Rediscovering Tangue Creek through Neo-Urban Stream Development

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Abstract

Natural streams or river tributaries are casualties of urban sprawl. In a setting of infrastructure after infrastructure, these natural waterways have been mistreated from the planning stage until after completion of the project. Since these channels are relatively small in scale compared to other water bodies, it is common for them to be neglected or to be considered of small value. The Neo-Urban Stream is conceptualized from using the combining form “neo”, from its Greek root néos (Neo, n.d.), which means “new” to the idea of the urban stream. The urban stream, on the other hand, pertains to the existing river tributaries that are present in the urban setting. (Bimbao, 2013) The study takes on Tangue Creek, a stream in Quezon City that has lost more than half of its natural flow in favor to infrastructure. From the start of the tributary between the Banko Central ng Pilipinas (BSP) parking site and the National Telecommunications Commission site (along BIR road) to the Delta Building (West Avenue corner Quezon Avenue), the stream faces problems such as encroachment and rerouting. It aims to retrace this stream and to find how its remaining natural form can still be valued as the stream not only defines one of the boundaries of Heroes Hill Subdivision in Quezon City but also an important waterway to prevent flooding in the city.

Keywords: Tangue Creek, Neo-urban Stream, Urban Stream, Urban Waterways