a pathway to cleaner energy practices, demonstrating the potential of integrating traditional knowledge with contemporary technological advancements.

The Seixal waterfront, marked by its striking interplay of rivers, tidal movements, and ecological reserves, exemplifies a landscape where urban and natural elements coexist. This area is not only home to patrimonial structures like tidal mills and recreational estates but also retains pine forests and National Ecological Reserve areas, providing a delicate balance to urbanization pressures. To address modern challenges such as rising sea levels, the Seixal waterfront can pioneer adaptive spatial planning that utilizes tidal dynamics, fosters permeable zones to mitigate flooding, and promotes biodiversity.

By integrating heritage assets with dynamic water systems, Seixal can combat estuarine siltation, enhance navigability, and reduce dredging costs. Moreover, these landscapes hold immense potential for contemporary uses, including recreation and leisure. This dual approach—preserving ecological and cultural heritage while innovating for modern needs—underscores the necessity of treating water as a structuring element in territorial planning.

The safeguarding of tidal mills and their surrounding sapal (marshes)

requires an integrated approach that values both built and natural heritage. Equally crucial is the recognition of intangible heritage, such as the technical expertise and historical knowledge inherent to these systems. By bridging past ingenuity with future-oriented practices, the waterland of Seixal can serve as a model for sustainable urban-rural interfaces, contributing to the global dialogue on resilient and circular landscapes.

This poster aims to raise awareness about the immense value of tidal mills, emblematic elements of Portuguese landscapes that are often overlooked and undervalued. By highlighting their historical, ecological, and functional significance, we aim to inspire greater appreciation and action towards their preservation and integration into future-oriented, sustainable landscapes.

Keywords

Tidal Mills, Sustainable Landscapes, Cultural Heritage.

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Aerial view of a fragment of the A5 Highway and logistics platforms polarization at Lisbon Metropolitan Region, Google Earth, 2025

Balancing Growth and Sustainability: The Role of Logistics Infrastructure in Lisbon's Urban Evolution.

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This paper investigates the transformative impact of logistics platforms and freight transport systems on the urban development of the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (LMA), underlining their significant roles in reshaping spatial configurations, economic dynamics, and urban governance. Historically, Lisbon has effectively utilized its strategic geographic location, functioning initially as a vital maritime gateway and trade hub. Over centuries, the city has progressively adapted its infrastructural framework to meet the evolving demands of global commerce, culminating in its contemporary status as a critical node within global and European logistics networks. This transition is emblematic of broader global trends where urban areas are increasingly becoming focal points of logistical activity, driven by globalization, digital transformation, and the rapid growth of e-commerce.

In recent decades, Lisbon's logistics landscape has experienced remarkable expansion, characterized by the proliferation of multimodal logistics hubs strategically positioned near major transportation nodes such as the Port of Lisbon and Lisbon Airport and near major motorways such as A1 or A5 motorways. These developments have markedly influenced the metropolitan region's spatial organization, contributing to the fragmentation and suburban expansion of urban territories. Consequently, logistics platforms have become a catalyst for infrastructure-led urbanization, which promotes sprawling development patterns and engenders complex socio-economic dynamics, including spatial inequalities and socio-economic polarization.

Environmental concerns associated with the growth of logistics infrastructure, particularly air pollution, traffic congestion, and increased greenhouse gas emissions, accentuate the critical tension between economic development imperatives and the necessity for sustainable urban living. As

freight transport activities intensify, there is a growing awareness of their detrimental environmental impacts, necessitating urgent interventions aimed at fostering sustainability. These concerns have propelled discussions around green logistics practices, which seek to reduce ecological footprints through optimized route planning, the use of alternative fuel vehicles, and enhanced intermodal transport solutions (McKinnon, Browne, & Whiteing, 2015).

Furthermore, this study addresses the intricate governance challenges arising from the logistics-induced decentralization of urban functions. As logistics platforms typically occupy large areas on urban fringes, the coordination between multiple municipal, regional, and national authorities becomes increasingly vital. This complexity underscores the importance of regional coordination in urban governance, which is essential for effectively managing the broader spatial and environmental repercussions of logistics activities. Such governance models must also address spatial justice concerns, ensuring that the development of logistics infrastructure does not exacerbate existing socio-spatial inequalities. Emphasizing spatial justice involves equitable distribution of resources and opportunities across urban territories, particularly in communities adjacent to major logistics hubs (Soja, 2010).

Through a comprehensive historical analysis, critical evaluation of contemporary logistics trends, and a thorough review of existing policy frameworks, this research identifies essential strategies to reconcile economic competitiveness with sustainable urban growth. These strategies include the densification of logistics activities within established industrial areas, thus reducing the spatial footprint of new developments. Additionally, integrating logistics platforms into mixed-use urban developments could significantly diminish travel distances for workers and goods, fostering more sustainable and efficient land use patterns.

Keywords

Logistics platforms, freight transport systems, Lisbon Metropolitan Area.

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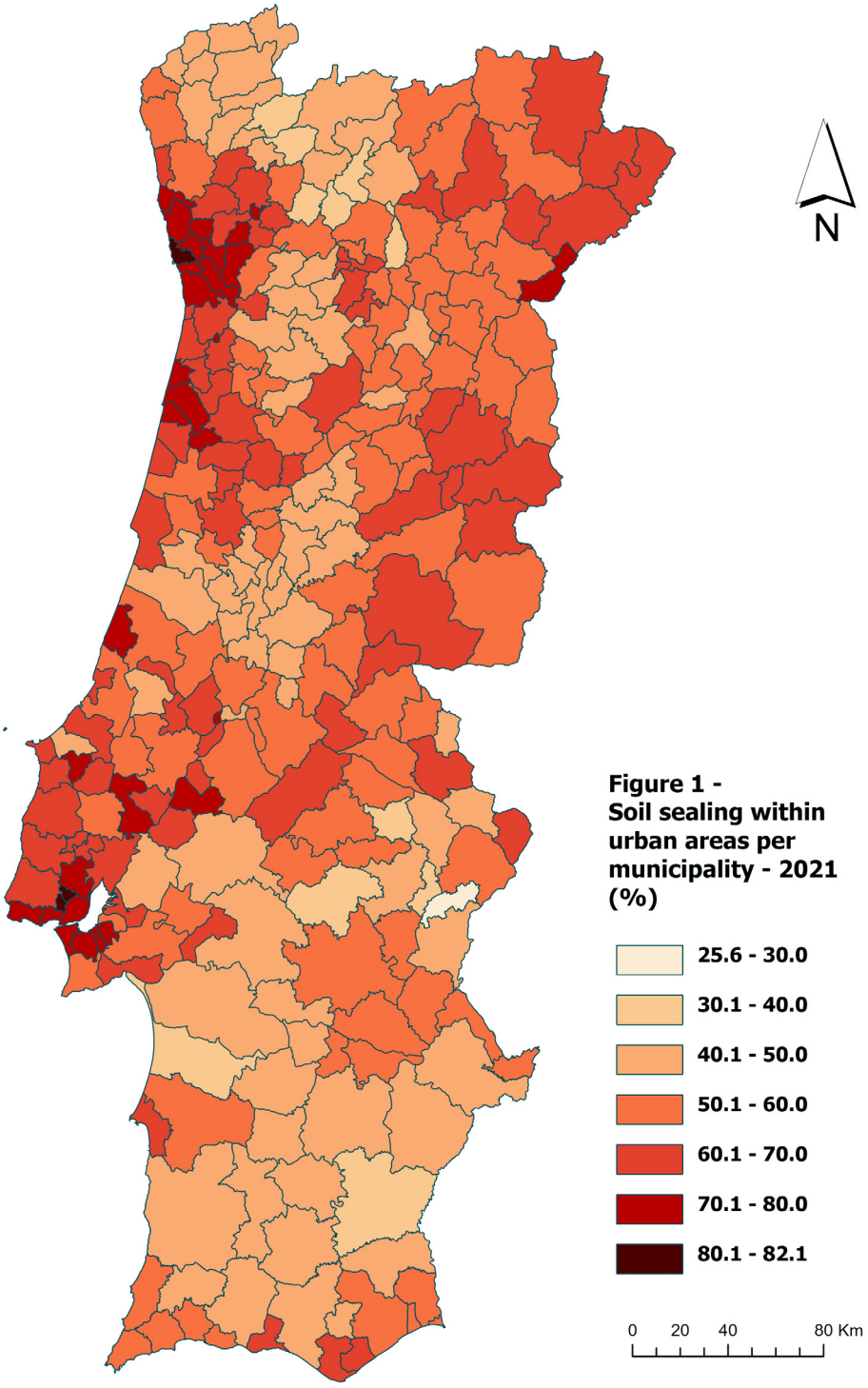


Figure 1 - Soil sealing within urban areas per municipality - 2021 (%)

Enhancing local planning policies and practices to curb soil sealing - The UnSealingCities project.

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This presentation frames the goal of curbing soil sealing within European and Portuguese policies and guidelines and presents some of the UnSealingCities project's goals and achievements.

Healthy soils are essential for addressing the challenges posed by the European Green Deal. The EU has launched various initiatives to protect and restore soil, including the establishment of the 'No Net Land Take by 2050' target, the dissemination of guidelines to limit soil sealing and mitigate its effects, the EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (European Commission, 2021), a proposal for a Soil Monitoring Law, the mission 'A Soil Deal for Europe', and the Nature Restoration Law.

In Portugal, until 2024, the most relevant policies and guidelines safeguarding soil were the Law on Public Policy on Soil, Land-use Planning and Urban Planning, the National Programme of Spatial Planning Policies, some specific planning instruments that value soil as a natural resource which are integrated as administrative easements and public utility restrictions in Municipal Master Plans, like the National Agricultural Reserve, the National Ecological Reserve, the Forestry Regime, and the National System of Classified Areas, the legal framework for spatial planning instruments, the criteria for classifying and reclassifying soil and the constraints and regulations of the municipal spatial planning Instruments (Municipal Master Plans, Urban Zoning Plans and Detailed Plans).

In 2024, two new laws changed the exceptional status of reclassifying rural land into urban land, which had been in place since 2014, by authorising the development of housing and industrial or logistics hubs on rural land. As such, Portugal's legal framework for soil protection has recently suffered a setback compared to most European countries, where regulations

on soil sealing are becoming increasingly stringent.

Soil sealing impairs the functions and services the soil delivers (Naumann et al., 2018; Tóth et al., 2022) and is, therefore, one of the main causes of soil degradation. Its prevalence is higher in cities because it is mainly driven by urban development and infrastructure construction.

The UnSealingCities project aims to raise awareness among spatial planning stakeholders about the crucial role that unsealed soil plays in urban areas. It intends to help improve local planning policies and practices in Portugal by:

1. Documenting effective policy measures and interventions to manage soil sealing in urban areas, reducing the vulnerabilities associated with this process, and compiling data, indicators, and methodologies for tracking soil sealing in cities.
2. Co-creation of interventions to reverse soil sealing and/or implement Nature Based Solutions within urban areas of three Portuguese municipalities with high soil sealing levels.
3. Drawing up recommendations to control soil sealing and increase the resilience of cities to climate change.

To fulfil objective 2, the municipalities whose urban areas had the highest levels of soil sealing in 2021 have already been identified (Figure 1). These municipalities are mostly adjacent to the Portugal mainland's largest cities.

Keywords

Soil Sealing; Urban development; Policies and guidelines.

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[re]think, [re]use, [re]adapt - The Water Reservoirs in the municipality of Sabugal.

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Both the countryside and cities are populated by elements that form water distribution systems. More than mere functional objects, they are also an integral part of the landscape, deeply rooted in our visual and collective memory. The relationship between these elements and the territory embodies total interdependence. Vertical, elevated reservoirs; horizontal transportation aqueducts; or even buried structures like wells or cisterns illustrate this. These objects are associated with rudimentary systems created to meet the needs of their time, yet they remain in use today, retaining their essence without significant technical or constructive variations, demonstrating great efficiency.

This text focuses on understanding water supply systems and, based on the territory under study — the municipality of Sabugal — it considers strategies for the [re]use of water reservoirs, whether supported or elevated, as a developed motor for supporting the community. The new use we propose arises from the unplanned obsolescence of these structures, which closely relates to the growth of cities and their outskirts. We propose a brief historical contextualization of the evolution of the municipality's reservoirs and their cartographic representation mapping. By reviewing the literature, we aim to understand the relationship between these structures and the territory to better grasp how architecture, along with the revitalization of the urban fabric and elements of industrial heritage, can work together to mitigate water scarcity.

The contribution we envision aims to understand the dynamism of communities and their symbiotic relationship with the evolution of the city and water distribution systems. To respond to the research and comprehend the various systems involved, we will analyse the relationship with the territory,

the preservation of these elements, and their respective techniques, identifying the built heritage and its impact on the surroundings. The obsolescence of infrastructure has been a frequent topic of debate in society. From urban centres to the outskirts of cities, countless abandoned objects become ruins in the landscape. Although intertwined with the urban fabric, they represent exceptions in its functioning- dormant places. However, they also embody potential, acting as objects to be reconsidered. The aim is to rethink water reservoirs considering contemporary issues, demonstrating how returning infrastructure to the community, not as a closed cycle but as the beginning of new functionality, can foster relationships and stimulate new uses. This text is significant in considering not only the object itself but also its context. It is exploratory in nature, aiming to uncover clues for identifying methods to use and reappropriate these objects, which are essential for raising community awareness of the challenges within the inland.

Keywords

Territorial Revitalization, Architectural Requalification, Community Space.

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The role of human intermediaries in environmental and climate risk management.

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This research explores the crucial but often overlooked role of human intermediaries in environmental and climate risk management, focusing on their ability to bridge the gaps between governmental entities and local knowledge, community dynamics, and technological systems. While urban policies increasingly promote smart city concepts that rely heavily on digital technologies to address climate change and environmental risks, these approaches often neglect local specificities, exacerbate environmental and social unsustainability, and foster emotional responses such as eco-anxiety and technophobia. Using two empirical case studies from Porto, Portugal — river guards and riverside volunteers — this study explores how individuals with a deep, relational understanding of natural resources and community contexts can complement or even challenge the technocentric paradigm en vogue. Often characterised by informal or practical knowledge and strong affective ties to their communities, these intermediaries play a central role in responding flexibly and legitimately to climate-related challenges. Their relational and embodied understandings are crucial for navigating the complex intersections of nature, technology and society and offer a more nuanced and human-centred approach to urban governance. By analysing the practices and contributions of these intermediaries, this study highlights the potential to incorporate the human dimension into climate risk management strategies, while critically addressing the risks and limitations associated with their roles. The findings contribute to the development of more inclusive, resilient, and contextualised models for tackling global environmental problems at the local level.

Keywords

Human dimension; relational and embodied understandings; environmental management; climate risk management.

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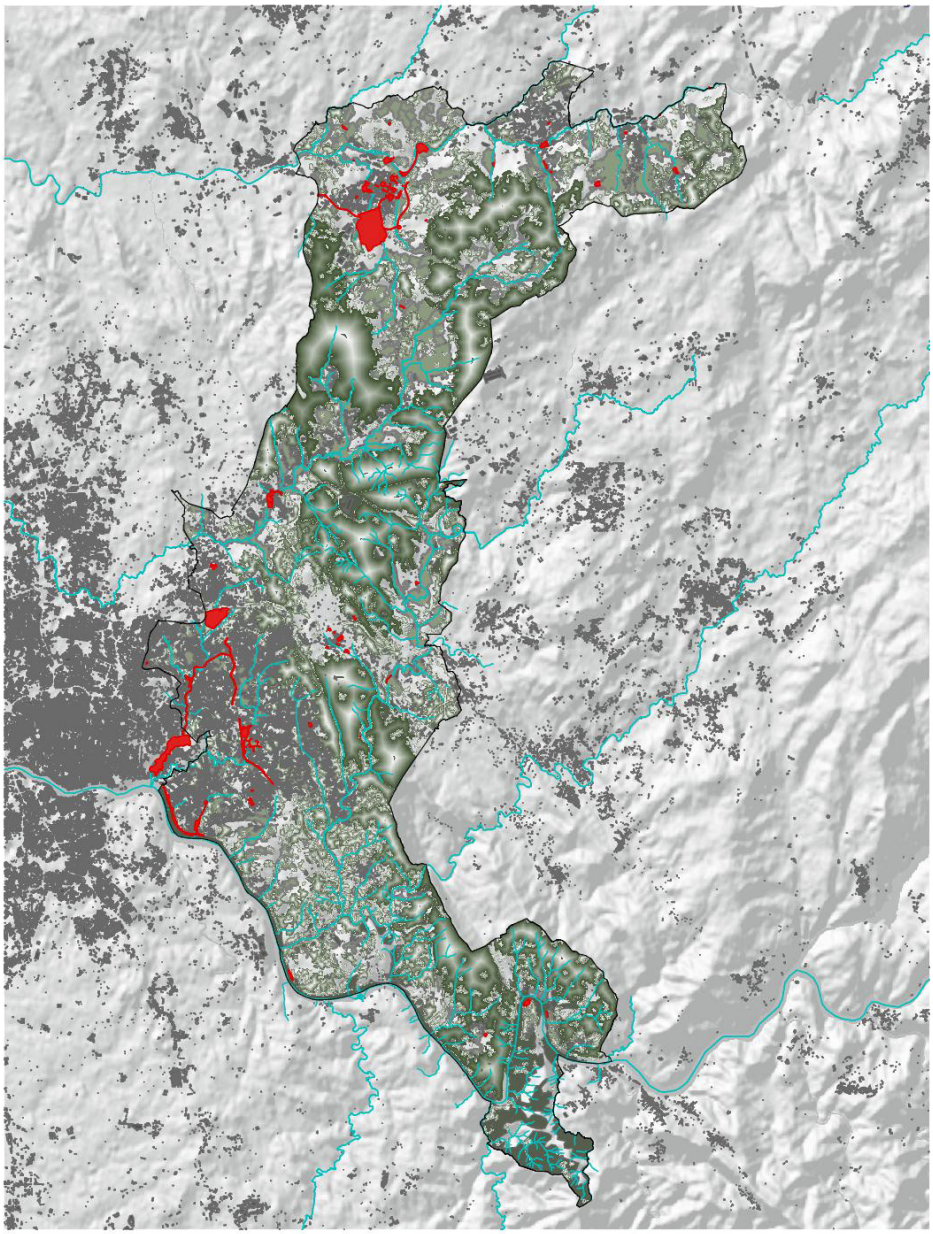


Figura 01 - Subsistema Ribeirinho, Subsistema Solo, Subsistema Produtivo, Ocupação Edificada e Intervenções em Espaço Público

Fonte - Elaboração Própria

Intermunicipal Public Space System: Network and Structure through a Design Exploration of the Relationship between Urbanization and Nature.

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The nature of public space has undergone significant transformations over the past quarter-century. While staying and socializing remain fundamental drivers of its traditional use and configuration, new functions/practices and contemporary challenges have emerged, shaping novel spatial typologies (Santos et al., 2025). Multifunctional and multidimensional spaces reflect the polarized society and culture that define the 21st century—marked by the urgency of fast-paced living and digital connectivity, yet also by a renewed emphasis on slow appreciation and leisure. Within the extended metropolitan city, morphological configurations of varying densities, temporalities, and distances—where fragmentation has gained operational status—raise critical questions about place-making, the coherence of structuring elements, and the capacity for balanced, inter-scalar ecosystemic responses.

In this context, this presentation explores public space as an intermunicipal system, drawing from both newly built and redeveloped interventions undertaken between 2000 and 2024 in three municipalities within the Porto Metropolitan Area (PMA)—Santo Tirso, Valongo, and Gondomar (Fig.01). Conceived as components of a potentially structuring system within the PMA's urbanized landscape, these interventions serve as a basis for testing design principles that foster interconnections and assessing their organizational potential. This approach presents an opportunity to reconceptualize the diffuse city, traditionally viewed in a negative light, by showing how its qualification can support the enhancement of the compact city—an argument Francesco Indovina first advanced 35 years ago in his seminal article La città difusa. The inherent ambivalence of the diffuse city—simultaneously 'city' and 'countryside', and long resistant to a conceptual coherence—now offers an ideal framework for addressing contemporary environmental chal-

lenges. Within this perspective, the diffuse city is positioned to assert its role within the urban system, reconciling with its past while requiring coordinated, cross-municipal action to enhance its spatial and functional integration.

However, such recognition does not imply a passive acceptance of existing conditions or an uncritical accumulation of the approximately 70 identified public space interventions, which are predominantly municipal in scope. As a qualified landscape is also a visual construct, the design-based exercise of intermunicipal recomposition aligns with the notion of "landscape as architecture", serving as a foundational premise for exploring and questioning the relationship between urbanization and nature through formal and design principles. This approach builds on Edmund Bacon's (1995 [1967]) insights on "the city as an act of will" and "space as a conscious experience", alongside Charles Waldheim's (2022 [2016], p.5) proposal for "a general theory for thinking about the city through landscape". Additional references will be incorporated to expand upon this framework.

Keywords

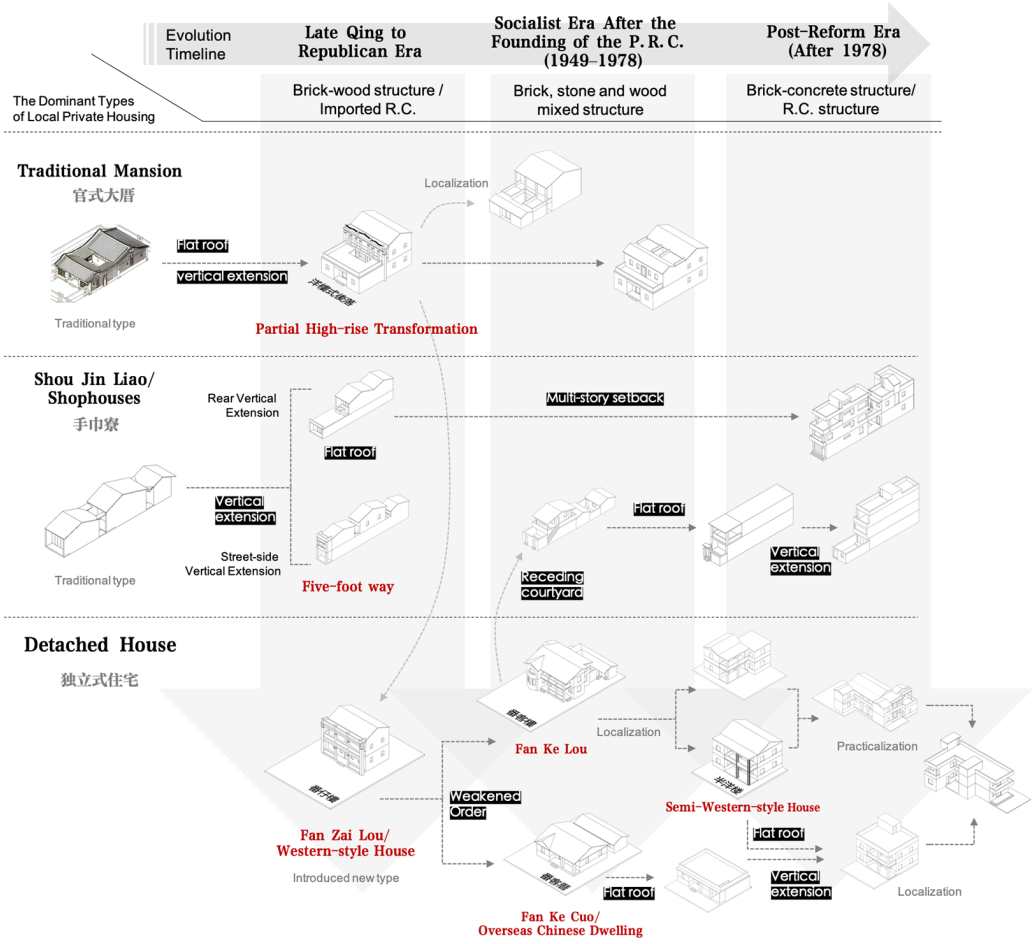
Intermunicipal public space system; Landscape urbanism; Urban structuring network.

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The Modern and Contemporary Evolution and Influence of “Fan Zai Lou” in Quanzhou

The Modern and Contemporary Evolution and Influence of “Fan Zai Lou” from an Architectural Typology Perspective – A Case Study of Historical Quanzhou City.

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Southern Fujian is one of China's most prominent hometowns of overseas Chinese. Its long history of "crossing the seas" and "going abroad to make a living," combined with the tradition of returning home to build grand residences as a symbol of family honor, has left a rich architectural heritage of overseas Chinese buildings along the coastal areas of Southern Fujian.

Many scholars have conducted research on overseas Chinese architecture, such as Chen(2005, 2012), Yang(2011), Gu(2019), Xie(1999), and Liang(2015, 2023), accumulating a wealth of valuable data. These studies primarily focus on typical overseas Chinese architecture from the modern era or compile case studies based on regional surveys. However, less attention has been given to the overall typological evolution in contemporary times, and a systematic study of the typological spectrum and value interpretation of overseas Chinese heritage in the Southern Fujian region has yet to be conducted. Moreover, how different types of overseas Chinese architecture are managed as heritage today remains an issue that requires further exploration.

Since the late Qing dynasty, overseas Chinese have been pioneers of modernization in their hometowns. The emergence of the "Fan Zai Lou" ⊠Western-style mansion) architectural style has also influenced the transformation of local residential typologies. This study, based on an architectural typology approach, examines the evolution of "Fan Zai Lou" in Quanzhou’s ancient city in the modern and contemporary periods. It focuses on the interaction between "Fan Zai Lou" and local private residences, as well as the localization of this architectural form. By investigating residential buildings from three key periods—the late Qing and Republican era, the socialist period after 1949, and the post-reform era—this study aims to explore how changes in local lifestyles and symbolic meanings have suppor-

ted the spatial production and reproduction of typological elements in the continuous process of modernization, localization, and functional transformation of "Fan Zai Lou".

For over a century, residential buildings have served not only as living spaces but also as representations of family identity. In particular, the outward-facing façade of a residence acts as a public declaration by its owner. The choice of architectural style reflects the builder's cultural tastes and class preferences, while the underlying symbolism embodies the integration of various family resources, shaping a specific family image and social status. More importantly, the emphasis on residential imagery has transformed these private and individualized acts into a diverse architectural landscape, collectively contributing to the formation of urban and rural spatial identities.

Keywords

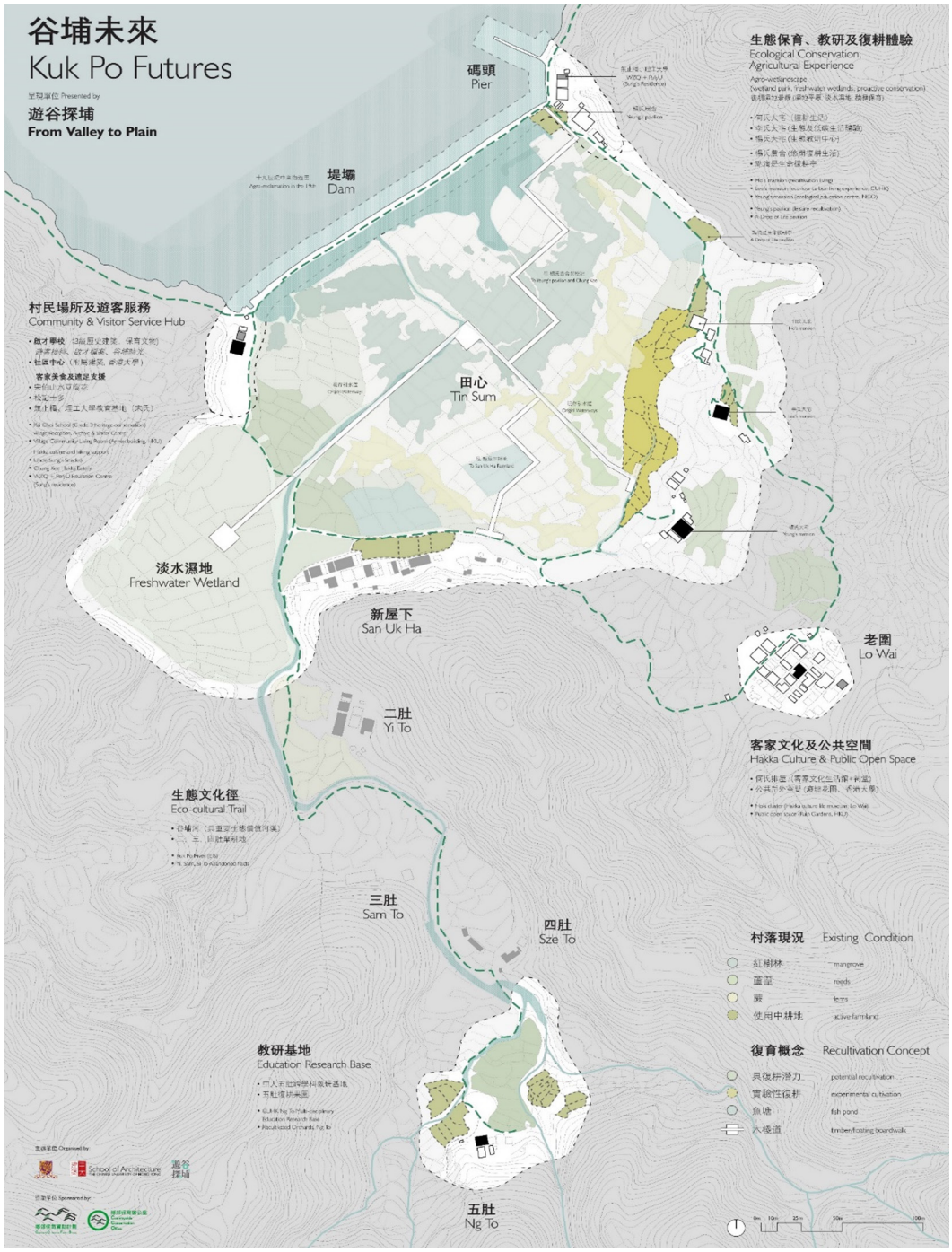
Overseas Chinese Residence, Architectural Typology, The Historic City of Quanzhou.

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谷埔未來
Kuk Po Futures
呈現單位 Presented by
遊谷探埔
From Valley to Plain
碼頭
Pier
堤壩
Dam
生態保育、教研及復耕體驗
Ecological Conservation, Agricultural Experience
村民場所及遊客服務
Community & Visitor Service Hub
田心
Tin Sum
淡水濕地
Freshwater Wetland
新屋下
San Uk Ha
老圍
Lo Wai
二肚
Yi To
客家文化及公共空間
Hakka Culture & Public Open Space
生態文化徑
Eco-cultural Trail
三肚
Sam To
四肚
Sze To
教研基地
Education Research Base
五肚
Ng To
村落現況 Existing Condition
紅樹林 mangrove
蘆葦 reeds
蕨 ferns
使用中耕地 active farmland
復育概念 Recultivation Concept
具復耕潛力 potential recultivation
實驗性復耕 experimental cultivation
魚塘 fish pond
木棧道 timber/floating boardwalk
School of Architecture
遊谷探埔

Resilient Regeneration for remote villages in rural Hong Kong: The Case of Kuk Po from cross-disciplinary education research to sustainable revitalisation partnership.

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In the face of global urbanisation and climate crisis, reviving rural areas containing diverse resources has multiple benefits for urban-rural symbiosis and sustainable future living. Beyond Hong Kong's hyper-dense urban core, three quarters of the city remain relatively rural and undeveloped. Much of this is in the New Territories, soon to be substantially reshaped by government-led mega-development of the Northern Metropolis. Within this, over 200 abandoned remote villages officially identified for potential "holistic conservation" that are at risk of being redeveloped, isolated or forgotten. Many of these have evolved authentic agro-cultural heritage landscapes, yet most have become deserted after urbanization and mass outmigration since the 1970s-80s.

One of these is Kuk Po, a 300-year old, multi-surnamed Hakka village nestling from valley to plain in north-eastern New Territories. With its picturesque hill-to-coast topography, mangrove wetlands replacing its once--productive paddies created from 19th century agro-reclamation, Kuk Po possesses diverse natural habitats, rich agro-cultural heritage and distinctive architectural settlements. This paper examines continuing efforts of Kuk Po village to develop a sustainable revitalization approach through multi--faceted initiatives, interventions and engagements towards establishing a university-village partnership, one that emphasizes cross-disciplinary education-research, architectural and landscape restorations and collaborative action-oriented trial operations.

In 2021, "From Valley to Plain" Phase I began with funding from the Countryside Conservation Office (CCO) that was set up to support innovative, co-operative conservation. It was the first pilot initiative involving a multidisciplinary research (anthropology, architecture, geography and life

sciences) working closely with villagers. The rundown Yeung's rowhouse in Ng To hamlet, the innermost along the Kuk Po river valley, was repurposed as an education-research base to exhibit research findings showcasing Kuk Po's rich eco-cultural heritages. An eco-cultural trail was produced, returning villagers trained as docents, educational tours co-curated, hands-on workshops, service-learning and school experiential learning programmes co-organised.

In 2023, the success of Phase I pilot led to Phase II, which extended revitalisation collaborations into the coastal plain of Tin Sum village. Working with the returning 4-generation Lee family to rehabilitate their 90-year-old mansion and adjacent farmlands, this time architectural restoration facilitated integrated eco-living that included sustainable recultivation practices and co-created cultural experiences. Encouraged by the villagers' enterprising spirit, the project expanded its action research to include disciplines such as journalism, cultural management and sustainable tourism, aspiring to turn Kuk Po into an inter-disciplinary hub for comprehensive rural-placemaking.

"Kuk Po Futures" is the latest conception encompassing the entire Kuk Po landscape with points and clusters of historical, cultural and ecological significance as well as functionality and visitor experience. Besides Ng To's Education Research Base and Eco-cultural Trail, strategic initiatives include: a Community & Visitor Service Hub at the Kai Choi School cluster, Natural Landscape Conservation of the coastal plain agro-wetlandscape to complement Tin Sum's Eco-living experience, as well as a Hakka Culture & Public Open Space for the inland Lo Wai walled settlement. With Kuk Po's natural endowment, socio-material resilience, enterprising villager solidarity backed up by government support, it appears to make the village's sustainable regeneration more plausible in the long run.

Keywords

Urban-rural resilience, village revitalisation, sustainable partnership.

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Preparing common ground for living: a cartographic and photographic essay on the Zambezi River Basin's landscape system..

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Cartography and photography are complementary tools of understanding that can be applied in complex territories to reveal the relation between the territory's appearance, captured through photography, and the territory's hidden systemic relations, evidenced through interpretive cartography. Reference works include "Taking measures across the American landscape", "Drosscape: wasting land in urban America" and "Petrochemical America" (Berger, 2006; Corner & MacLean, 1996; Misrach & Orff, 2014). All these works reveal the impact of piecemeal, systematic alterations of a landscape system beyond its capacity to sustain itself. They relate cause and effect across planes of understanding that would otherwise be difficult to apprehend. Such works are fundamental for the future adaptation of our territories. As our territories evolve into ever more complex interplay of urbanization, infrastructure, resource extraction, agricultural practices, nature and biodiversity expectations and more, our tools of understanding need to evolve to accompany this reality. If meaningful adaptation is aspired, a deep understanding of the territory is required that does not aim to cover all aspects of the territory in an exhaustive matter yet focusses on key aspects with transformative power towards adaptation.

The Zambezi River basin in Mozambique is a territory with a decades-long multifaceted interest: energy production, water usage (irrigation, cleaning processes…), agricultural production (sugar cane), nature reserves (coutadas), resource extraction (mangrove, heavy sand, coal mining…). Most of the processes associated with these activities are stand-alone, self-organising with no intention to fully understand the impact of the activities, using the territory as a means and not as a future living ground.

The proposed contribution is a cartographic, photographic essay, cons-

tructed as a narrative (not as a poster) across the scales and operations of the Zambezi River Basin in Mozambique. It combines different moments and types of understanding the territory – research project, thesis works, participatory platforms of exchange… - into a fluent understanding of the Zambezi River basin. The narrative aims to understand the territory yet simultaneously introduces a path towards a future common ground for living, based on the landscape as the dynamic, undeniable invariable for this common ground.

The narrative's central element is literally the territory's "ground". At its most basic understanding, "ground" is what we can exist on and thus forms the most basic condition of "being". In it lies an enormous diversity and richness that sustain life and allow for continuous adaptation. It is a repository of resources that at its best maintains a circular balance between its consumption and its self-reproduction. Ground reduction is fast paced in the Zambezi River basin though. The impact of unsustainable practices of over-exploitation of the ground and its resources leads to a vicious circle of degradation. To make its role explicit in the territory, the essay positions "ground" in the interdependent triad "water-ground-vegetation" along the territory and how their interaction is steered by natural and cultural processes with a tangible result on terrain. Through the act of its construction, the essay presents both the uneasy restrictions of reality and the tangible optimism for a common ground for living.

Keywords

Landscape; Cartography; Zambezi River Basin.

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Maricá Mobility Plan.

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Maricá, a municipality in the Metropolitan Region of Rio de Janeiro, stands out for its rapid urban growth and significant infrastructure investments. This abstract provides an overview of the Maricá Urban Mobility Plan (PlaMob), developed to ensure accessibility and sustainability in urban circulation.

Located approximately 60 km from the capital of Rio de Janeiro, Maricá covers an area of 361.572 km², including 42 km of coastline and an extensive lagoon system. With a population of 197,277 inhabitants (IBGE), the municipality is divided into four districts: Maricá (headquarters), Inoã, Ponta Negra, and Itaipuaçu. The planned construction of a port in Ponta Negra is expected to drive urbanization and economic development in the region.

Throughout the 20th century, Maricá experienced significant urban expansion driven by infrastructure investments. Notable improvements include the paving of the RJ-106 highway, the construction of the Rio-Niterói Bridge in the 1970s, the duplication of the RJ-106 in the 1990s, and the development of the RJ-102, which has attracted real estate investments and stimulated the local economy.

With a Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.765 (2010 Census), Maricá ranks sixth among the municipalities in the state of Rio de Janeiro, behind only Rio de Janeiro and Niterói in the Metropolitan Region.

To ensure citizens' right to mobility and provide efficient access to essential public spaces, such as schools, healthcare units, and workplaces, PlaMob

was developed. The plan aims to improve urban mobility in alignment with the National Urban Mobility Policy (Federal Law No. 12.587/2012).

PlaMob was designed by the Sustainable Mobility Institute Ruaviva, selected through a public process promoted by the Municipality of Maricá. Its formulation considered key aspects such as universal accessibility, sustainable socio-economic and environmental development, public transport efficiency, safety in travel, and optimization of urban circulation.

During its development, Intermediate Technical Reports and Technical Notes on the participatory process were produced, serving as the foundation for the final version of the Urban Mobility Plan and Road Alignment Guidelines for Maricá.

PlaMob aims to establish clear guidelines and objectives for urban mobility, prioritizing sustainable and accessible solutions. Key actions include the expansion of public transportation (such as buses) and the promotion of non-motorized modes, such as cycling and walking.

The plan's Final Report presents a comprehensive synthesis of the developed products and the outcomes of participatory discussions, consolidating an integrated and efficient approach to urban mobility in Maricá.

PlaMob represents a fundamental step toward Maricá's sustainable development, ensuring improved accessibility and mobility for the population. With clear guidelines and active social participation, the plan serves as an essential tool for enhancing the quality of life and fostering a more connected and accessible city for all.

Keywords

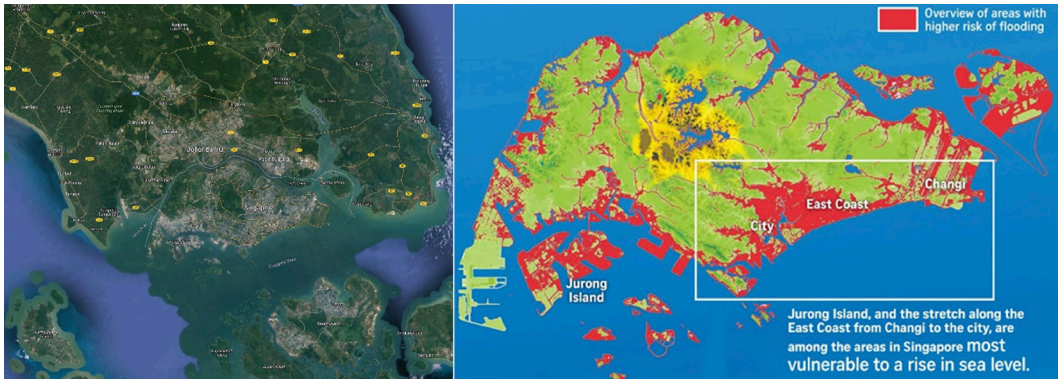
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Singapore Strait satellite map & Overview of areas with higher risk of flooding vulnerable to a sea level rise.
Source: Google Earth; Prime Minister's Office, MND/HDB

Exploring the Climate-adaptive Urban Design Guidelines of Green and Blue Spaces for Sea Level Rise Response: The Case Study of Singapore.

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With the accelerated influence of climate change and urbanization, green and blue spaces, as essential parts of the natural ecosystem, are related to humans' urban living quality and are key to all living things on earth. Meanwhile, under the rapid urbanization process in Singapore over the last five decades, land reclamation and extensive encroachment on nature reserves have intensified various conflicts between humans and nature. It is urgent for this high-density and low-lying city-state to find a sustainable solution responding to extreme climate, especially sea level rise (SLR).

This paper takes Singapore's ecological space as a case study, firstly discussing the existing nature systems and proposed actions for green and blue spaces in the latest version of the Long-Term Plan Review 2021. The authors explored developing a framework of urban design guidelines for green and blue spaces to improve urban adaptability to the impact of SLR on cities and nature. The guideline framework specifies a series of programs including pre-scenario, aims, approaches, and elements at multiple urban scales through nature-based solutions (NBS) to effectively exert the self-regulatory capacity of ecosystems naturally. It aims to determine the spatial structure of the urban landscape and strengthen planning control and design guidance on integrating the SLR vulnerability into Singapore's urban design process.

For key control areas and important green-blue infrastructure nodes like nature reserves and the coastal regions, specific regulations on design guidelines and ecological space management can be clarified with a combination of design provisions and technical drawings. The main task of the special research on blue and green spaces in the guideline framework is to define the basis for classification and inductive elements. Specifically, it controls and guides key green-blue infrastructure such as main streets, open spaces,

public housing, parks, Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS), and water-bodies in Singapore, proposing relevant suggestions for the SLR response mechanism of climate adaptive urban design and implementing guidelines into the planning and construction management process.

It is proved that developing urban design guidelines for green and blue spaces can actively adapt to the complex climate change impacts of SLR and urbanization in Singapore through nature-based solutions, integrated with various ecological urban fabrics and elements. Climate change in coastal fringes has very significant uncertainties, bringing many challenges to the different stages of simulation, prediction, planning, and design when generating urban design for responding to SLR. These uncertainties mean that developing climate-adaptive urban design should be a process of timely adjustment and dynamic revision, and analyzing urban scenarios of seawater submersion should be flexible and forward-looking. For another, the generation of urban design guidelines for green and blue spaces is the main task for the built environment disciplines and planning departments in governments, while the establishment of a comprehensive framework is also inseparable from the collaboration of multidisciplinary and multisectoral. The outcomes of this study offer a paradigm for future urban transformations for climate adaptation against SLR vulnerability across interdisciplinary, thereby aiding the planning and design process.

Keywords

Climate adaptation, Urban design guideline, Nature-based solutions.

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Track 5 - Visioning ...

Creative spaces for design and planning, storytelling and imagination



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Detail from The Notting Hill adventure playground in Faraday Road (Photographer unknown, Daily Mail/Rex/Shutterstock, as cited in The Guardian, 2017).

Urban Cracks as Adaptive Playgrounds for Future Living

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Urban environments are shaped not only by their planned structures but also by the residual, undefined, and often overlooked spaces that emerge between them. These "urban cracks," as described by Loukaitou-Sideris (1996), are transitionary spaces that emerge at the intersections of different urban logics. They represent fractured disruptions within both the physical and social fabric of cities. While they are frequently perceived as voids or dead spaces, they hold immense potential as sites for adaptive, participatory, and imaginative urban transformation.

Neglected urban spaces hold untapped potential for transformation through direct engagement and reinterpretation. A compelling example is the junk playgrounds of the mid-20th century, originally conceived by Danish architect C. Th. Sørensen in 1931. These playgrounds, constructed from discarded or recycled materials, provided children with the freedom to build, modify, and reshape their environment (Sørensen, 1978). Rather than being predefined, they evolved dynamically through continuous participation, embracing an open-ended approach to space-making. This experiment in adaptive urbanism offers a valuable analogy for urban cracks—not as spaces requiring rigid, permanent solutions but as environments that thrive through ongoing interaction and co-creation, serving as playgrounds for future urban living.

Unlike large-scale redevelopment projects that seek to permanently redefine spaces, interventions in urban cracks can be light, reversible, and adaptable over time. These spaces allow for continuous negotiation between public and private realms, between permanence and temporality, and between planned design and spontaneous appropriation. Their multilayered nature makes them ideal settings for experimental and evolving urban

practices, responding to shifting social and environmental needs without imposing rigid frameworks. Rather than treating them as gaps in the urban fabric that need to be filled, embracing their fluidity allows for an urbanism that is both inclusive and responsive. This adaptability makes them particularly well-suited for small-scale interventions, which can activate these spaces without imposing permanence. Small-scale, minimal interventions can transform residual spaces into vibrant urban pockets, revealing the potential of urban cracks as low-risk testbeds for experimental urban strategies. From micro-green spaces to pop-up or artistic installations, these temporary interventions encourage interaction, reframe perceptions, and cultivate community ownership.

By integrating concepts of play, adaptability, and participatory urbanism, this paper explores how urban cracks can be reframed as spaces of engagement through small-scale interventions, serving as catalysts for playful urban transformation. In an urban sense, play is not just recreation—it is a strategy for flexibility, improvisation, and interaction (Huizinga, 1950). Much like junk playgrounds of the past, urban cracks offer an opportunity to reimagine the city not as a fixed entity but as a space of possibilities, where the future of urban life is continuously negotiated, improvised, and redefined.

By viewing the city as a fluid and interactive environment, we can move toward a more responsive and inclusive urban future—one where the process of making the city remains open-ended, experimental, and participatory. Rather than merely filling urban cracks, we can activate them—turning forgotten spaces into ever-changing, participatory landscapes where play, creativity, and collective imagination shape the future of urban life.

Keywords

Urban Cracks, Playful Urbanism, Urban Minimal Interventions

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Beyond the Linear: Robinson and the Essayistic Paths to Urban Futures

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The future of urban environments requires more than linear projections of development; it necessitates creative spaces for design, planning, storytelling, and imagination. These spaces are crucial for rethinking cities beyond deterministic frameworks and for exploring speculative urban futures. One such approach is the use of essayistic narratives, particularly in film, as a tool for constructing non-linear, critical reflections on the past, present, and speculative futures of urban spaces. This paper focuses on Patrick Keiller's Robinson trilogy (London (1994), Robinson in Space (1997), Robinson in Ruins (2010)) as a cinematic methodology that invites new ways of envisioning urban futures through creative and imaginative storytelling.

Keiller's trilogy challenges traditional urban historiography by constructing an alternative narrative of cities and landscapes through the speculative journeys of its protagonist, Robinson. This essayistic form resists linear, teleological narratives and instead employs associative montage, juxtaposition, and speculative reflection to uncover overlooked or suppressed spatial histories. In doing so, Keiller's films disrupt conventional urban imaginaries and propose a vision of the city that is in constant flux, shaped by contested narratives and shifting power dynamics.

The Robinson trilogy exemplifies how creative storytelling can be a tool for envisioning alternative urban futures. London (1994) reimagines the British capital as a site of memory, political failure, and historical rupture. Robinson in Space (1997) extends this critique to the national scale, investigating the entanglement of capital, infrastructure, and social decay. Robinson in Ruins (2010) shifts focus to rural landscapes, offering a planetary perspective on urbanism, exploring environmental crises, and questioning the sustainability of contemporary urbanization. Collectively, these films

offer a vision of cities not as fixed entities but as dynamic processes shaped by contested histories, collective memory, and speculative futures.

In the context of the IFoU25 theme "Future Living," this paper argues that essayistic narratives, like Keiller's films, provide essential tools for envisioning urban futures that go beyond conventional planning and design methodologies. By engaging with the past and present through speculative storytelling, these narratives open up creative spaces where new urban imaginaries can be formed. The Robinson trilogy invites viewers to reconsider how urban environments can evolve in response to social, political, and environmental challenges, offering pathways for resilience and sustainability through imagination and critique.

This research draws on film studies, urban theory, and critical historiography, using a comparative analytical approach to examine how essayistic filmmaking can contribute to speculative urbanism. The work of theorists such as Siegfried Kracauer, Giuliana Bruno, and Penelope Haralambidou on cinematic space and architectural essay films informs this analysis, situating Keiller's work within a broader discourse on non-linear urban imaginaries.

By foregrounding the importance of creative and speculative storytelling, this paper contributes to the broader conversation on alternative urban future-making strategies. As cities face challenges of sustainability, inequality, and identity, embracing essayistic methods in urban discourse can provide critical counterpoints to deterministic planning models and inspire more inclusive, imaginative visions of the future. Through such creative spaces, urbanism can evolve into a more dynamic, resilient, and equitable practice for the future.

Keywords

Speculative urbanism, urban imaginaries, architectural essay film.

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Milan



Antwerp



Paris



Survey of Case Studies

Street transformations towards mobility, collective and urban nature spaces: a survey of case studies

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Streets are spaces for socialising and circulation, supporting the built and built environment, and are increasingly fundamental to protecting biodiversity in the urban context. Along with the constant transformation and need to adapt to new conceptualisations, these functions demand new challenges which require reflection on strategies for designing and adapting public space.

In recent years, we have seen a shift in several European cities that have realised the need for and importance of sustainable urban development (Bendiks and Degros, 2019). In this sense, plans and programmes have emerged that aim to respond to challenges such as reducing air pollution, creating urban structures adapted to the climate, and integrating a diversified mobility network (active and shared mobility, public transport, logistics, etc.). At the same time, proximity planning is gaining prominence to enhance and promote inclusive, safe and healthy environments and provide a better quality of life. These premises guide and define the need to redistribute public space through a multidimensional logic that uses three dimensions—collective spaces, urban nature, and mobility—incorporating multiple logic, implementation methodologies, and solutions in each of them. This inevitably produces a diverse public space with different adaptations to ecological systems and new definitions for the most varied modes of mobility.

The programmes underway in various European cities take the form of different types of streets, which, depending on their typology and position in the urban fabric, accommodate different spaces and prioritise certain dimensions. Visions and programmes, for instance in Superblocks can include integral solutions (Ajuntament de Barcelona, Barcelona Regional, 2023), while others focus on the social dimension, as seen in the School Streets, in Paris

(Ville de Paris, 2024).

So how are these plans being conducted and how are cities operating according to these three dimensions? What are the processes behind the implementation of the projects?

How are the typologies of each street adapting to the dimensions and the new elements associated with them?

Therefore, this research proposes an investigation into the processes of street transformation from the lens of architecture and urbanism. Based on a set of case studies structured by an analytical framework, analysing Antwerp, Milan and Paris, design principles based on multidimensional logic will be identified and highlighted. The aim is to collect and describe how different specialities, and approaches in their processes and forms are considered in the design of streets within a local approach.

Understanding beyond the processes of change in existing streets and characterising new methodologies will broaden knowledge about street design and planning and contribute to better decision-making by planners, politicians, organisations and even civil society.

Keywords

Street transformation; street design; multidimensional design.

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The window as a door, the façade as an inhabited threshold.
Photograph by Diana Gouveia Amaral, fieldwork in Ghent, 2024. Image taken with permission.

Façade as a Threshold: Exploring Spatial Depth, Negotiation and Urban Interaction

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The relation between buildings and city is articulated through the façade, which functions as a negotiated threshold, mediating transitions between private and public realms, interior and exterior spaces. This research investigates how façades act as spaces of concession and negotiation, shaping urban life through their spatial depth, materiality, and programmatic variation. Over time, façade designs have evolved, becoming flatter and losing ornamentation—an architectural shift that raises the question of whether and how these changes impact public life. Departing from design theories on the interrelation between the built environment and social interactions, as well as perspectives on architectural narratives, this research examines how façade configurations affect permeability, appropriation, and interaction in the urban environment. By addressing this gap, it highlights the need for a more integrated approach to façade design, one that considers the façade's role in structuring urban life.

Within this research, a design-based approach is adapted, integrating in situ observations, explorative drawings, and photographic documentation to map and analyze façade transitions through a comparative case study. The investigation focuses on the ground floor as a habitable depth, conceptualized as a sequence of layers where architectural elements modulate interaction between the street and the building. Two case studies—selected in the midsize historical cities of Ghent (Belgium) and Braga (Portugal)—offer different urban conditions to examine how façade's designs influence patterns

of use and engagement. The graphic analysis documents the façade's adaptability to different urban rhythms, capturing how thresholds evolve over time and respond to daily appropriations by users.

Two spatial narratives that structure façade transitions are identified. The first is a narrative of spatial continuity, where the ground floor integrates seamlessly with the public realm. This occurs through architectural features such as awnings, setbacks, or open storefronts, which extend urban experiences into the building, fostering semi-public spaces for gathering and interaction. These spatial designs enhance porosity, encouraging social appropriation and blurring the boundary between public and private. The second is a narrative of gradual transition, structured by a sequence of spatial layers that reinforce differentiation between public and private realms. Here, the façade acts as a filter, organizing access through elements such as elevated platforms, vestibules, and façade systems that create varying levels of privacy. These spatial thresholds shape the rhythm of passage, regulating visibility, defining access points, and reinforcing the identity of buildings within the urban fabric.

To deepen this analysis, the research compiles a catalogue of architectural and spatial instruments that structure façade transitions. By comparing two case studies, it identifies patterns influencing pedestrian flows, social encounters, and temporary or flexible space uses—key aspects of public life. Rather than static elements, façades emerge as adaptive spaces, where design choices shape urban interactions, spatial rhythms, and permeability.

The complexity and interplay of transitions and thresholds are essential to urban dynamics, as these layered spatial conditions enable public life. Yet, façade design is often detached from its urban context, widening the gap between architecture and urbanism. Preliminary results highlight façades as crucial elements that can either facilitate or obstruct public life.

Keywords

Threshold, Spatial Depth, Urban Interaction.

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Envisioning urban natures: comparing imaginaries of nature in planning policies across urban areas in Europe, Latin America and North America

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As the need for "transformative change" grows, interest in nature-based solutions (NBS) to address complex urban challenges is increasing. However, there are growing concerns that current conceptions of NBS within urban policies mobilize a limited set of values and meanings of nature. Given the central role of urban planning in envisioning urban futures across different temporal horizons, scales, and value systems, we examine "official imaginaries", endorsed through policy making processes, which encompass narratives, visions, and discourses in policy and planning documents, such as strategic plans, masterplans, and sustainability policies. Although the concept of 'nature' in urban planning often lacks explicit definition, urban planning often reflects dominant ideas about the relationship between humans, nature, and technology – thus defining and legitimizing specific visions of urban futures (Matheney et al., 2024). Indeed, scholars are highlighting the contested visions of desirable "nature futures" that underpin NBS, emphasizing the epistemic and power dynamics shaping these imaginaries and the societal transformations NBS aim to promote (Bina et al. 2024; Woroniecki et al. 2020).

However, as crises deepen and widen, the dominance of certain urban--nature imaginaries is being quietly questioned if not slowly eroded. Increasingly different meanings and values of nature shape the way planning policies articulate future urban imaginaries, influencing not only the relationship between humans and nature, but also the inclusiveness and the equity of proposed transformations and their transformative potential. This is vividly experienced in the context of NBS policy and practice.

This study, part of the Horizon Europe Naturescapes project, examines the imaginaries embedded in urban policymaking processes and analyzes

how policy actors (do not) enable creative practices for planning, storytelling and imagination towards envisioning positive futures. Through comparative analysis of eight Functional Urban Areas (FUAs) in Europe, Latin America, and North America, this research investigates how these imaginaries of urban nature –– and the processes through which they are constructed –– have evolved over two decades. Employing semi-structured interviews, participant observation, and documentary analysis, it explores the narratives within policy documents and fora, examining how these prioritize certain values of nature while marginalizing others. Our analytical framework examines these official imaginaries based on a typology that addresses the values and meanings attributed to urban nature and human-nature relations, building upon the IPBES Values Assessment (IPBES, 2022) in which three specific values of nature are identified: intrinsic, relational, and instrumental ("nature for nature", "nature as culture", and "nature for society", respectively). We explore dimensions of justice and agency by highlighting which and whose values are discussed, and the potential for other-than--human perspectives to contribute to shifting worldviews to enable transformative change. Given the potential of imaginaries to stimulate innovation in urban planning, our findings highlight the different conditions under which contrasting future imaginaries in official planning narratives lead to maintaining the status quo, or, contrarily, to challenging entrenched norms, integrating diverse values, and guiding transformative actions.

Keywords

Nature future imaginaries, Urban planning, Transformative change.

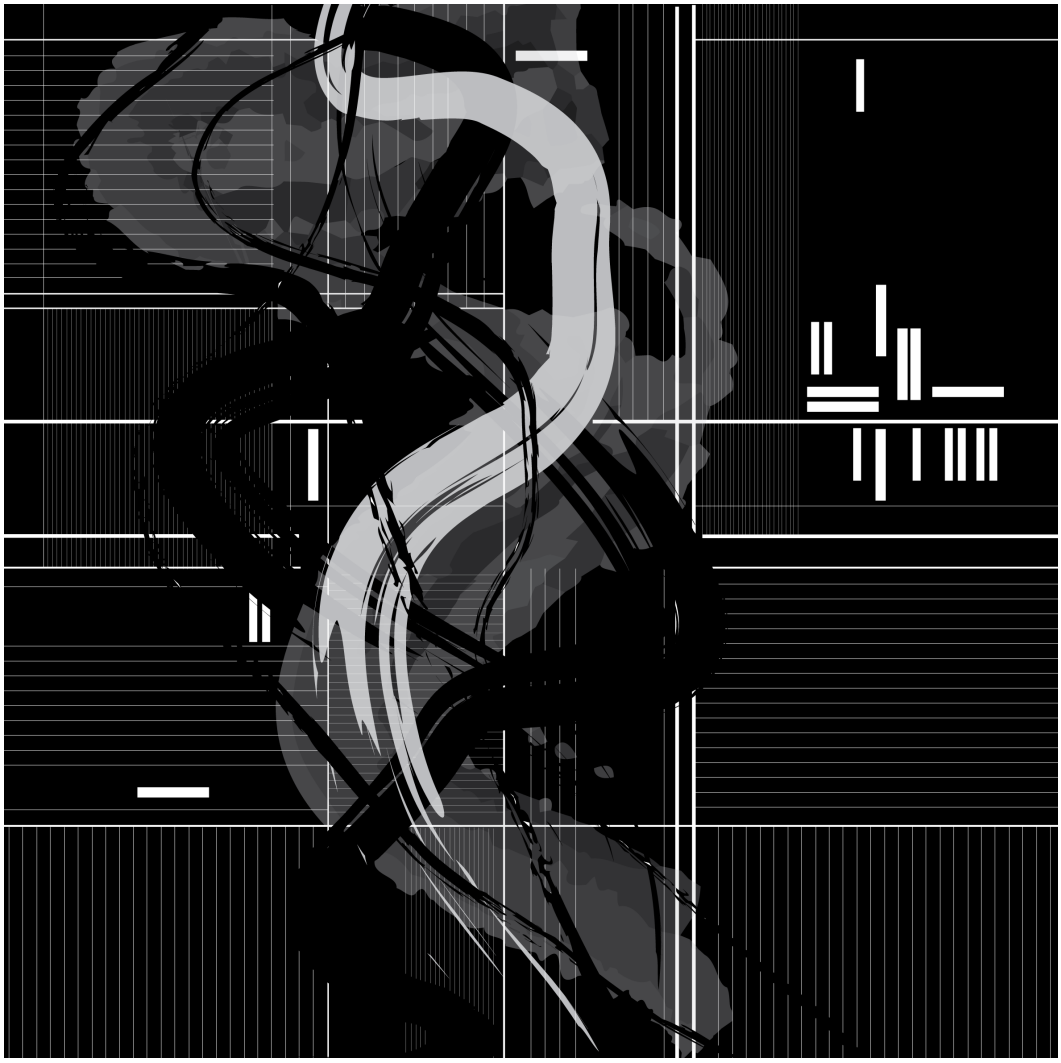
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Fuzzy Boundaries: Certainties Amidst Uncertain Futures.

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In cities emerging from connections with water, "Man's relation with the landscape, although undoubtedly productive, is not always peaceful. Due to the behaviour of water as a substance, by the fragile ecosystems generated on the line of contact between water and land, difficult to appropriate, and finally by the awareness that everything water gives it can also take away" (Nunes, 2011, 142).

Urban areas near water bodies increasingly face unpredictable futures. Urban vulnerability to flooding has become a pressing issue in scientific and political discussions, emphasising the need for effective adaptation strategies. Wannewitz et al. (2024) found that adaptation efforts in 199 coastal cities across 54 countries are slow, limited in scope, and lack transformative impact. The study highlights significant disparities in global scientific coverage, with small and medium-sized coastal cities in Africa, Asia, and the Americas largely excluded from the debate despite NGO calls for action.

Flooding scenarios reveal the geophysical substrata deep memory of water cities, even when water is no longer the key driver of the city's prosperity. Urban landscapes, under the fast pace of contemporary life and with easy access to technological solutions, tend to resort to complex and costly solutions to address urban vulnerability. On the other hand, informal and vernacular realities had to cope with a scarcity of means and have adapted following the idiosyncratic natural cycles of the place they inhabit.

The challenges placed by climate change, social, economic, and political forces that increasingly redefine these liminal landscapes between water and land can be seen as opportunities to transform and adapt cities, creating a frame for human life that breathes in consonance with nature. In this process, understanding and embracing the natural cycles seems the most cohe-

rent choice to address the environmental, social and economic challenges posed by climate change.

The article establishes a comparative overview of coastal and riverine case studies from different geographical and cultural contexts. Decoding thresholds between water and land enables overcoming the concept of fixed limits, and going beyond the idea of boundaries as an exclusively defined space to a space of transition and coexistence between subjects. Methodologically, the cases are read through comparative interpretative diagrams drawing on the concepts of fuzziness and temporality, which act as lenses to read the land-water relationship. A polyhedric glance at the distinct case studies might be tested by resorting to complementary oppositions to describe these transition landscapes: limit vs. threshold; artificial vs. natural; permanent vs. ephemeral. This approach can be considered a first step towards an operative atlas of water-land transition landscapes.

Recognising the threshold space between water and land, along with its physical and formal characteristics, enables a meaningful attribution of subject value to the diverse entities that compose it; whether human, natural, or infrastructural. Overcoming the concept of limit and understanding its role as a dynamic interface - which has the potential to accommodate innovative architectural, urban and landscape answers for environmental conservation, adaptation and transformation - allows us to define certainties in the uncertain future of climate change.

Keywords

Fuzzy Boundaries; Water-Land threshold; Uncertain Futures.

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Olympic Village Apartment today in Seoul
(photo by author)

Appropriation of Madang: Interpretation of Intermediary Space in Korean Urban Collective Housing.

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The integration of traditional intermediary space within modern urban housing has remained a persistent architectural challenge since 20th Century. Recently, it seems many luxury apartments, like <AFER HANGANG>(2024) of South Korea, reflect a contemporary response to this issue by reinterpreting 'Madang', courtyard in the middle of traditional Korean house(Han-ok), to the modern residential units (Afer Yongsan, 2024). The project features a room-sized balcony attached to the living room, allowing residents to directly and privately engage with nature. This approach might present a compelling counterpoint to the 'nature/urban' dialectic, as the extended and multi layered balcony provides each unit with access to desirable fresh air and greenery. However, upon deeper consideration, the significance of these kinds of intermediary spaces extends beyond mere reintroduction of nature into housing units. They also provoke broader questions about spatial orientation and the relationship between individual dwellings and communal spaces, which are the major topics for future co-living architecture.

Indeed, examples from Korean architectural history offer valuable insights for critical analysis. Since the rapid economic expansion of the 1980s, South Korea has witnessed various architectural attempts to incorporate 'madang' within residential buildings. The 1988 <Seoul Olympic Athletes' and Press Village> introduced 'courtyard-like living' concept inspired by traditional Korean houses within a high-density housing context. In the 1990s, quite diverse apartments deliberately integrated semi-open madang-like spaces to mitigate the rigid separation between private units and public area (Kang et al., 1997). In 2000s, Riken Yamamoto's housing projects, <Pangyo Housing>(2010), further advanced this concept by creating a transparent living room which engage with common ground, also inspired by traditio-

nal Asian houses intermediary spaces (Han, 2024). These projects highlight evolving strategies for balancing privacy and openness in collective housing, where spatial mediation becomes a key design consideration to overcome well known limitation of mere collection of enclosed housing units.

In short, this study examines contemporary history of Korean architecture, especially the cases which reinterpreted 'madang' to create intermediary spaces in collective housing since the 1980s. Through a comparative analysis of selected case studies, the research investigates spatial relationships between interior and exterior, as well as the interplay between individual dwellings and their surrounding environments. By focusing on the role of the 'madang' as an intermediary space, the study explores how different design strategies have shaped the transition between private and public realms, examining factors such as spatial orientation, topology of rooms, and degrees of permeability.

The findings of this research can provide critical insights into the role of the in-betweem spaces as an alternative spatial typology in future residential architecture. By assessing its possibilities, not only about a relationship with nature environment, but also social and communal dimensions, the study highlights the potential of intermediary spaces to foster new modes of urban dwelling. Ultimately, this research attempts to re-promotes design strategies, which is lost but still important, that reinvigorate the spatial discourse of collective housing by reimagining the 'madang' as a meaningful architectural element that bridges the dichotomy between enclosure and openness, individual and collective, private and public.

Keywords

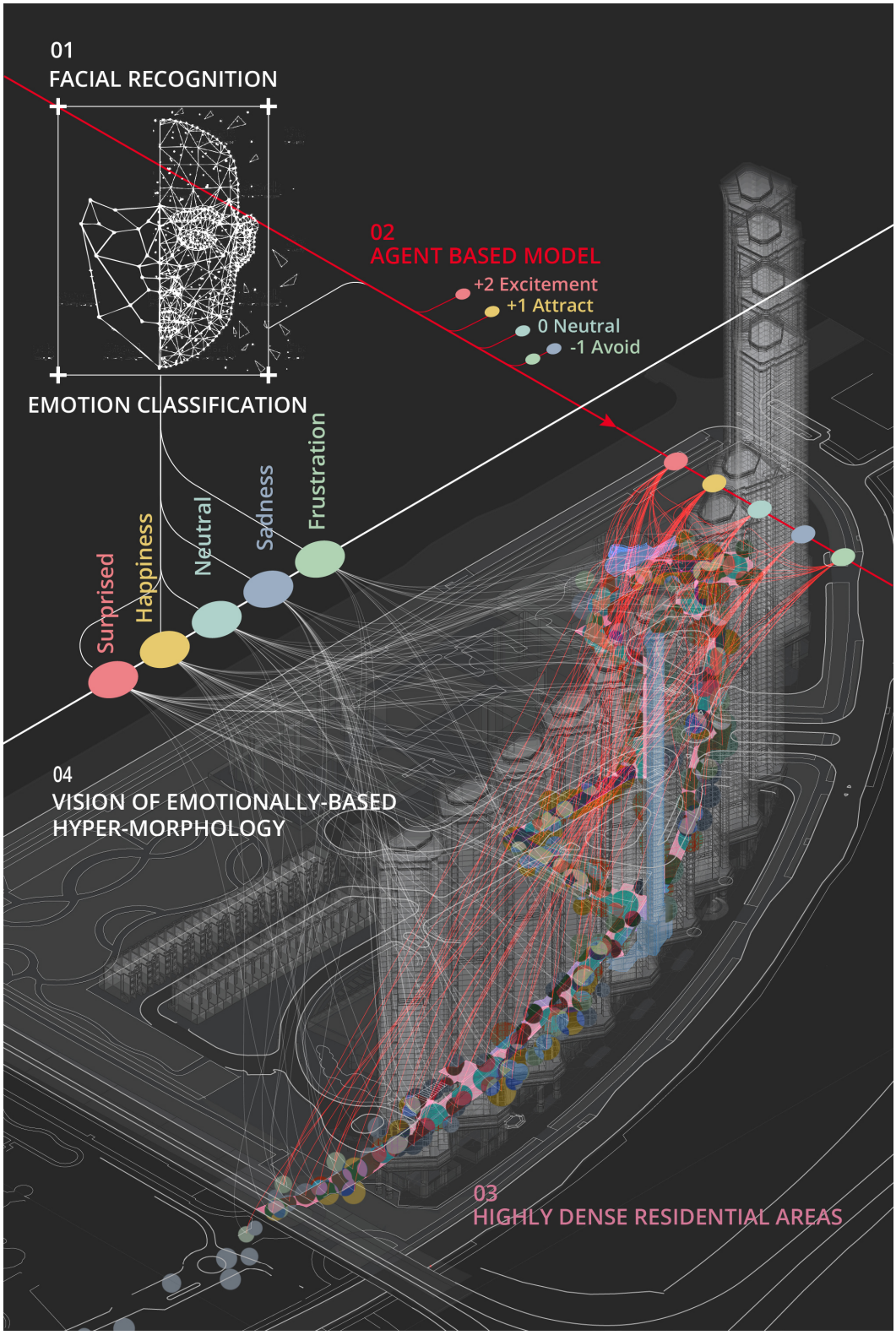
Collective Housing, Courtyard, Madang.

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01
FACIAL RECOGNITION
EMOTION CLASSIFICATION
Surprised
Happiness
Neutral
Sadness
Frustration
02
AGENT BASED MODEL
+2 Excitement
+1 Attract
0 Neutral
-1 Avoid
04
VISION OF EMOTIONALLY-BASED
HYPER-MORPHOLOGY
03
HIGHLY DENSE RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Facial Recognition Technology in both Physical and Virtual Environments: Its Measurement, and Mechanism

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This study explores the potential of facial emotion recognition as a neurological research tool in urban studies, particularly in privately owned public spaces within highly dense residential areas. Data collected from 30 residents and users was analyzed through capture of facial expressions in real time to three-dimensional design elements. As a result, high recognition rates were achieved for emotions such as "Neutral," "Happiness," "Sadness," and "Frustration." The study highlights two key findings. Firstly, it underscores the value of facial recognition technology in the spatial cognition of living environments. Secondly, it provides visual mapping of this spatial cognition through Agent-Based Modeling, allowing the nuances of how spatial settings and elements affect users to be captured.

In light of that, this study demonstrates the validity and reliability of facial emotional recognition in urban morphology based on: (a) emotionally-based morphology theories, (b) principles of computer algorithms, and (c) visualization studies.

Keywords

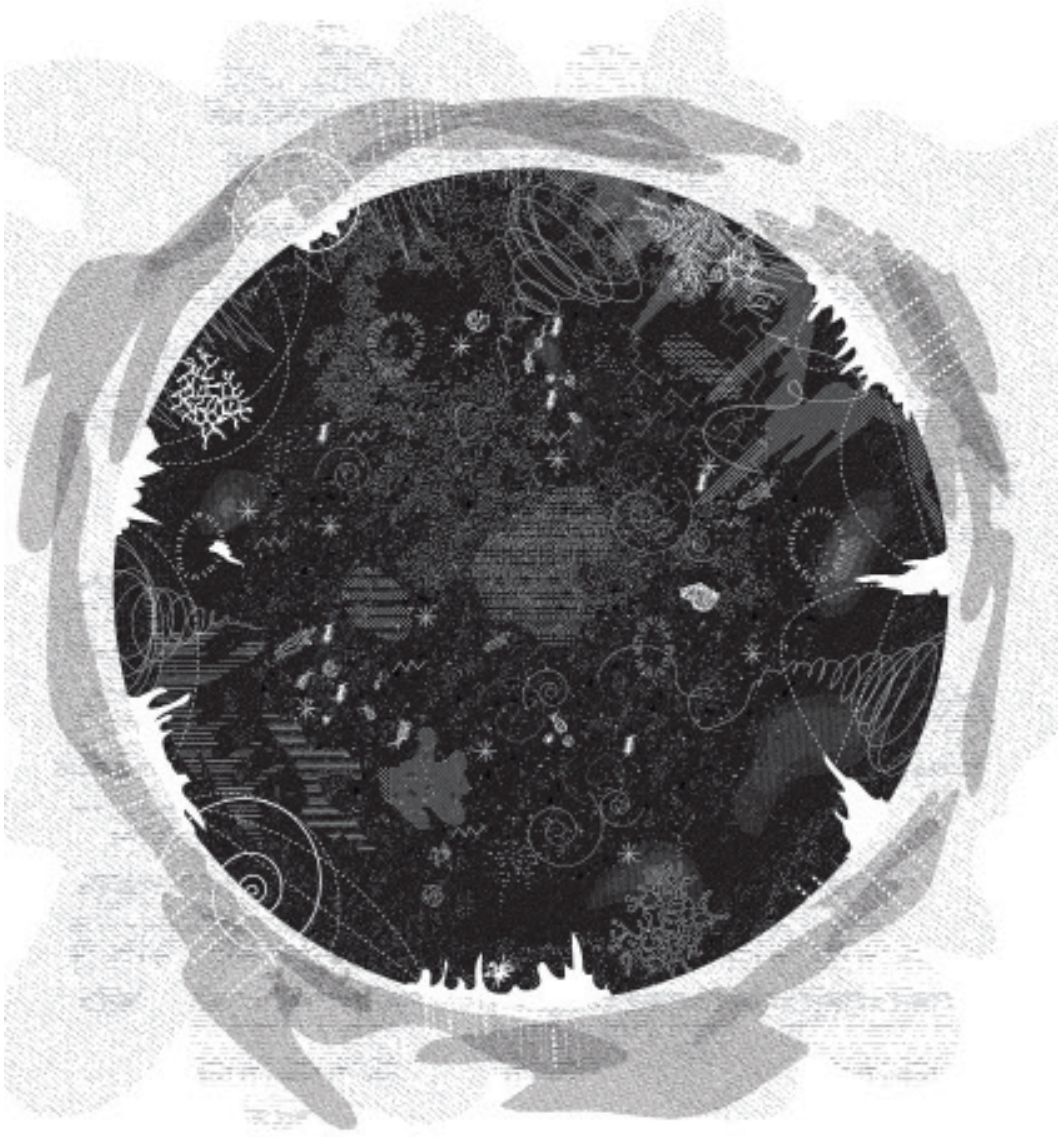
Spatial Cognition, Facial Recognition, Morphology.

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The soil interacts with the exogenous and endogenous forces of the world, corresponding with them and bending them to enable dialogue between the surface world and the deep world. Agents' world. Insects, bacteria, pathogens, worms, non-human bodies inhabiting the world. STRATOSFERICA (digital drawing I. Maurelli, 2024)

Tangles of time. Soil perturbations as instruments of potential relationality for transition in the project.

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The original morphology of Rome has been profoundly altered by human interventions over the centuries, including earthworks, rubble piling, filling. These actions have hidden structures such as the ditches, originally present on the surface. Backfill soils, consisting of human-made material stratified over time, form a new geological unit characterised by permeability. Water accumulates in these materials, flows through preferential paths, and, while shaping the subterranean landscape as it transports matter, it fractures and generates voids called chasms. The dialogue between above and below occurs through a fracture or threshold that allows the passage between Gaia and Ctonia. The earth is understood as a place of coexistence between human and non-human entities, or earth-beings, with matter acting as a dynamic interface. The materialist approach recognises the geological layer as a source of energy and evolution, marking the end of one phase and the beginning of another. In this perspective, rupture is also constitutive, implying the embrace of impermanence, vulnerability, evanescence and disruption. The 'punctured space' becomes a condition of existence and modernity characterised by fluidity and fragility, similar to the bodies inhabiting the asphalt surface. To establish balance, the world can be seen as a metastable space in which energy accumulated and generated over time can unhinge and subvert the conventional stigma.

Recognizing the world's complex interactions and seeing the ground alive, disruption becomes a tangible starting point. 'Solid' layers are tilted and bent by forces operating over immense intervals of time, indicating that the earth is in continuous formation. Thinking of things as objects excludes the formative process that generate them, shaping and modifying them over time. Time, 'weather', is understood as agent, a fluid medium, a sphere

of forces and relationships that constitute the meteorological world (phase transitions). Arnold Berleant, describes the earth as subject to continuous change because it is un-stationary, both rapid, sudden and slow and settling.

Coexistance between humans and 'earth-beings' is proposed as a necessary scenario, in which metamorphosis allows for the overcoming of binary relations and the imposition of radical, solutionist positions. The suspension of the project that familiarisation with fluidity entails the willingness to engage in and correspond with ongoing processes. If the project continues to be rigid, immobile to the fluidity of matter, suspension is instead proposed as a listening, to perceive a state of consciousness induced in us by the external world through the senses or any affective state arising in the soul. The rupture is the fissure in which it materialises, and in a tangible way manifests itself. Welcoming the rupture means subverting the gaze.

Looking at the city of Rome from this perspective, thinking of buildings as floating in this moving sea, prompts us to think of figures of architects and urbanists such as sailors, who try to orient themselves, to understand the forces that move flows, magma, particles, winds, bodies. The surface we inhabit, though seemingly hard, succumbs to elemental forces, cracking and crumbling, revealing the earth and inviting life.

Keywords

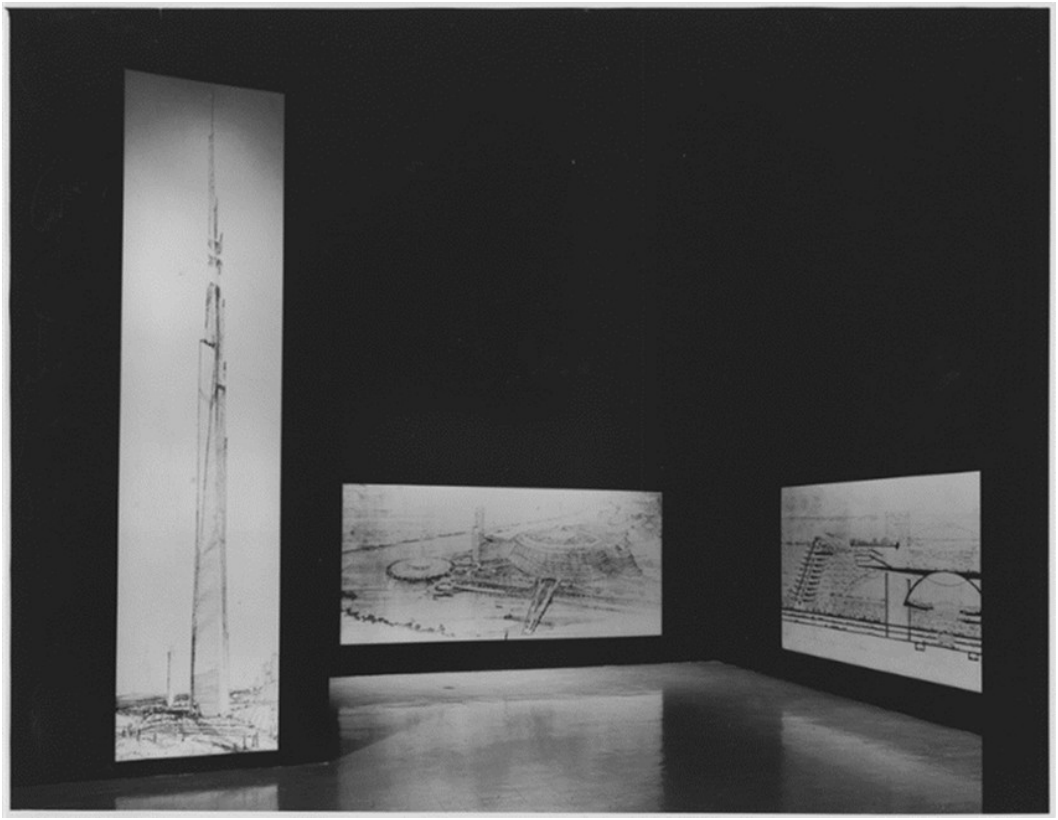
Soil, agents, time.

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Beyond the Screen: The Convergence of Cinema, Virtual Reality, and Architecture in Shaping Future Cities.

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The convergence of cinema, virtual reality (VR), and architecture is redefining how urban environments are conceived, designed, and experienced. While cinema has long served as a speculative tool in architecture, virtual reality (VR) is a more recent, immersive technology revolutionizing design processes. This paper examines the relationship between these three fields, highlighting how cinematic storytelling, virtual environments, and architectural form are merging to propose new ways of imagining and experiencing future cities.

First, cinema's historical role in shaping architectural imagination is explored. Films like Ridley Scott's "Blade Runner" and Spike Jonze's "Her" present urban environments that critique technological advancements and social inequality, encouraging architects to imagine cities beyond their current material realities. These cinematic visions not only offer future fantasies but provide critical reflections on urbanization, environmental challenges, and societal issues, stimulating architects to reconsider the potential futures of cities.

In contrast, VR offers a more interactive and experiential tool for architecture. Unlike cinema, which offers passive viewing, VR enables architects to design and explore spaces interactively in real-time. Projects like UNStudio's "The Unreal City" demonstrate how VR can create virtual urban models, allowing designers to test concepts for sustainability, mobility, and spatial justice. VR enables a deeper understanding of spatial dynamics, offering architects the ability to simulate a variety of scenarios before construction, ensuring designs align with desired social outcomes.

Furthermore, the metaverse is emerging as a new space for architectural experimentation. Platforms like Decentraland and The Sandbox allow archi-

tects to engage in collaborative and participatory design processes, simulating complex social, cultural, and economic interactions within virtual cities. These environments provide real-time feedback from global audiences, democratizing architectural practice and making urban planning more inclusive.

The theoretical foundations provided by Kevin Lynch's concept of the mental image of the city and Henri Lefebvre's ideas on the production of space inform the understanding of how digital tools reshape our perception of urban environments. Lynch's theory suggests that cities are more than just physical spaces—they are also mentally constructed. Similarly, Lefebvre views space as a social product, a concept supported by VR and the metaverse, which enable architects to experience and design spaces that engage with both the physical and social dimensions of urban life.

Finally, the paper discusses visionary architecture—a practice that transcends conventional design boundaries to explore speculative futures. Architects like Bjarke Ingels with his Copenhagen 2025 project and BIG's Urban Ribbons integrate sustainability, resilience, and social inclusivity in their urban concepts. These projects show how immersive technologies like VR complement creative architectural vision, enabling the exploration of novel urban models that address contemporary challenges while fostering new ways of living and interacting with urban spaces.

In conclusion, the integration of cinema, VR, and architecture is transforming architectural practice. Cinema provides a speculative foundation, while VR and the metaverse offer interactive, real-time opportunities for exploring and testing these imagined environments. By blending the imaginary, virtual, and real, architects are shaping cities that are sustainable, resilient, inclusive, and socially engaged, aligning with the themes of the International Forum on Urbanism.

Keywords

Visionary Architecture | Virtual Reality (VR) | Cinema.

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Issue of Anarchy magazine on 'Architects and people' published in March 1969.and edited by Colin Ward. Features articles on urban planning, housing and architecture from the perspective of dweller's control.

Citizen Controlled Urbanism? Unearthing 150 Years of Dweller Control Actor-Network.

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The concept of dweller control within the actor-network framework involves dynamic collaborations among political theorists, organizers, architects, and planners, including influential figures of community-led or participative architecture in the 20th century, like John F. Turner, Walter Segal, Colin Ward, and Giancarlo De Carlo. Over nearly 25 years, these actors engaged in vibrant exchanges, with notable focal points of intellectual cooperation, such as the Italian circle of architects and planners, which, beyond De Carlo, included Ludovico Quaroni, Carlo Doglio, and Riccardo Mariani.Together, they collectively shaped and individually implemented dweller control as a guiding principle in their respective fields.

This study uncovers primary sources—letters, reports, and photos—demonstrating that these collaborations were intentional transnational efforts to advance a particular vision within the planning discipline. Post--World War II, these architects viewed planning as a "revolutionary tool" for grassroots social change, advocating citizen-controlled urbanism to empower local communities and challenge state authority. Their approach was influenced by regionalist and anarchist thinkers like Reclus, Kropotkin, and Morris, as well as the planning ideologies of Geddes and Howard.

Of particular importance is Colin Ward's (1924-2010) connection to this actor-network. He expanded the concept of dweller control beyond the primary circle of referents and went the extra mile by translating, inviting and visiting Italians over decades, making the effort visible internationally. Overall, the group’s fine-grained approach to autonomy in the built environment, documented in works and rich archival sources, beholds potential for differently rooted sustainability and community participation in shaping contemporary architecture and planning.

As a lesser-known stream of influences on planning history, the genealogy of dweller control as a planning principle contributes to a grounded vision of what urban planning potentially does for the final user. A large part of the dialogue between the architects and planners mentioned above relied on the long history of vernacular urbanism and diverse practices of architecture made by the dweller's hands. The history of neighbourhoods, allotments, contested urban renewal schemes, rural enclosures and land occupations, evictions and tenant associations, grassroots citizen actions of self-help housing, backyard repair shops and street markets offer valuable lessons on planning as an inherently social tool, a fact that is yet to be fully acknowledged by the narrations of urban planning history. The actor-network of architects and planners analysed here recognized that to empower citizen--controlled urbanism, professionals need to reframe urban planning as a radically different concept – a multitude of planning cultures in the complex social ecology of the built environment.

Keywords

Dweller control, participative urbanism, planning history.

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Linking the past to the future: Evaluating Virtual Heritage Through Large-Scale Immersive Experiences.

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The rapid evolution of digital technology is redefining urban heritage, shifting from static preservation to dynamic, participatory experiences that integrate seamlessly with contemporary urban life. This paper explores the technological and experiential dimensions of virtual heritage, emphasizing the role of Large-Scale Location-Based VR (LBE-VR) in transforming historical narratives into co-present, interactive environments. Using the Virtual Wukang Mansion in Shanghai as a case study, this research investigates how real-time rendered virtual spaces, enhanced by multi-user participation, reconfigure our engagement with urban memory.

Unlike traditional VR experiences confined to individual users and small--scale environments, the LBE-VR format of this project enables large groups to explore, interact, and co-create narratives in a shared digital space. By leveraging motion tracking, synchronized real-time rendering, and spatial computing, the virtual Wukang Mansion becomes a digital museum, an immersive drama, an interactive game, and a boundless journey, breaking the boundaries between physical and virtual realities.

To evaluate the effectiveness of this immersive heritage experience, this study adopts a user-centric mixed-method approach, incorporating 180+ user reviews from Dianping, real-time participant observations, and a planned survey to assess engagement, presence, social interaction, and spatial awareness.

This research argues that LBE-VR is not merely a technological novelty but a transformative mechanism for participatory urban heritage, shaping how communities experience and co-create cultural memory in a digitized world.

Keywords

Virtual Heritage; LBE-VR; Immersive Experience; Collective Memory; Urban Culture.

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Stories of inhabiting Dili: listening to the past, witnessing the present, reflecting for the future.

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The story of a post-conflict city is multi-layered and complex. To untangle these layers requires going beyond a delayering approach and requires going into the essence of the city. This paper goes into Dili's human element, reflecting on stories shared to imagine the potential futures of the city; the authors learn from stories that recount past experiences in the city through periods of conflict and post-conflict, and that bridge into current living experiences. From initial stories across the city – registered with videos and photographs – to more focussed online surveys, specific evidence on what inhabiting Dili entails, was collected and analysed.

"Stories are central to planning practice: to the knowledge it draws on from the social sciences and humanities; to the knowledge it produces about the city; and to ways of acting in the city." (Sandercock, 2003, p. 12)

The stories talk of post-conflict urban Dili produced through the hands of those inhabiting it, without significant state intervention or strategy. The city has emerged, through immediate responses to the needs of communities and individuals who have established themselves looking for better living conditions. Through these stories, the production of the city is uncovered through the eyes and experiences of those who have produced it. The stories of the city's inhabitants, tell the story of the city over time as well as its growth and development, and transmit a story for its future. The authors find that the stories share movement through conflict, from socioeconomic needs and communities. They transmit the evolving changes in the city, the strength of community and different ways of experiencing local governance. We learn that most concerns are common across the city, namely the tensions with youth who lack space and employment opportunities and who become actively engaged in martial arts groups, to concerns over the extreme densification of space that causes disorder over occupation of space

and cause further pressure on the already weak and unmaintained infrastructure networks. We learn that public spaces are largely lacking and that those that do exist are often connected to local churches and chapels; and that the main places of gathering are indeed places of worship.

From this, the paper reflects on the desires of the storytellers, most of which identify as urban and who are traversing a new path, connecting through urban cosmopolitan hierarchies in substitution of the more rural traditional hierarchy that is, nonetheless, very present in their lives (Scambary and de Mesquita Lima 2021). The desire to live in a more organised urbanscape, with greater access to the city strikes across the different stories. The need to connect at the community level remains also an important part of inhabiting the city, valuing the cultural value of the importance of family and community as a support structure for individuals and households. And, ultimately, the need for mechanisms and instruments that allow for planning of space and of infrastructure networks and services, and deemed as a fundamental puzzle piece for peace-enduring urban inhabitation (Bollens 2006).

Keywords

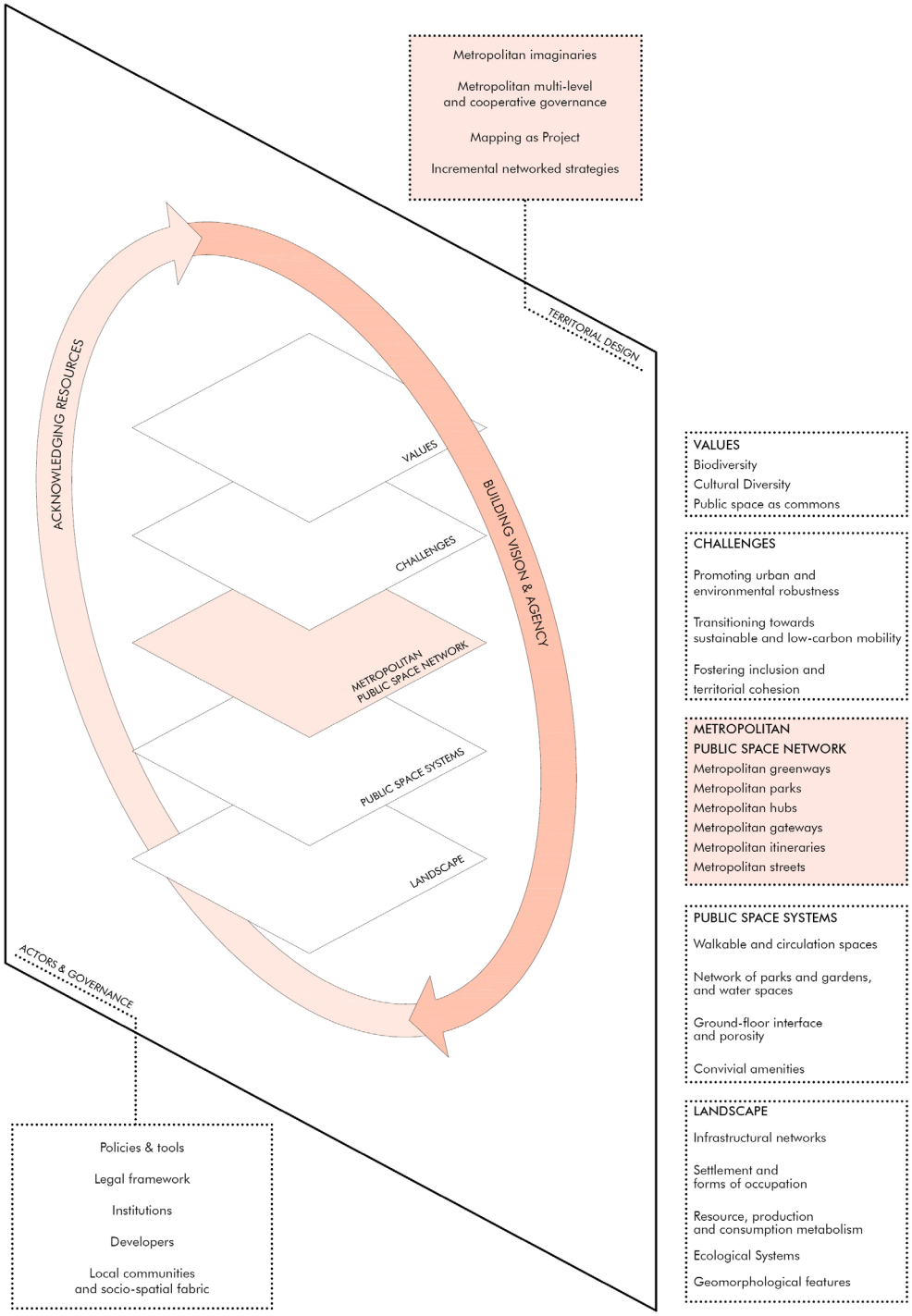
storytelling; post-conflict urbanism; Dili.

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Territorial design toolbox for a Metropolitan Public Space Network

A territorial design toolbox for a metropolitan public space network: bridging experience and policy-oriented contributions.

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The article presents the key features of a territorial design toolbox aimed at setting conceptual inception and policy recommendations towards a 'metropolitan public space network', with a focus on Lisbon's metropolitan area (LMA).

LMA has been the ground of relevant public space qualification interventions of various scopes and natures, but with a strong emphasis on the rationales of improving active mobility and pedestrian accessibility, strengthening green infrastructures and water streams, as well as the upgrade of vulnerable and under-serviced residential areas. This process has been promoted by various players, with a prominent participation of the public sector, namely local municipalities. Multiple national and European Union funding programmes targeted public space as a focus for project delivery, acknowledging its role in the environmental, social and economic qualification of territories.

'MetroPublicNet - Building the foundations of a metropolitan public space network', a FCT-funded research project based at Lisbon School of Architecture /CIAUD, developed a comprehensive survey and systematisation of the universe of public space qualification interventions delivered in LMA between 1998 and 2023, celebrating the 25th anniversary of Expo 98 – a flagship urban regeneration project that transformed the city and metropolis of Lisbon, while displaying the potential role that public space can play in the urban future. This research highlighted not only the growing interest of public authorities in the public space quality, but also an evolution in the policy rationales and objectives underpinning its funding. In the more recent period (2015-2023), there has been a growing support of interventions with a wider connection capacity (e.g. cycle networks, green corridors, public

transport interfaces) and a multi-system response to emerging challenges (urban flood prevention, promotion of sustainable mobility, inclusive socio--territorial responses). However, there is still considerable fragmentation of projects and development initiatives, many of them dependent on the local agendas of each municipality, making it difficult to exploit the planning and systemic potential that can be obtained from their articulation on a metropolitan scale.

With Lisbon Metropolitan Area as its institutional partner, the MetroPublicNet project has developed a set of policy and territorial design recommendations that could support the conceptualisation of a Metropolitan Public Space Network, based on two central ideas: 1) Acknowledging values, resources and critical factors and 2) Building an imaginary, agency and strategic vision.

Within this framework, the article presents a synthesis of the key threads of this forward-looking toolbox, supported by the reference literature, the empirical research that was developed and the contributions and debate among the project's institutional and scientific partners.

Keywords

Public space; Metropolitan design; Lisbon Metropolitan Area.

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XYZ Salt City - Envisioning UrbArch Futuristic Narratives.

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A future-oriented perspective is one of the fundamental factors in improving architecture beyond traditional methods. The XYZ Salt City is a visionary project that interrogates the problem of water scarcity and sea desalination and their potential and uses in creating a utopian desert oasis city. In this context, the core of the project revolves around rethinking and reinterpreting the issues and possibilities that the built environment will have shortly.

On the landscape level, the project investigates the urban and architectural possibilities of a deserted geography defined by the challenges of water scarcity, where lack of vegetation and emptiness shape the spatial experience. Hence, XYZ Salt City envisions a new urban-architectural oasis that, in contrast to the lifeless nature of the desert, seeks to nurture life and is sustained by water and made out of salt. Structured and composed on principles of fractal geometry, the city can grow and have different sizes and scales at various levels (such as transportation, infrastructure, public space, living areas).

On the level of a post-anthropocentric ecosystem, the project examines the sea and the sun as sustainable resources from the harsh conditions of the desert capable of supporting urban life and infrastructure. Initially, the maximum potential of seawater is explored. The seawater is desalted and brought into use as a potable water resource. The salt obtained during this purification process is then repurposed as a construction material that contributes to one of the built components of the project. The water serves not only as a resource for humans and non-human life forms but also as an infrastructure for green hubs within the inner courtyards and living units, fostering agricultural development. The energy source for the project is provided by high-efficiency transparent photovoltaic also made of organic salt.

Hereby, desert conditions that might be seen as negative are strategically positioned to contribute to the creation of a sustainable ecosystem.

On the level of materiality, the XYZ project aims to use the excess salt produced during the seawater purification process as a building material, specifically as bricks in the construction of the city. At first, salt functions as a tectonic element of sustainability, serving a practical purpose. However, when viewed from another perspective, the color, crystalline structure, and granular texture of the salt, especially about the desert landscape, create a poetic interplay between similarities and differences. On a larger scale, the materiality of salt supports the project's concept of an imaginary oasis. While on a smaller scale, it evokes an analogy to sand.

Through the proposed project, the uncertainty of the future contexts provides the opportunity to create a visionary narrative that goes beyond the foreseeable, opening the way for new ideas and discoveries in architecture and urban design. The XYZ project illustrates how visionary narratives constructed through these contexts contribute to the discourse on urban--architectural futures. The project highlights the role of speculative design in expanding architectural thought, narratives and predicting new possibilities for the built environment and discussions on the utopian urban-architectural state of the art.

Keywords

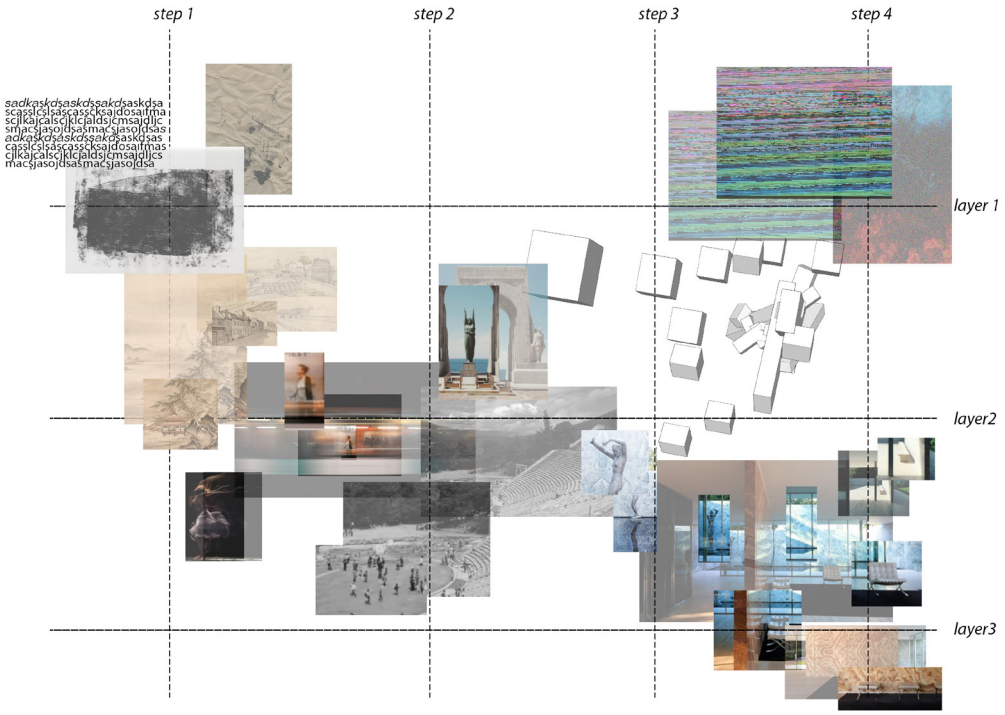
Futuristic project, utopian city, speculative design.

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step 1
step 2
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step 4
layer 1
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Transdisciplinary Architectural Storytelling: Towards a new sense of belongingk.

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In the rapidly evolving, information-saturated world of contemporary architecture, the perception of reality has become increasingly fragmented, creating significant challenges in how individuals connect to and understand their built environments. As modern life accelerates, the capacity of humans to engage with and derive meaning from their surroundings is progressively diminished. This loss of depth in spatial comprehension threatens one of the foundational concepts in environmental design—the sense of place. Edward Relph's idea of "sense of place" emphasizes the essential human experience of attachment and emotional connection to particular environments. In contemporary society, this attachment is eroding, as individuals become distanced from the deeper cultural, social, and historical narratives embedded within surrounding architectural and urban forms.

In this context, we propose transdisciplinary architectural storytelling as a tool for the systematic creation of narratives that can at the same time decompose and synthesize the complexity of reality for the better perception and interpretation of new architectural and urban designs and the built environment.

This research investigates how integrated design through storytelling can express the "complex thought" as defined by Edgar Morin. Here, we intend architecture as a special domain within a "complex thought" field. As already complex disciplinary character, architecture can absorb and convert diverse knowledge and actions into triggers for its imagination and production (objet de reaction poétique). By using metaphor through poetic analogy, architecture is a converter and "converger" (as has traditionally always been) of different elements (from natural, manmade common objects, arts, philosophical and scientific epistemologies, technologies, poetical and symbolic

meanings) into architectural concepts and images that conduce to the architecture – as both design and building. This process of multilayered production is intrinsic and intuitive to architectural practice but it is not holistically researched nor systematized. Even though the complexity of both architectural production and reception are being scrutinized by namely history, theory, archaeology and criticism through approaches such as gestalt and phenomenology, and recently through neuroscience, integrating approaches are scarce.

We investigate/describe different forms of narratives in the process of imaginative architectural production and reception - conceptual, visual, literature, sequence of images, videos, music - and their integration into transdisciplinary architectural storytelling. Indeed, in transdisciplinary architectural storytelling boundaries are to be nulled as it is the apanage of transdisciplinarity, thus enhancing architecture in its mission of an instrumental means for the conscientiousness of being in the world.

By incorporating a transdisciplinary approach, the project examines how storytelling communicates architecturally integrated design and serves as a vehicle for reflecting diverse cultural perspectives and layers (artistic, philosophical, and scientific epistemologies), social, and historical. It becomes a powerful tool for integration and synthesis of different fields of knowledge to reconnect individuals to the spaces they inhabit. We propose that narratives embedded in sustainable architectural and urban design can re-establish a meaningful dialogue between people and their environments. It further explores how both existing and new architectural and urban designs that include storytelling can foster a renewed sense of place and contribute to the preservation of cultural identity and collective well-being.

Keywords

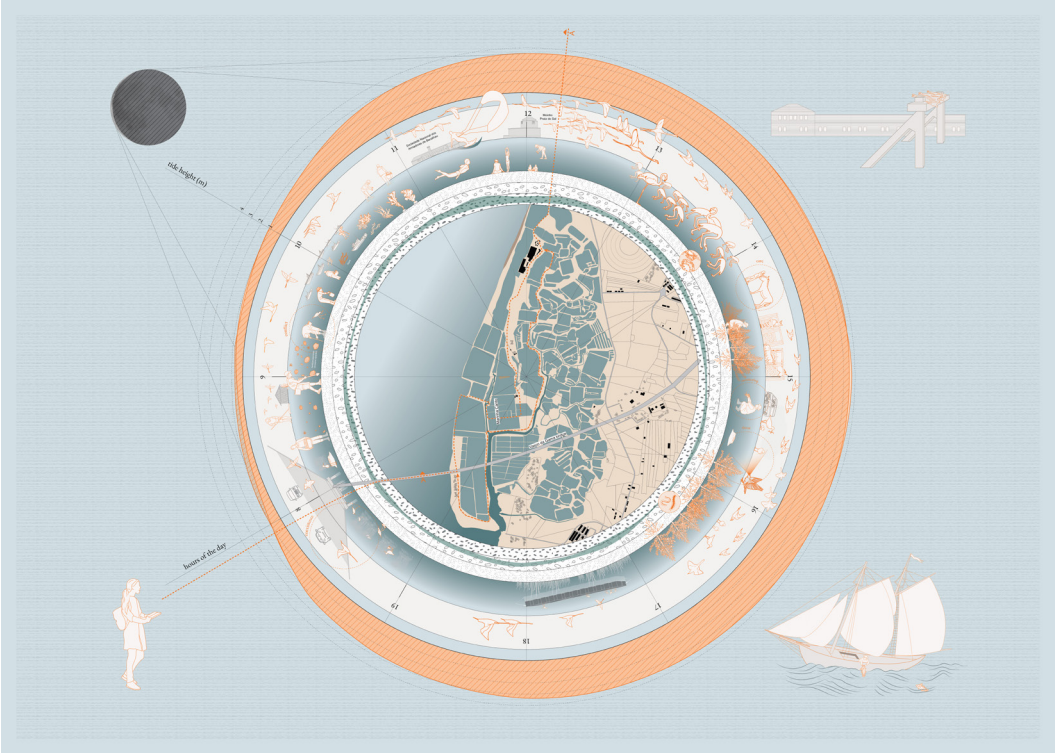
Architectural storytelling; transdicsiplinarity; sense of place.

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A tidalectic portrait of the Tagus delta: A relational drawing documenting multispecies relationships unfolding in the Tagus salt marsh as experienced by R1 according to the 6-hour tide cycle.

Tidalectic portraits of the Tagus river estuary: an experimental spatiotemporal drawing methodology for multispecies relations..

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At a moment of ecological breakdown when the future itself feels uncertain, brimming with anxieties of collapse and extinction, the practices of landscape architecture require revising, to decenter anthropocentric perspectives and cultivate care and attentiveness toward multispecies relations. Visions of modernity have conditioned us to associate progress with linear time and productivist paradigms [1]; however, multispecies studies and posthumanist thinking challenge these constructs by foregrounding the coexistence of diverse temporalities within multispecies contact zones, such as the Salinas do Samouco salt marsh in the Tagus river estuary. This area, shaped by tidal forces, salt crystals, colonial histories, and intricate human-non-human interactions, epitomizes the ecological entanglement we aim to represent through the Tidalectic Portrait as a drawing methodology. The times of aquatic birds, humans, algae, halotolerant bacteria, and post-colonialist heritage are submerged in the waters of the Tagus River, echoing the longue durée of human-non-human synergies.

Through autoethnographic walks and interviews with experts, this study challenges human-centered perspectives and highlights the need to embrace diverse temporalities and ways of knowing in ecological design. Our findings underscore the potential of field-based, participatory methods to model multispecies interactions and experimental drawing methods with a spatiotemporal structure that allows thinking beyond the traditional representational techniques of landscape architecture - what we call tidalectic portraits. Freed from the conventions of scale, the drawings convey moments from the field study, as well as, insights shared by the interviewees in a dynamic visual style, aiming to show the transformation of intertidal landscapes during one day and one year as experienced by the first author.

While our work does not offer immediate solutions to ecological crises, it emphasizes the importance of slowing down and engaging with landscape rhythms to cultivate embodied, situated knowledge, opening pathways for thinking otherwise. As Berger puts it, "drawing is discovery …a line, an area of tone, is not really important because it records what you have seen, but because of what it will lead you on to see" [2]. The stories we tell and the maps we draw hold agency in shaping the world. To take non-human agents and processes seriously, we must look closely at the rhythms of ecosystems like the Tagus estuary and develop visual tools that reflect their complexity.

Keywords

Autoethnography; Tagus estuary; Cartography..

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Children´s Imaginaries of Sustainable Futures

Building Knowledge from Climate Child Imaginaries to Create Sustainable Futures

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Children are among the most vulnerable populations to the impacts of climate change, and they will disproportionately suffer its consequences in the future. As climate disruptions intensify and dominant ways of thinking fail to address contemporary environmental challenges, climate child imaginaries (CCI) emerge as an innovative approach to engage children in participatory planning processes, helping them to develop skills such as critical analysis, cooperative science, and proactive preparedness. This research investigates what kind of knowledge children's imaginaries can offer to inform researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in creating climate-adapted environments. This work explores the concept of climate imaginaries based on a literature review, emphasizing its potential to contribute meaningfully to sustainable development. By exploring CCI as a collaborative approach to child engagement and education, this work will seek to advance theorizations on children´s imaginaries and their influence on knowledge creation.

Climate change and environmental degradation require solutions from more than one source of knowledge. Imaginative thinking can help tackle these issues by engaging with diverse actors and their perspectives and needs, promoting innovative responses that traditional methods may overlook. Imaginative processes can enhance creative problem-solving and decision-making, potentially helping individuals and organizations address complex problems such as climate change. Thus, imaginaries are integral to knowledge construction, allowing individuals to conceptualize possibilities beyond immediate experiences. This capacity to imagine what lies beyond present conditions promotes the development of novel ideas, paving the way for transformative change. Imaginaries are not only subjects of study but also productive sites for analyzing subjective experiences and shaping the

construction and understanding of knowledge. Therefore, this work investigates how tacit knowledge can be transformed into explicit knowledge, facilitating communication and more comprehensive application.

A critical aspect of this research is its reflection on how dominant climate imaginaries influence governance and policy while often neglecting alternative perspectives. Stimulating creative dialogue through participatory tools that engage younger people in addressing the effects of climate change through their imaginaries can facilitate the exchange of knowledge between children, communities, and stakeholders. This process promotes cooperation and mutual support, enabling the development of social networks that can effectively shape collective actions in response to climate change.

Keywords

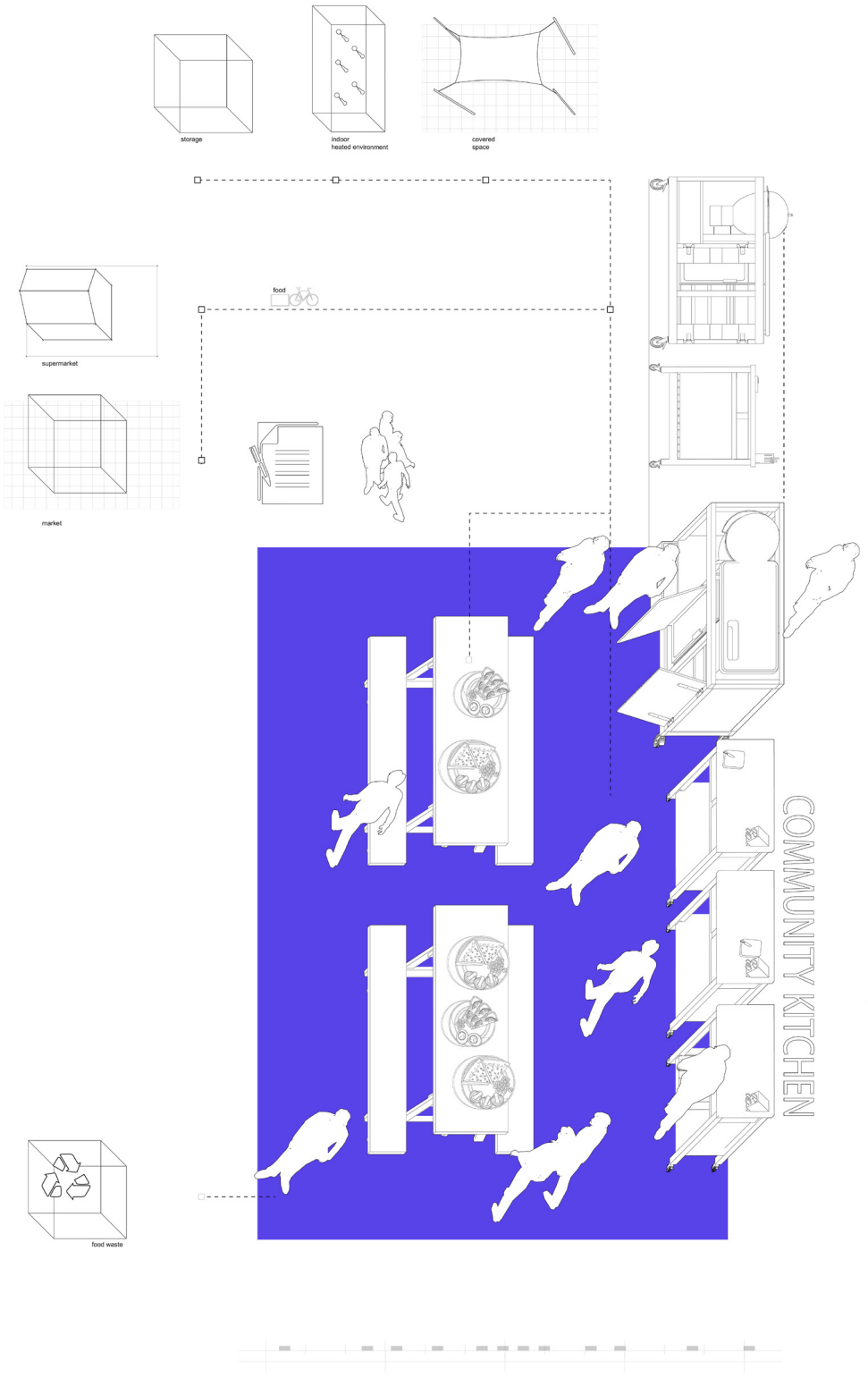
Climate Imaginaries; Knowledge Production; Urban Planning..

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PED strategies for inclusive energy transitions: example of a strategy visualization positioning a community kitchen as an everyday space to initiate collective energy transition

From Concept to Implementation: Spatializing Inclusive PED Strategies in Cureghem, Brussels.

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The implementation of PEDs often disregards socio-spatial inequalities, leading to risks of social exclusion. The implementation of PEDs mostly translate into middle-class newly developed districts, and greenfield developments rather than the transformation of complex, existing inner-city neighbourhoods. These settings offer fewer structural challenges, making it easier to apply innovative solutions and pursue ambitious goals (Bossi et al., 2020). This approach ends up neglecting the socio-spatial complexities of established neighbourhoods, and ignoring justice-related challenges such as displacement or affordability.

Achieving just energy transitions in underprivileged neighbourhoods requires an understanding of the complexity of social dynamics and their repercussion on space, while also recognizing their constant evolution. We join other scholars calling for a holistic approach that takes place-based concerns into account, giving a more pronounced consideration to space, time and scale (Heffron and McCauley,2017). We argue that for PEDs to succeed, they should function as open places of inclusion, and an opportunity to challenge dominant narratives, without negatively impacting their neighbourhoods (e.g., gentrification, privatisation) or overlooking the justice issues.

The PED4ALL project (JPI Urban Europe, PED Call II), through a shared co-production methodology aims to co-develop and test energy, policy, regulatory, governance, and social inclusive PED strategies. It studies pathways for just energy transitions in Cureghem, one of the most socio-economically vulnerable and culturally diverse neighbourhoods of the Brussels Capital Region. We position PEDs as spaces for innovation that challenge established energy systems and are influenced by broader contextual factors. We position PEDs as places for innovation, that challenge consolidated energy

systems and are influenced by broader contextual factors. We hypothesize that spatializing PED strategies can enhance their responsiveness to socio--spatial dynamics, making energy transitions more accessible and embedded in residents' daily lives while addressing energy poverty and vulnerability.

Spatializing energy justice involves understanding how justice claims in energy transitions, particularly within PEDs, are influenced by and, in turn, shape their spatial context. By selecting some particular PED strategies, we reflect on the chosen methodologies while elaborating on the entire process of testing and developing the strategies, from conceptualization to potential implementation, highlighting key insights, challenges, and adaptations throughout the journey. Through Test Labs, scenario-building, prototyping, and digital visualizations, we examine how PED strategies materialize in space and interact with existing urban dynamics from different contexts. The iterative process, involving experts, policymakers, residents and local organizations as co-researchers, aim at ensuring that spatial interventions remain context-sensitive, responsive to socio-spatial inequalities, and adaptable over time. This research contributes to the broader discourse on energy justice by developing scalable and replicable frameworks that embed energy transitions into the everyday urban fabric while addressing spatial, temporal, and legal dimensions.

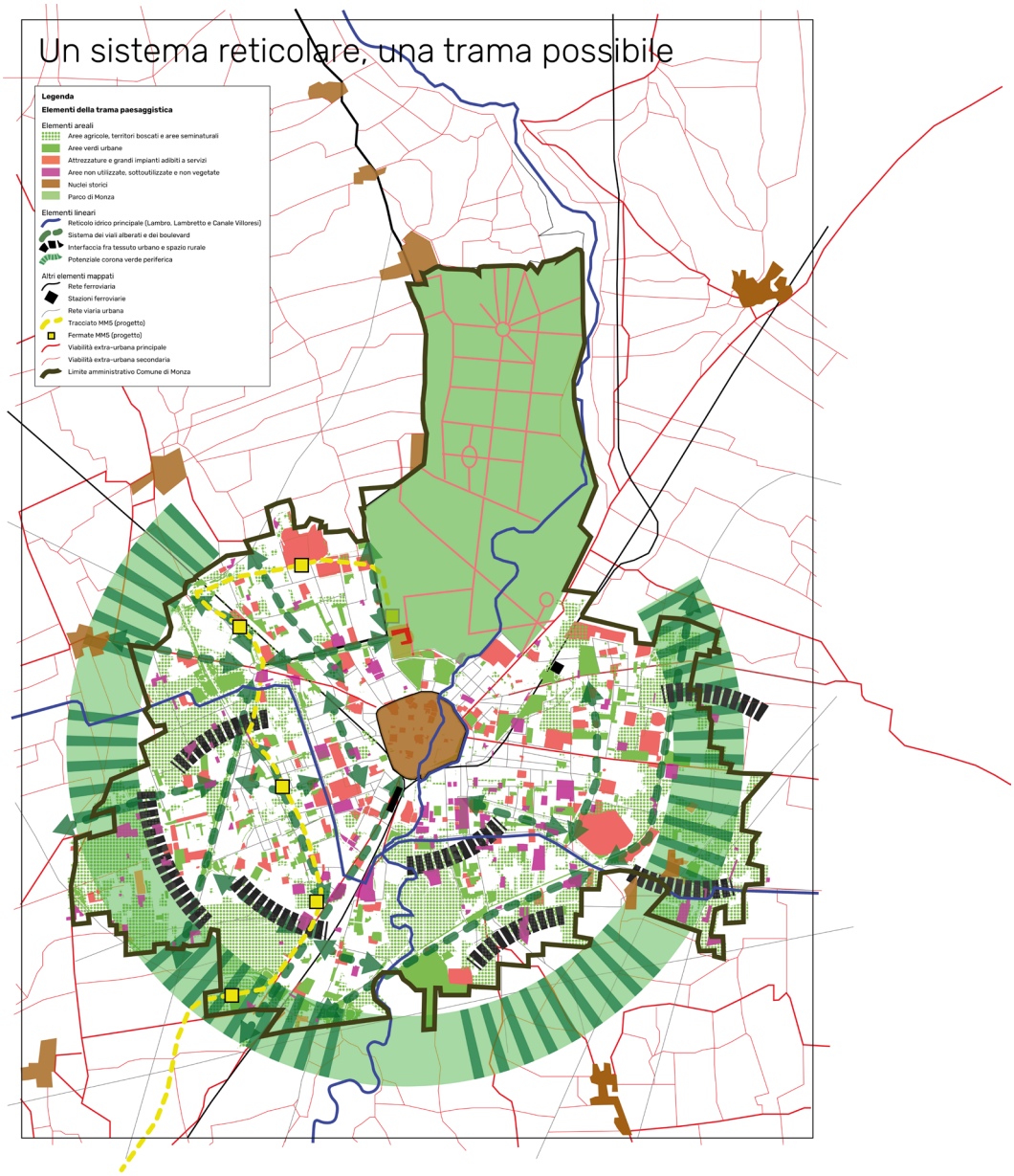
Keywords

Positive Energy Districts (PEDs), Inclusive Energy Transitions, Spatializing PED Strategies.

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Un sistema reticolare, una trama possibile
Legenda
Elementi della trama paesaggistica
Elementi areali
Aree agricole, territori boscati e aree seminaturali
Aree verdi urbane
Attrezzature e grandi impianti adibiti a servizi
Aree non utilizzate, sottoutilizzate e non vegetate
Nuclei storici
Parco di Monza
Elementi lineari
Reticolo idrico principale (Lambro, Lambretto e Canale Villoresi)
Sistema dei viali alberati e dei boulevard
Interfaccia fra tessuto urbano e spazio rurale
Potenziale corona verde periferica
Altri elementi mappati
Rete ferroviaria
Stazioni ferroviarie
Rete viaria urbana
Tracciato MM5 (progetto)
Fermate MM5 (progetto)
Viabilità extra-urbana principale
Viabilità extra-urbana secondaria
Limite amministrativo Comune di Monza

Learning from the past: Rediscovering, and valorising the hidden landscape patterns to envision planning strategies in Monza (Italy).

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In recent years, pressures arising from new ways of living, moving, producing, and consuming within urban systems at a regional scale have necessitated the development of new approaches to urban and territorial planning, inspired by principles of sustainability, green transition, and social inclusion.

Amid this drive to achieve development goals that are more attentive and sensitive to quality of life and the well-being of inhabitants, there has been a proliferation of design approaches that rely on stereotypical territorial interpretations and propose exogenous, decontextualized strategies disconnected from the realities of the places they aim to address.

For this reason, research must critically examine the immanent elements that should form the basis for defining territorial projects and interventions in existing cities. This includes drawing on established experiences that serve as experimental laboratories, with the aim of providing alternative tools to current practices.

The contribution will provide a synthesis of the in-depth analysis concerning the succession of twelve urban plans in Monza. This analysis forms part of a broader study commissioned by the Municipality of Monza to the CST "Lelio Pagani" of the University of Bergamo, in which the author is one of the research team members.

Following a comprehensive review of archival documents and critical texts on the topic, the analysis was conducted through the redrawing and standardized graphical representation of the plans, underlining the planning strategies and the crucial decisions supported. This approach aimed to identify convergences and discrepancies between urban planning projects and the actual development experienced by the municipal territory. In parallel, a critical examination was carried out on the various "ideas of the

city" supported —understood as "figures" (Secchi, 1998)—emerging from the enhancement of specific elements or settlement processes that have shaped the city and its surroundings.

Using the city of Monza as case-study, the objective of the study is to uncover the foundational landscape-related decisions embedded within the sequence of urban plans. In particular, it seeks to explore the potential for reclaiming a territorial design, even starting from small, distributed elements, to strengthen the landscape structure. These elements can support the definition of viable paths for regeneration, the enhancement of natural and cultural features, and the conservation of biodiversity hotspots still present within the territory.

The contribution addresses the necessity and urgency of revisiting the historical plans when we work in a context. Subsequently, it presents the study's findings, which involve a re-reading of the sequence of plans to extract elements of continuity and contradictions. The conclusion outlines potential directions for further work on the emerging landscape framework, emphasizing the creation of interpretative readings ("a figure") that diverge from traditional approaches.

The analysis presented reveal the elements of continuity and the contradictions within the trajectory followed thus far in territorial governance and its external impacts on the landscape, with the goal of defining and grounding (Ash & Lancione, 2022) a potential framework for future planning.

Keywords

Landscape patterns, Grounding design strategies, urban planning.

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City and Fiction: Representations of Lisbon in A Bolsa da Avó Palhaça (2007) by Baptista-Bastos, and the Relevance of Literary Fiction for Contemporary Urbanismt.

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This article examines the representation of Lisbon's urban space in A Bolsa da Avó Palhaça (2007) by Baptista-Bastos, exploring the interplay between fictional narrative, individual memory, and the symbolic construction of the city. Through a literary analysis of the text, the study aims to understand how the novel functions not merely as a setting, but as a constitutive axis of both narrative action and character experience. The city, as portrayed by the narrator, emerges as an affective and allegorical configuration, inviting a reading that transcends the materiality of urban space.

The research adopts an interdisciplinary perspective, bridging literary studies with architecture and urbanism. It advances the hypothesis that fiction holds the potential to expand modes of understanding and representing the urban environment. In this particular case, the narrative unfolds through fragmented childhood memories and familial experiences inscribed in recognisable locations across Lisbon. These spaces—including the River Tagus, streets, squares, and neighbourhoods—are evoked as layers of meaning, where physical geography becomes a locus of memory and identity construction.

By mapping the narrated spaces and confronting them with the morphology of the actual city, the study demonstrates how literature can offer an alternative mode of urban reading. It argues that fictional spaces—often disregarded in planning processes—possess intrinsic value as contributions to the architect's and urban planner's imagination. Fiction offers subjective, historical, and emotional perspectives on territory, revealing uses, experiences, and attachments frequently overlooked by conventional technical methodologies. In Baptista-Bastos' work, writing operates as a means of reinscribing the city, producing a Lisbon that oscillates between the real and

the imagined, the lived and the projected.

This investigation reinforces the value of literature as a critical and creative tool in urban thought. It particularly underscores the need for greater integration between literary culture and urban practice, identifying the recurring absence of humanistic education in urbanism as a factor contributing to the disconnection between fictional narratives and architectural interventions. A Bolsa da Avó Palhaça is thus approached as a meaningful contribution to rethinking the city, allowing the writer's gaze to challenge and enrich that of the designer.

Keywords

Lisbon, Literature and the City, Narrative Space, Architecture, Cultural Urbanism.

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TRENTO LEAF PLAN Concept.
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Leaf Plan. 3 New Paradigms and 5 Challenges towards Ecological Transition.

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What is the destiny of urban planning in an era that seems to consider only--or at least with absolute priority-the evolution of intangible spaces and related devices? If today the theme of city development is no longer about growth but resilience and environmental quality? When not the construction of the new, but the efficiency and re-signification of existing buildings, become the central issues of building production? This is a major challenge for urban culture. A challenge that values the existing with conceptual devices that work on the slippage of meaning and new life cycles of living spaces

Narration, social action and performance, are paradigms that can identify an anachronistic design attitude in Agamben's sense, anti-graceful and popular. They emphasize the need to break with a conception of urban development essentially based on the construction of the new. These are viewpoints on the meaning of urbanism when the future we dreamed of for cities never comes and is probably no longer what we want, and the existing built space seems to be the last possible context of intervention for better living. The result of this shifting process from the aesthetics of signs to the aesthetics of senses gives beauty to a new form of landscape–city that is probably the only sensible form of inhabiting the physical world today, a space in which nature is the main infrastructure linking people and quality of life. The project for the new Trento Plan experiments in practice the same paradigms and, as in Nolli's image of Rome or Rem Koolhaas's map of New York, takes the image of open spaces as the shape of the city: a leaf.

In leaves, the ribs are the conducting vessels, the channels that brings life. Water and mineral substances from the roots reach the leaves through these channels, are processed into sap and brought back to the ground via the same ways. In Trento, the ribs of the city are the lines, the concretions

and the social relationships traced by its open spaces. It is the green and blue infrastructures that organize the system of public spaces and social life. The ribs describe a system of existing and magnetic spaces that continually tends to grow stronger. The green ribs system catalyzes ecosystem services, public education, sports and recreational facilities, spaces for universities, places in the historic city and tends to attract spaces for the new landscape and environmental compensations. It identifies the channels of the continuous aggregation of the landscape/environmental qualities of the city and the favorite places of social life.

In line with the themes of the European Urban Agenda, the plan proposes five challenges for the future development of Trento. The challenges include short-term and long-term objectives, but unlike them they do not have set deadlines. They are fought day by day with strategic actions and small local changes. Having achieved one quality objective, the challenge pursues another in an almost metabolic process of continuous improvement of the city's social, environmental, economic and cultural performances.

Keywords

Landscape-based design, ecological urbanism, strategic vision.

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Exploring the Interim: the power of uncertainty in urban planning.

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The contemporary urban landscape is increasingly defined by overlapping crises, from long-foreseen urban challenges—spatial fragmentation, socio-spatial inequality, and environmental pressures—to an escalating housing affordability crisis that limits access to adequate living conditions. Traditional urban planning, often structured around rigid, long-term models, struggles to provide timely and adaptive responses to these pressing issues. As uncertainty becomes a defining condition of urban development, the need for more flexible, iterative, and experimental methodologies becomes evident, enabling urban policies and design strategies to better navigate rapid transformations. In this context, futures literacy can play a crucial role in equipping planners and policymakers with the ability to anticipate and engage with multiple urban futures, fostering a shift from reactive to proactive and exploratory planning approaches.

This presentation explores how interim strategies can serve as spatial laboratories, allowing cities to test alternative futures and integrate experimental, time-sensitive solutions into broader soft/hard planning frameworks. A scenario-elicitation methodology, previously applied in a research study in Barreiro, a city in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area, demonstrated the potential of future scenarios as tools for testing innovative governance structures, alternative models and new spatial configurations before committing to long-term implementation. Building upon this experience, this presentation will outline a strategy for interim aproaches, reusing obsolete urban areas to create adaptable and resilient solutions in response to contemporary challenges. By incorporating futures literacy principles into this process, urban planning can embrace exploratory thinking and anticipatory governance as key components of a more agile and responsive method.

Integrating interim interventions into planning processe allows cities to enhance resilience, inclusivity, and adaptability, with short-term strategies serving as catalysts for systemic change. Rather than perceiving uncertainty as a constraint, this approach embraces temporality as a design asset, positioning experimental urban interventions as essential components of long--term urban strategies. The ability to envision and test multiple urban futures, rather than merely responding to crises as they emerge, enables cities to navigate complexity with greater strategic foresight, ensuring that urban transformations are not only reactive but also proactively shaped through informed, collective imagination.

Keywords

Interim strategies, Uncertainty, Futures Literacy.

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Envisioning caring connections with self, others and spaces: a creative encounter between thick mapping and psychotherapy.

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Participatory urbanism and psychotherapy, though seemingly distinct disciplines, share a fundamental concern with people, their experiences and their relationships to contexts. Through an interdisciplinary collaboration, this paper explores the intersection of thick mapping as an approach to participatory Urbanism and psychotherapy, as a discipline focussed on interpersonal and intrapsychic relationships.

This paper begins by describing thick mapping and its importance in deeping participatory processes. We then explore the links with Psychotherapy through their mutual attention to relationships. Deepening this exploration, we then engage with Heidegger's philosophy and its influence on understandings of the therapeutic relationship. Drawing parallels that contribute to deepening thick mapping processes, we affirm the inherent focus on relationships and their depth. Through the lens of Heidegger's concept of Dasein (being-there), we deepen our understanding of the relational dimensions of engagements. We reflect upon the notion of authenticity in psychotherapy alongside thick mapping in co-design, and explore what a caring approach to co-design practices entails — moving beyond mere cognitive or representational mapping to an embodied, intersubjective engagement with people, spaces, their thick relations embedded in their multi-layered contexts..

Thick mapping, as a co-design practice of care, embraces relationality by rendering the interconnected relationships between people and spaces, emotions/feelings and experiences within their layered contexts. Countering ecological and colonial fractures requires a deeper understanding of relationships for thicker mapping and co-design processes of visioning. Thick maps tell thick stories, essential to reimagining possible futures. Whereas thick mapping in co-design practices often appears confined to a cognitive

or representational exercise, in practice it is highly emotional. In giving voice to people, they feel heard and acknowledged. Where a space is made to hear differing voices, affirmative and conflictual relations foster the emergence of reparative and bonding feelings. Where people can experience and express emotion in relation to their spaces, they can heal and engage their relationships to spaces. In so doing, opportunities are created for , reconnecting people to self, others and spaces. Not much is said about how designers navigate emerging emotions during co-design workshops, nor about the emotional impact of co-design practices on participants and affected actors.

Where the emotional turn foregrounds feelings in cartographic practices, the healing agency of co-design processes as a critical part of transformative space-making further deepens an emotional engagement, and has not received due attention. It is from this position that we recognise the importance of a collaboration between participatory urbanism and psychotherapy as a means of expanding and deepening the possibilities of emotional attunement in co-design theory and practice.

Our interdisciplinary collaboration, between an urbanist and a psychotherapist, emphasises the role of presence, relationality, and care in rethinking collective design, production and stewardship of spaces. We believe that re-imagining affirmative socio-ecological transitions requires emotionally--aware designers and thicker co-design processes underpinned by a deeper understanding of relationships on multiple levels.

Keywords

Urbanism, psychotherapy, thick mapping, co-design, relationships and Heidegger.

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Mapping Community Narratives in Public Spaces: The Case of Katendrecht, Rotterdam.

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Katendrecht, a historically layered neighbourhood in Rotterdam, has experienced profound transformations over the years. Once a bustling harbour district shaped by successive waves of migration, it has recently undergone significant gentrification, embodying diverse community narratives. Public spaces in Katendrecht have evolved alongside these changes, yet they remain key arenas where social dynamics are expressed, negotiated, and sometimes contested (Borch and Kornberger, 2015). The way public spaces shape and reflect these evolving community narratives is crucial for understanding how urban environments adapt to socio-economic transitions (Low, 2016).

This research examines the interconnections between public spaces and community narratives in Katendrecht. Utilising spatial mapping and ethnographic methods—including street interviews, participatory observations, and workshops—we aim to document the neighbourhood's changing social fabric. By creating 'social-spatial maps,' we seek to illustrate how public spaces facilitate community interactions and contribute to shared identities (Caquard and Cartwright, 2014). These maps function as analytical tools to visualise both historical and contemporary community dynamics, offering insights into the socio-spatial transformations of the area.

The relationship between public space and social cohesion has been widely discussed in urban studies. Well-designed, accessible, and inclusive public spaces are crucial for fostering a sense of belonging and community engagement (Gehl, 2011). Research indicates that street life, mixed land use, and the presence of public amenities such as parks, squares, and seating areas can significantly enhance social interactions (Mehta, 2013). In Katendrecht, where cultural diversity has long been a defining characteristic, public spaces serve as crucial platforms for dialogue and cultural exchange.

However, as gentrification progresses, these spaces also become contested sites where different social groups negotiate access, usage, and representation (Lees, Shin, & López-Morales, 2016).

Gentrification poses challenges to long-standing communities, often leading to social displacement and altering local cultural landscapes (Zukin, 2009). The transformation of Katendrecht, driven by urban regeneration projects, has shifted its socio-economic profile, raising concerns about inclusivity and cultural erasure. Through socio-spatial mapping, we can gain a better understanding of how public spaces mediate between continuity and disruption in community narratives (Harvey, 2012). Participatory mapping and narrative cartography amplify local voices, ensuring that spatial analysis reflects residents' lived experiences (Czepczyński, 2016).

This research highlights the importance of recognising public spaces as more than just physical locations; they are dynamic arenas where social identities, histories, and aspirations converge. The study contributes to urban design and planning by advocating for more inclusive and community-driven approaches to public space development. By foregrounding local narratives in spatial analysis, this research offers policymakers, urban planners, and community organisations a deeper understanding of how to maintain socially sustainable urban environments.

In conclusion, Katendrecht's public spaces serve as microcosms of broader urban transformations, reflecting the tensions and possibilities that emerge in evolving neighbourhoods. By employing innovative mapping techniques, this research underscores the need to integrate community perspectives in urban planning to ensure that public spaces remain accessible, inclusive, and representative of diverse social realities.

Keywords

Public Space, Community Narratives , Socio-Spatial Mapping.

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Creating a Region - City Visions and Collateral Effects.

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This work explores the urbanisation of the Costa do Sol as a process. The narrative is based on three moments of most significant political impetus regarding the transformations of the territory: (1) Constitutional Monarchy (1868-1908), (2) Estado Novo (1933-1961), (3) Democracy - from its dawn to the period of adaptation to the then European Economic Community (1976-1994).

The study stems from a more extensive study, with a methodology based on a review of the literature, legislation and historical documents, focusing on the digital municipal archives of Oeiras and Cascais. These archives offer a wealth of documentation on the urbanisation of the Costa do Sol, including iconography, cartography and urban planning documents. These sources made it possible to correlate data and facts about the evolution of the urban, confirming recurring observations in academia and urban planning practice. It acknowledges the value of the open repositories of Oeiras City Council, Legislation (Royal Legislation and Official Gazette), which made it possible to confront, assess and correlate facts that have been repeated in the academic and professional community associated with urbanism. This documentation, field observation and cartographic analysis made drawing up a map of events that traces the urbanisation possible. Using a narrative review approach, the research also considered the national and European political and economic context (Greenhalgh et al., 2018).

In the 1930s, the Estado Novo (New State) began a series of actions related to the creation of an institutional and legal framework in the practice of urbanism (Souza Lôbo, 1993) which in the Costa do Sol Plan (PUCS), aimed at tourist and urban development from Lisbon to Cascais. Still with an eye on the seaside spirit of the Costa do Sol of the 1800s, the Estoris, we come

across the transformation in the face of the modern railway infrastructure. The collective imagination refers to a cosmopolitan and sophisticated seaside area, around second homes or more exclusive hotels. The coastal geography favoured the creation of infrastructures and settlements that mixed the rustic and the urban, resulting in a suburban area of great social and economic importance until the end of the 20th century. Intense development from the end of the 20th century onwards transformed the Costa do Sol into a diverse metropolitan front.

Souza Lôbo and Pereira (1994) are fundamental in understanding these urban plans from the period of Duarte Pacheco, especially those implemented on the Costa do Sol. Their reflections help contextualise the region's transformation within the national and European scenario, highlighting the role of political and economic influence in urbanisation processes.

Keywords

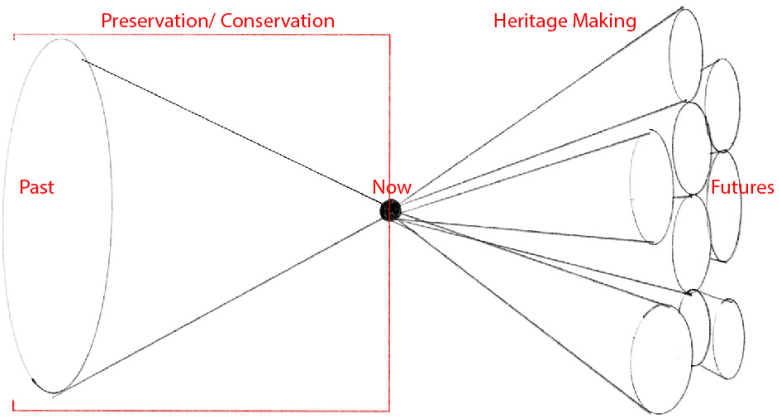
Contemporary urbanism, Urbanisation, Costa do Sol.

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Preservation/ Conservation
Heritage Making
Past
Now
Futures

Zoos as Future Heritage: Reimaging the Politics of Human-Animal Relations Through Gaming

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This study examines the zoo as a future heritage, exploring its historical roots and contemporary relevance. Zoos, as political and cultural institutions, have significant implications, as discussed in Li-Jung Cheng's The Beasts of Civilization. In the chapter "Nation and Zoo," Cheng critiques how colonial powers like Europe and Japan established zoos and botanical gardens in their colonies as symbols of "civilization" and "state authority." Examples include the British-founded Alipore Zoo in India, Japan's Maruyama Zoo in Hokkaido, and Taiwan's Yuan-Shan Zoo (Taipei Zoo), where these institutions expressed national prestige and dominance.

Modern zoos have been critiqued for reflecting a rupture in human-animal relations. As animals disappeared from daily life, zoos became staged environments where encounters with animals were artificial, preserving an illusion of connection while reinforcing human dominance. Historically, zoos were imperialist displays of exotic animals, reinforcing colonial narratives of control. Today, even as they've evolved into public institutions promoting education and conservation, their foundations and formats still remain linked to colonial histories.

The traditional zoo model is increasingly scrutinised in today's rapidly changing society. Advancements in digital media, virtual reality, and ecological education have questioned the need for physical zoos. Institutions like Amsterdam's Artis Zoo have faced backlash, with calls for closure in the name of animal welfare. This raises critical questions: What role do zoos play today? Are they cultural landmarks, unjust heritage sites, or something yet to be redefined?

To address these critiques and imagine future possibilities, this study introduces "future heritage-making" as a framework for reimagining zoos.

Building on Rodney Harrison's idea of heritage as a relational process, this research aligns with speculative design, as Anthony Dunne and Fiona Raby discussed. Rather than treating heritage as a fixed historical narrative, future heritage invites participatory speculation on how zoos could restructure and weave into the urban fabric.

This interdisciplinary approach integrates participatory design workshops and speculative gaming to reimagine zoos as future heritage. Through workshops, urban residents will reimagine zoo spaces, employing democratic design for collective meaning-making. Drawing from Dunne and Raby's idea of "storytelling to narrative-making," this study places public engagement at its core, positioning zoo reimagination as an artistic and socio-political act. The workshops will explore urban landscapes that foster multispecies coexistence, questioning whether participatory public art can dismantle the colonial frameworks embedded in zoos.

Ultimately, this research seeks to bridge theoretical inquiry with practical application. By reinterpreting zoos through co-creation and public participation, the study aims to transform them from sites of past injustices into platforms for future heritage. The central question is whether zoos can evolve from symbols of colonial exploitation to spaces that foster equity, inclusivity, and shared urban coexistence. More broadly, the study interrogates how human societies construct spaces of exclusion and control, whether for animals, immigrants, Indigenous communities, or other marginalized groups. Through a politics of representation lens, this research proposes a framework for reimagining urban spaces as sites for collective transformation and the future of human-animal relations.

Keywords

Participatory workshop, Speculative Design, Heritage Making.

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Track 6 - Steering ...

New arenas for dialogue, politics, policy-making, and deliberation



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Meeting "Paths and Challenges for Housing in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area", 15 November 2022

Towards a Metropolitan Approach to Housing Policy in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area

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The housing crisis has become one of the most pressing societal challenges globally, exacerbated by the globalization of demand, retraction of supply and rising housing costs, which have placed many individuals and families in vulnerable situations. In Portugal, the problem has reached critical proportions, with the country experiencing one of the sharpest declines in housing affordability among OECD nations. According to the latest statistics (third quarter of 2024), Portugal is the country with the highest the price-to--income ratio — "the ratio of nominal house prices to nominal household disposable income per capita"—, with an increase of 58% since 2015 (OECD, 2024).

The situation is particularly severe in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area (LMA), where structural factors — including demographic dynamics, limited housing availability per household, and soaring property and rental prices — have intensified housing shortage and prices. By 2018, 54% of households in need of resettlement were located in the LMA (IHRU, I.P., 2018), and by 2022, more than 50 thousand households in the region were in severe housing deprivations and an estimated 62% were in a situation of housing unaffordability (Pinho; Carvalho, & Vale, 2022).

In response, housing policy has gained prominence on the national agenda, leading to regulatory reforms aimed at streamlining administrative procedures and promoting housing supply, as well as the launch of unprecedented financial instruments. Among these, the Next Generation EU mechanism, materialized in the Portuguese Recovery and Resilience Plan (PRR), included the largest financial commitment ever allocated to housing policy in Portugal, to be executed within the shortest timeframe in history.

However, implementing these measures presents significant challenges,

particularly in the metropolitan context. The demand for housing and financial support in the LMA far exceeds that of non-metropolitan areas, while individual municipalities struggle to address this regional-scale issue independently. Moreover, from a political-administrative perspective, the LMA, as an inter-municipal entity, lacks statutory powers and political autonomy, with no metropolitan competencies in housing policy. Consequently, any coordinated metropolitan-scale initiative depends on the voluntary commitment and political agreement of the 18 municipalities, represented by their respective mayors.

In the absence of formal government authority, the LMA has increasingly relied on soft governance mechanisms to foster inter-municipal cooperation in housing policy, following a similar approach to that applied in other policy domains (e.g., EU's Cohesion Policy; climate change adaptation; sustainable urban mobility; food transition) (Cavaco, Chaves & Carvalho, 2024). Since 2020, the region has developed initiatives that engage academia and local authorities through the establishment of a Metropolitan Housing Group, advancing collaborative endeavours such as joint diagnostic studies, action plans, technical capacity-building programs, and public procurement agreements. This paper examines these governance mechanisms, demonstrating how the LMA has leveraged soft power and institutional coordination to consolidate a metropolitan approach to housing while strengthening territorial governance more broadly.

Keywords

Housing Policy; Metropolitan Governance; Lisbon Metropolitan Area

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SOCIAL INNOVATION	
Concept	**Accomplishment**
▪ It is often associated with "advancing access to rights," such as inclusion, redistribution, security, integration, or equity.	▪ It is not an achievement resulting from individual actions, but through social or collective action; ▪ It contributes to the "satisfaction of human needs" that are not met or considered otherwise satisfied.
▪ It tends to refine "human capacities" through shared experiences, collaboration and empowerment, enhancing community social capital	▪ It is a circular process, or, in other words, it has a "life cycle"[116] that begins with social actors in an "innovative moment", whose acts, once incorporated in a permanent, systematized way, often become "updating"; then, subsequent challenges pressure these actors towards new actions and innovative approaches within each new situation, in a social context already prepared in to produce and deal with innovation.

—
Common characteristics of social innovation to different territorial contexts.
Source: Moulaert et al, 2007, p. 19-20.

Human dimension of urbanism: from local creativity to social innovation.

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Social inequalities and conflicts of interest within cities convert urbanism as essential to improve dialogues about the future. Paradoxically, urban public management usually reflects hegemonic powers interest undermining less--empowered community's right to the city. The excessive importance given to political and economic side of development inspires this article towards the human dimension of planning as core aspect for cities. It is focused in local communities as social manifestations of urban dynamics, showing common and creative responses to city challenges.

In this context, empowerment of local actors, striving for political participation in deliberative urban planning processes, becomes a key-element to enhance creativity in urban development. This fact explains the recent years emerging of theoretical and empirical experiences that aim to enhance creativity and innovation to urban interventions.

The objective of this paper is to present a conceptual discussion about creativity and innovation, which arise from the diversity of local places and its significance to social governance. This discussion launches a reflection about the importance of enhancing planning tools to promote better connection between urban interventions and local life dynamics.

This research brings a qualitative methodology developed by literature interpretation, linking the research about social innovation by IFRESI-CNRS Lille; GURU/APL & Frank Moulaert (2007); and the studies on creative cities from Stefan Krätke (2011). It is complemented by updated contributions from Valentina Orioli & Martina Massari (2023) connecting social innovation with urban planning. From this study arises the understanding regarding creativity as a stimulated ability (not an individual gift) that happens organically through interpersonal interaction of actors involved in signi-

ficant territorial dynamics (Krätke, 2011). It produces innovation through new knowledge in a mutual learning circle capable to alter perceptions and actions over their own local context. Social innovations are, then, "highly contextual" consequences of endogenous aspects within local communities (Moulaert et al., 2007).

From this, we may say that urban civic engagement is essential to stimulate creativity and provoke innovative responses (Orioli & Massari, 2023), which depends on shared intellectual efforts, leading to results not yet seen, unlike trends or scenarios predetermined in traditional planning. The work of public managers and urban planners is technically proficient in technical--institutionalized interventions but away from local knowledge. In order to promote innovative urban interventions, it is essential the "creative energy" within neighboring planning processes. Innovation depends on the intrinsic community creativity as a collective resource.

With this in mind, a "creative city" is also an "inclusive city". Urban challenges demand local efforts; intellectual exchanges stimulate local creativity towards innovative responses. Circular learning influences local practices, institutional structures, public policies and the whole local governance urban system.

The outlook of this work hopes to be a brainwork to public managers, architects and urban planners, rethink the main principles of planning processes as a qualitative process instead of exclusively quantitative, as usually present in economic-based urban development, towards a dialogue beyond social participation. It is necessary a special behavior towards what communities are doing to achieve decision making powers with better representative and deliberative legal instruments.

Keywords

Urban planning; social innovation; creative cities.

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Baby Boom - Housing Boom: Are we entering the concept of living as a service?

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There is clearly a global problem of access to first-time housing that affects many countries, manifesting in different ways and being addressed through public policies defined according to each nation's resources, governance ideologies, culture, and strategic vision.

This article explores the evolution of housing concept in Portugal, focusing on the shortcomings of public policies developed over the past four decades and the emergence of new housing paradigms.

The goal is to reflect on the relationship between traditional homeownership and new approaches, such as "living as a service," a model designed to make housing access more flexible in response to rapid growth of real estate speculation.

"Living as a service" is an innovative concept, particularly when examining examples of services we use daily, such as car rentals, bike-sharing, co-living, and coworking spaces. The underlying idea is that ownership of an asset is not mandatory to enjoy its benefits.

However, in Portugal, the belief that owning a home is essential for both families and personal development is deeply ingrained. As a result, this has led to significant socio-economic challenges, especially during the last economic crisis (subprime), when many families became trapped by loans they had taken out.

The culture of ownership has been perpetuated by peer pressure and rigid public policies, such as the Municipal Master Plan (PDM), which failed to adapt quickly to market dynamics, resulting in ineffective solutions regarding housing supply. The 1990s urban expansion to accommodate demographic growth expectations did not materialize, and the 2014 Law, which was more restrained and restrictive, further fueled real estate speculation, dri-

ving up housing prices and making it harder for families to access ownership. This reflects a planning culture that addresses current issues without anticipating future challenges like a firefighter putting out fires without thinking on preventing future ones.

The ongoing housing shortage has become a persistent problem, particularly for young people, who are now forced to make difficult choices, such as deciding between owning a home or having a baby to expand their families. This dilemma contributes to demographic stagnation and highlights the need to re-evaluate housing policies. We are no longer building homes solely for today's needs; we are building homes for future generations, requiring a shift toward intergenerational housing.

Therefore, the article reviews emerging housing policy approaches, focusing on adapting them to Portugal's socio-economic and territorial context, and understanding the impact of "living as a service," which challenges the traditional Portuguese culture of homeownership. This theme is relevant to question government's decision to continue pushing policies for renting, homeownership, and student housing, but not for "living as a service" solutions.

Promoting "living as a service," rather than traditional ownership, could provide an innovative response to the current housing crisis. This model offers a more flexible approach, enabling municipalities to provide housing that adapts throughout life, offering solutions adapted to changes in housing needs throughout a person's life.

Key findings highlight the challenges of aligning housing needs with socio-economic realities, proposing alternatives to address the housing shortage in Portugal.

Keywords

Living as a service

Bibliographic references

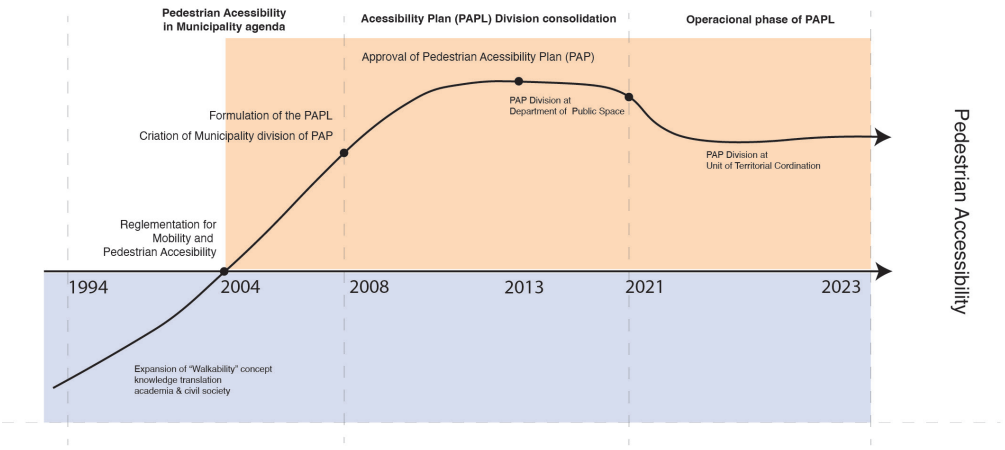
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Walkability in Policy: an evolution in CM Lisboa



Walkability explicit as a policy theme

Walkability implicit as policy theme

* PAPL : Plano de Acessibiliadde Pedonal de Lisboa
* PDML : Plano Diretor Municipal de Lisboa
* EMAACL: Estratégia Municipal de Adaptação às Alterações Climáticas
* PAC 2030 : Plano de Ação Climática 2030
* ZER: Zona de Emissões Reduzidas
* TP: Transportes Públicos

Policymaking narratives for walkability in Lisbon city planning.

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The scientific literature consolidated many walking environment components reflected in multiple walkability indexes (Moura et al., 2017). Nevertheless, translating this knowledge to policymaking is not objective and immediate. The assimilation of the various concepts that orbit around the promotion of walkability depends on how they resonate with the values and knowledge of the actors in formulating and implementing policies. Yet, no consensus exists on the essential components for pedestrian users in urban environments. The visions vary according to specific geographies' socio-cultural contexts and physical and territorial aspects. Therefore, improving walkability is strictly related to the policymaker's understanding of the importance of promoting pedestrian-friendly urban spaces. In addition, promoting pedestrian environments involves confronting socio-technical logics and cultures that consolidate automobile-oriented planning (Bozovic, 2025), especially regarding constraints on public space for traffic and car parking. Therefore, making walkability a relevant issue in city planning involves changing societal and planning environments that underpin the cities' policy agendas defined by their municipal executives. Therefore, the challenges lie in defining principles and strategies for city governance that could promote walkability.

This work delves into the contextual aspects of implementing municipal public policies with an effect on walkability. The research aims to map narratives of Lisbon's policymaking environment that favours walkability promotion in municipal agendas. The study adopts a qualitative approach to analysing and mapping the key discourses (LeGreco & Tracy, 2009) promoting walkability in the municipality of Lisbon's strategic, regulatory and

operational documents. Through semi-structured interviews, it explores the views and interpretations of actors involved in formulating and implementing the public policies mapped. The analysis examines the relationship of a framework of actors' discourse with a framework of elements and dimensions of the policymaking process. The focus is on identifying and categorising the contextual and underlying aspects of the socio-technical environment in the actors' discourses associated with the policymaking process.

As a result, beyond the official discourse of the documents, it is possible to confirm through the interpretations and visions of the actors the key themes promoting walkability that resonate in society and define Lisbon's political and governmental agendas. Moreover, the analysis of the interviews makes it possible to identify particularities, nuances, and actor synergies that outline narratives of the policymaking that result in walkability, whether explicit or implicit, within the strategy of the city's governance.

Keywords

Walkability, policymaking narratives, discourse analysis, policy actors, policy agendas.

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The impacts of metropolisation on socio-environmental transition, current and future challenges.

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After 50 years of intensified globalization, we are witnessing a significant trend: regional functional networks are reshaping urban landscapes in ways that further isolate already marginalized local areas, both spatially and environmentally. These infrastructure changes not only affect primary systems and the most influential economic actors but also have a profound impact on the most deprived sectors.

Ongoing spatial expansion within regions is severely affecting peri-regional areas, turning them into fragmented spaces with unclear functions and no defined purpose or value. This marginalization creates zones of development that lack representation and a voice in decision-making.

We must rethink current values and reconsider how we interact with everyday systems, local economies, and environmental priorities. Aligning these elements within a coherent scalar framework and fostering interscalar interactions can help transition towards a more sustainable and cohesive spatial model that prevents marginalization and displacement. Recognizing these scalar sensitivities allows for the expansion of functional opportunities and the creation of spaces that promote a shared collective vision.

In summary, strengthening local capacities through the collaborative definition of scenarios is essential to reframe integrative socio-environmental perspectives within the context of ecosystem sensitivities and recovery. This approach must address uncertainties and trade-offs across multiple risk dimensions, seeking functional, social, and environmental convergence through diverse economic dynamics.

This paper proposes a scenario-based methodology to highlight how different scales of actions and actors must interact and align objectives to integrate the most marginalized groups into the process of regional func-

tional reconfiguration. With two metropolitan cases on diverse levels of advances on socio-environmental planning levels, the study advances and proposes recommendations to accelerate the socio-environmental transition under socioenvironmental justice.

Keywords

Metropolization; socio-environmental dimension;marginalization;decision-making.

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STARICE
OVO JE ZA TEBE

Is there a future for the sacrifice zone? Understanding Mining Conflicts and Local Community Engagement in Bor and Majdanpek, Serbia

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This paper explores the key theoretical concepts that best explain local community engagement in the mining areas of Bor and Majdanpek, Serbia. In post-socialist, semi-peripheral countries like Serbia, where economic development relies on direct foreign investment—including speculative mining projects that transform lively areas into sacrifice zones (Scott & Smith, 2017)—and where the anti-mining environmental movement is still emerging, it is essential to critically reassess concepts such as participatory, professional, and transactional activism (Petrova & Tarrow, 2007). It is also important to examine the deeper causes of local community engagement beyond institutional public participation and its various forms, given that residents' activities in Bor and Majdanpek are often individual, small-scale, sporadic, and primarily directed against the negative externalities of mining—such as environmental degradation, involuntary resettlement, health issues, monofunctional economy, etc.—rather than against mining activities themselves, but may contribute to the rise of the broader anti-extractivism movement and help create space for reimagining alternative futures (Rodriguez, Walter & Temper, 2024). The analysis is based on secondary sources on the ecological activism in Bor and Majdanpek and examines the specific dynamics of community engagement in these local contexts. Additionally, the paper explores a theoretical framework for understanding small-scale grassroots participation, offering insights into the environmental activism in mining-affected areas. The research has been developed within the MINIPART project supported by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia, grant #7598.

Keywords

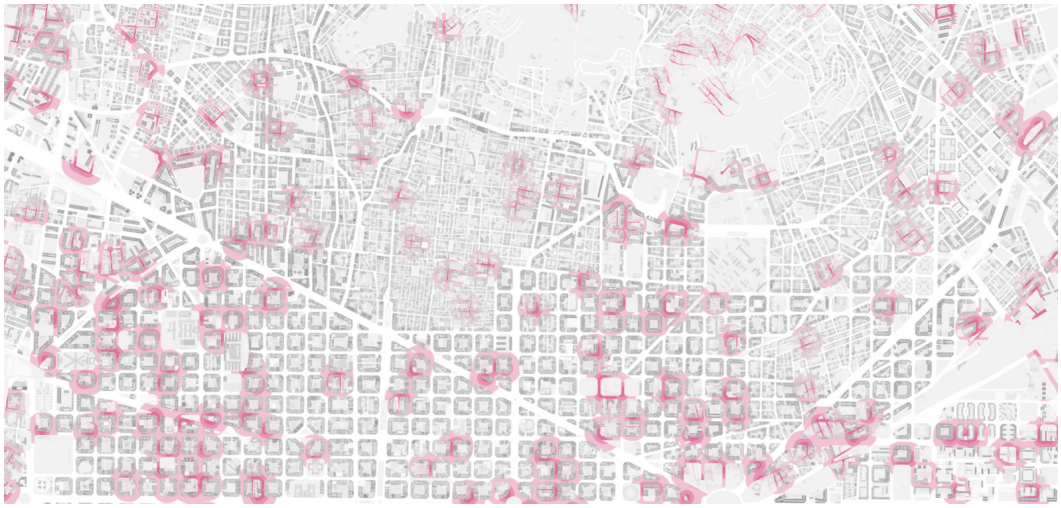
Sacrifice zone, mining conflicts, participation

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Map illustrating the spatial distribution of productive nodes in Barcelona's central area. It highlights key areas where manufacturing is still present or has the potential in order to be reintegrated into the urban fabric through mixed-use redevelopment, adaptive reuse, and innovative planning strategies.

Reimagining the productive city: Manufacturing inside the city. A comparative study of Barcelona and Rotterdam cases.

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The research aims to explore the role and value of industry and manufacturing within the urban fabric, focusing specifically on the cases of Barcelona and Rotterdam. By critically examining the potential of former industrial areas, the study seeks to develop a forward-thinking perspective on which productive activities can be compatible within a mixed-use city context. It also investigates the regulatory frameworks and strategies that can facilitate this integration. The research positions itself within the broader context of urban transformations and industrial decline in European cities, where industrial zones are increasingly marginalized due to globalization, competition from foreign markets, and growing real estate pressures.

The disconnection between urban spaces and industrial activities has been a constant trend since the 1970s, driven by the relocation of production to regions with cheaper labour and fewer regulations. This has been compounded by rising real estate pressures, where industrial land is increasingly given over to residential and tertiary sectors. Despite the fact that industrial jobs generally offer higher wages and stability compared to those in retail or hospitality, industrial areas are often subjected to gentrification, contributing to spatial inequalities and transforming the use of urban land in uneven ways. Environmental regulations, slow urban planning processes, and a prioritization of public space for non-industrial uses have further limited the adaptation of industries within cities. The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the disadvantages of this industrial detachment, highlighting issues such as dependency on third-party production and the unsustainable nature of a model founded on inequality, thus raising the urgent need to reconsider the relationship between production and the urban environment.

This study delves into the ongoing transformations of the boundaries between industrial zones and residential areas, which have evolved through

the interaction of different activities in proximity. The research compares cases in Barcelona and Rotterdam, where projects have successfully integrated industry within urban areas. Key to this transformation are urban strategies such as the invention of new programs, morphological flexibility, and vertical mixing, which help create ecosystems of urban innovation. These require public and private sector involvement to foster the aggregation of institutions, talent, knowledge, and advanced services. The study argues for the possibility of reimagining the city as a productive entity, where industry is not only reinvented but also integrated into everyday life, creating a more sustainable urban environment.

Barcelona, with its unique connectivity and innovation ecosystem, offers a compelling case study for exploring these dynamics. The city's potential to foster a productive city model will be analysed in relation to its industrial intensification and compared with Rotterdam which is currently undergoing similar transformations. From an economic perspective, the research draws on theories of agglomeration economies to emphasize the benefits of industrial clustering within urban environments. These advantages, such as knowledge spillovers and cross-sector fertilization, are critical for boosting innovation and economic resilience. Finally, the study explores how this shift is fostering new forms of industry, such as small-scale, customized production, and how cities are adapting their regulatory frameworks to accommodate these changes.

Keywords

Urban Manufacturing, Industry.

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Starting in 1969, large numbers of Beijing residents participated daily in the construction of Beijing's air-raid shelters, digging them out manually with shovels and pickaxes.

Warm Bodies in Cold War Underground Socialist Capital: Bodily Practices, and Collective Memory in Beijing's Civil Defense Shelters Project (1969–1979)

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Infrastructure is not merely a material network but also sites of affective attachment and mnemonic sedimentation. This study positions the civil defense shelters as nodes that connect state power (through infrastructural governance), urban residents' corporeal practices (labor and daily life), and intergenerational memory (oral history). These shelters' corporeal memories offer a subaltern counter-narrative to Eurocentric Cold War historiography.

The year 1969 marked the peak of the Cold War when Mao Zedong issued the directive to "dig deep shelters, stockpile grain, and renounce hegemony," triggering a nationwide surge in civil defense tunnel construction. Beijing's Underground City project, spanning most urban districts, formed an extensive subterranean network.

Characterized by compulsory mass participation, the mobilization mechanism enlisted workers, students, government employees, and other civilians who contributed through both formal work assignments and voluntary labor during leisure hours, forging a distinct collective memory.

Through oral history interviews with 30 participants, this study points out that Cold War mega infrastructure is based on ordinary citizens' daily bodily experiences and self-reflexive narratives of collective memory. In daily context, the civil defense shelters functioned simultaneously as adventurous caverns and sensory heterotopias—spaces where individuals negotiated between compliance with state mobilization and the fragmentation of personal temporal rhythms.

While the mobilization was inherently coercive, participants predominantly emphasized the spontaneity of their actions. In stark contrast to the state's erstwhile Cold War ideology and its current ambivalence toward this legacy, grassroots narratives nostalgically valorize the era's fervent collecti-

vism manifested through voluntary labor. When confronting the heritagized civil defense shelters, participants emphasize a vision of "mutual constitution" between individuals and society, complicating post-socialist narratives of alienation.. This paradox reveals how socialist mobilization's disciplinary logic is retrospectively reimagined as a repository of ethical sociality, complicating conventional critiques of Cold War urban governance.

This study demonstrates how oral history can "rescue" submerged corporeal experiences from Cold War infrastructure's material opacity. The more crucial theoretical contribution lies in transcending the Western "discipline--resistance" dichotomy to reveal the devotion-trauma paradox unique to the Chinese context: citizens internalized the corporeal ethics of "serving the people" while enduring irreversible lifeworld compression. Oral histories reconstructing sensory memories demonstrate how bodily experiences constitute the material substrate of collective memory. These findings necessitate a critical reevaluation of contemporary Cold War heritage museology.

Keywords

Cold War Infrastructure; Bodily Politics; Collective Memory

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Territorial opportunities and the politics of everyday life in the fight against the worst forms of child labor in Santos (Brazil)

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This study explores the persistence of the worst type of child and adolescent labor (Galdeano & Almeida, 2018) in vulnerable urban contexts, focusing on Santos (Brazil) and the Vila Nova and São Manoel neighborhoods. The research aims to understand how structural weaknesses of the territory influence child labor exploitation, considering territorial opportunities as a central element in designing more effective and locally sensitive public policies. Territorial opportunities are physical, environmental, and socio-cultural elements, their relationships, and the socially constructed facilities that make life possible materially and symbolically. Additionally, the study seeks to identify key actors, beyond the public authorities, who play a relevant role in implementing and improving these policies.

The study's perspectives on "territory" go beyond traditional approaches limited to national borders or large-scale power dynamics. It focuses on everyday experiences of populations in community territories, woven by multiple relations of power, institutions, and resources (Haesbaert, 2014). This territory, shaped by local needs, is key to understanding the dynamics involving children, adolescents, and families, especially in dangerous and degrading forms of labor. The research emphasizes the importance of considering life trajectories, observing gender, race, and class within the framework of care, and territorial opportunities and their potential for improvement toward territorial justice.

Santos, especially Vila Nova and São Manoel neighborhoods, faces deep

territorial inequalities, with infrastructure limitations, restricted access to essential services, and high social vulnerability. These weaknesses create an environment conducive to child labor exploitation, including precarious work related to drug trafficking, sexual exploitation, domestic labor, and commercial activities. Furthermore, the port complex, local communities, and seasonal activities related to commerce, tourism, and leisure form interconnected parallel markets requiring child labor.

The methodology adopts a qualitative, ethnographic, and phenomenological approach, using semi-structured interviews, participatory observation, and interactions with children, adolescents, and community actors. The territory analysis considers structural weaknesses and existing public policies to identify gaps where territoriality can enhance protection and prevention policies.

The research maps the role of key actors like civil society organizations, community groups, and support networks, highlighting how they collaborate in formulating effective and integrated public policies. Although sectors such as social assistance, education, health, security, and culture have actions focused on preventing child labor, a need remains to improve data collection, procedures, and strategies to identify, record, eradicate, and prevent cases of child labor in the region. Researchers have been working closely to the Municipal Commission for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor. Furthermore, one of the results of this project is the creation of an Intersectorial Comittee dedicated to reviewing the system for guaranteeing the rights of children and adolescents subjected to child labor in Santos, consisting of members of the municipal executive and councils working in partnership with the researchers (Prefeitura de Santos, 2025).

The conclusion reaffirms the importance of understanding territory as a central element in the formulation of public policies, suggesting that actions should be better adapted to local specificities, considering territorial dynamics, the lived experiences of populations, and opportunities for territorial justice present in each context.

Keywords

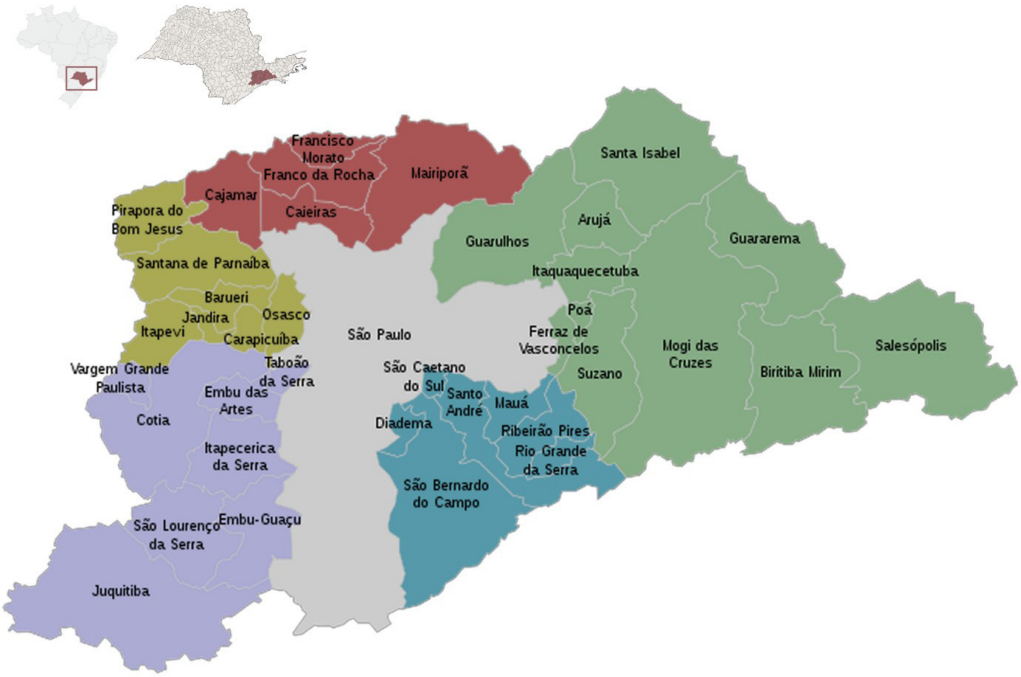
Territorial opportunities; child labor; public policies.

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São Caetano do Sul
Santo André
Mauá
Diadema
Ribeirão Pires
Rio Grande da Serra
São Bernardo do Campo
São Lourenço da Serra
Embu-Guaçu
Juquitiba
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Soft Planning and Territorial Governance in Brazil: Lessons from the Lisbon Case for the Greater ABC Region

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The concept of soft planning, associated with governance and planning, has gained theoretical relevance in recent decades, particularly in contexts where conventional administrative boundaries are challenged by interscalar dynamics. As observed in Lisbon and its metropolitan area, soft planning practices have emerged as a response to the need to overcome limitations imposed by traditional administrative structures, fostering intermunicipal collaboration and the creation of 'flexible' planning spaces, underscoring their ability to act as catalysts for territorial governance. Through the integration of supramunicipal strategies, financial incentives, and the promotion of a collaborative ethos, it has been possible to develop initiatives that transcend municipal boundaries and strengthen territorial cohesion. These practices have shown significant results in Portugal, which Cavaco et al. (2024) describe these instances also contribute to the gradual development of a 'supra-municipal awareness,' moving beyond the simple sum of individual and independent municipal objectives—a common occurrence in Portugal's inter-municipal cooperation.

Seeking to advance this research agenda in different contexts (Santana-Chaves et al., 2025), the Intermunicipal Consortium of the Greater ABC emerges as a relevant object of study, justified by its trajectory, pioneering actions, and its integration within the São Paulo's Macrometropolis (SPMM). The Consortium brings together seven municipalities from the São Paulo Metropolitan Region: Santo André, São Bernardo do Campo, São Caetano do Sul, Diadema, Mauá, Ribeirão Pires, and Rio Grande da Serra (Figure 1). Together, these municipalities occupy a territorial area of approximately 828 km² and have an estimated population of about 2.7 million inhabitants, according to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE). Esta-

blished in 1990, the Consortium has a significant trajectory in articulating regional public policies, with a particular focus on joint actions in areas such as urban mobility, health, and environmental management.

The Greater ABC stands out for its industrial relevance, recording a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of R$150.576 billion in 2021, positioning it as the fourth-largest economy in Brazil, behind only São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and Brasília. This combination of intermunicipal cooperation, population significance, and economic impact makes the Consortium a strategic model for regional planning within the SPMM.

To build upon the learning from Portugal, a document analysis was conducted, examining instruments developed over the last decade using an analytical matrix based on four key planning dimensions: policies, governance, politics, and ethos. Drawing on prior reflections (Cavaco et al., 2023), the goal is to develop an approach addressing essential structural aspects of collaborative planning strategies and processes in the Greater ABC region.

The analysis reveals soft planning instruments that promote: (1) cooperation incentives; (2) integrated territorial development strategies; and (3) flexible planning spaces encouraging multiscalar collaboration. However, challenges such as voluntarism and plan discontinuity, often tied to political polarization and reliance on federal funding, remain significant. The Greater ABC region holds potential to become a national model for metropolitan governance by articulating integrated strategies and fostering a collaborative ethos that advances regional well-being equitably and sustainably.

Keywords

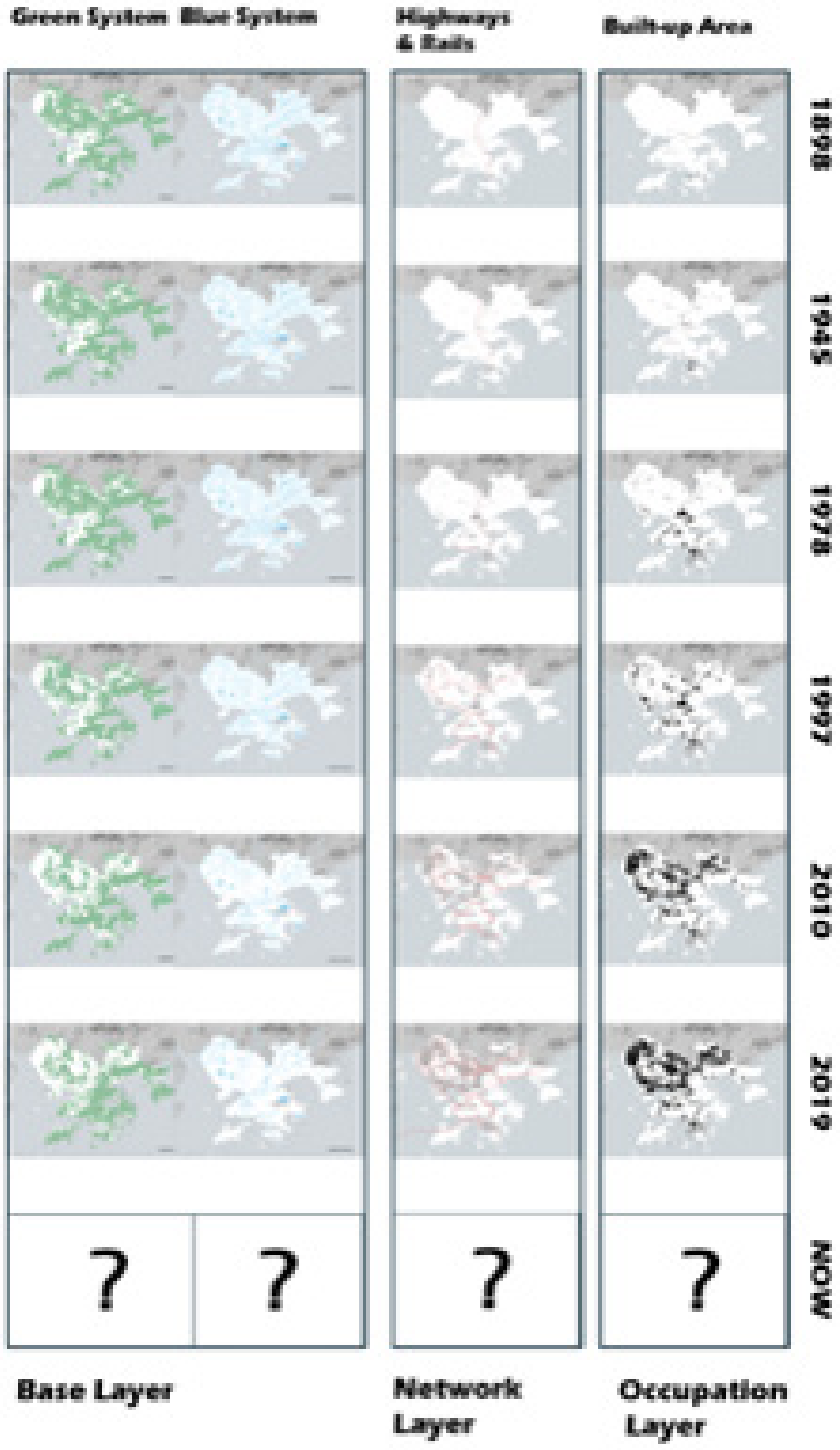
Territorial Governance; Soft planning; Intermunicipal Consortium of the Greater ABC

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Green System
Blue System
Highways & Rails
Built-up Area
1898
1945
1978
1997
2010
2019
NOW
?
?
?
?
Base Layer
Network Layer
Occupation Layer

Interpreting Duo-City Morphological Transformation from Layer Approach: Mapping the Urban-rural Landscape in Hong Kong-Shenzhend

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Sharing the similar geographic and climatic conditions, Hong Kong and Shenzhen exhibit different urbanization scales, speeds, and patterns due to the development history and policy. Now the Hong Kong-Shenzhen region is one of the largest urban areas globally in terms of both population and land area. In the context of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) and the Northern Metropolis development (State Council, 2019; HKSAR, 2023), a duo-city perspective of the region has become increasingly essential, which can facilitate better integrated planning and design for the future.

The duo-city development of Hong Kong and Shenzhen has long been a hot topic. Issues such as the integration development of Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta (PRD) are often addressed. Previous studies have predominantly focused on economic and political aspects, including international division of industry, cross-border production networks, and governance structures, etc. However, urban morphological research, which has the potential to provide a sound base to intervene in the process of urban development and to manage urban change in a better way, is less explored. The key questions arise: How has the urban morphology of Hong Kong and Shenzhen evolved? What spatial structural elements contribute to the differences between the two cities, and what are the underlying driven forces? How can insights from existing urban forms guide future integrated duo-city urban planning and design?

Thus, this study collects, analyzes, and presents spatial data on the transformation of the two cities, employing comprehensive mapping methods to distill the urban spatial structure. According to the layer approach (Meyer & Nijhuis, 2013), the Hong Kong-Shenzhen region is dissected into Base Layer,

Network Layer, and Occupation Layer. The respective spatial structural characteristics and their interrelations are analyzed and discussed. Furthermore, the temporal dimension is incorporated too. The development of Hong Kong and Shenzhen is divided into different historical phases according to essential historical events and structural planning policies. They are before 1840, 1840-1898, 1898-1945, 1945-1978, 1978-1997, 1997-2010, 2010-2019, and post 2019. By mapping out the transformation, the research concludes the continuous spatial structural elements that influence spatial development through a dynamic duo-city perspective.

With respect of contribution, (1) the database established spatially puts the two cities together. This allows future relevant research projects with a duo-city perspective. (2) Furthermore, the resulting four sets of analytical maps depict the urban morphological transformation of Hong Kong-Shenzhen duo-city. The four sets represent cities' four systems: blue-green, infrastructure, built-up areas, and mega urban projects. (3) In the end, the continuous spatial structural elements can be concluded by comparing spatial patterns across various development phases. These elements can be perceived as the "anchor point" which are critical for the formation of two cities. A comprehensive interpretation and deduction of these elements ultimately provide implications for shaping the future urban morphology of the duo--city.

Keywords

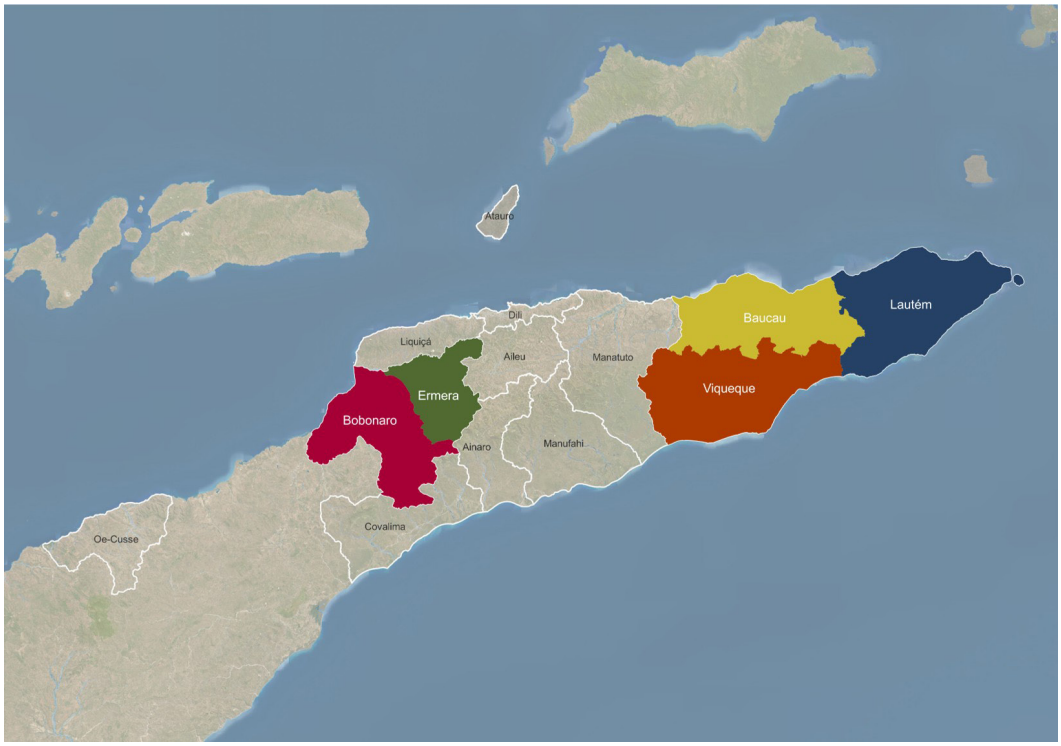
Urban morphology, Mapping, Layer approach, Hong Kong-Shenzhen

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Atauro
Dili
Liquiçá
Aileu
Manatuto
Baucau
Lautém
Ermera
Viqueque
Bobonaro
Ainaro
Manufahi
Covalima
Oe-Cusse

Municipal Spatial Planning as a tool to support the local governance in Timor-Leste

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Spatial planning in Timor-Leste is a recent and evolving practice. The first approved spatial plan was developed in 2015 for the island of Ataúro. In 2017, spatial planning was formally established as public policy through a legal framework for land use regulation and territorial development. This framework built on constitutional rights recognized in the 2002 Constitution and the political-administrative organization of 2009, which established municipalities as the first tier of local governance.

By 2021, the legal framework was expanded to include detailed norms for spatial planning instruments, land use regulation, and urban development ordinances. The Timorese Government initiated the development of municipal spatial plans to support future municipal political bodies. Five plans have since been launched, involving central and local administrations, traditional leaders, and various stakeholders, alongside a multidisciplinary team of national and international experts, including the University of Lisbon, which was also involved in the 2015 plan.

Bobonaro and Ermera are two municipalities located in the west limits of the country and had their spatial plans approved and published in 2023. The municipality of Bobonaro has an area of 1,369 km^2 and a population of 101 thousand inhabitants (2019), forming part of the northern border with Indonesia. It is endowed with a set of natural and landscape resources of great environmental, cultural, economic, and social value, with a predominantly dispersed settlement structure, especially in the mountainous areas, along a coastal axis. The municipality of Ermera has an area of 756 km^2 and a population of 129 thousand inhabitants (2019), being located in the north slope of Timor-Leste at the east of Bobonaro. The northern zone falls within the area

of influence of Dili. The rest of the territory is characterized by its interior location and rugged terrain, rising to over 1,500 meters in the southeastern region. Ermera has a highly dispersed settlement structure, with some linear settlements, particularly notable along the slopes of coffee plantations.

The spatial plans for the municipalities of Baucau, Lautém and Viqueque spatial plans are under approval procedure at the beginning of 2025. Located in the east extreme of Timor-Leste, the three municipalities have an area of, respectively, 1,492 km^2, 1,817 $km^2$and 1,885 km^2; and a population of 126, 65 and 76 thousand inhabitants (2019).

The five municipalities also present weaknesses in basic infrastructure and accessibility, necessary to support living conditions and economic development.

This paper explores the role of spatial planning, highlighting how these instruments can be tailored to the specific administrative and geographic characteristics of Southeast Asian countries, focusing on Timor-Leste as a case study. The University's involvement in the early stages of spatial planning provided a unique opportunity to examine the discipline's role in local and regional development. Municipal spatial plans aim to create a statutory framework for territorial development, coordinate territorial interventions, regulate land-use changes, and build community consensus and administrative capacity.

Acknowledgements:

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Keywords

Spatial Planning; Municipal Governance; Regional Development.

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Cultural Heritage in Matsu Island: Struggles in Late Modernity

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Matsu, located in the Taiwan Strait, was a Cold War frontline between Taiwan and China, under strict military control for nearly forty years. After the lifting of martial law in 1992, tourism and cultural heritage preservation were introduced as alternative strategies for economic development. Since the 1990s, the Matsu local government has implemented various tourism development plans. Traditional settlements in Matsu have gradually become focal points for both local governments and community residents. This attention eventually led the Taiwan central government to approve financial support for preservation and restoration projects. Notably, some residents have described the large amount of funding as "suffocating love" (Matsu Weekly, 2005). This funding has caused constant construction and redevelopment in Matsu's urban spaces. As a result, Matsu has gradually lost much of its original character and appearance (Chen, 2003).

The idea of cultural governance views culture as a way to manage and balance political and economic activities(Bang, 2004). Cultural heritage governance may seem to focus on protecting historical objects or traditions, but it is deeply connected to the pursuit of modernity (Bang, 2004; Harrison, 2013; Harvey, 2006). In Matsu, preserving cultural heritage is not just about keeping the past alive; it is also seen as a way to develop the local economy. More importantly, it reflects a shared vision of modernity held by the community and local leaders. However, as Matsu works toward modernity, the deeper cultural meaning of its heritage is often simplified or essentialized(Zukin, 2010).

Considering the above reflections, my research focuses on the following questions:

1.How does the idea of modernity shape the governance of cultural heri-

tage in Matsu?

2.How do the tensions between tradition and modernity manifest in the spatial politics of Matsu?

3.How does Matsu's local government respond to the challenges of capital accumulation in a globalized era?

My research adopts secondary data analysis and digital ethnography. To start, I will look at urban planning reports, building regulations, and guidelines for subsidies related to "traditional building restoration." In addition to these official documents, I will explore media editorials and online discussions that focus on related policies. The development of tourism and cultural heritage policies in Matsu is closely linked to the democratization process that began after the lifting of martial law in 1992. This connection can also be seen in the changes in local media during this time. In the 1990s, local newspapers began to emerge, and in the 2000s, online forums like the “Matsu Information Website” became popular. These platforms allowed residents to share their ideas and concerns, creating what Benedict Anderson calls an "imagined community" (Anderson, 2016; Lin, 2016).

Through examining the history of settlement preservation in Matsu, this research seeks to explain how the modernity embedded in cultural heritage preservation has become a central governance narrative. I argue that the question of “how to restore” is always linked to the pursuit of modernity, with actors in the cultural governance network continually seeking greater cultural uniqueness to address emerging crises in contemporary society.

Keywords

Cultural heriatage, cultural governance, late-modernity

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Analysis on the morphological characteristics of urban blocks based on the perspective of policies: a case study in Xinjiekou, Nanjing

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An important cognition in urban morphological studies is: the evolution processes of urban form are deeply affected by its economic and social environment. These mainly refer to economic, social and urban construction policies. As far as the case of this paper is concerned, the policies involve a series of changes in the system of the Danwei policy in land distribution system, land use system, housing property right system, urban planning system, and construction management system, etc. The accumulative effect of policy in different periods expresses itself in the town plans, as well as in land use and fabric of buildings which were strongly bounded with it.

Based on excavating urban construction archives of 2 urban blocks with 430 plots for 70 years in Nanjing Xinjiekou district, this paper mainly focused on two parts. First, it presented the method of literature search and analysis on relevant policies, and revealed the differences of policy concerns and the changes of action mode in different periods. Second, it analyzed in detail the morphological characteristics of this case in three resolutions of street, plot and building. Especially contributed on two basic aspects of urban construction which are significantly different from western cities: urban road system and plot pattern. As well as the paper elaborated the relevance of these policies with the morphological characteristics of contemporary urban blocks. The research is helpful to understand the characteristics of urban blocks in contemporary Chinese city, to clarify the reality and possibility of plot pattern renewal especially in the old city. At the same time, from the perspective of policy design, the research also shows the potential of how to meet the needs of future urban development.

Keywords

Construction management polic, urban road system, plot pattern

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Shekou Industrial Zone in the mid-1980s (courtesy China Merchants Group Archives).

Shekou Industrial Zone- An Early Chinese Experiment for Future Working and Living

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Before Shenzhen became known as the urban laboratory of China's Open--Door policy, adjacent Shekou was a place where the first steps towards a new Chinese society were made with a series of bold economic, socio-political, and spatial experiments. Under leadership of Yuan Geng, Chairman of the China Merchant Group, and backed by China's leader Deng Xiaoping the strict collective system was opened by integrating aspects of a market economy (Hu, 2021). In Shekou these steps, however, went further than just rebooting China's ailing economy and included new political rights and social benefits (O'Donnell et al, 2017), and offered an entirely different lifestyle.

In the context of these fundamental economic and political shifts, the paper investigates the related spatial changes. These include for instance the first Shekou Shopping Center and the Crystal City mixed-use development which included one-family houses, apartment buildings, and the Crystal Center, a shopping center with the first joint Sino-Hong Kong supermarket. The area also offered new kind of leisure spaces such as a public beach and a bar street to attract foreign professionals and young talents from different parts of China.

Based on original documents, urban and architectural plans, on-site studies and interviews, the paper traces the intentions of Yuan Geng, and the involved architects. Some of them, like Geng, spent significant time in Hong Kong. While Hong Kong's influence on Shekou, Shenzhen and China in the first years of the Open-Door policy has been acknowledged by many scholars, it was mainly related to Hong Kong's profit-oriented land-lease system and property development model. This paper, however, shows that the influence went further, as Yuan Geng could witness in the late 1970s and early 1980s

the ambitious urban projects under Governor Murray MacLehoese which addressed many deep-seated socio-spatial problems of Hong Kong. Yuan Geng's vision included economic ideas from Hong Kong but combined them with a far-reaching socio-political agenda. Having frequently stayed in Hong Kong during these years, he was familiar with the recent new town developments, which conbined shopping centers and private housing with public schools, public housing estates, public spaces, and a wide range of amenities.

The paper thus reveals, how in the 1970s and 1980s, in Shekou, in an opening communist China, significant steps were made towards a society which embraces individual initiative and entrepreneurship, while in neighboring capitalist Hong Kong, new commercial centers were combined with spaces for public education, housing and leisure. In a time of increasing geopolitical divide, stagnating growth and a global housing crisis, the forward-looking experiments of Shekou and Hong Kong of the late 1970s and early 1980s seem worthwhile to be remembered.

Keywords

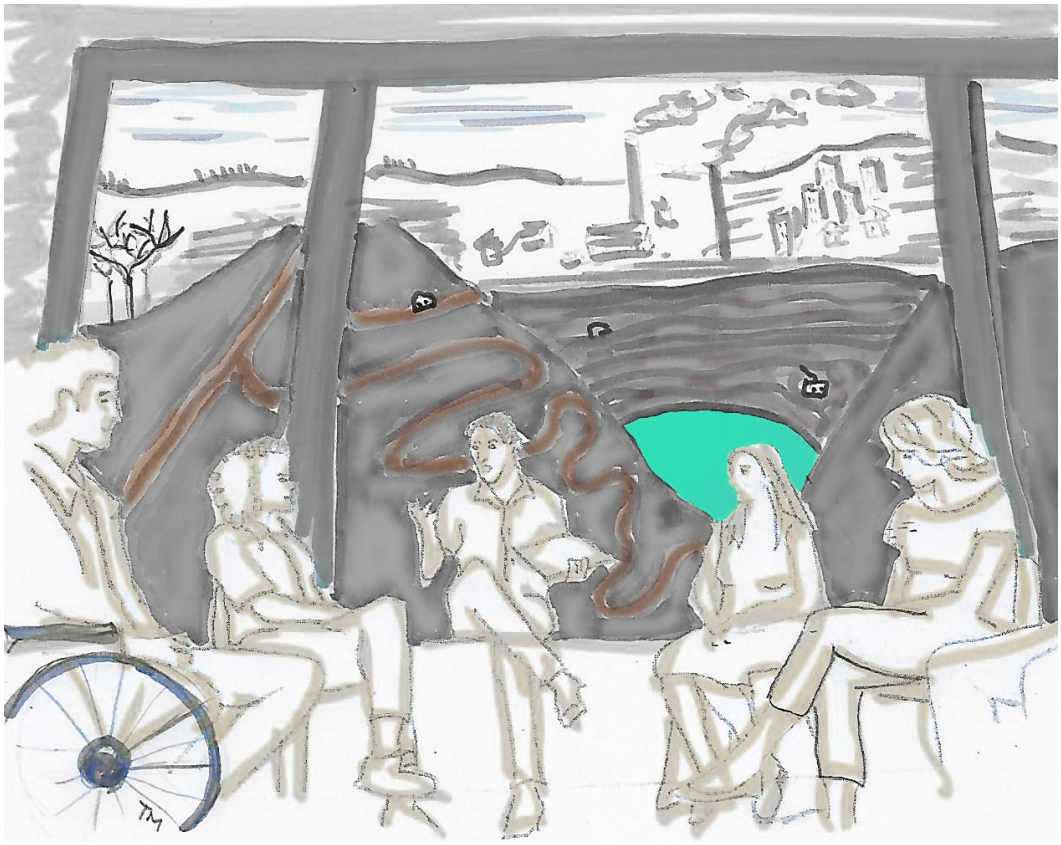
Chinese Urbanism, Future Living, Open-door Policy, Shekou, Shenzhen

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Political Trust and Potential of Participatory Dialogue in Mining Areas in Serbia: The Perspective of Local Population of Bor and Majdanpekd

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Post-socialist countries in Europe that are in the process of EU accession (Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Montenegro, Serbia) are becoming attractive for mining investments due to the unregulated land ownership and weaker environmental standards (Mandacia & Tutan, 2018). Environmental protests in Serbia were primarily initiated by the local population whose immediate surroundings were threatened by the commercial projects of land/water grabbing (Pešić & Vukelić, 2022). They were followed by growing authoritarian tendencies over the past decade and the insufficient response of various institutions to citizens' demands (Pešić & Petrović, 2023). The future of civic engagement in such a context of declining democracy and widespread distrust presents a research challenge. The aim of this presentation is to explore the potential of participatory dialogue in mining areas by analyzing political trust and participation among the local population, including both rural and urban perspectives. This is based on empirical research conducted in Bor and Majdanpek mining communities, using a random sample (N=300) during July – August 2024. The level of participation among the local population will be analyzed through their membership in organizations and involvement in community activities. Trust in institutions and other relevant actors will be assessed based on their confidence in those addressing issues caused by mining activities. This research is developed within the MINIPART project supported by the Science Fund of the Republic of Serbia, grant #7598.

Keywords

Participatory dialogue, political trust, Serbia

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Workshop Session of Local Action Group ADREPES in Sesimbra in 2023. (https://www.adrepes.pt/gal-adrepes-costeiro-com-o-melhor-orcamento-nacional-para-implementacao-das-estrategias-de-desenvolvimento-local-do-programa-mar2030/ acessed in 31/05/2025)

Framing Power Dynamics in peripherical places: The Case of Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) policy in Portugal.

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The Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) initiative is a multi-fund, place-based, and citizen-centred policy launched by the European Commission in the 2014–2020 community programming cycle. As an evolution of the LEADER programme which started in the 1990s exclusively for rural areas and expanded to coastal settings in 2007, the CLLD policy encompassed urban areas in its scope for the first time.

As part of the EU Cohesion Policy, both instruments have, theoretically, aimed at the empowerment, capacity-building, and participation of local communities as agents of territorial development (European Commission, 2020). Local Action Groups (LAGs) – polities composed by a myriad of public and private actors – were established to represent these communities. In practice, their role as territorial development agents is under research. Conceived to be a spatial-temporal fix (Harvey, 2000), and a state rescaling (Brenner, 2004) mechanism, capable of channelling EU investment to pressing local issues, the impact of LAGs actions is facing growing critical scrutiny.

Against the backdrop of ongoing Europeanisation processes and a soft turn in planning theory and practice, this article focusses on the agency of a LAG in Setúbal Peninsula, a semi-peripherical region in Lisbon Metropolitan Area. This territory presents contrasting realities, reflecting both core-like and peripheral characteristics – with some places displaying pronounced societal, economic and environmental challenges.

In particular, we outline a research design to support a critical inquiry into whether, and how, this LAG constitutes, or not, an example of state rescaling, performative imaginary, spatial-temporal fix, and multilevel governance. Findings show that the transfer of power and responsibilities has

been hindered, especially in comparison to both European Commission and LAG expectations, thus raising a set of relevant questions in terms of the CLLD instrument's actual impact when its concept is translated into the framework of member states.

Keywords

Community-Led Local Development (CLLD), Local Action Group (LAG), Participation, Territorial Governance, Peripherical Places

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SECRETARIA DE
URBANISMO E
PLANEJAMENTO
TERRITORIAL
PREFEITURA DE
MARICÁ
TARIFA ZERO
Flamengo

Challenges faced by participatory urban planning during the Covid-19 pandemic.

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The revision of Maricá's City Plan commenced simultaneously with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in Brazil. The participatory methodology traditionally utilized in the preparation of City Plans, including workshops and in-person public hearings, could not be executed due to the isolation restrictions imposed during this period.

The consultancy firm engaged for the analysis and diagnostics, in collaboration with the municipal technical team overseeing the contract, encountered a significant challenge: the need to redesign traditional in-person participatory methodologies mandated by Federal Law 10.257/2001, also known as the City Statute.

In response to the pandemic's context, the consultancy, along with city council technicians, developed a Work Plan informed by two key documents: a Technical-Legal Note addressing the pandemic's implications for the City Plan revision process and a Legal Opinion analyzing the feasibility of conducting virtual public hearings under the restrictions on gatherings necessitated by the National Health Emergency State declaration.

The Technical-Legal Note outlined two scenarios predicting developments following the peak of the pandemic: the first scenario anticipated a relaxation of isolation measures in the latter half of 2020, permitting the resumption of public events; the second scenario projected a similar relaxation of isolation but maintained restrictions on gatherings. The latter scenario was ultimately adopted, as it presented a more challenging framework. This approach led to the decision to conduct public events virtually, leveraging Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) such as digital forms, virtual polls, social media communications, remote awareness and training activities, and live online engagements, as recommended by IBAM

in 2020.

Many cities, including São Paulo, Curitiba, and Porto Alegre, successfully implemented ICTs during the pandemic, reflecting a broader movement toward the integration of digital technologies in urban planning. This shift is particularly crucial during crises, where the need for adaptability and innovation is paramount. The pandemic has served as a transformative moment, facilitating the expansion of virtual participation in the democratic formation of urban plans and enhancing interactions between society and government. These digital platforms are now recognized as valuable forums for dialogue, fostering inclusivity among diverse social groups due to their accessibility.

In the aftermath of the pandemic, ICT tools have continued to be utilized in Municipal Conferences, Forums, and City Council Meetings, as well as in the drafting of Maricá's Mobility Plan. This paper examines the transition to ICTs during the pandemic, the associated challenges, and the results of participatory processes such as the revision of the City Plan and the formulation of the City Mobility Plan. Additionally, it discusses the ongoing integration of these tools into the professional practices of public officials beyond the conclusion of the pandemic period.

Keywords

Participatory planning, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Covid-19 Pandemic.

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Shared garden in Lanxmeer, the Netherlands — a fundamental component of the neighbourhood's urban plan, acting as both stage and catalyst for the evolving interplay between social and ecological processes, and between governance and design

Advancing Social-Ecological Inclusivity: The Role of Spatial Design and Community-Led Governance in Dutch Residential Neighbourhoods

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Urban landscapes are increasingly understood as social-ecological systems, where social and ecological processes operate in complex interaction (Berkes & Folke, 1998; Colding & Barthel, 2019). Addressing the complexities of social systems alongside ecological ones is essential to achieving genuinely sustainable outcomes (De Block & Vicenzotti, 2018). This perspective has influenced how we conceive residential neighbourhoods, encouraging more inclusive spaces in both social and ecological spheres. However, the long-term viability of these social-ecologically inclusive neighbourhoods depends not only on spatial design but also on the governance structures that sustain them.

In several pioneering Dutch residential projects, community-led governance has played a pivotal role in the realisation and maintenance of public and semi-public spaces, shaping social interactions and ensuring access to green spaces while integrating ecological principles into daily urban life. However, tensions arise between actors across public, private, and collectively owned areas, where boundaries are continually negotiated.

This study examines two Dutch examples – Lanxmeer (Culemborg) and Kersentuin (Utrecht) – both established planned neighbourhoods where spatial structure and governance models interact to shape the urban environment. While these projects incorporate public, shared, and private green spaces within a coherent urban fabric, their governance relies on a distributed model involving residents, cooperatives, and municipal bodies. Through detailed field observations and interviews with residents and community representatives, this study analyses the governance structure, key actors, and interactions that determine how these spaces are managed over time.

The discussion critically assesses how spatial design enables or hinders

governance viability, highlighting cases where community agency enhances social-ecological inclusivity, as well as instances where governance challenges emerge. Specific tensions include conflicts over land use and accessibility, spatial appropriation, and the negotiation of ecological ideals with individual interests. These dynamics are illustrated through diagrams, satellite images, photographs, and collages, providing a spatial reading of governance practices in action.

By linking urban design plans to governance realities, this study contributes to broader discussions on the role of spatial design in enabling community-led urban management. It raises key questions about how public and semi-public spaces can remain inclusive, adaptable, and ecologically responsive over time, offering insights for the future design and governance of socially and ecologically integrated neighbourhoods.

Keywords

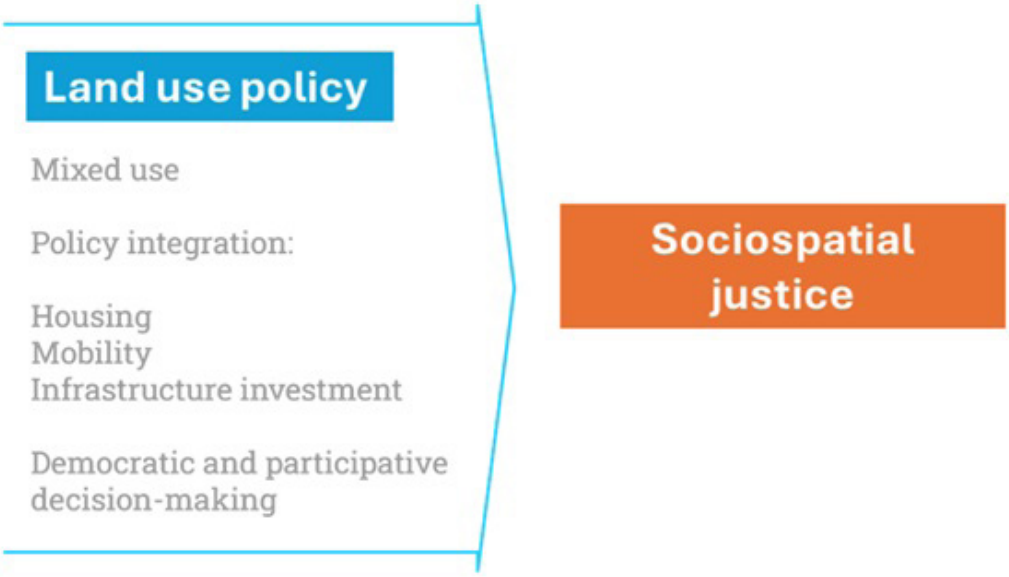
Community-led governance, Social-ecological inclusivity, Design of shared spaces

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Land use policy
Mixed use
Policy integration:
Housing
Mobility
Infrastructure investment
Democratic and participative decision-making
Sociospatial justice

Urban Land Use and Just Cities: a literature review seeking contributions to new public policies

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This study aims to discuss urban production through land use and occupation policies, focusing on reducing social inequalities and promoting more just cities.

Decisions on zoning, residential density, and urban expansion—along with their interplay with mobility, public housing, and infrastructure investment policies—directly shape who has access to urban resources and who is left excluded. In an economic system where land is a key financial asset, the unequal distribution of land use and urban resources, limits opportunities for social interaction, exacerbates spatial injustices, and marginalizes communities.

Addressing these disparities requires a holistic approach to urban planning that integrates multiple networks and prioritizes equity and inclusion. This involves rethinking land use to support diverse, interconnected urban systems that prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable populations. Across the world, various initiatives have sought to challenge and mitigate these issues by ensuring that urban spaces remain accessible, inclusive, and equitably distributed.

Through a literature review and an analysis of reference case studies, this work explores how the formulation of land use regulations and planning instruments can contribute to the practical application of widely discussed theoretical concepts, such as the right to the city and sociospatial justice.

The findings highlight key considerations for improving land use and occupation policies to foster less unequal cities. These include integrating land use with housing and mobility strategies to ensure affordable housing and accessible public transportation for low-income families, promoting mixed land uses that support local commerce and services, and strengthe-

ning democratic decision-making processes.

Finally, in an era of globalization, neoliberalism, and financialization of real estate assets—trends that significantly shape urban space and steer political debates towards land valuation and development potential—it is crucial to advance research that rethinks local urban planning and land use regulation in the pursuit of more just cities.

Keywords

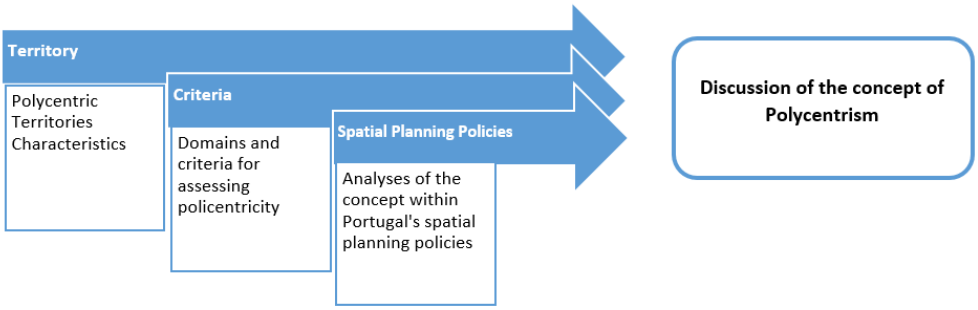
Land use, spatial justice, urban planning

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Territory
Polycentric Territories Characteristics
Criteria
Domains and criteria for assessing policentricity
Spatial Planning Policies
Analyses of the concept within Portugal's spatial planning policies
Discussion of the concept of Polycentrism

Revisiting Polycentrism: A Literature Review Towards Criteria for Territorial Assessment and Development

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Polycentrism has gained significant relevance in Europe since its introduction in the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) in 1999, maintaining a pivotal role in European territorial cohesion policy, as evidenced in the 2007 and 2020 Territorial Agendas. Although spatial planning is not a formal European competency, the process of Europeanization has led to the integration of EU spatial development concepts, including polycentrism, into national spatial planning policies across various European countries. Due to its scalar nature, polycentrism influences spatial planning at the European, national, regional, and urban levels.

Despite significant research over the past two decades – ranging from analytical studies which develop methodologies to assess polycentricity, to normative approaches guiding policymaking and planning, there is no universally accepted definition of the concept. While there is a degree of consensus on the primary dimensions of policentricity and its utility as a framework for spatial development, its benefits and practical applications remain subjects of ongoing debate.

This research seeks to contribute to this discourse by examining the concept of polycentrism within the European context, focusing particularly on the regional (inter-urban) scale. The study explores the criteria for defining polycentric territories and identifies the domains that influences the success or failure of polycentric development. A set of criteria for assessing territorial polycentricity is proposed, alongside an analysis of how the Portuguese context shapes the application of the concept within the country's spatial planning policies.

A comprehensive literature review on polycentrism and its relationship with spatial planning serves as the Foundation for this research. The fin-

dings highlight that the broad and strategic scope of the concept often renders its use overly generic, raising questions about its practical implementation. Nonetheless, the concept and its goals – promoting more balanced and networked territories – are embedded in Portugal's key spatial planning documents, like the National Spatial Development Policy Programme and the Regional Spatial Planning Programs.

The research argues that the expansive scope of polycentrism results not only from compromises made during the development of the ESDP but also from a deliberate tactical approach to securing agreement among the diverse actors involved in polycentric development strategies.

While some countries, such as Germany (with its federal system) or Switzerland (with its spatial patterns), are naturally predisposed to accommodate polycentricity, the concept has also influenced spatial policies in highly centralized countries like Portugal.

Although the strategic nature of Portuguese planning documents aligns with policentricity's principles, they primarily serve as guidelines for local plans. Operational programmes under the Cohesion Policy have provided additional recommendations and tools for fostering a more polycentric urban network. However, achieving this, vision requires clear territorial strategies to counter persistente polarization of development and ensure more equitable spatial outcomes.

Keywords

Polycentrism; Spatial Planning; Spatial Policies

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Research project logo. Design by Arch. Fátima Lourenço.

Tourism, housing and real estate prices in Lisbon and Porto metropolitan areas

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Before the COVID-19 health crisis, there was a huge transformation in the metropolises' central areas, causing conflicts that affected the urban environment, social and economic activities, housing, citizens and neighborhoods. International tourism has become a key economic element for urban governance and, possibly, it will become even more relevant in the coming years. In the present decade, the return of visitors attracted by cultural heritage has brought challenges and the local inhabitants have negative perceptions concerning the growing real estate prices and landscape transformation. These problems are being faced in several other European cities, with different policies, such as the recently announced in Barcelona to eliminate tourism accommodation in housing.

This phenomenon may lead to the concept of a shared city, not only between inhabitants and tourists, but also with immigrants, who arrive due to the growth of the services sector, in the global economy for foreigners. The dynamics of tourism had consequences in the evolution of real estate in Lisbon and Porto, causing also problems for security and urban management, related to the wave of immigration coming to work precariously, without a good standard of accommodation in the high-density areas of Arroios parish, for example. Lisbon shows a larger substitution of local citizens, losses more than 20% of residents from central parishes (Baixa, Misericórdia and Santa Maria Maior), almost 650 inhabitants per year in the last decade. And in Porto the population only increases beyond the main circular road, in Aldoar, Paranhos and Ramalde.

The aim of this research paper is to evidence the relations between urban regulations, real estate and tourism development, focusing the metropolitan areas of Lisbon and Porto. The results will contribute to improve planning

policies aiming to reduce the housing crisis and achieve proposals for territorial management. In the framework of the sustainable development goal for cities and communities (SDG nº 11), it is suggested that an integrated analysis of these 3 dimensions may improve the environment of the new shared cities. This goal is connected to the Portuguese competitiveness strategy, regarding the exploration of cultural heritage and links also to regional development strategies: the domain of symbolic capital, technologies and tourism services in the North, and the intention to reinforce Lisbon brand on a larger regional scale.

The research uses a combined methodology, with quantitative data analysis and foresight studies, as an important tool to understand the development of urban tourism and its impact on housing, for both landowners and tenants, including the evolution of territorial regulations and real estate prices.

Keywords

Tourim; Housing; Real Estate

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Evaluating the policy effects of Location Normalization Plans: empirical evidence from 354 cities in Japan

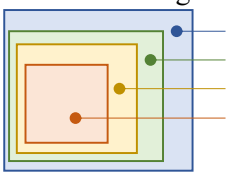
Background

- Population Decline
- Population ageing

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- Decline in urban functions
- Deterioration of local financial situation
- Hollowing out of urban areas

Introducing the Location Normalization Plan (LNP)



Location Normalization Plans Area (LNPA)
Urbanization Promoting Area (UPA)
Residence Induction-encouraged Areas (RIA)
Urban Function Induction-encouraged Areas (UFIA)

Purpose

- Lack a sufficient understanding of the policy's content
- Limited effectiveness of the plans
- The necessity and effectiveness of LNPs vary across cities

- To quantify the benefits generated by the establishment of LNPs by the amount of change in land prices in 354 cities
- Clarify what kind of city and what kind of RIA setting will have better effects

Methods

- We utilize data such as the land prices and region-specific future population projections
- A Staggered Difference-in-Differences model is employed to evaluate the treatment effects across different observation points that received the intervention at varying time periods
- Cluster analysis is conducted using the K-means method based on the current state of infrastructure and designated RIAs, as calculated via ArcGIS. The heterogeneity of treatment effects is then analyzed across the classified groups

Conclusion

First, LNP implementation leads to an average increase of 3.57% in land prices. Second, while LNPs generate positive effects in large cities, they may have adverse effects in smaller cities. Third, cities with a higher density of schools or more diverse public transportation networks experience greater increases in land prices. Finally, the policy is more effective when RIAs are designated within irregularly shaped multi-site network cities.

Evaluating the policy effects of Location Normalization Plans: empirical evidence from 354 cities in Japan

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In Japan, the declining population and increasing aging rate have led to serious challenges, including the deterioration of urban functions such as transportation, commerce, and welfare, as well as the progression of urban hollowing out. In response to these issues, the Law for Special Measures concerning Urban Reconstruction was revised in 2014, introducing the Location Normalization Plan (LNP). The LNP serves as a comprehensive urban master plan designed to account for the financial and economic costs of city management while ensuring long-term sustainability. To maintain a certain population density and promote efficient land use, the policy designates Residence Induction-encouraged Areas (RIA) and Urban Function Induction-encouraged Areas (UFIA).

However, there is ongoing debate regarding the extent to which the LNP will effectively contribute to the long-term sustainability of the city. Specifically, the necessity and effectiveness of LNPs vary across cities, and the absence of clear criteria for determining whether the formulation of an LNP is appropriate remains a significant issue. Additionally, concerns have been raised regarding the negative externalities associated with designated guiding zones and the limited effectiveness of the plans. Furthermore, both policymakers and residents often lack a sufficient understanding of the policy's content and impacts. Given these challenges, a quantitative analysis is essential to accurately assess the effects of LNP implementation. Accordingly, this study examines 354 Japanese cities that have adopted LNPs, analyzing the relationship between regional economic changes and fluctuations in land prices from 2015 to 2024.

This study makes two key contributions within the context of compact city policies. First, while previous research has suggested that compact cities

lead to increased land prices, there is limited empirical evidence linking these increases directly to policy implementation. This gap in the literature exists because policies are typically introduced at different times, making it difficult to control for endogeneity arising from unobservable factors when using cross-sectional data analysis. To address this issue, this study employs a Staggered Difference-in-Differences (SDID) model and panel data on land prices, allowing for a more robust estimation of LNP effects across varying implementation timelines.

Second, while some studies have assessed LNP effectiveness using causal inference methods, few have examined policy impacts based on urban characteristics and policy design features. To fill this gap, this study incorporates spatial data on public transportation and public facility distributions in cities that have implemented LNPs, identifying which urban characteristics and policy settings yield the more favorable outcomes.

The empirical results of this study reveal several key findings. First, LNP implementation leads to an average increase of 3.57% in land prices. Second, the increase in land prices is more pronounced in UFIA areas compared to RIA areas. Additionally, while LNPs generate positive effects in large cities, they may have adverse effects in smaller cities. Third, cities with a higher density of schools or more diverse public transportation networks experience greater increases in land prices. Finally, the policy is more effective when RIAs are designated within irregularly shaped multi-site network cities.

Keywords

Location Normalization Plan; Staggered Difference-in-Differences model; Land price

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Institutionalization of Famous Historical and Cultural Villages: The Regime and Tension of Rural Cultural Governance in China

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If its institutionalization is examined in the unique historical and political and economic context of the whole Chinese mainland, it is undoubtedly an important regime of rural cultural governance in China. This paper attempts to make up for the constructivist limitations of the Critical Heritage Studies (Smith, 2006), and regards it as a process of assemblage cultural policies and institutions. In the process of inheriting the property of famous historical and cultural villages, there are many non-humans such as the system, regulations and evaluation system led by the government. Because of their supreme and subordinate influence effect, they are the elements of power exercise, and will have an important impact on the socio–material practice of the basic establishment, as well as the relationship between human and non-human. Sometimes when they are connected with other elements, or intersect at multiple scales, they will produce unintentional consequences such as connecting, breaking, or reconnecting the assemblage network.

Firstly, we must clarify the institutionalization of historic and cultural villages. It includes the changes and dynamic development of the system, regulations and evaluation system, which helps to analyze the effects and functions of these non-characters in the assembly of historical and cultural villages. Secondly, it analyzes the inherent tension of the historical and cultural village as the state inheritance administration, administrative implication, evaluation system and operation. This paper explains how the relevant institutions and government departments, application procedures, expert discussion, knowledge and technology of famous historical and cultural villages constitute the operating mechanism of rural cultural governance. Finally, the historical and cultural village, which as a national rural cultural governance system, also contains complex levels and dynamic effects. Although

the system is a relatively stable form, there must be inherent conflicts as far as the assembling characteristics of cultural policies are concerned. We can use Wang (2014) to analyze the structural power of cultural governance from the structural level of cultural hegemony, economic cultural adjustment and the Social distinctive hierarchy. As a regime of rural cultural governance, it mixes the multi-scale process of protection and development from global to local, central to local, and also contains the dynamic tension of multiple cultural policies and discourse, highlighting the assembly of cultural policies (Lysgård, 2019). As the field of rural cultural governance. The cultural policies and discourse of historical and cultural villages are re-translated, appropriated or abandoned by different stakeholders according to their own values, interests and moral standards, and involve more human and non--human in the process of more complex inheritance.

In short, no matter from the global discussion of inheritance, to the state's cultural governance of the countryside, as well as the meso-level system and policy level, and the micro-level implementation and inheritance action level, there are different value orientations, interest entanglements and political purposes, which also produce multi-scale negotiations and power conflicts, resulting in the assembly of historical and cultural villages often in an unstable state. Often there will be connections and breaks, but also new assembly patterns will be generated.

Keywords

Cultural heritage Regime; Historic and Cultural Villages; Rural cultural governance;

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Understanding Household Solar PV Adoption for Energy Justice: An Innovative Approach with Large Language Model

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Residential solar photovoltaic (PV) systems play an important role in the energy transition and provide economic and environmental benefits for residents, particularly in metropolitan areas. However, disparities in adoption raise concerns regarding energy justice, since socioeconomically disadvantaged households frequently face larger obstacles. Understanding the decision-making process underlying household solar adoption is critical for identifying barriers, reviewing policy flaws, and encouraging fair adoption.

While substantial research has been conducted to identify the elements that drive household solar adoption, methodological gaps remain in understanding how these factors dynamically affect decisions. Traditional research methodologies fail to incorporate multidimensional variables at once, frequently focusing on socioeconomic traits while overlooking the influence of environmental factors, policy frameworks, and social networks. Even when these intricacies were taken into account, standard statistical methodologies or over-simplified agent-based models fall short of completely capturing the context-dependent and dynamic character of PV adoption decision-making.

A recent innovation in artificial intelligence (AI), large language models (LLMs), provides new research opportunities. LLMs, with their comprehensive natural language processing and text synthesis capabilities, have human-like skills in environmental monitoring and decision-making. Compared to traditional agent-based modeling, LLM-based agents can integrate diverse information sources, simulate complex decision-making without

explicit reasoning rules, and facilitate interactions between agents. These features enable sophisticated role-play simulations, allowing researchers to create virtual environments to model social phenomena.

This study investigates how LLMs can improve our knowledge of household decision-making in solar PV adoption and give insights into a more equitable transition. We used Amsterdam as a case study to construct an LLM-based agent model that simulates household decision-making by integrating multidimensional variables such as socioeconomic data, geographical features, and policy issues. Preliminary findings indicate that the model accurately reflects significant variables on solar PV adoption, such as financial restrictions, regulatory incentives, and neighborhood effects.

This study evaluates the outcomes of the simulations through the lens of energy justice. The decision-making results show large differences in solar adoption around Amsterdam. High-income families with significant environmental consciousness are more likely to install solar PV systems, but low-income and minority groups, despite existing incentives, are hampered by structural obstacles of the built environment and information access. The reasoning processes offered by the agents reveal further recognition biases in existing rules. In certain locations, property ownership is a greater barrier than income. For example, despite relatively high earnings and education levels, students and young professionals renting in the city center are unable to install home solar PV and experience increased energy costs. These findings highlight the need for more inclusive policies, such as targeted financial support and improved access for disadvantaged groups.

This study makes two main contributions. It advances PV adoption and energy justice research by proposing a new methodology to modeling decision-making disparities. On a practical level, it provides empirical evidence for improving policy procedures and making solar PV adoption incentives more inclusive and equitable. Furthermore, by demonstrating the use of LLMs in energy transition research, this study shows a new opportunity for AI-powered behavioral simulations in transdisciplinary urban studies.

Keywords

Residential solar PV; Large Language Model; Energy justice

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Operational Governance Mechanisms in Public Heritage Conservation: A Polycentric Path to Sustainable Revitalization in China's Peitian Ancient Village

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Addressing the dual challenges of "preservation-induced impoverishment" and "developmental degradation" in cultural heritage governance has become a pivotal concern under global rural revitalization initiatives. This study advances the concept of "operational governance" as an analytical framework to critique the tokenistic public participation prevalent in conventional heritage management. Through a polycentric governance model emphasizing value co-creation, equitable benefit-sharing, and collective responsibility, the research investigates the transformative governance practices in Peitian Ancient Village, Fujian Province, China. Utilizing mixed methods—policy discourse analysis, semi-structured interviews, and longitudinal field observations—the study explains how operational governance redefines institutional roles among government, market, and community actors, while fostering endogenous community agency in heritage stewardship.

Three governance innovations underpin Peitian's transition from government-centric control to participatory empowerment: First, institutionalized co-decision mechanisms dismantle bureaucratic monopolies through flexible property-right negotiations, enabling villagers (comprising 80% of the Heritage Conservation Council) to co-author preservation policies. Second, community-driven cultural capital valorization leverages local artisanal skills (e.g., woodcarving, rammed-earth construction) via craft cooperatives and intangible heritage workshops, catalyzing self-sustaining enterprises that boosted collective tourism revenue from 1 million RMB(2008) to 2.87 million RMB (2018). Third, synergistic benefit redistribution establishes a self-reinforcing cycle linking conservation investments to livelihood enhancements, progressively incentivizing grassroots participation.

Theoretically, the study conceptualizes operational governance as a tripartite framework for publicness construction: (1) Actor reconfiguration: Property-right devolution and operational autonomy reposition villagers as co-governance partners, resolving the paradox of physical presence versus procedural absence. (2) Value recalibration: Market-embedded cultural capital conversion reimagines heritage preservation as a livelihood strategy rather than a moral imperative, realigning participation incentives. (3) Institutional hybridity: Synergizing formal regulations (adaptively implemented) with clan networks and village covenants creates a "soft-law rigidity" that coordinates multi-stakeholder actions. Practically, Peitian's experience demonstrates that participatory governance transcends rhetorical commitments when operationalized through institutional designs granting communities substantive development rights—transforming passive beneficiaries into proactive custodians. These insights contribute to global debates on community-centric heritage governance, offering a replicable model for balancing preservation imperatives with inclusive development.

Keywords

Operational governance; public heritage; public participation

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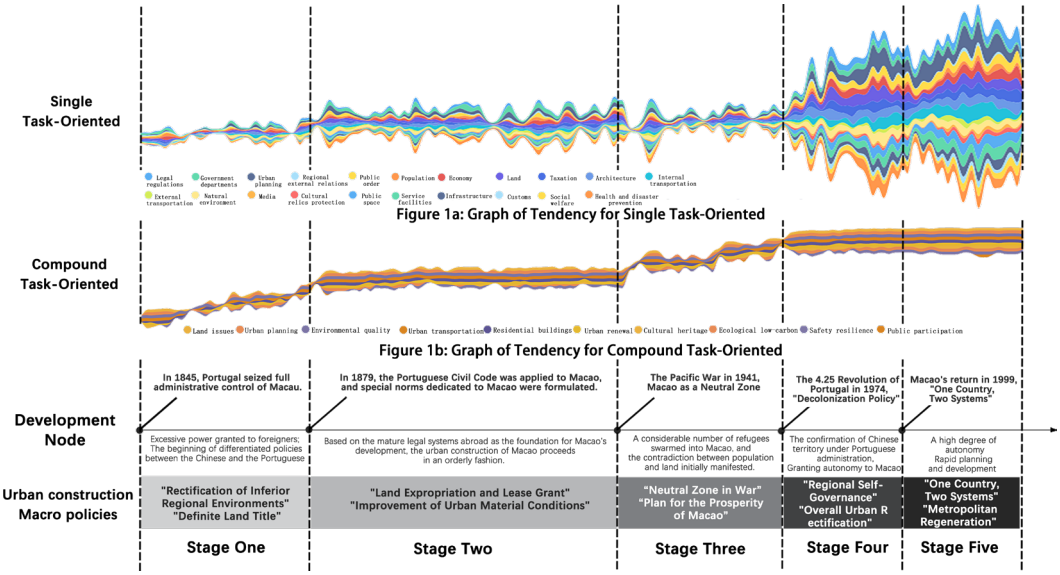


Figure 1a: Graph of Tendency for Single Task-Oriented

Figure 1b: Graph of Tendency for Compound Task-Oriented

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The Division Map of the Urban Development Stages of Modern and Contemporary Macao

Combing, Experience Summary and Prospect of the Urban Development Context of Macao in Modern and Contemporary Times

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As one of the core cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, Macao has accommodated a centuries-old and rich history within its limited land. Reviewing the academic studies on the urban development process of Macao from multiple perspectives such as political systems, urban spaces, urban constructions, and planning concepts, it is discovered that although there exists a certain consensus, the significant influence of Portuguese ideology is absent in the logic of urban development. This article introduces the river map as an analytical tool to further visualize the urban development context of Macao from 1845 to 2022 and divides the modern and contemporary urban development process of Macao into five periods: the period of implementing colonial rule, the period of consolidating colonial rule, the period of developing the neutral zone, the period of high regional autonomy, and the new period of "One Country, Two Systems". Based on this period division, the study reveals that there are six logics that have jointly facilitated the modern and contemporary urban development of Macao: population changes mirror the fluctuations of the political system; land expansion reflects the clear trajectory of urban texture evolution; the authority of legal norms provides a solid guarantee for the orderly development of the city; the urban goal has shifted from single buildings to the entire region; the quality of the current environment has been continuously enhanced; and forward-looking planning based on demand insight. This paper further supplements and perfects the research on the modern and contemporary urban history of Macao and summarizes the advantages in Macao's urban development, such as urban breakthroughs driven by fluctuations, prevention of delayed solidification of contradictions, improvement of regulations to guide development, focus on construction limitations, refine-

ment of demand evolution, and phased forward-looking planning, providing valuable historical experience and development prospects for the analysis of urban development logic.

Keywords

Urban Planning History; Modern Urbanization; Macao

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Track 7 - Sharing ...

Experiences, resources, and data towards new paths of engagement and education


ON HACE LA FUERZA

The Role of "Tributaries": Insights and Data for Developing a Collaborative Water Network

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As watery features regain prominence in public debate and scientific research, this contribution highlights the need to systematize existing knowledge on the complex dynamics of water while introducing the proposed editorial project.

The "Tributaries" editorial project aims to develop a digital platform that serves as a collective, interactive atlas for water and land studies. By connecting researchers, practitioners, advocates, and stakeholders, Tributaries fosters interdisciplinary collaboration, knowledge exchange, and cooperative development to address global climate transition challenges.

The term ‘tributaries’ is used to highlight how all planetary discourses ultimately revolve around water, emphasizing its essential role in sustaining life. Furthermore, ‘tributaries’ serves as a metaphor for the diverse entries, which act as confluences that bring forth innovative ideas about water, much like tributaries enrich and sustain the flow and ecology of rivers.

Tributaries editorial project broadens opportunities for interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and transdisciplinary integration across architectural fields; such as Architecture, Urbanism, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning, and Design. Through "Tributaries" digital platform and in-person events, including meetings and conferences, it fosters a dynamic space for Architecture to engage in dialogue and stimulates active interactions with disciplines such as Anthropology, Geography, Engineering, Environmental Studies, Humanities, Visual and Multimedia Cultures, Political Economy, and Philosophy. The editorial project aligns with the ongoing redefinition of architectural curricula and the evolution of professional and design practices.

Active participation in conferences, seminars, and academic forums is

integral to the construction of the atlas, helping to shape and refine its framework. These engagements offer a set of strategic opportunities to explain the methodological approach behind its development and discuss the key challenges encountered along the way. By sharing insights and fostering dialogue, these platforms transform the atlas into a collaborative endeavour, enriched by a range of perspectives and expertise.

The research presented in “The Role of Tributaries: Insights and Data for Developing a Collaborative Water Network” aims to share the current state of development of the project, with a particular focus on the curatorial work completed so far.

The presentation outlines the methodology for data collection and analysis while showcasing the innovative curatorship approach applied to water research through "Tributaries" dynamic digital platform design, which, to date, includes global entries focused on working with, engaging with, caring for, thinking about, designing for, and researching water and water-related topics. The platform organizes its entries using five key indicators: i) Category, ii) Research and Project Location, iii) Disciplinary Fields, iv) Water-based Research Interests, and v) Water Types, allowing for a comprehensive and systematic exploration of the water-related research landscape. The platform's indicator tags serve as filters, allowing users to dynamically explore data and uncover tailored insights.

In conclusion, curatorial decisions in data selection and organization further enhance the user experience by revealing connections and thematic similarities that may not be immediately evident.

Keywords

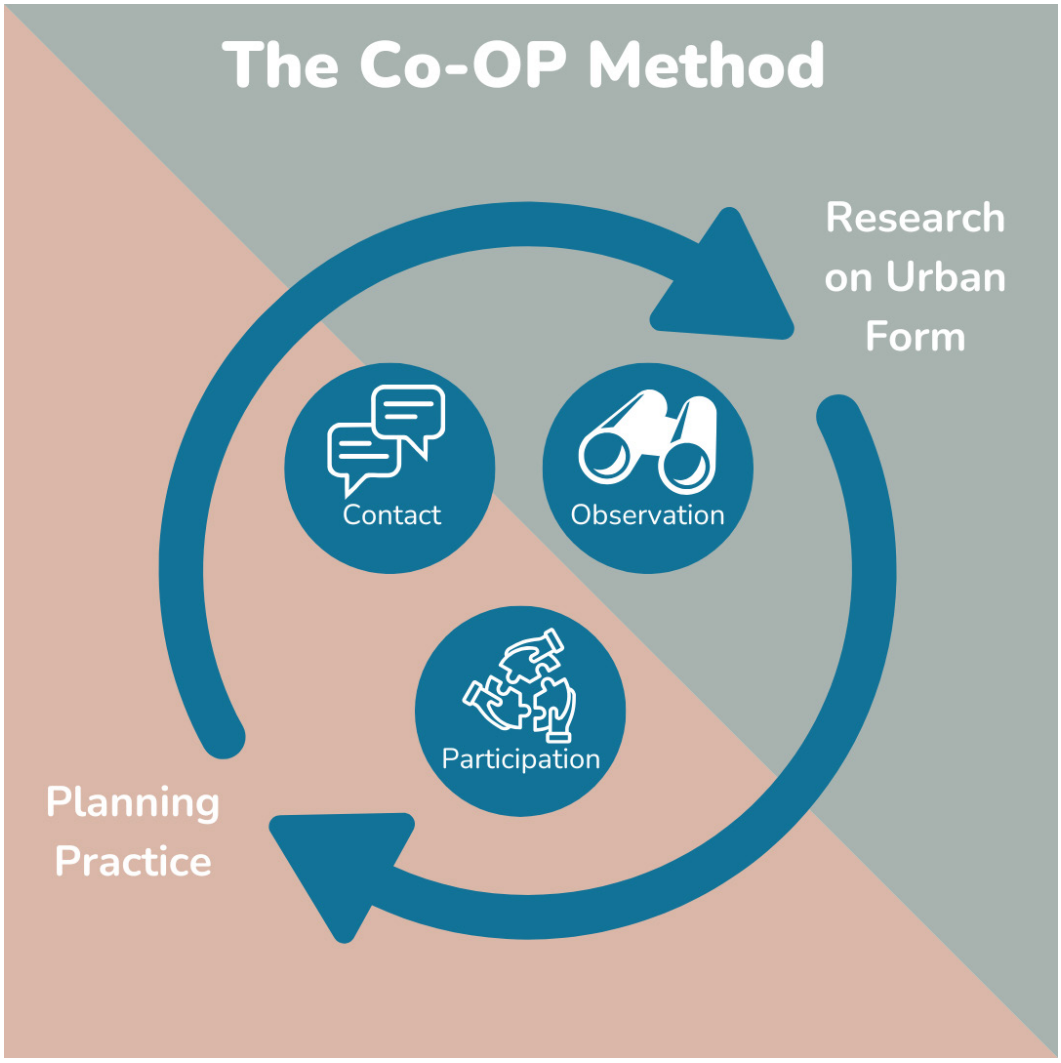
Tributaries, Online Platform Directory, Transdisciplinary Network

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The Co-OP Method

The Co-OP Method Sharing knowledge on urban form between research and practice

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To increase the overall quality of built environments, it is necessary to address the different societal issues that require clear, efficient and solidly based knowledge (Hurley et al., 2016; Watson, 2002). However, both in planning in general and in the specific area of urban form, there is a gap between the science-based knowledge produced in academia and the methods and tools applied in practice (Oliveira, 2021). This work addresses this gap, seeking to identify concrete and replicable methods of transmitting knowledge between researchers and planning professionals in the field of urban form.

In this context, a new perspective on methods of transmitting knowledge is proposed through Co-OP, a tripartite method that explores increasing levels of interaction between research and practice. The method is divided into three phases - Contact, Observation and Participation - starting with semi-structured interviews with municipal planning professionals and consultants. These results inform a literature review, to obtain the academic viewpoint, and point to issues to be explored in the next phase. During the Observation phase, the planning practices of different cities are observed, including informal conversations, interviews and observation of tasks. Finally, the third phase integrates the researcher into real collaborative work in a city, providing the opportunity to apply scientific knowledge about urban form to solve a specific practical issue.

The results point to the importance of defining a common language. While researchers and practitioners refer to the same topic - urban form - the language and objectives differ, leading to communication failures. Planning practice requires quantitative indicators that are easy to implement, combined with clear principles and objective impacts on the territory. However,

a disproportionate weight was given in practice to the quantitative component over the principles that form it.

It is up to research to understand how to present scientific material in a way that responds to the needs of practice without losing scientific objectivity or allocating too much weight to the quantitative component. Interactions with multiple points of contact and exchanges of views facilitated common understanding and led to the discovery of gaps or wasted potential in legislation with relevance to how urban form is understood and approached in planning practice.

Keywords

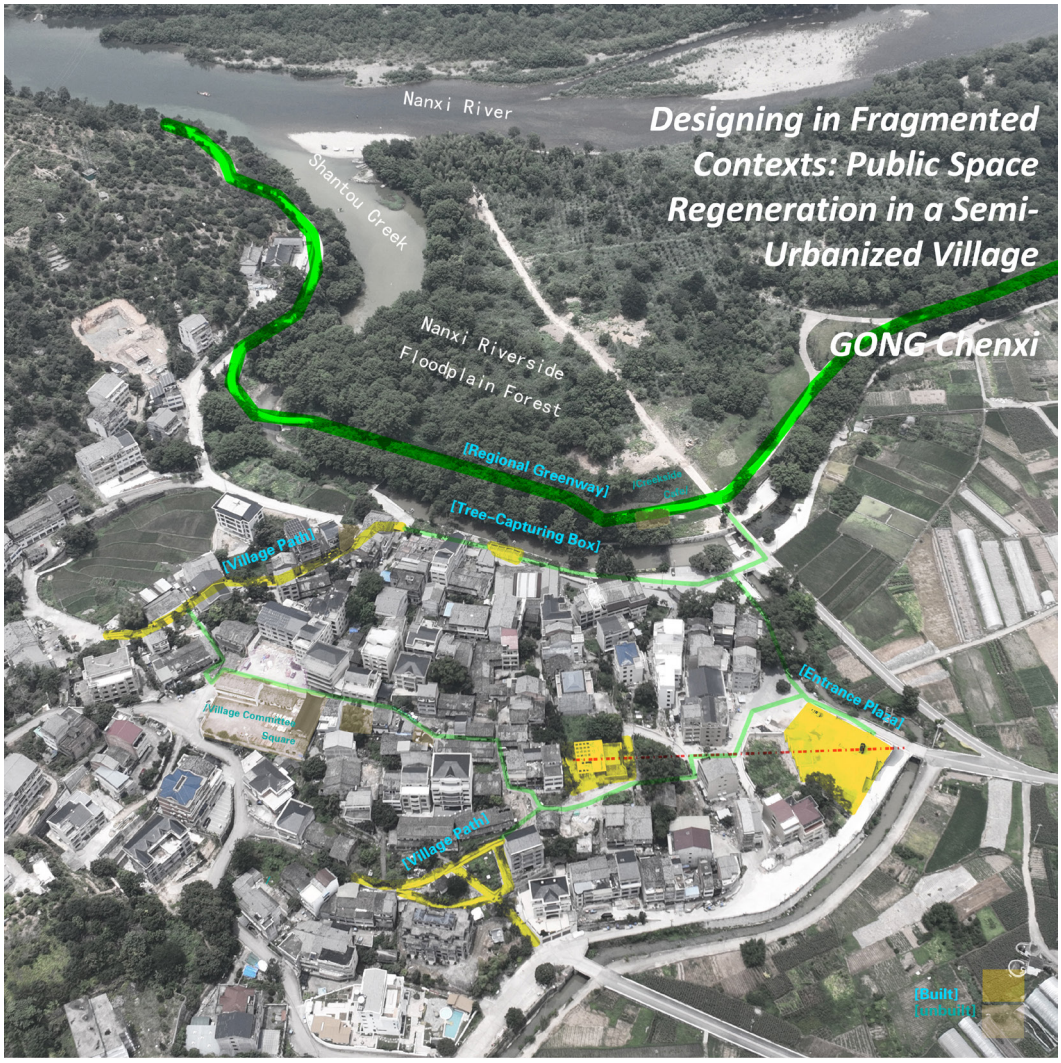
Urban form; planning practice; collaboration

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Designing in Fragmented Context: Public Space Regeneration in a Semi Urbanised Village

Designing in Fragmented Contexts: Public Space Regeneration in a Semi-Urbanized Village

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Semi-urbanized villages exist at the intersection of self-organized social structures and larger economic and political forces. Once shaped by autonomous spatial structures, they have been continuously reconfigured by overlapping influences—state-led planning with limited resources and fragmented execution, alongside grassroots initiatives that lack coordination and often have limited spatial and construction knowledge. These villages present hybrid spaces where traditional forms adapt to modern needs, yet they remain fragmented, shaped by multiple and sometimes conflicting intentions. Their long-term viability depends on reconnecting with broader rural-urban networks.

My work in Yangshantou Village in southern Zhejiang, China, focused on the regeneration of public spaces through a highly dynamic process of negotiation and collaboration with villagers and local authorities. Unlike the structured role of an architect in an urban context, where design follows a clear division of labor, working in such a village required continuous dialogue, adaptation, and mediation. Design and construction unfolded in real-time adjustments, shaped by local knowledge, autonomous building practices, and evolving financial conditions.

In this context, architects must reconsider expectations of permanence. Designs are likely to be modified or extended by local actors over time. Recognizing this, architects can strategically differentiate between permanent infrastructural elements and adaptable, temporary layers. The result is often a spatial composition of multiple lifespans, where architectural elements evolve in response to ongoing social and economic shifts.

A key challenge in these villages is balancing the tension between everyday life and the non-everyday rhythms of tourism-driven rural deve-

lopment. Many of these villages undergo transformations catering to cultural tourism, introducing a layer of spectacle that may disrupt local routines. How can design mediate between these two temporalities? Addressing this requires a sensitivity to how space, materiality, construction techniques, and architectural form can accommodate both continuity and change, enabling immersive yet lived environments.

Compared to heritage villages, semi-urbanized villages are often more open to transformation and contemporary ideas. This openness presents an opportunity to integrate new ways of living and future-oriented design thinking with historical spatial frameworks. The concept of the Anthropocene further challenges conventional binaries, positioning nature and the built environment as interconnected and equal layers. This perspective can inform innovative approaches where architecture engages both ecological systems and cultural legacies as part of a continuous, evolving landscape.

Furthermore, as rural and urban territories become increasingly interconnected, architects must expand their scope beyond the building scale to engage with regional spatial dynamics. Semi-urbanized villages do not exist in isolation but within a continuum of urbanization. Designing in these contexts requires identifying spatial clues that bridge architectural interventions with larger territorial networks, ensuring that interventions contribute to long-term rural-urban integration.

The challenges of semi-urbanized villages offer valuable insights into design and practice methodologies, expanding architectural discourse beyond conventional frameworks. By engaging deeply with these contexts, architects can explore new ways of thinking about spatial agency, governance, and long-term adaptability in rural transformation.

Keywords

Semi-Urbanized Villages, dynamic spatial production, design and practising strategieso

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Subjective Pattern-From Phenomenon of Semi Urbanised Village to Architecture Design

Subjective Pattern – From Phenomenon of Semi Urbanized Village to Architecture Design

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This paper presents the core themes, organizational structure, and pedagogical outcomes of the experimental design course Subjective Pattern – Semi-Urbanized Villages designed by Chenxi Gong, at the Department of Architecture, School of Architecture and Art, China Academy of Art, from 2022 to 2024. The course explores the interplay between fieldwork and design conceptualization, investigating how spatial phenomena in semi-urbanized villages inform architectural interventions. The research methodology integrates urban-rural studies, site-specific analysis, and design experimentation to develop an alternative framework for architectural education and practice.

The concept of Subjective Pattern serves as a pedagogical and methodological tool to bridge empirical research with spatial design. It involves extracting and abstracting spatial configurations from real-world settlements, translating them into adaptable architectural models. Rather than a passive documentation of vernacular forms, this approach emphasizes a critical engagement with spatial memory, collective narratives, and individual experiences. The research is inspired by historical precedents, including Le Corbusier's study of the Acropolis, Aldo Rossi's theory of collective memory, and the site-specific methodologies of architects such as Alvaro Siza and Wang Shu. The goal is to transcend conventional heritage preservation and sociological analysis, fostering a creative reinterpretation of space as a living cultural and social entity.

The course focuses on semi-urbanized villages, a distinctive spatial phenomenon in China shaped by decades of policy shifts, economic transformations, and informal development. These settlements exhibit hybrid spatial patterns that defy rigid planning paradigms—neither entirely urban nor

rural, neither systematically designed nor organically preserved. Through intensive field surveys, spatial mapping, and design iterations, students engage with the dynamic interplay between historic continuity and contemporary adaptation. Key research inquiries include:

1. How can settlement patterns and vernacular spatial organizations inform contemporary architectural design?
2. How can subjective observations be distilled into transferable spatial strategies?
3. How do heterogeneous land-use practices shape collective spatial dynamics?

The teaching framework is structured around two primary design challenges. The first semester focuses on low-density collective housing, exploring modular aggregation and shared spatial typologies. The second semester shifts towards public architecture, investigating the relationship between new communal facilities and existing village morphologies. The course employs multi-scalar analysis, including Nolli maps, property ownership studies, circulation and visibility diagrams, and social-spatial mappings. Findings reveal that semi-urbanized villages generate novel spatial prototypes—overlapping public-private realms, adaptive reuse of residual spaces, and incremental transformations of traditional courtyard typologies.

The concept of Subjective Pattern emerges as a critical framework for engaging with such spaces. Unlike rigid urban masterplans or nostalgic rural preservation, it acknowledges the evolving socio-spatial realities of contemporary villages. By embracing ambiguity, spatial negotiation, and temporal layering, this approach fosters a design methodology attuned to the complexities of transitional landscapes. The research ultimately argues for a redefinition of architectural authorship—where the architect operates as a cultural mediator, synthesizing spatial intelligence from lived environments and generating new possibilities for future urbanization.

Keywords

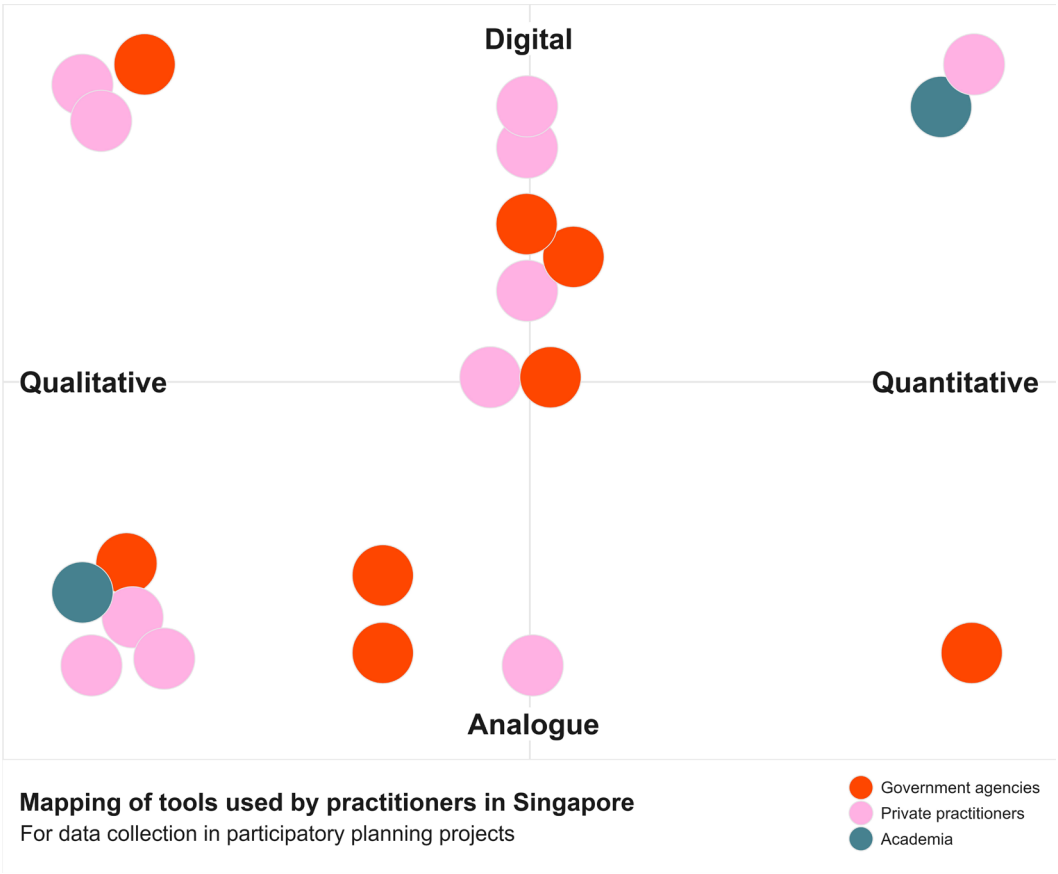
Semi-Urbanized Village, Subjective Pattern, Field Survey and Design Concepto

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Distribution of tools used by different participants for data collection in participatory planning projects.

Across literature and practice: Opportunities and barriers of integrating digital participatory planning tools in Singapore's urban planning processes

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Rapid urbanisation poses complex problems with emergent characteristics that are inadequately understood by traditional top-down planning approaches; effectively approaching them requires the participation of diverse actors. With the growing awareness of community participation's effectiveness in uncovering planning blind spots, practitioners, comprising of planners, design consultants and academics, are increasingly adopting different models of participatory planning (PP) to enable citizens to voice their concerns. Informed by diverse knowledge types, such as empirical or anecdotal, practitioners seek solutions that balance the needs and aspirations of various stakeholders. The wealth of knowledge can be a double-edged sword, rewarding practitioners with in-depth understandings that is simultaneously challenging to integrate (Vonk & Geertman, 2008).

Advancements in computer technology in the 1980s enabled planners to use data-driven support in the planning process (Batty, 2021). Coupled with increasing access to the Internet, co-creating and sharing of rich information layers of various sources, formats and scales on collaborative platforms was made possible, improving communication between government and citizens. Since then, there was a proliferation in tools of various functions and uses – from managing data to increasing engagement, and for general applications to analysing unique scenarios. These tools enabled planners to be more responsive to varying planning contexts – transforming relationships between practitioners and stakeholders. Ironically, practitioners now face a

plethora of tools and sometimes struggle to select the appropriate tool to assist the different PP stages.

Unlike typical notions of PP as a ground-up process, PP in Singapore is unique as it blends proactive community engagement with strong top-down coordination between practitioners and implementing agencies. In a recent study, participants in Singapore considered the participant-practitioner relationship to be crucial to the success of the PP process (Ataman et al., 2022). Practitioners take on multiple hats to balance the needs of communities, agencies, and other stakeholders, resulting in differing criteria for the adoption of tools across practitioners. Despite the positive shift towards more "whole-of-nation" approaches through state-organised public engagements, such as 'Long Term Review Plan' exercises for citizens to voice their opinions on future masterplans, as well as digitisation initiatives, like 'Smart Nation', practitioners face systemic and institutional challenges when selecting tools for PP, particularly digital ones. While digital technology has the potential for combining diverse knowledge types to better inform planning decisions, it also poses challenges to some practitioners and possibly in extension to their stakeholders – varying digital literacy, access these tools and workflows. Therefore, practitioners in Singapore have sought and developed tools to facilitate the PP process across contexts and stakeholders.

This study aims to uncover the multiple considerations for practitioners, who are pivotal in the PP process, to adopting appropriate tools to facilitate PP. With the nation-state's push towards digitisation, exploring the role of digital technology in Singapore's PP processes is crucial, as it highlights critical opportunities and challenges associated with its adoption. Ultimately, the results could inform the development of new tools and provide practitioners with insights to improving stakeholder engagement.

Keywords

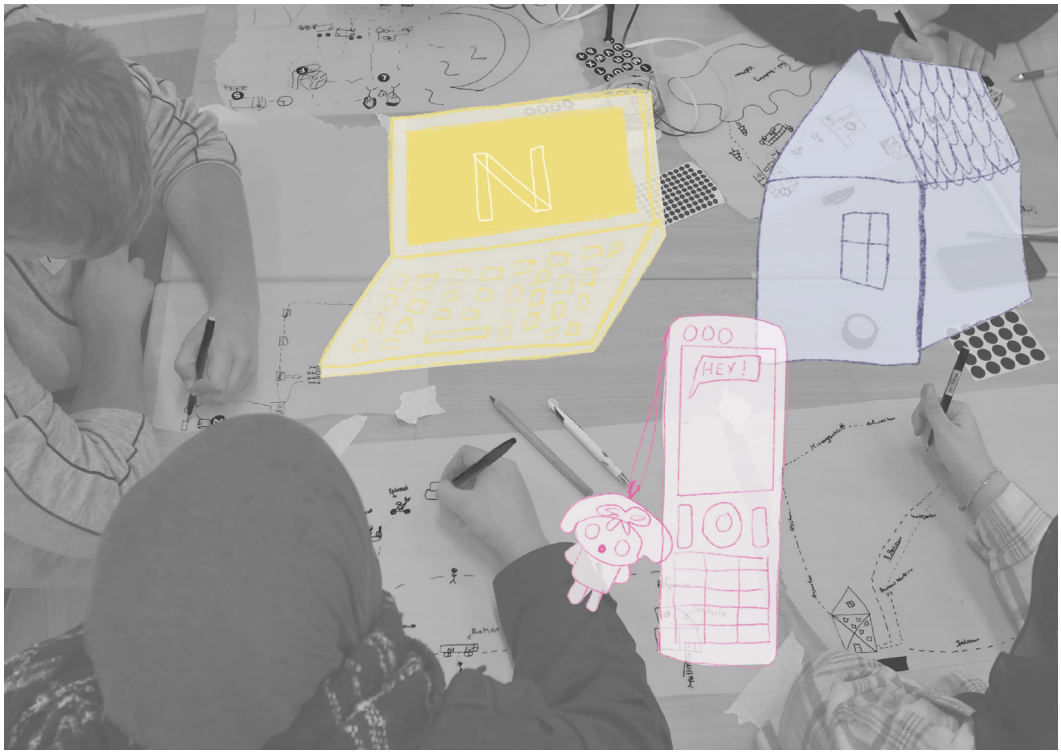
Citizen Engagement, Smart Cities, Co-Design

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The picture illustrates three young participants in our Berlin case study as they map their daily digital and spatial routines—highlighting key objects and places that shape their everyday online, offline, and hybrid interactions.

Not everything known today is shaping what comes tomorrow: Learning from young people's spatial knowledge to envisage alternative future cities

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Planning and designing is about conceiving a not-yet-materialized future. Ideally, planners and designers are not the sole agents in shaping cities. This thus begs the question who else has or should have a stake in it. Young people, as they navigate the settings in which their everyday lives unfold, produce a spatial knowledge that we deem valuable for planning and designing practice. To be sure, spatial knowledge, as an abstract, complex and all--encompassing notion, is seemingly not apt for such purpose. It is rather the objectifications of spatial knowledge what offers further-reaching potential. Young people's everyday life is significantly underpinned by their spatial knowledge production, which has been represented through diverse activity space models (Aktionsraummodelle) that offer insight into how they perceive, experience and denote their built environments. However, given the rapid expansion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), traditional activity space models cannot capture how entangled young people's spatial knowledge has become (Castillo Ulloa et al. 2024).

In this paper, we present a typology aimed at tackling this challenge and thus shed light on the current production—encompassing online, offline, and hybrid spaces—of young people's spatial knowledge. Building on previous research (Malone and Hasluck 2002), drawing on empirical grounded principles of typologization (Kluge 2000) and examining two case studies (Lima and Berlin), exploring both local and global patterns, seven types were developed. To this end, our research design comprises narrative mapping and go-alongs to cover both the analog and the digital realm of young people's everyday life. Our findings show not only differences between the typologies of Lima and Berlin but also reveal so-called 'strange similarities', which suggest that some of the characteristics of these types may even go beyond

specific contextual circumstances. For example, while the digital practices in either case are almost exclusively mediated by the smartphone, hybrid spaces arising therefrom can be both similar (with the home constituting a par excellence hybridizer place) and markedly different (the combination of a more autonomous mobility with greater access to internet in Berlin gives way to a 'on-the-go' hybridization).

The rise of artificial intelligence suggests that spatial dynamics in cities will become increasingly convoluted, particularly as boundless digital spaces evolve alongside physical environments. This presents planners and designers with a much provocative and challenging scenario, raising important questions about how the interaction between digital and physical spaces will shape future urban development – and, consequently, young people's spatial knowledge. While there is admittedly no easy way out of this conundrum, we claim that, as long as typologization is not seen only as a analytical-research tool but also as a mutual and dialogic learning process between planners, designers and young people, alternative paths towards a collectively not-yet--materialized future are likely to be opened up.

Keywords

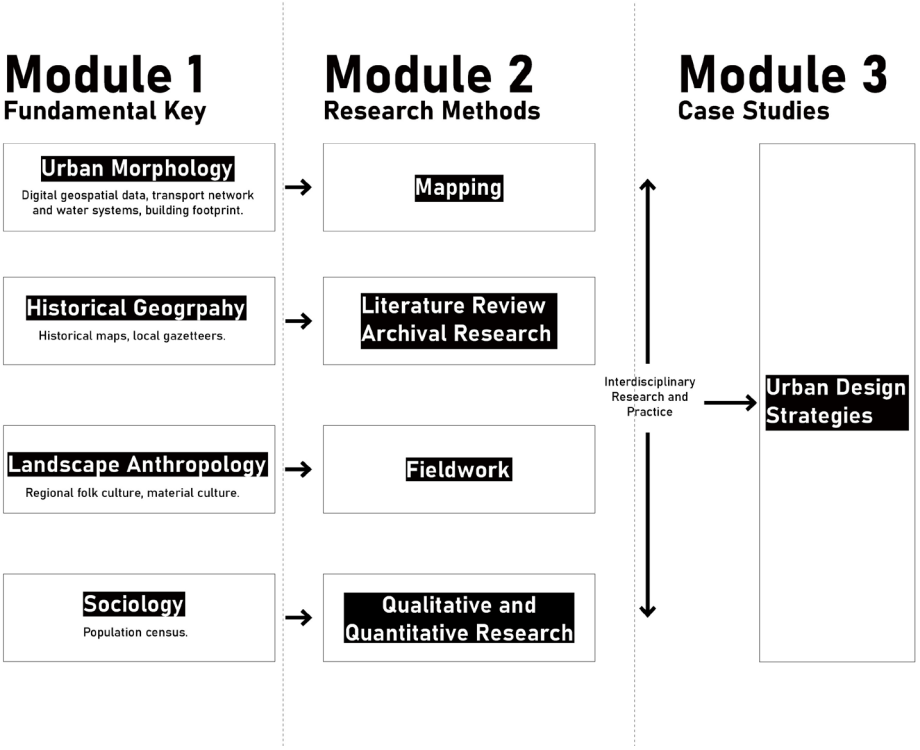
Spatial knowledge, typology, everyday life of young people

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Module 1
Fundamental Key
Module 2
Research Methods
Module 3
Case Studies
Urban Morphology
Digital geospatial data, transport network and water systems, building footprint.
Mapping
Historical Geogrpahy
Historical maps, local gazetteers.
Literature Review
Archival Research
Interdisciplinary Research and Practice
Urban Design Strategies
Landscape Anthropology
Regional folk culture, material culture.
Fieldwork
Sociology
Population census.
Qualitative and Quantitative Research

New way of learning: an online database and collaborative platform for urban design research methods teaching

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In current times, rapid urbanization and climate change pose significant threats to urban and rural landscapes. Thus, the need for innovative approaches to Urban Design and sustainability has never been more urgent. The Pearl River Delta (PRD) in Southern China, known for its high population density, is particularly vulnerable to these challenges. The region exhibits complex interactions between the built environment and the natural environment making it a critical testing ground for innovative urban design methodologies and strategies. This also provides unique opportunities for urban design education, allowing students to participate in real-world design practices. To address these challenges, this paper presents a web platform designed to transform conventional urban design education into an interdisciplinary and long-term learning framework. This initiative empowers students to take ownership of their learning to collectively work towards resolving real-time urban issues.

Traditional urban design education is typically structured within discipline-oriented curriculums taught in classrooms. However, contemporary urban problems demand continuously updated knowledge and interdisciplinary approaches, blending insights from Urban Studies, Geography, Landscape Architecture, Sociology, and History. Thus, the platform challenges conventional frameworks by providing students with self-directed, long--term learning opportunities. Students can engage in progressive learning modules to acquire design thinking and skills. In turn, they can contribute to an open online library of urban design knowledge.

The platform is developed as a comprehensive, open-access online resource with three learning progressive modules that guide students

through interdisciplinary urban design research methods. (Image: Progressive Modules) “Module 1: Fundamental Key” establishes a research database specific to the PRD Region. It covers data from four study fields Urban Morphology, Historical Geography, Landscape Anthropology and Sociology. “Module 2: Research Methods” introduces the application of previous datasets through research methodologies. This includes skills in Mapping, Literature Review, Fieldwork, and Quantitative and Qualitative Research, which equips students with skills in interdisciplinary and critical thinking. “Module 3: Case Study” is a showcase of design research results, which are presented in the form of urban design projects and strategies. The platform is intended for students from an array of academic backgrounds from Urban Design and Geography to Architecture and Landscape Studies to collaborate. It fosters an active learning environment while presenting the latest cutting-edge urban research happening in the PRD Region.

In conclusion, the interactive web platform provides an interdisciplinary and holistic approach to urban design education. By situating themselves in the real-world environment of the PRD Region, students can gain a comprehensive view of the rapidly changing urban and natural landscapes and understand the urgency of adopting sustainable practices to address urban and territorial challenges. The platform also serves as a resource for postgraduate students, providing opportunities to participate in teaching activities and contribute their knowledge to the growing database of case studies in PRD.

Keywords

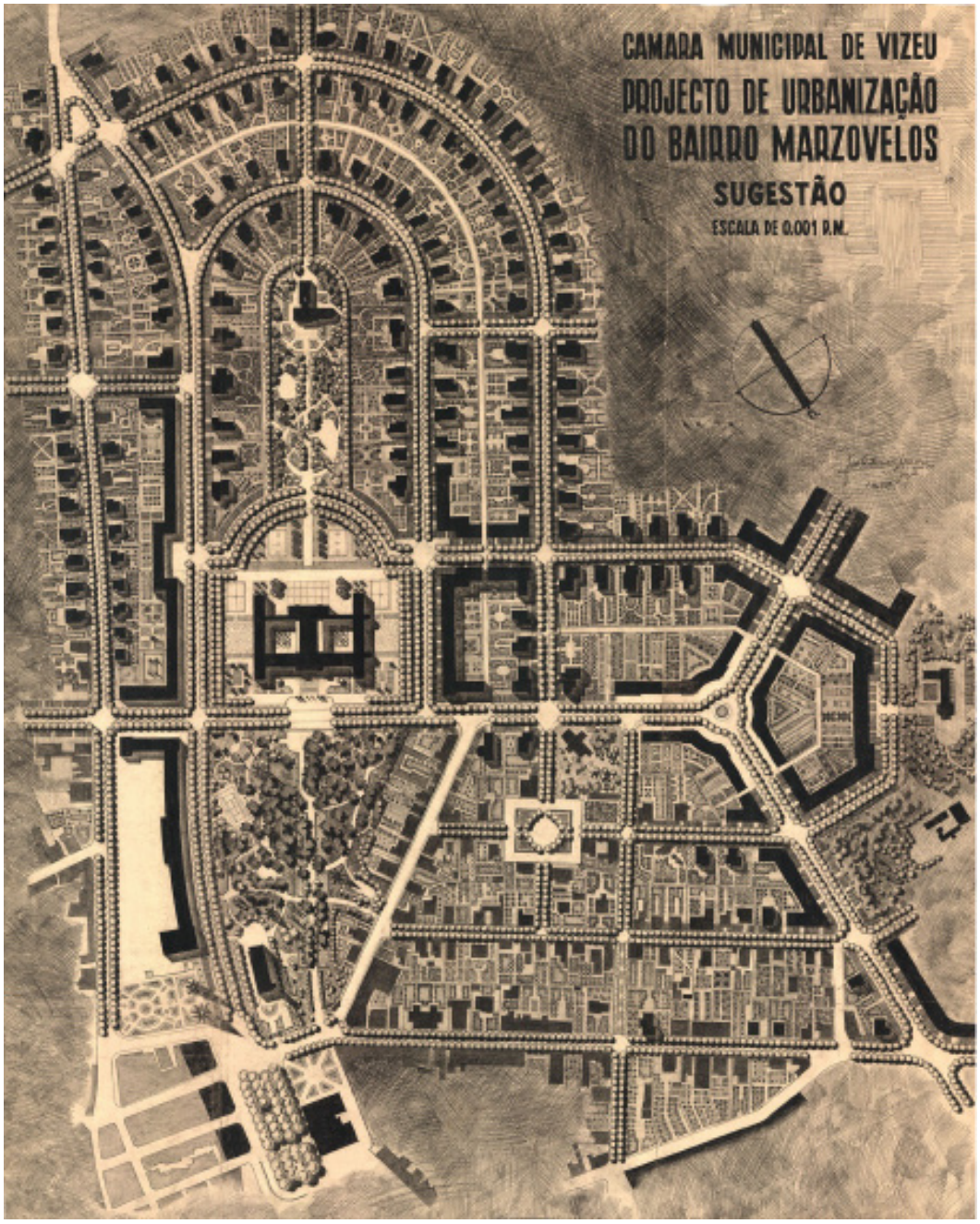
Urban Design Education, Interdisciplinary Design and Research Practice, Pearl River Delta

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CAMARA MUNICIPAL DE VIZEU
PROJECTO DE URBANIZAÇÃO
DO BAIRRO MARZOVELOS
SUGESTÃO
ESCALA DE 0.001 P.M.

João António de Aguiar and The City in The Estado Novo.

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João António de Aguiar (1906-1974) played a central role in the Architecture of the City during the Estado Novo regime, being one of the most sought--after urban architects of his generation. His extensive body of work, which includes more than one hundred and fifty General Urbanization Plans for both the Portugal and it's Colonies, underscores his influence and the impact of his contributions to territorial planning in our country and its overseas territories. Beyond the sheer number of projects, his career spanned three decades, covering both urban redevelopment in the nacional territoty and the design of new urban-architectural structures in the colonial territories. His work thus reflects the complexity of urban challenges and the need for adaptation to different political, social, and geographical contexts.

His education and professional experience partly explain his rise and the prominent role he assumed. Aguiar stood out as one of the best-prepared Portuguese architects in the field of urban planning at a time when this specialization was not yet fully structured within the national education system. His career included collaborations with internationally renowned figures such as Jean Claude Nicolas Forestier, Donat-Alfred Agache, and Étienne de Groër, as well as a significant period as an architect at the Lisbon City Council, where he worked alongside Francisco Keil do Amaral, João Faria da Costa, and Paulino Montez. Alongside his institutional work, he maintained an active private practice, never abandoning independent work even while holding public administration positions, particularly at the Colonial Urbanization Office.

Aguiar's period of activity is primarily situated between the 1930s, marked by the publication of Decree-Law No. 24 802 of 1934, which established the General Urbanization Plans, and the 1960s, when he assumed the position

of Senior Inspector of Public Works and Communications at the Ministry of Overseas Affairs. During this time, his work intensified, particularly from 1938 onward, when he began his independent practice while simultaneously designing for Portugal's overseas territories, including Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea, India, Macau, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Timor.

The diversity of territories in which he worked reflects the complexity of his projects and his ability to adapt to different realities. In the Metropolis, his projects were integrated into already established urban contexts, requiring restructuring and controlled expansion. In the overseas territories, he dealt with rapidly expanding or yet-to-be-structured areas, necessitating different planning approaches. His intervention in colonial territories was characterized by a lower degree of interference in pre-existing urban centers, in contrast to the more structured approach he adopted in the Metropolis.

Despite the apparent uniformity imposed by the Regime, his work reveals significant differences in the way he conceived the city in metropolitan and colonial contexts. The study of his work offers valuable insights into the dynamics of architecture and urbanism during the Estado Novo, highlighting the specificities and challenges that shaped the role of architects serving the regime.

Keywords

General Urbanization Plans; Colonial Urbanization Office; Architecture of the City.

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Open access research and education on public space: democratising knowledge to advance the global agenda for human-centred design of our cities

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In June 2022, City Space Architecture officially launched the Public Space Academy during a training session at the 11th World Urban Forum in Katowice, convened by UN-Habitat. The Academy is conceived as a free educational programme dedicated to enhancing the understanding of public space through interdisciplinary knowledge exchange and practical engagement. Established in partnership with the Ove Arup Foundation, the Academy aims to translate theory into practice, addressing policy challenges and providing learning opportunities for professionals, students, community leaders and citizens who influence and use public space. The curriculum adopts a comprehensive approach that recognises that public spaces exist at the convergence of physical design, social dynamics, political structures and cultural contexts (Bravo et al., 2020).

The Academy is closely associated with: The Journal of Public Space, an open access academic interdisciplinary journal founded by City Space Architecture in partnership with UN-Habitat and launched at Habitat III, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development held in Quito in 2016; the web magazine Mastering Public Space, a curated collection of content in open access format from influential and reliable sources, developed by the global community affiliated to City Space Architecture. The main objective of all these public space initiatives is to democratise knowledge about public space by making urban concepts accessible to diverse audiences: central to their mission is an understanding of public space as a vital civic infrastructure that supports democracy, social cohesion and cultural expression (Bravo, 2020).

For the past 12 years, City Space Architecture has been working through initiatives, projects, conferences, workshops, seminars and symposia to

emphasise that well-designed, inclusive public spaces are essential for urban quality of life and sustainable development. At its headquarters in Bologna, the Museo Spazio Pubblico [Public Space Museum], City Space Architecture is currently hosting public dialogues and developing groundbreaking projects aimed at raising awareness and empowering communities in the development of public space through a pioneering approach that combines urban cultures with art practice (Bravo et al., 2022; Bravo, 2025).

Keywords

Public space, education, research, art practice, urban culture, open knowledge

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Children's Participation in Architectural Design for Environmental and Social Impact.

Bridging Communication Gaps: Methodologies for Effective Children's Participation in Architectural Design for Environmental and Social Impact

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Children's participation in architectural design processes continues to present challenges. On the one hand, children's perspectives are often not taken seriously or disregarded; on the other hand, their contributions are often difficult to interpret or incorporate into design objectives. In light of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that children have the right to participate in matters that significantly affect their lives (Skoog et al., 2021), the significance of the current research presented is emphasised.

This study provides a comprehensive exposé of a participatory planning process that was part of the summer school programme. The summer school, which took place in 2024 at Eid Ecolodge, St Catherine, Saini, entitled 'Connect, Create and Build with Nature'. The architectural design product is an initiative to build a 'craft centre for children' in earthen construction at the Ecolodge. The centre will serve as an environmental centre, offering workshops for external children and at the same time involving local children in the production of handicrafts.

The study aims to explore the methodology and tools that facilitate participatory planning with children, fostering environmental awareness and social responsibility. It also seeks to achieve the most effective outcomes, particularly when children will be the future users of the architectural design, as in this case.

A participatory, qualitative methodology was employed during the summer school in St. Catherine, Sinai, to address challenges such as language barriers and limited interaction with strangers among local Bedouin children, particularly girls. Facilitators from diverse countries worked with the children, who primarily speak a local dialect. The study relied on participa-

tory observation, with children engaging in workshops to design and construct environmentally sustainable spaces on a 1:10 scale. Over three of the five workshop days, boys and girls from Tarfa (St. Catherine) expressed their wishes through narratives, illustrations, and 3D clay models. The design and function of the building, the scale of the model, and the environmentally friendly materials used were key topics of discussion. During the intervals when the children were not participating, the facilitation team analysed and interpreted their contributions, and used this time to plan for the following days.

Initial findings indicate that the integration of children in the design process fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility over the final product. Observations demonstrate that children exhibit a capacity to engage cognitively with sustainable practices, demonstrating creativity in both two--dimensional (2D) and three-dimensional (3D) formats, while concurrently deepening their comprehension of environmental principles. Likewise, the process enhances problem-solving skills, particularly in overcoming communication challenges between children and facilitators, and fosters collaboration. It has also been demonstrated that this process serves to increase awareness of sustainable design practices. In conclusion, the active involvement of the children as future users in architectural decision-making contributes to more relevant, and sustainable design outcomes. The methodology and design process are essential to the success of participatory planning, ensuring meaningful engagement and effective incorporation of children's perspectives.

Keywords

Children's Participation; Qualitative Methodology; Sustainable Design Techniques

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From participation policy to practice

From Police to Practice: Examining Participation in Local Urban Planning and Designing within the Portuguese context

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In the context of rapidly changing needs, knowledge, and aspirations of a transforming society, addressing local framework and the actors involved is central to the implementation of public policies. Achieving consensual solutions to maintain coherence within the functional complexity of the territory is increasingly difficult and demands continuous negotiations. The study focuses on the participatory practices throughout the urban design process, through a case study approach based on Portuguese local level, examining how agents interact, and the legal framework they follow. The research aims to understand changes in the processes and structures managing urban policies, particularly regarding community interactions and the mechanisms that facilitate them.

In a constantly evolving scenario of reorganization and transfer of competencies, local governments face increasing responsibilities and interactions with a broad set of actors, influenced by diverse factors operating at both local and transnational levels. While government structures adapt their roles to manage different competencies and sectors, regulations and theoretical frameworks try to adjust, but remain unstable. The permanent reshaping of processes poses challenges in identifying the appropriate forms for shared planning and implementation. The study investigates how participatory framework in urban development has evolved and how it is implemented in practice.

The analysis of various cases identified participatory practices categorized into different formats and stages: (A) regulatory planning, (B) formal partnerships and networks, (C) shared urban actions and experimental approaches. In spatial planning (A), most cases follow the minimum models and formats mandated by national regulations. When assessing commissions

and sectoral councils (B) with consultive or deliberative functions established to inform policy planning and implementation, not all examined cities comply with regulations or their intended purposes. Additionally, several participatory budget exercises and efforts to implement experimental and collaborative practices (C), often transnationally influenced, were identified.

Results show the existence of widespread participation initiatives at different stages of the urban design process. These initiatives are mandatory in the development of planning documents and for the creation of sectoral councils. Although there is a general willingness to support participation, it remains largely formal, primarily consisting of a collection of opinions and suggestions at an early stage, aligning mostly with passive approaches.

By assessing the cases and comparing the legal context, the study noted the absence of participation mechanisms in the infrastructure design phase. As planning moves closer to implementation, particularly in specific urban space design, the willingness to involve citizens diminishes. Infrastructure is designed, financed, and implemented without participants' awareness and engagement. Participation initiatives are promoted in a fragmented manner at certain stages of the urban design cycle, mostly by the local administration, with limited capacity to engage actors in the long term. Ensuring participation throughout the entire process, beyond mandatory mechanisms, is needed to overcome the current fragmentation of participatory initiatives and foster more consistent and long-term engagement. Particularly when design becomes more tangible, enabling local actors to have a say, fosters greater engagement and strengthens the potential for meaningful transitions.

Keywords

Urban design, participation, local networks

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Cultural, aesthetic and ecological principles of action: lessons from Portuguese Landscape Architecture history

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Portugal has one of the oldest European teaching traditions in Landscape Architecture, dating from 1942. While its antiquity enables a particular degree of maturity, what is of most interest is what these decades of history have given us, namely on accumulated knowledge and experience.

Looking into the history of Portuguese Landscape Architecture, and specifically into the main findings of the recently edited book "Portuguese Landscape Architecture Education, Heritage and Research: 80 Years of History" (Matos Silva, Castel-Branco et al. 2024), it can be evidenced that coupled to a disciplinary way of thinking and acting founded in ecology is a strong sense of responsibility that mobilises in the face of the long announced, and persisting, ecological crisis. An ecological crisis that is not only environmental, but also a social and mental crisis, as argued by Félix Guattari in 1989 (Guattari) and reinforced by the widespread demands of contemporary youth. This urge to contribute towards a better future comes with the recognition of the value of an active role of Landscape Architecture in the decision making of a new global society, adding to the debate on hypotheses, proposals and strategies associated with alternative social and economic models. Yet in doing so, Landscape Architecture education and practice must be revisited considering today's reality and its present-day major concerns, not only regarding the environment, but also matters such as social justice, inclusion and mental health.

Overall, it is evidenced that a significant part of this disciplinary revisitation must entail the leadership on the promotion of cultural, aesthetic and ecological principles of action, that are not only based on the accumulated knowledge of eight decades but also in a particular habit of thinking and acting that is specific of the discipline of Landscape Architecture. A process

that encompasses the investment on the creation and development of an agenda of values and principles and that steps outside the strictly academic sphere. For a Landscape Architect is more than just a designer, planner and manager of Landscapes, it is also a social actor with particular causes reinforced with specific technical expertise. The ability of Landscape Architects to reinvent environments, enhancing the quality of life and emotional experiences; the knowledge on environmental justice, community engagement and inclusiveness; the holistic vision, that enables an integral view and a general understanding of phenomena; working methods based on an elasticity of relationships between different times and territorial scales; the skills towards innovative and improved designed solutions inspired in natural processes; the humble and un-romantic attitude towards nature; political perspectives on green economy – these are just a few of the much needed competences of Landscape Architecture which are called for a more preponderant role in future decision-making endeavours; embracing surrounding disciplinary fields, such as architecture, geography or agricultural engineering, and evidencing how its disciplinary frontiers are richer and more resilient by being thick, permeable and mouldable.

Keywords

Landscape Architecture, principles of action

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Global Urban Agendas: Challenges and Strategies in Implementing the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda at the City Level in Developing Countries

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Global agendas serve as instruments for establishing a shared vision for the future and defining actions and political commitments to address major global challenges, such as socioeconomic and environmental sustainability. Notable examples include the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda, which mark a significant shift in the UN's approach by recognizing, for the first time, the crucial role of subnational governments in achieving global sustainability. While all UN member states have committed to these agendas, elaborated and agreed upon at the international level, their implementation primarily occurs at the city level, where sustainability-related issues are most evident. However, this process is not straightforward, as these agendas' goals, targets, and indicators were predominantly designed to be applied at the national level, posing significant obstacles, particularly in developing countries. Rapid and often unregulated urbanization, resource constraints, and inadequate infrastructure further complicate their implementation.

This research aims to examine the challenges and perspectives of implementing global agendas at the city level in developing countries. To achieve this, a literature review of initiatives carried out in some Latin American, African, and Asian cities was conducted, enabling the identification of key barriers and potential strategies to overcome them.

The main challenges identified include: a) limited awareness among local governments; b) inadequate support and capacity for data collection mainly in informal contexts; c) low data availability and poor data quality; d) absence of a globally driven yet locally suitable urban monitoring framework; e) insufficient mechanisms to engage local populations in adapting and monitoring these agendas; f) weak local institutional capacity and autonomy; g) inertia in urban planning systems; h) limited research and

knowledge-sharing on agenda implementation in developing countries; and i) lack of aligned and cooperative multilevel governance.

To address these challenges, several strategies have been identified: a) diversifying data sources, such as citizen-generated data, earth observation, and social media; b) engaging non-governmental actors, like academia and NGOs, in data collection and evaluation; c) selecting globally relevant and locally sensitive indicators in collaboration with local stakeholders, including vulnerable groups, to address intraurban inequalities and create a representative monitoring system; d) leveraging international partnerships for capacity-building, technical training, and resource acquisition; e) ensuring policy coherence by aligning national and local development priorities; f) establishing mechanisms for coordination among diverse actors; g) facilitating transparent information flows; and h) building stakeholder trust through effective communication and reporting.

These findings suggest that while the challenges of implementing global agendas in cities of developing countries are numerous and complex, they can be addressed through a 7Cs framework based on: Collaboration, Convergence, Capacity-building, Coherence, Coordination, Communication, and Confidence.

Keywords

Global Urban Agendas; Urban Sustainability; Developing Countries.

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Baixa, Lisbon in 2009
Photo by the author

The results of the housing finacialisation process in Lisbon

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The housing access crisis has been at the centre of political debate, not only in Portugal but in most Western democracies, because it has affected the middle classes and because the process of housing financialisation has become too visible.

This paper analyses the architectural impacts resulting from the housing financialisation process in the city of Lisbon. The factors that have led to a completely globalized and financialised housing market are numerous. Internally, a city centre with low population density and an advanced state of building degradation provided the ideal scenario for the substantiation of the rent gap theory, which strongly benefited from a process of neoliberalisation of public policies that found in attracting external investment the primary solution for the city's rehabilitation and economic recovery in a post-financial crisis scenario. Externally, an exponential growth in urban tourism, with the relocation of tourist routes away from the Middle East, together with an accelerated digitization process that made it possible to change residential uses to tourist uses with great ease, made Lisbon a preferred destination for visitors from all over the world.

The results of this pressure have resulted in a housing market oriented towards new uses and new demands. Real estate promotion initially took advantage of the urban improvements promoted by the municipal initiative to develop projects aimed at high-end and luxury segments and subsequently explored the entire riverfront.

The correlation between these investments and the public policies adopted to promote tourism and attract foreign investment is evident. It is also evident that the result of this promotion completely neglects local demand.

More surprising is the architectural production resulting from this impetus. Lisbon has seen the emergence of a substantial production of micro-

-typologies with very small areas, clearly oriented towards tourist development and many of them outside the legal construction parameters and, paradoxically, of a new housing typology – the penthouse – a typology of overgenerous areas, usually developed in duplexes, on the top floors of luxury developments, with private terraces and swimming pools.

While the former may find new audiences, depending on the political decisions that seek to guide the housing market in the coming years, the latter will hardly have any capacity to adapt to new uses, or new demands.

Keywords

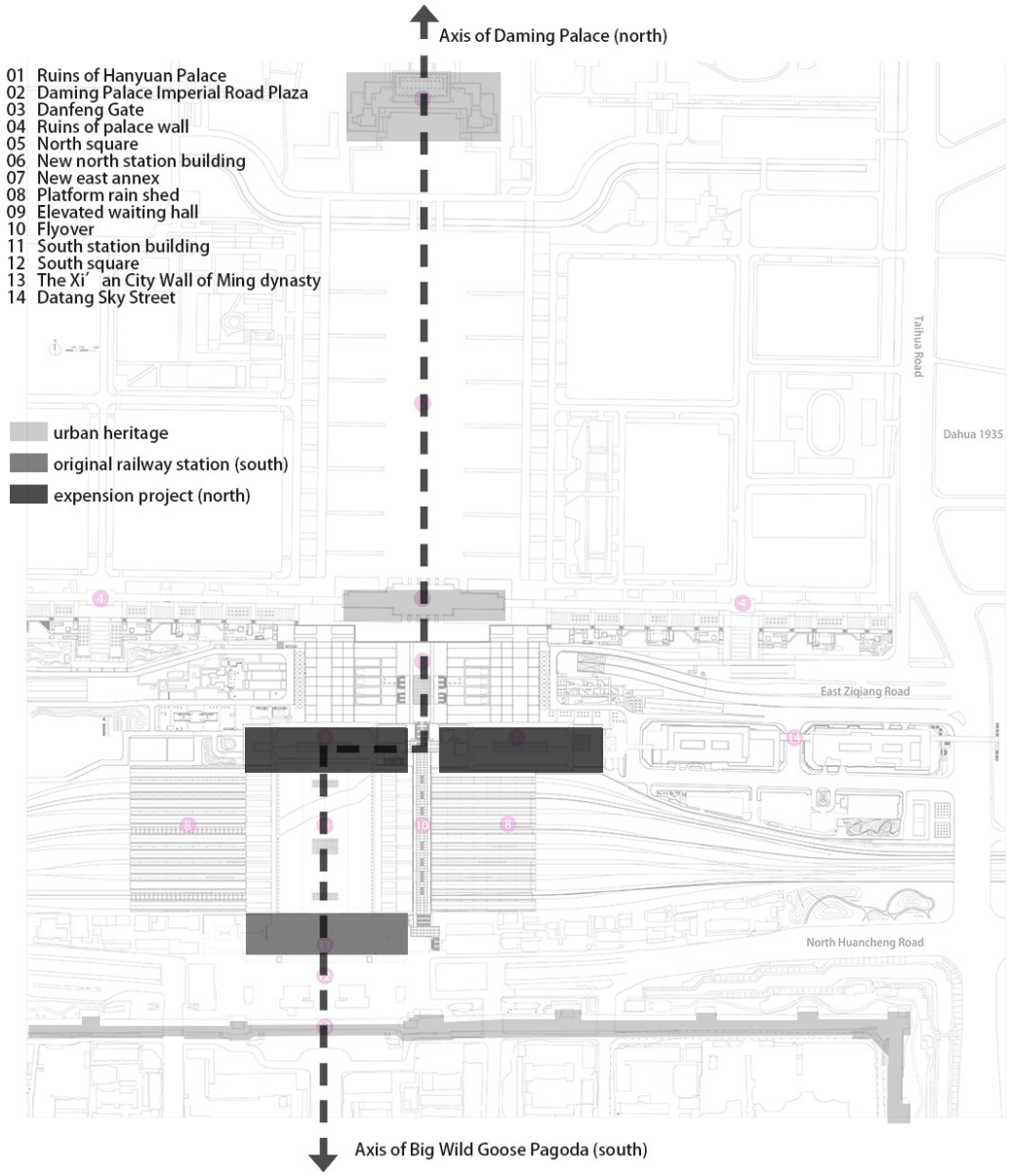
Housing Financialisation Lisbon

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The shift of the cultural heritage corridor of the city, from the Big Wild Goose Pagoda to the City Wall and then to the Daming Palace, reconnected by the expansion project of Xi'an Railway Station.

A Fieldwork on Everyday Space, Case Study of Xi'an Railway Station as Urban Platform

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As a comprehensive transportation hub in Xi'an City, China, Xi'an Railway Station is a fundamental area that functions both as critical infrastructure and urban space in the dynamic urban operation system. With significant agglomeration effect, open spaces around Xi'an Railway Station provide a unique urban platform to accommodate travel needs and establish various connections. This research attempts to conduct a long-term, participatory fieldwork based on scenarios and practices to study the urban platform. Taking everyday practice as a clue, human activities and experience were examined to explore the conflicts and cooperations among individuals, groups and the authority. The inherent connections and interpretations between these scenarios reveal the anticipated performance and the actual performance of design, the sustainable balance of the urban platform under specific operation periods, and thus provide a cognitive path for design thinking.

The research project is supported by Natural Science Basic Research Plan in Shaanxi Province of China (Program No. 2023-JC-QN-0576).

Keywords

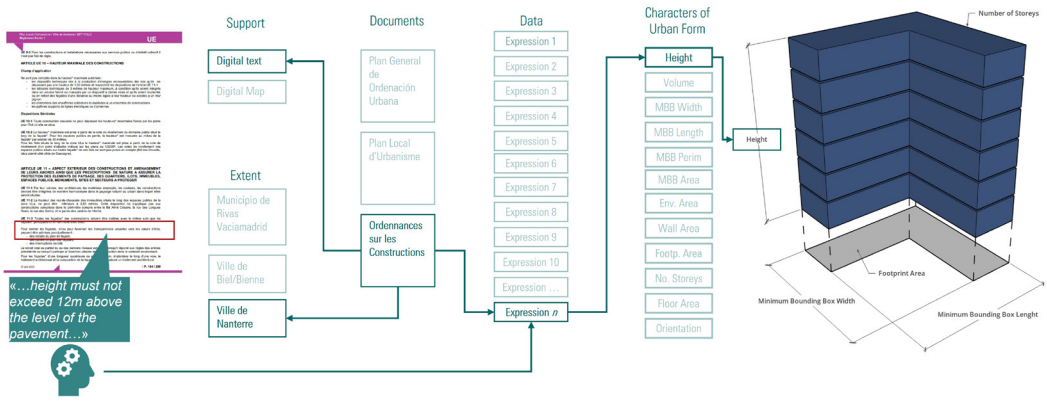
Fieldwork; everyday space; Xi'an Railway Station

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Example of the process for populating the ontology by transforming building form regulations into structured data in the Ontology.

From words to 3D: a frameworkfor connecting urban form regulations to digital data.

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Urban planning regulates the 3D aspects of buildings, such as height and volume, through zoning plans and building codes. In Europe, these regulations are increasingly available as electronic files (e.g., PDFs), but they often lack machine-readable data (Hersperger, Thurnheer-Wittenwiler, Tobias, Folvig, & Fertner, 2021), limiting their utility for digital applications like 3D urban simulations and hindering data sharing among researchers and practitioners. This research addresses this gap by proposing an ontology—a digital framework for encoding knowledge—to transform urban form regulations from texts, tables, and maps into standardised, machine-readable data. Our approach supports novel paths in interactions between 3D modellers, architects, urban designers, planners, and regulators. This research builds on evidence that urban form attributes, such as height and volume, are regulated across municipalities. However, their descriptions vary across zoning plans and building codes (Brasebin, Perret, Mustière, & Weber, 2016). We propose using a digital resource for encoding knowledge, named ontology, to connect urban form regulations expressed as texts, tables and maps to digital data. Existing ontologies have been designed for urban cadastres (e.g., Silvennoinen et al., 2023). Our ontology, however, focuses on creating data for 3D modelling from zoning plans and building codes. Our data framework can be used by stakeholders from diverse backgrounds beyond language barriers. We tested this approach on planning documents from three European cities, creating a dataset of form regulations and evaluating its potential for 3D modelling. Our findings reveal that while the ontology successfully manages form regulations as data, form regulations are not sufficiently defined to serve as a base for 3D urban simulations. This highlights specific gaps in data completeness that must be addressed to achieve the envisioned urban envi-

ronments. The ontology provides a foundation for data sharing, comparative studies, and stakeholder collaboration across language barriers, offering a valuable tool for planners, architects, and urban modellers.

Keywords

Urban data models; Ontology; Urban planning

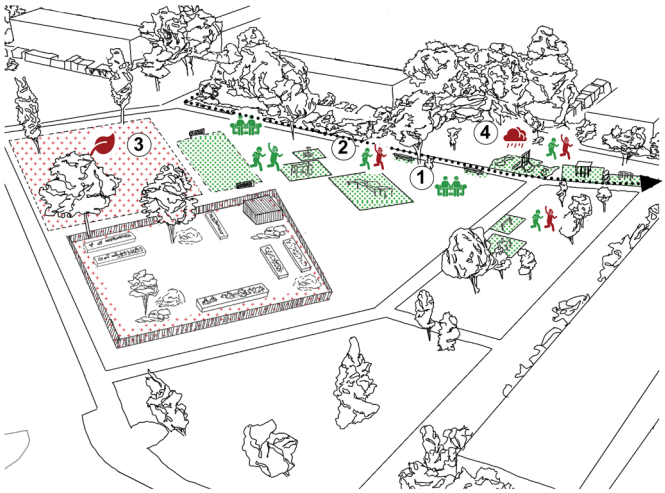
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Neighbourhood: Homerusbuurt
Location 1: Playground at the Petracastraat



Legend for Space Specific Elements:

- Elements experienced as possitive by children
- Elements experienced as negative by children
- Rainwater puddles and mud
- Nature & green spaces
- Playing and sporting together (positive/mixed evaluation)
- Sitting in a location together

General Qualities of the Location:

- Too busy in the summer
- Incidents/violence
- Animals/insects
- Nature & green spaces



(1) Benches and playground area.



(2) Favored turning playground elements.



(3) Empty grass field next to the football field.



(4) Rainwater puddles in the sand in front of the swing set.



On a scale from 1 (much disliked) to 5 (much liked), children scored this place a 3.75 (average score from 19 out of 23 children who took part of the walk in Homerusbuurt).

Towards a child-friendly city: Unraveling the complex relationship between child and parent perceptions of the environment and neighborhood affordances for children.

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The neighborhood environment plays an important role in shaping children's outdoor activities, which can shape their psychological and physical health (Nordbø et al., 2020). Children's access to safe, welcoming, and diverse neighborhood environments provides opportunities for physical activities (e.g., outdoor play, sports, active travel) and social interactions with peers and siblings (Smith et al., 2022). However, increased urbanization, motorization, and changed societal norms have contributed to declines in children's time spent outdoors and physical activity levels (e.g., Witten et al., 2013). While previous research examined how environmental factors may support or hinder children's physical activities and social interactions, many have underrepresented (1) the complexity in which children's transactions with their environment takes place, including the combined role of the physical and social environment qualities, parents' role, and the broader cultural and socioeconomic context, (2) children's perspectives of their neighborhood environment and specifically of its social qualities, and (3) similarities or differences in the lens through which children and parents perceive their neighborhood environment. To address these gaps, in the current study, we investigated how the complex interplay between the physical and social environment, considering the role of parents and broader cultural and socioeconomic context, supports or hinders children's opportunities for physical activities and social interactions.

We investigated children's and parents' perceptions and experiences in third places (i.e., beyond home and school) in Lombardijen, a multicultural neighborhood in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Lombardijen is a post-war 'garden city-style neighborhood', which faces significant socioeconomic and urban challenges, including social unsafety, poverty, and mobility. We col-

lected data in a primary school through informal conversations with parents and local experts, a drawing workshop about life-worlds and cognitive maps with 10 parents, child-completed booklets, and a neighborhood walk including photovoice with 39 children (ages 11-13 years).

Using the theory of affordances as a framework, we conducted a thematic analysis of children's and parents' perceptions and experiences in 10 locations.

Our study shows that children view public spaces through a different lens than parents do. While children prioritized engaging in physical activities and social interactions, parents emphasized social safety, traffic safety, and warm/dry weather as conditions for supporting their children's wishes. Physical environmental qualities, such as green spaces and diverse amenities (e.g., playgrounds, sports fields, and food stores) supported children's physical activities and social interactions, but these positive qualities alone were insufficient. Unfavorable social conditions (e.g., presence of older youth, drunken people, knowledge of past violence), rainy/cold weather, and traffic safety concerns could directly or indirectly, through parental restrictions, hinder children's activities. Parental attitudes regarding physical activities, family socioeconomic, and cultural factors further shaped children's activities. Our findings highlight the complexity of how physical and social environments, parental roles and socioeconomic and cultural contexts shape children's physical activities and social interactions. Urban planners, policymakers, and local professionals can benefit from considering positively and negatively perceived environmental qualities within the local family-, socioeconomic-, and cultural contexts. We encourage including the voices of children and parents in policymaking and planning processes to support child-friendly developments at the neighborhood level.

Keywords

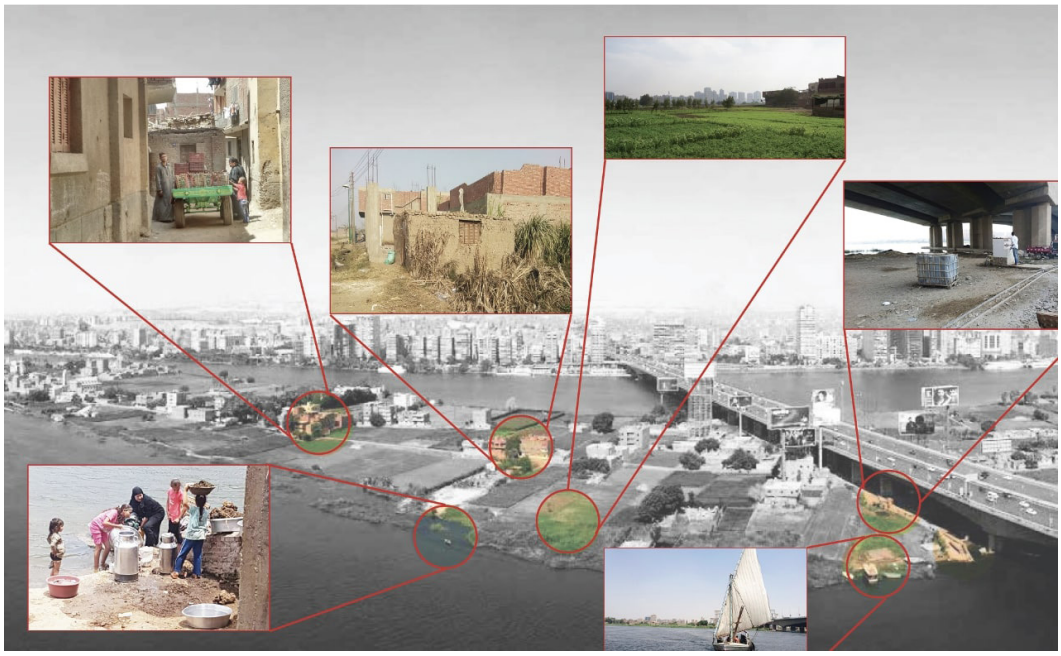
Neighborhood environment, children, outdoor activities

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Ensuring Healthy and Safe Access to Basic Services in Geziert El-Dahab - A Participatory Research Approach to Overcoming Infrastructure Challenges

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Ensuring Healthy and Safe Access to Basic Services in Geziert El-Dahab -

A Participatory Research Approach to Overcoming Infrastructure Challenges

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Globalization and technological innovation have brought health, education, and social justice to the forefront of global development agendas. In addressing these priorities, establishing collaborative frameworks that emphasise the sharing of experiences, resources, and data is critical for creating sustainable solutions. Vulnerable communities, such as those residing in Cairo's informal settlements – where 60% of the city's population resides – face significant challenges in accessing basic infrastructure and services.

This paper focuses on Geziret El Dahab, a rural characterised island in Cairo, which is heavily reliant on agriculture but constrained by spatial isolation, limited infrastructure, and minimal access to education and healthcare services. On a positive note, the island's vulnerability to flooding and its car--free status have helped preserve its rural character, preventing urbanisation

and maintaining its agricultural lifestyle. The primary mode of transportation to the mainland is by ferry.

Utilizing a mixed-methods approach, the research combined quantitative tools—such as GIS mapping, demographic analysis, and land surveys—with qualitative techniques, including semi-structured interviews, participatory workshops, and group discussions. These methods were applied during the Participatory Needs Assessment (PNA) seminar, offered from 2015 to 2018 to both undergraduate and postgraduate students at the University of Stuttgart, with a focus on applying the participatory needs framework. The seminar explored how knowledge exchange among researchers, practitioners, and local residents was facilitated, enabling a thorough identification of the community's needs, while also examined the social and spatial conditions, and the daily life of the island's residents, with a particular focus on their access to basic services.

The findings reveal that, while the absence of schools and hospitals is a significant concern, constructing such services on the island are neither feasible nor sustainable. Instead, the study underscores the need for a resilient and well-operated ferry system to improve connectivity with mainland facilities, thereby optimising resource allocation and addressing the locals' most pressing needs. The research also highlights the transformative potential of shared methodologies in tackling urban challenges. The EZBET Project's systematic data collection, its direct engagement with local communities, and its documentation process demonstrate that resource-sharing and collaborative decision-making among stakeholders fosters more inclusive and effective solutions. By involving communities as active partners in the design and implementation of interventions, the project contributes to the broader discourse on sustainable development, resilience, and social inclusion. Ultimately, this study argues that fostering a culture of sharing is key to creating innovative and contextually relevant pathways in engagement and education that are both sustainable and impactful.

Keywords

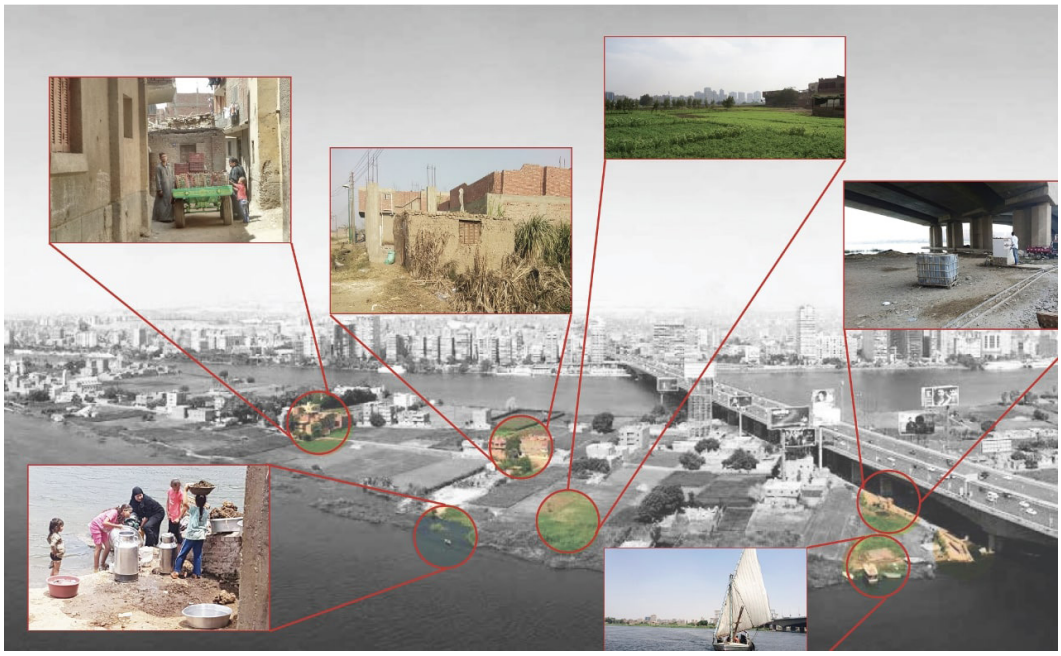
Access to basic services, sharing resources, Participatory Needs Assessment (PNA)

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From Sustainable Campus to Career: A Hybrid Education and Entrepreneurship Campus for Post-Disaster Regions

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The intersection of education and sustainable development has become increasingly important in designing learning environments that respond to both current ecological concerns and social challenges. Higher education institutions are repositioning themselves not only as centers of knowledge but also as agents of societal transformation. Post-disaster recovery in education demands innovative spatial and pedagogical approaches. Traditional rebuilding efforts often neglect the integration of forward-looking educational strategies that respond to both local vulnerabilities and global sustainability goals.

This paper reflects on a studio project carried out during the Spring 2025 semester in the Interior Architecture program, addressing SDGs through design pedagogy. It presents the concept of INNOVA-LISE, a boutique hybrid campus model designed for 300 high school students, combining physical and digital learning spaces. The initiative goes beyond architectural innovation; it aims to empower youth as active participants in the circular economy and sustainable campus buildings.

A unique pedagogical dimension of this studio was the approach where university students, envisioning themselves as future change-makers, developed design proposals for high school students. This intergenerational engagement offers a strategic framework in which every segment of society contributes to the education of one another. Such an approach fosters mutual learning, mentorship, and empowerment, especially in vulnerable communities.

The project was developed within the framework of the undergraduate curriculum in Interior Architecture, specifically through courses such as “Sustainable Design” and “Physical Environment Control.” These courses

are instrumental in embedding sustainability literacy and environmental awareness into design thinking. As part of the studio-based learning model, structured debates are conducted to stimulate critical discourse around socio-environmental responsibilities in design.

The novelty of the INNOVA-LISE project lies in its interdisciplinary structure and its focus on active student participation in real-world resilience challenges, combining interior architectural education, startup innovation into a unified academic exercise and built proposal. The project's alignment with the IFoU25 theme is demonstrated through multiple key actions:

T1 Dwelling: Proposes inclusive educational spaces for young digital entrepreneurs, addressing spatial justice.

T2 Connecting: Fosters integration of physical and digital networks, enhancing youth mobility and connectivity.

T3 Integrating: Merges cultural and technological layers into an inclusive campus environment.

T4 Adapting: Responds to disaster-prone contexts through resilient, modular, and sustainable architectural strategies.

T5 Visioning: Encourages youth imagination and innovation through real-life entrepreneurship and learning environments.

T6 Steering: Serves as a platform for policymaking and institutional collaboration in sustainable education.

T7 Sharing: Disseminates knowledge and design strategies through open-access outputs for broader educational benefit.

A significant feature of the project was the integration of building energy performance simulation tools into the design process. These tools enabled students to assess environmental impact and optimize spatial configurations based on energy efficiency criteria. By aligning architectural pedagogy with SDG-aligned goals such as affordable and clean energy, quality education, and sustainable communities, students were encouraged to think systemically and ethically.

Keywords

Entrepreneurship campus, hybrid education, innovation hub, interior architecture education, modular and sustainable learning spaces, post-disaster architecture, resilient infrastructure, student design studios, sustainable circular economy, sustainable design, youth empowerment.

Bibliographic references

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