



# Transforming Chinese Cities

*Dr. Qu Lei*  
*Dr. Ir. Gregory Bracken*



# Urban and regional development in China

## The growth of big cities and (10) large agglomerations

1/10 Land

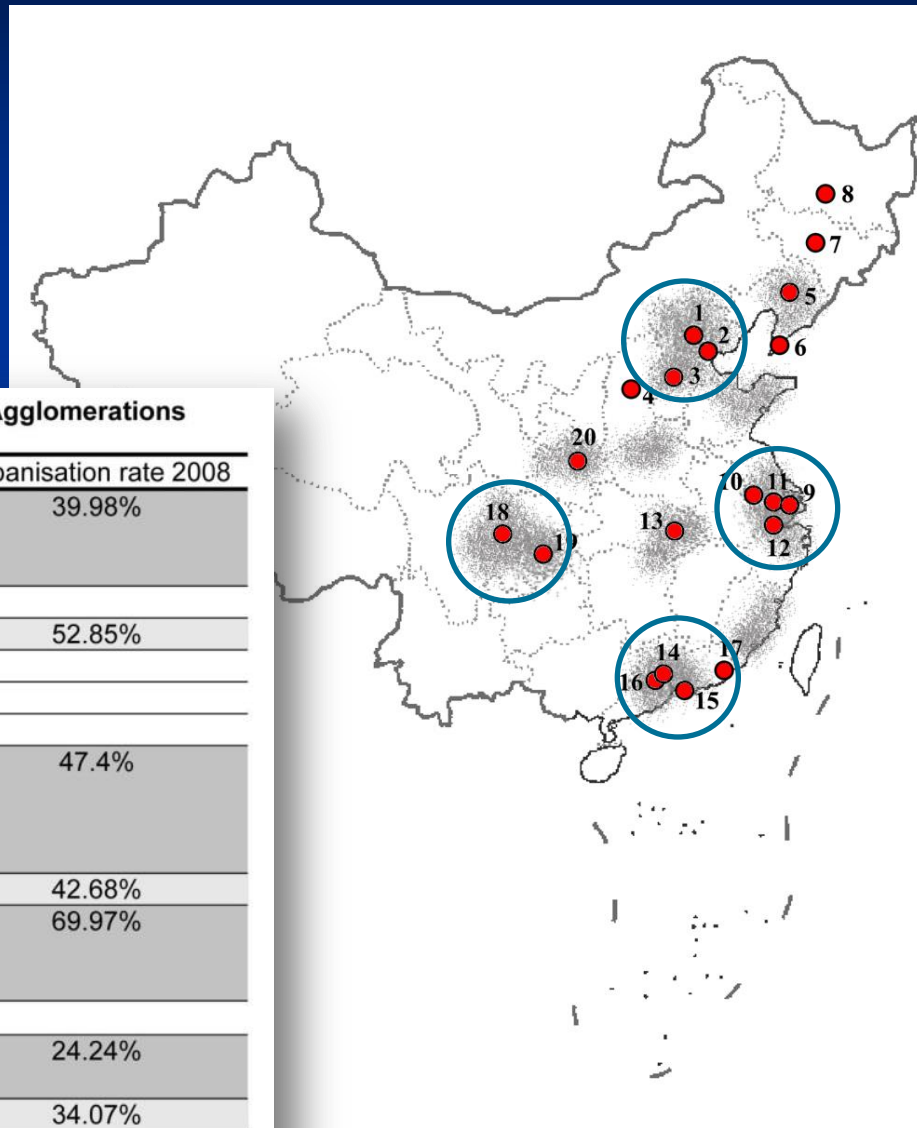
1/3 population

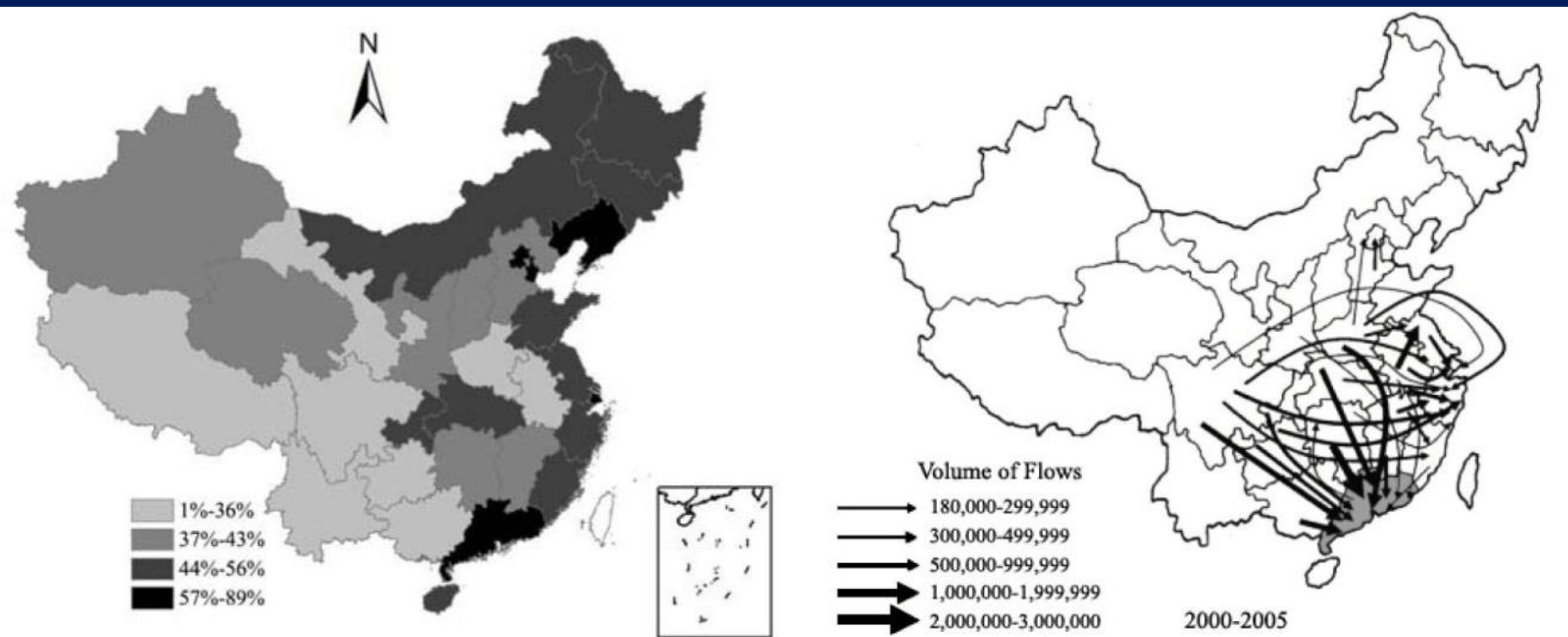
1/2 GDP

Urbanisation Rate of 20 Large/Fast Growing Cities and the Correlated Agglomerations

	Cities	Urbanisation rate 2008	Agglomerations	Urbanisation rate 2008
1	Beijing	77.31%	Jing-jin-ji	39.98%
2	Tianjin	60.53%		
3	Shijiazhuang	41.21%		
4	Taiyuan	82.00%	Mid-Liaoning	52.85%
5	Shenyang	64.54%		
6	Dalian	59.62%		
7	Changchun	44.10%		
8	Harbin	48.18%	Yangtze River Delta	47.4%
9	Shanghai	85.71%		
10	Nanjing	82.83%		
11	Wuxi	70.04%		
12	Hangzhou	50.29%	Wuhan '1+8'	42.68%
13	Wuhan	99.31%		
14	Guangzhou	89.80%		
15	Shenzhen	100%	Pearl River Delta	69.97%
16	Foshan	100%		
17	Shantou	99.10%		
18	Chengdu	54.41%	Chuan-Yu	24.24%
19	Chongqing	27.86%		
20	Xi'an	47.11%	Guanzhong	34.07%

Source: Data from 'Report on China's Urbanisation Rate in 2008', by China International Urbanisation Development Strategy Research Committee (CIUDSRC), 2010





**Urbanisation Level in China (2005) and the Inter-provincial Flows of Migrants towards Guangdong Province (2000- 2005)**

*Source: Gu, 2010; Chan, 2008*





### The Population Growth of Cities in GPRD (in 1990, 2000 and 2010)

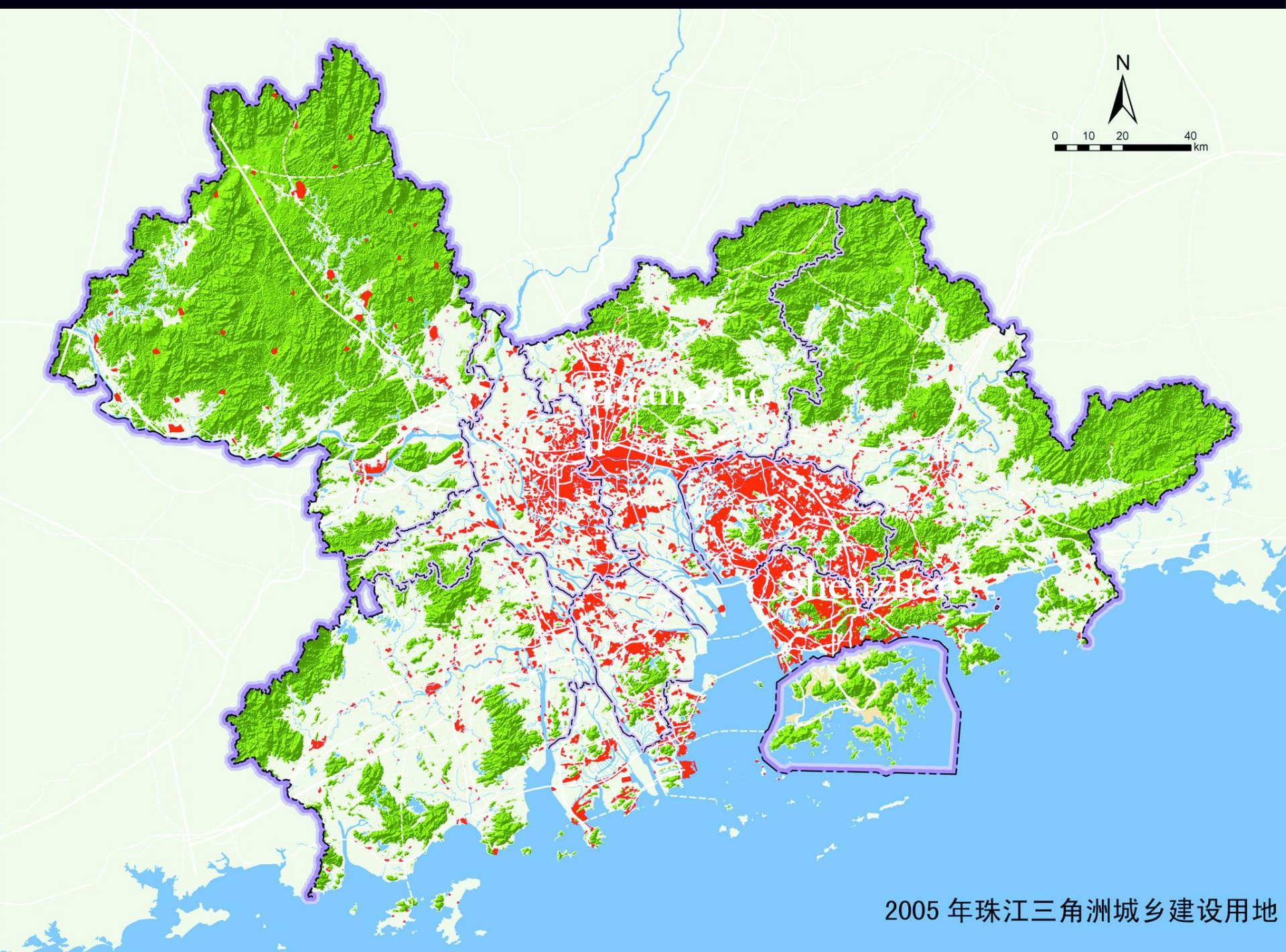
Data of 1990: registered population; data of 2000 and 2010: total population

Source: Drawing by authors, data from Statistical Yearbook of the cities involved









2005 年珠江三角洲城乡建设用地





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# Transforming Chinese Cities

Urbanization in China is an on-going process that leads to formation and transformation of city regions with large numbers of migrants.

What are effective planning and design strategies that could ultimately move Chinese cities towards more inclusive and liveable scenarios?

Understanding the correlations between socio-economic conditions, urban form, and governance can help address these challenges.

Chinese cities are experiencing a paradigm shift in urban development by now focusing more on regeneration of existing built-up areas than the construction of new towns/districts.

Urban regeneration is increasingly important in reshaping spatial structures at the city-regional level (and urban form at the neighbourhood level).

Opportunities for improving liveability and urban vitality are needed to make better places for people to live and work in cities.

In looking at current realities, two cities in the Pearl River Delta region will be used as case studies: Guangzhou and Shenzhen.

# Learning Goals

*At the end of the graduation year, you will be able to do the following:*

Explain clearly the transformation processes of Chinese cities from a self-defined perspective, addressing both the social and physical dimensions of related processes.

Map the social and spatial transformation processes in Chinese cities with effective analytical tools and correlated narratives.

Envision desirable and possible futures for sustainable redevelopment in Chinese cities.

Apply socio-spatial design principles to Chinese cities in response to certain research themes.

Reflect on the on-going urban planning and design process in China in relation to the issue of these themes.

## ***Note***

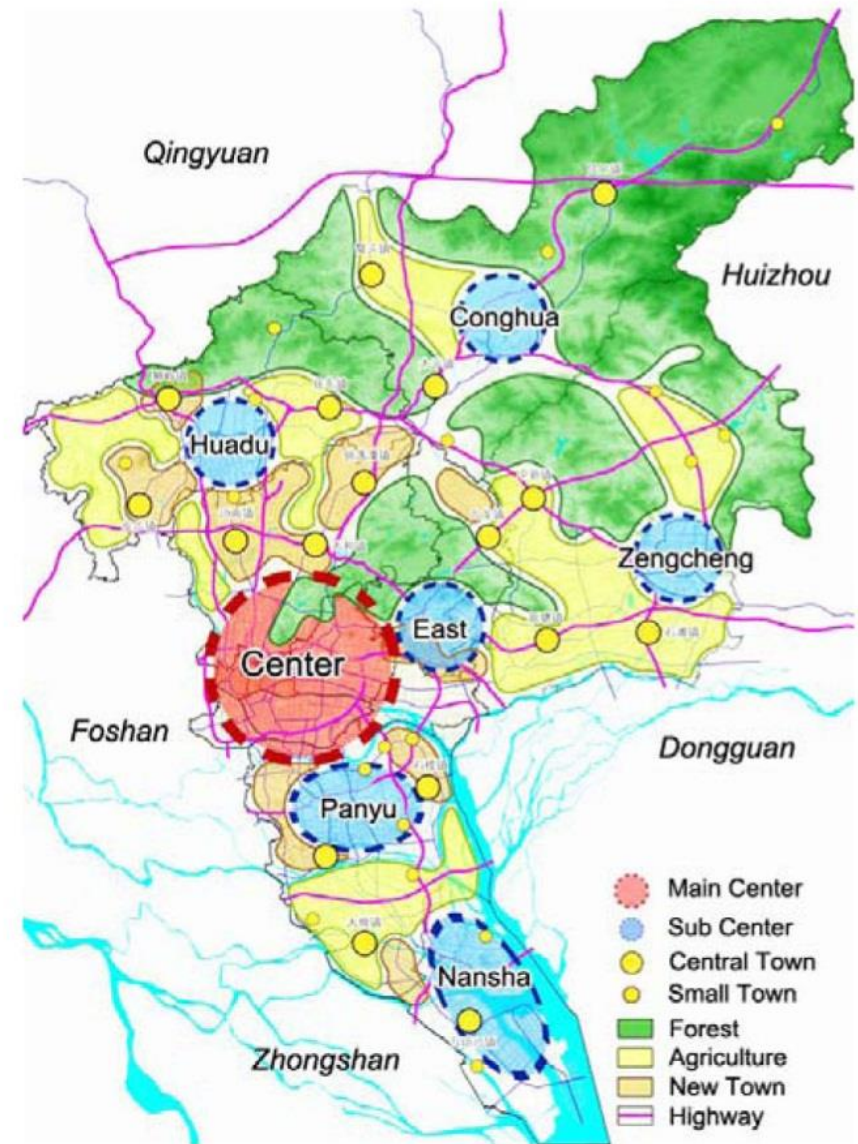
This studio is part of an ongoing collaboration between TU Delft and the South China University of Technology (SCUT), Guangzhou.

# Guangzhou



The old city of Guangzhou

Source: Master thesis of Xuwei He, 2015



Spatial Structure Plan of Guangzhou (2020)

Source: Overall Development Strategy of Guangzhou 2020, Guangzhou Planning Bureau

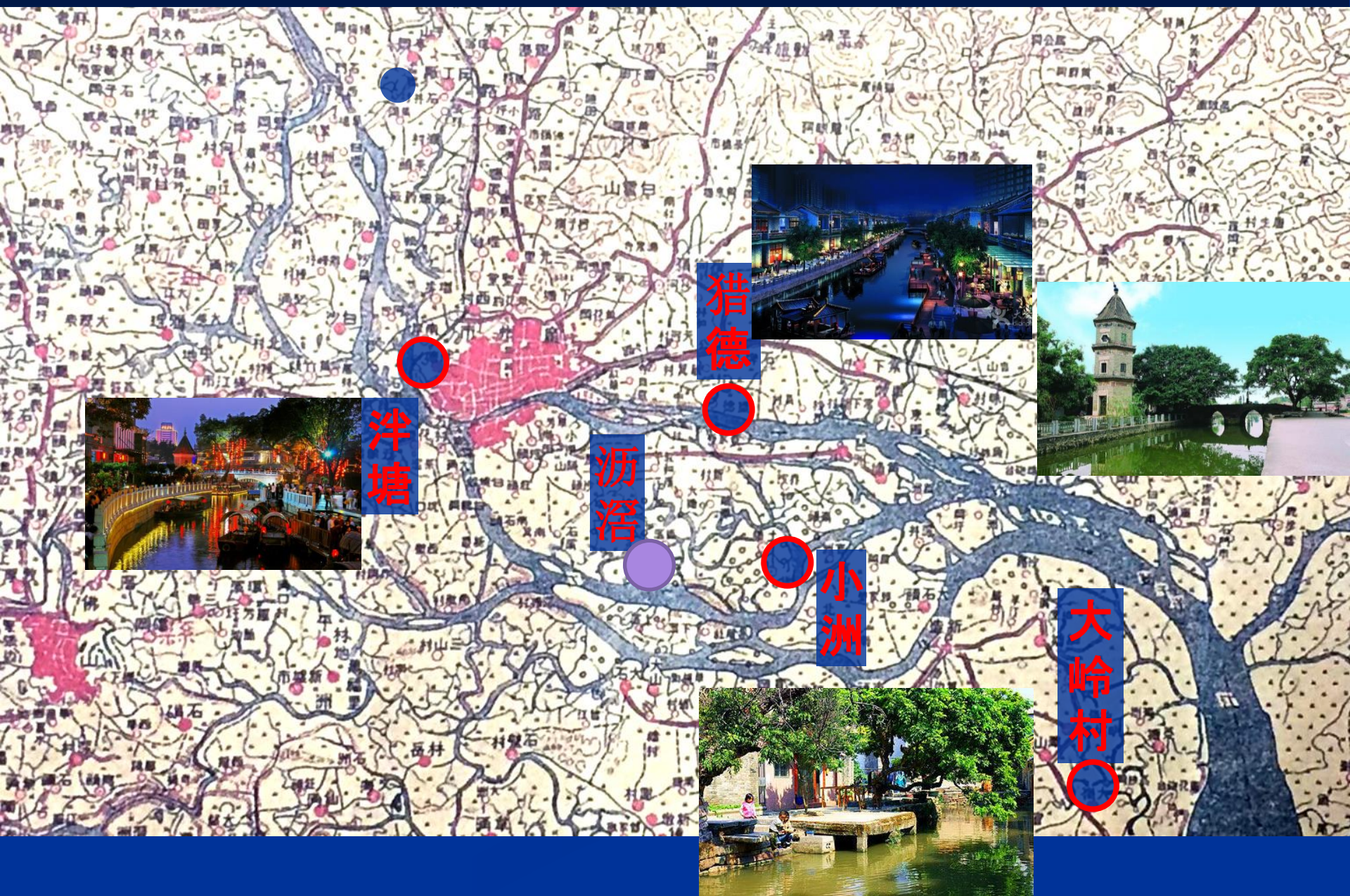




Photo © [motivettravel.com.au](http://motivettravel.com.au)



# Study case: Lijiao village 沥滘村











Total area: 173ha



圖衛合德  
堂圖記

船塢 陸生植物  
水生植物 竹林

彩門 稻田

人行橋 大橋

廟坛 示祠堂

居住区 渡船

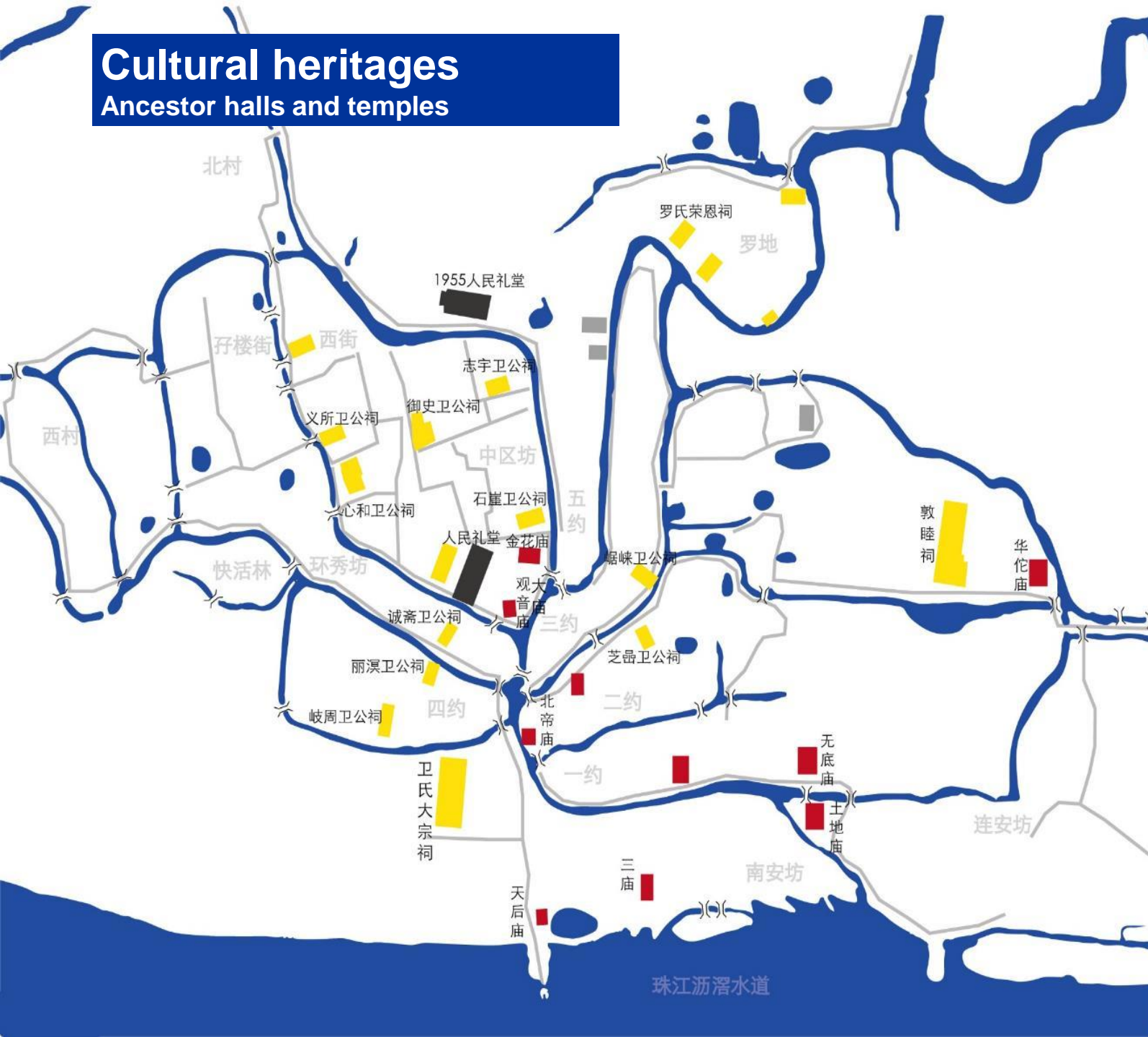


珠江源活水道



# Cultural heritages

## Ancestor halls and temples



- 庙宇
- 祠堂
- 人民礼堂





1929



1955



2014





Alternative development models towards a truly green-blue city with economic vitality and socio-cultural continuity?







## Field study in December

### Meeting People

migrants, planners, designers, and scholars

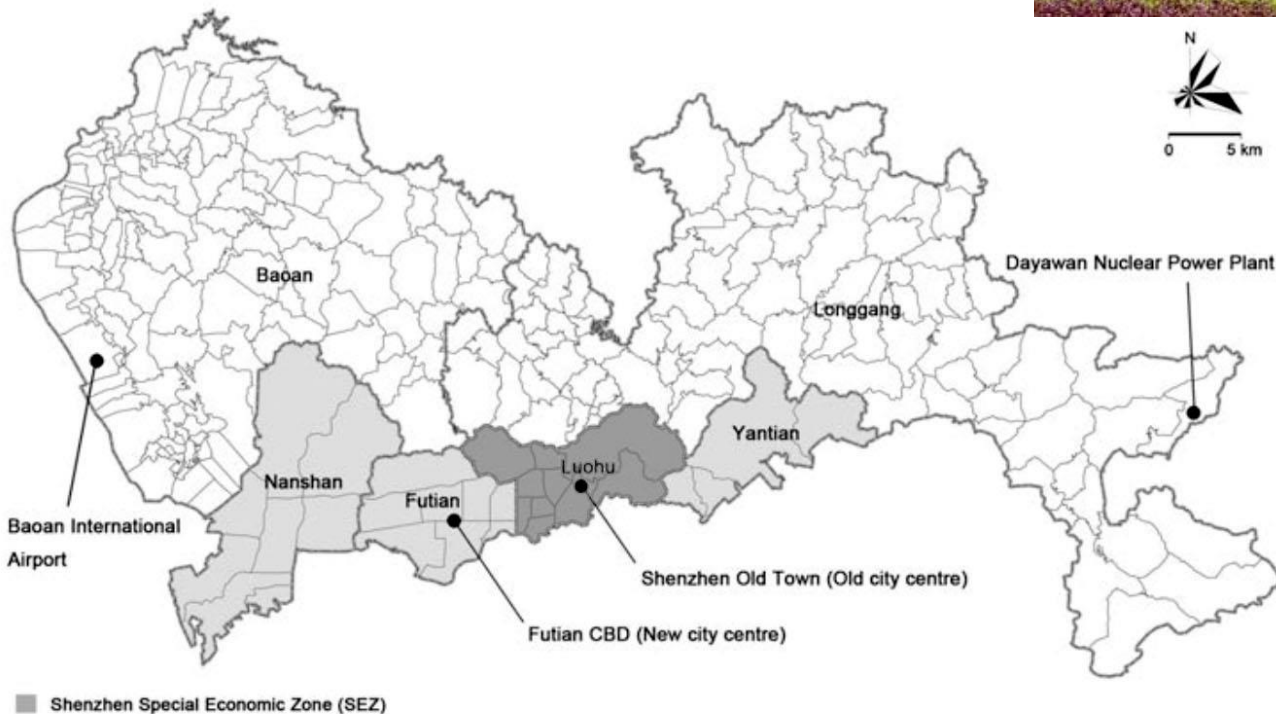
### Walking in the city

urban villages, historical areas and waterfront areas  
(photo: 'Shenzhen Scenarios' group 2014)



# Shenzhen in 1980s

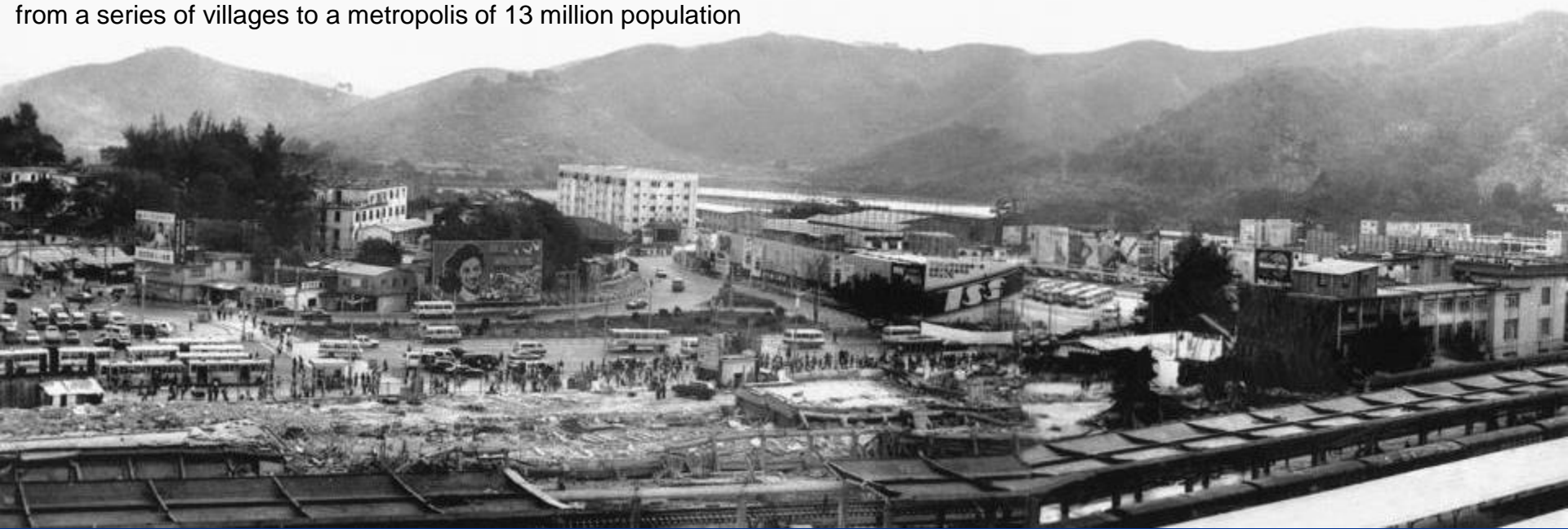
- planning for a Special Economic Zone (SEZ)
- planning for a city at the same time
- starting with infrastructure





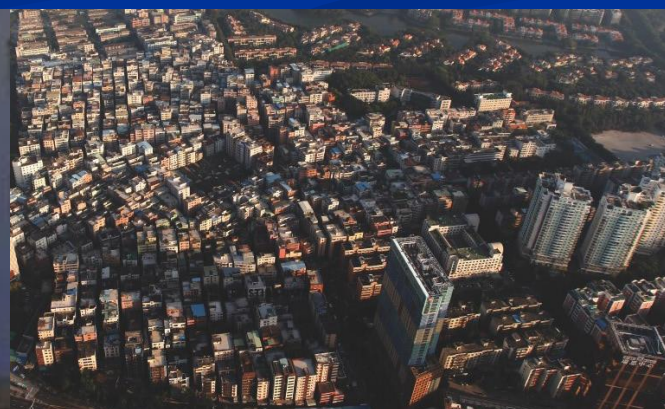
# **Shenzhen speed:** 30 years of development, a miracle of planning

from a series of villages to a metropolis of 13 million population

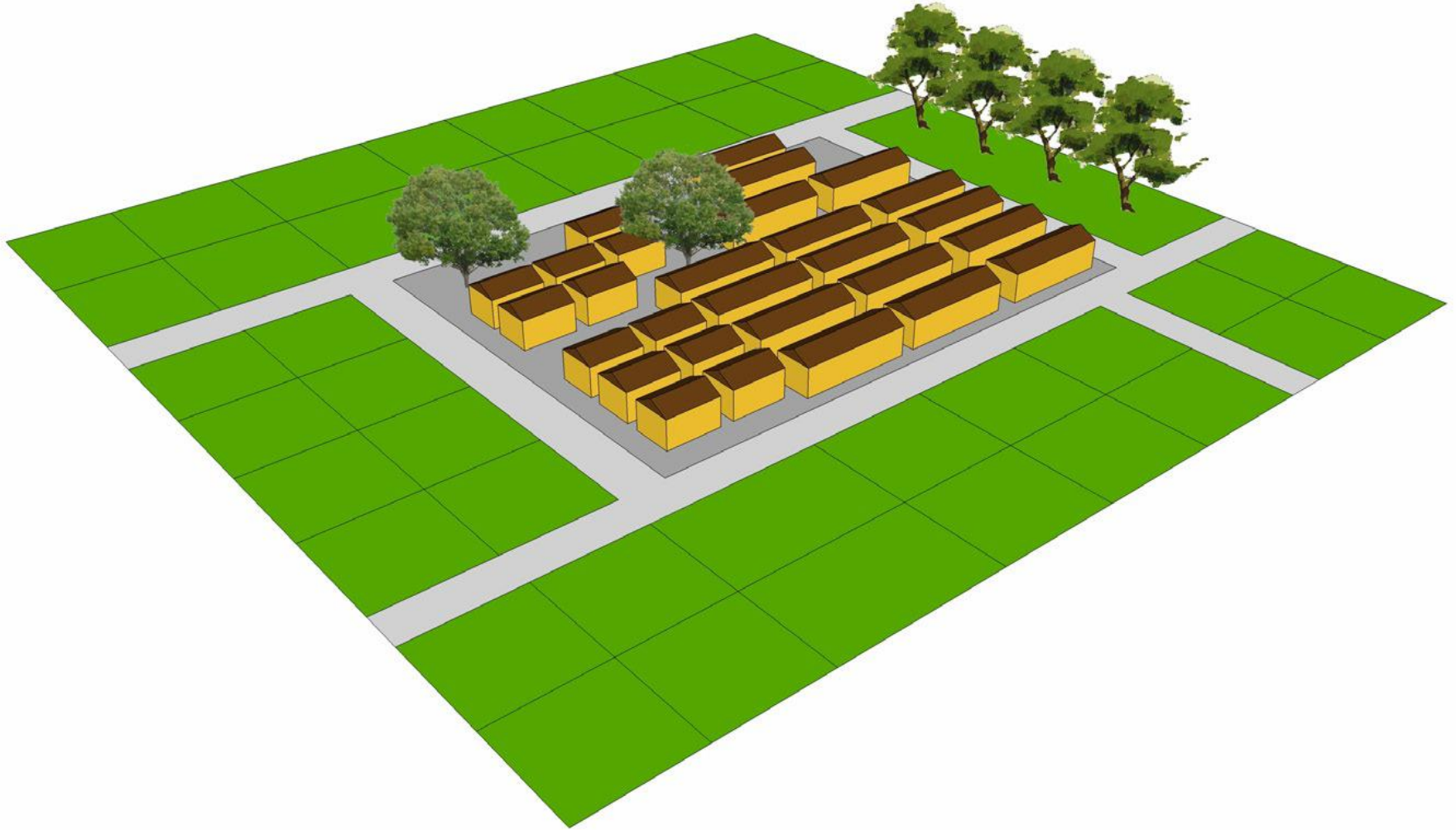


*Photos from Weibo China*





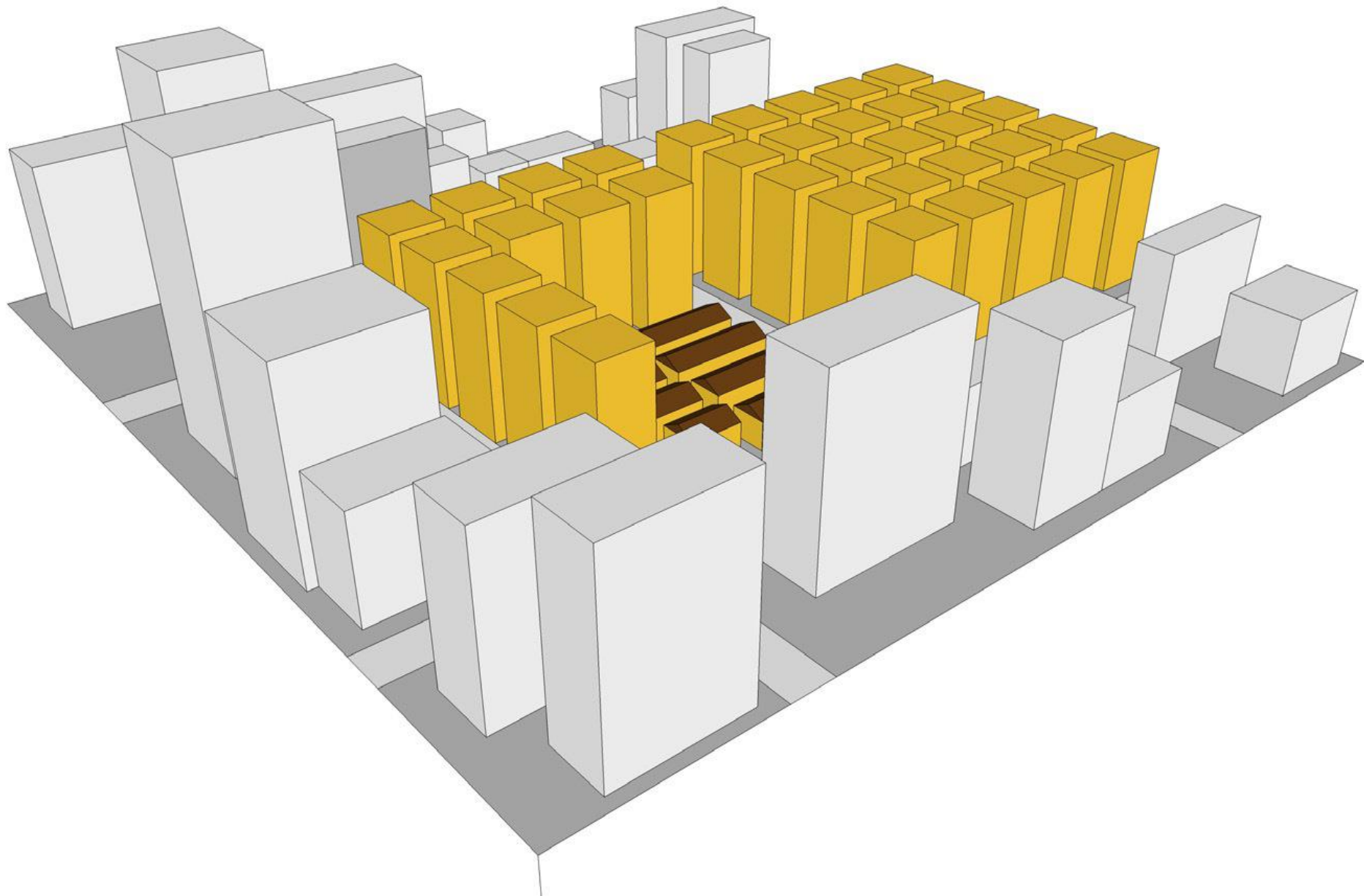




The formation process of urban villages in Shenzhen and the  
image of Hubei village.

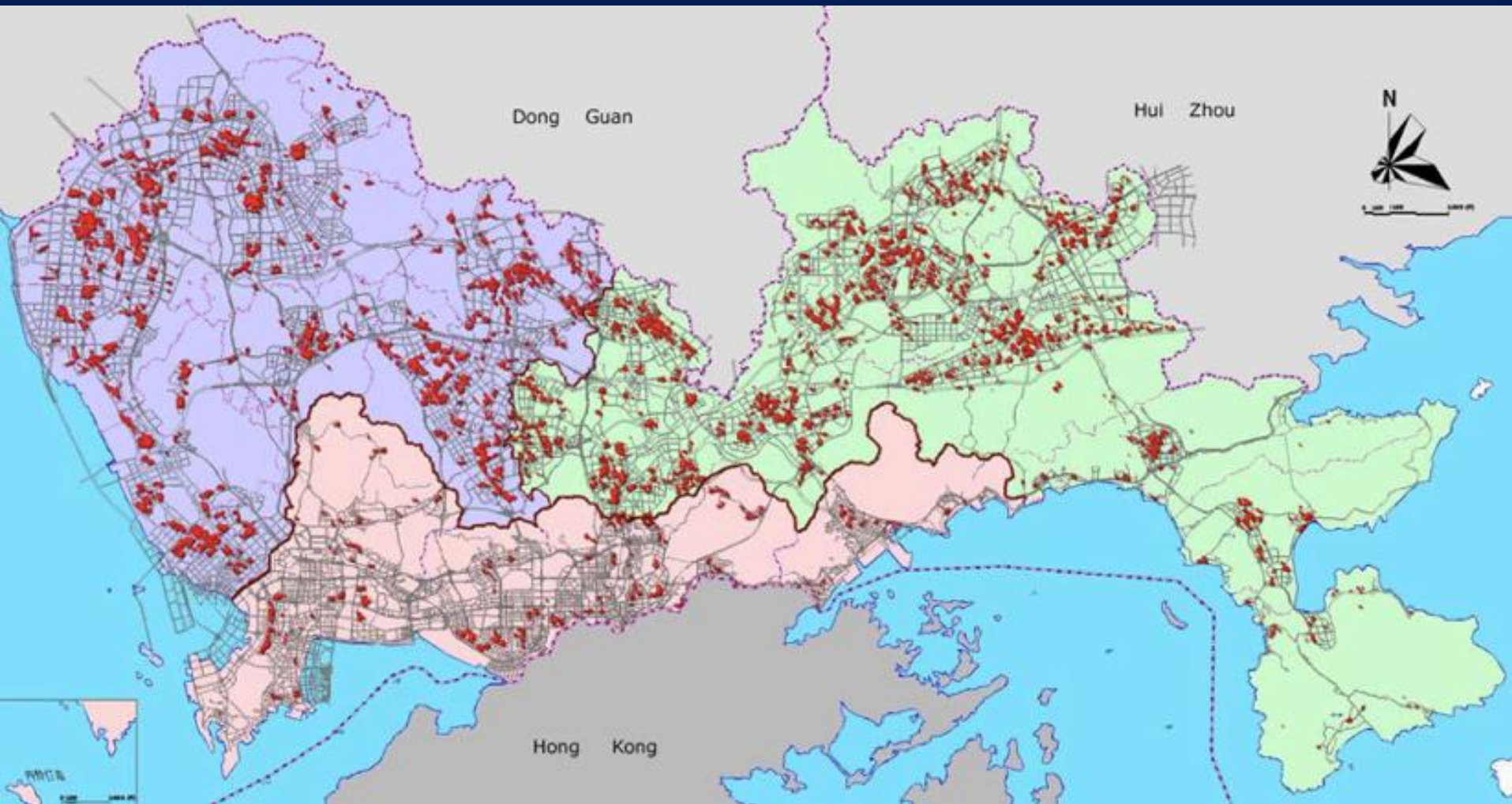
Source: drawings from Zhang, F., 2013: P.24, P.25





The formation process of urban villages in Shenzhen  
Source: drawings from Zhang, F., 2013: P.24, P.25





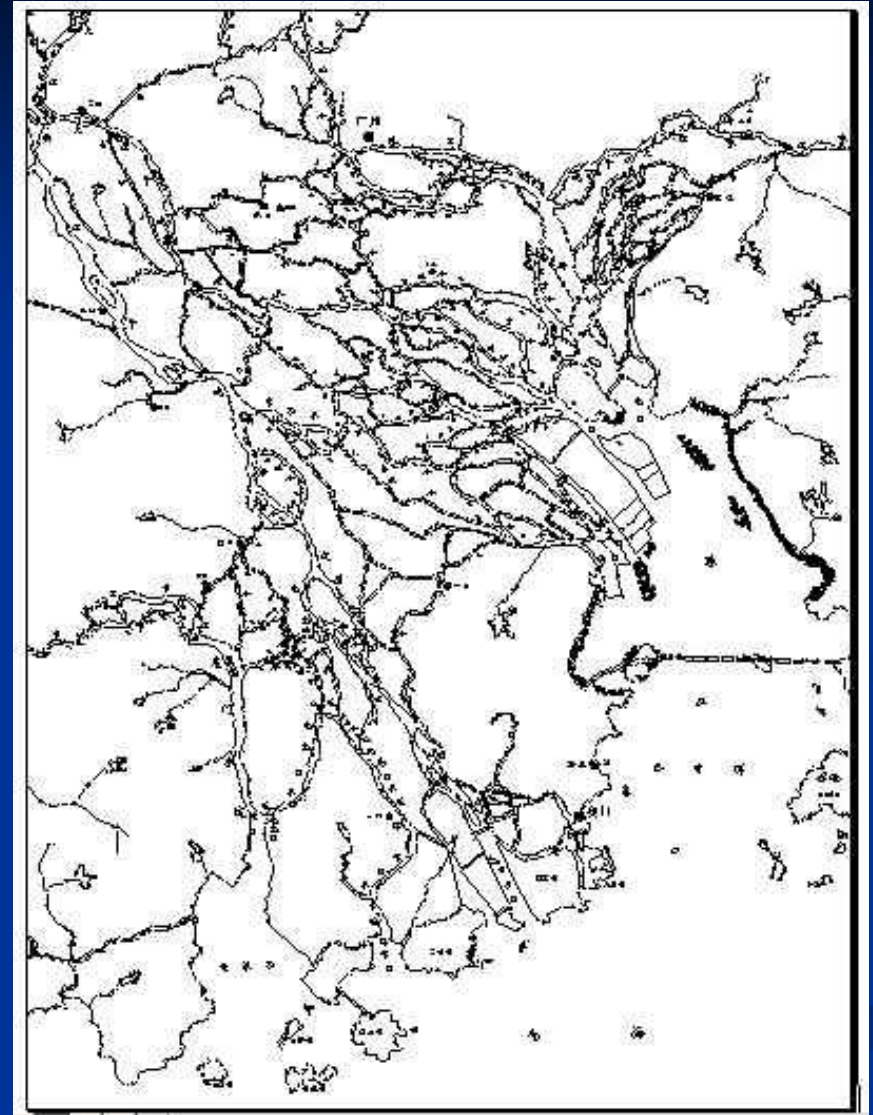
Locations of urban villages in Shenzhen, most of which are concentrated in peripheral districts  
(Source: Urban Planning & Design Institute of Shenzhen)



# Rural industrialization and its impacts on the natural environment

Water system

Mangroves



# Shenzhen- from the “world factory” to an “international city”





# Trends Large urban projects

1 Qianhai Water City



2 Universiade Sports Center



3 Creative gateway Urban regeneration of Sungang and Qingshuihe areas



4 Masterplan for the Honghe Project



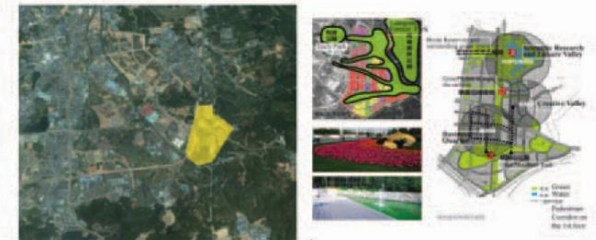
5 Longgang city center masterplan



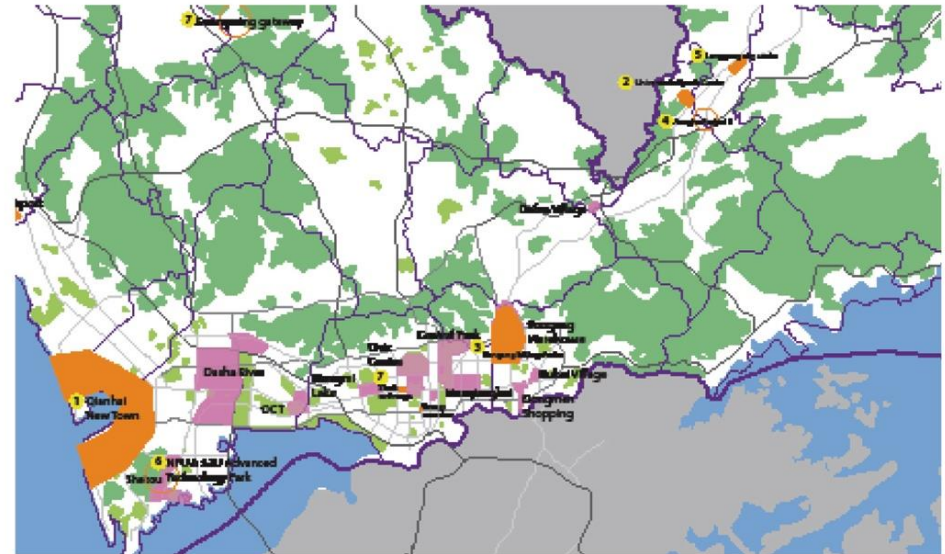
6 NPU & SZU Advanced Technology Park



7 Guangming Gateway Area Development



8 Shenzhen Stock Exchange by OMA







图例  
■ 地图图例 1

未命名地图  
© 2023 Google

Google earth  
© 2023 Google

图例  
■ 地图图例 1





# SHENZHEN

FROM FACTORY OF THE WORLD  
TO WORLD CITY

# CHI

# NA

# A



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# Scenario building

“What is being argued for here is a **locally based**, in-depth exploration of strategic issues of urban development under different sets of assumptions or ‘**scenarios**’ as a way to assess potential outcomes and their effect on local populations, the economy and the ecology of cities. It is a way of probing the future in order to make more intelligent and informed decisions in the present. The object of these studies would be **not to produce ‘plans’** (not even strategic plans), **but insights into prospective change** to encourage and promote public debates about them” (John Friedmann 2004: 56)

# **Shenzhen Scenarios:**

## **A platform of research and education**

to explore alternative ways of development, from the perspective of planning and design strategies.

In the past 4 years:

25 **students** enrolled: 8Dutch, 1Australian, 1 Lithuanian, 1Indian, 14 Chinese

11 **Mentors** of Spatial Planning and Strategy/ OTB:

Stephen Read/ Diego Sepulveda/ Lei QU/ Verena Balz/ Fransisco Columbo/ Vincent Nadin/  
Akkelies van Nes/ Marta Relats/ Marcin Dabrowski/ Evert Meijers/ Leeke Reinders

10 **Mentors** of Urban Design/ Environmental Technology and Design/ Landscape Architecture:

Machiel van Dorst/ Luisa Calabrese/ Maurice Hartevelt/ Daan Zandbelt/ Henco Bekkering/  
Arjan van Timmeren/Frank van der Hoeven/ Birgit Hausleitner/ Taneha K. Bacchin

INTI program director: Linda Vlassenrood





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## PARTNERS IN SHENZHEN:



THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG 香港大學  
Faculty of Architecture 建築學院  
Department of Architecture 建築學系



Delft University of Technology

## Shenzhen (China)

intro  
Transformation

Shenzhen is a young city of great ambitions. Since 2012, the New New Town program has aligned with the innovative forces in Shenzhen, as the New Town aims to make a massive transition from a factory- to a creative city. The INTI research aims to identify which social, economic and environmental factors need to be improved to strengthen the city's potential. What planning concepts and new strategies can be proposed for a sustainable transformation of the city? INTI focuses on unravelling new values that are related to intrinsic Chinese urban and social qualities, which move beyond economic benefit alone. The outcomes of INTI's activity in Shenzhen will be published in the publication **Shenzhen: From Factory of the World to World City**, expected in July 2016.

- \* Lying adjacent to Hong Kong in the Pearl River Delta, Shenzhen used to be an area filled with small fishing villages. It became a New Town when in 1980 the central Chinese government gave it the status of Special Economic Zone and planned a city on the location. In only thirty years, the number of inhabitants has grown from 30,000 to an unofficial count of almost fifteen million, of which 82% are immigrants. In its urge for expansion the city has swallowed up hundreds of villages, the so-called 'urban villages'. This rapid expansion has led to a thriving economy, but also to many problems such as a massive floating population.



Shenzhen's latest master plan (2009-2020) is focused on compact urban development within a spatial network. The network consists of development belts and cluster centers.







Pull-out supplement

# theFocus



## New Designs for Asia

**Student Work from the Architecture Faculty,  
TU Delft, The Netherlands**

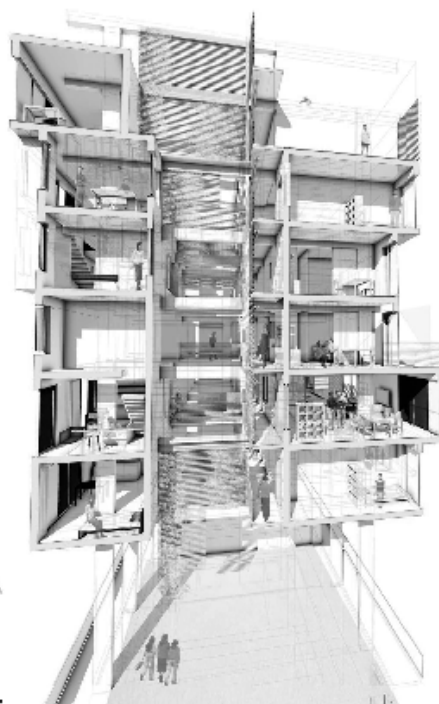
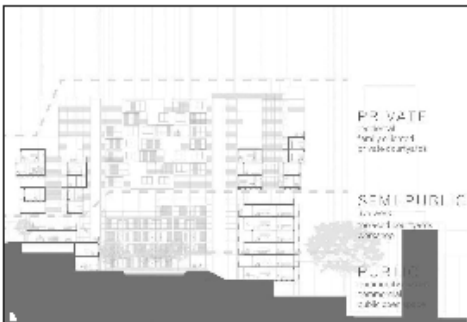
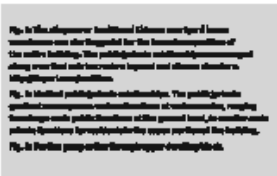
Asia's rapid and remarkable economic and political growth, and the region's increasing importance in the world has led some to believe that future historians will be calling the twenty-first century the 'Asian Century'. We are already beginning to see a shift from the centuries-old Atlantic-centred *Weltanschauung* to an increasingly Pacific-centred one. One of the most important factors fueling Asia's remarkable growth is the region's rapid urbanization. As a result, urban studies, and its sister science architecture, are important disciplines for anyone interested in trying to pragmatically direct this growth, and improve people's lives in the process.

*Gregory Siskind, TU Delft*

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VCS™ FUELIC



there are a few more you types in the area, hanging from overhead power lines and on the sides of buildings. I was in with a strange, off-again-but-not-gone-from-the-family-of-ours, Pagan community that was a quarter dead, but showed little of the obvious signs. FOWS and I were around the MID-LEVEL Churchmen's large, unimpressive hall with many bars, restaurants, and boutiques. Further north there were community-oriented businesses such as churches and nurseries, with the Midwestern touch in a boutique for golfers and antique stores. As the neighborhood passed the city area, the Ping Pong Store is known for having multi-colored handbags, boutiques, music, outdoor outlets. During my last visit I identified several more groups who I suspected of being, more truly the young, creative, and colorful, bohemian, boomer, dharma, and hippy madonnas. Goodbye to the park.

[illegible]

• What is the new Hong Kong typology and how can it fit the needs of present and future Hong Kong?



With the rise of Neoliberal policies, cities, especially global cities, are experiencing large-scale urban regeneration. During this process, specific social groups are absent from the decision-making processes. There is exclusion of people and territories that, from the perspective of the dominant interests of global capitalism, shift to a position of social irrelevance. Is there an alternative urban solution for the development of these 'black holes'? Kowloon City, one of the urban 'black holes', will be a case study in the Hong Kong context.

## Discussion



work, whose policy shifts away from social objectives (the welfare characteristics and characteristics provided) towards macroeconomic policies (the more rationalization approach) as shown at pursuing economic growth and competitive strengthening. Under this policy a series of large-scale urban development projects are implemented by a combination of public and private enterprises.

Urban regeneration is presented as an opportunity to change economic behaviour and repatriate the capital to the city of the global economy. The city's elite institutions include themselves in devising a spatial plan for the 'global financial elite' for the wealthy, innovative, developers, businessmen, or the wealthy tourist, and calls the image of having a cultural centre and vibrant destination. While the participation in activities to urban governance that has taken place in advanced capitalist societies, the 'managerial approach' as typical of the 1980s, has steadily given way to 'business-as-usual'.

**Traditional government or 'benevolent dictator':** *xin Hong Kong story*  
 Neoliberal policy-led externalisation of neo-conservative notions of different cultures, the building of national governments, and more efficient forms of urban management. Is it really so perfect? Hong Kong, being synonymous with liberalism, can be a case study.

**Abstracts**  
of the  
1998  
Annual Meeting  
of the  
American  
Sociological  
Association  
will be  
available  
in the  
conference  
program.

From the position was interventions of the 1970s to the late 1980s of the heavily first century, Hong Kong has experienced a transformation of its role in the world.

The two-stage construction of physical infrastructure and improvement of the social environment has been going on to offer to the inhabitants a good capacity to survive. The city has become a paradise for tourists. In 1979, the first permanent opened and thus the first department store, the ITC, was demolished, and a number of new interventions began to be made. However, behind the shiny, beautiful facade of this highly modernized city was a huge population living in a crowded and increasingly deteriorated environment. The people were called the "squatters" or "squatters" and were living in a very poor environment. The government had to take measures to deal with the problem, and the government had to take measures to deal with the problem.

In traditional Hong Kong society, communal life often revolved less than expected with conversation on the streets. You've almost never had a random talk with a stranger about his car or house. Sellers often join the buyer on a shopping spree. People and their families are always together and do not have a disconcerting feeling of being alone and disconnected. Impersonating language is rare. People are embedded in a larger network of social relationships, including family and friends, which is regarded as a safety net. In addition, the government has a long history to build an allegiance. By comparison, Americans "without culture" seldom relate back to others outside many towns the explanation and use of terms controlled by official controls available and rarely adopted cultural habits. Thus, buyers regrettable the impact of pricing strategies and the pressure to sell at bottom-line insurance to break. Outgoing someone or brand mean how the ability to locate in specific areas.

In this situation, specific social groups, like those with low-income, racial minorities, immigrants, and certain types of workers, are absent from the city centre or other 'disadvantaged' areas. There is something of people and movements which drive the perception of the dominant interests of global capitalism, and it is a problem of social formation. However, in the construction of what Manuel Castells calls the 'ethnically differentiated capitalism', the beautiful pictures described by the social sciences today in the globalised movement are based on an increasing inequality in the industrial environment.



# Updating Shanghai: life from the ground up

This project is located in Shanghai, China's biggest city, and the fastest growing city in the world. The social structure of two common but opposed housing typologies has been researched: the old alleyway neighbourhoods of Shanghai, and the contemporary residential high-rise tower. This project aims to use the good characteristics of the alleyway neighbourhood and apply them to residential high-rise design, while also trying to maintain the alleyway neighbourhood's social structure and its architecture.

Barthelme

From difficulties to high rise  
In 1949, after the first Opium War ended with the signing of the Treaty of Nanking (1842), Shanghai became one of the treaty ports where the British were allowed to trade with the Chinese from within 'treaty' territory. Shortly afterwards, the French and Americans signed similar treaties, also setting up their own consulates, as these hostilities were common. Shanghai consisted of three separate areas: the Old Chinese City, the French Concession, and the International Settlement. The Nanking Incident (1850-1854) was a great example of Chinese resistance to the entry of the foreign consulates. In order to house all these refugees, thousands of wooden barracks were built in rows. None of these barracks survived (they were destroyed in the 1940s and were subsequently reconstructed), but they served as a precedent for the difficulties of types of alleyway houses which combined elements of Chinese, British, and French culture, in many ways, the Shanghai model, with its disassembling of elements.

Three major types of alleyway houses can be distinguished: the Early Midtown, the Later Midtown, and the New Midtown. The Early Midtown is a particular type of alleyway house, while a Midtown is a cluster of them - which may or may not include a Midtown. From the 1850s to the late 1930s thousands of these houses were built, giving rise to local characteristics and regionalism in the surrounding precinct. They also clearly defined the three periods.

Shanghai's development was helped by the Second World War, which started in 1937 in China, and this was followed by nearly three decades of conflict by the Chinese and Japanese in Beijing after 1949. Shanghai was stuck in a three-way war: British or as when covered until the 1940s and then Shanghai's Open Door policy, which made it a free port. Shanghai has been in the grip of a construction boom of unprecedented proportions. In 2008 Shanghai had approximately 8,300 buildings of eight stories or higher, this number grew to over 20,000 by 2010, with nearly 4,000 of them being 25 stories or more. A large number of them have been built in the former foreign concessions, land that used to support alleyway neighbourhoods. In the alleyway houses all late elements, high-rise towers became the preferred housing typology for both the Shanghai government as well as developers.

A typological analysis  
In recent decades, millions of square metres of alleyway houses have been destroyed to make way for high-rise towers. In this process, not only the buildings but also the people and social structure embedded within them have been destroyed. Research into the social structure of both the alleyway neighbourhoods and residential high-rise towers was carried out, using four aspects of environmental psychology: 1) Distance to Mass, 2) Territoriality, 3) Privacy, and 4) Environmental Appeal and Aesthetics (from Robert G. Gilroy's Environmental Psychology).

Fig. 1 A 3D diagram of the alleyway house pattern from three periods: early midtown, late midtown, and a small residential high-rise compound. The graph shows the amount of people who can survive in comparison to the distance and which they are connected to the system of the house in the diagram.

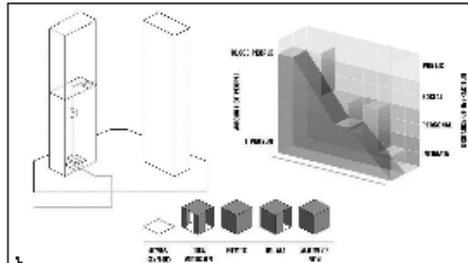


Fig. 2 The diagram shows the relationship between the residential high-rise and the public space in the pattern.

Fig. 3 The diagram shows the relationship between the residential high-rise and the public space in the pattern. The diagram shows the relationship between the residential high-rise and the public space in the pattern. The diagram shows the relationship between the residential high-rise and the public space in the pattern.

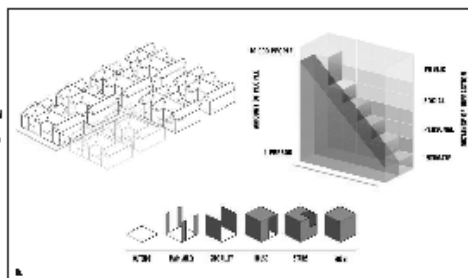


Fig. 3 The diagram shows the relationship between the residential high-rise and the public space in the pattern. The diagram shows the relationship between the residential high-rise and the public space in the pattern. The diagram shows the relationship between the residential high-rise and the public space in the pattern.





Enclosure – with the wall as its most prominent architectural element – represented for centuries a key human experience of space in Chinese cities, but is today regarded as a relic from the past. Yet enclosing walls provide a structure for one's position in space, time and society and a tangible spatial reference for everyday life. Walls were therefore crucial elements in the development of cities. This worked on every scale, from country and city, to house and bedroom. The Wall, my masters' graduation project, presents a contemporary interpretation of this in an urban-architectural design for the city of Chengdu in Western China.

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**Abstract**

These cities annually attracted 170 million tourists, generating \$100 billion in 1999, 10% of the nation's GDP (unemployment 10.5%). The Crimean city has become hypercapitalist in the shortening market forces, resulting in a permanent state of change. The city works as a pragmatic financial base for improving living standards. These authors acknowledge that due to modern transformation a modern hybrid society is rising, creating stability and profound richness of values and ideas, and resulting in the idea that identities and places are more broadly defined.

[illegible]

## References

The greater value of love to design meaningful places in the radically unemotional Chinese urban context? One of the clues to answering this question is that the way people use and relate places is highly influenced by their perception of space. It becomes important to have a transculturalist and an understanding of the human body. Therefore it is crucial to understand the Chinese perception of bodily space, in order to know how to structure the cities. It is almost the exact opposite in Western cities. It is much more difficult, even opaque for Chinese people, than Hans Wudemann, tried to see the matter in a more perceptual and holistic way (Wudemann and Kohn 1998, 2000).

Chilren progressively developed its perceptions of space for cartation by a process of accumulation, assimilation rather than insight, repetition, before they support a subjective view. Children class were concerned in synthesis, and from memory based on a plan that was consistently applied to the existing topography. It was a collective work of art. A few principles were systematically applied following marked procedures from the perceptual city-drawing participant list (tabled). There shaped the perceptions of space for cartation, but are not under the transcending influence from children's view and cartographic analysis.

**Alternative urban-urbanist design in Chicago**  
**Talbot:** Four modern design principles are at work for this effort to fix the city of Chicago as used as a case study. This city is at the very heart of America's transportation revolution. It is also a city undergoing a Post War renaissance number of new migrants from rural areas. How many Chicagoans accept growth will be very explosive, and a lot of problems arise from how best to deal. If this population growth of the city continues in the same space-consuming manner as during last two decades, it will need to double by day long next twenty years, resulting in overcrowded, traffic congestion and a further increase in air pollution. Chicago will become more congested and still demand to break duty and efficiency. The current urban model is no longer sustainable. The city has reached a cross road.

[illegible]

... the way people use and value gold is highly influenced by their perception of gold. Therefore it is crucial to understand the Chinese perception of (gold-)gold, in order to have better access to the Chinese market.

**Keywords:**

[illegible]

This framework defines zones for building. Within these zones, units are gradually erected as plot lines, to further enhance urban forms. In this way building sites are created for a variety of building typologies. Certain plots are reserved for retail, public, office and for secure. Walls or fence plots will be performed to allow penetration from the block. Entrances of the individual units are from three-oriented spaces. The multi-level transfer of local materials, plants, and storing water contribute to the quality and survival experience of the urban space. The intensity is conceptual maximum, rises out of great mass zone.

The township is framed by the existing characteristics of the location, and holds an incorporation of fundamental perceptual principles of Chinese culture. It offers a series of visual stimuli with linearly scaled natural growth, gardens, and wind open areas. The township levels order of growth is from a half-ago perspective, but its eye-level shows a momentary through a clearly understandable series of natural world. Space is experienced via a viewing of various scenes and different spatial sequences from the river public all the way to the private backyard. Space is presented fully by lines. The relationship is always unpredictable, which creates a sense of movement and a better experience of space.

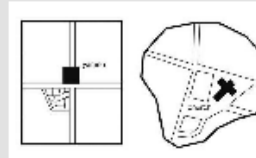
Throughout city-dwelling populations based on Chinese literature, five crucial disciplinary principles are formulated: Drawing, Memory, Unity, Human Goals and Confucius' in Chen's old film, space is organized in a linear and hierarchical manner with small and additional rooms along the street, which in the West (mainly Europe) has vertical static order play an important role (Fig. 1) in a non-orthogonal layout (Fig. 2). Chinese architecture has an oriented historic, with more than being placed on family ties and kinship. Instead of being unorganized individualistic

[illegible]

**FIG. 10. HEMATOLOGY**  
Left: Chlorine Resistant  
guppies (1990),  
Right: Chlorine  
sensitive guppies.  
October 1990-1991



**Fig. 2-45b**  
Left: While holding  
the sheet taut, the  
highlights travel  
to the outside  
of the knee.



**Fig. 2 Summary.**  
Left: Culture  
medium  
supernatant.  
Right: Western  
analysis of  
culture supernatant.



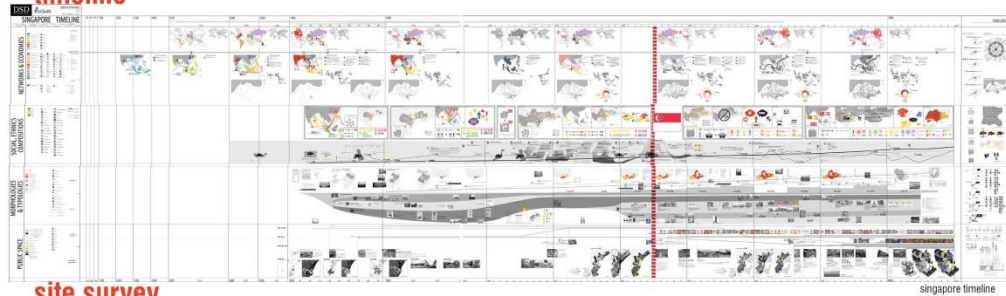
**Fig. 4. Multilayered**  
topography  
characterized  
by a large open  
space in the  
middle of the  
field.







## timeline



## site survey

### marketplace + community



The site has two different controversial activities. Marketplace which is well empowered by the market and historic routes and variety of local communities which occupies different spaces.



A marketplace is the space, actual or metaphorical, in which a market operates.

Geographic communities range from the local neighborhood, ethnic village, town or city region, region or even the planet as a whole. These refer to communities of culture, range from the local village, suburban, urban, rural, regional, metropolitan or planetary civilization, or the global community culture of today. They may be based on a community of place or identity such as shared interests, or local spatial groups.

Community organizations range from informal family or kinship networks, to more formal incorporated associations, political, religious, educational, cultural, economic, or professional associations at a local, national or international scale.

### market



Markets that occupy ground floor and are suitable for tables.

Inside market building small spaces are needed for different goods to be sold.

Temporary street market. Temporary stalls and street vendors in the street and market in the street.

Houseware shop. Close already for 20 years. This is a central market and works as a family business. Most of goods are delivered directly to customers homes.

Small factory. Open for 20 years. The owner shops have been on the same premises and have another shop in the city. They have made a lot of money in the past.

Every month has market occupies all streets in the market complex.



Community that occupies different activities for all Singaporeans. Community is a 100% community which are from all around the island.

Different activities and small community are shared mostly to be shared and that they share space which are from all around the island.

Community that occupies different activities for all Singaporeans. Community is a 100% community which are from all around the island.

Community that occupies different activities for all Singaporeans. Community is a 100% community which are from all around the island.

Community that occupies different activities for all Singaporeans. Community is a 100% community which are from all around the island.

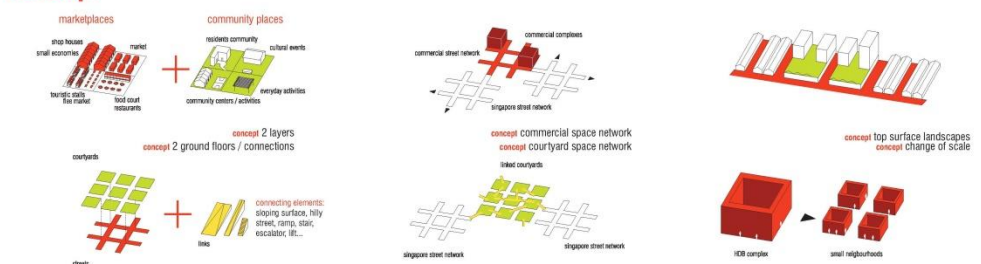
Community that occupies different activities for all Singaporeans. Community is a 100% community which are from all around the island.

Community that occupies different activities for all Singaporeans. Community is a 100% community which are from all around the island.

## analysis



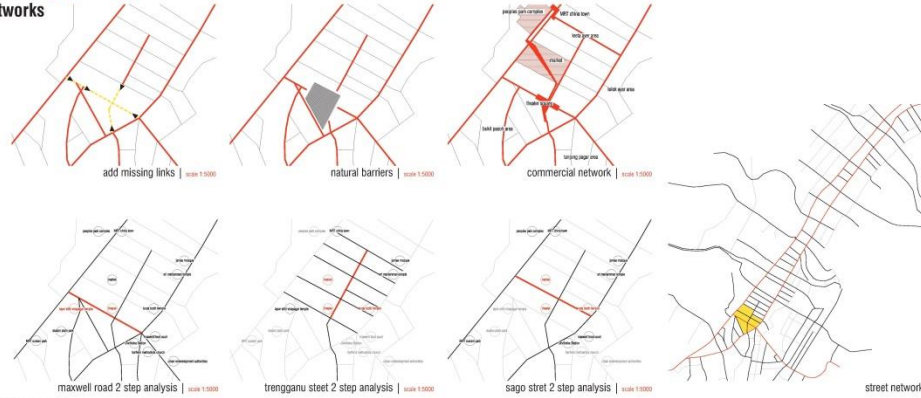
## concept



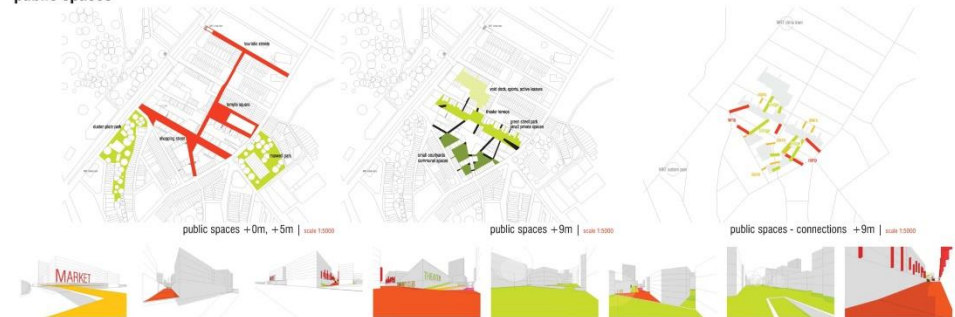


## strategy / layers

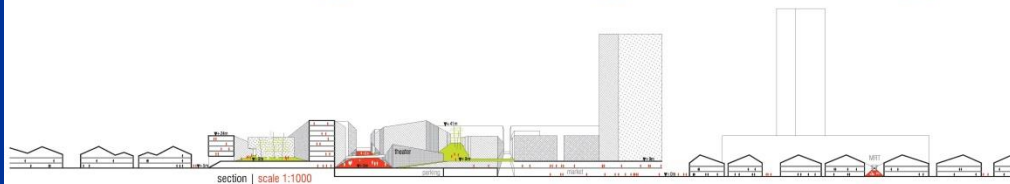
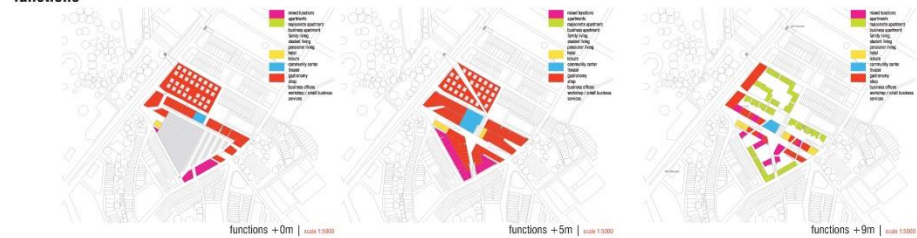
### networks



### public spaces



### functions





strategy / layers

prosper park complex

MTT china town

japan plaza

st marian's temple

bali hotel

Arakata Station

burford methodists church

urban redevelopment authorities

red cross design museum

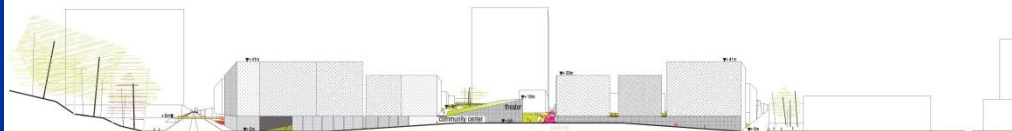
newport road court

hager villa heritage temple

dunstan place park

MTT domain park

MTT china town



ROUTLEDGE CONTEMPORARY CHINA SERIES

# The Shanghai Alleyway House

A vanishing urban vernacular

Gregory Bracken



上海

# 里弄房

The  
Shanghai  
Alleyway  
House

Gregory Bracken

孙娴 栗志敏 吴咏蓓 译  
「爱尔兰」格雷戈里·布拉肯 著



上海社会科学院出版社  
Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences Press



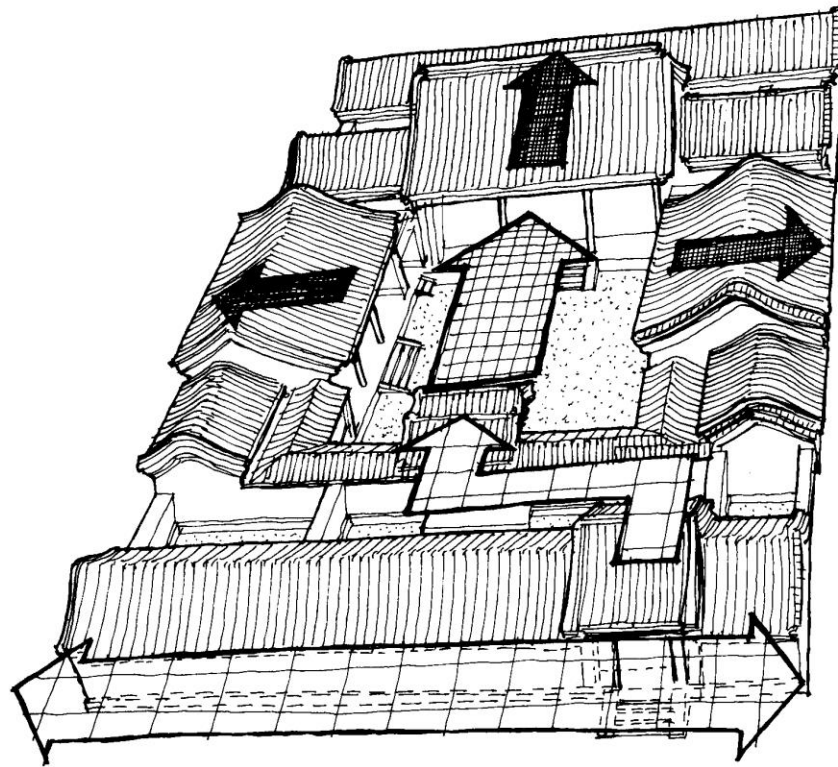








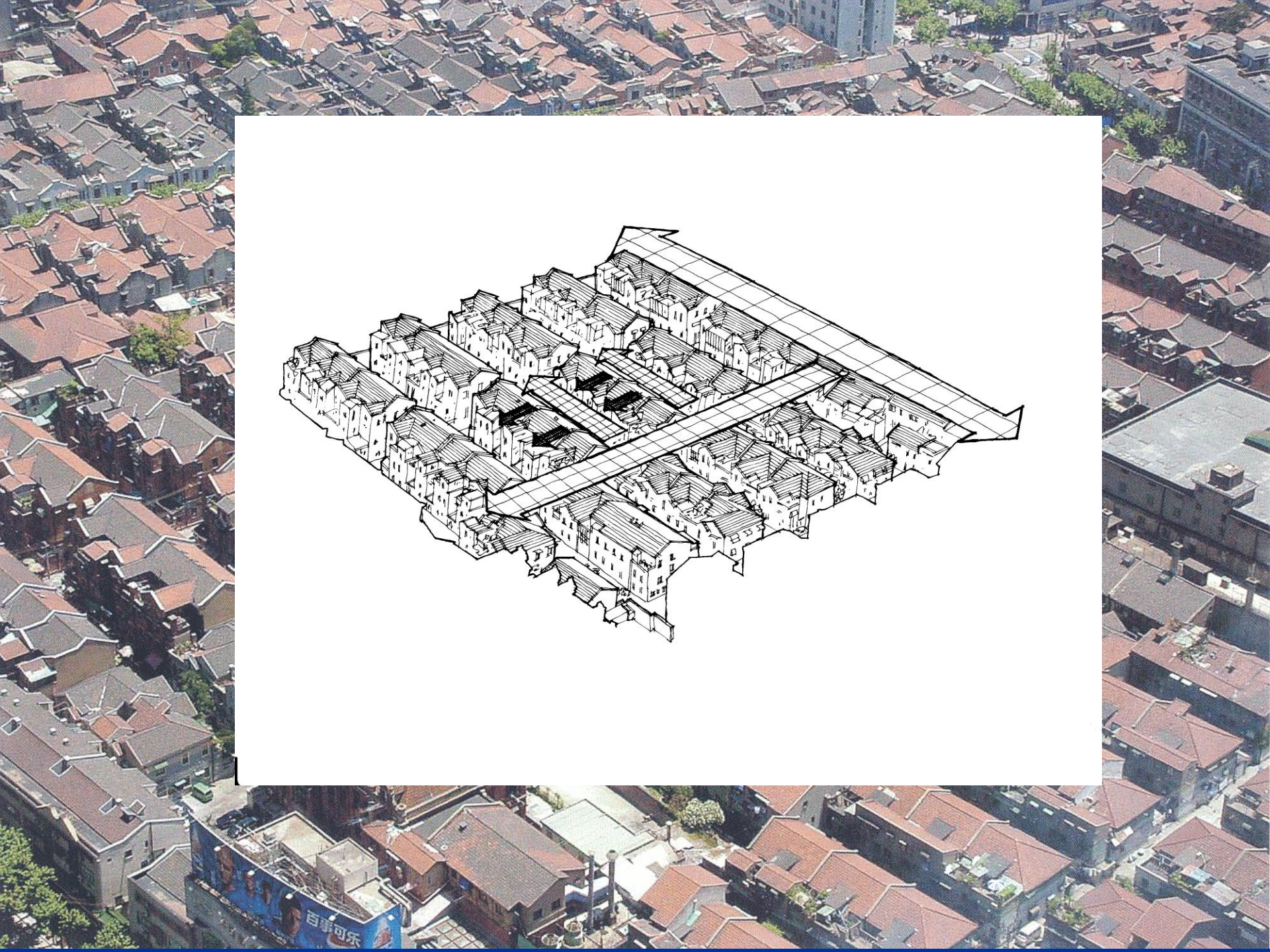


















家

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东西

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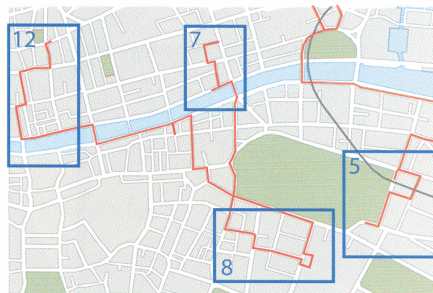
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## Leopold Bloom's 'Mobility of Avoidance'

A note on Leopold Bloom's usage of Dublin's street network in James Joyce's *Ulysses*

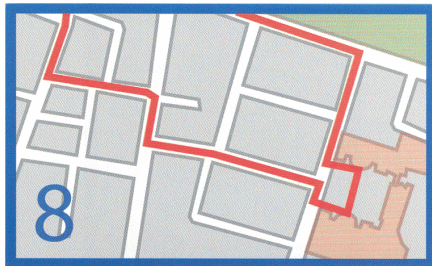
By Gregory Bracken



existence, so basic in fact that we tend to take them for granted, assigning them common-sense, everyday meanings. David Harvey, in *The Condition of Postmodernity*, describes the panic of the generals during World War I who didn't have enough time to think through their decisions, they had only hours in which to make up their minds. We have even less time now, everything happens so fast, our decisions must be instant, there isn't even time for reflection: the problem of simultaneity has become the problematic of the age. Which brings us back to the notion of space, which Harvey claims is "in some ways more complex than time – it has direction, area, shape, pattern and volume as key attributes, as well as distance – we typically treat it of it as an objective attribute of things which can be measured and thus pinned down".

Space-time compression always exacts a heavy toll on our capacity to grapple with the realities unfolding around us. Joyce was acutely aware of this as he was immensely interested in contemporary theories of physics, which were resulting in new ideas about time and epistemology, as well as speculations about the status of physical reality and matter. It is a tempo-spatial analysis that is the key to understanding Episode 10 of *Ulysses*, *Wandering Rocks*, in many ways the geographical crux of the novel. But other issues are explored in the novel as well, including space-time compression, particularly at issue here would be Bloom's misperception of the time when he sees that the ball has dropped on the Ballast Office in Episode 8, *Lestrygonians*, making him think it's after 1pm, (which it would be in Greenwich because the Ballast Office ball was kept on UTC or Universal Time Co-ordinated – now known as GMT or Greenwich Mean Time). Dublin, in 1904, was on Dunsink Time, which was 25 minutes later, and it is only later that Bloom realises his mistake.

As the novel progresses, Bloom's behaviour appears more and more erratic. In Episode 5, *Lotus Eaters*, after collecting his letter at the post office on Sir John Rogerson's Quay, instead of heading straight down Westland Row towards Lincoln Place, he heads around via Great Brunswick Street (now Pearse Street)



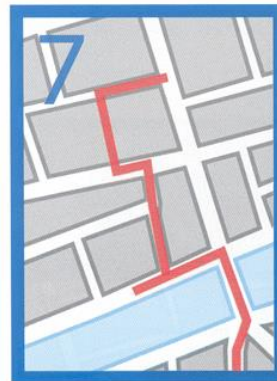
Episode 8: Lestrygonians

ULYSSES



Episode 5: Lotus eaters

and into South Cumberland Street before going into the back of All Hallows' Church. In Episode 7, *Aeolus*, after the group of funeral coaches has brought the mourners back from Glasnevin Cemetery, instead of going via Middle Abbey Street into the newspaper offices with the others, Bloom separates from the group and slips in through the back entrance on Prince's Street. Then in Episode 12, *Cyclops*, instead of heading straight up Capel Street after leaving the Ormond Hotel, which would seem to be the most direct route to Kiernan's of Little Britain Street, where he is meeting the people who will take him back out to Sandymount, Bloom wanders around Pill Lane (now Chancery Street) and Greek Street and up through the markets, where he has time to look at the fish. But it was back in Episode 8, *Lestrygonians*, when, after having had his lunch at the now much-visited Davy Byrne's, Bloom actually makes a beeline for the library on Kildare Street and runs heading into the very man he's been trying to avoid: Blazes Boylan. He swerves to the right and enters the Leinster House complex through the museum gate. Boylan, of course, is looking into the sun and misses seeing him, but in typical Joyce fashion, humorously and not a little slyly, this is our clue to understanding what's been going on all day: Bloom has been busy avoiding Boylan, and by slipping down odd streets, and entering buildings by the rear, he has been engaging in what could be termed a 'mobility of avoidance'.



Episode 7: Aeolus

People arrange to meet at specific times, in specific places, 3 o'clock at Bewley's say, or "under the clock at Cleary's", this is what Reinjndorp and Heier refer to in their book *In Search of New Public Domain* as negotiating an "archipelago of enclaves"; meeting the people we want to, when and where we want to. With the advent of the mobile phone, of course, these places of encounter have become increasingly mobile themselves, as have our networks of negotiating them – but that is a whole other issue. Equally, we can avoid the people and places we don't want to see, what Reinjndorp and Heier refer to as "mobility of avoidance", and it is this which helps make sense of Leopold Bloom's movements in *Ulysses*, the erratic nature of which has long been puzzling. And as for Bloom himself, despite the tortuousness of his routes, he invariably manages to run into the very people he's been trying to avoid, something which happens time and time again in the novel, but that's just Joyce's genius in so accurately portraying Dublin life.



Episode 12: Cyclops

*Ulysses* perfectly captures a day in the life of a city, life in all its facets, funny odd and sad. Joyce's inherent understanding of people and the instinctive way in which they make use of a city's networks can help make sense of what is going on in the city today. Cities aren't buildings and streets – cities are people, and their networks of interaction. People don't go to a lively area like Temple Bar for the buildings, they go there for what goes on in them. Architects can all too easily get sidetracked by the buildings in a city, especially a city such as Dublin, which is full of such pretty ones, but what we need to concern ourselves with, as did Joyce, is the larger scale. We need to see the warm life of the city, not only its cold geometries of stone.



# SHERIFF ST & NORTH WALL ROADS AREA

DUBLIN PORT NOT  
DIRECTLY LINKED  
TO DOCKLANDS AREA

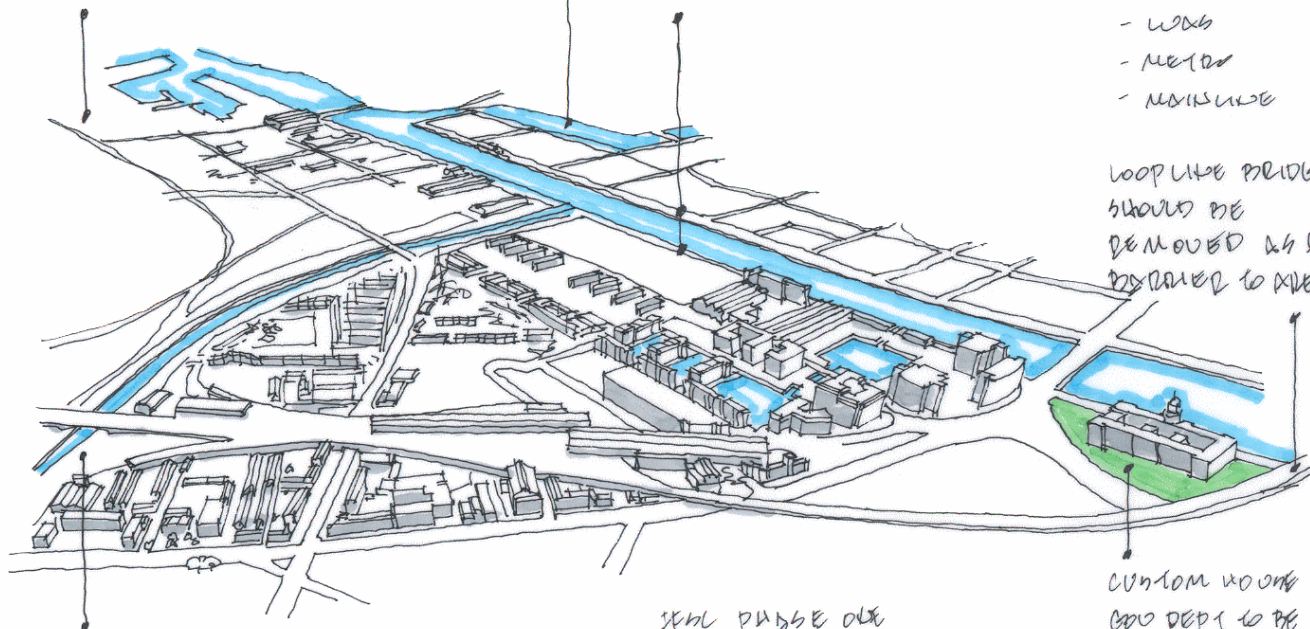
NEW TUNNEL TO  
MOTORWAY TO THE  
NORTH

GRAND CANAL DOG  
TO BE UPGRADED

CANALWAYS ALONG  
LIFTED CURRENTLY  
BENT OPERATED  
AS WALKWAY

NEW PUPIL TOWN  
IDEAS WITH TREES  
& UNDERGROUNDS  
WILL COLLECTORS  
MAKING THE AREA  
WITH MARSHES  
- DIRT  
- WOOD  
- METAL  
- MAINLINE

LOOP LIKE BRIDGE  
SHOULD BE  
REMOVED AS A  
BARRIER TO AREA

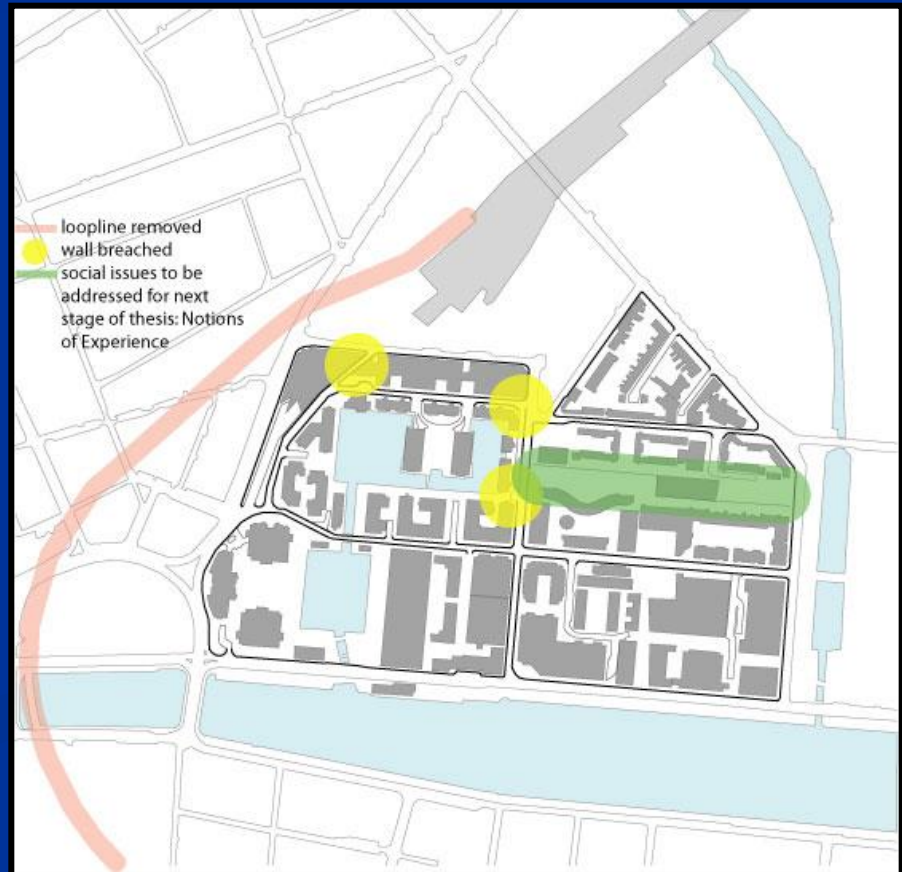
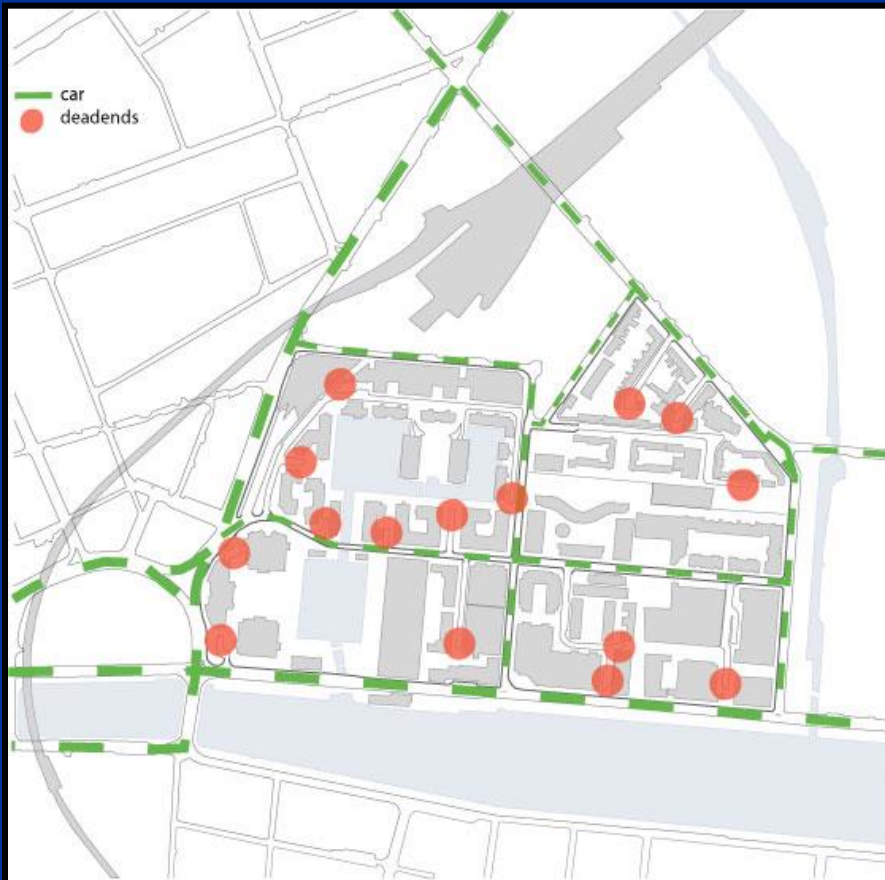


ROAD CANAL TO  
BE UPGRADED &  
PARK WALKWAY  
ALONG EITHER  
SIDE OF IT

SEA PUSSE ARE  
COMPLETED.

AREA SHOULD  
SHERIFF ST HAS  
ALSO BEEN DONE

CUSTOM WOODS  
CO. DEPT TO BE  
MOVED TO CO.  
WEXFORD. WAS  
FREE FOR USE,  
POTENTIAL  
FOR A MUSEUM.





# Summary of DDDA Interventions

## INTERVENTIONS

6 new bridges  
3 for cars  
2 for trams  
3 for pedestrians  
1 potential icon (by Calatrava)

17 new streets  
(including continuing  
Mayor St, Sheriff St &  
Misery Hill)

5 new squares  
2 with tram stops  
1 waterside/cultural square

Waterfront walkways  
Spencer Dock  
Grand Canal Dock  
River Liffey

Railway Station  
(Luas/Arrow interchange)

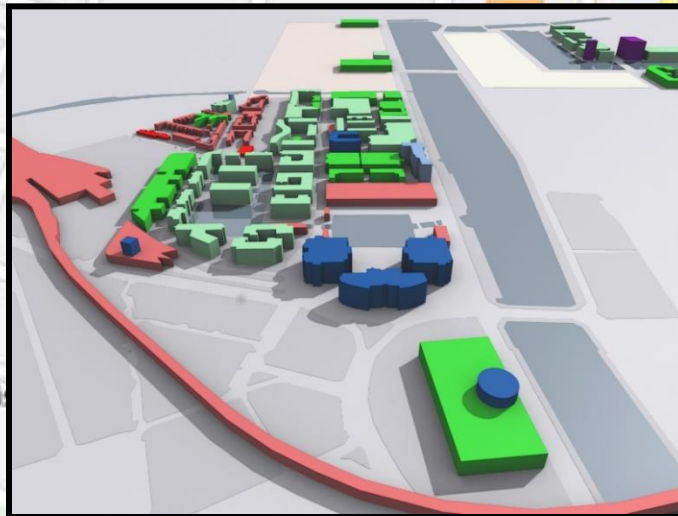
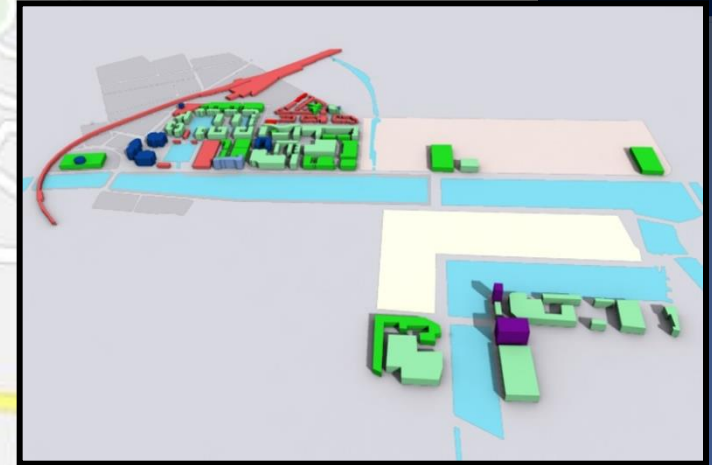
Conference Centre

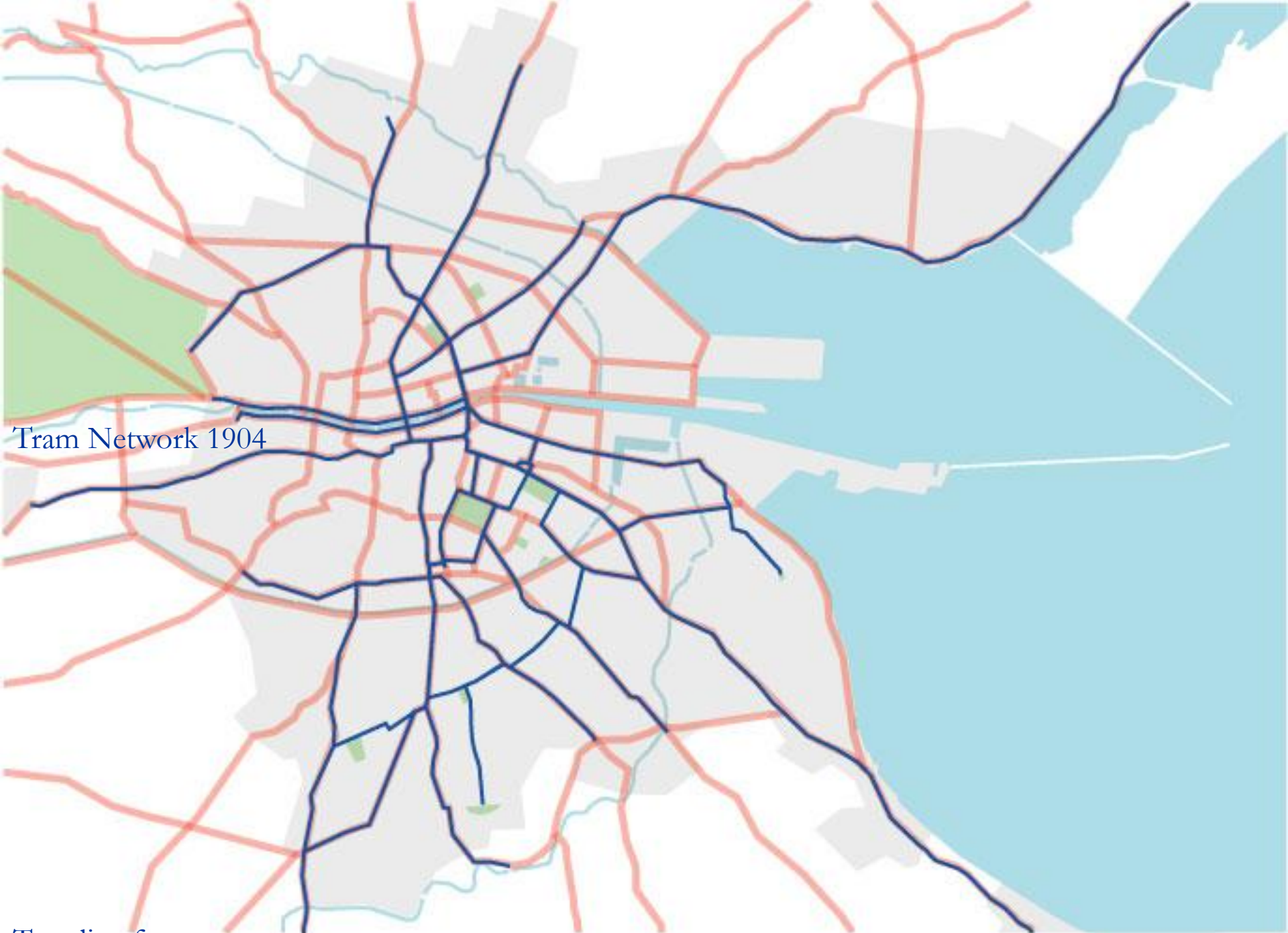
Concert Hall

2 skyscrapers

Office Tower on Mayor St axis

Recording Studio at  
confluence of waterways

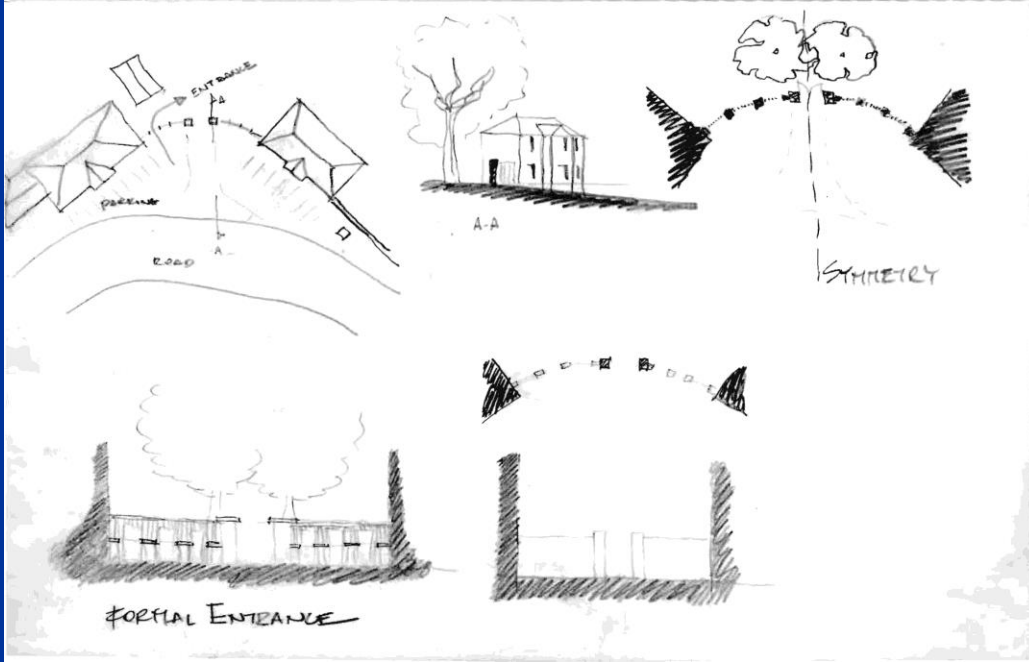






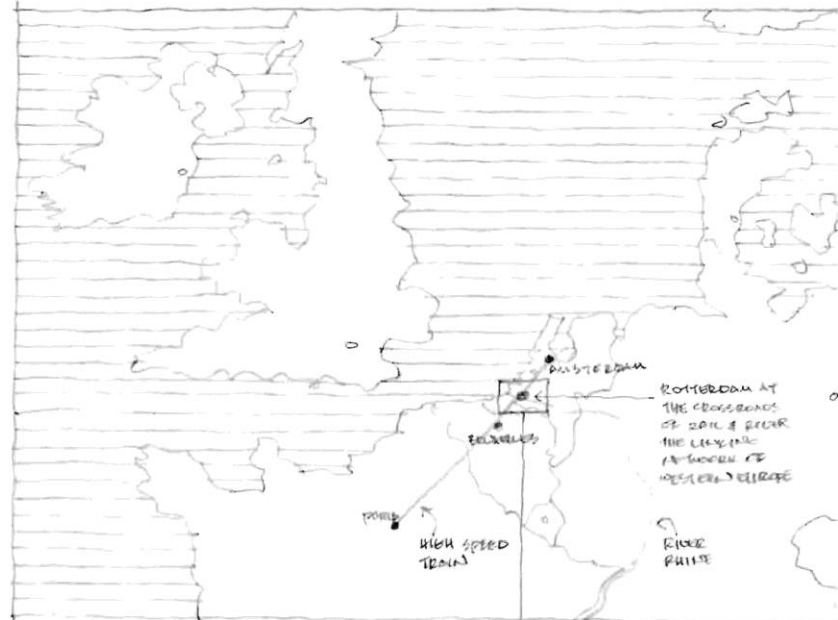


Tram Network 1904

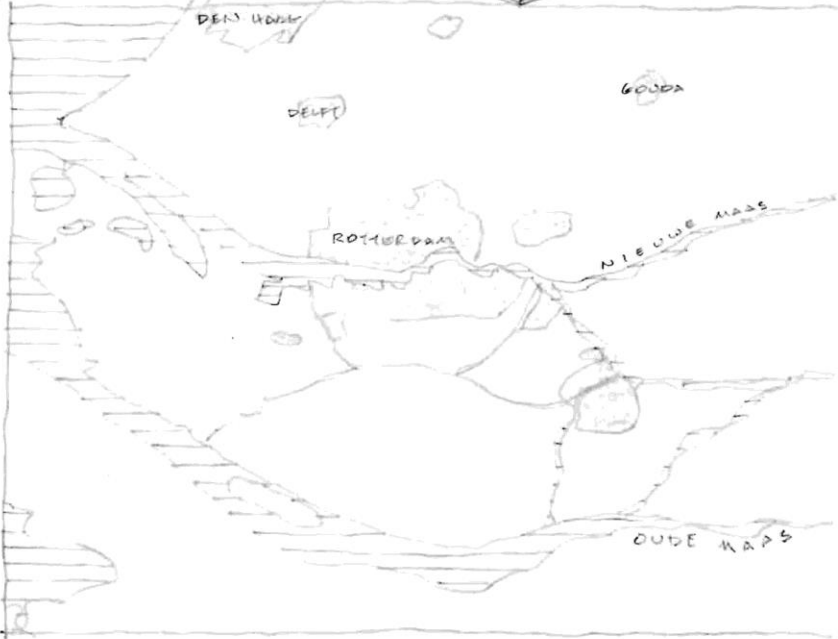




# NORTH WEST EUROPE



## SOUTHWEST NETHERLANDS



# ROTTERDAM



## Rotterdam - Analysis

Show where things have no relationship - analyze them  
The flows that contribute to the area. Cars do not -  
at least generally.

School area busy by day, gym/aerobics area busy  
by night - what about clubs? local area etc?  
OMA office - international - the school serves the region  
the can repair planes - where do they advertise? at least  
in the Rotterdam media area. District only.  
Relating to the scale of Rotterdam area whole.  
Close to center but the land is cheap!

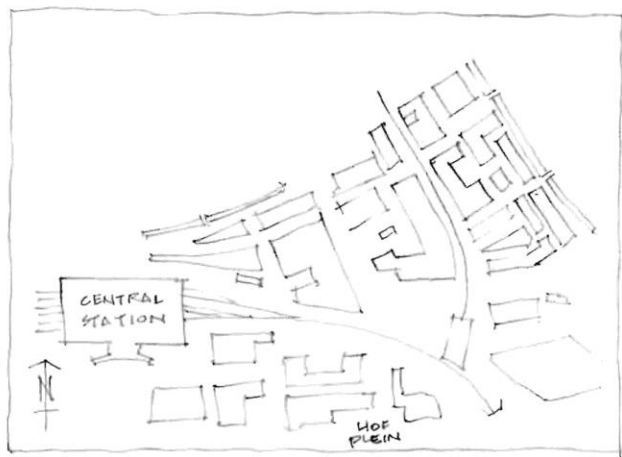
How people come here, + why?  
How locals go out, + why?

Surrounded by traditional urban fabric. This is a  
chaotic - there are reasons for everything. But are they  
scalars?

Some blocks designed to be public, functions changing, &  
to what's on the inside + change to the fabric outside  
the shape + size is determined by its function but the  
use is changing it. Some people here may not have  
access to the internet. There's been their own network  
the unbuilt fabric of the area - people. Paley - a  
complex layering (of combinations). Space is a set  
of connections, boundaries cease to exist. Flows + the  
intensity. The "machine" of the High St. Side & back  
in the pipe. Flow larger than the local area.

Cluster of things that feed off one another, like office HQ's  
Corporations, they have all their specialized services  
around them, feeding off one another. Car park area  
service - offices. Syntactic of a set of function  
shown on the maps / diagrams often, use, height,  
directions - all "stories" to be graphically represented  
not map - but sedimentation, the activity led to  
the drops not the other way around.





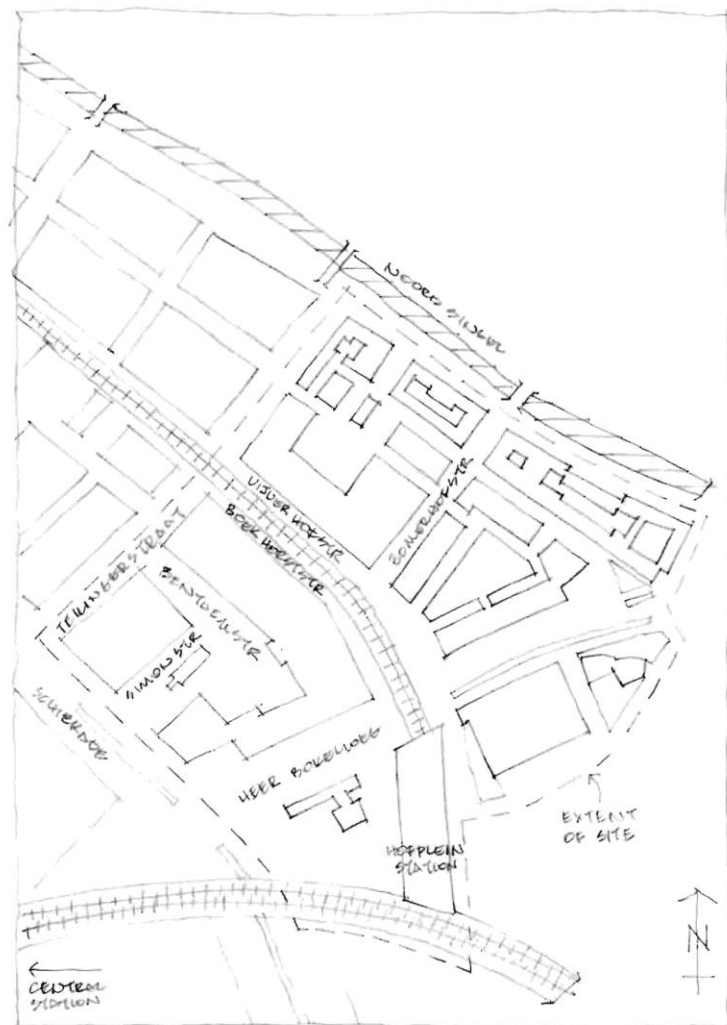
ROTTERDAM CENTRAL

Don't have to stay within the site limits. In fact you'll more than likely have to leave and drive.

MASTERPLAN APRIL 2001

(By Alcrop Architects)

- Generation of a city through infrastructure
- Creation of delight, surprise + joy in the experience of the city.
- people
- New connections (for transport + people).
- Joy of arrival, sorrow at departure.
- Keeping dry
- Creation of wealth
- Future



AGNESE COURT

Nineteenth century industrialisation + railway construction caused a huge division in the old city while connecting it to other cities + countries - causing the reorientation of the city centre towards the Canal Ring. WWII erased the historical context of the city centre, basically making it a clean slate architecturally. The function as a port has dominated the function of the city. This was the edge of the centre, bordering major arteries + rail infrastructure. Repairs connected the city fabric + the urban quarters. The social symbolism of the port was important in the rebuilding efforts. It was supported + incorporated. There was an urgency to transform. Gradually the port slipped out of the city centre leaving us with a new reality. Is there a future for Rotterdam separated from its port? The future of the city centre is now dominated by the River. The shadow of the port!

1847 - Rail connection between Rotterdam + Amsterdam.

1877 - Viaduct thro' the city + over the river linking it to Den Haag + Paris.

1920 - Berlage's masterplan for Hogeplein + the Delftsepoort.

1900 - Expansion plan by de Jong + the establishment of the Boulevard system.

1940 - City centre destroyed. Hogeplein wiped off the map. Delftsepoort station is also destroyed.

1940 - New urban development, the rebuilding of the city centre.

Economic, cultural + social relationships no longer restricted to the boundaries of the traditional city. Business locations are increasingly large, varied + international.

The effective working of the city depends on the perception + use of infrastructure by inhabitants + visitors.

Rotterdam Central Station is the gateway to Schiphol + to the high-speed railway.

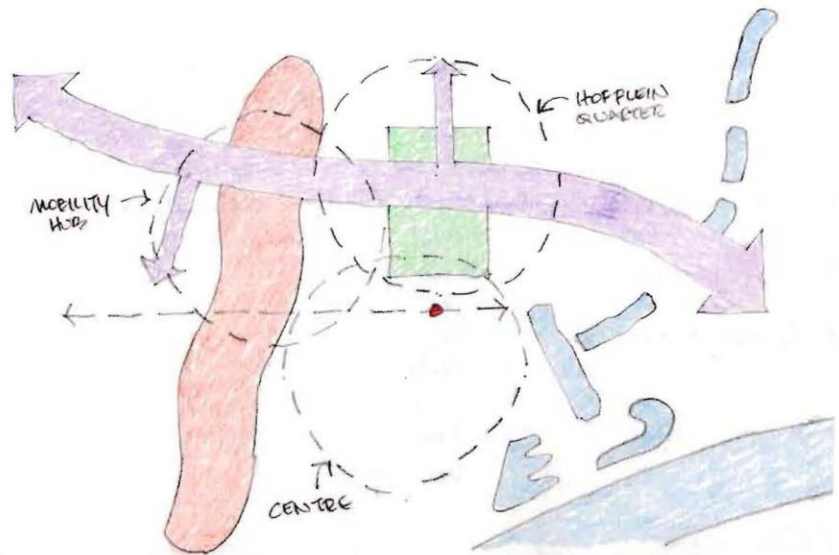
### Aims:

Integral development of areas around the station into multi-modal public transport functions prime locations for living, working + amenities intensive use of space. The key to the Delta, the cohesion thro' infrastructure.

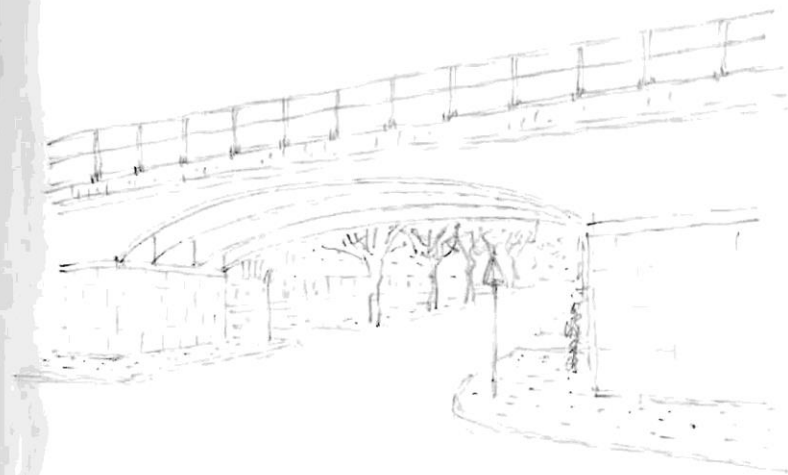
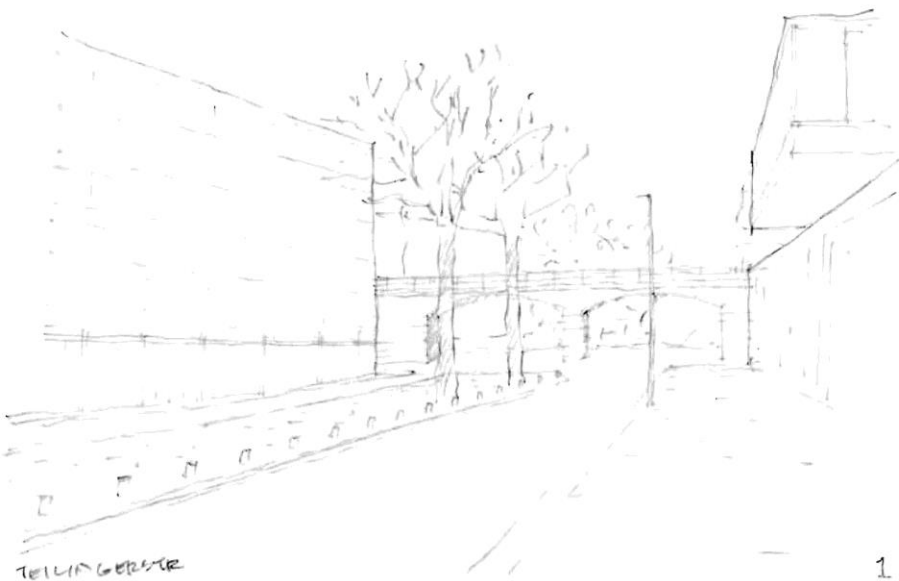
- Network economy + society. Routine activities as stepping stones leading to exchange of information, personal interaction, creativity, service provision + urban culture.

- Robust centralised functions, current population 28,000 in the city centre, expected + hoped to grow to 40,000 soon. (no time scale known / indicated)

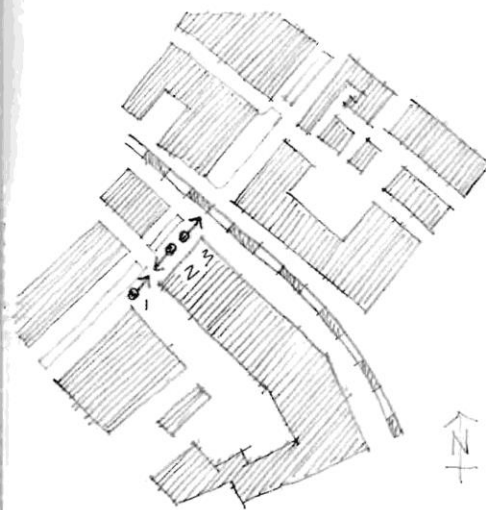
- facilities for the travelling public (destination + how?!)!







TEILINGERSTR AT ROBERTHOFSTR



# Notes:

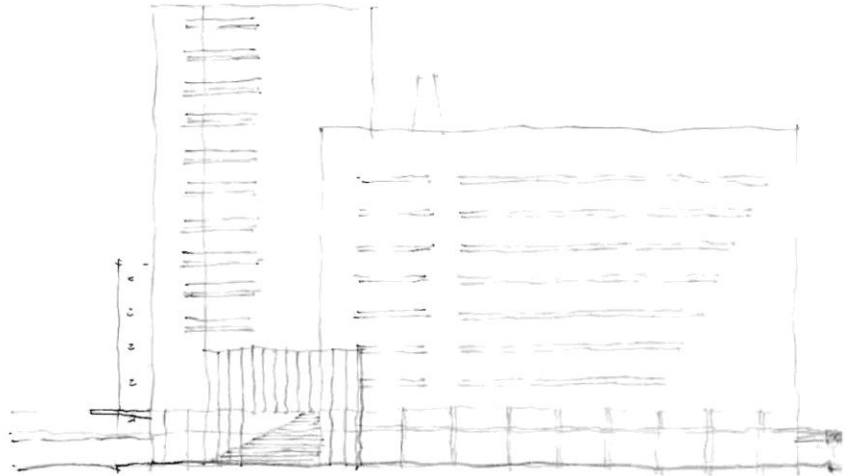
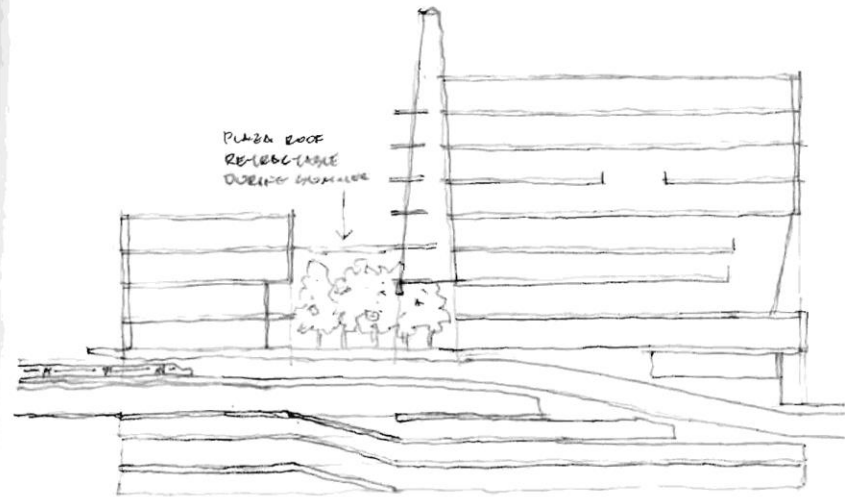
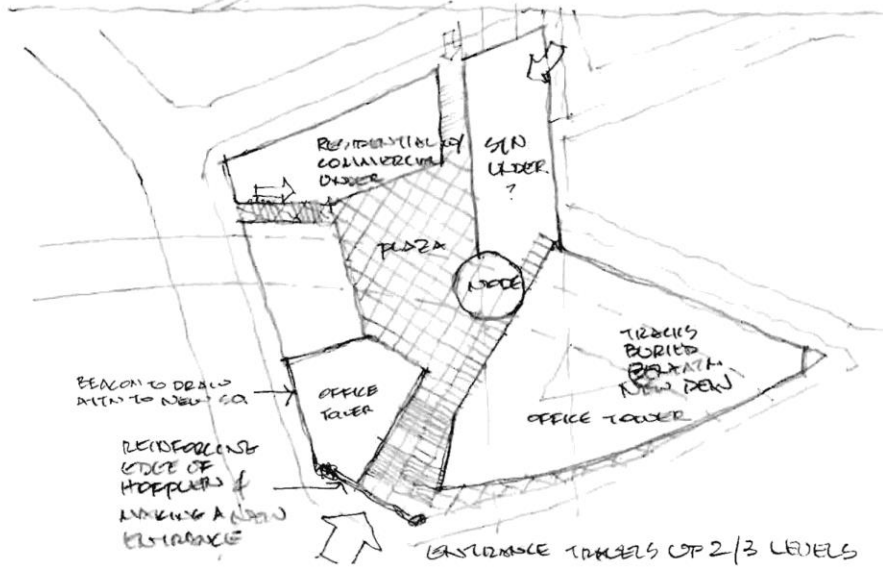
North side of Teilingerstr.  
are a number of shops,  
restaurants, libraries &  
sewing, specialised  
South an education  
institutes, larger scale  
buildings taking up a  
city blocks.

Green strip & paved  
down the middle with  
2 rows of mature trees

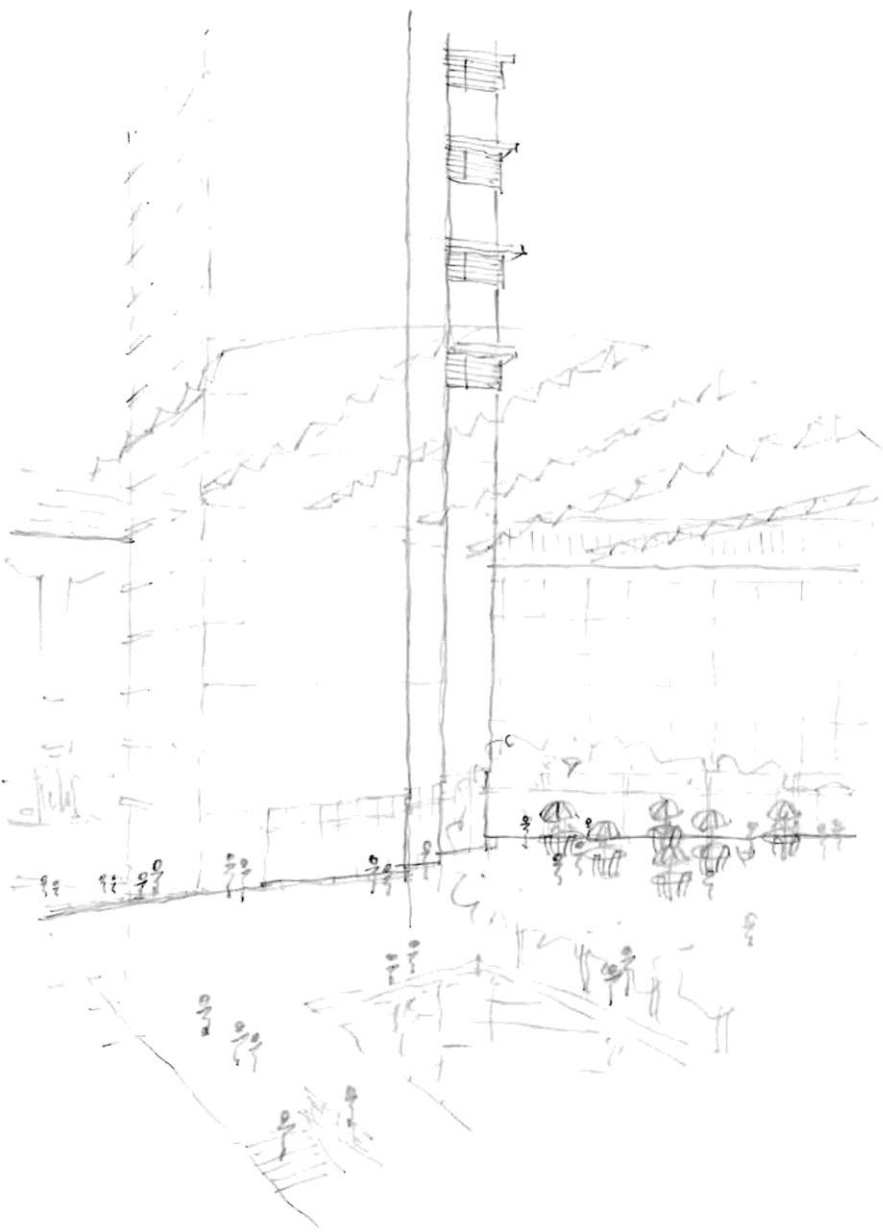
Railway bridge, which  
is elevated, divides the  
street (& area) in two

Teilingerstrat area

# REGENERATION HOPPLEIN II

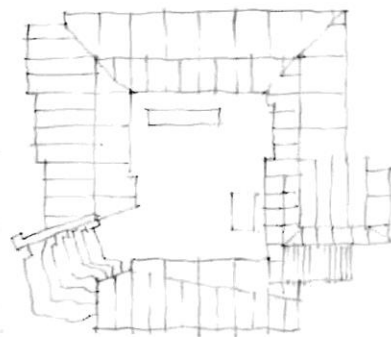






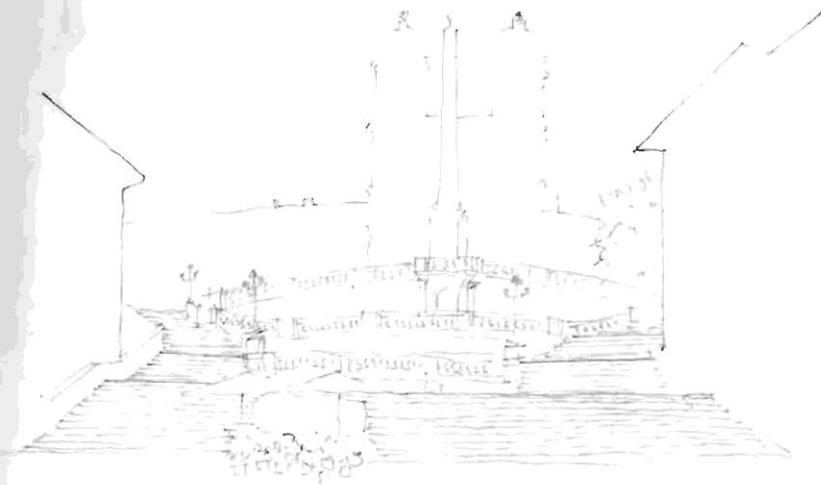
HOPPLEIN PLAZA II. (LOOKING TOWARDS HOPPLEIN FOUNTAIN).

# REFERENCES

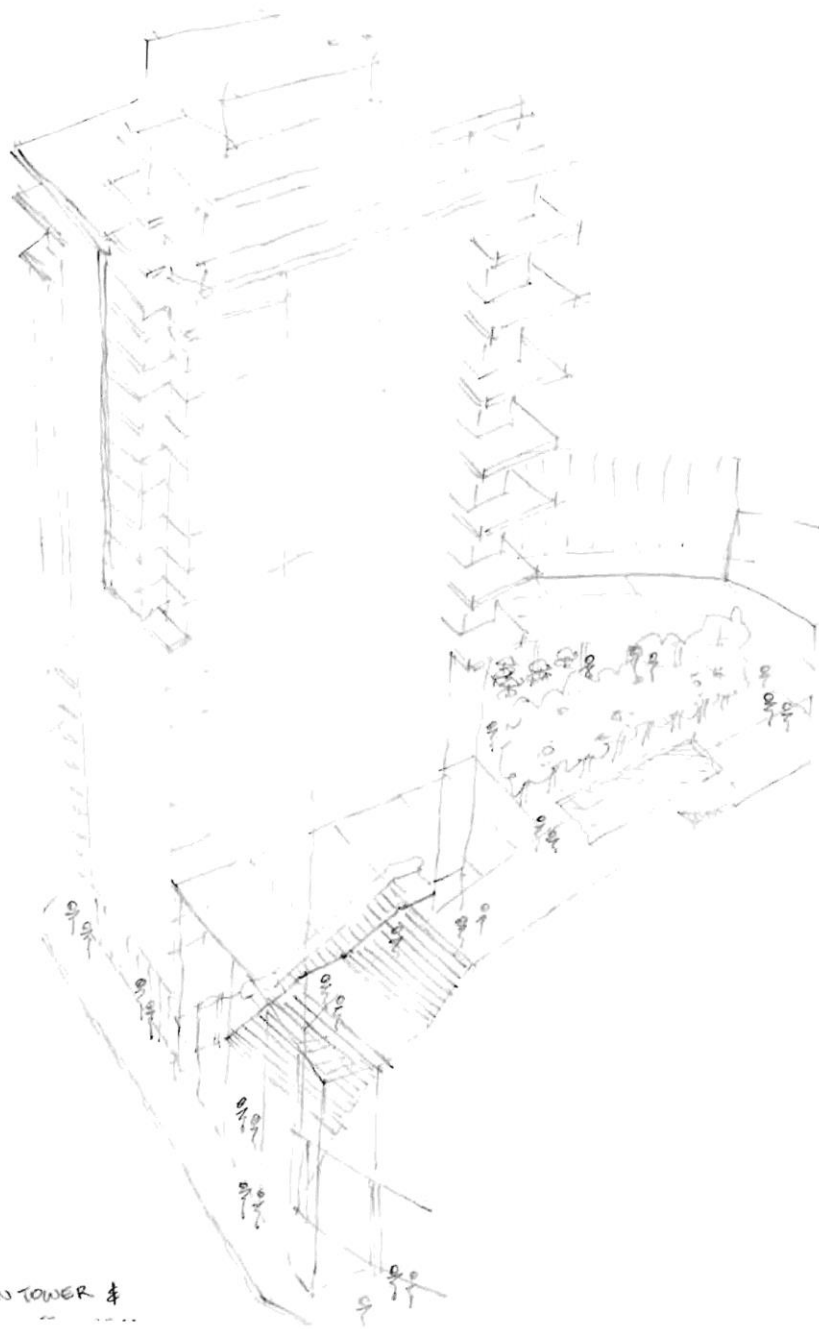


Town Hall at Säynätsalo  
Alvar Aalto 1929-32

Civic space, elevated  
above surrounding  
area. attractive  
staircase. This  
uses the natural  
contours of the site



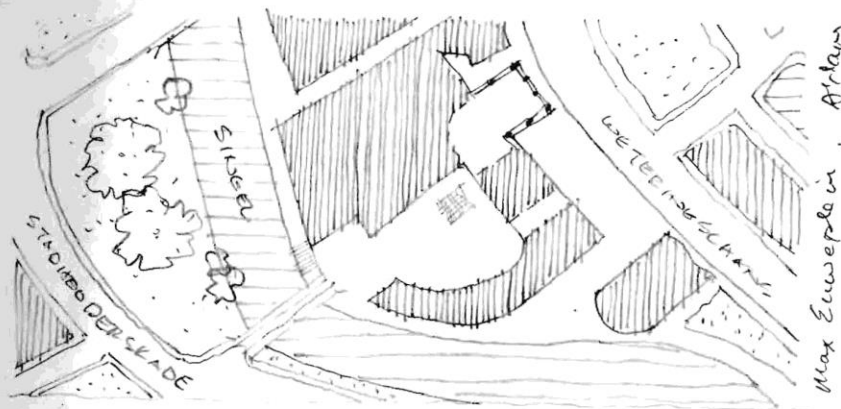
The Spanish Steps, Rome  
1721-25, started by  
Alessandro Specchi to  
connect the piazza di Spagna  
with the Trinità dei Monti.  
Completed by Francesco  
de Sanctis.



BEACON TOWER &

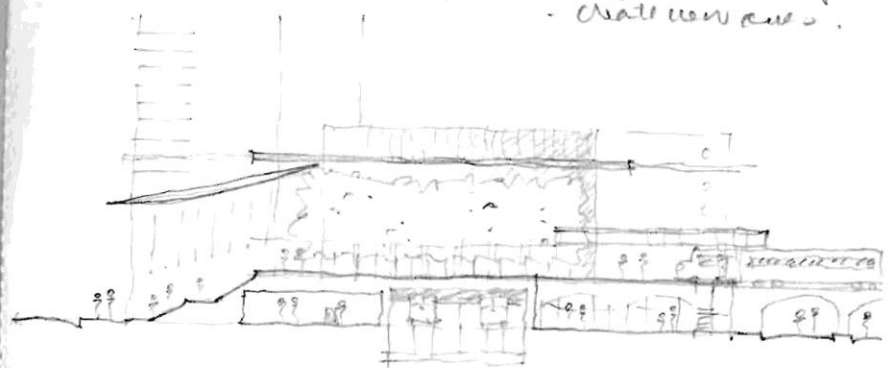
# REFERENCE

Max Euweplein, Amsterdam. former prison now a pleasant courtyard with apartments, bars, restaurants + shops, + even an outdoor chess game. busy day + night as it allows routes from the south to the Northwest + Northeast.



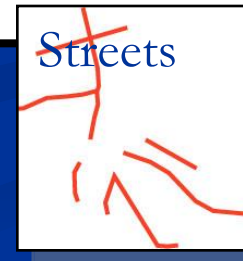
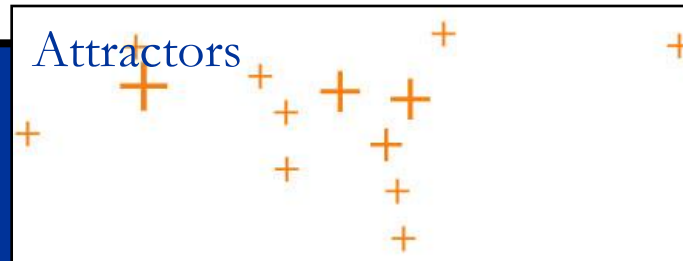
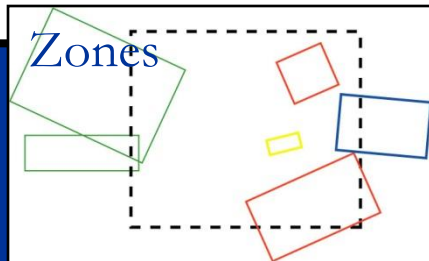
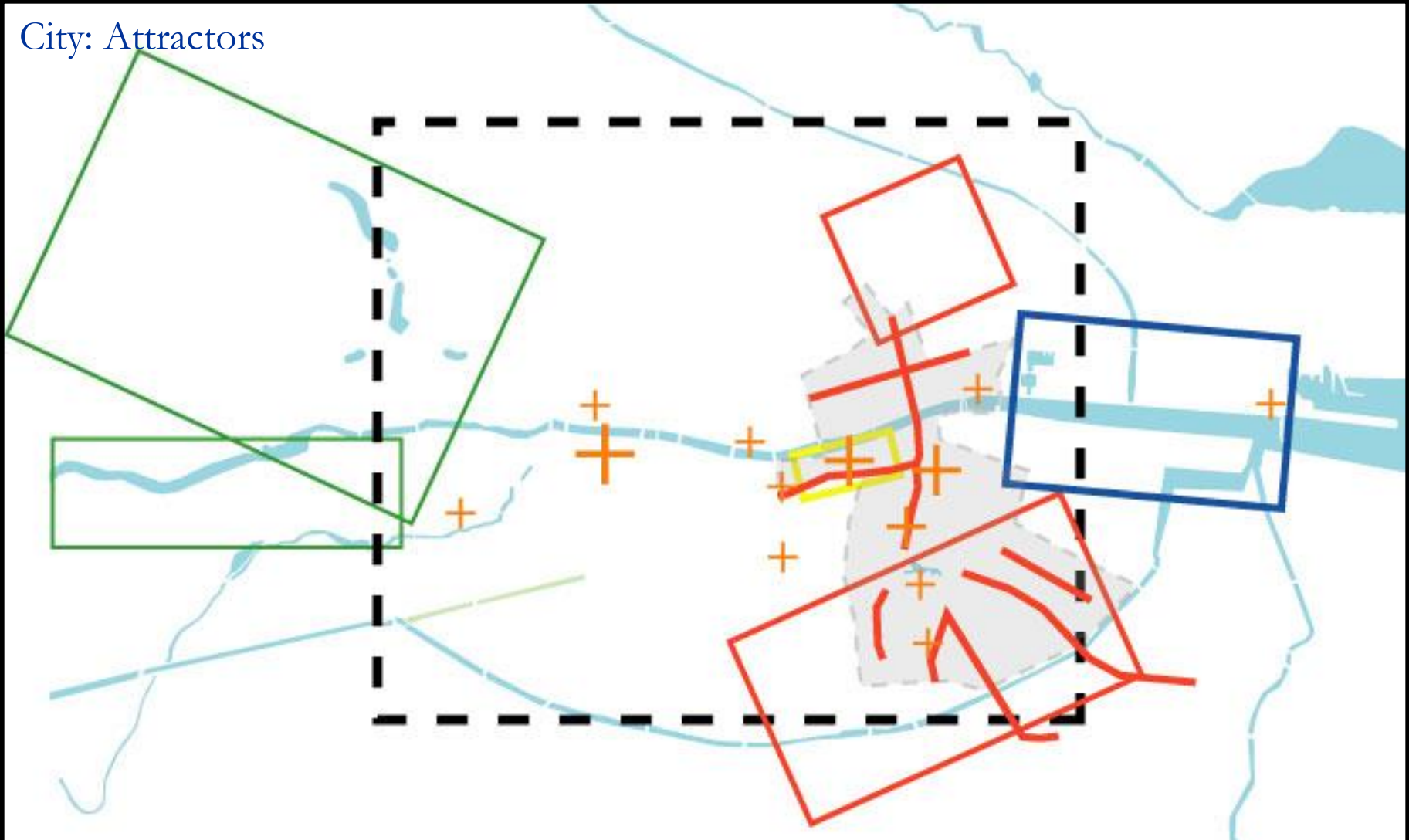
Max Euweplein, Amsterdam

- Strategic development location.
- local interventions for improvement.
- two locations rôle(s) - 2 distinct areas + rôles.
- the allocation of urban functions
- relationship with other areas, near + far.
- specific qualities emphasized.
- specific problems dealt with.
- quality of public open spaces - improve existing and create new ones.



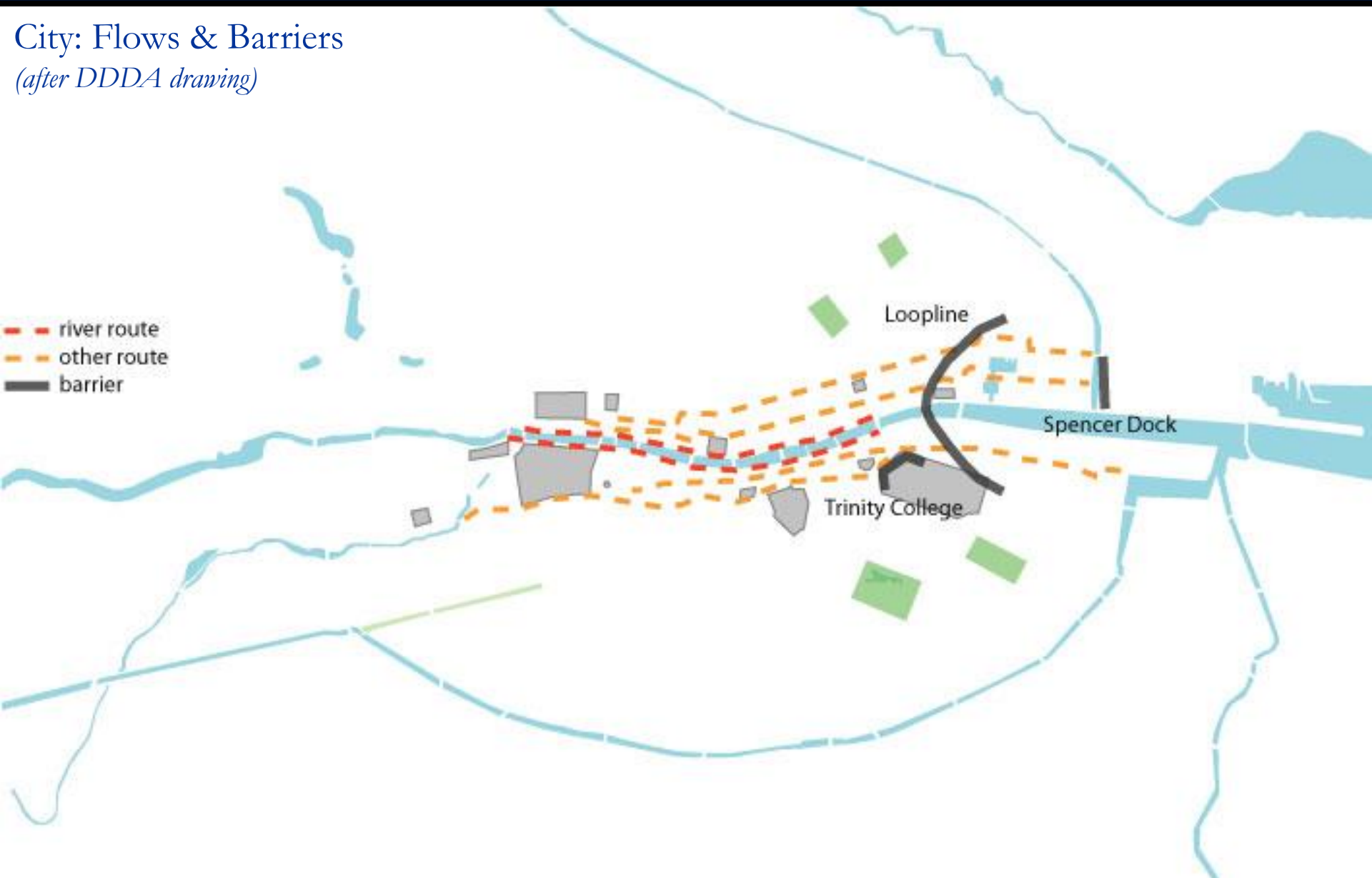


# City: Attractors



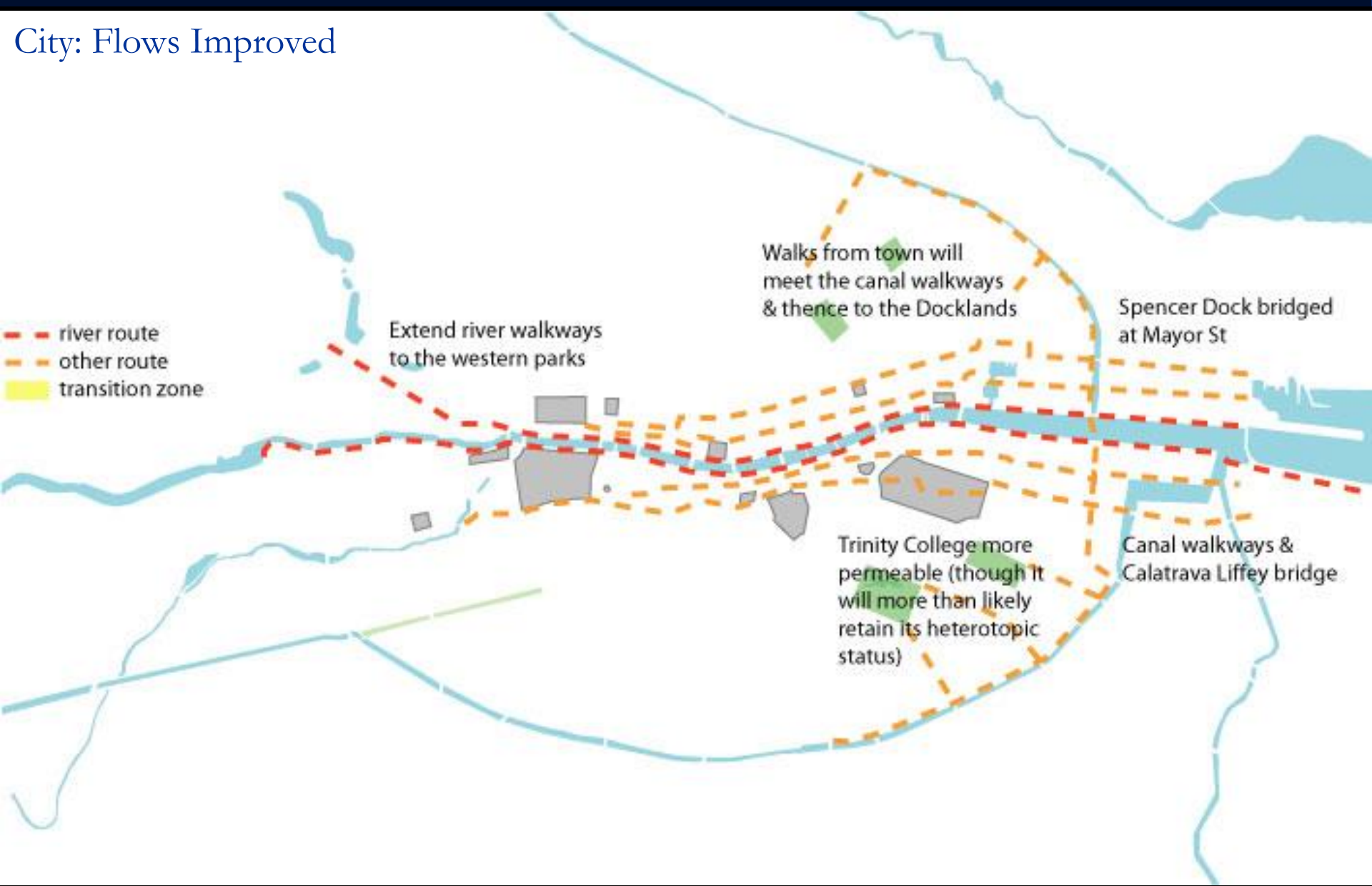
# City: Flows & Barriers

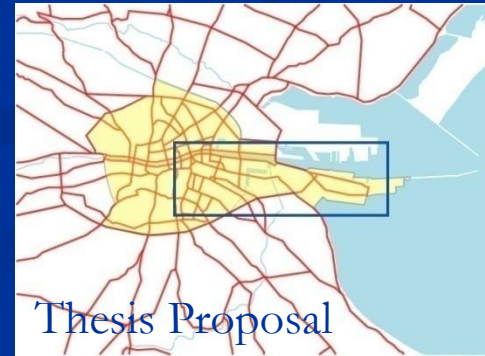
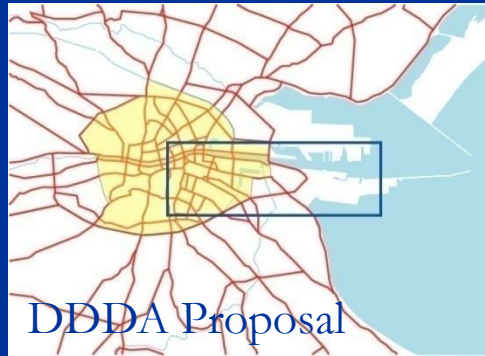
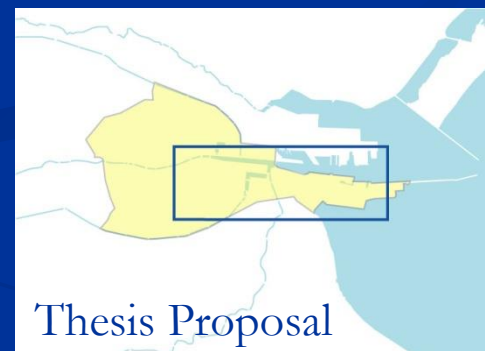
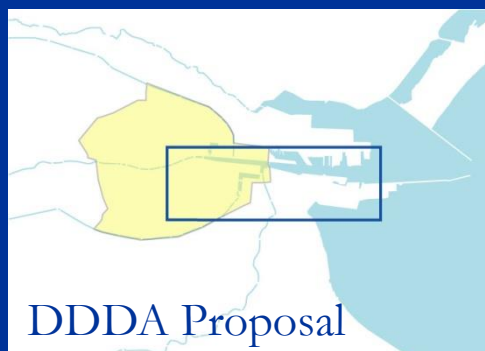
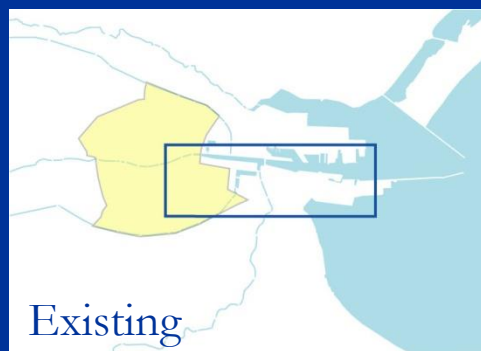
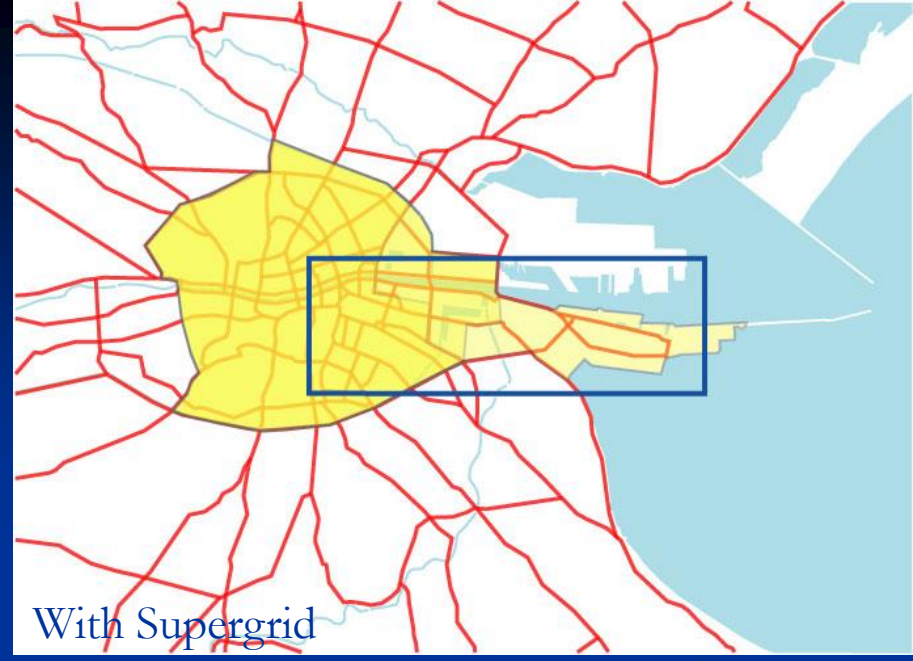
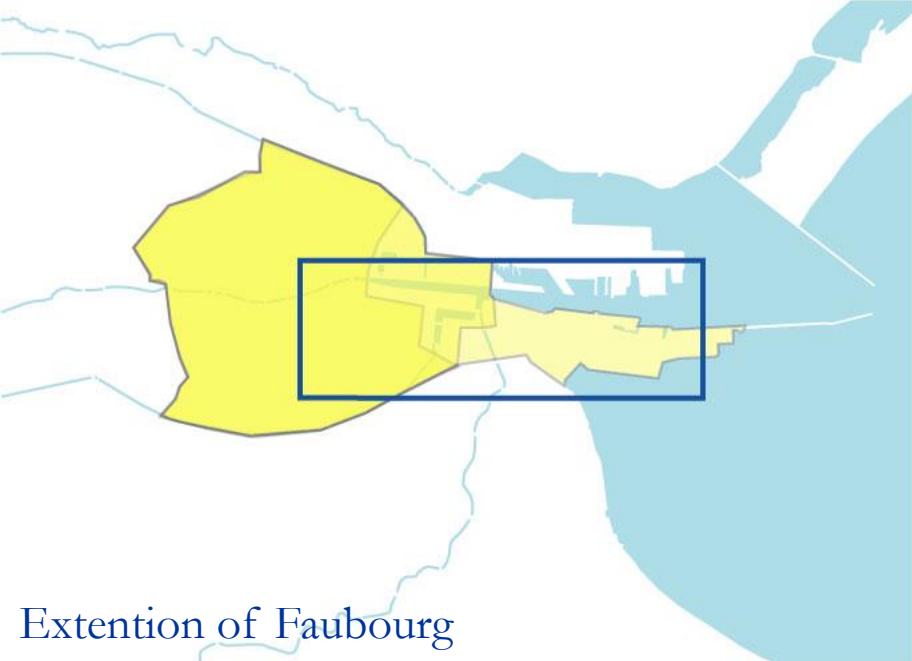
(after DDDA drawing)



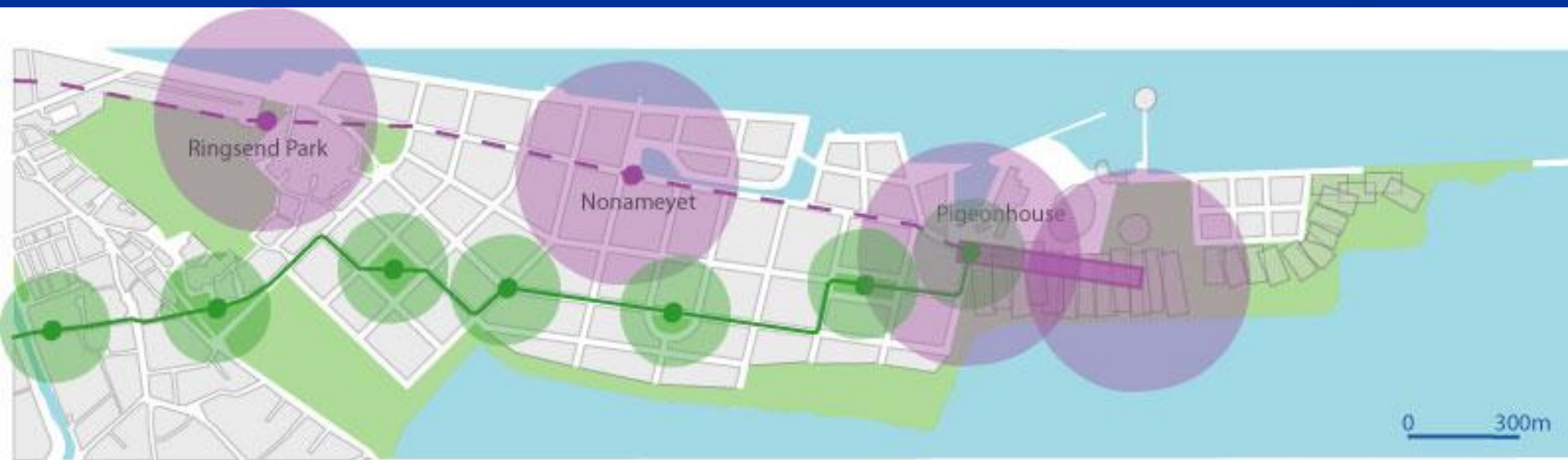


# City: Flows Improved















# CONTACT

**Dr. Qu Lei**

L.Qu@tudelft.nl

**Dr. Ir. Gregory Bracken**

G.Bracken@tudelft.nl