

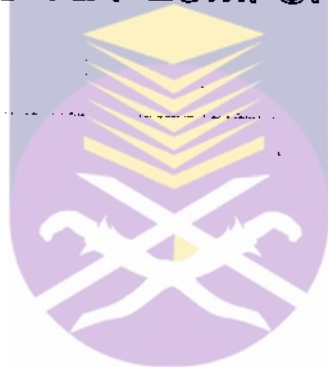
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topic : STREETScape AND LANDSCAPE  
IN THE CENTRAL CITY CORE  
OF KUALA LUMPUR.



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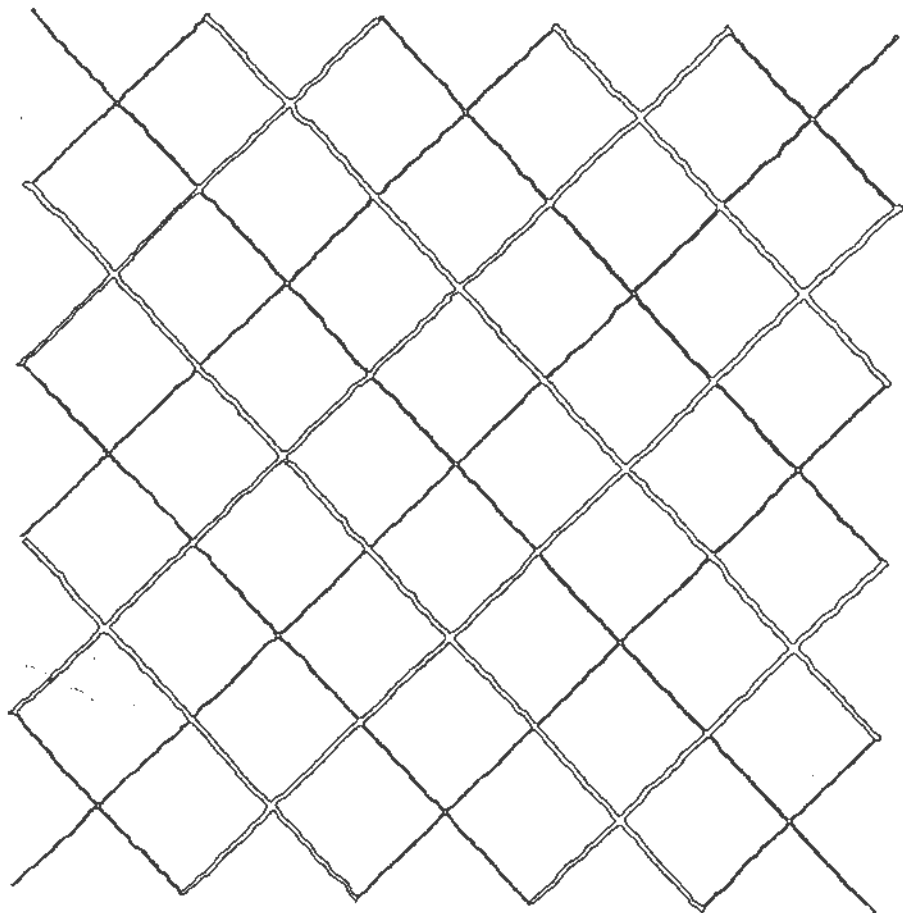
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synopsis

- o SYNOPSIS

- A. INTRODUCTION :

The purpose of this desertation is not only to study the existing Landscape and streetscape and their condition in the area of The Central Core of Kuala Lumpur but at the same time our task is to identify the area where the facilities provided are use for human activities, cultural activities, aesthetical purposes, nature preservation or as a buffer zone to some development, etc.

Consiousness on the importance of proper landscaping and public amenities had shown through the action and intention from the authorities such as Dewan Bandaraya or Urban Development Authorities (UDA) in their programme to beautify the city in these few years. Guidelines and strict rules had been put on to any new development to have a Landscaping Design included in their programme for approval.

Even with the presence of these lawas and guidelines being imposed on but we still feel that it is not enough to achieve to what public expectation, without a better understanding and consiousness of the designer or the professional involved in this field. So from this study, we hope that we will be able to suggest a certain guidelines of Design Criteria, Policies, Concept or Design elements which at same time having its local identity.

Hopefully, from the information gathered and suggestion given would be useful and beneficial to others such as authorities, designers, planners, etc in providing a better built environment for the people within the context of Urban Design.

B. AIM AND OBJECTIVE :

To identify the problems and potential of the study site and to give a proposal guidelines for reference to professional which in future can benefit the public and researchers.

To bring forward ideas and proposal in order to create a better built environment of urban scapes for the people in the city of Kuala Lumpur.

To give an identity to the city as well as at the national level which not only can attract tourism but somethings that can be proud of by the Malaysians.

To create a balance development of the nature and the manmade concrete jungle.

To create in future, Kuala Lumpur as a city for the people / pedestrians and not for the traffic.



### C. REASON FOR CHOOSING THE TOPIC

As an architectural student and future designer we feel that it is important for us to look into the subject as it is directly interrelated in the context of Urban Design.

Vast development in the City Core of Kuala Lumpur today have no proper consideration and control over the environment and human values especially related to landscaping and street scape.

The site itself act as a Focal Point within the City of Kuala Lumpur as a whole. The City Core become an important landmark for Kuala Lumpur where the area has an intergration of communication and commercial zones, e.g. Railway Station, Dayabumi Complex, Government Offices, Existing Historical buildings, etc.

There is no proper segregation between pedestrian Motor Vehicular network. What ever existing today had caused problems such as congestions, more accidents, and other unhealthy environment in the city.

D. HYPOTESIS :

1. A better and healthy environment can be created in the Central City Core of Kuala Lumpur for pedestrian especially, if a proper planned and control of landscaping and street-scape provided in the area. At the same time it can give a better image and identity to the city.
2. A careful and thoughtful consideration on the interaction between buildings and its surrounding environment i.e. on its landscaping and street furniture can give a balanced environment to city life by having an area such as plazas, pedestrian malls, parks, etc.
3. A better controlled and planned environment hopefully can solved the existing problems such as traffic congestion, air or water pollution, lack of public spaces, etc.

E. PROBLEMS / ISSUES :

1. Implementation and planning of landscape today had greatly being influenced by outside elements either borrowed or copied which result to no originality and lost in terms of local character of our city.
2. Imbalance between new built environment and the landscaping within the city of Kuala Lumpur resulted to look of human values and image for the city.
3. Problems on implementation, maintenance and supervision normally being discussed as a result of no proper or suitable landscape being applied to local environment.
4. No proper guidelines in the implementation of the programmes which can help the designers and other professional in their early stage of carried out the new development.
5. Although this country rich with her element of soft landscape and her original architecture value but without initiative in introducing it into reality, later it will diminishes as a part of the country heritage.
6. Some professional in their line of work tends to show lack of initiative and awareness towards providing a better built environment for the people by neglecting some factor of urban landscape.

## F. THIS STUDY METHODS :

Landscape study will provide an opportunity for understanding Landscape and design process and construction techniques used in the landscape industry.

The emphasis will be on the altered landscaped man apparent needs and his relationship to his environment. The man-made landscape is a product of pressure and changes brought about by agriculture, shelter, industry, travel and recreation and one of our aim will be the understanding of these changes and the potential influences of the study on their impact on the environment.

- a. Site appraisal techniques
- b. Development of design analysis methods
- c. Study of the built environment, materials and techniques
- d. Study of natural elements as design components
- e. Practical application of skills acquired, by developing proposal for specific problems

The materials and techniques of construction will be studied in detail and through this study an appreciation will be developed of the controls and requirements of the built environment. A vocabulary of construction details and their appropriate application will be used to provide readily available methods of establishing physical site data.

1. Site appraisal techniques :

Appraisal means looking and understanding the site potential and problems. This includes collection of data information.

Preliminary research into regional setting, location and character of a site always be undertaken before carrying out site investigations. This allows limited survey time to be used to greatest advantage and minimise risk of important omissions. In planning the gathering of information, we need to look at land plants, economic, maintenance of the site, time available and items which are appropriate to be taken into account.

Steps in data gathering

1. Essential matters data gathering
2. Special data gathering
3. Organize data gathering i.e. the relationship

2. The site survey :

Factual, objective information about the site and the things on it information about the site and the things on it information such as the following is usually of value :

- a. Location of site - site in relation to surrounding
- b. Topography - contour, spot level, etc. This can be done on photography or serial photographic or by rough assessment.
- c. Site boundary and ownership
- d. Surface water
- e. Subsurface water
- f. Geology and soils
- g. Vegetations
- h. Access and circulation

- i. Buildings
- j. Services
- k. Miscellaneous

3. The Urban Floor :

Paving -           Function of pavings  
                          Choice of pavings  
                          Advance preparation  
                          Pattern

Paving type -      Soil cement, brick, BG slab, grass crete,  
                          Tru pave, cobble stone, Uni pave, Clay  
                          paver and grass cell.

4. Change of Level :

- Steps, ramps, or ramped steps

5. Soft landscape elements :

Recreation planning - turf grasses

Trees - function of trees, uses, etc.

6. Contour outs and fills :

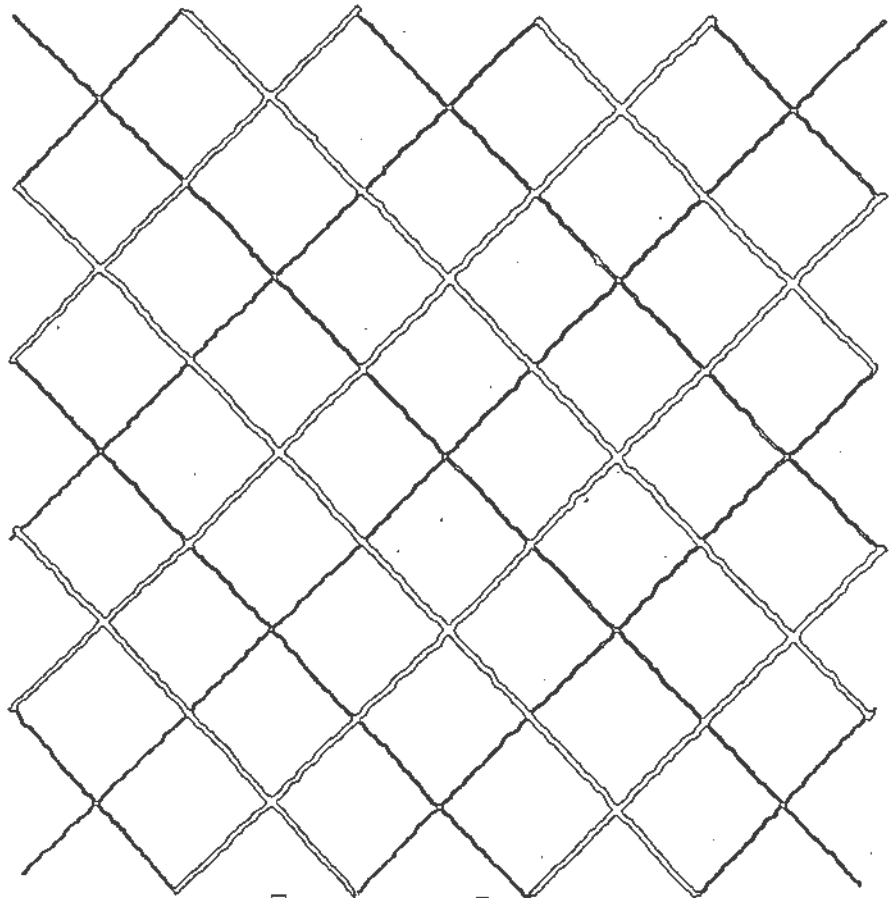
Grading design

functional consideration

Graphical presentations

characteristic of contour lines

gradient



# chapter one

INTRODUCTION TO URBAN LANDSCAPE

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## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION TO URBAN LANDSCAPE

#### 1.0 THE ABSTRACT :

This chapter introduces what urban landscape is all about which covered the criteria of urbanscape. There are such as softscape, urbanscape, circulation pattern, the layout and the design character. On softscape normally involve with trees, shrubs, creepers, water element which relate to the function, aesthetic, the pattern, the scale relating to other built environment. The function, the organisation pattern, the scale of this softscape to be considered in the design of the city. These normally creates parks, open spaces within the city area.

Urban space will cover on the activities, the function, different type of organisation, pattern and coherences. Circulation pattern include the vehicular and pedestrian network and other future transportation system. Here the identification was made on the problems, merit and demerit of the present system in this country in general. The layout and the character of the city also place a very important role in the success of a better urban landscape. Others are buildings, street furniture, and how they are located and relation to each other.



### 1.1.0 INTRODUCTION

Our city today are mostly planned and designed with space for activities with the highest possible monetary return for the comfort and convenience of broad streets with median strips and fly overs and underpasses are constructed to merely assist the activity of getting there. Study of pleasant streets or pedestrian walkways reveals a sympathetic understanding of the real needs of the people on foot and in vehicles can contribute to the aesthetic of the city speed from A to B is probably of little importance in urban streets straight carriageway has little justification. But how much better the aesthetic can be improved by judicious alignment and planting such that the vista is changed, the view is stopped and controlled when necessary is found to relate to people and their psychic and natural needs of the human as well as to fulfil the functional needs.

The design of spaces in the city must succeed in two district levels - the aesthetic and the physical - if they are to satisfy the users.

### 1.1.1 AESTHETIC OF THE URBAN LANDSCAPES

It is a matter of manipulating spaces, masses textures and colours in such away so as to produce anemity and delight and essentially depends on design ability, sharpened by constant observation and evaluation of real landscapes constant questioning into the reasons why are landscape is more attractive, more satisfying and more rewarding than other.

Spatial manipulation in urban landscape is not altogether unlike the manipulation of window spaces. A person enters from the open, noisy and probably windy or rainy streets into the warmth and glitter of the foyer, he then proceeds through a segence of dark constricted corridors and staircases towards his destination, his sense of expectation heightened by the intimate darkness, the disorienting changes of level and direction and the series of secondary spaces through which he passes on his way (bars, open landing, etc). When he finally emerges suddenly in the great auditorium, brightly lit and filled with people, the sense of pleasurable arrival is much enhanced by the dramatic contrast with the previously experienced spaces through which he has passed. There is no reason why the pedestrian moving from a thorough fare via a sequence of alleys and staircases into a great urban square should not be exposed to a similar environmental experience by the skilled manipulation of external spaces.

The golden rule to these is to produce a varied pattern of textures and colours, derived from the functional differences which distinguish one landscape from another.

### 1.1.2 THE PHYSICAL FUNCTION

The physical functions of urban design are the control of wheeled and pedestrian traffic the accomodation of changes in site level, the provision of climatic shelter, and the provision of protection and security.

### 1.1.3 CIRCULATION

Aiding and controlling the movement of traffic (both pedestrian and vehicular) is a prime function of Landscape. Attention should be given to both functional and aesthetic consideration. For a design that frustrates users in either of these respects will be a failure.

Functionally the problem is one of providing a weather and wear resistant network of surfaces which enable people to get from where they are to where they want to be safely, efficiently, comfortably.

Aesthetically besides efficient and durable attraction unfolding, rich environmental experience for the walker also another point to be taken into consideration.

To promote good urban landscapes, it is imperative to think of the pedestrian domain as a coherent pattern of places and paths with the paths threaded subtly through the landscape.

Paths should not be fitted as after thoughts to spaces, such as senseless patchworks of landscape, etc.

The designer should not be intimidated by traffic engineer into pushing the pedestrian into underpass, elevated walkways, because the most pleasant and most comfortable for pedestrians is at ground level.

## 1.2 THE LAYOUT

The design of urban spaces for pedestrian should be thought of in terms of the person in motion and the environment through which he passes. This is a fact well known to merchants and store designers, whose careful evaluation and pedestrian movement geared to salesmanship could well be studied by urban designers, shopping centres developers e.g. have made careful studies of pedestrian tendencies and among other things have established with criteria for streets based on impulse shopping habits. In addition they know the typical pedestrian pattern of right hand movement down a street and its relation to the positioning of store fronts and entrances.

Most people (particularly elderly or disabled) dislikes having to climb long flights of stairs or ramps and often dodge through near lethal streams of vehicle instead of using elevated crossing or subway provided, climbing is an effort and subway tend to be sordid. If there is no other choice, besides using the systems, a means of positive landscaping or barrier can be designed to entice them along the desired route.

### 1.2.1 CONTROL ELEMENT

Pedestrian floors can be directed thus by three basic methods namely by barriers by hazard and by suggestion.

- (i) Barriers - These include upstanding types (wall, screens, fences, planted beds and sunken types). Appropriate barrier is where it is vitally that pedestrian have to keep to their assigned areas e.g. alongside dangerous motor roads.
- (ii) Hazards - Less coercive form of pedestrian traffic control include knee rail low banks, rough textured pavings and planted areas. Knee rail can be used safely in high traffic areas such as park.
- (iii) Suggestion - The least coercive form of signals notices, signs, changes of texture or level in ground treatment and cunning disposition of landscaping elements to guide people along chosen route. The use of bollards, mild changes of level with suitable changes in paving texture, can serves as suggestive demarcations between areas.

The decision of which of the above control element is most appropriate in any particular situation will depend partly on the function to be served (e.g. is it absolutely vital to confine pedestrians to certain routes or areas or highly desirable, or only mildly desirable?). Partly on the visual effect desired partly on the kinds of people who will be using the space concerned and partly on funds. These are the consideration should be absorbed by the designer's mind.

### 1.3 What is characteristic of Urban Landscape ?

#### 1.3.1 Feel of Cities :

Question like are the people happy, stimulated, inspired in the urban environment. Are they comfortable feel save and at home in their city ? Do they have a sense of place in their own city and why do people including us admire so much cities like Tokyo, London, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Singapore, etc. can lead the urban designer into an insight of the urban environment suitable for the people.

#### 1.3.2 The Malaysian Cityscape :

It will give us a better insight of the good and bad of our urban development of it is to be compared with periodic urban development of our cities during the Pre Merdeka and post Merdeka decades.

Sometime best to side step the issue of Land economics, policy control, etc and concentrate on the qualitative values people put on the beauty of the Land and environment during this period.

#### 1.3.3 Aesthetically attractive :

To be successful in city planning and urban design it is imperative to list human ideas and human purposes. That is why we feel, there is a need for us to look back and recippraise the old value. Look at the age old art of building cities.

In planning and designing for the urban landscape one has to have the feeling of overall plan organisation and to know the art of overall plan organisation only then can we achieve. Coherent relationships among urban spaces and plan continuity in cities.

To achieve a good design in urban areas one has to begin with the following :

1. The survey of actual resources about the people the landscape and the work a day activities in the city.
2. A knowledge of existing conditions and opportunities.  
The ultimate test on a good of urban landscape design is not beautiful pictures created on the ground it lies on  
" The sort of man and woman it nutures and the order and beauty and sanity of their community "

#### 1.3.4 What are common errors we can find in our cities ?

Lesson for the designer some of the theories that prove to be disastrous in urban design are :

1. More streets, road, cross roads, intersection are for the better.
2. More variety give better urban scene.
3. Concentration of mixed uses are beneficial for the people.
4. Arbitrary distribution of commercial centre are more convenient for the people.
5. Detail peresigns on high speed area is good.

#### 1.3.5 Urban Amenities :

Amenities means pleasantness or agreeable features urban amenities has a lot to do with urban facilities. Urban amenities make a city vibrant and alive. Amenities are facilities that people enjoy using and will keep enjoying using it. City is made memorable and cherishable by providing the best amenities. Urban amenities include :

1. Cultural facilities and districts.
2. Urban open spaces
3. Tourist amenities
4. Natural and scenic resources
5. Well designed building
6. Commercially successful development
7. Street
8. Others

#### 1.4.0 Trees in Urban Design

- o Urban life requires an escape city park tree can be used to enhance urban elements rather than hide them.
- o Utilize tree not as decoration but as living building material to create and reinforce urban space.
- o Use of tree in grove, rows and symmetrical omit and explain aesthetic principles used in grouping trees in a variety of setting.
- o Design - choosing a type of tree, the branch structure the same example are and repeated in a variety of contexts to demonstrate the effect of different design principle.
- o Characteristic considered in terms of arrangement and spacing utilize trees in a specific site compositions, spacing, size, age, soil volume requirements of city trees as well as the adoptive capabilities of trees in modern cities.

#### 1.4.1 Problem every design :

- o Color form in urban landscape humen raw material.
- o Memorable quality can be attributed as much to the organised patterns of tree for urban landscape.
- o Example of tree used in sympathy with the geometry of the city they create pattern that are woven into the fabric of the city. Like well designed building.
- o Street square and parks are often linked together by an intricate ceiling of tree branches create with tree, stone, water. Nature of the material.
- o Enjoy with urban landscape interpreted the experience for our own urban centres.
- o Individual specimens that do not form a roof of foliage and branches.
- o Parkway is experienced with tree.
- o Aerial views show how our cities have neglected a prime opportunity for improving urban life with tree.

- o Central districts are not only functional and symbolic centre of our metropolitan area but they are also the location of most intensive human activity our civilization mirrored in the way we treat these central public open spaces.
- o Importance gesture toward preserving the water front with a pedestrian Promenade at the water edge.

#### 1.4.2 Cities and Nature :

- o Nature - The potential of tree in shaping and humanizing cities remains an enperceived amelioration for a civilization.
- o The oppurtunity to use trees as part of the city has been impeded by confusing the intrinsic characteristics of the forest and the city.
- o The proper use of trees in cities should reinforce the structural of the city according to desciplines of urban design not plant ecology.
- o Unity, continuity and scale have more consequence than natural history in wearing together the diverse threads of the urban fabric.
- o Understanding of nature by creating an inter pretation of our elusive relationship with the organic world.

#### 1.4.3 Park

- o As a collecting ground for activities rather than as a place to experience the nature of the city.

#### 1.4.4 Streets

- o The strong pattern of building walls established by the street system cannot be visually charged in an effective way with tree, especially where the building taller than the trees. Reinforcement of the grid iron pattern with straight rows of trees on both sides of the streets usually achieve greater aesthetic integrity and improve the scale and continuity of pedestrian zone.

#### 1.4.5 Open Space

- o Other open space in the city - chiefly square plaza, institutional grounds. Public building sites roof top, water-fronts and parking lots should be planted with large deciduous trees as a matter of biological necessity often vacant lots traffic island and other residual spaces present latent opportunity to increase the span of the city forest.

#### 1.4.6 Physical Design Principle :

- (a) Coherence
- (b) Organisation
- (c) Geometric pattern

##### (a) Coherence :

- o Spatial definition using trees becomes more coherent with repetition and continuity. This important urban design principle coherence has been degraded by establishing an ordered continuity of trunk spacing and branch texture. Trees are the most prominent design element capable of linking together an entire.

##### (b) Organisation :

- o Large areas of land relatively undisturbed by human intervention are referred to as wild or uncultivated nature. In this kind of landscape trees interact with the organic surrounding according to certain ecology principles that tend toward stability and continuity, where human activities have interrupted natural order, we have established on compromise with nature composition horizontal spacing vertical layering and adaptive geometry of the individual plant. Far from being a random planting of different tree types. The forest is a profoundly ordered system of plants.