

Thesis Book

Urban Public Space Rehabilitation
and
Place Making in European Town

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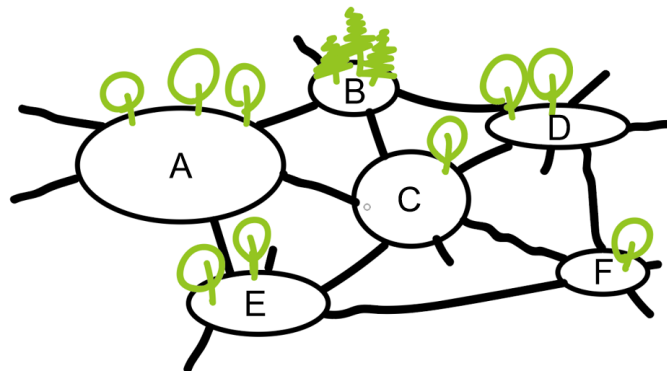


Thesis I.

Urban public spaces work as a whole, which does not matter the scale of the referred settlement, whether it is a town or a major city. The urban public spaces need interaction with each other and are directly in relation with the continuity of the urban texture.

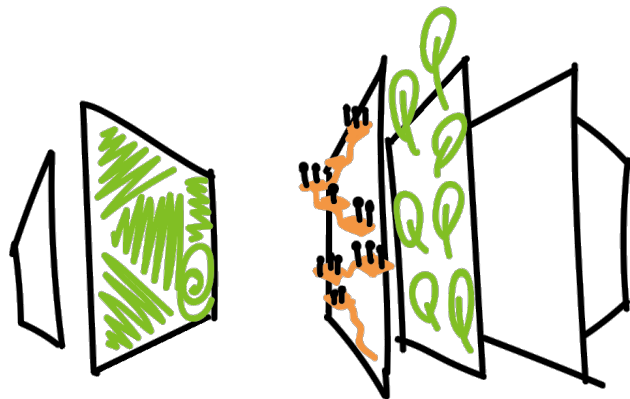
The above concepts should be also consciously presented in the inter-neighborhood scale planning. Ensuring the functional mix, complementarity, interactivity and continuity of the segments of the district, and harmonize the space experiential quality, the public space network should be constructed.

$$A + B + C + D + E + F + \dots = 1$$



Thesis II.

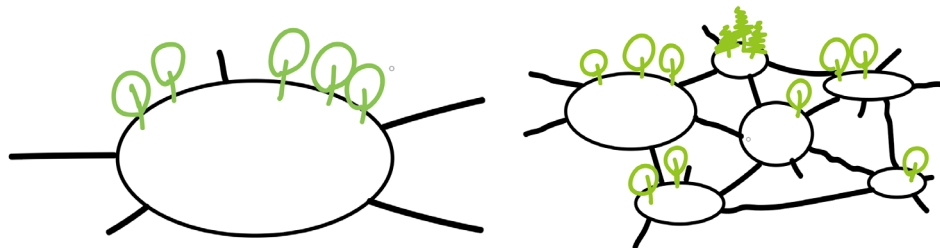
Much more concerns are necessary and worth being taken into account the vertical surfaces: Building facades are the envelop of the building and meantime the envelop of the urban public space. They affect the urban life quality from multi-dimension (visual experience and immersive experience). A set of responsibly and inclusive facade acts as protection of both the building itself and the adjacent public space, and meantime the conditioner of the public space in terms of microclimate, biodiversity, psychological environment and social performance. Building facade design and community public space could form tighter connection due to their unbreakable relationship from the perspective of both design process and urban landscape composition.



Thesis III.

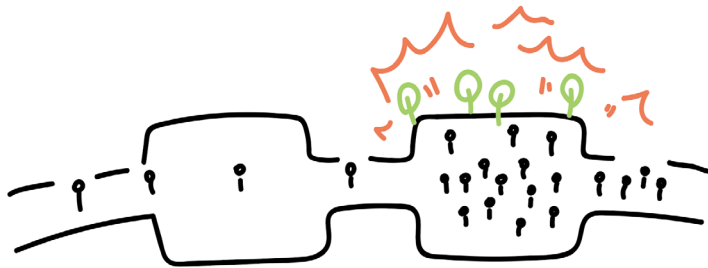
Besides the single urban public space design, the general organization of urban public spaces can be considered as planning of urban public spaces based on contemporary living models. The urban public space planning should consider the advantages and disadvantages (positive and negative characters) of the existing residential model of the referred town or city, maximize the community participation, follow the essential characters and filter the parts harmful to the healthy development of the community.

Design has to be responsible to lead human behavior for more resilient lifestyle. Individual urban public space design influences people's behavior and subsequently their mindset of what urban public space can serve and how to use it by its function provided, its architectural presentation and the intuitive leading details. On the other hand, urban public space planning deals with more macro scale of the public space network, which presents its responsibility via logical and inclusive functional arrangements, welcoming guidance, aligned design language and active interactions.



Thesis IV.

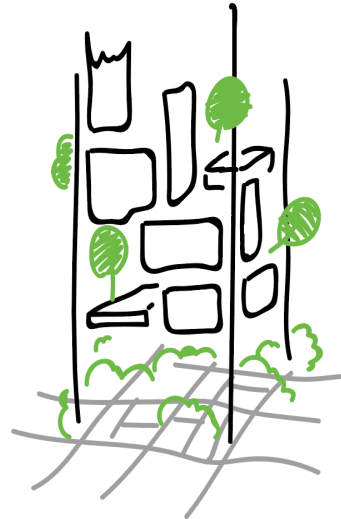
Constantly active spaces become durable spaces, enduring activeness is guaranteed by pedestrian flow and functional place-making that attracts people to stay.



Thesis V.

Local traditional community model or urban texture shall be involved into the contemporary living model and housing solutions. The traditional models can no longer bear the contemporary and future living density in either cities or middle scale towns, yet they should not be excluded from the conceiving of residential and community designs. Redeveloping the local traditional community model or urban texture towards vertical manner has the ability to develop contemporary and future living model with more local customized urban identification and comply with the local residents' mindset of how living should be. The latter advantage is helpful in gently leading people towards more sustainable and healthy lifestyle while preserving the inherent cultural identity of the town.

Dimensional upgrade of the essence and advantages (the social aspects and the parts that can co-work with the future concepts) of the traditional community model develops the community space along vertical axis. With healthy and carbon-neutral as goal and criterion, urban public space design that is three dimensional, life quality targeted, complying with the intelligence of the local traditional block texture shows characteristic community space planning that does not break away the character of local living model. It helps keeping the local character in newly planned districts and inherit local culture style.



Thesis VI.

To construct a neighborhood where the architecture part and the public space part (negative space) functions and coordinates well with each other, the two parts need to form and develop each other. Urban public spaces not only exist as the voids between buildings, they are able to construct sustainable, healthy, cohesive and visionary public space network(s) that contribute more to the urban life for both city and town scale settlement from an macro perspective.



