



from urban inventory to action

structures and processes of the old town of Sulaymaniyah
Shekhan Quarter in the old City of Sulaimani- Case Study

Sulaymaniyah · Iraq

urban design and management workshop · May 2015



4 introduction

6 design area

8 lectures

lecture 1 • How to develop an urban design concept
- what is urban design, layers for urban inventory

lecture 2 • Development of Sulaimaniyah inner city district

lecture 3 • Understanding urban development processes (stakeholders, instruments)

lecture 4 • The Evaluation of Shekhan Quartier in old City of Sulaimaniyah with Kevin Lynch Theories

lecture 5 • Tools to develop an urban design concept
- methods, concept elaboration

lecture 6 • Occidentalization of Local Architecture

lecture 7 • managing urban development processes
- tools and approaches

lecture 8 • Traditional city center of sulaimani past and present

10 student work

14 editorial

15 impressions

introduction

Within the framework of the cooperation project “Dialogue in Architecture, Urban Design and Management for Curriculum Development” between BTU and the University of Sulaimani in the Kurdish region of Iraq, the urban design and management workshop in Sulaimai is hold, focusing on the current debate of inner city districts in Kurdish region.

The study area is an inner city quarter of the old city of Sulaimani facing exemplary challenges of inner city district with traditional urban structures.

The study area is characterized by:

- challenges of inner city districts in Kurdish region due to urban development trends
- functional mixture (i.e. housing, small workshops, public functions, open space)
- range of urban typologies
- range of stakeholders

The workshops aims in understanding the urban structures and processes in the project area. The overall goal is the identification of fields of action areas of sustainable development for the exemplary study area of the inner city district of Sulaimani.

Starting point will be an analysis in form of an inventory of urban structures and processes. In the next step the analysis will be summarized in form of strengths and weaknesses of the project area. This helps to formulate draft action areas for the future urban development which are derived from and are adapted to the context.

The target group are master students and bachelor students from the 4th and 5th year from Sulaimani University, Architecture department. Further the workshop is an integrated part of the study course “Urban Design and Local Architecture”, spring term 2015 in Sulaimani University.

Lecturers from BTU, namely Carolin Pätsch and Christoph Wessling, and lecturers and professors from Sulaimani University will guide the analytical work of the students and give input lectures about the methodological approach and urban challenges in Sulaimani and good case studies and examples from Germany and Europe.

Structure

The workshop contains three basic elements:

- lectures from Kurdish and German professors and lecturers (may be also professionals)
- work in student teams supervised by lecturers
- colloquium and discussion of outcomes

In the analytical part (2 days) the students teams will focus on the following aspects to understand the area and to get a deeper insight in urban processes:

- history,
- urban structure
- previous and current plans (instruments)
- socio-economic conditions
- stakeholders and responsibilities.

The analysis will result in the identification of strengths and weaknesses of urban structures and processes in the project area.

In the last step students will deduct draft fields of actions and the directions of development for the project area. (1 day)

Output

students learning objective:

The participating students should learn a multidimensional analytical approach to urban design and management. They will learn about the handling with urban development instruments.

In addition the students will train to summarize and abstract information in an objective. By identifying the fields of action, students will learn how to use analytical knowledge to create own ideas.

lecturers discussion objective:

The students workshop will provide an arena for the lecturer to exchange about urban planning approaches and urban analysis in Iraq and Germany. This will help to get a common understanding of urban planning of the project partners.

fig.1 Sulaimaniyah, source:
program paper of work-
shop



design area

The Shekhan Quarter Sulaimaniyah

The Shekhan Quarter is a part of the old City of Sulaimaniyah. Therefore the neighbourhood is characterized by irregular and narrow streets and a compact building structure.

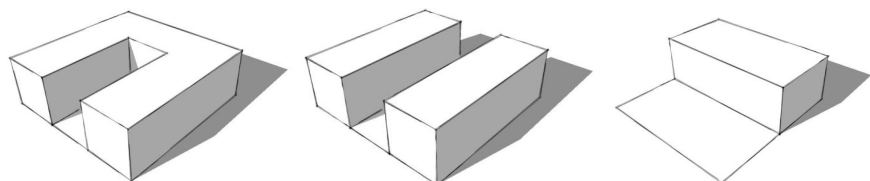
fig.2 Master Plan Sulaimaniyah



fig.3 old city of Sulaimaniyah, source: lecture Sulaimaniyah - history and current urban development



fig.4 typologies in the old city of Sulaimaniyah, source: lecture Sulaimaniyah - history and current development



Shakhan

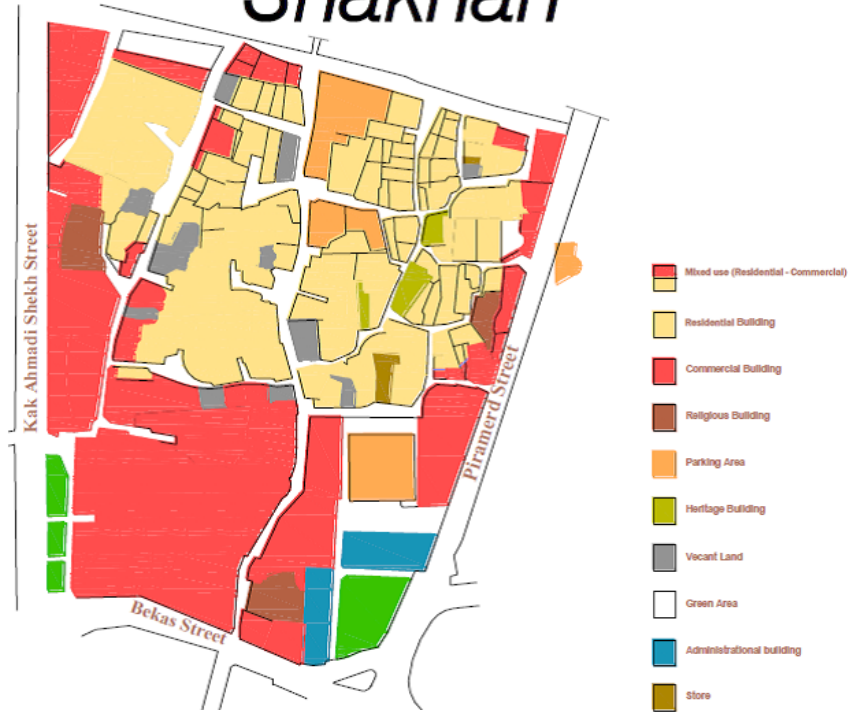


fig.5 Shekhan Quarter Sulaimaniyah, source: lecture Sulaimaniyah - history and current urban development



fig.6 building plots

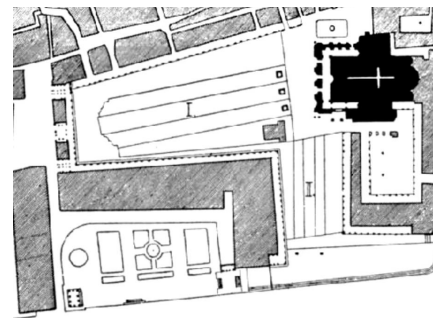
fig.7 Potsdam, basic structure of the historic town, source: lecture of Christoph Wessling - Urban Design Definition and Examples for the studio work



fig.8 left: public, common and private space



fig.9 right: Venice Marcus Square , Dialogue of an important building and the public space



source: lecture of Christoph Wessling - Urban Design Definition and Examples for the studio work



fig.10 designing a quarter in three dimensions, source: lecture of Christoph Wessling - Urban Design Definition and Examples for the studio work

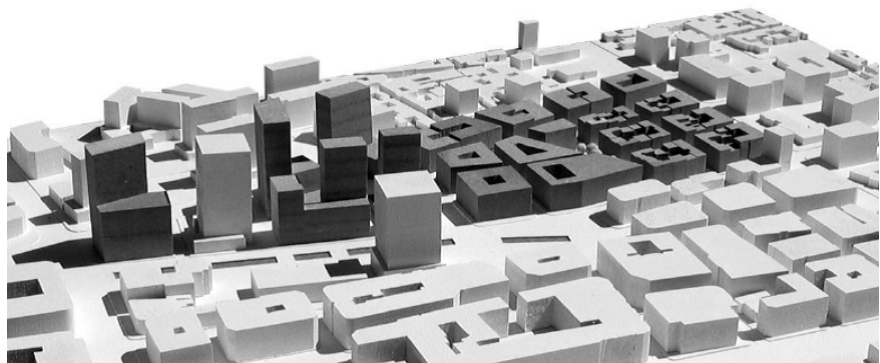
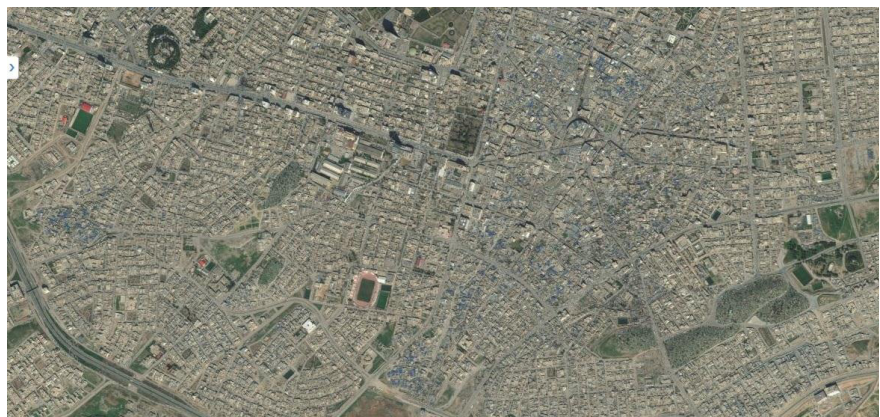


fig.11 inner city of Sulaimaniyah, source: lecture Sulaimaniyah - history and current development



lecture 1 · How to develop an urban design concept - what is urban design, layers for urban inventory

Dipl.-Ing. Christoph Wessling, BTU Cottbus - Senftenberg

Urban Design means organising the basic structure of urban settlements. Private and public plots are defined and different urban elements are brought into a composition. There is always a dialogue between the building and the public space surrounding it. Both, space and building are designed in three dimensions. In a last point Urban Design means also place making. The working scale in the designing process varies from 1 to 5000 to 1 to 500. Specific locations and objects are defining a city in a first step. Junctions and streets define the grid in a second step. The building fields lay between those streets. They contain different typologies for diverse functions and needs.

lecture 2 · Development of Sulaimaniyah inner city district

Diya Adil Taib, University of Sulaimani

Sulaymaniyah is characterized by its topography. The city is surrounded by Azmer, Goyija & Qaiwan Ranges in the northeast, Baranan Mountain in the south and Tasluja Hills in the west. The old part of Sulaimaniyah is very compact and it has irregular and narrow streets. The new urban structure surrounding the centre has a regular urban pattern with more open spaces and green areas. 84 houses in the city centre are heritage buildings. The ratio of existing heritage building among all the building in the city center is about 2%. The three mostly used building form types in the old town are the open-sided courtyard building, two open-sided courtyard building and the front yard building. The main characteristics of traditional buildings forms are their irregular forms, their low-rise (up to two floors), the large and private yard, the small openings and windows which are facing to the courtyard. Typical traditional architectural building elements are the Semi-circle arc (round), the Curved arc, the Pointed arc (in balconies) and the Ewan (Iwan). Traditional local founded building materials were brick, mud, wood, stone and gypsum.

lecture 3 · Understanding urban development processes - stake holders, instruments

Carolin Pätsch, BTU Cottbus - Senftenberg

Urban development is neutral against the term urban planning. All urban processes are subsumised under the term. Several different processes are part of urban development: urban regeneration, migration, sustainability, events/ festivalisation and inner city development. In order to achieve a goal or to guide the development of the city, different elements of the city have to be steered. Urban steering is not only controlling but more active influence of urban development. Steering is done to respond to the challenges demographic or economic development by instruments. In general the main stakeholders in urban development are from the public and private sector. It is typical for stakeholders that they have different perspectives in most of the time. They are not citizens but they can be investors, owners, tourists, consumers. In one category citizens are actors in the market. But stakeholders can also be citizens as part of a social group, political party or nongovernmental organisation. In that way they influence politics. The concept which tries to capture all the interactions is governance.

fig.12 analysis levels from left to right: topography, history, circulation, plot, building structure, building typology, public space, invisible city, environment/ecology, socio-economical circumstances



source: lecture of Christoph Wessling - Tools to develop an urban design concept

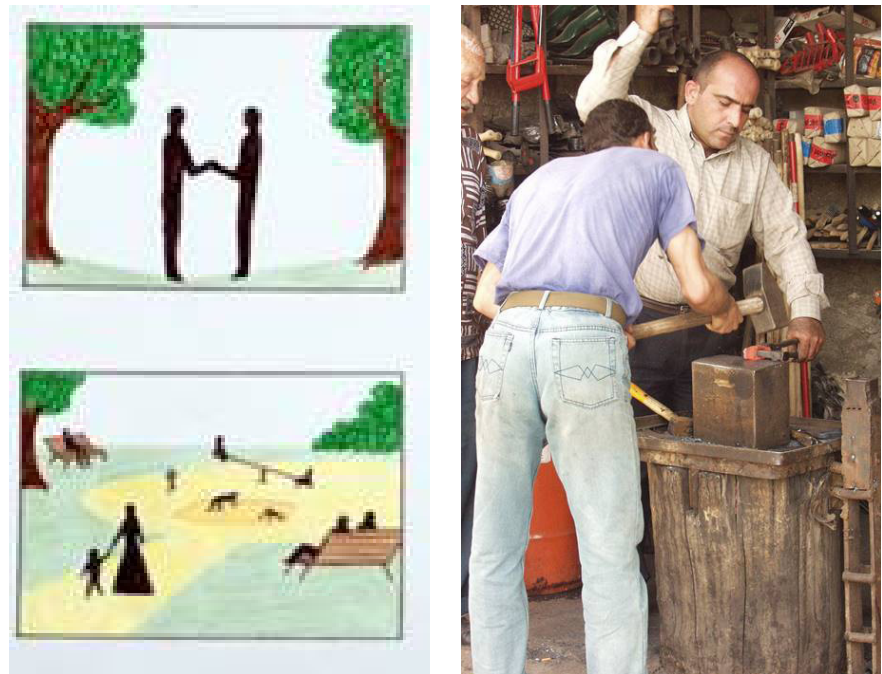
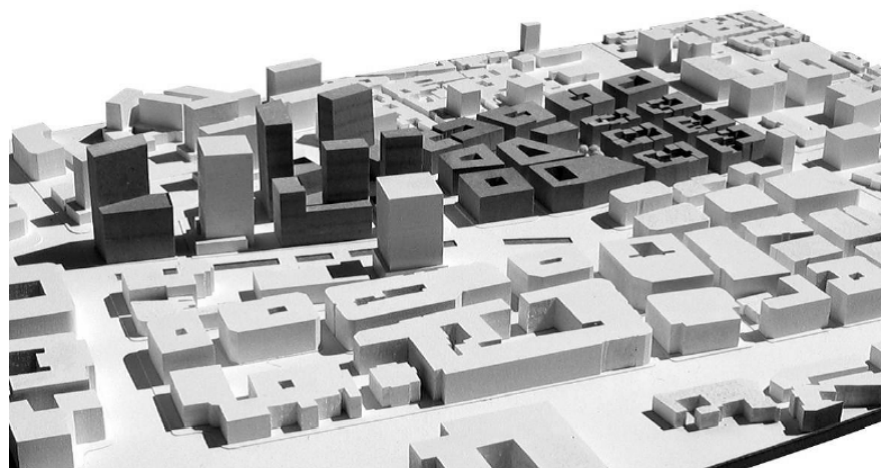


fig.13 designing in 3D

source: lecture of Christoph Wessling - Tools to develop an urban design concept



lecture 4 · The Evaluation of Shekhan Quartier in old City of Sulaimaniyah with Kevin Lynch Theories

Ako Noory Mohamad, University of Sulaimani

lecture 5 · Tools to develop an urban design concept - methods, concept elaboration

Dipl.-Ing. Christoph Wessling, BTU Cottbus - Senftenberg

There are six steps for developing an Urban Design Concept. At first the problem has to be defined. In a second step the goal has to be set. Thirdly a reality check should contain an analysis of the situation and the existing structures on all relevant levels. The most important analysis levels are topography, circulation/ communication system, plot, building structure, building typology, public space, environment and ecology and the invisible city. Another analysis topic are the socio-economical circumstances and the conditions of life. It is also important to have an overview of the already existing plans and their actuality. The fourth step concerns the formulation of the main ideas and the definition of the guidelines. After that, the real designing of a concept on different scales starts. At last, the elaboration of a strategy for implementation should be done. In conclusion Urban Design Concepts should be elaborated on a complex analysis and research of the existing situation and the specific structures. Finally Urban Design Concepts could look quite simple, to be resilient for the development process and unexpected changes. The defined structures must be stable to guarantee a qualified development and to integrate the needed flexibility for further planning steps.

lecture 6 · Occidentalization of Local Architecture

Wrya Sabir Abdullah, University of Sulaimani

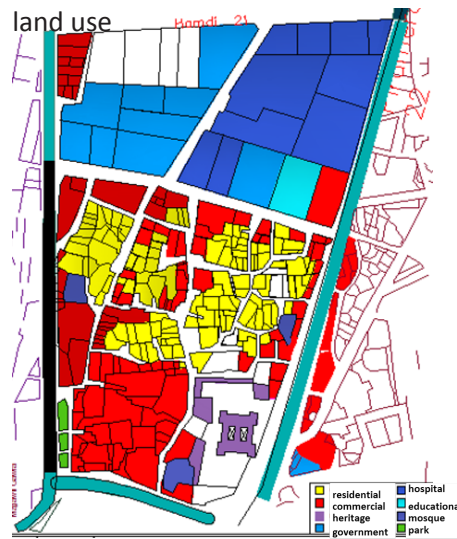
lecture 7 · managing urban development processes - tools and approaches

Carolin Pätsch, BTU Cottbus - Senftenberg

The term urban management came up in the 1980th due to several reasons. Cities in developing countries grow much faster than in industrialised countries. So occasions for urban management are various. They appear in capacity dimensions, financial dimensions, diversity dimensions, and authority dimensions. For a sustainable future the growth must be steered to balance ecology, economy and social aspects of development. On the one hand we have an increasing need because of a growing population which creates demands in various areas. This is reinforced by complexity of stakeholders and ongoing reforms, i.e. decentralization. And on the other hand there are limited financial resources, weak fiscal revenue and a lack of technical management skills. Connected with poor coordination and not existing efficient regulations this causes a big backlog in terms of steering. The need of urban management is depending on the challenges which are existing. There are changing roles of government, new legal frameworks, new information technologies and new priorities. Urban problems can't be resolved just on urban structure level. The institutional setting (administration and politics) play an important role as well. Urban management is addressing all these levels- integrated structure. So in Germany there are formal and informal instruments.

lecture 8 · Traditional city center of sulaimani past and present

Amjad A. Qaradagi, University of Sulaimani



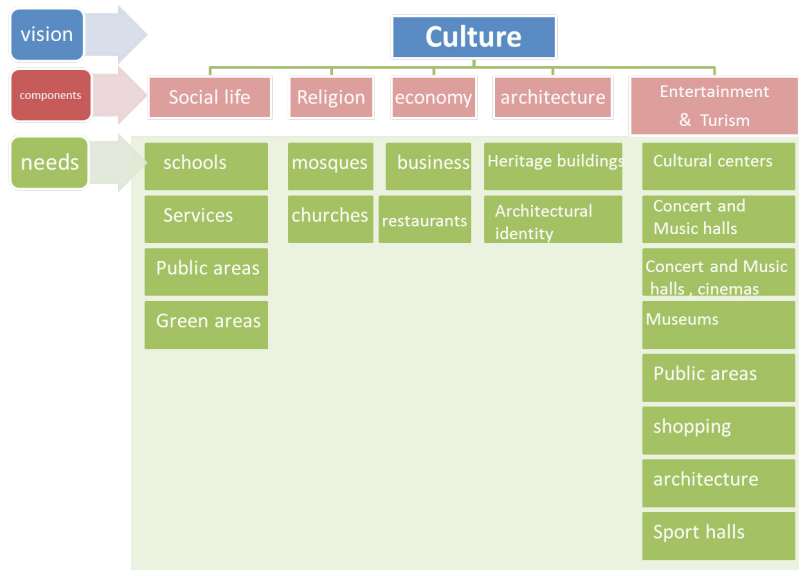
Cultural Center of Sulaimani

Why?

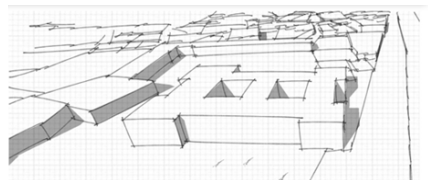
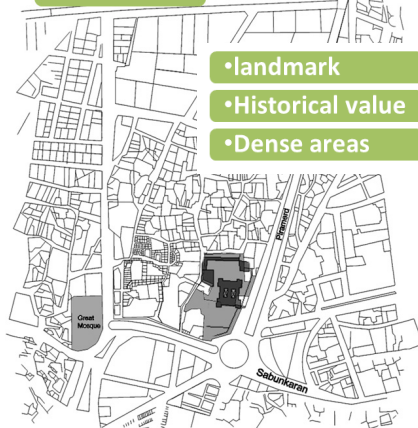
Because Sulaimani is now considered as a cultural capital of Kurdistan region

Culture Definition : Culture is the characteristics and knowledge of a particular group of people, defined by everything from language, religion, cuisine(food), social habits, music and arts... etc.

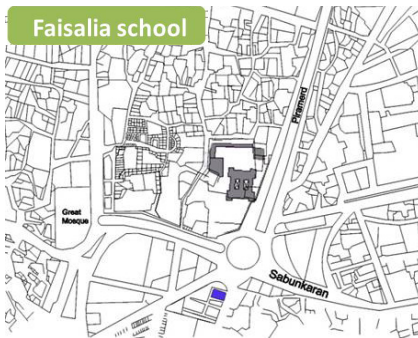
What are cultural components ?



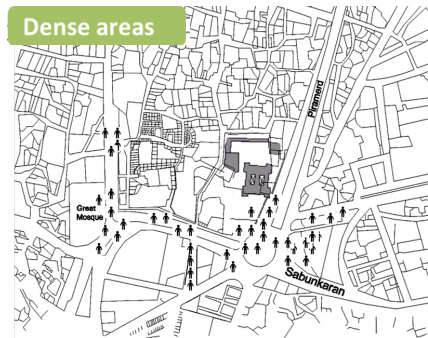
Potentials



Faisalia school



Dense areas



- Historical value

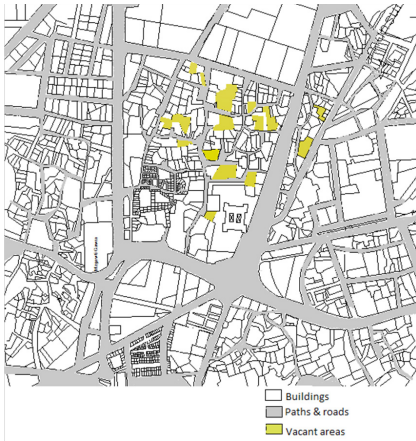
- Traditional arch.

Demolishing the current building

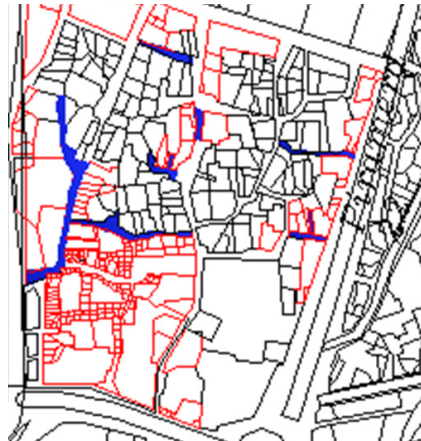
Demolishing the current building

•Fund by government

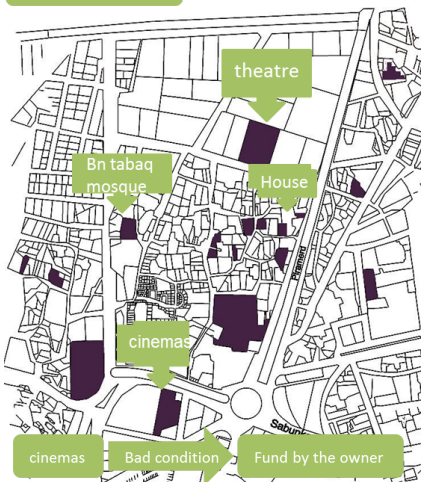
Vacant areas



Urban fabric



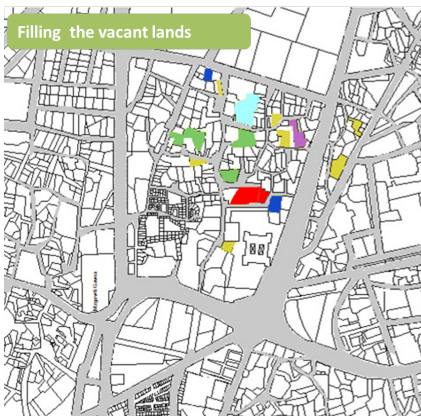
Cultural spaces



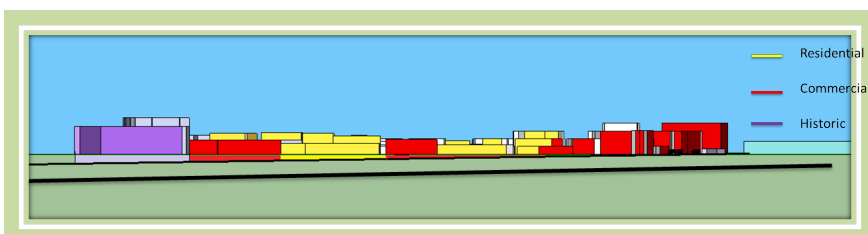
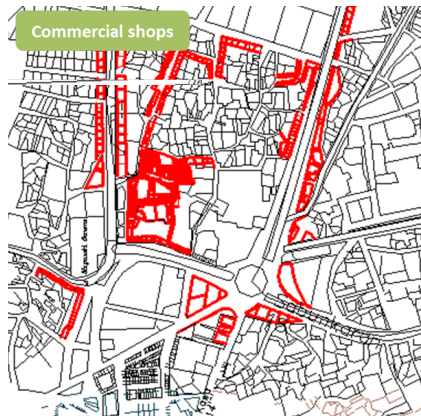
Durability & typology of traditional building



Filling the vacant lands

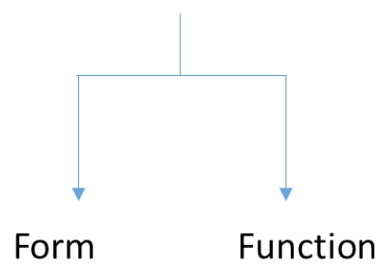


Commercial shops



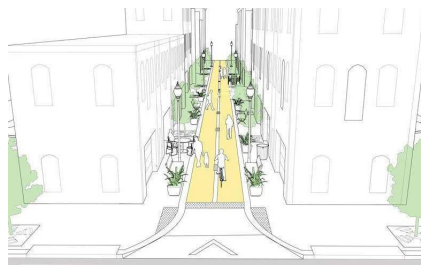
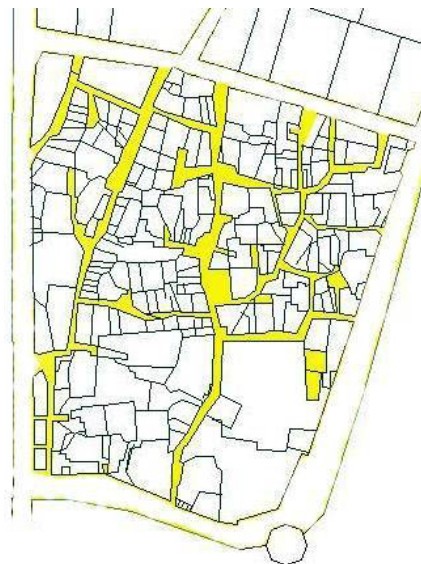
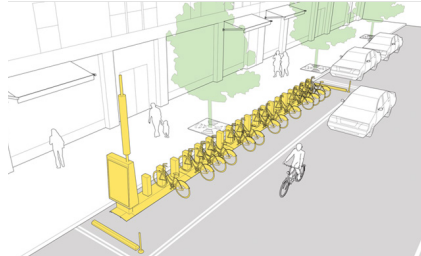
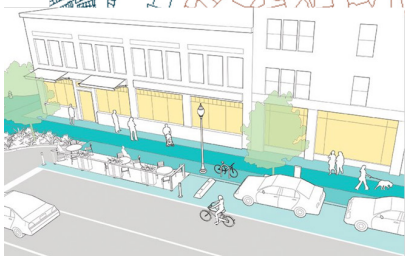
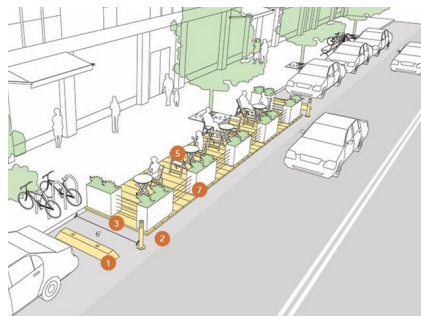


Rehabilitation



objectives/ goals

- 1 . Rehabilitating Historical Buildings
- 2 . New organization of traffic system
- 3 .preserving the Urban structure
- 4 . Qualifying the public spaces
5. preserving the small Shop units / supporting the traders



German - Middle East Cooperation in Urban Design and Architecture in Historic City Districts
Sulaimani University · BTU Cottbus - Senftenberg

Project: Dialogue in Architecture, Urban Design and Management for Curriculum Development

University of Sulaimani, Faculty for Engineering, Department of Architecture

lecturer: Mr. Ako Noory Mohamad · Mr. Wrya Sabir Abdullah · Mrs. Mayada Hikmet Yousif · Mr. Hendren Hamid Abdulrahman · Mr. Rawand Khasraw Jalal · Mrs. Diya Adil Taib · Mrs. Raz · Mr. Sherko Kader
students: Students from Architectural Department

integrated in the course: Urban Design and Local Architecture
Sulaimani University, Architecture Program
Prof. Dr. Abdullah .y. Tayib · Asst. Prof. Dr. Amjad Md Ali Qaradaghi

BTU Cottbus, Faculty for Architecture, Urban Development and Design

professors: Prof. Heinz Nagler, Prof. Dr. Silke Weidner
assistent professors: Christoph Wessling, Carolin Pätsch

organisation Germany:

BTU Cottbus, Faculty Architecture, Civil Engineering and Urban Planning
Chair for Urban Design, Prof. Heinz Nagler
Middle East Cooperation Unit, Christoph Wessling
Chair of Urban Management, Prof.Dr. Silke Weidner · Carolin Pätsch

organisation Iraq:

University of Sulaimani, Faculty for Engineering, Department of Architecture
Sherko Kader

University Partnership Iraq - Germany

Dialogue in Architecture, Urban Design and Management for Curriculum Development funded by DAAD e.V. Germany



title photo source: <http://static.panoramio.com/photos/large/61935248.jpg>

impressions



