

Renovation for personalization: A development arm for sustainable housing

Synopsis:

Renovation is a common phenomenon in mass housing schemes in Malaysia. It is a personalization process aiming at establishing household's meanings of home and expected affordances. It turns the unsuitable housing unit design provided by the developers into a more liveable residential environment for the dwellers. However, the practice despite being regarded as a Malaysian culture, has not received sufficient assistance from building actors, including the government sectors. Studies in the field are also scarce. This book attempts to explain the practice from the point of view of sustainable housing development. It highlights the central contribution of user participation in the creation of environment that fit the users. The practice is argued as a housing development arm, probably equivalent if not more important than the formal mode of housing provision in creating sustainable housing. The book also suggests various aspects to be considered in developing the personalization programme for practical implementation.

Renovation for personalization: A development arm for sustainable housing

Table Of Contents

Preface

Tables

Figures

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION The Nature of Housing Provision in Malaysia: The Forcing Factors to Renovate

The Lack of User Participation

Renovation as a Process of Personalization

Personalization is a Universal Practice

About This Book

CHAPTER 2 A SCENARIO OF THE MALAYSIAN PERSONALIZATION PRACTICES The Eagerness to Personalize

The Need to Personalize: An Inevitable Reality?

The Inappropriate House Design

Like a Kongsu House

The Undersized Spaces

Breaking the Rules

“I Want It My Way ...”

“So Hot and Poorly Ventilated”

“To Look Good is More Important than to Feel Good”

Poor Workmanship

Intense House Modification and High Cost Implication

The Lack of Proper Framework

Victims of the Unscrupulous Contractors

“Architects” of Personalization Projects are Not Necessarily the Architects

The Need for a Personalization Framework

CHAPTER 3 PERSONALIZATION AS A SUSTAINABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ARM

Conceptualizing Sustainable Housing Development

Housing Development that Facilitates an Achievement of Person–Environment Congruence (PEC)

Housing Development that Facilitates Establishment of Expected House Affordances and the Meaning of Homes

Housing Development that Facilitates Lifecycle Changes

Housing Development that Facilitates User Participation

Housing Development That Offers Flexible House Design for Future Modifications at Affordable Costs

Contribution of Personalization to Sustainable Housing

The Aftermath

Personalization Facilitates the Achievement of Person–Environment Congruence (PEC)

Personalization Enables Users to Establish Expected House Affordances

Personalization Facilitates Changes in the Size of a Household

Personalization Facilitates User Participation

Is Personalization a Development Arm?

CHAPTER 4 EMPHASISED HOUSE ATTRIBUTES IN PERSONALIZATION

The Forecourt

The Central Role of the Gate and Fencing and Front Facade

Forecourt Facilitates Community Interaction

Forecourt is Not a Car–Porch

The Living Room

Living Room is for Communal Activities

Living Room Facilitates Self-Image

The Kitchen

Kitchen as a Space for Family Gathering

Kitchen is a Space for Communal Activities

The Bedrooms

Minimum Number of Bedrooms

Personalization of the Dining Rooms

The Bathrooms and Toilets

CHAPTER 5 DEVELOPING THE PERSONALIZATION PROGRAMME

The Need to Develop the Personalization Programme

Contents of the Personalization Programme

The Design of a Housing Unit

Loosen the Setback Requirements

Flexible Layout and Construction Techniques

Allow for Vertical Extension

Controlling Frontage Design

Partial User Involvement

Review of the Role of Architects in Personalizable Housing

Review of Building and Planning Requirements

Developing Suitable User Participation Approaches for Personalization

Passive User Participation

Active User Participation

Training and Licensing of Personalization Assistants

CHAPTER 6 CONCLUSION

References

Index