

Case-study Proposal of Sustainable Design Methods through Associating the Household and Community Lifestyles in Local Environment

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Abstract

A true sustainable architecture should reflect the specific area, climate, governance, and the lifestyle, and to propose a design in order to represent the community and evolve within. Design proposals must also be comprehensive and reflect the best for the future of the target people. In order to fully understand the characteristic of the area, this study focuses on the lifestyles (such as transportation methods, water usage, living characteristics, etc.) of both the single household level and the area's community level. Looking through both micro and macro scale of sustainable design processes, the research will become more comprehensive. The focus area of this research proposal is Hanoi, Vietnam, and the research proposes sustainable design method using the association of architectural elements with urban design elements. The key is to understand the connection of the micro and macro scale lifestyle elements, and translate them into specific design properties. From March 26th to April 7th, while going on a field work to Hanoi, I surveyed the lifestyles of residents in the recent architectural and community developments. From the research, Hanoi's people uniquely use motorcycles for commuting, intentionally place many green potteries, love to walk along the pedestrian paths of Hoan Kiem Lake, constant change in the use of public spaces such as streets, and creativity in use of limited shared space all contribute to points that must be taken into account for sustainable designs. The study will turn these lifestyle indications into a design suggestion, and throughout the year, develop the design into sustainable design proposals. Having repeated feedbacks from cooperating Japanese and Vietnamese Developer companies, this research uses PDCA (plan-do-check-act) cycle as a main strategy of design development. The primary goal of this design method proposal is to create a buildable sustainable design method specific to Hanoi, Vietnam, and hope to the design a constructible proposal for the future.

Keywords: sustainable design, architecture, community, suburban, design feedback