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Urban Resilience and Adaptation for India and Mongolia

Curricula, capacity, ICT and stakeholder collaboration to support green &
blue infrastructure and nature-based solution

Report on:
Lecture Material
(Urban Context Studio)



Partner number: P12
Nirma University, Gujarat, India

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Course Name: Urban Context Studio

Number of credits: 8 ECTS

Period: Fall Semester

Coordinating institution	Nirma University
Lecturer	Prof. Jaydeep Bhagat, Prof Jitendra Meghani and Prof. Dhaval Chauhan
Level	Bachelors
Course duration	15 Weeks

Overall introduction (main concept and understanding)

The studio has been formulated to explore the interface between architecture and urban design. Urban processes have been introduced through a study of a precinct that has a variety of features (Natural and man-made) & aspects of urbanity to arrive at concerns, issues and most importantly vision and ideas. These aspects would be analyzed, adapted and adopted to integrate the building into its context. The understanding of urban context would then be further demonstrated through form and architectural language.

'Urban context studio' in compliance with the course objective further aims at incorporating a set of values that not only refers to immediate but the wider context into the design of building or buildings. Thus, an attempt here would be to deal with architectural projects that respond to urban conditions, to arrive at an appropriate design program, scale and language.

Keywords (5-8 words)

Urban context, design program, vision, urban insert, urban components

Target audience

Bachelors in Architecture

Prerequisite

None

Objective



The objectives set for the studio course are –

- To establish a relationship of the proposed project in the urban context
- To analyze character, abstraction and design development
- To prepare a master plan and conceptual architectural design

"Architecture is a small piece of human equation, but for those of us who practice it, we believe in its potential to make a difference, to enlighten and to enrich the human experience, to penetrate the barriers of misunderstanding and provide a beautiful context for life's drama." - Frank Gehry (Pritzker Prize Ceremony Speech, 1989)

Architecture that belongs to the city

Urban context studio I Semester VIII B.Arch. I Nirma University

Presented as part of Urban context studio on Srinagar, India

Shefali Borikar Shurpali (M.arch. Urban design)
Visiting faculty, Nirma University, Ahmedabad

What is the relation between architecture and urban design ?

Why it is necessary and relevant to study Urban context in architecture ?

How architecture can be informed by urban conditions?

Does it need to be?

Can architecture contribute in shaping communities ?

How can physical design be instrumental in creating relationships between people and places?

Let's validate !!

What is the relation between architecture and urban design?

The true beauty of a place is less about one building, and more about how a coalition of carefully located buildings craft space and work together to produce great places for humans.



Architecture of the city: a representation of civilization



Jodhpur



Ahmedabad



Varanasi

Architecture of the city: a representation of society

shaped by the climate of a particular location, what materials were readily available, as well as the values of the society building them



Prague, Czech republic



Venice, Italy



Zurich, Switzerland

Why it is necessary and relevant to study Urban design in architecture ?

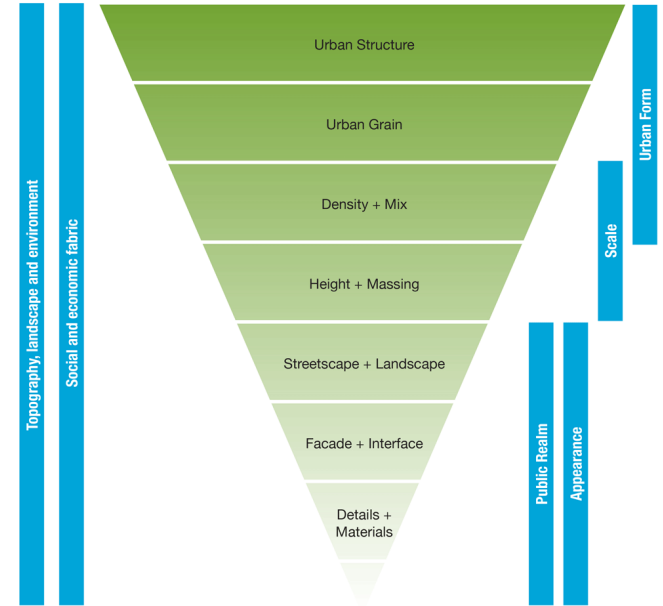
- Buildings as isolated objects – not as part of larger fabric – multiple
- Cosmetic treatment of spaces – skin deep approach
- Ill shaped and ill-planned spaces for public use
- destinations and no experiential quality
- Absence of coherence and order
- Growth patterns based on two dimensional land-use plans
- No consideration for 3D relationships between buildings and spaces & without a real understanding of human behavior
- Almost no consideration of shaping and linking urban spaces in today's cities

Urban design ?

Urban design operates at many scales, from the macro scale of the urban structure (planning, zoning, transport and infrastructure networks) to the micro scale of street furniture and lighting with the goal of making urban environments that are equitable, beautiful, performative, and sustainable

Urban designers connect the fields of architecture, landscape architecture and urban planning to better organize physical space and community environments.

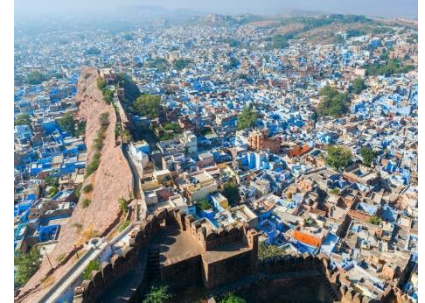
This diagram shows the approximate hierarchical relationship between the elements of urban design



Elements of urban form macro to micro

Urban form

Urban form is the physical characteristics that make up built-up areas, including the shape, size, density and configuration of settlements (built environment of a city).



Urban form exerts a powerful influence on how people interact, consume and create value within cities!

Urban form and natural context

In each initial intention of human settlement, in different historical periods, the land relief has its own configuration as well as a geometry that influences the location and the form of that settlement.

Land relief



water



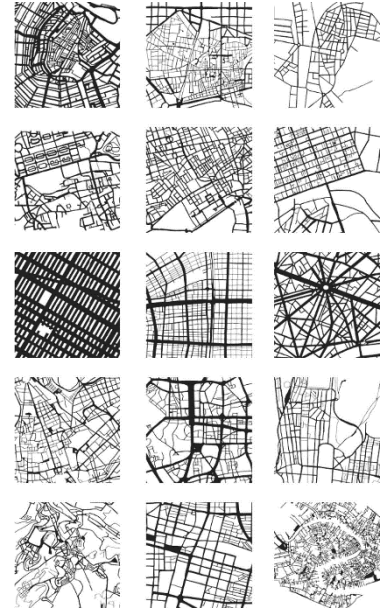
Urban form and the street system

Streets are, in broad terms, the public and democratic space of the city, the place where we all meet, with all our differences, and where we all interact in social terms.

The livability of the streets is probably the most relevant indicator of the presence of a strong civil society (Hillier 2009).



Rue Wellington, Montreal



Urban form and the plot system

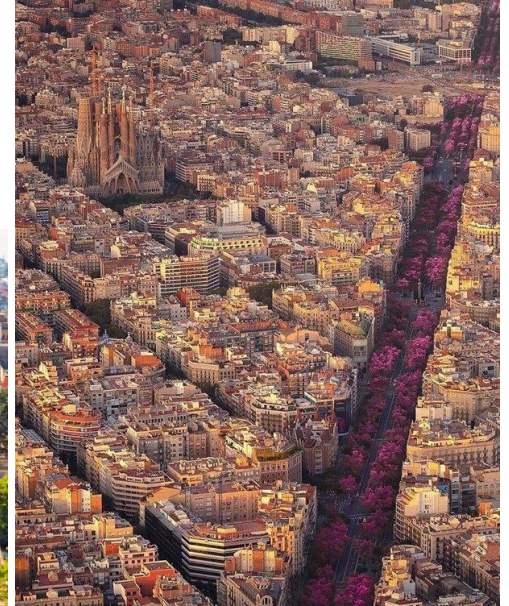
The plots system of a city is one of the most important elements of urban form, separating the public domain and the private domain.



Urban form and the building system

One of the most important elements of urban form and, perhaps, the most visible of these elements.

Contextual buildings perform two roles. First, they provide the frame for the focal buildings. Secondly, they define and contain urban space. It is the contextual buildings that should form the squares and define the streets.



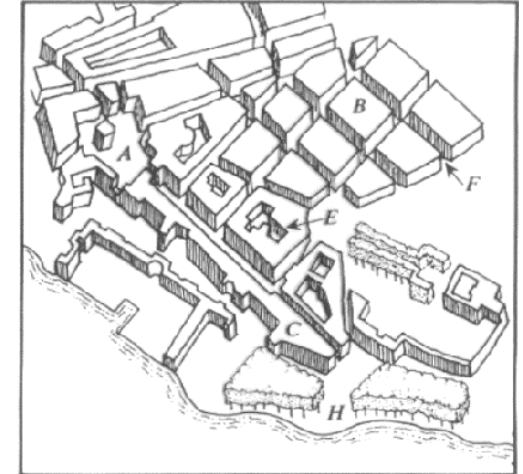
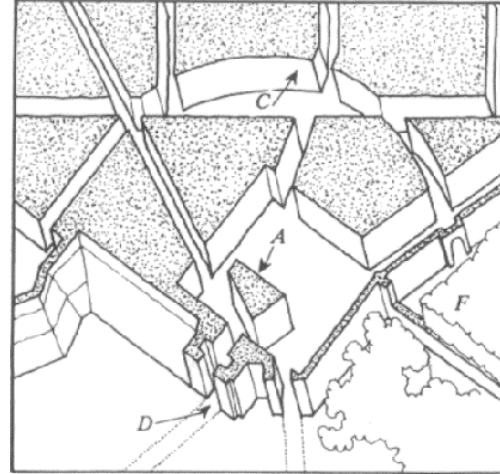
Urban form ingredients

Urban solid types include –

- A. Public monuments or dominant institutional building
- B. The field of urban blocks
- C. Directional or edge defining building

Urban void / open space types include –

- D. Entry foyers
- E. Inner block voids
- F. The network of streets and squares
- G. Parks and gardens
- H. Linear open systems

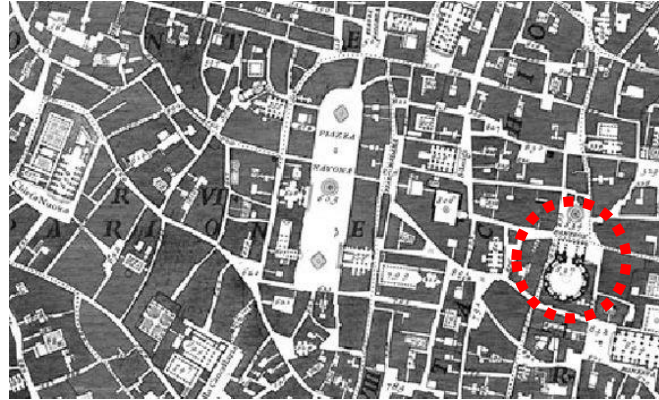


Urban solid types

A. Public monuments or dominant institutional building

A type of urban solid found in all cities is the public monument or institution.

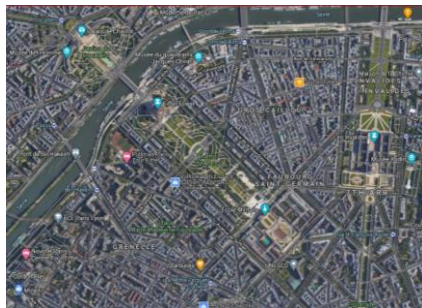
Public monuments or institution serve as focal points or centerpieces in the city.



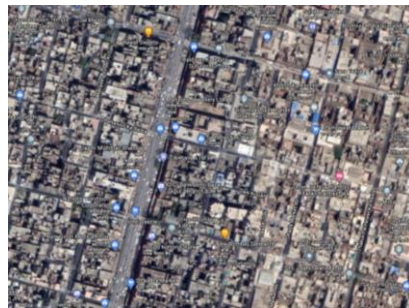
The Pantheon, Rome

Urban solid types

B. Predominant field of urban blocks



Paris



Jaipur



Urban solid types

C. Directional or edge defining buildings



Horniman circle, Mumbai



Urban void / open space types

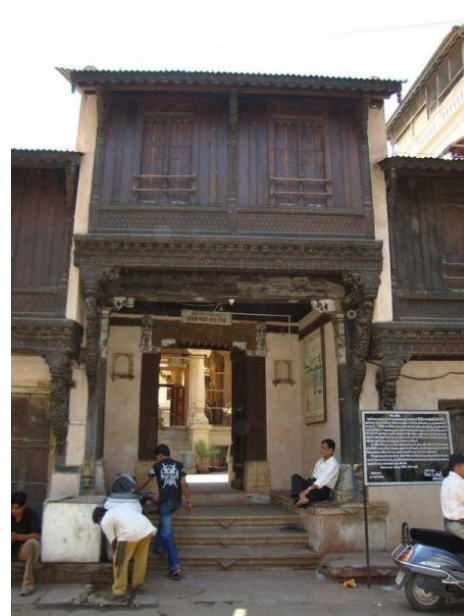
D. Entry foyers – act as passageways between private and public space

In scale it is intimate, a place where one can be both - public and private



Urban void / open space types

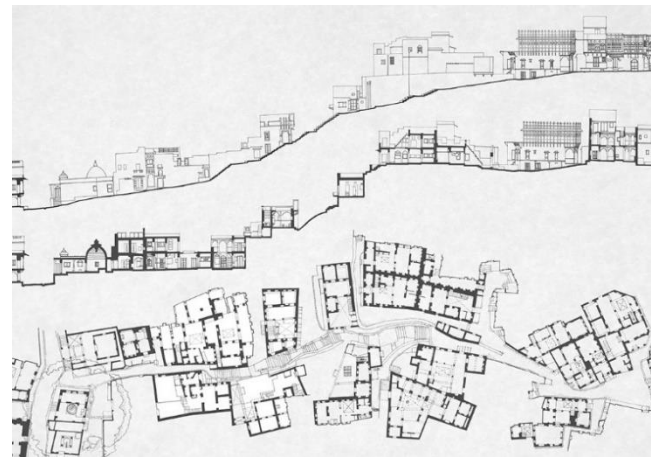
E. Inner block voids



Courtyards of pols of Ahmedabad

Urban void / open space types

F. The network of streets and squares



Streets of Jodhpur

Urban void / open space types

G. Parks and gardens

Olmsted believed that the common green space must always be equally accessible to all citizens, and was to be defended against private encroachment.



New York city's central park



Urban void / open space types

H. Linear open systems



Necklace road Mumbai



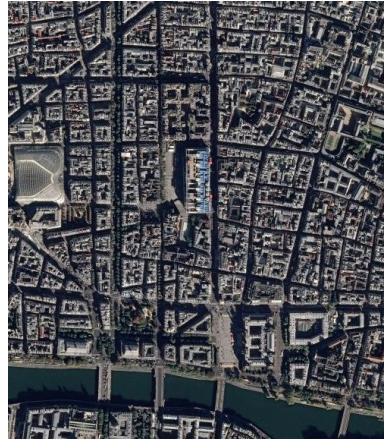
London

Let's validate !!

Through some architectural interventions in an urban context that have been dealt as an opportunity to create relationships between people and places

Centre Georges Pompidou, The cultural centre in Paris, France

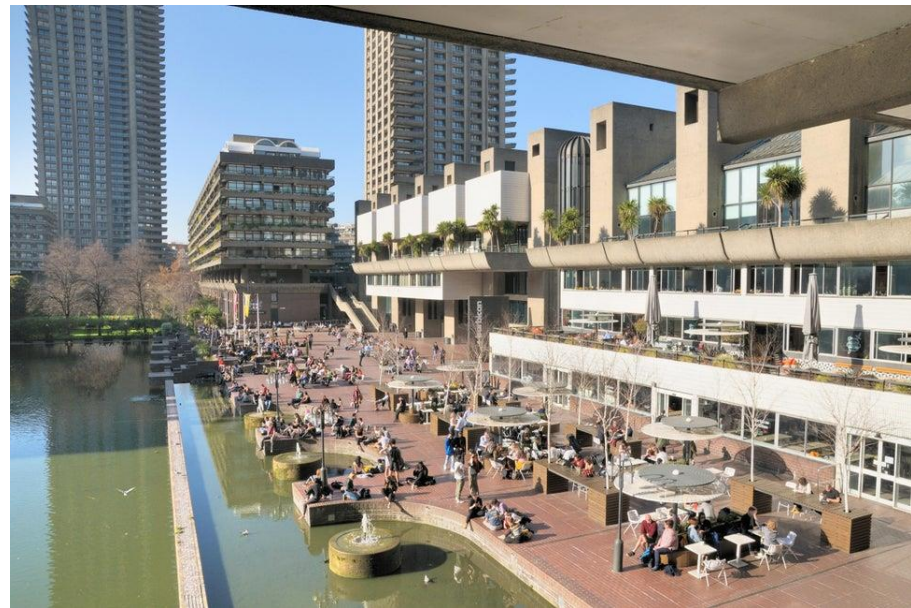
Renzo Piano + Richard Rogers, 1977



Integrated high-tech architecture and urbanism as a movement and spectacle for the city to experience everyday

Barbican Estate

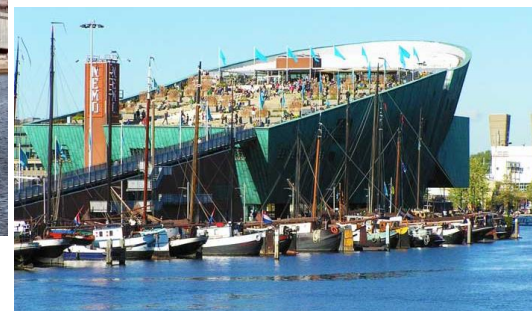
Chamberlin, Powell and Bon,



A mixed use scheme, with its arts center and school enlivening the area throughout the day and evening and its range of different homes creating a community that is truly mixed.

NEMO Science Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Renzo Piano, 1997



a public museum, a singular viewpoint into the city, an urban landmark and an incredible addition to the city's exclusive skyline

Salt lake city centre, Kolkata, India

Charles Correa, 2004



A sociable connection between the mall as a shopping space, and the city in which it stands

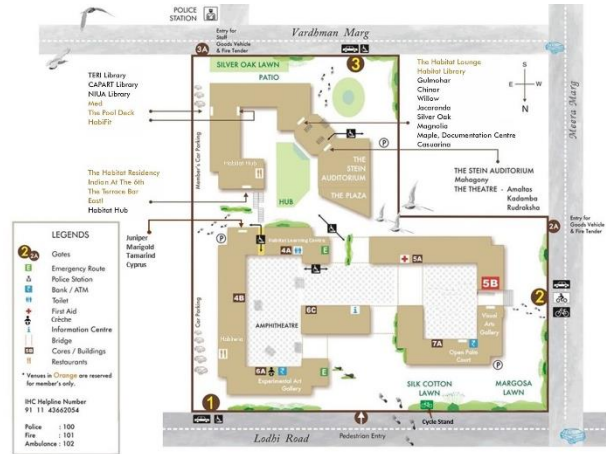
Markthal Rotterdam, The Netherlands
MVRDV, 2014



The design vision of MVRDV describes Markthal as urbanism, the function mix is an integrated design, a 24 hour building which is a public and lasting addition to the city of Rotterdam.

India Habitat Center, New Delhi, India

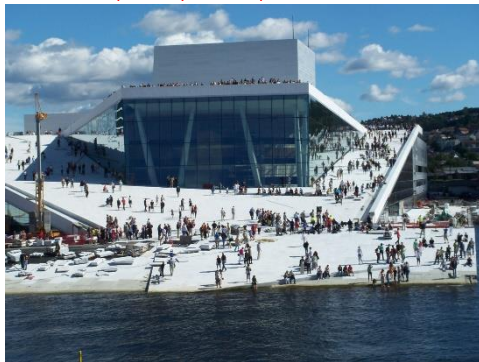
Joseph Allen Stein, 2014



The India Habitat Centre is one of India's most comprehensive convention centers that is aimed at bringing individuals and institutions working in diverse habitat and environment related areas together.

Few more....

This is the threshold where the public meet the art.
The concept of togetherness, joint ownership, easy and open access for all.



Opera House, Oslo, Norway
Snøhetta

Interface architecture - a lofty square set between sea and sky



Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations
Rudy Ricciotti

Public space is prolonged by means of a series of ramps.



Paris Philharmonic Hall in the Parc de la Villette
Jean Nouvel's

raised from the ground in order to free public space



São Paulo Museum of Art
Lina Bo Bardi

Let's become 'part' of our cities (whole)

- *Public space creation – accessible open spaces*
- *Active frontages – street friendly edge*
- *Coherence*
- *Induce Publicness – mix activities*
- *Porosity – accessibility*
- *Place making and so on.....*

Thank you !

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