



UDL Thesis Publication

Curating the Best Graduate Thesis Projects Globally!



**14th & 15th
September**

2024

**BOOK OF
ABSTRACTS**

Seminar



CONTRIBUTIONS

The UDL Thesis Publication - 2024 witnessed an exceptional influx of thesis projects hailing from different countries, underscoring its global recognition as a hub for academic excellence. The esteemed jury panel, comprising eight distinguished members from renowned institutions across the world, lent their expertise and discernment to the meticulous evaluation process, reaffirming the publication's commitment to upholding the highest standards of scholarly assessment on an international scale.

COUNTRIES

1. Algeria
2. Australia
3. Bangladesh
4. Bulgaria
5. Canada
6. Colombia
7. Denmark
8. Ethiopia
9. Germany
10. Ghana
11. Hong Kong
12. India
13. Indonesia
14. Iran
15. Italy
16. Mexico
17. Netherlands
18. Nigeria
19. Pakistan
20. Peru
21. Philippines
22. Portugal
23. South Africa
24. Sri Lanka
25. Turkey
26. United Arab Emirates
27. United Kingdom
28. United States
29. Vietnam

INSTITUTES (Jury Associations)

1. University of Sydney
2. Architectural Association, London
3. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
4. Harvard Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, Massachusetts
5. The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL
6. Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC), Barcelona
7. Politecnico di Milano
8. Cairo University
9. Effat University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
10. Catholic University of Chile
11. RMIT University
12. Helwan University, Cairo

JURY PANEL

1. Peter Hasdell
2. Daniel Feldman
3. Stefan Lengen
4. Fabiano Lemes
5. Mohammed Fekry
6. Clara Reutter
7. Zeina ElZein
8. Evan Shieh

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1. Ujan Ghosh
2. Rajiv Bhakat
3. Mansi Kataria
4. Oormi Kapadia

MODERATOR

1. Jagriti Jhunjunwala
2. Anubhuti Jain
3. Sai Puneeth Damarla
4. Kristi Verma
5. Ravjyot Kaur



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For inquiries, mail to contact@urbandesignlab.in



URBAN DESIGN LAB

UDL Thesis Publication | 2024

Curating the Best Graduate Thesis Projects Globally !

In 2024, graduate and postgraduate students from 29 countries submitted numerous thesis projects in urban design, landscape architecture, and planning. From these submissions, 40 selected thesis abstracts have been compiled and published in this book of abstracts. Additionally, 8 honorable mentions have been recognized for their exceptional contributions to the field.

The complete UDL Thesis Publication, featuring the full thesis projects alongside the abstracts published here, is scheduled for release in December 2024.

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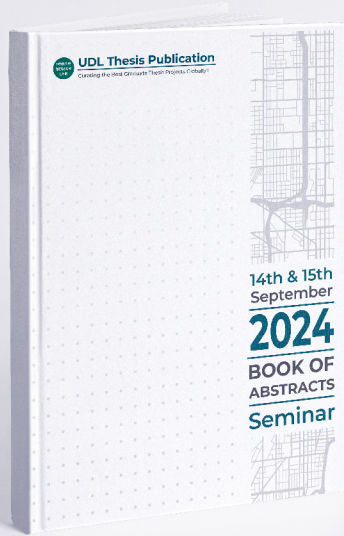
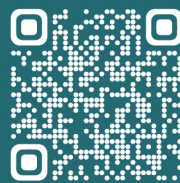
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2024 UDL THESIS PUBLICATION



THESIS SEMINAR

14th-15th
September 2024

Register Now!

DOWNLOAD THE BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Curating the best Graduate thesis Project Globally !



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Mumbai, India

Urban Designer, Founding partner at PLURAL

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OUR NARRATIVE



About Us

Urban Design Lab (UDL) is a distinguished platform for Urbanists, Architects, Designers, and Planners, offering a dynamic space for sharing working methods, acquiring advanced skills, and exploring new dimensions within the urban environment.

UDL's programs are meticulously crafted to facilitate interaction among urban professionals, ensuring that valuable resources are accessible on a global scale. Our platform is dedicated to reflecting and addressing the concerns and aspirations of urban communities worldwide.

At Urban Design Lab, we understand that the urban landscape is ever-changing. Our initiatives are designed to resonate with the evolving needs of cities globally, shaped by the diverse voices and experiences of urban professionals. We aim to foster a space for creative exchange, innovation, and meaningful dialogue.

Beyond serving as a hub for urban professionals, Urban Design Lab stands as one of the most influential urban design publications. With a website that engages over a million visitors annually, we are committed to curating a selection of the most inspiring design projects, grounded in research, to stimulate our global community and various design disciplines.

Our online community encompasses thousands of members from over 95 countries, united by a shared passion for learning and creative growth. Whether you are an established urban professional or a design enthusiast, Urban Design Lab offers a unique platform to expand your knowledge and develop new skills within the urban domain.



THE PROLOGUE



Preface

UDL Thesis Publication is a distinguished platform that stands as a beacon for showcasing visionary and research-driven thesis projects in the domains of urban design, landscape architecture, and planning. This publication celebrates the fusion of creativity and scholarly inquiry, reflecting the endeavors of talented undergraduate and postgraduate students who tread uncharted territories in the realm of urban design and related fields.

At its core, the UDL Thesis Publication aims to amplify the resonance of international design and research trends, enriching the minds of academics, professionals, researchers, and students, fostering a dynamic exchange of knowledge. As you immerse yourself in these pages, you'll envision the horizons which the students are helping to reshape—a future where urban spaces thrive with innovation, harmony, and resilience.

Within these pages, you will explore the compilation of abstracts for the upcoming “UDL Thesis Publication” online seminar, scheduled for September 14th and 15th, 2024. This convergence of intellect and imagination showcases students' contributions to both personal recognition and a global dialogue shaping the evolving design and research landscape, embodying our academic community's creative spirit. The seminar is a celebration of academic excellence, featuring exceptional thesis that delve into the intricate interplay between human spaces and the built environment, unraveling challenges and opportunities. The abstracts offer a glimpse into the showcased research, spanning sustainable urban development, community-centered planning, innovative architectural designs, harmonious landscape interventions, and more.

We extend our gratitude to the students and jurors, for making it possible to curate this exceptional selection of thesis. As you explore these abstracts, we hope they ignite curiosity, meaningful discussions, and new perspectives. The “UDL Thesis Publication” online seminar is not just an event; it's a testament to the collective power of intellect, vision, and aspiration. Together, we strive to enhance the quality of urban life and usher in a future of innovation and harmony.



PROGRAM GUIDE

14
September

15
September

Seminar Schedule

Day 1: Urban Landscape & Management

Session 1

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM IST (India Standard Time) / 09:30 AM - 12:30 PM UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Jury Composition: Ujan Ghosh, Peter Hasdell & Clara Reutter

Convenor: Jagriti Jhunjhunwala

Moderator: Ravjyot Kaur

Session 2

07:00 PM - 10:00 PM IST (India Standard Time) / 01:30 PM - 04:30 PM UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Jury Composition: Mansi Kataria, Daniel Feldman & Evan Shieh

Moderator: Kristi Verma

Day 2: Urban Networks & Renewal

Session 1

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM IST (India Standard Time) / 09:30 AM - 12:30 PM UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Jury Composition: Oormi Kapadia, Zeina ElZein & Stefan Lengen

Convenor: Jagriti Jhunjhunwala

Moderator: Sai Puneeth Damarla

Session 2

07:00 PM - 10:00 PM IST (India Standard Time) / 01:30 PM - 04:30 PM UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Jury Composition: Rajiv Bhakat, Mohammed Fekry & Fabiano Lemes de Oliveira

Moderator: Anubhuti Jain

Note: The UDL Thesis Publication book is scheduled for release, in the month of December 2024, that will feature the abstracts published here along with the Thesis Projects.

Seminar Schedule

Day 1 14th September, 2024, Saturday

Themes : Urban Landscape & Urban Management

03:00 PM - 03:05 PM (IST)

09:30 AM - 09:35 AM (UTC)

Inaugral and Welcome Note - Urban Design Lab

03:05 PM - 03:10 PM (IST)

09:35 AM - 09:40 AM (UTC)

Vote of Thanks - Jagriti Jhunjhunwala

Session 1

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM IST (India Standard Time) / 09:30 AM - 12:30 PM UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Panel Members: Ujan Ghosh, Peter Hasdell & Clara Reutter

03:10 PM - 03:20 PM (IST)

09:40 AM - 09:50 (UTC)

Session Introduction and Welcome Note - Ravjyot Kaur

03:20 PM - 03:35 PM (IST)

09:50 AM - 10:05 (UTC)

Amazonian Floodable Park: Transformation of the Tingo Maria Airport Towards a New Model of Resilient Public Space | Huánuco, Peru

Valeria Rose Namuche Vega (Under Graduate)
Urban Landscape

03:35 PM - 03:50 PM (IST)

10:05 AM - 10:20 AM (UTC)

Balneario Miramar: The construction of a new coastal landscape from the clearing | Lima, Perú

Jose Fabian Jimenez (Under Graduate)
Urban Landscape

03:50 PM - 04:05 PM (IST)

10:20 AM - 10:35 AM (UTC)

Where is the water going | Melbourne, Australia

Mahima Hemant Patel (Post Graduate)
Urban Landscape

04:05 PM - 04:20 PM (IST)

10:35 AM - 10:50 AM (UTC)

Chan Chan's Agricultural Ring | Lima, Perú

Grecia Francesca Arroyo (Under Graduate)
Urban Landscape

04:20 PM - 04:35 PM (IST)

10:50 AM - 11:05 AM (UTC)

Toronto's Terrestrial Reefs: BioRock's Infrastructural Biogeochemical Futures | Toronto, Canada

Cameron Penney (Post Graduate)
Urban Landscape

04:35 PM - 04:50 PM (IST)

11:05 AM - 11:20 AM (UTC)

Urban Creeks as Playful & Educational Spaces: Reimagining Public Space Through the Eyes of Amazonian Children | Iquitos, Peru

Rosa de Fatima Constanza Garcia
Urban Landscape (Under Graduate)

04:50 PM - 05:05 PM (IST)

11:35AM - 11:50 AM (UTC)

Gram-Bangla, Always in Motion | Kolkata, India

Ishita Agrawal, Constance Adeline & Prachi Rawat
Urban Landscape (Post Graduate)

Seminar Schedule

05:05 PM - 05:20 PM (IST)

11:35 PM - 11:50 PM (UTC)

Network of Ancestral Knowledge | Valle de Sondondo, Peru

Penelope Silva (Under Graduate)

Urban Landscape

05:20 PM - 05:35 PM (IST)

11:50 AM - 12:05 PM (UTC)

Reimagining the Urban: A 'Bird's Eye' Perspective | Mumbai, India

Anushri Milind Joshi (Under Graduate)

Urban Landscape

05:35 PM - 05:50 PM (IST)

12:05 PM - 12:20 PM (UTC)

Coexistence Intermediates: Between Anthropogenic Scenarios & Natural Ecosystem, the Santa Rosa Wetland | Lima, Peru

Susana Vanessa Zapata Quispitupa (Under Graduate)

Urban Landscape

05:50 PM - 06:00 PM (IST)

12:20 PM - 12:30 PM (UTC)

Panel Discussion

Session Break

Session 2

07:00 PM - 10:00 PM IST (India Standard Time) / 01:30 PM - 04:30 PM UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Panel Members: Mansi Kataria, Daniel Feldman & Evan Shieh

07:00 PM - 07:05 PM (IST)

01:30 PM - 01:35 PM (UTC)

Session Introduction and Welcome Note - Kristi Verma

07:05 PM - 07:20 PM (IST)

01:35 PM - 01:50 PM (UTC)

Entertainment Experiences - Articulating the importance of experiences as a means of entertainment | Nagpur, India

Vaishnavi Kishor Siddhapara (Under Graduate)

Urban Management

07:20 PM - 07:35 PM (IST)

01:50 PM - 02:05 PM (UTC)

Investigating Indian Festivals: devices, rituals and intangible aspects of temporary events | Puri, India

Dhaval Shaileshkumar Modi (Post Graduate)

Urban Management

07:35 PM - 07:50 PM (IST)

02:05 PM - 02:20 PM (UTC)

Exploring the Impact of Transit Oriented Development on Urban Heat Island and Thermal Comfort in the Public Realm | Bengaluru, India

Sphurti Shrinivas Purohit (Post Graduate)

Urban Management

07:50 PM - 08:05 PM (IST)

02:20 PM - 02:35 PM (UTC)

The new type of community – Typology of Public Housing | Hong Kong, China

Yao Xiaoqian (Post Graduate)

Urban Management

08:05 PM - 08:20 PM (IST)

02:35 PM - 02:50 PM (UTC)

Urban Form Complexity and challenges of Framing Form-Based Codes | Pune, India

Rayee Ashish Metha (Post Graduate)

Urban Management

Seminar Schedule

08:20 PM- 08:35 PM (IST)

02:50 PM - 03:05 PM (UTC)

De-commodifying People: A Transgressive Approach to Social Housing | Mumbai, India

Vardhan Ashish Arora (Under Graduate)

Urban Management

08:35 PM- 08:50 PM (IST)

03:05 PM - 03:20 PM (UTC)

System of rural community development units | Suárez, Colombia

Laura A. Ordonez M. & Erika D. Ortiz J

Urban Management (Under Graduate)

08:50 PM- 09:05 PM (IST)

03:20 PM - 03:35 PM (UTC)

Water Edges: Navigating Inequity and dilemmas related to urban water | Nashik, India

Dweep Dilip Madhu Jain (Under Graduate)

Urban Management

09:05 PM- 09:20 PM (IST)

03:35 PM - 03:50 PM (UTC)

Advancing Gender Mainstreaming in Sanitation for Urban Poor | Ahmedabad, India

Ayushi Prakash Goyal (Under Graduate)

Urban Management

09:20 PM- 09:35 PM (IST)

03:50 PM - 04:05 PM (UTC)

Agroparque: A model for reconnecting the food network of the urban and agricultural landscape of Huancayo | Huancayo, Perú

Adriana Pierina Rojas (Under Graduate)

Urban Management

09:35 PM- 10:00 PM (IST)

04:05 PM - 04:30 PM (UTC)

Panel Discussion

Seminar Schedule

Day 2 15th September, 2024, Sunday

Themes : Urban Networks & Urban Renewal

03:00 PM - 03:05 PM (IST)

09:30 AM - 09:35 AM (UTC)

Session Summary - Urban Design Lab

03:05 PM - 03:10 PM (IST)

09:35 AM - 09:40 AM (UTC)

Opening Remark - Jagriti Jhunjhunwala

Session 1

03:00 PM - 06:00 PM IST (India Standard Time) / 09:30 AM - 12:30 PM UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Panel Members: Oormi Kapadia, Zeina ElZein & Stefan Lengen

03:10 PM - 03:20 PM (IST)

09:40 AM - 09:50 (UTC)

Session Introduction and Welcome Note - Sai Puneeth Damarla

03:20 PM - 03:35 PM (IST)

09:50 AM - 10:05 (UTC)

Adaptive Fringe: encourage permeability between the urban outskirts and the urban center | Uboldo, Italy

Asia Druda (Post Graduate)

Urban Networks

03:35 PM - 03:50 PM (IST)

10:05 AM - 10:20 AM (UTC)

Catalyst of Connection: Exploring the Vital Role of Third Places in Fostering Community Well-being in a Digital Age | Mumbai, India

Divya Vikrant Bhargava (Under Graduate)

Urban Networks

03:50 PM - 04:05 PM (IST)

10:20 AM - 10:35 AM (UTC)

Masterplan Development of Atghar-Kuriana Floating Guava Markets : An Approach to Enhance Tourism | Pirojpur, Bangladesh

Ashefa Washema Basure (Under Graduate)

Urban Networks

04:05 PM - 04:20 PM (IST)

10:35 AM - 10:50 AM (UTC)

Re-imagining city's public spaces: Visioning a model Indian urban public realm | Thiruvananthapuram , India

Lalithambika N S (Post Graduate)

Urban Networks

04:20 PM - 04:35 PM (IST)

10:50 AM - 11:05 AM (UTC)

Blurring Boundaries- Integrating the Urban and Water Edge | Navi Mumbai, India

Ayesha Abid Khawar (Post Graduate)

Urban Networks

04:35 PM - 04:50 PM (IST)

11:05 AM - 11:20 AM (UTC)

Spaces Between People & Nature : An investigation of the potential of Residual spaces for NBS in dense urban settings | Nordvest, Copenhagen

Chrisann Neysa Rodrigues (Post Graduate)

Urban Networks

04:50 PM - 05:05 PM (IST)

11:35AM - 11:50 AM (UTC)

Urban Resurgence: Towards an Integrated city by Foot | Sao Cristovao, Brazil

Tanaya Vibhakar Gawade & Shreya Sanghvi (Post Graduate)

Urban Networks

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Seminar Schedule

05:05 PM - 05:20 PM (IST) 11:35 PM - 11:50 PM (UTC)	Riverfront Renaissance: Revitalizing Shitolokkha's Transportation Hub as a Dynamic Public Realm Narayanganj, Bangladesh Nafiz Ahmed (Under Graduate) Urban Networks
05:20 PM - 05:35 PM (IST) 11:50 AM - 12:05 PM (UTC)	The Enlivening Interval: MRT Line 5 Kawranbazar Underground Interchange Station Dhaka, Bangladesh Farzana Haque (Under Graduate) Urban Networks
05:35 PM - 05:50 PM (IST) 12:05 PM - 12:20 PM (UTC)	Chaos as an opportunity in destination design Kanyakumari, India Nilofer J (Post Graduate) Urban Networks
05:50 PM - 06:00 PM (IST) 12:20 PM - 12:30 PM (UTC)	Panel Discussion

Session Break

Session 2

07:00 PM - 10:00 PM IST (India Standard Time) / 01:30 PM - 04:30 PM UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Panel Members: Rajiv Bhakat, Mohammed Fekry & Fabiano Lemes de Oliveira

07:00 PM - 07:05 PM (IST) 01:30 PM - 01:35 PM (UTC)	Session Introduction and Welcome Note - Anubhuti Jain
07:05 PM - 07:20 PM (IST) 01:35 PM - 01:50 PM (UTC)	The Irony of Fate: Tbilisi's Soviet Catalyst Tbilisi, Georgia Steven William Almond (Post Graduate) Urban Renewal
07:20 PM - 07:35 PM (IST) 01:50 PM - 02:05 PM (UTC)	Transcending Thresholds: Navigating through the plurality of thresholds in architecture Kolkata, India Disha Neogi (Under Graduate) Urban Renewal
07:35 PM - 07:50 PM (IST) 02:05 PM - 02:20 PM (UTC)	Revive and Relink: Sustainable Collaboration Strategies for the Hing Chun Yeuk Rural Hakka Villages Hongkong Xinjie Huang (Post Graduate) Urban Renewal
07:50 PM - 08:05 PM (IST) 02:20 PM - 02:35 PM (UTC)	Reviving the Traditional Trade Culture Of Khatunganj Chattogram, Bangladesh Md Sadman Chowdhury Apurba (Under Graduate) Urban Renewal
08:05 PM - 08:20 PM (IST) 02:35 PM - 02:50 PM (UTC)	The Scent of Time Tracing, The Lost Fragrance of Riverside Villages Hue city, Vietnam Tram Le Bao Doan (Post Graduate) Urban Renewal

Seminar Schedule

<u>08:20 PM - 08:35 PM (IST)</u> 02:50 PM - 03:05 PM (UTC)	Can Re-adapted Structures be the Next Tourist Marvel? -From Oil to Adventure: Transforming Rigs into Tourist Wonders United Arab Emirates (UAE) Tridha Singh (Under Graduate) Urban Renewal
<u>08:35 PM - 08:50 PM (IST)</u> 03:05 PM - 03:20 PM (UTC)	Community-Centric Approaches to Urban Regeneration in Touristic Adjacent Zones: Case Study of Mouraria Lisbon, Portugal Nagham El Hayek (Post Graduate) Urban Renewal
<u>08:50 PM - 09:05 PM (IST)</u> 03:20 PM - 03:35 PM (UTC)	City and Identity: Designing Strategies to enhance the diminishing role of the 'Garden City' Bangalore, Arunima Badrinath (Post Graduate) Urban Renewal
<u>09:05 PM - 09:20 PM (IST)</u> 03:35 PM - 03:50 PM (UTC)	Obsolete Urbanities: An Urban Redevelopment proposal with alternative governance Berlin, Germany Santiago Martinez Murillo & Sofia Tsitselli (Post Graduate) Urban Renewal
<u>09:20 PM - 09:35 PM (IST)</u> 03:50 PM - 04:05 PM (UTC)	RESCAPE (A Regenerative Stitch activating abandoned Rurban peripherals of Porto Di Mare) Milan, Italy Shalini Ravi (Post Graduate) Urban Renewal
<u>09:35 PM - 09:45 PM (IST)</u> 04:05 PM - 04:15 PM (UTC)	Panel Discussion
<u>09:45 PM - 09:50 PM (IST)</u> 04:15 PM - 04:20 PM (UTC)	Concluding remark - Jagriti Jhunjhunwala
<u>09:50 PM - 10:00 PM (IST)</u> 04:20 PM - 04:30 PM (UTC)	Validictory Session - Urban Design Lab



THEMATIC DIVISIONS



Publication Themes

The captivating journey through the “UDL Thesis Publication” book’s thematic sections opens up a world of urban exploration that is both enlightening and thought-provoking. Within its pages, the four distinct themes unfurl, each a compelling dimension of urban life that deserves our attention and consideration.

Urban Landscape, the first theme, paints a vivid picture of design that extends beyond aesthetics, encompassing climate resilience, preservation of cultural roots, and the fostering of resident well-being.

As we move forward, the second theme, Urban Management, peels back the layers of economic and social governance that underpin thriving cities—cities that embrace inclusivity and functionality to their core.

The third theme, Urban Networks, casts its spotlight on the connective threads that tie cities together: the intricate web of mobility, the pulse of connectivity, and the quest for efficient movement.

Lastly, Urban Renewal invites us to delve into the intricate strategies that breathe new life into urban spaces, drawing from the wellspring of heritage preservation and the art of regeneration.

But these themes are not isolated fragments; rather, they intricately weave together, forming a rich tapestry of ideas that stretch from the foundations of historical preservation to the towering heights of sustainable innovation. Within each thesis lies a piece of the urban puzzle, and as we immerse ourselves in this collection, we are invited to explore the intricate interplay of dynamics that shape our cities—today and in the boundless realm of tomorrow.

1.

Urban Landscape

This theme focuses on the design & management of the natural and built environment in urban areas. The area of focus & research include:

- **Climate Resilience:** Designing urban areas to adapt to climate change and mitigate its impact.
- **Green-Blue Infrastructure:** Integrating natural and built elements to create sustainable urban environments.
- **Landscape Heritage:** Preserving and promoting the cultural and natural heritage of urban areas.
- **Landscape Health and Well-being:** Designing urban areas that promote physical and mental well-being of its residents.
- **Sustainable Urbanism:** Creating environmentally sustainable urban areas.
- **Recreation and Leisure:** Designing urban areas for recreational and leisure activities.

2.

Urban Management

This theme emphasizes the social and economic management of urban areas. The area of focus and research include:

- **Infrastructure Management:** Addressing needs for infrastructure, services, and housing through strategic planning.
- **Social and Community Development:** Fostering social cohesion and community engagement in urban environments.
- **Conflict and Risk Management:** Mitigating urban conflicts, risks, and hazards to ensure safety and stability.
- **Tourism and Economic Management:** Balancing tourism with economic growth while preserving local culture.
- **Inclusive Urbanism:** Creating accessible, inclusive urban spaces that meet the needs of all residents.

3.

Urban Networks

This theme emphasizes the social and economic management of urban areas. The area of focus and research include:

- **Infrastructure & Resources:** Addressing infrastructure, service, and housing challenges with sustainable design solutions.
- **Social Cohesion:** Promoting inclusive, community-oriented development to foster strong social ties.
- **Mobility & Connectivity:** Transit-oriented and water-based solutions, for efficient urban movement.
- **Risk & Conflict Management:** Mitigating urban risks, hazards, and conflicts through strategic planning.
- **Regional Linkages:** Strengthening connections between cities to boost economic and social interactions.
- **Sustainable & Smart Networks:** Sustainable practices and smart technologies to create efficient, resilient urban environments.

4.

Urban Renewal

This theme encompasses the conservation, regeneration, revitalization, and heritage revival of urban areas. The area of focus and research include:

- **Conservation:** Preservation and protection of heritage buildings, districts, and cultural landmarks to maintain historical integrity.
- **Regeneration:** Redevelopment & renewal of underutilized or abandoned urban areas,
- **Revitalization:** Enhancement and improvement of existing urban areas to boost livability, economic activity, & social vitality.
- **Heritage Revival:** Restoration and adaptive reuse of historic buildings and neighborhoods.
- **Sustainable Urban Development:** Balancing conservation with modern needs.



1.

**URBAN
LANDSCAPE**



Introduction

Urban Landscape

The urban landscape theme is centered around the transformation and management of urban spaces, emphasizing resilience, ecological integration, and the preservation of both cultural and natural heritage. This theme underscores the importance of designing urban environments that not only adapt to the challenges of climate change but also foster a strong sense of community and well-being.

Central to this theme is the concept of urban well-being, which prioritizes the creation of healthy, inclusive environments that contribute to sustainability and a sense of belonging. The urban landscape encompasses diverse public spaces that serve as communal havens for relaxation, social interaction, and a deep connection with nature.

The thesis projects within this theme delve into various facets of urban life, exploring the intricate relationship between nature and mental health, and offering innovative approaches to socio-ecological integration. These studies also emphasize the role of blue-green infrastructure in addressing the complex needs of society and the environment.

The projects evaluate the sustainability of urban ecosystems, such as wetland parks, and propose strategies for inclusive community development that cater to all residents. They also focus on revitalizing riverine and neglected urban areas, transforming them into vibrant spaces that honor the city's historical and cultural legacy.

The theme explores nature-based strategies for flood management, where nature itself becomes an ally in mitigating urban flooding. Public spaces are highlighted as essential components of urban areas, providing venues for social interaction, cultural expression, and collective experiences. These studies demonstrate the profound impact of urban landscape design on the vitality and resilience of cities.

1.1



Author Profile: Valeria Rose Namuche Vega

Bachelor of Architecture | 2023

Pontifical Catholic University | Lima, Peru

Thesis Title: Amazonian Floodable Park: Transformation of the Tingo Maria Airport Towards a New Model of Resilient Public Space | Huánuco, Peru

Thesis Guide: Susana López Varela, Augusto Román & Cesar Tarazona

Abstract: The Peruvian Amazonian city called 'Tingo María' is in constant defiance in the face of continuous flooding; and river erosion. This has exposed vulnerable populations and facilities, the most affected being: the Tingo María Airport. River erosion has damaged the runway, and its main arrival building has been damaged. floods in times of river flooding. Faced with this emergency situation, the authorities have decided to relocate the Tingo María Airport to the outskirts of the city. Faced with this situation, it is pertinent to propose resilient solutions that can be replicated in the face of water extremes in the Amazon. For this reason, the new urban void that the Tingo María Airport will leave is taken as an opportunity and a new model is proposed that is a resilient public space that mitigates vulnerability, sutures and integrates the Amazonian identity of the territory linked to water.

To achieve this, a sequence of design strategies based on systems is proposed, which intend to configure a new Amazonian water landscape from the role of the architecture of the landscape and urbanism in scenarios of changes and vulnerabilities that contemplate from take the flood as an opportunity and benefit, the present ecology and suture of the territory in synergy with the river cycle. In this way, it is possible to shows that a new model of mitigating vulnerability in the Amazon is possible, which reinterpret their identity based on their water temporality.

Keywords: *Landscape architecture, Flood Park, resilient amazon cities, floods, River Erosion, Water Landscape*

1.2



Author Profile: Jose Fabian Jimenez

Bachelor of Architecture | 2022

Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú | Lima, Peru

Thesis Title: **Balneario Miramar: The construction of a new coastal landscape from the clearing | Lima, Perú**

Thesis Guide: Luis Rodríguez, Gustavo Díaz, Betty Chávez & Silvana Corro

Abstract: The project is located in the central coast of Lima city, in San miguel district, Peru. The coastline of San Miguel is a landscape that does not quite qualify as a beach. The wave conditions are among the highest in the whole coast in terms of height and intensity, which makes the place unusable for bathing. For more than 15 years it has been contaminated by more than 90 Hectares of clearing between rubble and demolition debris to gain space for the sea, which has accentuated the recreational sensory dissociation with the sea and the subsequent dis-articulation with its city and hillside. The proposal revolves around understanding the “beach” as a space for the inclusion of different social strata through leisure, sport and contact with nature, but also from the point of view of a landscape protected from erosion and as a marine ecosystem for birds, crabs and fishes. To this end, existing natural and anthropic resources will be used to reconstruct this new landscape. The boulder gabions as elements that have historically served to generate containment and filtration will form a new language in the landscape that will help to form a close link between the citizen and the sea.

Keywords: *Landscape architecture, Public space revaluation, Waterfront design*

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1.3



Author Profile: Mahima Hemant Patel

Masters of Architecture (Urban Design) | 2024
University of Toronto | Canada

Thesis Title: Where is the Water Going | Melbourne, Australia

Thesis Guide: Mason White

Abstract: This thesis starts by asking a basic question- Can flood adaptation become a holistic asset for the city? The project explores a multi-faceted idea of “resiliency” that expands beyond flood control to influence social, economic and environmental change for the city and its residents. It was said in 2016, by the director of the world bank that 1.3 billion people will be affected by flooding and our cities are unprepared for this level of risk. 8 years later, that statement still holds true. Research shows that the leading cause of this is global warming, leading to more precipitation. But when it comes to flooding, a major cause is the way our cities have been historically built in high-risk zones. The thesis explores the case of one such city that has started experiencing the extremities of climate change- Melbourne, Australia. For thousands of years Melbourne was part of a fertile wetland with the meandering course of Yarra River. Like many metropolitan cities of the world, urban development came at the expense of this open swamp that was gradually filled and reclaimed over the years. Melbourne CBD, the main economic and commercial hub of the city sits on this wetland today. Elizabeth street, the lowest point in Downtown Melbourne, originally used to be water way called William creek. The central inquiry of the thesis revolves around this challenge of creating space for water within city centers while preserving their socio-economic significance.

Keywords: *Flooding, Resilience, Retrofit, CBD, flood adaptation*

1.4

**Author Profile:** Grecia Francesca Arroyo

Bachelor of Architecture | 2023

Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú | Lima, Peru

Thesis Title: Chan Chan's Agricultural Ring | Lima, Perú

Thesis Guide: Susana López, Augusto Román, Cesar Tarazona

Abstract: The Chan Chan archaeological complex and the agricultural area surrounding it are in danger mainly due to anthropogenic activity on its edges. However, agricultural land, despite being treated as an invader, acts as a barrier against the extension of the city. Thus, with the objective of protecting and revaluing the agricultural and cultural landscape, the project identifies the existing agricultural area as an opportunity for the protection and development of a productive sector. Thus, a ring is delimited through a network of buffer-type green spaces that protect the heritage area and at the same time form coexistence spaces on the border. Subsequently, the existing agricultural system is reorganized through a closed water network for water use in crops. Likewise, a system of roads and milestones is consolidated that connect programmatic gates with the city, organize the internal flow and establish a network of agricultural and cultural equipment. Thus, the agricultural relationship with the citizen is strengthened and consolidates the urban edge to stop expansion, creating a symbiotic relationship between agriculture and heritage, in which agriculture protects Chan Chan and this allows agricultural development as part of the landscape culture with a productive and sustainable model that ensures local work and food security in the future.

Keywords: *Cultural Agricultural Landscape, Urban Edge, Symbiotic Relationship, Heritage Protection, Sustainable Development*

UDL Thesis Publication | 2024

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1.5



Author Profile: Cameron Joseph Penney

Master of Architecture | 2023

Carleton University | Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Thesis Title: Toronto's Terrestrial Reefs: BioRock's Infrastructural Biogeochemical Futures | Toronto, Canada

Thesis Guide: Lisa Moffitt

Abstract: Toronto's Terrestrial Reefs explores the design potentials of BioRock, an underutilized accreting material that simulates the reef-building processes of corals. BioRock is a grown limestone alternative to concrete, with design agency that has many positive benefits, including its ability to act as an ecological scaffold, repair sprawling concrete, and sequester pollutants. This work proposes three speculative applications of BioRock within urban Toronto that go beyond the typical marine-based applications that this material has historically been restrained to. These include the reintroduction of Alvar habitats as a landscape strategy, the remediation of obsolete reservoirs for BioRock production, and the in-situ repair of concrete bents supporting the Gardiner Expressway.

The approach included a series of experiments in a self-made wet lab, lab work, and data analysis to develop an understanding of the material from a hands-on perspective, speculating upon new uses for architectural design. Interviews were conducted with consultants, including a coral reef researcher, a chemist, an electrical engineer, and a landscape ecologist, which promoted conversations between research in material ecology and landscape ecology. The resulting design was explored through these experimental models and test fragments of BioRock, which formed a library of artifacts that traverse biogeochemical scales of speculation, assembling a collection of work in the form of a Terrestrial Reef.

Keywords: *BioRock, Urban Renewal, Environmental Remediation, Landscape Ecology, Material Science*

1.6

**Author Profile:** Rosa de Fatima Constanza Garcia

Bachelor Degree in Architecture and Urbanism | 2020

Pontifical Catholic University | Lima, Peru

Thesis Title: Urban Creeks as Playful & Educational Spaces: Reimagining Public Space Through the Eyes of Amazonian Children | Iquitos, Peru

Thesis Guide: Susana López, Augusto Roman, Martin Montañez & Cesar Tarazona

Abstract: Iquitos is the main city of Peruvian Amazon, and also a city of children: More than 50% of its people is under 15. Many, live in the informal city periphery: the most vulnerable sector but also the most connected to nature through urban creeks. They embrace seasonal changes like floods, creating adaptive architecture and urban elements, and children create informal multisensory play scenarios in contact with nature. The project studies this adaptive behavior and reinterprets it into landscape and architecture strategies for designing a system of ludic public spaces for children in creeks along the Amazon City. The “Ricardo Palma” creek, taken as model is surrounded by 6 schools, the park aims to function as an outside classroom and a multisensorial playground, reassessing traditional constructive techniques and community understanding of place through a participative design methodology, so architecture works as a tool for experiencing all learn and play opportunities that creeks offer.**Keywords:** *Urban Creek, Amazon Public Space, Floodable Park, Children*

UDL Thesis Publication | 2024

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1.7



Author Profile: **Ishita Agrawal, Constance Adeline & Prachi Rawat**

MSc Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design | 2023

Politecnico di Milano | Milan, Italy

Thesis Title: **Gram-Bangla, Always in Motion | Sundarbans, West Bengal, India**

Thesis Guide: Fabiano Lemes de Oliveira

Abstract: Climate change is one of the most pressing global challenges, with vulnerable countries such as India being particularly susceptible to its consequences. The Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, is one such region facing severe climate-related challenges. It is in close vicinity to the city of Kolkata, the old British capital of the country. The area is home to approximately 4 million people and is considered one of the most fragile ecosystems globally.

The Sundarbans face a multitude of challenges such as the intensification of cyclones and escalating sea levels, leading to a huge loss of biodiversity and habitat. The region is an example of how vulnerable areas are more prone to the consequences of climate change, and how addressing these is critical for building resilience in such places.

Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) have emerged as a promising approach to mitigating the impacts of climate related issues. Innovative landscape measures can enhance resource management in the context of the Sundarbans, drawing not only from rural indigenous practices, but also urban environments to foster a multi-species planning approach. Engaging the local population in these practices is crucial, envisioning an internal urbanization aligned with the rural environment for a harmonious and sustainable future. In conclusion, adaptive and resilient design principles are critical for developing landscapes that are capable of withstanding climate change impacts in future.

Keywords: *Mitigation, Adaptation, Resilience, Mangroves, Coastal Impact, Nature-Based Solutions, Rural and Urban Landscape.*

1.8

**Author Profile:** Penelope Silva

Bachelor of Architecture | 2022

Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru | Lima, Peru

Thesis Title: Network of Ancestral Knowledge | Valle de Sondondo, Peru

Thesis Guide: Susana Lopez, Augusto Roman & Cesar Tarazona

Abstract: The project is located in the Sondondo Valley, where there are still more than 3500 Ha of terraces that date back around to 1000 years ago, from the Wari and Inca cultures. It is one of the most ancient and hidden places in the country, where the population has been able to maintain their territory through agriculture, which represents 90% of economic activities. However, it faces a problem that poses a threat to the future of the Valley: the disruption of its landscape by the State's interventions and depopulation, as the inhabitants migrate to the big cities in search of better opportunities. These problems are a threat to the survival of the historic and cultural heritage of the Valley's landscapes, as it is being disrupted by: the construction of highways that interrupt historical sites, the increase of abandoned and destroyed terraces and the construction of buildings of external materials. While there is a physical disruption to the territory, there is also an intangible disruption of knowledge from older generation to young adults due to emigration. Taking into account that the knowledge that the population maintains is the key to preserve this landscape, the Network of Ancestral Knowledge is proposed. The project seeks to form a system of agro-productive character, which reveal the symbolic elements of the Andean cosmivision and enhance existing knowledge. This consolidates a multi-scale project and multi-dimensional: physical, symbolic, and cultural dimension

Keywords: *Landscape, Heritage, Cultural Landscapes, agriculture, landscapes*

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1.9



Author Profile: **Anushri Milind Joshi**

Bachelor of Architecture | 2023

KRVIA, University of Mumbai | India

Thesis Title: **Reimagining the Urban: A 'Bird's Eye' Perspective | Kabutarkhana, Dadar West, Mumbai**

Thesis Guide: George Jacob

Abstract:

What does sighting of a bird in the city have to say about the notions of 'urban' and 'natural'? Today's age is described as the Anthropocene- where the human-centric actions are permeating all spheres of existence. What could perceiving the world through a non-human lens offer? Using birds as a probe, multiple swatches in the city of Mumbai were mapped for the usually missed out relationships between the human, non-human and spatial entities. This led to questions about the conventional notion of boundaries between urban and natural and where exactly the role of architecture features in this. The Dadar kabutarkhana in Mumbai, a typical representation of a dense, urban and vulnerable swatch, was chosen as the site of intervention. The intervention, through its mixed- use programs attempts to address and create connections between a range of scales while responding to the ecological forces in conjunction with the economic, socio-cultural forces to create livable environments. It is imagined as a template for the neighbourhood that triggers morphing of the form of the city to respond to the topical ecological issues thus enhancing overall livability.

Keywords:

Ecological Urbanism, Human-Nature Binary, Ecological Infrastructure, Mumbai's Ecology, Habitat Complexity

1.10

**Author Profile:** Susana Vanessa Zapata Quispitupa

Bachelor of Architecture | 2021

Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú | Lima, Peru

Thesis Title: Coexistence Intermediates: Between Anthropogenic Scenarios & Natural Ecosystem, the Santa Rosa Wetland | Lima, Peru

Thesis Guide: Augusto Roman, Susana Lopez & Cesar Tarazona

Abstract: Currently, the Santa Rosa wetland is delimited by absent intermediates generated by anthropic activities, spaces where two different situations are not articulated with each other: between wetland and agricultural zone, between wetland and urban area, or between wetland and port terminal. The project proposes wetland regeneration and protection from its intermediates, developing for it, territorial scale systems such as plant system, water system, and paths system that will configure the “coexistence intermediates” -neighborhood, agricultural, dune and forestry-. This will be inhabited by a landscape path that begins in the “neighborhood intermediate”, space that mitigates future urban growth considering pre-hispanic memory; It continues through the “agricultural intermediate”, a space generated by the decontamination of irrigation canals; It continues through the “dune intermediate”, space in constant change due to the sedimentation process generated by the port terminal; and It ends in the “forestry intermediate”, a 10-hectare forest that, together with the topographic intervention, allows bird refuge protection. Thus, co-existence intermediates establish a link between natural ecosystem and anthropic scenarios; generating a new public space for the neighborhood, taking advantage of productive potential of wetland ecosystem, maintaining the operation of an international scale infrastructure, but above all, protecting an essential body of water for birds.**Keywords:** *Wetland, Landscape Design, Nature Conservation, Urban Space, Architecture*



2.

URBAN MANAGEMENT



Introduction

Urban Management

Urban management is a broad discipline that encompasses the governance of social, economic, and environmental aspects within urban areas. This theme spans a variety of dimensions aimed at improving the functionality, inclusiveness, and resilience of cities. Urban management involves addressing critical components such as innovative infrastructure development, equitable housing solutions, community development, social equity, risk mitigation, and the creation of accessible, sustainable urban spaces.

This theme is explored through a diverse range of theses that examine pressing urban challenges and opportunities. The research presented covers topics such as the complexities of public housing typologies and social housing approaches in rapidly urbanizing regions. It delves into the implications of urban form complexity and the challenges of implementing form-based codes, as well as the impact of transit-oriented development on urban heat islands and thermal comfort in public spaces.

The exploration extends to the intersection of urban and rural systems, examining community development models, and addressing inequities related to urban water management. Other theses investigate the role of temporary events and cultural festivals in shaping urban experiences, the reconnection of urban and agricultural landscapes, and advancing gender mainstreaming in essential services for the urban poor.

Together, these theses underscore the critical role of effective urban management in fostering vibrant, equitable, and resilient urban environments. They highlight the necessity of innovative strategies that bridge social, economic, and environmental considerations, ensuring that cities not only grow but thrive sustainably.

2.1



Author Profile: Vaishnavi Kishor Siddhapara

Bachelor's of Architecture (B.Arch) | 2024

Rachana Sansad's Academy of Architecture | Mumbai, India

Thesis Title: Entertainment Experiences: Articulating the Importance of Experiences as a Means of Entertainment | Nagpur, India

Thesis Guide: Rahul Manohar & Yagnik Bhatija

Abstract: Post pandemic, people have started becoming more and more social. The importance of the experience and the moments that may be recorded and shared on social media is increasing as generations of consumers spend money on experiences as a form of entertainment. The desire to have first-hand experiences drives consumers to show up, share and engage. Thus, a new breed of location-based entertainment (LBE) is emerging. Location-Based Entertainment venues, such as live events, pop ups, immersive theaters, etc. harness the potential of the physical space to captivate visitors and transport them to realms limited only by imagination.

This research emphasizes the significance of architectural design in orchestrating these immersive journeys. It delves into the nuances of spatial layout, sensory triggers, manipulation of space, light, materiality, etc. to create environments that transcend the mundane and offer transformational experiences and evoke emotions. It focuses on the fact that location-based entertainment is not merely about passive consumption of entertainment but an active and participatory engagement. It investigates how technology can be harnessed to augment the physical space, providing dynamic, interactive, and adaptable environments that blur the boundaries between the real and the virtual. This thesis promotes the idea that well-designed LBE venues are transformative spaces where individuals escape the ordinary and embark on remarkable adventures.

Keywords: Entertainment, Immersive Experiences, User Engagement

2.2



Author Profile: Dhaval Shaileshkumar Modi

MSc Architecture and Urban Design | 2023

Politecnico di Milano | Milan, Italy

Thesis Title: Investigating Indian Festivals: Devices, Rituals, and Intangible Aspects of Temporary Events | Puri, India

Thesis Guide: Giulia Setti, Gaia Caramellino & Paola Giuseppina Briata

Abstract: Traditionally, cities evolved from fabric to stone, solidifying over time. Today, due to fluctuating development, this assumption no longer holds. This thesis questions permanence as a default in urban design, emphasizing the temporal nature of development. It explores how temporary urbanism shapes a city's identity and contributes to its intangible heritage, influencing urban design to be inclusive, inviting, and vibrant. The study focuses on public spaces hosting cultural or religious events, particularly in India, contrasting with Europe's approach to temporary urbanism. The most intriguing aspect is how these cultural practices influence urban development and community dynamics. Analyzing festivals like Ganesh Chaturthi in Mumbai, Durga Puja in Kolkata, and Rathayatra in Puri, the thesis measures their impact on people, cities, and future growth using a CIAM-inspired grid. By comparing these festivals, the study aims to understand the cultural practices and their influence on urban settlements. This research proposes reserving more public space for temporary uses, with a design strategy for the Rathayatra festival in Puri as an example. The findings suggest that in cities like Puri, Mumbai, and Kolkata, temporary urbanism is a key element of urban development, enhancing the vibrancy and identity of these spaces and influencing future urban design.

Keywords: *Temporary Urbanism, Intangible Heritage, Reversibility, Temporality, Indian Festivals, India*

2.3



Author Profile: Sphurti Shrinivas Purohit

Masters in Architecture | 2023

Visvesvaraya Technological University, RV College of Architecture |
Bengaluru, India

Thesis Title: Exploring the Impact of Transit Oriented
Development on Urban Heat Island & Thermal
Comfort in the Public Realm | Bengaluru, India

Thesis Guide: Brinda Sastry and Anup Naik

Abstract: The world today is facing major issues climate change, global warming, rapid urbanisation. Various organisations are working to mitigate these issues through sustainability goals and climate action plans. But these rapidly growing issues also have an impact at a local scale that can be seen along increasing transport corridors and high density developing zones in the city leading to urban heat island hotspots and if this effect is seen at a city scale then its impact at local scale is the variation in thermal comfort perceived by people. To cater to this increasing growth TOD is one of the strategies by state governments apart from the master plans and mobility plans. The aim of this research is to study the impact of TOD on the microclimate of urban landscapes and the public realm and bridge the gap in micro-climate study. This research aims at examining the thermal comfort parameters using an application based method to provide a toolkit to design thermally comfortable public spaces along the metro corridors in Bengaluru. The study is carried out between JP Nagar and Yelachenahalli metro stations in three parts, first includes the study of urban design layers. Secondly, micro-climate study and analysis is done. Third is the study of surface materials in the urbanscapes. The micro-climate analysis is done using the software ENVI-Met, Sketch-up and GIS. Simulations are conducted for existing and a proposed scenario with TOD regulations being applied to get a comparative analysis.

Keywords: *Urban Heat, Outdoor Thermal Comfort (OTC), Transit Development, Urban Growth*

2.4



Author Profile: Yao Xiaoqian

Bachelor's of Architecture (B.Arch) | 2024

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University | Hong Kong

Thesis Title: **The new type of community – Typology of Public Housing | Hong Kong**

Thesis Guide: Anneli Giencke

Abstract: Research has shown that 80% of food in Hong Kong is imported, which has an impact on the environmental footprint. Therefore, the project proposes a design that encourages the community to develop a local sustainable food supply system within residential buildings in Hong Kong.

Existing and current self-sufficient food production in Hong Kong is researched and catalogued, e.g. seasonal vegetables, type of vegetables and the conditions under which they grow, as well as location, space required, and services associated with the amount of food production and the supply chain it serves.

To support the autonomy of regional food supply, the research informed on agricultural elements and alternative ways of energy production that are integrated and designed into the existing structure of public housing. The food production cycle is linked to the residents' daily routines, creating an interdependent living system.

In addition, the spatial composition of households is being reconfigured and designed to facilitate a system of communal cooperation for a flexible increase in small households within apartments in the coming years to address the housing shortage and adapt to demographic changes. The design tells the story of a new communal engagement and the longing for a harmonious living community that together creates a sustainable environment for the future.

Keywords: *Autonomous Local Food Supply, Urban Agriculture, Communal Living, Public Housing, Sustainability*

2.5

**Author Profile:** Rayee Ashish Metha

Master's in Town and Country Planning | 2024

College of Engineering | Pune, India

Thesis Title: Urban Form Complexity and Challenges of Framing Form-Based Codes | Pune, India

Thesis Guide: Pratap Raval

Abstract: The dynamics of urban development are continuously evolving, with cities adapting to emerging trends and challenges. Urban Form Complexity contributes to vibrant, walkable neighborhoods, but UDCPR limits flexibility by focusing on zoning rules rather than holistic design principles. This can lead to disjointed urban spaces that lack coherence and functionality.

In anticipation of 2023, a notable trend in urban planning has emerged—the adoption of form-based codes in India. Unlike traditional zoning regulations, form-based codes prioritize the physical form and design of the built environment. This study evaluates the implementation and impact of form-based codes on enhancing urban forms in Pune's core area, addressing a significant gap in research.

The research critically examines how form-based codes influence urban morphology, focusing on building height, setbacks, façade design, and street layout to create vibrant, visually appealing urban spaces. The study also explores strategies for character-based local area plans, aiming to revitalize the historic zone while accommodating contemporary needs. Methodologically, the study blends 3D form analysis with quantitative and qualitative research, offering insights into the dynamics of urban character and the role of codes in urban development. The findings emphasize the potential of form-based codes to strengthen urban planning efforts, with a focus on design quality, community engagement, and cultural preservation.

Keywords: *Form-Based Codes, UDCPR, Urban Development Model, Core City Plan, Urban Planning, Urban Design, Character-Based Local Area Plans, Urban Heritage Conservation*

2.6

**Author Profile:** Vardhan Ashish Arora

Bachelor of Architecture | 2024

Rachana Sansad's Academy of Architecture | Mumbai, India

Thesis Title: De-commodifying People: A Transgressive Approach to Social Housing | Mumbai, India

Thesis Guide: Ashely Fialho

Abstract: Contemporary housing developments often lack distinctiveness and fail to reflect their socio-cultural settings, particularly in rapidly expanding cities like Mumbai. The essence of social housing has been diluted, as private developers prioritize profit over housing as a fundamental human right. This trend towards standardization overlooks the diverse needs of urban populations, resulting in poor living conditions and the proliferation of slums. In Mumbai, the 'Number War' exemplifies this issue, where a focus on meeting numerical targets and maximizing profits has undermined the role of architects, constrained by rigid regulations and quantitative goals. A transformative approach is imperative, one that encourages architects to transcend conventional norms and embrace innovative practices. This thesis proposes a re-imagining of social housing in Mumbai, positioning it as a critical component of urban renewal and slum revitalization. The integration of social housing with the city's unique character, addressing the diverse needs of residents, including access to essential amenities, social spaces, and opportunities for economic activity. This study highlights the potential of architects to drive social change, advocating for a more proactive role in urban development. Architects can create housing solutions that are not only functional and aesthetically pleasing but also socially inclusive, contextually appropriate, and promote sustainable and inclusive growth.

Keywords: *Urban Renewal, Housing, Technology, slum revitalization, Social Housing*

2.7



Author Profile: Laura A. Ordonez M. & Erika D. Ortiz J.

Bachelor of Architecture | 2024

Universidad del Valle | Cali, Colombia

Thesis Title: System of Rural Community Development Units in Cauca | Suarez, Colombia

Thesis Guide: Ricardo Hincapie

Abstract:

The approach to the ways that Afro-descendants from Norte del Cauca inhabit a place, and the way that they have established their settlements, and the factors that have historically determined them, allows one to explore the occupation of black communities from the region of Mindalá, La Toma, and La Meseta in Suárez municipality, Cauca, in order to propose effective solutions to link them and strengthen their governance due to their needs that have arisen from economic growth and cultural claims. The need to rethink the organization of rural areas from a more specific territorial perspective is evident; this is in order to provide more effective solutions capable of linking the rural areas to the municipal systems, to improve the quality of life of the black communities that live by the Cauca River (Represa la Salvajina).

Knowledge exchange of ethnic communities settled in the territory since colonial times, and their productive traditions are essential elements that strengthen the circular economy and promote food safety in the region. Once these aspects were looked into, the conclusion is to connect the territory through a system of rural units where the communities can market, research, teach, and learn from the culture and the Black Communities Councils' worldview, and widen their reach through a common element: Salvajina reservoir.

Keywords:

Cauca River, Rural Development, Territory, Afro Communities, ODS

2.8

**Author Profile:** Dweep Dilip Madhu Jain

Bachelor's in Architecture | 2024

L. S. Raheja School of Architecture | Mumbai, India

Thesis Title: Water Edges: Navigating Inequity and Dilemmas Related to Urban Water | Nashik, India

Thesis Guide: Mridula Pillai

Abstract: Water edges or boundaries are challenging to define due to water's inherently fluid and dynamic nature. This complexity ignited a profound curiosity in me, driving a deeper exploration into the concept and the significant implications of constructing boundaries around these ever-changing water bodies. In our rapidly urbanizing world, these natural resources are increasingly vulnerable. They are often commodified and treated as economic assets for business ventures. The transformation of natural water bodies into urban commercial zones by pinching and pulling effect and neglecting their inherent social, cultural, and ecological values has motivated me to delve into this critical issue.

In this context, the term 'inequity' surfaced, highlighting the unequal distribution of resources, opportunities, and benefits. Inequity, driven by poor governance, corruption, and social exclusion, is starkly evident along water edges in the name of development and beautification. Upon comprehensive analysis of the prevailing conditions of the Godavari River and recognizing the urgent need to address the inequities affecting its ecosystem and surrounding areas, it is imperative to focus on the river near its source in Nashik.

Keywords: *Water Inequity, Urban Rejuvenation, Urban Strategies, Effective Architecture, Resilience*

2.9



Author Profile: **Ayushi Prakash Goyal**

Bachelors in Urban Design | 2024

CEPT University | Ahmedabad, India

Thesis Title: **Advancing Gender Mainstreaming in Sanitation for Urban Poor | Ahmedabad, India**

Thesis Guide: Gargi Mishra

Abstract:

Urbanisation brings lucrative opportunities in cities, rapid growth often leads to low-income informal housing or slums, with poor living conditions and unsafe sanitation practices. Inadequate sanitation conditions disproportionately affect women and children, particularly from marginalised groups, as underscored in Sustainable Development Goal 6.2. This raises the need for advancing safe, inclusive sanitation approaches, through gender mainstreaming. This empirical research aims to critically analyse sanitation conditions for four slums in Ahmedabad (India) across service availability, access, quality, and affordability. The authors used mixed methods such as focus group discussions, key informant interviews, triangulation, mapping, and literature review to identify opportunities and challenges in addressing gender-specific sanitation needs. The study highlights disparities in sanitation access and quality, shaped by socio-economic factors, cultural norms, and infrastructural deficits. Despite infrastructural advancements, women continue to face challenges due to poor maintenance, inadequate support services, and gender biases. These have an impact on their health and dignity. Inclusive planning and community engagement have been promising in addressing some of these issues. The study thus contributes to the discourses on gender and development and provides pathways to inform policy-level decisions to improve sanitation infrastructure in marginalised areas.

Keywords: *Sanitation, Urban Poor, Gender, Slums, Informality*

2.10



Author Profile: **Adriana Pierina Rojas**

Bachelor of Architecture | 2021

Pontifical Catholic University | Lima, Peru

Thesis Title: **Agroparque: A Model for Reconnecting the Food Network of the Urban and Agricultural Landscape of Huancayo | Huancayo, Perú**

Thesis Guide: Susana López, Augusto Roman & Cesar Tarazona

Abstract:

The Mantaro Valley is one of the most productive in Peru; the city of Huancayo is its urban core, and the sector analyzed contains the last agricultural plots on its periphery, located at the mouth of the Shullcas —an urban river— in the Mantaro. Moreover, the food network between the agricultural area —where production occurs— and the urban area —where selling and consumption take place— is not connected, as processes like transformation, cleaning, and packaging, among others, are carried out far from the city; this generates additional costs and does not provide any added value.

Is it feasible to protect these last agricultural areas of the city by strengthening, complementing, and diversifying the existing uses and characteristics? The Agropark, at the city scale, represents the agricultural extension of the valley and the insertion of agriculture into the city. The Agropark is articulated through the border ring where a series of interventions are intertwined to form a complete food network with various functions for different types of users. To spread these networks, two previous layers are taken into account: hydrographic and ecological. It is the physical space of cohesion and territorial sustainability, based on enhancing the multifunctionality of agricultural spaces and their landscape. It seeks to improve cooperation and articulation among farmers, generating lower costs and products with added value, as well as linking agriculture with external actors.

Keywords:

Urban Model, Agriculture, Planning, Agricultural Edge, Urban Edge, Food Network



3.

URBAN NETWORKS



Introduction

Urban Networks

Urban networks are foundational to the seamless integration of connectivity and mobility within and between cities, playing a critical role in shaping dynamic, efficient, and sustainable urban environments. This theme delves into a broad array of dimensions, from enhancing accessibility and fostering transit-oriented development to strengthening regional linkages and exploring innovative transit solutions, particularly in water-based systems. The overarching goal is to create fluid movement patterns within urban areas while establishing strong, cohesive connections between diverse regions.

The theses contributing to this theme offer a rich tapestry of insights and approaches. They include explorations of how urban infrastructure can be reimagined to foster better connectivity, such as transforming neglected or underutilized spaces into vibrant public realms that enhance community engagement. Other studies focus on integrating natural elements into urban settings, thereby creating resilient spaces that harmonize with the environment.

In addition, some research emphasizes the importance of connectivity in fostering social well-being, examining how strategic design of public spaces and transport hubs can serve as catalysts for community interaction and cohesion. There is also an emphasis on creating adaptable urban edges that bridge the gap between city centers and their peripheries, encouraging a more permeable and integrated urban fabric.

Together, these theses illuminate the critical importance of efficient and interconnected urban networks. They demonstrate how thoughtful urban design can enhance both the functionality and livability of cities, contributing to the development of vibrant, resilient, and forward-thinking urban landscapes.

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3.1



Author Profile: **Asia Druda**

Masters in Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design | 2024
Politecnico di Milano | Milan, Italy

Thesis Title: **Adaptive Fringe: Encourage Permeability
Between the Urban Outskirt & the Urban Center |
Uboldo, Italy**

Thesis Guide: Mahmoud Israa Elsayed Hanafi

Abstract: The continuous growth of urban centers is undermining the balances that allow us to live on this planet. This research has as its starting point the town of Uboldo, Varese Province, Lombardy, Italy, and uses methods and strategies to develop an unexplored potential. As a result, the paper fits its goal on a city-wide scale and on its study as a whole. In the periphery of Uboldo, the fragmentation is clearly visible. The actual state of urban fringe creates a clear cut between two worlds that do not meet, the rural and the urban. The plus-value will be given by the use of an element: the Urban Fringe, a tool able to bring back a dialogue between two distinct entities. The creation of interference will cause the two worlds to collide with the goal of creating a bonding moment. The results show that through well-designed and implemented solutions applied throughout time and space, urban environmental quality and residents' quality of life can be effectively enhanced. By exploring the relationship between natural landscape and urbanized city centers, it contributes to a deeper understanding and future development of urban planning and environmental management, offering guidance for constructing more livable and sustainable cities. In a nutshell, the project will show strategies that will leave important clues for interventions that might be made on the ground, helping to make Uboldo a town of reference on the regional and maybe national scene.

Keywords: *Urbanization, Urban Fringe, Retrieve, Permeability*

3.2



Author Profile: Divya Vikrant Bhargava

Bachelor's in Architecture | 2024

L.S. Raheja School of Architecture | Mumbai, India

Thesis Title: Catalyst of Connection: Exploring the Vital Role of Third Places in Fostering Community Well-being in a Digital Age | Mumbai, India

Thesis Guide: Mridula Pillai Gudekar

Abstract: Recent years, notably the COVID-19 pandemic, have prompted deep reflection on vulnerability and the value of social connections. This period has highlighted the importance of 'third places'—social spaces beyond home and work—in building resilient communities through thoughtful design. Mumbai's charm lies in its potential, often overshadowed by development that prioritizes infrastructure over community. With only 1.1 sq m of open space per person, human-centric development is crucial for inclusivity and sustainability. The suburban rail network, spanning 465 km and serving 7.5 million daily commuters, exemplifies this need. Andheri station, one of the busiest on the Western Line, handles about 270 thousand daily commuters and 550 thousand residents, yet struggles with neglected areas and disordered infrastructure. To address these issues, the skywalk has been redesigned into an elevated urban park with escalators and green spaces beneath the flyover. This transformation includes a vibrant public plaza, efficient ramps, and repurposed spaces for waiting and community gatherings. By improving mobility and creating inviting courtyards, including an amphitheatre, the revamped station becomes a dynamic third place, fostering community engagement and interaction. These transformations have metamorphosed the tumultuous Andheri station into a harmonious transit third place, championing community values and facilitating profound interactions.

Keywords: *Liminal Spaces, Third Places, The Mumbai Commute, public plaza*

3.3



Author Profile: **Ashefa Washema Basure**

Bachelor's of Architecture | 2023

Shahjalal University of Science & Technology | Sylhet, Bangladesh

Thesis Title: **Masterplan Development Of Atghar-Kuriana Floating Guava Markets: An Approach To Enhance**

Thesis Guide: Iftekhar Rahman

Abstract:

Bangladesh's floating guava market in Swarupkathi Upazila is a crucial but endangered economic asset . This thesis develops a quality-based tourism strategy to preserve and revitalize the market. The research emphasizes rural placemaking and leveraging natural resources to enhance tourism while maintaining the market's essence.

Research Questions:

- What design strategies are needed to preserve the floating guava market?
- What design guidelines can enhance tourism in Atghar-Kuriana floating guava markets?
- What planning strategies will empower guava farmers and other stakeholders?

The study uses a conclusive research approach, starting with background study, site analysis, and desktop research. Data collection includes physical surveys, online questionnaires, literature reviews, and case studies. The design method involves spot analysis, running and potential site identification, and support assessment, leading to concept planning and detailed design with rural placemaking. Design strategies focus on sustainable practices and infrastructure improvements. Tourism guidelines enhance visitor experience, accessibility, and amenities. Planning strategies support farmers, allocate resources, and engage the community. Insights into market conditions and development potential led to a design framework aimed at global recognition by preserving traditional styles and leveraging tourism potential.

Keywords:

Floating Guava Market, Rural Place-making, Quality-Based Tourism

3.4



Author Profile: Lalithambika N S

Masters of Architecture (Urban Design) | 2023

College of Engineering | Trivandrum, India

Thesis Title: **Re-imagining City's Public Spaces: Visioning a Model Indian Urban Public Realm | Trivandrum, India**

Thesis Guide: Manoj Kumar K & Alok Dinesh

Abstract: An extremely significant element of our urban existence is public space. It enhances our sense of community and cultivates mindfulness. Successful public spaces will provide more chances for people to engage in social interaction. Parks, squares, marketplaces, waterfronts, and natural settings transform into multicultural melting pots where various communities assemble to enjoy and support one another. Through every shared experience, these spaces develop into bearers of constructive collective significance. The United Nations acknowledges the importance of public spaces in urban areas, and “promoting socially inclusive, integrated, connected, accessible, environmentally sustainable, and safe public spaces” is a major component of the UN’s new urban agenda 2030. This leads to the identification of the safety, inclusivity, and accessibility of public places in cities as the major parameters of this research. The research aims to identify contextual parameters for urban public spaces in India and to develop urban design strategies through a comprehensive understanding of the different design layers for the case study. This study will adapt globally recognized practices like Jan Gehl’s 12 quality criteria and the Project for Public Spaces’ Movement to the Indian context. Focusing on Trivandrum, Kerala’s capital, the research will evaluate diverse public spaces and permanent government buildings to develop design strategies for a model urban public realm in India.

Keywords: *Urban, Public Realm, Inclusivity, Accessibility, Community Engagement*

3.5

**Author Profile:** **Ayesha Abid Khawar**

Master of Architecture (Urban Design) | 2024

Pillai College of Architecture | Mumbai, India

Thesis Title: **Blurring Boundaries: Integrating the Urban and Water Edge | Navi Mumbai, India**

Thesis Guide: Harshada Katkar

Abstract:

This study investigates the evolving significance of urban edges, with a particular focus on water edges, within the context of planned cities. Urban edges, as defined by Lynch, delineate spatial boundaries and significantly shape the visual and functional characteristics of cities. However, despite their historical importance as sites of human settlements, religious and cultural activities, water edges often suffer neglect and disconnection in contemporary cities.

This study delves into the multifaceted challenges surrounding water edges in urban areas, particularly concerning their deterioration and loss of identity in planned cities. Through a comprehensive understanding of the functional, physical, and notional aspects of water edges, this research aims to understand their roles and importance in urban environments.

The study advocates for a proactive approach to integrating water edges into urban planning processes, emphasizing their potential to enhance the vibrancy, sustainability, and identity of cities. By implementing strategic interventions and inclusive planning strategies, water edges can be reimagined as dynamic elements that foster connections between humans and their surroundings, ultimately enriching the urban experience.

Keywords:

Water Edge, Urban Identity, Environmental Integration, Human-Water Relationships

3.6



Author Profile: **Chrisann Neysa Rodrigues**

Masters of Science (Urban Design) | 2021

Aalborg University | Aalborg, Denmark

Thesis Title: **Spaces Between People & Nature - An investigation of the potential of Residual spaces for NBS in dense urban settings | Nordvest, Copenhagen, Denmark**

Thesis Guide: Michael Martin

Abstract: Our cities face global problems of rapid urbanisation along with the growing challenge of climate change emphasizing the need for more efficient use of already settled areas. These challenges are intensified by the current global situation, where the Covid-19 crisis, along with climate change, has accelerated the need to transform how cities and their residents connect with nature. Residual spaces in urban areas, often overlooked, hold significant potential to restore coherence to the urban fabric.

This thesis critically examines the relationship between residual spaces and ecological sustainability, exploring how these spaces can be strategically transformed through green infrastructure and nature-based solutions. Focusing on urban green spaces, it investigates how residual spaces can help address global challenges and improve urban life quality.

Using the Nordvest district in Copenhagen as a case study, the thesis identifies social and spatial challenges, particularly the lack of green spaces. It proposes a strategic framework to create small, accessible green pockets within the neighborhood, enhancing social spaces and integrating nature. This framework aims to guide decision-makers, especially within the Copenhagen municipality, to recognize the hidden potential of residual spaces and highlight the importance of climate change adaptations that prioritize access to nature.

Keywords: *Residual spaces, In-between space, edges and streets, Ecological sustainability, Nature based solutions, Green Infrastructure*

3.7

**Author Profile:** Tanaya Vibhakar Gawade & Shreya Sanghvi

Master of Science in Architecture and Urban Design | 2024

New York Institute of Technology | New York, USA

Thesis Title: Connecting Assets: Towards an Integrated City by Foot | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Thesis Guide: Jeffrey Raven & Jeanette Sordi

Abstract:

The thesis investigates the regeneration of São Cristovão, a neighborhood suffering from perceived isolation and inadequate connectivity. The main research question explores strategies to overcome these barriers, enhance pedestrian accessibility, and integrate the area with surrounding regions, such as the market, bio park, and harbor. The methodology includes a thorough analysis of the current urban systems, transportation networks, and environmental factors like heat and flood-prone areas. Through mapping and identifying critical zones, the research emphasizes the importance of blue and green infrastructure in fostering connectivity, addressing climate issues, and creating a welcoming environment. The findings highlight the necessity of a pedestrian-friendly system and the expansion of amenities to accommodate a growing population. By prioritizing walkability, mixed-use developments, and seamless connections to the harbor, the thesis envisions a revitalized São Cristovão that not only enhances livability but also acts as a catalyst for economic growth and sustainable development, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Keywords:*Climate Resilience, Sustainable Urban Development, Green Infrastructure*

3.8

**Author Profile:** Nafiz Ahmed

Bachelor of Architecture | 2023

Shahjalal University of Science & Technology | Sylhet, Bangladesh

Thesis Title: Riverfront Renaissance: Revitalizing Shitolokkha's Transportation Hub as a Dynamic Public Realm | Narayanganj, Bangladesh

Thesis Guide: Nuuhash Akando

Abstract: This research presents a comprehensive study and design proposal for a Multimodal Transportation Hub in Narayanganj, Bangladesh, integrating functionality, historical context, and urban development principles. The study explores how architecture on an urban scale can facilitate the free flow of travelers into the city, akin to the process of osmosis. By addressing the underutilization of the Shitolokkha River and drawing from international case studies and guidelines, the proposed hub aims to enhance connectivity and efficiency. The design introduces a diverse traffic network and innovative circulation concepts, prioritizing user experience and sustainability by comparing its Place, Node, and Ridership value. Ultimately, the transportation hub aspires to serve as a model for sustainable transit-oriented urban development, fostering economic growth, and enhancing community interaction.**Keywords:** *Multimodal Transportation Hub, Osmosis Concept, Urban Development, Transportation Design, Circulation Plan, Sustainable Transport System*

3.9

**Author Profile:** Farzana Haque

Bachelor of Architecture | 2022

Rajshahi University of Engineering & Technology | Rajshahi, Bangladesh

Thesis Title: The Enlivening Interval: MRT Line 5 Kawranbazar Underground Interchange Station | Dhaka, Bangladesh

Thesis Guide: Md. Asaduzzaman

Abstract:

This thesis explores how an underground MRT station in Dhaka's CBD can enhance urban life while respecting cultural, natural, and contextual values. It addresses two key questions: (1) How can such a station improve urban life without harming cultural and environmental aspects? (2) What design strategies can transform the station into a vibrant urban hub connecting people, the environment, and activities?

The study uses a design-based research approach, analyzing the Kawran Bazar area and Panthokunjo Park. It proposes an integrated transport solution that embeds the MRT station into the existing urban fabric, emphasizing connectivity and vibrant public spaces.

Key findings reveal that while elevated MRT routes in Dhaka disrupt open spaces and the environment, underground routes offer a more sustainable, less intrusive alternative. Integrating the station with nearby parks and transport networks can transform it into a dynamic hub that improves accessibility and enriches the commuting experience.

Design interventions like a green corridor, underground plaza, and enhanced pedestrian mobility ensure the station blends with its surroundings. The thesis highlights how thoughtful transport infrastructure design can create a more connected, vibrant, and sustainable urban environment in Dhaka.

Keywords:

Urban Integration, Urban Mobility, Public Transport Infrastructure, Transit-Oriented Development, Urban Hub

3.10

**Author Profile:** Nilofer J

Master of Architecture in Urban Design | 2023

College of Engineering | Trivandrum, India

Thesis Title: Chaos as an opportunity in destination design | Kanyakumari, India

Thesis Guide: Alok Dinesh & Nirmal Chandy Mathew

Abstract: Cities are complex systems with a complex order that is formed by overlapping, interconnected, or intertwined functions and activities. This complex order often creates a chaotic environment where the complexity becomes difficult to perceive. However, it is this 'chaos' that reflects the true meaning of a place, as it is closely knitted to the daily life of people and their preferences. In such a scenario, where self-organization and dynamics define a city, what can be the role of an urban designer in enhancing life in cities? This thesis began with that question, using Kanyakumari as a case study to understand the chaos and dynamics of a destination.

Thesis Concern: Rapid urbanization, commercialization, and globalization of organically developed Indian destinations that do not respond to their dynamics, diversity, and chaos can eventually lead to destination decline.

Thesis Argument: Design thinking still based on ideologies of imposing regular order into urban fabrics fails in the context of Indian cities. Indian culture demands dynamic spaces rooted in the diverse needs of people.

Research Gap: The concepts of chaos and complexity are under-researched in understanding the dynamics and chaotic systems of organically developed destinations.

Research Question: What should be the urban design approach to foster 'chaos' as an opportunity and to grant freedom to the multiple urban agents to express themselves in a destination?

Keywords: *Chaos, Complexity, Organic City, Self-organization, Spontaneity*



4.

URBAN RENEWAL



Introduction

Urban Renewal

Urban renewal encompasses a broad spectrum of strategies aimed at rejuvenating urban spaces. This multifaceted endeavor goes beyond merely preserving historic structures and districts; it also involves breathing new life into neglected or abandoned areas of the city. The process demands thoughtful and intentional redesign and repurposing, ensuring that these spaces meet contemporary needs while honoring their historical significance.

The essence of urban renewal lies in the holistic transformation of metropolitan areas, emphasizing both functionality and aesthetics. It envisions cities as dynamic entities capable of adapting to the evolving needs of their inhabitants. The goal is to seamlessly blend the old with the new, infusing fresh energy into urban landscapes through innovative design and modern infrastructure.

Revitalizing aging structures and neighborhoods is central to preserving the cultural identity inherent in urban renewal. These architectural landmarks, often weathered by time, carry the narratives of the past. By restoring these historic sites, cities offer their residents a tangible connection to their heritage, allowing them to celebrate and preserve their unique cultural legacy.

The range of theses within this theme traverses a variety of compelling and innovative pathways. These explorations highlight the creativity and foresight involved in urban renewal, from re-imagining industrial sites as vibrant, sustainable hubs to meticulously uncovering and revitalizing forgotten cultural treasures amidst bustling urban settings. The theme also explores the creation of dynamic public spaces within historical contexts, offering communities meaningful opportunities to engage with their history in contemporary ways.

As cities continue to evolve, urban regeneration plays a crucial role in shaping spaces that honor the past, address present needs, and pave the way for a promising future.

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4.1



Author Profile: **Steven William Almond**

Master of Architecture | 2023

University of Cincinnati | Ohio, USA

Thesis Title: **The Irony of Fate: Tbilisi's Soviet Catalyst | Tbilisi, Georgia**

Thesis Guide: Michael McInturf

Abstract: For over a century, the centralized Soviet bureaucracy shaped the urban landscape of Georgia. The legacy of this influence is evident in housing complexes like those in Gldani District and similar microrayons, which continue to define Tbilisi's post-Soviet life. The imposition of these structures has left many citizens grappling with the task of redefining their architectural and urban identity. The pressing question for post-socialist cities is whether they will continue to allow these sites to remain in their current state, or if they will take action to redefine their urban landscapes through adaptive solutions.

In contemporary times, it is necessary to preserve the historical value of these communities and buildings while simultaneously redefining and renewing these spaces through design criteria better suited to a current understanding of urban development.

Keywords: *Urban Revitalization, Conservation, Economy, Environment, Tourism, Adaptive Reuse*

4.2



Author Profile: **Disha Neogi**

Bachelor of Architecture | 2024

L. S. Raheja School of Architecture | Mumbai, India

Thesis Title: **Transcending Thresholds: Navigating through the plurality of thresholds in architecture | Kolkata, India**

Thesis Guide: Anmol Warang

Abstract: Architecturally, the perception of space is a sensory journey extending far beyond the functional attributes of built mass. Here, 'thresholds' serve as conduits of transformation and movement mediating transitions between spatial realms and deepening our understanding of both - built and unbuilt environments. Understanding and designing threshold spaces stand crucial, as they shape the perceptual and experiential dimensions of urban landscapes, significantly contributing to their liveability and identity. In dense urban set-ups, introducing, safeguarding, and revitalizing meaningful threshold spaces is essential; as these mediators are vital for managing space and choreographing movement while also embodying the cultural and historical layers that reflect a city's evolution.

The project in discussion employs threshold spaces as key drivers of urban design, enhancing spatial efficiency, cultural continuity, and urban liveability. Highlighting the case of Mullick Ghat Heritage Precinct along the Hooghly River in Kolkata, the intervention explores a potential for urban renewal using thresholds as a fundamental spatial tool. A master plan is developed to retain the existing fabric's ethos while revitalizing the city's relationship with the river. The design includes four sections: making the riverfront accessible, reviving the ghats, rejuvenating the flower market and redeveloping the abandoned port warehouse, thereby reconnecting the people to their sacred river.

Keywords: *Thresholds, Urban Renewal, Revival, Liveability, Accessibility, Waterfront, Placemaking*

4.3



Author Profile: **Xinjie Huang**

Masters of Architecture | 2023

The University of Hong Kong | Hong Kong

Thesis Title: **Revive and Relink: Sustainable Collaboration Strategies for the Hing Chun Yeuk Hakka Rural Villages | Hongkong**

Thesis Guide: Ivan Valin

Abstract: This thesis will put emphasis on reviving the seven Hing Chun Yeuk rural Hakka villages by balancing ecological conservation and village development to eliminate the interest conflicts. Also, with the reference of the current dweller population, establish landscape stewardship to collaborate with different stakeholders. Finally, taking advantage of villages' coastal environment condition to redesign the hiking trail and ferry routes to improve the accessibility and reconnect the historic ties within the villages.

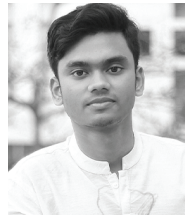
The research stage includes analysing the surrounding environment and indigenous villagers' needs through site investigation and interviews, to see how to function the current historic structure.

Finally, it will synthesize the transformation of the conservation from other cases to develop our own conservation and landscape stewardship strategies to revive the hollowing rural village to re-connect their historic and ecological value

Reviving and relink the historic tie within the Hing Chun Yeuk villages will be a long journey during the revitalization process, by developing sustainable land use practices and promoting conservation efforts, Hing Chun Yeuk villages can emerge as a model for sustainable development and conservation of cultural and ecological heritage in Hong Kong.

Keywords: *Sustainable Collaboration, Revival, Historic Villages*

4.4



Author Profile: Md Sadman Chowdhury Apurba

Bachelors of Architecture | 2024|

Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology (AUST) | Bangladesh

Thesis Title: Reviving the Traditional Trade Culture Of Khatunganj | Chattogram, Bangladesh

Thesis Guide: Farida Nilufar, Ayasha Siddiqua, Maher Niger, Zishan Fuad Chowdhury & Ishrat Momtaz Badhan

Abstract: The Khatunganj revitalization project focuses on preserving and modernizing Bangladesh's oldest trade hub. The main research questions address how to adaptively reuse Khatunganj's historic architecture, tackle issues like traffic congestion, waterlogging, and economic decline, and blend tradition with modern functionality.

The methodology involves analyzing the area's historical structures, economic role, and social, cultural, and environmental factors. The project proposes adaptive reuse of deteriorating buildings, converting streets into pedestrian zones, establishing efficient loading/unloading areas, and restoring canals to enhance water transport and manage flooding. It also integrates modular warehouse designs with traditional architectural elements.

Key findings highlight the importance of preserving Khatunganj's architectural heritage while adapting it to current needs. The project demonstrates that revitalizing historic markets can improve functionality, attract tourism, and boost the local economy. By addressing traffic and water management through innovative solutions, the project ensures Khatunganj remains a vibrant economic center. This blend of sustainability and cultural preservation serves as a model for urban renewal, offering a blueprint for maintaining and revitalizing historical trade hubs.

Keywords: *Urban Revitalization, Conservation, Economy, Environment, Tourism, Adaptive Reuse, Historical Preservation*

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4.5



Author Profile: Tram Le Bao Doan

Master of Science | 2022

Politecnico di Milano | Milan, Italy

Thesis Title: The Scent of Time | Hue City, Vietnam

Thesis Guide: Branduini Paola Nella

Abstract:

Rivers have witnessed a history of urban development from the past to the present when almost all ancient villages and cities began along it. However, in today's modern society, we face rapid urban development to the point where concrete blocks gradually fill the intimate relationship with the river and even swallow it. Therefore, the topic of balance between urbanization and local indigenous values is always urgent in current urban planning topics. Stemming from that concern, this thesis introduces a riverside commune in Hue City (Vietnam) named Phu Mau commune. It is a craft village cluster with a long history along the "Huong" River - the name means "Perfume" in English - and is currently on the threshold of loss of value of traditional Vietnamese villages due to urbanization. The work will evaluate and formulate a strategy for the landscape of the peri-urban area of Hue City after the city expansion in early 2021. Landscape and public space system design solutions are provided by re-evaluating the heritage system and landscape heritage and assessing the area to regional relations.

Keywords:

Peri-urban urbanization, urban & landscape revitalization, landscape heritage

4.6



Author Profile: **Tridha Singh**

Bachelor of Architecture | 2024

Manipal Academy of Higher Education | Dubai, UAE

Thesis Title: **Can Readapted Structures be the Next Tourist Marvel? - From Oil to Adventure: Transforming Rigs into Tourist Wonders! | Dubai, UAE**

Thesis Guide: Aarabhi Nambiar

Abstract: The thesis explores the innovative concept of adaptive reuse within the context of adventure tourism in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), highlighting its significance in transforming disused structures, particularly offshore oil rigs, into unique hospitality destinations.

An oil rig, also known as an offshore platform or drilling platform, is a large structure used in the exploration and extraction of oil and gas deposits beneath the seabed. Oil rigs play a crucial role in meeting global energy demands by facilitating the extraction of fossil fuels. Typically located in offshore areas, oil rigs are equipped with various machinery and equipment for drilling wells into the ocean floor. These structures can vary in size and complexity, ranging from small, fixed platforms to massive floating vessels. Once the oil extraction is completed generally the rigs are decommissioned or left abandoned as waste in the sea. However, with creative design its life can rejuvenated for various purpose such as tourism, research centres, data centres etc.

Decommissioning oil rigs, which normally occurs at the end of their 25-to-40-year lifespan, entails safely dismantling or shutting down huge industrial installations.

Keywords: *Adventure Tourism , Adaptive reuse , Sustainable Tourism*

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4.7



Author Profile: Nagham El Hayek

Masters in Architecture, Urban Regeneration | 2023

Sapienza Università di Roma | Rome, Italy

Thesis Title: **Community-Centric Approaches to Urban Regeneration in Touristic Adjacent Zones: Case Study of Mouraria | Lisbon, Portugal**

Thesis Guide: Mose Ricci

Abstract:

This thesis project aims to explore the regeneration of Mouraria, a historically rich yet abandoned neighborhood in Lisbon, Portugal. Despite its proximity to major tourist destinations, Mouraria lacks direct engagement, serving mainly as accommodation for visitors. Using a case study methodology, we examine the potential of community-centric urban regeneration in touristic adjacent zones, advocating for a sensitive yet strategic approach to urban design that harmonizes cultural heritage with contemporary urban needs. Named after its Moorish inhabitants, Mouraria faces different challenges such as floods and accessibility issues due to its hilly terrain. The revitalization undertakes the creation of a masterplan based on an empirical sociodemographic study of Lisbon residents and tourists, revealing their points of attractions when choosing which neighborhood to live in and go out to. In response, the proposed regeneration plan emphasizes the preservation of Mouraria's unique architectural heritage while introducing sustainable urban development practices.

Keywords:

Urban Regeneration, Cultural Heritage, Sustainable Development, Community Engagement, Tourism Impact, blue green infrastructure, Mitigation.

4.8

**Author Profile:** Arunima Badrinath

Masters in Architecture (Urban Design) | 2023

RV College of Architecture | Bangalore, India

Thesis Title: City and Identity: Designing Strategies to Enhance the Diminishing Role of the 'Garden City' | Bangalore, India

Thesis Guide: Brinda Sastry & Guru Prasanna C

Abstract: Cities around the world acquire certain identities over time due to specific events, lifestyles, geographic conditions, and other unique factors. Bangalore is one such city that has embraced many identities in the past. This thesis explores one of these identities, that of the Garden City, from the perspective of people-place associations. The Garden City is the most enduring identity that has shaped Bangalore in many ways. Historically, people's association with green spaces was valued and integrated into the city's development patterns. In stark contrast, today, Bangalore has developed and transformed with little to no consideration for people-oriented green spaces. This thesis examines people's association with green spaces over time by studying the evolution and transformation of 'gardens' into mere 'green' areas in Bangalore. In doing so, it critiques the diminishing role and contribution of green spaces to the Garden City identity of Bangalore. Consequently, the thesis argues that gardens are vital spaces for social engagement and emphasizes that efforts to reintroduce green spaces in the city will sustain Bangalore's Garden City identity while also enhancing its aesthetic appeal and promoting environmental sustainability.

Keywords: *Place Identity, Garden, people-place association, social engagement*

4.9



Author Profile: **Santiago Martinez Murillo & Sofia Tsitselli**

Master of Science in Architecture Typology | 2023

Technische Universität Berlin | Berlin, Germany

Thesis Title: **Obsolete Urbanities: An Urban Redevelopment Proposal with Alternative Governance | Berlin, Germany**

Thesis Guide: Jörg Stollmann and Moritz Ahlert.

Abstract: This thesis proposes a novel urban redevelopment model, the Community Air Trust, to address the challenges of affordable housing and urban sprawl in Berlin. The model involves a collaborative partnership between state entities, public housing companies, private developers, and housing cooperatives. By focusing on redeveloping “Obsolete Urbanities” – underutilized commercial, industrial, and infrastructural lands – the thesis aims to optimize existing urban areas and mitigate the negative impacts of urban expansion.

The Community Air Trust combines various planning instruments, including leasehold agreements, Community Land Trusts, air rights, and antiparochi, to ensure equitable and sustainable redevelopment. It prioritizes community involvement and participation, fostering a more inclusive and democratic approach to urban planning.

Through a case study in Berlin, the thesis demonstrates the practical application of the Community Air Trust model. By proposing a territorial plan, a detailed development proposal, and a governance and financing structure, the research highlights the potential for this approach to contribute to affordable housing production, environmental sustainability, and community empowerment.

Keywords: *Housing Crisis, Mixed Land Use, Urban Densification, Alternative Ownership Models.*

4.10

**Author Profile:** Shalini Ravi

Masters in Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design | 2023
Politecnico di Milano | Milan, Italy

Thesis Title: **RESCAPE (A Regenerative Stitch activating abandoned Rurban peripherals) Porto Di Mare, Milan, Italy**

Thesis Guide: Julia Nerantzia Tzortzi (Georgi)

Abstract:

This abstract outlines the spatial transformation goals for the neglected Porto di Mare region, located between rural and urban areas. The project aims to address environmental, social, and economic challenges through regenerative landscape planning. The design will analyze environmental conditions and the area's social and cultural context to create a plan that merges urban and rural environments. The process incorporates principles like reconnection, reintegration, regeneration, and biodiversity, using nature-based solutions and greenspace strategies. Inspired by the PGT Milano 2030 plan, the project seeks to develop resilient and sustainable transitional spaces that enhance the area's function and appeal.

Key findings reveal the site's historical significance, its current challenges—including environmental degradation, social issues, and economic underutilization—and the potential for regeneration to serve as a gateway between urban and rural Milan.

The methodology includes literature review, site analysis, case studies, and community interactions to inform the design framework, which focuses on sustainability, biodiversity, and resilience. The goal is to create a harmonious, regenerative landscape that addresses the area's challenges while enhancing its function and aesthetic appeal.

Keywords:

Abandoned spaces, Regenerative Inbetween Strategy, Landscape systems



5.

COMMENDABLE RECOGNITIONS



Honorable Mentions

The UDL Thesis Publication 2024 received an exceptional number of submissions, each reflecting the creativity, dedication, and innovative thinking of emerging professionals in the fields of urban design and architecture. The jury panel faced the challenging task of selecting the top projects from a diverse array of entries that showcased profound insights into contemporary urban challenges and proposed visionary solutions. Given the outstanding quality of the work presented, the panel decided to recognize six additional theses as “Honorable Mentions.” These projects, while not among the top winners, stood out for their remarkable originality, depth of research, and potential impact within the urban domain.

One of the selected projects focuses on integrating natural systems into urban development, creating sustainable blueprints for industrial settings. Another reimagines cultural and educational spaces as urban inserts, enhancing community engagement and revitalization. Other theses address urban density by proposing self-sustaining, socially cohesive communities in high-rise environments, while some focus on rural revival through cultural preservation and economic sustainability. Additionally, projects on waterfront regeneration highlight the importance of public spaces and ecological restoration. Lastly, a notable thesis envisions a self-sufficient community that empowers marginalized neighborhoods through sustainable design and social equity.

These honorable mentions represent a cross-section of innovative thinking and visionary design, contributing valuable insights to the ongoing discourse on sustainable urbanism and architecture. Each thesis is a testament to the creativity and dedication of its author, earning special recognition within this year’s publication.

5.1



Author Profile: **Maisie F. Suyat**

Bachelor of Science in Architecture | 2024

Far Eastern University | Manila, Philippines

Thesis Title: **BANYUHAY (Bagong Anyo ng Buhay): Centering Unprivileged Neighborhood through Productive Architecture: A Proposed Self-Sufficient Vertical Community | Baseco, Manila**

Thesis Guide: Vannesa Cabiedes, Lorraine Mutia & Halivier Legaspina

Abstract:

Baseco Compound is known to be the largest slum community in the National Capital Region (NCR) as per the data transcribed by the World Bank Organization. The continuing growth of the population compromised the overall character of the community affecting its physical, social, economic, and environmental development. Therefore, to uplift and achieve a productive response to human needs and architectural requirements, it is necessary to develop a strategy towards centering unprivileged neighborhoods in consideration of the design of physical and non-physical elements of the community. This paper introduces a new design paradigm of socialized housing integrated with design solutions and strategies addressing the four realms of the community: social, physical, economic, and environmental. Moreover, the main proposals and built architectural approaches and strategies were based on the notion and constituting elements of the existing entity and lifestyle of the subject. Finally, in this paper by evaluating the cyclical design approach of productive architecture, a new comprehensive architectural design approach is proposed.

Keywords: *Human Settlement, Self-sustaining community, Vertical Community*

5.2



Author Profile: **Dharam Saravanan B**

Bachelor Of Architecture | 2024

CMR University School of Architecture | Bangalore, India

Thesis Title: **Gastronomy Center - Reimagining Culinary Institute as an Urban Insert | Madurai, India**

Thesis Guide: Nishita Shah

Abstract: Madurai is also known as Food Capital of Tamil Nadu. Food being an important part of the city's rich heritage, it was celebrated here more than other parts of the state. Hailing from such a vibrant city with a rich history connected with food, what better thing to give back than a Culinary Institute promoting its food culture. This thesis explores the design of a Culinary Institute as an urban insert, focusing on how culinary education and food culture can revitalize and engage with the urban environment. It seeks to operate as a hub for all gourmets bringing them all together under one roof – through their undiminished love for food without any social stratum or restrictions. The research aims to answer two main questions: 1.How can a culinary institute be integrated into the city to enhance community interaction and urban vibrancy? 2.What architectural strategies can be employed to blend educational, commercial, and public spaces while respecting the existing urban fabric? Methodology was divided into two parts - contextual analysis of site understanding socio-cultural dynamics and studying different kinds of institutions around the world to understand different kinds of learning systems. Key findings indicate that when treated as an urban insert providing architectural solutions, it can serve as a catalyst for urban renewal and fostering social connections. To conclude an institute can be transformed into a vibrant community hub by giving urban solutions.

Keywords: *Urban Insert, Extrovert, Collaborative, Terrace Gardens, Brutalist, Transparent*

5.3



Author Profile: **Nishmitha Anand Koteshwar**

Masters in Urban Design | 2024

Newcastle University | Tyne, England

Thesis Title: **Back to the Roots - Waterfront Regeneration | Jarrow, United Kingdom**

Thesis Guide: Alkistis Pitsikali

Abstract:

Water has long been associated with human life. Since ancient times, humans have settled along rivers, relying on them as water, food, and transportation sources. Even today, the presence of rivers plays an important role in how humans live and interact with their environment. Humans have always been attracted to the life-giving properties of a river. Ever since early civilization, people have been drawn to settle along rivers due to their reliable source of food and water. From the Indus Valley civilization to Mesopotamia, humans have been extensively known to have settled along the river. As human settlements become more urbanized and globalized, it is safe to say that rivers will continue playing an important role in providing sustenance and security. Likewise, major states in the United Kingdom have flourished along the riverbanks. The site area that I have chosen for an urban intervention is situated on the southern bank of Tyne River close to South Shields. We as urban designers play an important role to shape our cities and respect the water bodies and design alongside them. We can articulate several sustainable solutions that can improve the quality of the water body. Several solutions are being proposed to address the riverfront development. I believe we need to step back and look at how our ancestors addressed the development around the riverfront.

Keywords:

Create, Connect, Co-exist, Sustainable Transportation, Climatic Resilience

5.4



Author Profile: Gomati Goswami

Bachelor Of Architecture | 2024

Indian Institute of Technology - BHU | Varanasi, India

Thesis Title: Symbiotic Urbanism: Integrating traditional Blue-Green Infrastructure for sustainable sustenance in the proposed residential township for lithium mining employees | Reasi, Jammu, India

Thesis Guide: Sneha Thusoo

Abstract: As global temperatures rise, urban heat islands exacerbate climate change, contributing to sea level rise, species loss, and food security threats. These challenges require rethinking our reliance on grey infrastructure for urban development. Future urban designs must harmonize with nature, people, and economic viability for sustainable progress. Symbiotic Urbanism offers a solution by integrating blue-green infrastructure (BGI) with a site-specific understanding.

In Reasi, Jammu & Kashmir, the recent discovery of lithium reserves is expected to bring an influx of people, necessitating a new township. This design thesis proposes a sustainable residential setup that departs from conventional approaches, emphasizing the integration of blue-green infrastructure, particularly traditional kuhls (irrigation channels) and agriculture, to create a harmonious living environment.

The proposed township will strategically integrate kuhls to irrigate urban agriculture plots and support livestock, enhancing aesthetics and promoting self-sufficiency. By revitalizing green spaces with kuhls, the design fosters community cohesion and a close-to-nature lifestyle, building socio-economic and environmental resilience.

Keywords: *Blue-green infrastructure, sustainable development, kuhls, agriculture*

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5.5



Author Profile: **Prithvi Desai**

Bachelor of Architecture | 2024

Marathwada Mitra Mandal's College Of Architecture | Pune, India

Thesis Title: **Vertical Neighbourhood | Mumbai, India**

Thesis Guide: Alkistis Pitsikali

Abstract:

Neighbourhood is a widely used term with connotations associated with it. Since the times when human congregation started taking place neighbourhoods were formed & have been evolving in terms of quality. The project examines various theories of neighbourhoods proposed by the masters and at the same time scrutinises the relation between physical aspects & intangible elements. Along with time the transformation of neighbourhoods have constantly kept its meaning dynamic and contextual. The neighbourhood can be defined as a milieu which can be associated with an individual's day to day activities & his lifestyle. The humanitarian approach of viewing towards a neighbourhood enhances the quality of the life of the residents whereas the instrumental approach focuses on efficient planning & planned growth of neighbourhood community. The project is a conceptual blueprint for a government initiative aimed at revitalizing urban spaces and addressing slum conditions in Mumbai. This innovative structure boasts a total of 720 individual units, offering accommodations for a substantial community of nearly 4000 residents. What sets this design apart is its inventive approach to redefining the idea of neighborhood in a vertical context. By envisioning community in an upward direction, the project aims to foster a sense of unity and connection among its inhabitants.

Keywords:

Verticality, Neighbourhood Community, Slum Rehabilitation

5.6



Author Profile: **Margita Vasileva**

Masters of Architecture | 2024

University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy | Bulgaria Sofia

Thesis Title: **Life Outside the City: The Revival of Karpachevo Village**

Thesis Guide: NA

Abstract: "Life Outside the City: The Revival of Karpachevo Village" addresses the growing interest in village planning as a response to urban migration trends, particularly in the wake of the 2020 pandemic. Although areas outside city borders constitute more than 90 percent of urbanized territories, village planning has been globally neglected over the past 50 years. This master thesis focuses on Karpachevo, a village in Bulgaria, where traditional regional building practices have long been overlooked. By establishing design guidelines that incorporate local materials like limestone and adobe, the project aims to show a possible planning approach that enhances the existing vernacular architecture without compromising the village's character.

The research highlights that while the floor plans of the existing buildings are designed in a common way regardless of their shape or number of axes/rooms, further studies are needed to understand the relationship between the houses and their surrounding spaces, assess their suitability for modern living, and explore the potential repurposing of barns. Contemporary additions to the distinguishable built structures are proposed to enhance the qualities of the vernacular buildings while preserving the village's unique identity.

Keywords: *Village Planning, Vernacular Architecture, Karpachevo Village, Regional Building Traditions, Rural Revitalization*

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5.7



Author Profile: **Emma Mangels**

Bachelor of Architecture | 2024

New York Institute of Technology | New York, USA

Thesis Title: **Hydrology Hub | New York, United States**

Thesis Guide: Evan Shieh

Abstract:

The Hydrology Hub located in Brooklyn, New York aimed to re-imagine the future of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway (BQE). The Brooklyn-Queens Expressway is a highway system that connects the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. The highway is over capacity and in need of a change. Currently, the Gowanus Canal located in Brooklyn is a superfund site. There are hundreds of unknown pipes leaching into the canal. The current water filtration system in Brooklyn is a bottle-neck system. All water, regardless of the intended use, will be taken from the same sources, follow the same path of filtration and discarded in the same locations. The Hydrology Hub proposes a circular system of water. Based on the intended use, the water will move to that phase of the filtration and be discarded based on how it was utilized. The BQE crosses over the Gowanus Canal creating three levels of vehicular transit. Using the verticality, this section of the highway is the opportune location for the Hydrology Hub. Gravity will push the water down through the levels. The hub allows for the community to watch and follow how the water is being filtered. The hub is completely immersive with water flowing down the walkways and streaming down waterfalls. All of these paths feed back into the community to create ribbons in the framework. The Hydrology Hub will not only clean water in an efficient manner and reduce in-land flooding but will make the water filtration process visible to the community.

Keywords: *Hydrology, Community, Research, Urban Renewal, Transportation*

5.8

**Author Profile:** Kelly Zheng

Bachelor of Architecture | 2024

New York Institute of Technology | New York, USA

Thesis Title: Island Revitalization | New York City, USA

Thesis Guide: Farzana Gandhi

Abstract: A positive environment is relevant for vulnerable communities in creating a solid foundation to build a healthy living and defend against risks. Coney Island, a peninsula that sits in the southern part of New York City, is a smaller scale of NYC that demonstrates the environmental problems that the city faces. Coney Island suffers from bad air quality, urban heat, flooding, and poor water management, causing bad living quality and health risks.

These issues should not be understood and treated separately. They are all part of a reciprocal ecosystem where one problem typically worsens another. It is essential to develop a holistic and comprehensive integrated solution that makes Coney Island more livable today and far into the future. The proposal is inspired by such solutions found around the world and developed at multiple scales from masterplan to kiosks.

This proposal reintroduces the past site formation and integrates various scales of new blue-green infrastructures to lower the levels of environmental vulnerability and social vulnerability in the community. In the late stages, the proposal explores real-time systems to inform the neighborhood about environmental factors and provide alerts for possible environmental risks and disasters. Multiple scales of development aim to work together to build a strong, low-vulnerable community for citizens and visitors.

Keywords: *Village Planning, Vernacular Architecture, Karpachevo Village, Regional Building Traditions, Rural Revitalization*



EXPRESSION OF THANKS



Acknowledgment

We extend our deepest gratitude to the esteemed jury members of the UDL Thesis Publication 2024 for their unwavering dedication and expertise. Their pivotal role in curating this distinguished collection of abstracts on urban design and development is profoundly valued.

For the Urban Renewal theme, we are particularly thankful to Mohammed Fekry and Daniel Feldman for their insightful evaluations. Their combined expertise has illuminated innovative approaches and the transformative potential of urban renewal, greatly enriching the discourse on revitalizing urban spaces. Under the Urban Landscape theme, our heartfelt thanks go to Peter Hasdell and Clara Reutter. Their discerning perspectives have deepened our understanding of the profound influence of urban landscapes on cities and societies, contributing to the vision of more harmonious and sustainable environments. We express our immense gratitude to Fabiano Lemes de Oliveira and Evan Shieh for their invaluable contributions under the Urban Management theme. Their evaluations have highlighted the intricate art of managing urban spaces, emphasizing the critical importance of effective governance and planning in fostering thriving communities. For the Urban Networks theme, we extend our appreciation to Zeina ElZein and Stefan Lengen. Their evaluations have underscored the essential role of connectivity and collaboration in shaping modern urban networks, emphasizing their importance in facilitating the flow of ideas, resources, and innovation.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes to the distinguished panelists who will be participating in the seminar: Prof. Ujan Ghosh, Urban Designer at Upalghosh Associates, Delhi, with Master's degrees from the University of Pennsylvania; Rajiv Bhakat, Founding Partner of Studio CoDe, Delhi, and a seasoned architect with a Master's from the University of Pennsylvania; Mansi Kataria, Creative Head at i.e Design, Trivandrum, with extensive experience in mixed-use and institutional projects; and Oormi Kapadia, Founding Partner at PLURAL, Mumbai, and an expert in sustainable urban design. Their invaluable contribution as panelists in the seminar is truly commendable.

The careful evaluations and valuable contributions of the jurors and panelists uphold excellence and inspire the academic community. Their commitment to academic growth is evident and appreciated, guiding emerging scholars and enriching the academic landscape with enduring insights.

Publication Jury



Peter Hasdell Hong Kong, China

Architect & Urban Designer
Associate Dean, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Peter Hasdell is an accomplished Associate Dean, Professor, architect, and urbanist with a distinguished academic and professional background. A graduate of the University of Sydney and the Architectural Association in London, Hasdell has held academic positions at notable institutions such as the School of Design at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the Bartlett School of Architecture, the University of Manitoba, the Berlage Institute, among others. He has also served as a researcher at the Chora Institute of Architecture and Urbanism in London and the Centre for Architecture Structures and Technology (C.A.S.T.) in Canada. As the founder of the Architecture and Urban Research Lab (A+URL) in Stockholm, Hasdell has demonstrated a strong commitment to advancing architectural and urban studies. Currently, he directs the In-situ Project, focusing on sustainable community development.



Daniel Feldman Bogota, Colombia

Urban Designer, Harvard Graduate School of Design
Architect Founder and CEO at ZITA, Bogota, Colombia

Daniel Feldman Founder and Chief Executive of ZITA (Zona Industrial Taller de Arquitectura), a mission-based architecture and urban design and development firm whose processes are rooted in community participatory design, environmental innovation, and historic preservation centered urban development. He designed and developed multiple kindergartens in underserved rural communities as the Lead Architect in the office of the First Lady of Colombia, and was Head of Architecture at the Colombian office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) where he led the infrastructure investments that support the extreme poverty reduction programme in war-stricken areas. Feldman holds an MA in Urban Design from Harvard University as a Fulbright Scholar, and a BA in Architecture from Universidad de Los Andes.



Stefan Lengen London, United Kingdom

Architect, The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL
Associate Professor in Architecture, The Bartlett School of Architecture

Stefan Lengen is a respected Associate Professor in Architecture at The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, and the Director of FELT architecture, design + research. Registered as an Architect in both the UK and Switzerland and a member of several prestigious architectural institutions, his expertise spans across residential, commercial, and institutional projects, including key roles in the development of Wood Lane Station in London and the New Law Faculty in Vienna. Since founding FELT in 2012, the firm has earned national and international recognition. Stefan, a graduate of the University of Applied Sciences in Berne and the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, under Professor Peter Cook, combines practice with academia, significantly contributing to the architectural community through his leadership, mentorship, and numerous awards from his academic and professional endeavors.



Fabiano Lemes Milan, Italy

PhD, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya- UPC, Barcelona
Associate Professor in Urbanism at Politecnico di Milano

Professor Fabiano is an Associate Professor in Urbanism at Politecnico di Milano, based in the DASTU – Department of Architecture and Urban Studies. His research focuses on planning models that integrate urbanization with nature, emphasizing green and blue infrastructure, and sustainable planning. He authored “Green Wedge Urbanism: History, Theory and Contemporary Practice” and edited “Planning Cities with Nature.” In addition to his research, he teaches in the Masters of Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design and the Masters of Architecture and Urbanism programs, and coordinates the PhD program in Urban Planning, Design, and Policy. Before joining Politecnico di Milano, he was a Reader in Urbanism and Architecture at the University of Portsmouth, UK, where he held several leadership roles in research and education.

Publication Jury



Mohammed Fekry Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Cairo University, Egypt
Professor at Effat University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Dr. Mohamed is a professor of architecture and design at Effat University. He has taught Architecture at several Departments in Egypt and KSA. His main concern now is to pass on his practical experience of design to younger generations of architects as well as to develop educational courses that reflect these concepts to the architectural students. His research interests include Architecture Theories, Design Process, GIS, and Urban Conservation. He is a member of the International Society for Development & Sustainability, the Board of Directors of the Saudi Umran Society, and Vice-chair of the Saudi Planners Association (SPA). Additionally, Dr. Mohamed actively collaborates with international researchers and institutions to bring global perspectives into his teachings and research, aiming to foster a more interconnected and informed architectural community.



Clara Reutter Melbourne, Australia

Pontifical Master of Architecture - MArch, Catholic University of Chile
Assistant Professor, Landscape Design, RMIT University

Clara Reutter is an Architect and master in Architecture from PUC, Chile, and has worked in Landscape Architecture at Taylor Cullity Lethlean T.C.L. for the past four years. She is co-founder of Ephemeral Research, a collective dedicated to researching and designing nomad structures that activate public spaces with new technical solutions. Her architectural background and landscape practice give her a unique view of the intersection of both disciplines. In addition to her work with Ephemeral Research, Clara is also the founder of 56CopasdeAgua. This initiative focuses on exploring climate-resilient solutions for existing blue infrastructure. Through her research and design work, Clara is helping to address some of the most pressing challenges facing communities around the world, including climate change and the need for sustainable infrastructure.



Zeina ElZein Cairo, Egypt

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Helwan University, Cairo
Youth Advisory Board Member, UN-Habitat | Assistant Prof. Helwan University

Zeina ElZein, an Assistant Professor of Architecture, excels in interdisciplinary research, focusing on sustainable urban design and water management. With over ten years of experience, she has delved into natural-based solutions for water treatment and water governance, earning her Ph.D. with an Erasmus+ mobility grant in Germany. ElZein has contributed to academia as a visiting researcher at Humboldt University and as part of the Multifunctional Landscapes team at the IRITHESys Institute. She played a key role in establishing the Sustainable Architecture and Urban Design undergraduate program at Helwan University, aimed at addressing global sustainability challenges. Her work spans consulting on urban greening, coordinating sustainability education, and developing Egypt's award-winning Smartponic indoor food production system.



Evan Shieh New York, United States

Master of Architecture in Urban Design, Harvard University GSD
Assistant Professor, New York Institute of Technology, United States

Evan Shieh is an architect, urbanist, researcher, and educator. He is an Assistant Professor of Architecture at New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) where he teaches as a full-time faculty member, and is also the director of Emergent Studio, a design and research office operating at architecture's intersection with urbanism, landscape, and infrastructure. His research examines urban and environmental crises linked to mono-functional infrastructures, focusing on the spatial impact of mobility infrastructure and new technologies on urban design and planning. He is the author of *Autonomous Urbanism: Towards a New Transitopia* (AR+D Publishers, forthcoming Fall 2024). Shieh is a graduate of Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, from which he holds a Master of Architecture in Urban Design.

Seminar Panel



Ujan Ghosh Delhi, India

Master of Architecture & Master of City Planning, University of Pennsylvania, USA
Urban Designer, Upalghosh Associates, Delhi, India

Prof. Ujan Ghosh completed his architecture degree at School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi in 1975. After working in Delhi for two years, he pursued Master's degrees in Architecture and City Planning with a focus on Urban Design at the University of Pennsylvania. He later became a partner at Upalghosh Associates in India, practicing architecture and urban design. He's been a visiting professor at SPA, New Delhi for 34 years and played roles in SPA, Bhopal's Senate and various departmental Boards of Studies. He co-founded the Institute of Urban Designers-India and served as its former President.



Rajiv Bhakat Delhi, India

Master of Architecture - Graduate School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, 2002
Founding Partner - Studio CoDe

Rajiv Bhakat is a seasoned architect and urban designer with over 19 years of experience and is the founding partner of Studio CoDe, an award-winning design firm in New Delhi. His diverse portfolio includes large-scale urban complexes, office and residential towers, institutional projects, and private residences across the US and India. Rajiv has a special interest in the intersection of lifestyle patterns and urban-architecture projects, particularly the public-private divide. He has taught at institutions like the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia University, and Parsons School of Design. Currently, he teaches at the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), New Delhi, and serves on the advisory board of the Sushant School of Art and Architecture. Rajiv is also the co-creator of the graphic novel series "Paradiso," published by Image Comics.



Mansi Kataria Delhi, India

Masters in architecture (Urban Design) , School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
Creative Head at i. e Design (Integrated Environs Design)

Mansi Kataria started her career in brand showrooms and corporate identity design with M/s Imagene, working on projects for Honda, Maruti Suzuki, National Panasonic, and Liberty, where she handled site coordination, layout, and signage design. After completing her Master's, she gained valuable experience at Morphogenesis Architecture Studio in Delhi, contributing to mixed-use, housing, hotel, and cinema projects, including the Maker Township in Mumbai. She also worked at Kanvinde Rai & Chowdhury before co-founding her own firm. Mansi's early training with Architect Ram Sharma on projects like Rashtriya Manav Sanghralaya in Bhopal shaped her approach to architecture. With 13 years of experience, she continues to balance her passion for design with a strong commitment to academics.



Oormi Kapadia Mumbai, India

M.Arch, Urban Design, The University of Texas at Austin
Founding partner at PLURAL

Oormi Kapadia is an Architect, Urban Designer and founding partner at PLURAL – a collaborative urban research and planning studio based in Mumbai and Goa. She heads the Project Research and Policy Planning division and shares her expertise in ideas of sustainability at various scales. She is a LEED AP and a qualified TERI Griha trainer. She conducts global research on urban planning models and policies, aiming to influence Mumbai's future planning. She's actively engaged in community design and place-making with the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai and has been a speaker at the UN Habitat conference in Brussels. She writes on urban issues on various platforms and has co-authored 6 Metros : Urban Planning & Implementation Compared. Oormi also serves as a visiting faculty member at various architectural colleges in Mumbai and Goa.



FINAL REFLECTIONS



Concluding Remark

As we reach the conclusion of this compilation, we are compelled to reflect upon the intricate and diverse tapestry of ideas, insights, and perspectives that have been skillfully interwoven within the pages of the UDL Thesis Publication 2024's "Book of Abstracts". The multitude of abstracts presented herein stands as a powerful testament to the unceasing wellspring of curiosity and ingenuity that drives the realm of urban design and development forward.

We extend our deepest appreciation to the invaluable contributors whose thoughtful explorations of a broad spectrum of themes have served to expand our understanding of the multifaceted dimensions encompassing urban existence. The passionate dedication with which these scholars have illuminated the nuances of urban revitalization, landscape architecture, management strategies, and interconnected networks has ignited a tangible sense of innovation within the folds of our academic community.

As these abstracts now find their place within the annals of knowledge, they stand as a poignant testimony to the constant evolution inherent in urban design and development. In doing so, they beckon forth as a wellspring of inspiration for future generations of scholars, practitioners, and visionaries. Guided by these works, the boundaries of possibility are destined to be pushed anew, facilitating a reimagining of urban spaces that are inherently more inclusive, sustainable, and brimming with vitality.

Looking to the future, we are thrilled to announce that the final culmination of these selected theses will be incorporated into a comprehensive volume to be published by the end of this year. This definitive publication, encompassing the culmination of meticulous research and insightful analysis, will bear an ISBN number, cementing its position as a scholarly cornerstone within the field. This forthcoming endeavor represents a bridge between the abstract and the tangible, and we eagerly anticipate the knowledge exchange it will foster as it makes its way into the hands and minds of eager learners, practitioners, and pioneers alike.

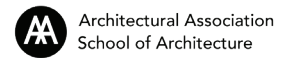
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The jury members comprise individuals affiliated with the following prestigious institutions, and they also maintain collaborations with the firms listed below:

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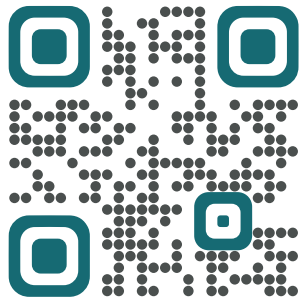
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Participants:

Participants in the UDL Thesis Publication Seminar 2024 have come from a diverse array of prestigious institutions around the world, showcasing their expertise in architecture, urban design, and related

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