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Revitalizing of lost space: Use temporary strategies to solve Chinese urban-society-caused block abandoned issues

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L&A	A landscape and architecture design firm	
PADAF	Plateforme des Acteurs de Demain (Absolument fantastique)	
	A project carried out by Plateau Urbain in Antony	
UABB	Bi-city Biennale of Urban/Architecture	
URBANUS	An architecture design firm of China	

Abstract

This research aims to use temporary strategies to solve the inequality and disconnected urban issues. Firstly, urban issues are studies based on literature discussing the global condition and mechanism of the problem. Secondly, the research will focus on temporary urbanism. Mainly discuss what is temporary urbanism, the drivers, pros, and cons of temporary urbanism and why using it to solve the problem that was raised. Thirdly it will include two detailed case studies (Les Grands Voisins, Nantou Ancient City) which are located in France and China, meanwhile comparing their differences and similarities. Finally, based on the case studies, the research will provide two different proposals on two sites in China, meanwhile making own suggestions on Chinese future urban planning.

Keywords

Temporary urbanism, temporary use, temporary strategy, disconnection, vacant land, urban planning, urban design, public participation, urban renewal, urban village

Methods of research used

Literature research method

After selecting the topic, through literature research collecting large numbers of literature and conducted in-depth research, since temporary urbanism is a new topic, different people have different interpretations. Learning different cases mentioned in researches, and then summarized the definition of temporary urbanism, application scope, and characteristics of temporary urbanism, to provide the theoretical basis for the later research.

Survey method

With large quantities of researches, the current use of temporary urbanism in France and China have been learned, and finally selected two representative cases for further research to explore the impact of temporary urbanism on urban development, and obtain the two countries' relevant policies of temporary urbanism, these will help the development of the proposals afterward.

Observation method

In the proposals, by using the observation method, to carry out the on-site investigation, including surroundings and inner environment, transportations, existing buildings' condition, population structure, distribution of public space. Through the senses, form the first impression of the site, then combine other methods to carry out the proposals.

Introduction

i. Temporary urbanism

In the process of urban development, some forgotten areas have frequently emerged. Those "forgotten areas", which are generated by the complexity of urban planning and spontaneous environmental factors, tend to have social, economic, and physical gaps with surrounding areas. The relative research about these "forgotten areas" can be dated back to 1986 (Trancik)¹. Definition of "vacant land" and "lost space" was described. Later on, "Crack in the city" (1996, Loukaitou-Sideris)², "Vacant Land" (Pagano & Bowman) ³, "Loose space" (2007, Franck)⁴, These relative researches have been published to study this global urban issue, which mainly focuses on the physical disconnection (A certain area of the city forms a great contrast with the surrounding area in terms of traffic, environment, accessibility, and urban planning blueprints). Subsequently, there are numerous studies that paid more attention to non-physical disconnection (social, economic, community isolation). For example, the "New Urban Crisis" (2018, Florida)⁵ illustrated the phenomenon of cluster segregation in American cities, also a large amount of research was carried out in China for "Urban villages".

These different types of "forgotten areas" have different features based on diverse urban conditions. Meanwhile, researchers' opinions of the areas are different. The mainstream studies believe that these areas have a negative impact on the process of urban development. However, some others hold the opinion that there are certain positive influences due to the land attribute of flexibility. At the beginning of the research, the study of this urban issue, including what it is and why it emerges. After, Due to the Scattered distribution of this land and the high requirement of flexible solutions (because these areas usually temporarily popped up in the city and would be replaced

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¹ Trancik R, (1986), Finding Lost space: Theories of urban design, New York, John Wiley & sons.

² Loukaitou Sideris A, (1996) «Cracks in the city: Addressing the constraints and potentials of urban design», *Journal of Urban Design*, (1,1).

³ Bowman Ann, Pagano Michael, (2004), *Terra Incognita: Vacant Land and Urban Strategies (American Government and Public Policy)*, Georgetown University Press, 2004.

⁴ Franck A Karen, Stevens Quentin, (2007), *Loose space, possibility and diversity in urban life*, Routledge, 0–415–70116–3.

⁵ Florida Richard, (2018), *The new urban crisis*, Epilogue, 978-0-465-07974-2.

by new urban plan), Temporary strategies are proved (by case studies and theoretical analysis) that it's a feasible solution to tackle with "forgotten areas" issues.

In order to verify the feasibility of temporary strategies, general information (e.g. definition of temporary urbanism, the historical development of the theories, and mechanism of temporary uses) was studied. According to former studies and the preliminary research that have done before. The research proposed own understanding of temporary strategy or temporary urbanism "It is the activity-based use of space during a relatively short time, which has already defined beginning and end". Meanwhile, according to the definition, there are two main elements that were extracted. Time and events. Based on these two elements, the research separates temporary strategies into 5 different typologies (economic gap, urban regeneration gap, festival onto the stage, grand event, and natural hazard). The drivers of these 5 temporary strategies were analysed. Finally, in order to understand how correspondent is it between temporary strategies and the urban issues the research raised up, pros and cons are listed and analysed one by one. According to all these analyses, it can demonstrate that in most aspects, temporary strategies can effectively solve the problems of land inequality and disconnection. However, the implementation should follow the instructions that the research has put forward at the end of chapter 2.

ii. Urban development status in China

Throughout the process of global urbanization, urban renewal in Western developed countries has undergone post-war reconstruction, rapid economic growth, and urban transformation. It has started long before China. The lessons they had brought by "removing the old and building new ones" and "cleaning up slums" are now being repeated in China, the development process of China's urban renewal has gone through the "full utilization" of the old city in the early stage of the planned economy, the "new outside and the old inside" of the old city in the later stage of the planned economy, and the rapid development of urban construction in reform and opening up until the 1990s. The urban renewal is gradually on the right track.

At present, the main problems facing in China's urban renewal are:

1. Excessive development within the old city, the new city is gradually marginalized

With the rise of the real estate industry, more and more developers have begun to occupy the old city because it is the central area of the city. At the same time, driven by economic interests, they are pursuing high yields, thereby not hesitating to harm the overall efficiency of the city and the quality of the environment. At the same time, real estate developers are keen on commercial buildings and office buildings that can be profitable in a short period of time. In addition, government departments have limited financial resources, resulting in a lack of public infrastructure in the old city.

2. The rise of surface engineering

There are multiple stakeholders in the process of urban renewal, mainly the government, the market, and the public. In order to achieve results in a short period of time and highlight political achievements, some places do not hesitate to carry out image projects, which cannot fundamentally solve social problems, but cause new problems, such as traffic chaos, insufficient public facilities, etc.

"When the city government uses urban regeneration as a profit-making tool, and ordinary citizens are excluded outside the decision-making process of renewal, urban regeneration also deviates from its basic value guidelines." (2009.9, Wang)¹

3. Poor social relations and interest structures, lead to increased social instability

In the process of urban regeneration, mainly involves the interests of the three parties, the government, real estate developers, and the demolished residents, those residents request compensation for losses, but due to Chinese land regulations, residents have no

¹ Wang Lingxi, (2009) «Analysis of the status, characteristics and problems of urban renewal in China», Lilundaobao (9), 2009.

ownership rights and are not qualified to conduct land transactions, so they lose the right to negotiate. Developers maximize revenue by increasing building density and building heights to increase floor area ratios, leading to one after another in the centre of the city. The relevant information mentioned in Lingxi WANG's ¹ article shows that the government receives approximately 60% to 70% of the distribution of land income from land-use conversion and appreciation, developers will get 20% to 30%, while the residents can only get 5% to 10%, the imbalance in the distribution of benefits makes the residents who should have benefited become victims of urban development.

4. The historical and cultural characteristics of the city have been impacted

China is a country with a long cultural history. Many cities have unique cultural features and landscape features. However, the current urban regeneration in China lacks the protection and understanding of the historical context of the city, and seeking rapid interests, has led to many historical and cultural monuments and neighbourhoods suffered various degrees of damage.

iii. The aim of the research

Urban renewal has only started in China and lacks experience and supervision. Compared with Western countries, temporary urbanism or transitional use is rare in China. Although there have been cases of temporary use of vacant buildings before in China, such as the open space undeveloped is used as a parking lot, and the vacant building is used as a warehouse, but these cannot have a positive impact on society, economy, and space. Due to the ambiguity of the concept of temporary urbanism, China has not yet formulated relevant regulatory policies, and the provision of temporary buildings in China can only exist for two years, which also discourages some thoughtful groups. In addition, there is a lack of public participation in urban renewal in China, and there are few civil organizations. Most cities follow a top-down process.

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¹ Wang Lingxi, (2009) «Analysis of the status, characteristics and problems of urban renewal in China», Lilundaobao (9), 2009.

China is a developing country and is undergoing rapid development. This also has high requirements for urban development. Projects are not allowed to fail and cause waste. Therefore, when using temporary urbanism, most groups are very cautious and can say it is rarely used. Under the high-pressure situation, many cities have similar images. Projects are too conservative and lack new ideas. Temporary urbanism can promote the generation of concepts, provide different ideas for a project, and use low cost to stimulate urban development, because of its temporary, it is easy to realize some impossible projects, such as the micro-renewal of communities in China in recent years, through cultural exhibitions, public art activities and other acupuncture interventions to improve the decaying community space and add vitality. The research hopes that through the interpretation of temporary urbanism and the study of excellent cases, some suggestions for the development of China's future cities will be put forward, and to promote the development of temporary urbanism in China, so as to change the phenomenon of thousands of cities are in the same character in China and lead cities to develop according to their own characteristics.

iv. The general structure of the research

In the research, it is separated into 4 main parts, firstly using the literature research method to study the different interpretations and cases in the various literature, in order to summarize possible temporary strategies to tackle current urban issues. Secondly, carry out two representative case studies in detail, one in France, and the other in China, by comparing the similarities and differences, to understand the situations and instructions of temporary urbanism in different countries, and then extract the useful information for afterward parts. Thirdly, through the case studies, providing two different proposals in the same city of China, by using different typologies of temporary urbanism, one is the reconstruction of the urban village, maintaining the old buildings, and adding public functions to enhance the vitality of the community. Finally, combining case analysis, proposal, to sum up, the opinions, and make suggestions for future urban development and urban renewal as well as the use of temporary urbanism in China.

1 Contents of the urban issues

1.1 Urban issues: district inequity and disconnection

This research focuses on the 'special zone' in urban areas, the places which have huge gaps and disconnections due to diverse social, economic and urban planning problems. On one hand, these areas might physically disconnect with other places because of the inconveniences of transportation and lagging infrastructure. On the other hand, residences' incomes, which are lower than people in the rest of the city, will cause a cluster segregation.

In order to understand this phenomenon, the research approaches the issues according to three steps. Firstly, studying the phenomenon based on other references, to find out the definitions, typologies and other theoretical knowledge. Secondly some examples will be addressed in order to explain the situation of this phenomenon. Thirdly, in terms of former theoretical approaches and examples, the research points out the core problems and describe current global conditions.

Regarding this urban issue, it can be divided into two aspects. One is from the sociological perspective, there is a theory 'spatial mismatch' raised by William Julius Wilson in 1987, which mainly talked about the mismatch between low-income households' residence and suitable job opportunities (1987 Wilson)¹. 2500 years ago, Plato² said "any city, however small, is in fact divided into two, one the city of the poor, the other of the rich". Because of the economic imbalance, the gap between the rich and the poor in the region is created. This problem has frequently been addressed in recent researches. Richard Florida collected information of American cluster distributions in each city, it shows the detachment between creative clusters and service clusters. He classified cities with different typologies based on the form of cluster. In the first type, creative class effectively recolonizes the urban centre. For the second one, the creative class concentrated in the suburbs. In the third pattern, the entire metropolis is essentially cleaved in two. The fourth type finds the creative class is self-contained surrounded by

¹ Wilson Julius William, (1987), *The Truly Disadvantaged: the Inner City, the Underclass and Public Policy*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, ISBN: 0-226-90131-9.

² Plato, (360BC), The Republic, Book IV.

less advantage classes. (2018, Florida)¹. According to his states, the separation between advantage clusters and disadvantage clusters causes regionally urban inequity. For the other aspect, numerous "vacant land", "lost space" (1986, Trancik)², "loose space" (2007, Franck)³ and other relative theories have been addressed to study the abandoned land in the city. These researches regularly involve areas which have been 'forgotten' by rapid urban development. The lands are usually physically mismatched with the rest of the city without any consideration of economy and cluster mismatch. These are spaces that are in need of redesign, anti-spaces, making no positive contributions to the surroundings or users (1986, Trancik)². The descriptions for vacancy are neutral, they are negative to the surrounding environments, though they have the potential to create diverse activities.

However, the places that are well developed with high wage, convenient transformation, talented people always face the harshest levels of economic inequality and economic segregation (2018, Florida)¹. There are complex roots for this inequity and abandonment, following examples help us understand the situations and causes for these 'negative' lands based on characterized regional attributes. The zone is located in Rua da Associação, Trafaria in Portugal, it is completely different from other areas of the city. The houses in the area are almost temporary houses built with simple metal plates, there are no public spaces, the distance between each household is very close, and it doesn't meet the code for fire protection. This area is outside the jurisdiction of the city. The reason why it has a disconnection is that, due to geographical reasons, the area was not supplied with the modern electricity and freshwater system in the early days of the city's formation. After the problems have been on hold for many years, this area has become a gathering place for low-income people. Over time, the value of this piece of land declined, and there was no public transportation to connect to the rest of the city, which caused it to be almost completely isolated from other areas. In Detroit, similar inequality emerged, but with different drivers. The deindustrialization hollowed-out the centre of the city during "old urban crises". From Florida's cluster map, it is noticeable that most of the creative clusters live in the suburbs of Detroit. There is a huge inequality and gap

¹ Florida Richard, (2018), *The new urban crisis*, Epilogue, 978-0-465-07974-2.

² Trancik R, (1986), Finding Lost space: Theories of urban design, New York, John Wiley & sons.

³ Franck A Karen, Stevens Quentin, (2007), *Loose space, possibility and diversity in urban life*, Routledge, 0–415–70116–3.

kong. This area was very rich a few decades ago, but because of the problems of deindustrialization and aging, the per capita income of this area became the second lowest in Hong Kong. The difference in this area is that it is still physically connected to other parts of the city. However, due to the vicious circle of young people leaving, lack of labour, reduced income, etc., it is difficult to attract creative clusters. Then, the economic segregation and inequality have emerged.

Another inevitable topic for discussing disconnection and inequality urban issues is temporary immigration. Taking rural-to-urban immigration in China for example. In the process of urban development, a large number of rural populations flooded into cities because of the wealth and resources. These populations are termed as floating populations, which is numerous. The floating population was about 100 million persons in 1997, reported by Ministry of Public security, which is almost quarter of China's urban population (2002, Goodkind and Loraine)¹. And now the floating population will be more than before. For these immigrants, most people tend to live in "Urban Village" or suburbs in order to reduce house rental fees. The economic gap between immigrants and local residents, as well as social and culture gap cause isolations in several immigrant areas. Meanwhile, the highly educated young people are more likely to immigrate to urban areas than low educational young people (2002, Li and Zahniser)². Gathering of highly educated young people for several specific industries might lead to the cluster phenomenon of Silicon which was raised by Richard Florida. Highly developed industries and talents in a city lead to gentrification and regional isolation is also another issue.

Above all, the main problem is addressed: even in the same city, there may be strong gap and disconnections between different areas. However, this gap is not the traditional contrast between urban centres and suburbs. Relatively backward areas are sometimes located in every corner of the city in a dot-like manner, and even in the centre of the

¹ Goodkind Daniel, Lorraine A. West, (2002) «China's Floating Population: Definitions, Data and Recent Findings», *Urban Studies*, Vol. 39, No. 12, 2237-2250.

² Li Haizheng, Zahniser Steven, (2002) «The Déterminants of Temporary Rural-to-Urban Migration in China», *Urban Studies*, Vol. 39, No. 12, 2219-2235.

city (e.g. the case of an urban village in Guangdong, China). These gaps and disconnections are generally caused by physical disconnection (lag transportation and infrastructure) and cluster disconnection (economy and social issues).

1.2 The problems overview

Regarding the motives for the emergence of disconnected areas, physically caused by transportations. Transportation convenient places tend to gather more creative clusters (2018, Florida)¹. The area near the subway and expressway leading to the city centre and knowledge-based area (e.g. university, research centre) is often more likely to have a higher house rental price. On the contrary, the areas where there are not convenient transportation is more likely to have a lower rental price. The unaffordable rental price and gentrification process along the transportation line put the low-income classes to less convenient areas. Workers who reside far away from job opportunities may be confronted with high commuting costs that may deter them from accepting distant job offers (2005, Gobillon, Selod and Zenou)². Meanwhile, the company is also reluctant to accept long-commuter workers. This has caused poor people in areas with inconvenient transportation to become poorer, and the occurrence of a vicious circle such as an increase in the crime rate in the area has created a strong contrast between the area and the rest of the city.

But at the same time, many areas with convenient transportation have also been isolated from the city (e.g. Old industrial area in Detroit, Chinese urban village, Slum in Sanya Tokyo). Take Chinese 'Urban village' as an example, with fast urbanization in Chinese cities, some areas, even in the centre of the city, remain with the appearance of a 'village'. There are two main reasons, first is that if the urbanization process, the income of the 'villagers' (mainly comes from rental fees and dividends) would be cut off. Second, the developer has no incentive to develop this area. This phenomenon is similar

¹ Bishop Peter, Williams Lesley, (2012), *The Temporary City*, Routledge, 978-0-415-67055-5.

² Gobillon Laurent, Selod Harris and Zenou Yves, (2005) «The Mechanisms of Spatial Mismatch», *Routledge, Urban Studies*, Vol. 44, No. 12, 2401–2427.

to the gentrification dilemma. 'Villagers' are reluctant to be pushed away by the gentrification process. However, if the area remains as it is, there would be no investors attempting to spend money for new projects. Without being developed for a long time, the region will get more and more out of touch with the city, ultimately economically and socially disconnected. If analysing the old industrial area in Detroit, the mechanism would be different (the deindustrialization of factories in the city centre led to a wave of moving to suburbs. The hollowed-out city centre where numerous factories need to be retrofitted has a constant increasing criminal rate). Each city has a different urban development background, population composition, and community status. The study will not be able to draw a global inner mechanism, but the research will give characterized analysis for the site that has chosen.

1.3. Possible solution: temporary urbanism

When trying to establish connections between lagging areas and other parts of the city, there are usually contradictions. When developing these areas, it is inevitable to build new public facilities and attract investment. However, the capital-driven investment inevitably led to gentrification, which again, pushed poverty to another area. The "New urban crisis", which was raised by Florida, described the problem of economic segregation in rich cities. It's partially related to the same problem of disconnection. He put forward several solutions for the dilemma. Including making clustering work for us, investing in infrastructure, building affordable houses, turning low-wage service jobs to middle-class work, investing in people and place, leading a global effort to build prosperous cities, and empowering cities and communities (2018, Florida)¹. These strategies seek a flexible and experimental urbanism that creates economic prosperity while reducing the economic and social gaps in different areas.

Temporary urbanism can be one of the solutions. The following are the reasons why the research chose temporary urbanism.

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¹ Florida Richard, (2018), *The new urban crisis*, Epilogue, 978-0-465-07974-2.

- 1. Temporary urbanism is a flexible and experimental solution.
- 2. Its economic properties give it greater opportunities to attract external investment while avoiding gentrification.
- 3. It has the potential to provide affordable temporary houses.
- 4. It can empower the community by bottom-up participatory process

2 What is temporary urbanism and why use it

2.1 Definition of temporary urbanism

2.1.1 Definition in different references

The concept of "temporary urbanism" and "temporary" are difficult to define. They are event-based using processes, which means their properties change in terms of activities. Meanwhile, they also have a very blur boundary with 'permanent'. The temporary is a relative concept, if taking a long enough time period or, for example, adopt the perspective of subatomic physics or Buddhism, everything is temporary (2012, Bishop and Williams) ¹. Also as Andres and Zhang ² described, the relationship between temporariness and permanence is dialectical. Both "the temporary" and "the permanent" need to be understood and defined relationally. The terms are also a vast range of articles. The definitions depend on the formal or informal nature of the function, big international events or small community spontaneous projects, crisis-driven permanent substitute or post-disaster reconstruction temporary uses.

The following definitions are drawn from current literature with the topic of temporary urbanism.

"'Temporary' denotes a finite period of time with a defined beginning and end."

(2012, Bishop and Williams)¹

"Temporary urbanisms are short-term events, in particular the temporary construction and use of space."

¹ Bishop Peter, Williams Lesley, (2012), The Temporary City, Routledge, 978-0-415-67055-5.

² Andres Lauren, Zhang Y. Amy, (2020), *Transforming Cities Through Temporary Urbansim*, Springer Nature Switzerland AG, 978-3-030-61752-3.

(2017, Ali Madanipour)¹

"Temporary urbanisms are as much about such activities, practices and uses in and of urban spaces as about the relationships that different urban actors construct with time and the temporality of urban spaces in such circumstances."

(2020, Paul Moawad)²

"Non-permanent actions designed and thought through with the ambition of changing a space and impacting the surrounding socio-economic environment."

(2020, Topuzovski and Andres)³

In terms of former definitions, "temporary urbanism" or "temporary" involve two essential elements, time and events. First of all, Bishop, Williams and Madanipour mentioned 'finite' and "short-term" to define the time dimension. Moawad and Andres rather used relative concepts to define time as non-permanent. Secondly, as for the event or activities, Moawad mentioned the urban actors, which involved participatory process. Andres connects temporary events with social and economic activities. Above all, it turns out the temporary urbanism is the activity-based use of space during a relatively short time, which has already defined beginning and end.

¹ Madanipour Ali, (2017) «Temporary use of space: Urban processes between flexibility, opportunity and precarity», *SAGE journals*, Volume: 55 issue: 5, page(s): 1093-1110.

² Moawad P, (2020) «Temporary Forms of Urbanism in Contested Urban Spaces in Lebanon: The Case of Dbayeh Camp», *Transforming Cities Through Temporary Urbanism*, The Urban Book Series, 2020, 73-88.

³ Topuzovski T, Andres L, (2020) «Political Protest, Temporary Urbanism and the Deactivation of Urban Spaces», *Transforming Cities Through Temporary Urbanism*, The Urban Book Series, 2020, 89-106.

2.1.2 Historical development of temporary urbanism

The temporary urbanism can date back to thousands of years ago when ancient people built shelters to create space to live in. As Lloyd Kahn mentioned in his book "Shelter" about the ancient simple tents, Cappadocia cave houses, and tropical wooden houses. These were built by the ancients to overcome the natural environment. These buildings have no concept of time. They pay more attention to the present. Real-time adjustments are made to correspond to the current living conditions, for example, nomadic tents are used for mobile living conditions. These shelters are similar with the properties of temporary urbanism, which are "in present" and "activity-based".

Further, in 19th century America, there were a large number of cities, infrastructures and residences that needed to be built. Within the big construction time, the main temporary residence for workers are tents. The construction of a large railway requires a long time of "nomadic life". At the same time, the self-built wooden houses at that time took about three years to build (1993, Lloyd Kahn)¹. In order to fill these gaps, the unaware temporary urbanism largely appeared in that time.

The widespread squatter settlements and self-built housing that emerged as a result of The Great Depression in the 1930's (2015, Sweeting)². This flourish of temporary uses based on the economic crisis, driven by economy, marketing and finance. Later after the World War II, huge demands of residences and industrial revitalization led to a temporary settlement. For example, in the UK, before 1965, the complement of National Building Regulations, temporary buildings, managed to be a solution to fill the gap.

As for recent temporary urbanism, numerous temporary uses occupied vacant areas after the economic crisis in 2008. This crisis increased the risk of permanent investment in that period. Investors were seeking a temporary solution to transit and fill the financial gap. The hollowed-out offices were filled with short-term leases. Pop-up stores and restaurants emerged. The uncertainty of the future results in a flexible and resilient

¹ Kahn Lloyd, (1993), *Shelter*, Shelter publication, ISBN 978-0-936070-11-7.

² Sweeting Amy, (2015), *The Value of Temporary Urbanism in Creating Responsive Environments*, Department of planning, Oxford Brookes University.

model, not only for the economy, but also for the city. Until now, a vast amount of temporary projects have been constructed and deconstructed in order to seek a new way to face current urban challenges. Temporary urbanism has a strong potential to create a flexible masterplan in a tactical way. However, Temporary urbanism is more like an auxiliary strategy, rather than a dominant strategy in current urban planning. Due to the complexity of both practical design and theoretical analysis, it's unpredictable if the temporary urbanism would be the mainstream.

2.1.3 Temporariness: time and event

If one wants to describe temporary urbanism, time and events have to be clarified. Madanipour analysed time in temporariness from the objective nature of time to the perceptual of time. He stated that the beat of global time is accelerated due to the economy and technology. In this way, temporary interventions reflect the patterns of expansion and contraction of time and space, whereby the gaps that are created as a result of globalization are filled by temporary activities (2017, Ali Madanipour)¹. He also mentioned that time has been conceptualized in three broad approaches: substantive, relational and intuitive. This conceptualization can be corresponded to temporary urbanism. Objectively speaking, temporary urbanism fills in the gap of urban time. It is an accessory to a permanent product, like 'Nomads'. Subjectively, Temporariness is a certain kind of urban memory fragment as an extra object created within accelerated beats of global time.

Another element is events. Liz Crump² wrote in his article: The research defines temporary urbanism not by its longevity but by the intention of its user(s). When time, this relative concept cannot accurately describe temporary uses, the concept event can do. Meanwhile many temporary activities are not initiated to fill the gap in time, many are initiated by one-time events (e.g. temporary exhibition, Expo, Olympic, Saturday

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¹ Madanipour Ali, (2017) «Cities in time, temporary urbanism and the future of the city», *Bloomsbury Academic*, 978-1-4742-2072-9.

² Crump L, (2020) «Reimagining Urban Planning: From Institution to Innovation—A Comparative Exploration of Temporary Urbanism and the Future of City-Making», *Transforming Cities Through Temporary Urbanism*, The Urban Book Series, 2020, 107-126.

street market, festival, disaster). The end of the event represents the end of temporariness.

These two elements divide temporary urbanism into two main typologies. One dominated by time, the other is dominated by events. As for the economy-driven temporary use of space, it can be also allocated to the time-dominated temporary uses. Because time is an instrument, equating it with monetary value and productivity outcome (2017, Ali Madanipour)¹. With this main concept, the motivation of the emergence of temporary uses can be specifically analysed in the next step.

2.2. Drivers: motivation of temporary uses

Why does temporary urbanism flourish in the 21st century? The temporary urbanism is not a spontaneous product. It is not something that exists temporarily because of the cultural prevailing. The temporary urbanism has its existing logic according to economy, society and policy. Sociologist Zygmunt Bauman² argues that the world is moving from 'solid' modernity to 'liquid' modernity. The established order and the old society structure will change, flowing and deforming like a liquid. The dilemma of unreliability, uncertainty and insecurity has arisen. Under this condition, the emergence of temporary urbanism has become reasonable. But the research will not stay with general analysis for drivers of temporary uses with grand society narrative, instead will go deep into each detail sections: economy, urban regeneration, festival, big event, natural hazard.

2.2.1 Time, economical gap

The fluctuation of the economy and marketing result in an investment gap for a certain time. Empty space is an integral part of the products of the temporal and spatial fluctuations that are inherent in capitalism (2017, Ali Madanipour)¹. During the cycle of investment and disinvestment, periodically, the vacant space emerges. The

¹ Madanipour Ali, (2017) «Cities in time, temporary urbanism and the future of the city», *Bloomsbury Academic*, 978-1-4742-2072-9.

² Bauman Zygmunt, (2000), *Liquid Modernity*, Polity Press, ISBN: 0-7456-2410-3.

deindustrialization, regional inequity investment and economic crisis makes the crisis of vacancy more urgent. In the US and some European countries, the industrial decline and suburban development result in the hollowing out of the city centre area. In order to fill the economic gap, short-term investment solutions are required. Temporary uses at that time, became a favourable solution. Whatever the cause of vacant property, the ready availability of vacant spaces of voids appears to be significant in allowing temporary activities to take hold, and in the right circumstances, flourish (2012, Bishop and Williams)¹.

The most recent economy-driven temporary flourish emerged after the 2008 economic crisis. In the UK, the number of applications for temporary uses was 12% higher in the 2008-2015 period than in 2000-2007 (2020, Michael Martin)². Facing the uncertainty of the future, investors, entrepreneurs and young artists would not like or could not sign a long-term lease contract to increase risk. One of the preferable solutions is to turn to interim uses with short-term lease contrast to transit through the crisis. Madanipour³ included a case study in his research: Chesterfield House. This is a typical case study related to interim uses for covering economical gaps. This house provides 10 months rental service for both office use and residences. The result was illustrated by the author "The 10-month presence of creative users provided this accelerated period of image transformation, paving the way for a complete change of the scene at a much faster pace". The project was raised by a charitable organization with the aim of increasing the economic value of vacant space. It injected new vitalities into the old hollowed-out building in a way to cover economical gap. Therefore, the basic motivation of using temporary strategies by land owners is the desire to prevent the loss of capital. Meanwhile, facing the uncertainty of the future, temporary uses have become a reasonable solution.

¹ Bishop Peter, Williams Lesley, (2012), *The Temporary City*, Routledge, 978-0-415-67055-5.

² Martin Michael, Hincks Stephen, Deas Iain, (2020) «Temporary use in England's core cities: looking beyond the exceptional», *SAGE journals*, Volume: 57 issue: 16, page(s): 3381-3401.

³ Madanipour Ali, (2017) «Temporary use of space: Urban processes between flexibility, opportunity and precarity», *SAGE journals*, Volume: 55 issue: 5, page(s): 1093-1110.

2.2.2 Time, urban regeneration gap

Numerous temporary uses have emerged since 2000. It means the flourish of temporary uses are not merely related to economic reasons. It took us to look through the global city changes in that period. The result is a time point for the emergence of the internet and time for urban transformation (2012, Bishop and Williams)¹. If taking a glance at the history of temporary urbanism, it can be noticed that the temporary uses frequently emerge during the time of urban regeneration. Quentin Stevens² labeled temporary uses to 8 typologies (stain-in, impulse, consolidation, co-existence, parasite, pioneer, subversion, displacement), 5 of them are intended to stand between two permanent projects with time horizontal. It indicates one of the essential functions of temporary uses: filling the gap between two permanent projects.

Generally, the urban regeneration process would last for more than 5 years. However, since the city plan was published, the value of the land decreased. Any long-term investment would be pushed away. Bragaglia and Rossignolo addressed this issue in their research with an example located in France. They mentioned the possibility of using top-down process to activate temporary projects, meanwhile stimulating bottom-up process. The city of Rezé and Nantes planned a huge urban transformation to be complete by 2030. In order to cover the gap, the government proposed a "Pick-up production" artist activity, which planned to hold four seasons and the first season served 170,000 people (2021, Bragaglia and Rossignolo)³. The temporary project "stand in" between the demolition of the old site (2017) and new urban planning (2030). The motivation of this case, in a way, is the same with economy-driven cases. The nature of those motivations are maximization. In the perspective of urban regeneration, maximize urban uses and minimize vacant land.

¹ Bishop Peter, Williams Lesley, (2012), The Temporary City, Routledge, 978-0-415-67055-5.

² Stevens Quentin, (2020), *Temporariness Takes Command: How Temporary Urbanism Re-Assembles the City*, School of Architecture and Urban Design, RMIT University, GPO Box 2476, Melbourne, VIC 3001.

³ Bragaglia Francesca, Rossignolo Cristiana, (2021) «Temporary urbanism as a new policy strategy: a contemporary panacea or a trojan horse? », *International planning studies*, Volum 0, issue 0 pp.1-17.

2.2.3 Event, festival on to the stage

Bishop and Williams describe the city as a stage, where temporary activities (e.g. sports, protest, interim project) take place on the stage. A regular ancient Roma Plaza probably carry several temporary activities everyday including artist actions, music and so on. However, the ancient Roma Plaza didn't have any intention to be designed for these modern temporary activities. In this case, the temporary activities do not root to the urban plan and ancient architecture. Although it does have a relationship with the spaces and cities, the activities spontaneously emerge without effects of urban context. These temporary uses can be driven by the event itself. Frank and Stevens defined a concept of "Loose Space" 1, it involves venues that were not originally intended for the location. Temporary activities can make a space loose, be more flexible and stronger intensity for carrying functions. This concept is the opposite of the economy and urban regeneration driven temporary uses concept. The activities emerge is not because of the intention of filling time lags. On the contrary, activities have already existed, they are looking for a space to carry out. Like Le Corbusier's Villa, Le Lac, by designing a house without a site, then, put the design into pocket and walk around to look for a proper location.

Such temporary uses have become a compromise between permanent urban public facilities and temporary events. Bishop and Williams² have raised a question "The current event, activities and investment behaviours are temporary, why is the city permanent?" Confliction has always existed between cities and activities from the dimension of time and space. In the past, concessions were usually made by temporary events. But recently, the opposite has happened. In many cases, in order to meet the requirements of temporary events, the city has made concessions and built new temporary places for them. One of the most typical instances is the Expo. There are also numerous new tactical master plans, which abandoned the principle of block-design old masterplan, tried to set up rules to adopt temporary events without big changes for urban context. Those tactical master plans made concessions, meanwhile offered flexibility.

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¹ Franck A Karen, Stevens Quentin, (2007), *Loose space, possibility and diversity in urban life*, Routledge, 0–415–70116–3.

² Bishop Peter, Williams Lesley, (2012), *The Temporary City*, Routledge, 978-0-415-67055-5.

2.2.4 "Grand" Event, take Expo as example

The first World Expo was held in the Crystal Palace in the UK, the purpose is to show the results of the industrial revolution. The Crystal Palace built in 1851, a large-scale architectural framework, using the simplest method to construct an indoor space to meet the needs of use. It is very modern, simple to construct, and has a lower budget than other buildings in that period. Such architectural milestones occurred under the impetus of temporary events. This research will only state the motivation of these big-event temporary uses. The research will not talk about the "rebranding" and regeneration issues after the big event since this research direction has been explored extensively elsewhere. Bishop and Williams separate the big-event activities from the everyday aspects of temporary urbanism. It has a strong impact on a huge amount of other fields (e.g. technology, policy, economy and so on). Under these large-scale events, the event completely dominates, because other "non-useful" functions give it importance, such as diplomatic functions. This turned the six-month temporary building into a "luxury" temporary building exhibition, in other words, a temporary landmark. The temporary uses are independent from economy and urban profit, which make it distinguished with everyday temporary uses.

2.2.5 Event, natural hazard

Another temporary use, which is different from everyday temporary urbanism, emerges after natural hazard. The temporary resettlement of residents after the disaster and the construction of temporary public facilities have been deeply researched recently. In Japan, after two biggest recent natural hazards occurred, Great Hanshin earthquake (1995) and Tohoku earthquake and tsunami (2011), the government politically published numerous regulations in order to improve the efficiency of temporary use after a disaster. "When there is an emergency disaster, change the use of the building in the emergency disaster area, etc., and use it for disaster relief buildings" (2019, Building

Standard Act Article)¹. Government gives permission to change building functions temporarily after natural hazards, which help to improve refugees' living quality and reconstruction efficiency.

Everyday temporary uses are usually defined as illegal, chaos and fringe actions. Regulations have less controls on temporary uses. However, there are large amounts of temporary uses regulations in the post-hazard settlement field. The prevalence of Shigeru Ban's temporary buildings after the disaster represents the public and government's attention to these temporary projects. In terms of time, such temporary use is similar with the urban-gap-filling temporary uses. But the difference is that temporary construction has become more urgent due to natural hazards, which has become almost the only option after the disaster. Therefore, these projects are often not restricted by economics and urban planning. After the disaster, the more important period is to resettle the refugees and rebuild the city. Funding will be provided by non-profit associations and the government with the purpose of providing better indoor living conditions and convenient temporary infrastructure in a short time.

2.3 Benefit of temporary urbanism: flexible urban planning and livable community

In this section, the benefit of temporary urbanism will be discussed with respect to bigscope and small-scope perspectives. There are "grand" topics included in the big scope section, mainly talking about the "vacancies", flexible masterplan designing and resilience. As for the small-scope, the research will state the benefits related to communities, users, investors and other personal stakeholders. Specifically, it includes the rebuilding of community, bottom-up participatory process and attraction for young people, low-income groups against gentrification dilemma.

When discussing temporary urbanism, it's inevitable to meet with the topic of "vacancy". Since 1986, Trancik² defines "spaces that are in need of redesign, anti-

¹ Construction Guidance Division, Construction Guidance Department, Construction Bureau, (2019), *Building Standard Act Article*, Japanese Municipality of City, Construction Bureau.

² Trancik R, (1986), Finding Lost space: Theories of urban design, New York, John Wiley & sons.

spaces, making no positive contribution to the surroundings or users" as "Lost space". These lost spaces may be caused by neglect, uneven urban development, transformation and other geographical causes which are related to multidisciplinary topics. Loukaitou-Sideris 1 instead, describes this problematic space as "in-between spaces, residual, under-utilized and often deteriorating, where abandonment and deterioration have filled vacant space with trash and human waste". Further, Franck and Stevens brought up the concept of "loose space". Sometimes these activities occur along with the primary, intended uses, as on the sidewalk, in the street or in the plaza. In other places a fixed use no longer exists, as in a ruined factory, or possibly never existed at all, as next to a railroad track. In all such cases, through people's activities, spaces become "loose." (2007, Franck and Stevens)². In most of the literature, these spaces are described as negative, fringe, cradles of criminals, which do harm to urban life and healthy activities. However, in another point of view, these spaces have numerous potentials which don't exist in regular urban space. Franck and Stevens² states that they found people relax, observe, buy and sell, protest and celebrate, even without a permission. Such activities seldom happen in regular urban space where people live with a spatial control, the action is regulated by rules and behaviours. As recent theoretical approaches, vacant space have special values, it has the potential to provide an unfettered area to stimulate occurrence of unpredictable activities.

However, the value of vacant space will not be reflected by itself. Its value is proportional to how people dispose of it. Residents do not prefer to gather in a ruin, they would rather stay in a comfortable space. Thus, we must come up with ideas about the disposal of vacant space. There is lots of research and literature related to the way of design for vacant space. For instance, covering vacant space with greenery. One of the true potentials of vacant land appears to be in its ability to provide ecosystem services to urban residents and the urban region (2012, Burkholder)³. Kim, Miller and Nowak⁴

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¹ Loukaitou Sideris A, (1996) «Cracks in the city: Addressing the constraints and potentials of urban design», *Journal of Urban Design*, (1,1).

² Franck A Karen, Stevens Quentin, (2007), *Loose space, possibility and diversity in urban life*, Routledge, 0–415–70116–3.

³ Burkholder Sean, (2012) «The new ecology of vacancy: rethinking land use in shrinking cities», *Sustainability* 2012, 4, 1154-1172.

⁴ Kim Gunwoo, Miller A Patrick, Nowak J David, (2018) «Urban vacant land typology: a tool for managing urban vacant land», *Elsevier*, Sustainable cities and society 36 (2018) 144-156.

distribute vacant land to five main typologies (post-industrial site, Derelict site, unattended with vegetation sites, Natural site, Transportation related sites). Some of them have high ecological values, some others have the potential to access local communities to promote occurrence of diverse urban activities. Above all, placing greenery and plants is a preferable solution from an ecological point of view. It is very cheap and simple to construct. Meanwhile, greenery space occasionally can arouse other activity potentials. But from a sociological point of view, it requires a more urban profitable way to cover vacant land. Temporary urbanism is one of the solutions. Rossini's research team¹ has tested the influence of a small temporary urban furniture in non-function plaza and parks. The temporary urban furniture is called Seating for Socializing (SOS). They place temporary seats in three different public spaces to observe the quantity and quality of these temporary uses. The conclusion is, this device brings new functions and activities into the plaza, unexpected ways of use emerge beyond the intention of designers. This case shows the potentiality of semi-involvement, which means, temporary uses can partially define function and activities, but partially leave flexibility for spontaneous activities. Temporary uses can keep old values of vacant space (flexibility, non-regulation, relax), at the same time, endow new values by providing a better environment and stimulating new activities.

The speed of urban change is often faster than prediction. At one of the most livable intersections in Hong Kong (Old theatre in Queen's road), the building, which is located at the corner, has been demolished and reconstructed 4 times from 1900 to 2000. Even the "important building" lifespan is 20 years. Focusing on the centre area of Hong Kong Island, with drawing a demolishing-reconstruction map, it can be noticed that 80% of buildings have been demolished and reconstructed during the last 100 years (Hong Kong Historical Library). The city has totally changed and it's still changing. As described in Calvino's "Invisible city" 2, Two halves of the city, half of the city is fixed, and the other half is temporary. When comparing the historical development between Paris and Hong Kong, it's noticeable that from the urban texture, Paris apparently has much more changes than Hong Kong which is opposite to fact. Because in the master

¹ Rossini Francesco, (2019) «Temporary urban intervention in the vertical city: a place-making project to re-acti vate the public spaces in Hong Kong», *Journal of Urban Design*, 24:2, 305-323.10.1080/13574809.2018.150767

² Italo Calvino, (1972), *Invisible Cities*, Giulio Einaudi, 0-15-145290-3.

plan of Hong Kong, it doesn't change a lot. However, beyond the urban texture, the city has completely changed including the vertical density, urban system, people's life and so on. From above, it can draw a conclusion that the operation of urban texture doesn't have the capability to deal with the newest urban issues. A more flexible, tactical and systematic solution is required for planning. In this circumstance, temporary urbanism is one of the possible solutions. Bishop and Williams take London's The Royal Dock as an example to explain the potential of temporary planning. LDA (London development agency) proposed a 0.5-hectare site adjacent to the centre of Canning Town, to two dockside sites. All the planning buildings are seen as important long-term development, but all of them have their executive model to adopt temporary activities. Temporary strategies play the role of catalyst here, promoting the generation and change of temporary activities. It tries to make cities adopt the changing of activities, rather than place diverse activities onto the same plaza. The temporary urbanism has the possibility to be the new solution to part of urban problems by providing a flexible, tactical and time-considered approach.

From a small-scope impact of temporary uses point of view, both temporary users and participators for building processes will be benefited. Meanwhile, for community, temporary uses are always imaged as 'playground' and workplace for creative cluster (2020, Amy Zhang)¹. It provides the potential to attract new clusters into the community. Richard Florida has described the power of clusters in communities and the importance of diversifying clusters. Facing the current urban issues of "Zoning" and "gentrification", which tend to push clusters away from their original community rather than attract new classes. A new solution that neither declines the diversity of clusters, nor ceases the urban regeneration process. Temporary urbanism is an eclectic approach, which is located on the site in a lighter way, trying not to destroy the original community and urban structure, but to inject new vitality. Amy Zhang has thrown an example in Beijing's Dashilar Area. Before 1999, the municipality of Beijing tended to process 'gentrification', destroying old buildings and communities. As compensation, they will be given housing in the new urban area, and they will be forced to be placed in a new community. Since 1999, the publication of "Plan for Conservation and Control Scope",

¹ Andres Lauren, Zhang Y. Amy, (2020), *Transforming Cities Through Temporary Urbansim*, Springer Nature Switzerland AG, 978-3-030-61752-3.

urban planners and architects have attempted to look for a new method which at the same time contented both the flourish of city development and remaining original community structure. The solution implemented in the Dashilar area is temporary projects (e.g. temporary urban furniture, temporary platform for performance, pop-up store and so on). This solution even bunded original community stronger, meanwhile attracting tourists due to abundant cultural elements.

Another extra value of temporary uses is promotion of participatory process. The participatory process is a universal 'good thing' according to democracy. Social participation is known to help increase and maintain individuals' social networks (2017, Webber)¹, it's good for psychological and sociological health. Even the participatory process in the post-disaster period, it supportively accelerated the mental recovery after The Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011 (2018, Kusama)². Recently, with the prevalence of the internet, there are different types of participatory processes that help people to be involved with the construction of their community. Play the City is a company which invented lots of urban planning games in order to involve citizens into the design process. The Shenzhen networked urbanism expo also provides the possibility of collecting vast planning suggestions. The success of participatory process and different technologies indicated people's willingness to join the community building process. This is also the reason why temporary uses have become popular. One example is Folly for a Flyover by Assemble³, this temporary building simply constructed by wood block and scaffold. The non-profit organization Assemble recruits a team of volunteers who come from local communities. The construction lasted for a month. This building has a high utilization rate, and it is usually used for storing ships, gathering residents and watching movies together, the maintenance is processed by users. All of this turned this area to be an essential 'living room' for the local community.

¹ Webber, M., Fendt-Newlin, M, (2017), «A review of social participation interventions for people with mental health problems», *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol 52*, 369–380 (2017).

² Kusama A., Sugiyama K., Matsuyama Y., Koyama S., Yamamoto T., Igarashi A., Tsuboya T., Osaka K, (2018), «Does the Type of Temporary Housing Make a Difference in Social Participation and Health for Evacuees of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami? A Cross-Sectional Study», *J. Epidemiol.* 2019 29:391–398.

³ A project transformed the disused motorway undercroft in Hackney Wick into an arts venue and new public space by Assemble, a multi-disciplinary collective founded in 2020.

The case shows the potential of temporary urbanism to provide a vitality neighbourhood by both the processes and consequences.

2.4 Shortcomings: complexity and sustainability

So far, most of temporary urbanism has been concentrated in developed countries and has never been widely used. Bristol and Liverpool's temporary uses data have been collected by Martin, Hincks, Deas 2020. It shows the regulated temporary uses emerged mostly in the city centre. In Liverpool, 83% of temporary uses are located in the urban core (2020, Martin, Hincks, Deas)¹. This is in contrast to theories which respect urban regulations. Temporary uses are usually defined as marginal activity, fringe, and illegal. The stricter the regulations, the more difficult it is to produce temporary buildings. In this way, temporary uses are supposed to largely emerge in suburbs where regulations are less strict. In this case, why do temporary uses have a boom in the city core? According to the motivation of temporary use analysed in the previous sections, it can be notice that the temporary uses depend on the original city structure. It has little possibility to be the dominant urban planning solution.

Last paragraph refers to the current state of temporary use of space and raises a point that temporary strategies cannot be the dominant strategy in urban planning. Then, the causes of this phenomenon will be discussed from a political and practical point of view. Bishop and Williams state 3 political strategies to adopt temporary urbanism, they are "building a planning framework, design zones of tolerance, create the Big Society". Respecting the complexity to create a framework and the quantities of work to design characteristic zones, temporary uses currently can't be strategically, but tactically adopted to special areas. Twenty-first-century cities need small and responsive "zones of tolerance", scattered throughout their neighbourhoods; these may be very small indeed, perhaps covering just an individual building (2012, Bishop and Williams)². Les Grands Voisins in Paris has issued specific regulations for the temporary uses, meanwhile, the activities still cannot cover the whole gap of vacancy (2021. Bragaglia

¹ Martin Michael, Hincks Stephen, Deas Iain, (2020) «Temporary use in England's core cities: looking beyond the exceptional», *SAGE journals*, Volume: 57 issue: 16, page(s): 3381-3401.

² Bishop Peter, Williams Lesley, (2012), *The Temporary City*, Routledge, 978-0-415-67055-5.

and Tossignolo)¹. By checking regulations in different countries, it shows that the everyday temporary uses are usually regulated indirectly by relevant "permanent regulations". Therefore, administrative complexity makes temporary use inefficient at the urban scale, leaving temporary use scattered in various communities and be an auxiliary option.

Another issue is sustainability. Short-term use will reduce the utilization rate of materials. If the materials cannot be recycled at the end of the life cycle, it will cause a lot of waste. In Shanghai Expo, greenhouse gases reduction from recycling amounts to 48 kt CO2e, with 78 % of these the result of construction waste recycling (2021, Zeng)². In order to restrict energy consumption and wastes of material, In accordance with the conventions of international exhibitions and the traditions of previous World Expos, the vast majority of deconstructed materials in Expos have been re-processed. However, despite big-event temporary structures, in everyday uses, there are less regulations for material disposal after being demolished. Therefore, in the initial design stage, the sustainability of the material needs to be considered.

2.5 How to practically apply temporary urbanism to solve urban issues

Above all the theoretical studies, temporary urbanism has numerous difficulties to apply into the current mainstream of urban planning. The lack of official documents for temporary uses and the complexity of implementation leads to few uses of temporary strategies. For the mainstream urban planning strategies, planners are able to integrate all the urban elements (like district function, mobility and so on), to complete a vision of the city for the next few decades. However, the time limit of the temporary strategy makes it pay more attention to the current contradictions. What the city needs more is a vision for the future, and the temporary strategy that goes against it can only serve as a mediator in it, to make up for the defects left by the city on the way to the future.

¹ Bragaglia Francesca, Rossignolo Cristiana, (2021) «Temporary urbanism as a new policy strategy: a contemporary panacea or a trojan horse? *», International planning studies*, Volum 0, issue 0 pp.1-17.

² Zeng Di, Zhu Jin and He Shenjing, (2021), «Urban Villages' Redevelopment in Cities of Migration through the Lens of Cultural Identity: A Comparative Study of Singapore and Shenzhen», *Tropical Geography*: 1-12.

Therefore, the small-scale turban design is the direction that temporary urbanism should focus on. Temporary strategy as a "servant", in order to be practically implemented in projects, there are 5 critical points that have been proposed with the reason why it's important.

- 1. Tactically apply on small areas (like urban design for several blocks). The cumbersome planning procedures and the violation of mainstream urban planning strategies make the practical application of temporary strategies in small-scale planning documents more efficient.
- 2. Introducing new activities and events, meanwhile, create attractive points. In this way, temporary projects attract tourists and outside investment. At the same time, it integrates the land that needs to be activated and connected, into the entire city.
- Respect urban culture and original city texture. Implanting temporary functions
 directly on the original site is more efficient from an economic point of view, and
 from a cultural point of view, it adds additional value while protecting historical
 texture.
- 4. Encourage button-up participatory process. Temporary strategy is based on small-scale community transformation, so the need for public participation is high.
- 5. Correspond to local land use regulations. Temporary land permits are different in different regions, and the way investors intervene is also completely different.

Temporary urbanism has the potential to solve the urban issue (district inequality and disconnection) while avoiding by-products (e.g. gentrification). It works as a catalyst in urban regeneration. Creating additional value in places that have been forgotten by mainstream urban planning.

3 Case study

3.1 Situations of temporary use in Europe and China

3.1.1 Development of temporary use in European

After experiencing a series of turbulence around the world, most of the cities have stepped into modern society from the 19th century, however, through the modernization process, some disused and vacant lands or buildings occur, in Kristiaan Borret's discourse¹, the Italian urban planner Bernardo Secchi had signalled "urban large voids are opening up", most zones were waiting for a morphological definition, for instance, slaughterhouses, barracks, railyards, docks, and industrial complexes, they were under disuse and disrepair definitively, and in the middle of the urban fabric or city centres had been tear huge holes by these abandoned infrastructures both functionally and spatially. Although de-industrialization, oversupply of infrastructure, political structure defects are triggers of these phenomena, the more essential reason is the transformation of the capitalist mode of production in western European countries, this has caused cities at the forefront of the capitalist production system to encounter a series of dysfunctions. The past land-use patterns cannot match the production methods in the transition period, and the new one has not yet been formed².

Then in the 1990s, the reuse of vacant land became a crucial topic in west European cities' regeneration. The private spontaneous transitional use has gradually attracted the attention of both governments and academia, it has been incorporated into the formal urban planning system, and is becoming an innovative way of using space. Besides the vacant lands, policy improvement, the development of creative culture and the rise of the creative class are also drivers to accelerate temporary use booming in Europe³.

¹ Borret Kristiann, (1999) «The 'Void' as Productive Concept for Urban Public Space», *The Urban Condition : Space, Community, and Self in the Contemporary*, 010 Publishers, 236-251.

² Harvey David, (1990), *The condition of Postmodernity, Cambridge, Massachusetts*, Blackweel Publishers, Oxford.

³ Sassen S, (1994) «The informal economy: between new developments and old regulations», *Yale law journal*, 103 (8): 2289-2304.

3.1.2 Reasons for China urban villages' formation

Similarly, China has also experienced modernization and deindustrialization (clean abandoned factories) process, after the Opening of China, urban development has begun to accelerate, during this process, the government needs to obtain expansion space through the expropriation of cultivated land in surrounding rural areas, once expropriated, local farmers were left in the original place of residence and kept a part of the homestead for them to build houses and live in. A movement of "cities encircling the countryside" happened. Then the village entered the city and formed a "urban village"

Subjectively, this phenomenon is caused by China's urban and rural dual management system and the dual ownership structure of the land, this is also a deep-rooted institutional reason. Urban and rural dual management system refers to that urban and rural belong to different management modes. The dual ownership structure of land refers to urban land belonging to the country, however the characteristics of marginal communities have formed among some city villages, urban and rural dual ownership structures existed both and work together in these communities. In other words, city villages are the result of farmers seeking to maximize the rental income of land and houses under the condition of the rapid increase in land and house rents.

It is because of the rapid development of modernization that the urban villages are continuously squeezed and marginalized, lacking the internal management, and the living condition is poor. So it is also called a slum with Chinese characteristics. Until recent urban renewal, city village revitalization began to flourish in major cities in China.

3.2 Description and significance of case analysis

This research basically focuses on France and China, it is because they are the opposite in some aspects. In France, most of the lands are owned by the private sector, the government has the right to purchase, develop private agricultural lands or construction lands. Out of the public interest, the government imposes certain compulsory purchases

on private lands. While in China, the ownership of land belongs to the country, individual or company has the right to use it. For the land of temporary use, the right of examination and approval is in the county-level administrative district, the second-lowest administrative district in China, and the using period should be beyond 2 years, and not allowed to use permanent building materials. In France, commune, the lowest administrative district, remains the right.

The research chooses one case in France (Les Grands Voisins) and one in China (Nantou Ancient City), from the typology of temporary urbanism perspective, they are using different methods, and through analysis, the research would like to present how the temporary use to solve the urban issues in a better way according to different policies and places, and try to help the officials to well use temporary urbanism in the end.

3.3 Les Grands Voisins - France -



Figure 1. Open space for bar and restaurant (by Yes We Camp), from website: https://www.abitare.it/en/habitaten/urban-design-en/2018/01/07/paris-les-grands-voisins-common-good/

Source:

- 1. https://www.statista.com/statistics/430722/vacant-office-space-paris/
- 2. https://www.thelocal.fr/20190319/in-numbers-how-the-homeless-population-of-parisis-growing/
- 3. https://lesgrandsvoisins.org/
- 4. https://www.abitare.it/en/habitat-en/urban-design-en/2018/01/07/paris-les-grands-voisins-common-good/
- 5. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homelessness_in_France

3.3.1 General information

Les Grands Voisins is a temporary urban project in Paris. The project started in 2015 and ended up until 2020, which made a grand impact from local daily life to the new urban plan policy. Before the project, it was an old hospital called Saint-Vincent-de-Paul. The hospital closed in 2012, and it will be transferred to an eco-district in 2023. Les Grands Voisins as a temporary project, occupied this area from 2015 to 2020 in order to fill the big time lag between old and new urban permanent projects. Additional values were created due to the occupancy with the main function of homeless people accommodation, affordable start-up office, and open-to-public restaurant.

In 2015, the Les Grands Voisins' coordinates (Yes We Camp, Aurore, Plateau Urbain) made an announcement "Open up a temporarily vacant space with boldness and generosity". In the planning phase, the planner has already defined the project life cycle. The first season starts from 2015 to 2017, and the second season starts from 2018 to 2020. At the end of the project, three plots would remain the original function and the rest would transfer to the eco-district. This is due to the strong impact of the project and the flexibility of planning activities for the city of Paris. Meanwhile, this successful experiment affects the research of transient town planning and the urban policy in France. Les Grands Voisins has great research value, not only due to the side of the temporary strategy itself but also how project actors play their role and how top-down process stimulates the bottom-up process, meanwhile creating a huge added value.

In general conditions, temporary projects are regarded as illegal and marginal outcomes. They are the negative production of urban regeneration. And most temporary activities are spontaneous behaviors of urban residents. In France, there is not any national code directly related to temporary planning. Most of the regulations indirectly include temporary planning. Therefore, usually, the temporary project has strong bottom-up features. However, Les Grands Voisins carried out in a different way, it starts from the top-down process and stimulates the bottom-up process, which makes this case very special. The process starts from an agreement between the public association and private association, with agreeing on temporary uses for 5 years. Unlike previous bottom-up

temporary projects, under the signing of official documents, the temporary strategy complies with the land-use code, which greatly reduces the risk of the project. In this way, it attracted more private coordinators.

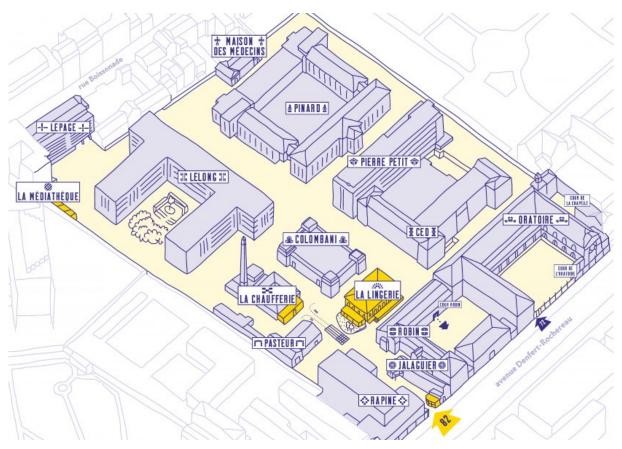


Figure 2. Neighbours map (by Yes We Camp), from website: https://lesgrandsvoisins.org/services/la-cartograph ie-des-voisins/

There are several strong characteristics of Les Grands Voisins. Firstly, Its functions are related to public welfare. The agreement, which is issued by the City of Paris, has already regulated that only non-profit groups and associations are able to be involved in this project. Within this frame, temporary strategies can show stronger resistance to market shocks, at the same time, focus more on how to keep the neighborhood active. Another strong characteristic that prompted the project to create large quantities of value is that while improving the neighborhood and community environment, it also considers urban issues. After the de-industrialization campaign in the 80s, large numbers of homeless people appeared in Paris. Meanwhile, after the 2008 economic crisis, the occupancy rate of the city center's offices has dropped rapidly due to high rental fees

and high risks. With those considered into the project background, Les Grands Voisins provide appropriate solutions to cope with those urban issues. 600 homeless people have been accommodated every night and 40% of them successfully went back to society. They also provide offices with a price of € 250 / m2 / year, which is 4 times lower than the market price. Meanwhile, the costs and revenues are balanced thanks to the open-to-public restaurants and bars. These achievements have benefited from the initial temporary planning and appropriate intervention methods of the actors.

Les Grands Voisins has a huge research value for us. But the reason why the research chose this case is also related to the research background and the Chinese urban issues we want to tackle.

- 1. Les Grands Voisins started from the top-down process and stimulated the bottom-up process which is the major way to intervene in Chinese cities.
- 2. Les Grands Voisins' is a transient district that only lasts for 5 years and demolishes at the end of project time. This is in line with the conditions of the temporary project in China (Temporary land use period is two years, it can be extended for 1 year, after that, the project has to be demolished)
- 3. Les Grands Voisins not only creates additional land values, but it also deals with urban issues.
- 4. The project doesn't go against the regulation and is acceptable for different actors. Since most of the temporary uses are fringe and illegal which somehow creates a negative effect on the city.
- 5. The project doesn't change the urban texture with new constructions and demolition, which corresponds to the "conservation" concept in Chinese urban planning strategy.

Les Grands Voisins provides a possible temporary use framework in some parts of Chinese cities. To understand better the project mechanism of Les Grands Voisins, and how it can be transmitted to a new temporary strategy in China. The research intends to study this case in a detailed way by analysing the cause, original problem, solution, result, and actors in the following paragraphs.

3.3.2 The history

The Saint-Vincent-de-Paul site can be dated back to 1638.with the creation of the Trouvés Children hospice (Saint-Vincent-de-Paul Hospital website). This hospice was established in the old buildings built by Gaston Duc d'Orléans. From 1920, the health auxiliaries of the congregation of the charity were gradually replaced by lay nurses and caregivers. New hospital services and Inserm units were set up in the 1960s and closed untill 2010.

In 2010, the City of Paris published a new ecodistrict plan on the site and the construction would start from 2020, meanwhile, the old hospital has been closed. In this case, this ten-year time lag has to be taken into consideration. In 2014, AP-HP (assistance public-hospitals of Paris) and Aurore signed an agreement for the temporary use of the entire site. This agreement recognizes the legality of the temporary use of this land and also led to the joining of other non-profit associations in the future. The agreement mentions the period of use starting from 2015 to 2020, After that, all temporary events and business activities meet the requirements. By 2020, the contract expires and the first eco-district construct unit has been delivered to the site.

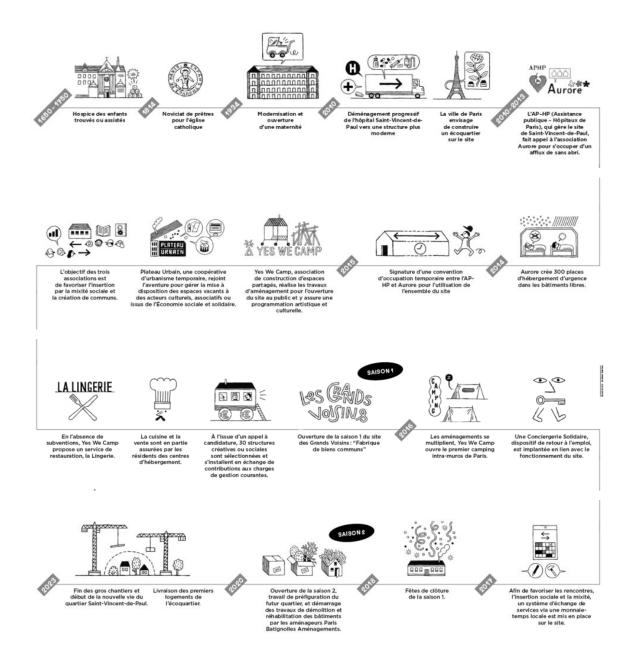


Figure 3. The history of Les Grands Voisins (by Jochen Gerner), from website: https://lesgrandsvoisins.org/histoire/

3.3.3 Existing problems of the site

There are 3 major problems related to the site and Paris city before the project Les Grands Voisins.

- 1. In the process of de-industrialization in Europe, many unemployed and homeless people have been produced.
- 2. The vacancy rate of office buildings in central Paris is very high because of high rents
- 3. The hospital closed in 2012, the next project will begin in 2020. In this case, there will be a year's gap. The land might be abandoned.

The first and second problems mainly related to the Paris urban issue. According to the homeless statistics, 3641 homeless people sleeping rough on the streets of Paris (2019 census)¹. And this issue affected over 140,000 people in France (Wikipedia)² which became a significant social issue. In Paris, there are more than 20 homeless shelters for temporary accommodation. However, the way of providing temporary accommodation doesn't solve the problem from the root. The city of Paris needs to solve this problem fundamentally. In addition to providing temporary accommodation, it is also necessary to help these people reintegrate into society.

As for the vacancy of office buildings, it has kept a high rate since the 2008 economic crisis. Especially in central Paris. The number reached 8.1 percent in 2012. High prices have pushed some individual artists and young entrepreneurs to the fringe of the city which has fewer social resources. According to the theory mentioned in the "New Urban Crisis" (2017 Richard Florida)³, This phenomenon not only affects young entrepreneurs and artist clusters, but it also damages the whole urban social system (speeds up the differentiation of clusters). Therefore, it's also very emergent to provide affordable offices for young entrepreneurs and artists with abundant social resources and networks.

From a macro point of view, those problems need to be coped with through political and city planning changes. But Les Grands Voisins involved this problem in another way. It tried to radiate the whole city with small experimental points.

 $^{^{1}\} Data\ form\ website:\ https://www.thelocal.fr/20190319/in-numbers-how-the-homeless-population-of-paris-is-growing/$

² Data from website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homelessness in France

³ Bishop Peter, Williams Lesley, (2012), *The Temporary City*, Routledge, 978-0-415-67055-5.

The third problem is highly related to the site condition. The time lag between old and new projects would cause vacant land. Although, from 2012 to 2015, Aurore (the non-profit association mainly deals with homeless issues) took over this site and accommodated large numbers of homeless people. The land doesn't have a strong social connection with neighbourhoods. The value of the land isn't high until the official start of the temporary project.

3.3.4 Solutions, timeline, and actors

There are different actors involved in this project in order to solve the problem which is put forward above. According to the research carried out by Professor Bragaglia and Rossignolo¹, the actors are divided into 3 groups: Public actors, Private actors, and Civil society. The public actors include the municipality of Paris, the City and Paris, and the landowner. They play a role as promoters and regulators of the project. As for private actors, there are three main private actors, they are Aurore, Yes We Camp, Plateau Urbain. These three actors are the core of this project, who are in charge of the daily affairs in the venue and provide functions. The civil society actors include the rest of the participants, for example, the people who are living or working on the site and who hold activities. These actors cooperate with each other and have a clear work distribution. Next, the research will analyse their solutions from the perspective of different actors.

¹ Bragaglia Francesca, Rossignolo Cristiana, (2021) «Temporary urbanism as a new policy strategy: a contemporary panacea or a trojan horse? *», International planning studies*, Volum 0, issue 0 pp.1-17.

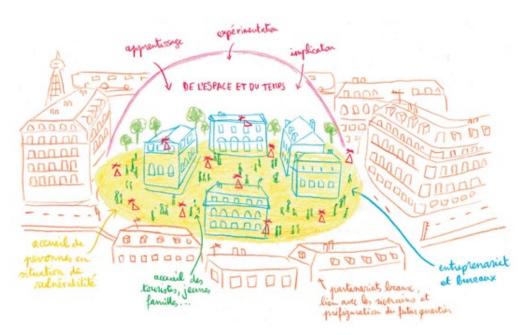


Figure 4. Intent diagram (by Yes We Camp), from website: https://www.kisskissbankbank.com/fr/projects/les-grands-voisins-un-espace-public-inedit

First of all, for the public actors (Municipality of Paris, the City of Paris, assistance public-hospitals of Paris), they stipulated an agreement with non-profit associations dealing with social issues for the temporary use of the area between 2015 and 2020. Meanwhile, during the project period, they play a role as supporters. According to the Les Grands Voisins's economy model (Les Grands Voisins website), public actors would give financial support if there are emergencies of accommodation. Public actors as the first executor formulated the planning of old sites which include functional uses, land transitional uses, relative regulations, etc. As the "top" part of this process, they provide a flexible and innovative framework, encouraging private actors to intervene in this project.

Secondly, the private actors composed of Aurore, Yes We Camp, Plateau Urbain. Their solution is providing accommodation, affordable offices, and open-to-public restaurants and coffee bars. Meanwhile, they created a social network in order to provide resources to benefit young start-ups and opportunities for homeless people to go back to society. These three private actors have different functions, and the times when they got involved are different. The first association involved in this project is Aurore. In 2010, Aurore started to provide homeless accommodation in the old hospital and cooperate with the Assistance public hospitals of Paris. Till the end of Les Grands Voisins 2nd season, the

main service of Aurore was providing accommodation. Then, after 2015, another two associations joined the project. Yes We Camp focuses on organizing open-to-public restaurants and coffee bars, in order to attract surrounding activities and balance the total Revenue of Les Grands Voisins. Plateau Urbain focuses on providing affordable offices for young start-ups with a price of 4 times lower than offices around the site. Their reasonable division of works and co-management between three actors in different professional backgrounds enable the project to allocate resources rationally from a social and economic perspective.

The third part of the participants in civil societies. They have made a great contribution to activate the site. Over 5 years, 5000 volunteers were involved in Les Grands Voisins. Surrounding neighbourhoods are willing to gather and meet here. Evenings, exhibitions, screenings, concerts, performances, balls, markets have been held on this site. The participation of civil society is not only the consequence of innovative planning and managing strategies but also one of the site catalysts to make it interact frequently with the surrounding environment.

3.3.5 Achievement and future impact

The experiment of Les Grands Voisins is successful. The project not only made a huge achievement directly by the services it provided but also created a huge impact on the future.

The major achievements of Les Grands Voisins are Provides great help to homeless and young entrepreneurs, and activates the environment of the venue, making it more interactive with the neighborhood. For the Accommodation, according to the demonstration of three cooperators, six emergency accommodation, stabilization, and integration services of the Aurore association, as well as a home for foreign workers, were established. 40% of homeless people successfully went back to society. There are also 7 accommodation centers and 600 people accommodated per night. For the offices and workers, 500 startups and workers work in Les Grands Voisins, with a low rental price: 250 euro/m² year. Meanwhile, the open-to-public restaurant and coffee bars, not only attract people from the outside world (300 cultural, educational and artistic events

annually offered free of charge to over 600,000 visitors.) but also achieves the costrevenue balance by these commercial activities. This self-sufficient district brought a huge value to the city.

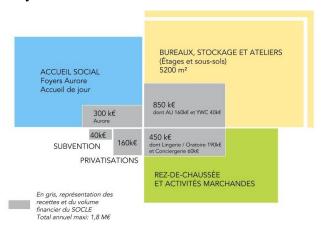


Figure 5. 2019 whole year global economic model of Grands Voisins representation (by Aurore, Platea u Urbain and Yes We Camp), from website: https://lesgrandsvoisins.org/le-modele-economique/

In addition to its own achievements, it also made a huge future impact. As three cooperators said, "Les Grands Voisins is a way to demonstrate that it is possible to create responses to global crises". Les Grands Voisins provides an example of possible solutions for urban crises, as well as an example for temporary urbanism (innovative top-down and bottom-up temporary activities). There are a large number of similar projects that emerged (e.g. Les Cinq Toits, La PADAF, La Bastion de Bercy and etc), Les Grands Voisins had a certain impact on them from different perspectives. Meanwhile, Les Grands Voisins created a huge research value for temporary urbanism. It is a stand-in temporary typology (the temporary project stands between two permanent projects), through reasonable occupancy and land uses optimizations to bridge the gap in urban development. And the way of cooperation between public and private actors also has research values.

At the same time, Les Grands Voisin also had an impact on urban planning concepts and policies. Thanks to this project, on August 26, 2019, the City of Paris signed a charter for the development of temporary occupation in Paris, with around fifteen public and private partners. And with the success of Les Grands Voisins, three private actors (Aurore, Yes We Camp Plateau Urbain) have frequently cooperated with public actors

(municipality, the City of Paris, etc) to use experimental solutions to tackle urban issues. In this way, there will be more flexible and innovative urban strategies and policies emerge.



Figure 6. Trabucco cabin (by Yes We Camp), from website: https://lesgrandsvoisins.org/les-lieux/

3.3.6 Conclusion

Les Grands Voisins' innovative temporary use model has a positive impact in the context of Paris. Using the time lag between the two projects, the solution of providing homeless accommodation and low-price offices has a huge impact on the current social problems both of the site and the city of Paris. However, for our key research site in China, with different urban contexts and policies, people have to characteristically implement the temporary strategies in the research's site in China by taking the current urban topic into consideration (Urban village, conservation, etc). the research will extract the core elements of the Les Grands Voisins project and compare it with another Chinese case in the following article.

3.4 Nantou Ancient City - Bi-city Biennale of Urban/Architecture, hereinafter referred to as $UABB^1$ -



Figure 7. Overall bird's eye view of Nantou ancient city reconstruction (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

Source:

- 1. http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/
- 2. https://www.icity.design/projectDetail/recent/2
- 3. http://www.szbowan.com/bwjp/html/140.html
- 4. http://www.aoya-hk.com/html/2020/p1-3_1104/632.html

¹ Abbreviation of Bi-City Biennale of Urban/Architecture in Shenzhen, China.

3.4.1 Overview of Nantou Ancient City revitalization project

Shenzhen (17.56 million residents, 2021) has always been considered a brand-new immigrant city and special economic zone, without historical memory and cultural heritage, in fact, there is an old town standing inside, which has a history of 1700 years, it is Nantou Ancient City, the birthplace of Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macao. With the urban development of Shenzhen, Nantou Ancient City has inevitably undergone an urbanization process. It is not only squeezed by external cities but also promoted by market demand. Policy commissions have caused the villagers of Nantou Ancient City to renovate homestead, reconstruction, and scrambling construction. Then a typical spatial form of urban villages "high-density handshake buildings" ¹were born.

In the past few decades, Nantou Ancient City has always been in the contradiction between the protection of the ancient city to pass on the history or the transformation of the old city to integrate city, the local governments also intend to redevelop the cultural and tourism resources, however, due to complicated historical reasons, this plan is difficult to implement and has to be postponed indefinitely. Till the beginning of 2016, the design and research teams of URBANUS² intervened in the renovation project. They have discovered that the reasons that obstruct the future development for a long time are not only to have to face the two propositions that seem to constrain the protection of historical heritage and the transformation of the old city simultaneously, what's more, how to accurately understand the historical value and reality of Nantou, is the big conceptual issue concerning its future direction.

The research of URBANUS started by superimposing multiple historical information of the ancient city to sort out the context of the ancient city, at the same time, they carried out detailed field research, cross-compared between history and reality, and gradually clarified the future development position. Compared with the transformation of space, the rebirth of the ancient city requires the improvement of the quality of life of residents and the revival of the local culture it carries.

¹ A traditional form of buildings in the south of China with short distance between two buildings.

² An architecture design firm of China

Through respecting the historical authenticity, and cherishing the cultural accumulation and historical imprint of each era, they came up with a development model that is guided by intervention and implementation gradually activated from point to area, and promoted the revival of the ancient city with cultural activities, and based on the site conditions, proposed six tailor-made renovation plans that are feasible in the near future: gardens revival plan, boundaries reshaping plan, ancient buildings conservation plan, main streets pilot plan, cultural and creative factory plan, inner-city dynamic update plan, etc. These plans focused on the significance of the transformation of key public spaces and the introduction of public activities to activate and promote the rebirth of the ancient city. They created a space transformation and exhibitions are implanted with highly consistent narrative lines, which will least disturb the life of the residents in the city and most effectively improve the quality of the public space in the ancient city, and leave enough space for future development.

This renovation plan begins in 2016 and ends in 2017, short life span but has attracted a number of public attention, after that Vanke and other developers have joined the renaissance team in 2019, now Nantou Ancient City has been listed in one of the ten characteristic cultural districts in Shenzhen. Apart from that, the surroundings of the Nantou Ancient City are going to develop as well in the next few years. The combination of modernity and history has also put Nantou Ancient City gradually into the field of vision of more people.

Reasons for analysis

So far, temporary urbanism has not prevailed in China, it is more like an experiment and exploration, moreover, the high-speed development of the city requires the renewal of the old city. In the past cases of urban village reconstruction, most of them have become cultural commercial areas and greatly sacrificed the interests of the original residents, there are few cases of respecting historical context and residents. After a while, it lost its freshness and was gradually abandoned. So the reasons for analysis this project are:

1. It is one of the few Chinese cases to use temporary strategies to participate in the revitalization of urban villages

- 2. It respects and preserves historical memory, takes the historical context as the mainline, and changes the living environment of the residents to a large extent with minimal impact on the residents
- 3. It is a social experiment conducted on the basis of the official controlled detailed planning, using practical actions to find the optimal solution to the revitalization of the urban village and to play a positive role in the future development

3.4.2 The history and social status of Nantou Ancient City

Nantou Ancient City is located in the Nanshan district of Shenzhen, also located on the east bank of the Zhujiang River estuary, in the south of Zhongshan park, the oldest park in Shenzhen. It is the administrative center, coastal defense fortress, maritime transportation, and foreign trade distribution center in the coastal areas of Lingnan in the past. It is also the starting point of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

According to historical records and research, Nantou Ancient City was built in 1394, its city form is an irregular rectangle, with mountains and sea, surrounded by moats. The longest range of the city wall is 680m from east to west, and the widest from north to south is 500m. At present, there is still a section of intermittent sites on the north wall. The north and west gates were destroyed. Although the east gate is still there, it has been built with stones, the only one preserved in good condition is the south gate.

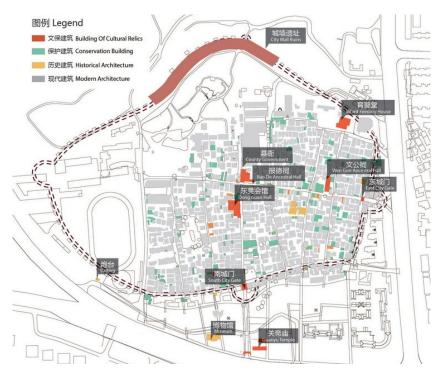


Figure 8. Building age and distribution map (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.c n/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

The six vertical and one horizontal road network in the ancient city of Nantou is perfectly integrated with the natural topography. There are Xianqian Street, Xianning Street, Yongying Street, Juxiu Street, Heyang Street, Yin'en Street, etc, nine streets, thus it was called "Nine Street" by the locals. Now only eight streets remain; there are 15,000 persons living inside the community.

During the seventeenth to eighteenth centuries, the government implemented a border relocation, the county was abolished, which led a large number of residents of Nantou Ancient City to move inward. In addition to the city wall, the houses inside were demolished. And then were reconstructed, Nantou Ancient city returned to being a peaceful village until China had been established. From 1983, those preserved historical sites were gradually listed as protected heritages. At the end of 2011, the "Shenzhen Nantou Ancient City Protection Plan" organized and compiled by the Shenzhen Municipal and Commission began to be publicized to the public and solicit opinions.

3.4.3 The revitalization process of Nantou Ancient City

With sufficient site analysis, urban design, and research in the early stage, URBANUS proposed the idea of setting UABB (Bi-city Biennale of Urbanism/Architecture) to Nantou Ancient City. Today, Nantou Ancient City is located on the south of Zhongshan Park, built on a gentle slope to the south, in history of Nantou Ancient City, there were four city gates, the north one was abandoned in the middle of the 17th century, and the north street of traditional county cross street pattern also gradually lost its vitality as well. Zhongshan Park was one of the earliest public parks, constructed during 1912-1949, at that period, it had attracted plenty of people because of high old trees and greenery in the surroundings, however, the walls of the 1980s built industry zone had been the gap divided Zhongshan Park and Nantou Ancient City.

So URBANUS team has decided to break out this important spot, reopen the north extension of Zhongshan South Road, recover the old town cross street pattern partly, and connect Zhongshan Park, ancient city, and South gate park, this is a crucial step for future reconstruction, the following transformation interventions and a series of UABB exhibition venues will expand based on this structure mainline.

According to the urban design ideas of protection and renaissance, combined with the exhibition spaces, the team attempted to rebuild the public open space system, which is very scarce in Nantou and connected the dotted architectural space with the outdoor site as the exhibition line. The whole exhibition sites were distributed from north to south and then extended to east and west into 5 groups: A industrial block cluster, B cross street cluster, C south city gate cluster, D ancient buildings cluster, E Chunjing street cluster. The spatial narration was separated into 7 related themes linked to the steps of literature composition:

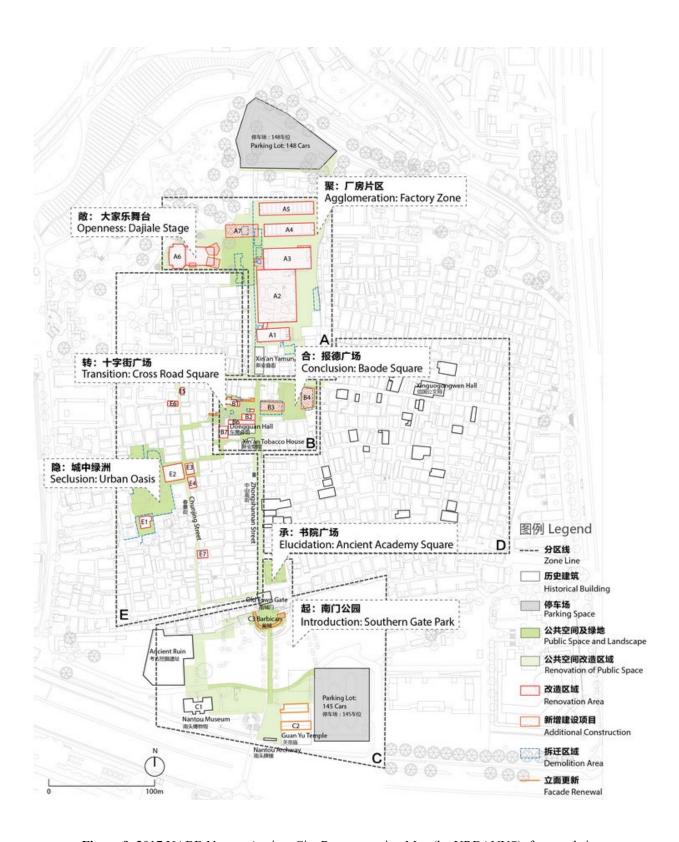


Figure 9. 2017 UABB Nantou Ancient City Reconstruction Map (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

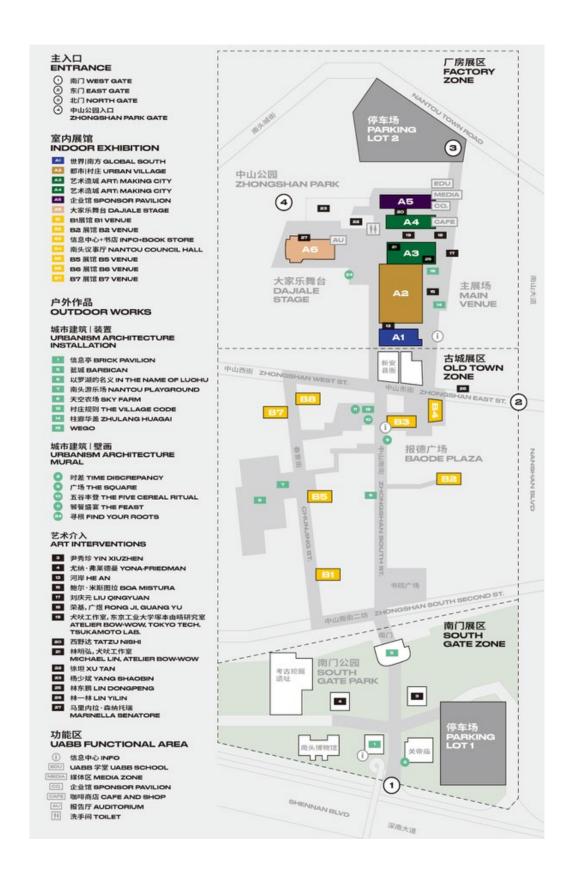


Figure 10. 2017 UABB Tour Map (by URBANUS), from website:

http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

1. Introduction: South Gate Park

The archway of Nantou Ancient city is the oldest construction in existence, and it can be easily recognized when walking along the road, till now it has been around 600 years old, and Nantou museum was built in 1950 is located in the not far from west, it was Baoan county's government before. It is still clear to see the outline of the Ancient city, because of some original buildings, the style of constructions, and part of newly built city walls. But these are not enough for recovering the ancient city. It is possible to find a balance between historical time and real space, heritage, and human life by solving contemporary urban problems comprehensively for the ancient city. Through building contact among human landscape resources, and inserting new public interactive experience to start the tour. Crossing the archway, a kiosk designed by Atelier FCJZ stands in the west, it is like a pavilion by the village street side in the past, its brick roof can provide a shelter for rest. Heading towards the north, there is a temporary construction, during the exhibition, light materials were used to reproduce the semicircular barbican at the southern city gate in historical records. After the exhibition, it will be remained, so that people will not only cross through the gate but also stay for a moment, then a city exploration path that runs through the cultural and historical context is opened from here.



Figure 11. Axonometric view of South Gate Park (by URBANU), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

2. Elucidation: Ancient Academy Square

After entering the south gate, it is a small terrace a bit higher from the street ground level in the east corner of Zhongshan south street. It was recorded that the place in the east of Ancient Academy Square was the old site of Maritime Defense Agency, in the early 19th century, Fenggang academy was built based on this building, also it was the site of Nantou middle school, today, behind the east and north walls are high-density urban village building clusters. The URBANUS team preserved original trees and the overall atmosphere of the space, newly-built steps and ramps made more open towards the gate. In the middle of the square, they designed a small stage for holding various events.



Figure 12. Photo of Ancient Academic Square (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

3. Transition: Cross Street Square

During the modernization, most of the spaces in the city center have been developed in a fast way, the value of land are increasing, due to the lower price for rent and living cost, more and more people are forced to gather here, most of the traditional houses were reconstructed as rental houses, some of the historical buildings were transformed as well, and some heritage were very closed to a newly-built apartment recently. URBANUS focused on this plot, set here as a joint to connect the main exhibition space

and western Chunjing Street block. bonded to the existing topography, set up a gradual transition from the external street space to the internal block semi-public space, and integrated the elevation of the original site. Used the low concrete wall as the boundaries between different levels, besides, the way of outdoor paving and plants were all based on the Lingnan traditional culture.

For the illegal buildings and structures on the site, use the specific classification to determine the reconstruction method and continuously adjust the strategy based on the feedback of the surrounding residents, rather than demolish them all. Solving the situation of lacking public open space by designing some public joints, for instance, small scale square, pavilion, greenery, etc. pay more attention to the evolution of the ancient city lifestyle, the transformation of traditional space types, and the architectural scale of Lingnan.



Figure 13. Photo of Cross Street Square (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

4. Conclusion: Baode Square

Baode square was a threshing field in the 1970s, now it is served as a basketball court, the historical buildings were surrounded by housing, those two temporary tin buildings situated on both sides of the square for grocery market and supermarket, now are replaced by two new designed temporary buildings after coordination with residents. The stepped roof towards the square gradually can be used as an auditorium for the events, the scale and style of them are consistent with historical buildings clusters in the south of the square. These two buildings integrated with the square, further enlarged the public space, used as an information center and library, also exhibition and event spaces.



Figure 14. Photo of Baode Square (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/ua bb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

5. Agglomeration: Industry zone

Since the 1980s, a number of factories have been built in Shenzhen's villages; the urbanization process has surrounded those factories. There is a factory zone in the north of the ancient city, around 14,000 sqm. Their walls have isolated the ancient city with Zhongshan Park. This project kept the original exterior walls of factories and dormitory, demolished a temporary iron structure, instead of a light translucent shed, there were outdoor cafes under the structure. The west walls and the ground floor outer walls of the factory in the middle of this zone have been demolished as well, creating a north-south direction inner street, crossing other two factories. These factories served as exhibition sites, the joint was shaped into a miniature theme park, which implied that it may become an open creative gathering area and a new living zone for young people in the ancient city after the exhibition.



Figure 15. Photo of Factory zone after reconstruction (by URBANUS), from wevsite: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

6. Opening: Dajiale Stage

The Dajiale stage appeared in the late 1980s, is the evidence of early part-time work culture in Shenzhen, at that moment this kind of public performance was very popular, however as the city development and factories moved, it disappeared then. The existing one between the north of the site and Zhongshan Park was used as a function hall during the exhibition, it can also hold some activities like talkings, operas, movies, etc.



Figure 16. Photo of Dajiale Stage (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/



Figure 17. Axonometric view of Dajiale Stage (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

7. Seclusion: Urban Oasis

There was an abandoned vacant land that remained among the housing in the west of Chunjing street, the historical buildings before, have been disappeared now, instead is agricultural land for urban farming, this project put some facilities for plants, and some planting activities to activate this vacant area, and planned to demolish the outer walls and invited botanists, artists, residents, students and citizens to do the reconstruction to build a new neighbourhood zone.

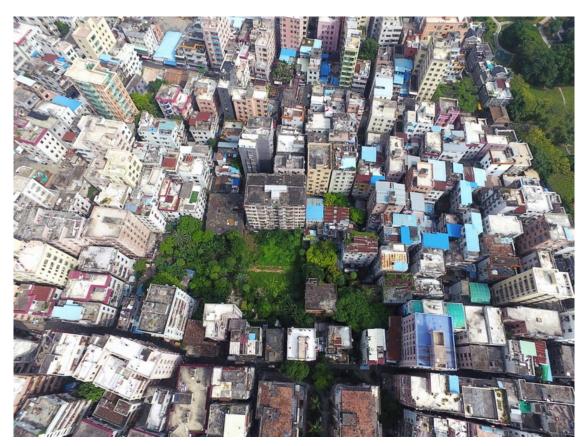


Figure 18. Photo of Urban Oasis (by URBANUS), from website: http://www.urbanus.com.cn/uabb/uabb2017/exhibition-venue-design-concept/

3.4.4 Future impacts

After the UABB exhibition held in Nantou Ancient City, this historical urban village is getting known by the public, with no doubt, this is a very successful experimental by using temporary strategy, in 2018, the Shenzhen city government has listed Nantou Ancient City into one of the ten characteristic cultural zones in Shenzhen, in 2019,

Vanke, a famous developer in China has taken over the protection and reconstruction project of Nantou Ancient City, on the base of UABB, some architecture design company have undergone a deeper transformation and revitalization, among them, Bowan Architecture reconstructed some buildings' facades, and designed a tourist service center, as a transition joint, located in the crossing of old street and modern street. L&A improved and optimized the landscape and public space in the ancient city to provide a better quality of public space. In 2021, in a seminar entitled "From "Blueprint" to Practice-Innovation and Upgrading of Land and Space Planning and Governance in the New Era" jointly organized by the Space Planning Research Center of Fudan University, Shanghai Institute of Space Planning and Design, and "Urban and Rural Planning" magazine, Shenzhen Institute of Urban Planning and Design proposed the overall development plan for the committee of Nantou Street through six micro renewal plans, which are Journey, Origin, Street, Art, Construction, Pioneer. Linking the ancient city with the modern city spatially and psychologically, improving the living environment, and allowing residents to participate, so as to enhance self-awareness of community culture and environment.



Figure 19. Photo of buildings after reconstruction (by Bowan Architecture), from website: http://www.szbowan.com/bwjp/html/140.html



Figure 20. Photo of the landscape after reconstruction (by L&A), from website: http://www.aoya-hk.com/html/2020/p1-3 1104/632.html

3.5 Conclusion of case studies

There are differences and similarities between these two cases due to the different backgrounds and the problems needed to be dealt with. According to different phases of the project, the following paragraphs will be intended to extract the key factors, in order to provide assistance for future relevant research, at the same time, to support proposals in the next chapter. To figure out, within the Chinese current urban context, if there are better solutions for future planning according to these two case studies.

The conditions before starting the temporary project are almost different. Les Grands Voisins is located in an old hospital site in Paris, which is in a relatively modern district. Except to fill the vacant land between 2010-2020, there are no large problems for the site itself but urgent macro urban issues. Nantou Ancient City, on the contrary, is located in Shenzhen and it is one of the biggest urban villages in Shenzhen. The origins of the problem lie in the site itself. Because the site and the surroundings have formed a huge economic and social lag, it is necessary to find a way to activate the site to start a dialogue with the city.

Facing the different urban contexts and existing problems, there are also some differences and similarities. First of all, for the similarities, they are both transient projects which occupied the land for a certain period already decided at the beginning. Second, they have almost the same participatory process which is starting from the top-down process (Les Grands Voisins: the City of Paris signed an agreement for temporary use for 5 years, Nantou Ancient City: Shenzhen Urban Space Planning Architectural

Design Co., Ltd. has published the Nantou urban planning document in 2011). And then, the bottom-up process follows behind within the regulations (Aurore, Yes We Camp, Plateau Urbain join the project, UABB held in Nantou Ancient City). Third, these two cases have the same participatory process, the actors' compositions are similar as well (public actors, private actors, and citizens). What's more, the projects' major functions and purposes are different. According to the background and existing problems, Les Grands Voisins attempted to provide homeless accommodation, co-living accommodation, low-price residences, bars, and restaurants. With these functions, the site would be occupied in an efficient way, and simultaneously respond to the urban issues (homeless and high-price central office). Nantou Ancient City carried out the project to provide public parks, exhibitions, squares, and activity stages which are mainly public functions. With the purpose of conserving historical buildings, revitalizing the district, and intervening in the future plan, the UABB has attracted large quantities of tourists, merchants, and investors.

However, the results are both successful. Les Grands Voisins has made subsequent impacts on neighborhoods, relative research, and urban policies. The UABB exhibition has attracted citizens' attention and developers' investments and provided some useful ideas for future planning.

Project's name	Les Grands Voisins	Nantou Ancient City UABB exhibition
Background	Old hospital site in Paris	Urban village in Shenzhen (a city in the south of China)
		lack of historical memory and heritage
Existing	Land vacancy and urban issues	preservation, the weak bond between
problems (before	(homeless and high-price central	ancient city's renaissance and
the project)	offices)	protection, a blocked area in the city
		center
Project's life span	2015-2020	2016-2017

Major function	Homeless accommodation, co- living accommodation, low-price offices, restaurant, and coffee bar	public park, exhibition, square, activity stage	
Major purpose	Occupy vacant land by creating additional value	combine ancient city protection with revitalization, and intervene in the future urban village reconstruction plan	
Participatory	Top-down stimulates bottom-up	Top-down stimulates bottom-up	
process	process and meet in the middle	process and meet in the middle	
Actors	Public actors (municipality, the City of Paris, etc), private actors (Aurore, Yes We Camp, Plateau Urbain), Citizen	Public actors (municipality), private actors (URBANUS, artists, etc) Citizen,	
Result and impact	Successful, made a subsequent impact on neighborhoods, relative researches, and urban policies	Successful, improved residents living condition, attracted citizens' attention and developers investments, provided some useful ideas to future planning	

Table 1. Comparison of case studies (by authors)

Above all, these two cases both rely on the initial agreement from the municipality. All subsequent activities are run under this overall framework. At present, this kind of temporary urban strategy which starts from top-down is still in the experimental phase. There are not directly relative planning documents for temporary uses in China. Therefore, the provision of the municipality for temporary use is essential. In comparison, French cities have undergone centuries of development, while the study of temporary urbanism started earlier. So under this relatively complete system, temporary strategies are more used in France to fill vacancies during urban regeneration. In China, the history of modern urban development is only a few decades. The rapid development background has caused uneven urban development. Thus temporary strategies are more

experimentally applied in a small part to compensate for the imbalance between different areas of the city.

Essential points for proposals afterward

In the following article, there will be two proposals in two different sites in China. These two case studies have played important roles in supporting the proposals and feasibility studies. For the Les Grands Voisins, although it has a different urban background from the site in China, French advanced temporary strategy models can be applied in suitable locations. The way of occupying vacant land and creating additional value would be a critical point for the proposals. At the same time, the government-led, non-profit organizations' intervention management models also have the opportunity to be applied within China's urban and political frameworks. For the Nantou Ancient City UABB, it's very innovative in the way of using temporary exhibitions to activate neighbourhoods. It is an urban experiment and has great reference significance. It found a feasible solution to the current urban village issues. However, each site has its own characteristics. It is demanded to reference the essential points from case studies to adapt to local conditions, in order to ultimately come up with a feasible solution.

4 Proposals

People's Republic of China as a former developing country is developing in an incredibly high speed, in the latest 14th Five-Year Plan and 2035 Vision, it is clearly pointed out that we must accelerate the promotion of urban development and comprehensively improve the quality of the city. Therefore, it is not allowed to delay, article 9 of the "Construction Law of the People's Republic of China" stipulates that the construction company shall start construction within three months from the date of obtaining the construction permit, if the work cannot be started on schedule for some reason, it shall apply to the issuing authority for an extension, the extension shall be limited to two times, and each time shall not exceed three months. If construction is neither started nor applied for extension, or the extension time limit has expired, the construction permit shall be automatically cancelled. It will take about six months for all required permits to be processed, so a project may take less than a year from approval to start of construction.

While in France, a project preparation phase can last a long time, but the official urban planning document was published in 2010, and it pointed out that this area will be planned as an eco-district in Paris, and this project starts to construct in 2020, the Les Grands Voisins using temporary use strategy, was carried out from 2015 to 2020, at the end of this project, the government began bidding from 2018 to 2019, and Lacaton & Vassal, one of the winning teams is still in the design progress at present, compared to China, a project has a longer cycle.

Different plan policies make it impossible for us to find sites similar to Les Grands Voisins to implement the proposal, however, the impact of the overall project on society and the solutions to social problems are still worth learning. And the case of Nantou Ancient City protected the living memories of local residents, reproduced history and attracted the public has played a significant role in the other proposal.

4.1 Proposal 1: Revitalization of abandoned buildings in traditional industrial area of Shanghai.



Figure 21. Street view of the site now (from Baidu map), from wevsite:https://map.baidu.com/@13523 366.1,3643766.91,21z,87t,130.36h#panoid=09000300121905211618301557I&panotype=street&headin g=351.52&pitch=-17.74&l=21&tn=B_NORMAL_MAP&sc=0&newmap=1&shareurl=1&pid=0900030 0121905211618301557I



Figure 22. Inner street view of site, from website: https://www.sohu.com/a/197431085_773938



Figure 23. The bird's eye view of Sen Xunli (by Lingan), from website: https://shanghai.anjuke.com/community/pano/?comm_id=819051&anchor_pano=1



Figure 24. Site location of proposal 1 (by authors)

4.1.1 The reasons of site selection

Baoshan Road Community is located in the north central of Shanghai, is one of the urban villages, according to the Shanghai 2035 urban planning documents, this area is exactly excluded from the central activity area, meanwhile, it is also a historical block along the tram and train railways, as other urban villages, narrow alleys, disordered wires, illegal temporary constructures and clothes hanged on the street can be seen everywhere easily here, when in metro, one can notice this ancient but distinctive block, standing next to the multi-storey tall buildings. At the same time, this area is neglected because it is tough to find a balance point between the local living conditions and land price, once the government announced the demolition plan, the price of this area is getting higher, original residents will ask for higher demolition compensation. It causes no investors would take a risk to start projects here.

4.1.2 Site's situations

The site is closed to the Shanghai train station, sit at the edge of central activity area and divided by the railway and metro line, there is a metro station in front of the site, and two main city roads connect to the city centre on both sides, the whole site is surrounded by new residence and railway office buildings, the buildings inside are old as well as dense, but most of them are traditional and representative residential buildings in Shanghai —Shikumen, the door frame is made of stone, and the door leaf is made of black lacquered solid thick wood, the building structure is brick and wood, and facilitated with dormer windows, this kind of buildings have already hundreds of years of history.





Figure 25&26. Photos inside the site (by Bo Kelin), from website: http://photo.eastday.com/2018slides how/20200429_7/index.html

More than a half of residents are middle-aged and elderly, they have been living here for decades. Narrow roads, high density houses, and temporary sheds, lead their public activity spaces are only the small open space in front of their homes. Under the metro railway, there are some old office buildings and temporary constructures, they are incompatible with the surroundings.

4.1.3 Concept



Figure 27. Masterplan of the proposal (by authors)

Preserve history and reawaken the public's memory of traditional Shanghai

The development of the city should not override the historical memory of the city, and the renaissance of the old city should not replace the most traditional and most life-like residential buildings with the modern high-rise buildings lacking city's characteristics. This site is in the middle of the city's transition between the old and the new, and people can find the historical district that is in sharp contrast with surrounding area on the metro. From this point, we decide to preserve this historical memory in the city centre, due to the population structure, most of them have difficulties to move out, and they might have no place to stay, so we would repair the original buildings to keep the traditional residential buildings including the façades and structures, removing temporary sheds and replace them with new structures, and cleaning up internal paths, aiming to improve the living qualities and city image in general.

The metro station in front can be an entrance and exit to this whole site, the research's goal is to lead more and more people to visit here, to experience the traditional Shanghai living life, then preserving this memory. This area has been bombed by many wars, and some famous and important figures have lived here, but the constant reconstruction makes some history gradually disappear, we transfer the exist office building in front of the metro station to a historical image gallery, and introduce some reading function into it, also demolish the temporary constructure to enlarge the open space to be a greenery to provide a place to rest and stay, also to be a beginning of the visit route. Besides we design a new temporary building next to the gallery, introducing cafes, restaurants and other service functions inside, serving not only tourists but also residents.

Improvement of residents' lives in the post-Covid era

Recently, public health emergency has impacted people's daily life, Covid-19 has already sounded the alarm for the world, and there will be more similar incidents in the future, so open public space is becoming more and more important in daily life, especially for this high-dense community, we give full consideration to local residents, to use those buildings under the metro railway for public function. As Shanghai has

abundant rains in all seasons, roof drainage needs to be carefully considered, roof of the newly built retail constructures shaped in to two levels of platforms with different elevations for eating and communication, in the other side of the gallery, we evaluated the situation of the old building, and finally demolish it to be a public space, and design a rooftop grandstand, the space below combined with the gallery. In this public space, residents can experience different activities according to different time periods, in the morning, it can be a morning market, in the afternoon, it can also be a rest space, residents can play chess, card games, and have some tea, while in the evening, it will transfer to open air stage for movies and performance.

In the west side of public space, we decide to design a university of elderly in the higher part of the building, and an activity centre in front, taking into account the population structure of the residents, this place can provide colourful activities and courses for them, so that enrich their daily life. From the more public space of the metro station, it becomes more private and better serves the local residents.

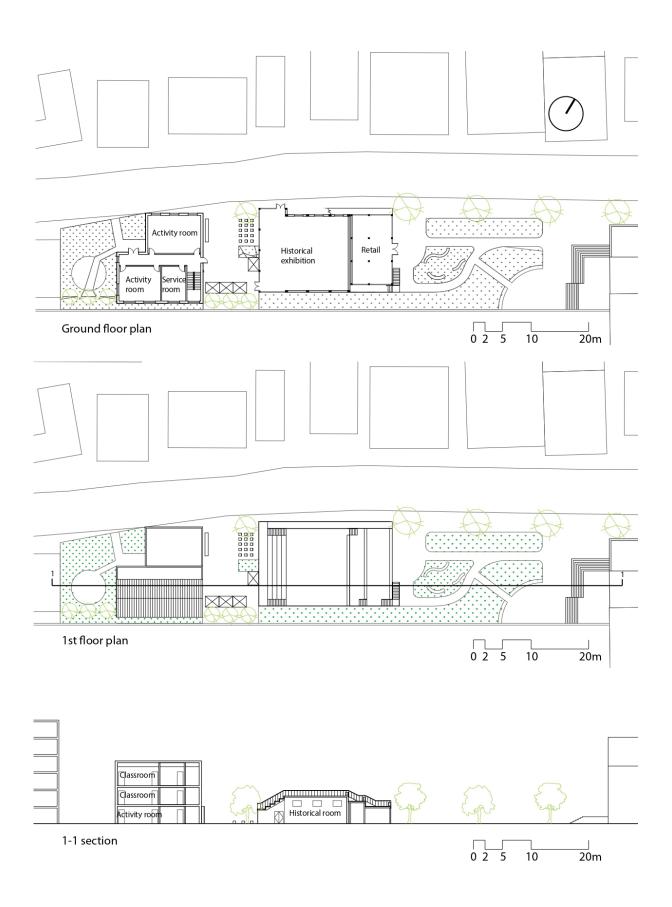


Figure 28. Floor plans and section of proposal (by authors)

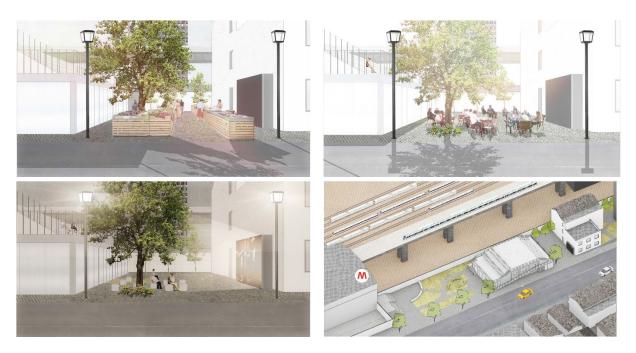


Figure 29. Small collage scenes in different periods (by authors)

Introduce fresh blood to adding vitality

Young people are a symbol of active, if a place wants to be vigorous, it needs population mobility to a great extent. So, we plan to introduce more young people come here for a temporary stay. In the conner of the historical community, there is a three-storey hotel abandoned at present, we transfer it into a co-living housing, mix temporary housing, shared kitchen, communication space, gym together inside of this building. This area is just three kilometres far away from the city centre, lower rent price can attract more people to know and live here, then the vitality of this land will be enhanced in the future.

4.2 Proposal 2 Memory's garden in the old industrial area





Figure 30&31. Site photos (by authors)





Figure 32&33. Site photos (by authors)



Figure 34. Site location of proposal 2 (by authors)

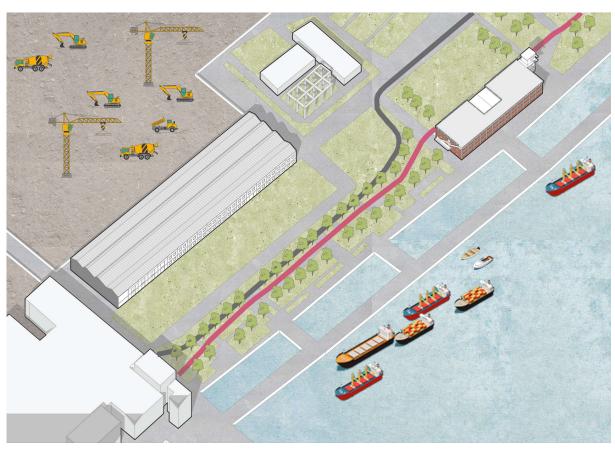


Figure 35. Axonometric view of the site (by authors)

4.2.1 The reasons of site selection

The cotton manufacturing industry in Shanghai once developed rapidly and became another centre of Asian cotton manufacturing industry besides Mumbai and Osaka, this is the former site of Shanghai cotton manufacturing Co., Ltd, was founded in early 19th century, owned by Nissho Corporation, after 1945, it is taken over by Chinese government, there were three cotton manufacturing factories have worked here, after the reform of state-owned enterprises, the latest company has quitted the market due to poor revenue. The office building has been used by Riverside Command Office of the Yangpu section of the Huangpu River in Shanghai, however the factory and warehouse are abandoned at present, their main structures are in good conditions while the external walls and roofs are partially damaged. Till now, there are not any plans about this area. We hope to learn from Les Grands Voisins model, try to take advantage of this area before the new project beginning to bring it back to life.

4.2.2 Site's situations

The site is located in Yangpu district, the main industrial district in Shanghai, in the 2035 urban planning document, this area is opposite to the Yangpu central activity district, between them is Yangpu bridge, here is planned to be the riverside ecological green belt, at present, some of the surrounding buildings have been retrofitted into creative park, the green belt has linked commercial buildings, museums and other public buildings together. In the north of this site, it is now under construction for office function as planned in the document. Opposite the block where the site is located is residential area however it will be under regeneration as well.

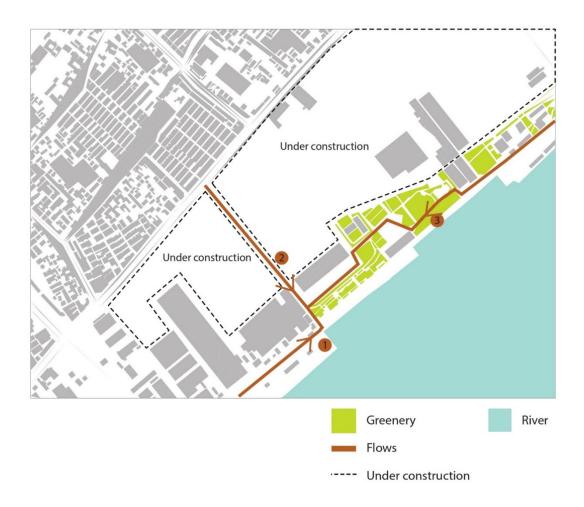


Figure 36. Site's situation (by authors)

4.2.3 Concept

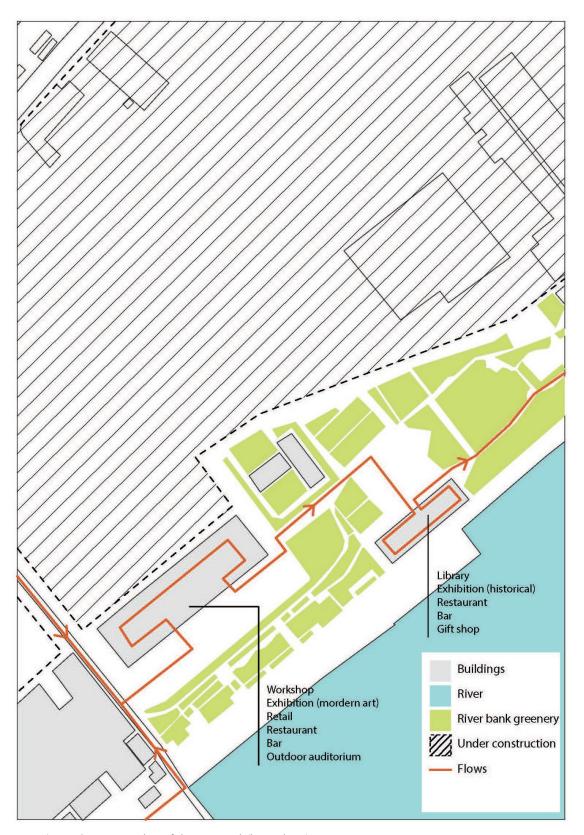


Figure 37. Masterplan of the proposal (by authors)

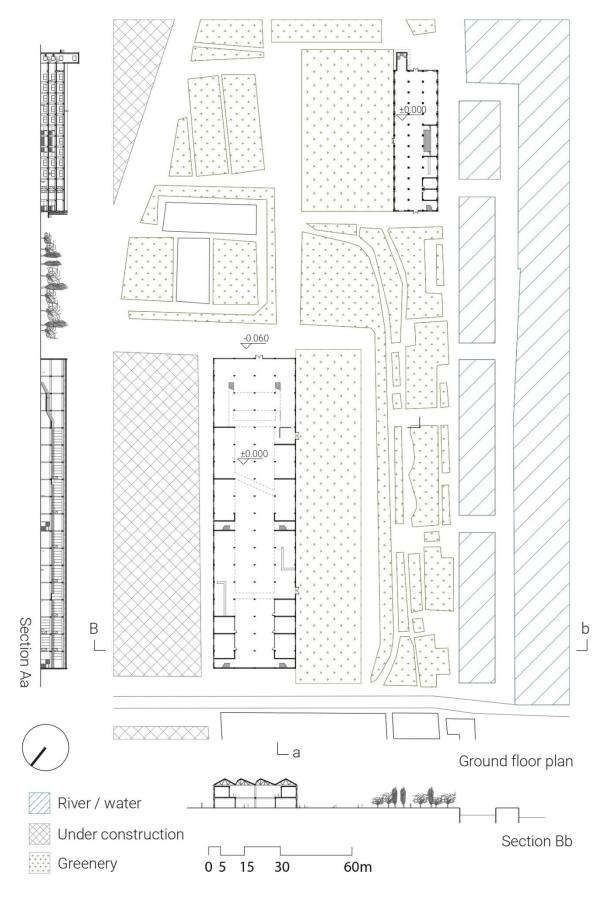


Figure 38. Ground floor plan and sections (by authors)

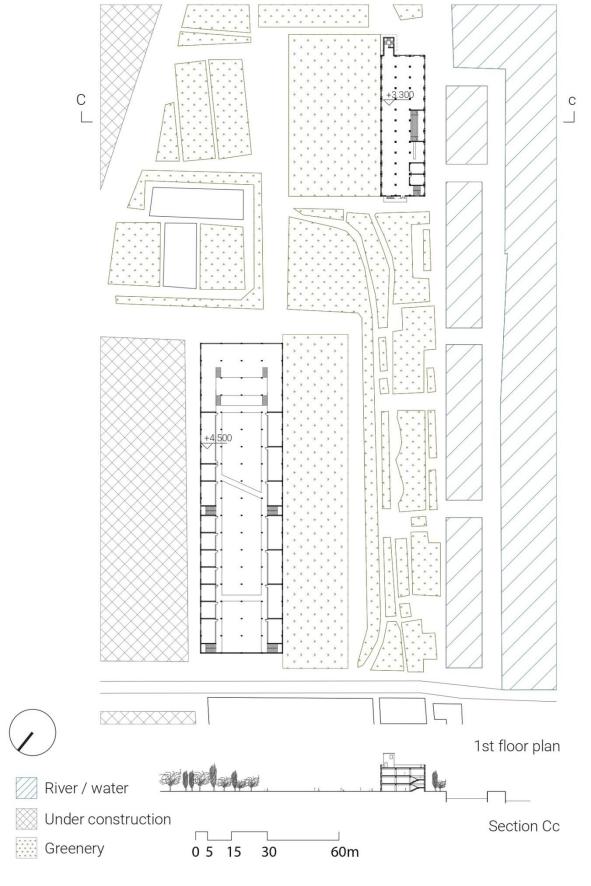


Figure 39. 1st floor plan and section (by authors)

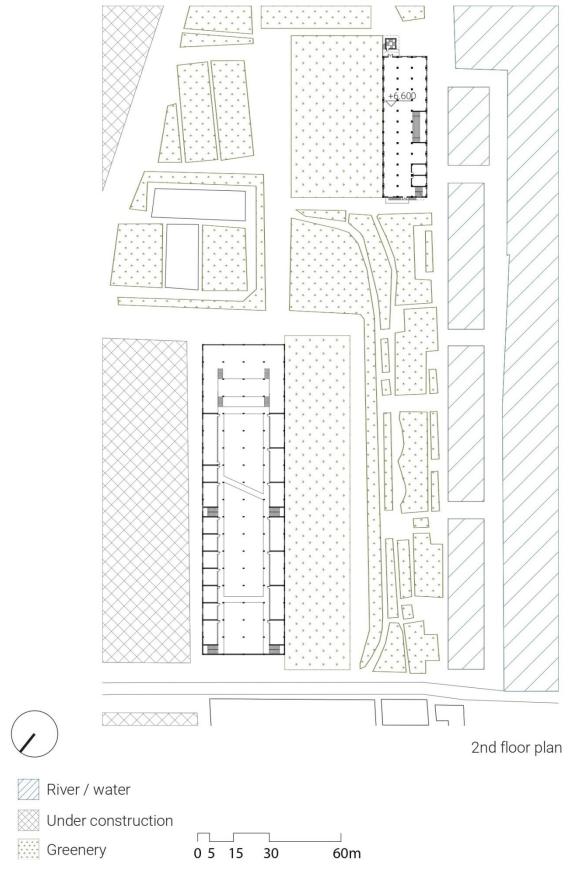


Figure 40. 2nd floor plan (by authors)

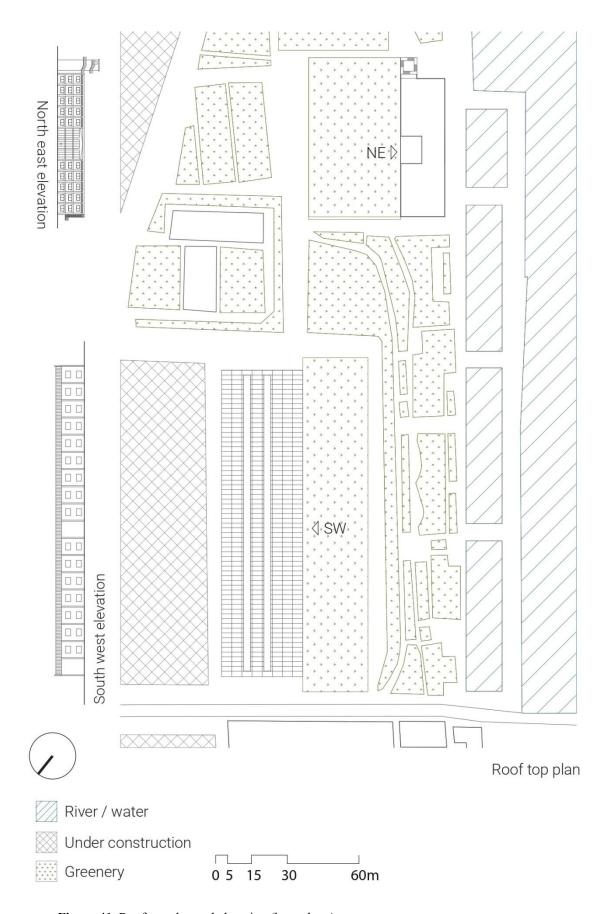


Figure 41. Roof top plan and elevation (by authors)

Wake up memory and review history

Although there are many historical buildings in the riverside green belt, most of them have been shifted to a commercial area like café, bar, etc, and private studios, people can only find a QR code about the introduction and history in front of the historical buildings, but the buildings' appearances have been changed. In this site, we decide to bring the history into the warehouse, not only the cotton manufacturing companies' memories, but also the old industrial district history, so that people can get access to the site and experience the history. Meanwhile, adding reading function and retails like café, bars in the upper floors. Connecting the tower with the warehouse and using it as a staircase, the top floor serves as an observation deck to enjoy the riverside scenery. Besides, taking advantage of the stairs on the façade, after visiting the exhibition hall, people can go upstairs for a drink or snacks from here, this stair also connects to the roof garden and bar, to provide a platform for rest.

The greenery in front of the warehouse, can not only be a garden, but also an open-air exhibition area, artists will be invited to design works related to the culture and history of this cotton manufacturing company, in order to make people keep both artists and history in mind.

The gathering place of the new generation

Nowadays, more and more young people like to go to the old industrial area to check in and take pictures, because the retro industrial style is in sharp contrast with the modern city, beside of that, combining with the planning of this area in 2035, we introduce an experiential studio function into the factory, on the ground floor, there are restaurants and retails serving for the locals, staffs and tourists. In the other side of factory are workshops and open space, they can exhibit their works here, at the same time, the middle open space can hold some events like temporary exhibitions, shows, food festival, etc, those studios need a quiet space are on the first floor, we hope the lower rent price can attract more and more people who have just started a business come here.

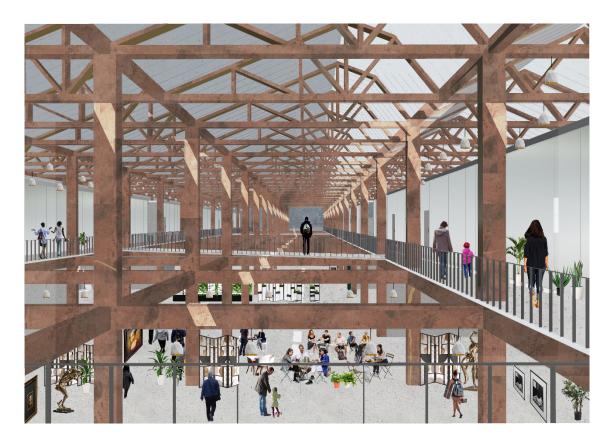




Figure 42&43. Interior and exterior collages (by authors)

The site for public activities regardless of age and identity

The place in front of the factory is another big greenery of the site, we hope this garden will serve for everyone not only a certain people, in this garden, we schedule to hold different kind of activities, sometimes here can be a carnival place for people by holding music festivals, and food festivals, sometimes here can be a culture place to hold movie festivals, and also public cinema. Besides, here can also be a place for holding open-air exhibitions as well as weddings. Due to the perfect location, the aim is to make this site another attractive place in the green belt, to make more and more people to visit not passing by without accessing it.

These two proposals are developed on the basis of case studies carried out before, the selection of two different forms of areas is to provide different possibilities for future urban renewal in Shanghai or other cities. At the same time, it hopes to absorb more social attention through the practice of two typologies of temporary urbanism.

5 Conclusion

5.1 Literature research

In the theoretical part (chapter 1 and 2), the current urban issue and relative theory about temporary urbanism were studied. The main goal of chapter1 is to understand current urban issues, meanwhile, find an appropriate planning solution. According to former studies in this field, and some real-world cases, the critical aspect of the "disconnection and inequality" land issues are urban infrastructure, affordable houses, wage conditions, community conditions, flexibility. These important factors are related to local investment, residents' living standards, and economic conditions. Therefore, it needs a method that can activate the area in a short time with a limited amount of investment. Temporary strategy tends to be an appropriate solution according to the following features:

- 1. Temporary urbanism is a flexible and experimental solution.
- 2. Its economic properties give it greater opportunities to attract external investment while avoiding gentrification.
- 3. It has the potential to provide affordable temporary houses.
- 4. It can empower the community through the bottom-up participatory process.

When analysing the vacant issue, it is always related to the urban planning cycle (The gap between old and new urban planning causes vacant land) and outside investment (when the value of land drops and cannot attract outside investment, the land would fall into a vicious circle). And one of the most important properties of temporary strategies is the economy. Historically, it can be seen from the post-war industrial development period that the emergence of temporary use was to meet people's needs while also greatly reducing economic input costs. This greatly reduces the risk of investment, attracting many outside investors. According to the theory "Liquid Modernity" (Zygmunt Bauman, 1999)¹. The flexibility of the temporary strategy makes it more in

¹ Bauman Zygmunt, (2000), Liquid Modernity, Polity Press, ISBN: 0-7456-2410-3.

line with Bauman's expectations of modernity. Meanwhile, the disconnection and inequality frequently related to the problem of gentrification and economic segregation. This is unavoidable in the process of traditional urban development. Temporary strategies can be used as a conciliator. As a planning strategy, it can avoid gentrification, at the same time, bring the community together. Above all, temporary strategy is a feasible solution to tackle the vacant land issue.

As for chapter 2, the main goal is understanding how to practically implement temporary strategies. Through literature and case analysis of temporary strategies, the conclusion was drawn.

- 1. Tactically apply on small areas (like an urban design for several blocks). The cumbersome planning procedures and the violation of mainstream urban planning strategies make the practical application of temporary strategies in small-scale planning documents more efficient.
- 2. Introducing new activities and events, meanwhile, creates attractive points. In this way, temporary projects attract tourists and outside investment. At the same time, it integrates the land that needs to be activated and connected, into the entire city.
- 3. Respect urban culture and original city texture. Implanting temporary functions directly on the original site is more efficient from an economic point of view, and from a cultural point of view, it adds additional value while protecting historical texture.
- 4. Encourage buttom-up participatory process. Temporary strategy is based on small-scale community transformation, so the need for public participation is high.
- 5. Correspond to local land-use regulations. Temporary land permits are different in different regions, and the way investors intervene is also completely different.

Temporary strategies play a role as catalysts in the process of urban development. It assists the permanent land and mainstream urban planning through improving the

condition of the "forgotten area". Because of the complexity of implementation, administration process, and lack of official regulations, temporary strategies can't be applied wildly. For the mainstream urban planning strategies, planners are able to integrate all the urban elements (e.g. infrastructure, masterplan, function, technical system, greenery, etc) in order to complete a vision for future decades. This scheme has a very high level of order, more rational planning which can be implemented on a large urban design scale. However, the temporary strategies are the opposite. It's a comparatively chaotic system that requires a large number of participants and complex works. Temporary strategies pay more attention to current conditions due to the attribute of temporariness. Above all, temporary strategies can only be implemented in small-scale urban design projects.

When using temporary strategies, planners have to start with events and activities. It's different from traditional urban planning. The traditional plans require a functional definition of the land. The planning starts from a certain location, and planners would design upon this location. But temporary strategies require events and activities, on the contrary, it starts from an event or activity, and then, planners would try to find an appropriate location to carry the events and activities. For example, the open market, Christmas market, Expo, etc. Therefore, the generation of temporary strategies must be accompanied by events and activities.

Temporary strategies, as a complement for mainstream urban planning, need to respect the original urban texture and history. From an architectural point of view, the way of using the original building for renovation respects the history and saves the budget. Especially for a project which only lasts for several years. At present, most of the successful temporary cases are based on the transformation and utilization of the old site. Meanwhile, the combination of temporary strategies and urban historical protection can generate additional value.

Another important value that temporary strategies can achieve is community participation. Temporary strategy due to its small scale and complexity of implementation. It requires cooperation between associates and local residents. This allows residents to join the project and stimulate more activities. Meanwhile, the planning should follow the local regulations. For example, in China, there is a time limit

for a temporary structure. The limitation is two years, after two years, the structure has to be demolished. And in France, there are no specific time limitations, planners have to consider the future disposal of temporary plots. There are different temporary regulations in different countries and planners have to pay attention.

5.2 Case studies

In Chapter 3, the main goal of the case study is to understand the method of practically implementing temporary strategies, learning its critical ideas, and discuss whether the method in the case study is applicable to the proposal will put forward later.

The first case study, Les Grands Voisins, shows the potential of occupying a temporary vacant land between two permanent urban plans. The time lag between 2012 to 2020 allows private non-profit associations to be involved in the project. Not only the fact that the strategy did make a great contribution to the whole Paris city, but also the method of cooperation between public association and the private association has the value to be studied. The initial decision (only allowing non-profit associations to participate in the project) made by The City of Paris has great significance. Also, the way they introduce new functions into Les Grands Voisins made a huge difference. Besides homeless accommodation which has already existed since 2010, the outside restaurant and low-price start-up offices were introduced in 2015. The diversity of functions and activities made the neighbourhood more livable.

The methodology of this case study will be experimentally tested in the proposal. In this condition, the research addressed several critical points from Les Grands Voisins for the proposal.

1. Using time lag between old and new urban plans. Time interval is prone to vacant land. Especially for the time lag ranges from 2 years to 10 years. Permanent projects and investments are difficult to approach due to low land profits. Temporary strategies can play an important role in these lands. In China, the rapid economical development for these years caused a large demand for new urban plans. Urban regeneration documents frequently published by

governments. The temporary strategies can be implemented in the land where they already have future plans but haven't started construction yet. For example, the 2035 river bank planning in Shanghai allows the intervention of temporary strategies.

- 2. Providing varieties of public functions. In Les Grands Voisins, before 2015, the homeless accommodation already existed. However, it has only a small area of influence compared to the project after 2015. The reason is the added new functions made a huge impact. These functions are more public and can better stimulate public participation.
- 3. The cooperation between public actors, private actors, and citizens makes the area prosper. In Les Grands Voisins, three actors played different important roles. Public actors (The City of Paris) legalize land use and the intervention of external organizations. The three private actors have provided the citizens with temporary services for 5 years. And the citizens as the main actors, join and activate the area.

These are the essential points extracted from Les Grands Voisins. They provide an innovative framework for temporary uses. However, since the research is going to provide a proposal for the city of Shanghai, it also has to consider the diverse urban and social conditions, meanwhile, adjust the methodology of Les Grands Voisins to enhance the feasibility of the project.

For the second case study, Nantou Ancient City, which is one of the biggest "Urban Village" located in Shenzhen, The UABB exhibition shows how to apply temporary strategies to activate the entire site under the current topic of historical culture protection in China. One of the reasons why there are so few temporary urban projects in China is that for investors, the benefits of a two-year project are very small. Therefore, the Nantou Ancient City project made use of the Shenzhen Biennale, a temporary strategy, as the carrier of the exhibition, which is more acceptable for outside investors and public actors. Similar to Les Grands Voisins, the functions of the project are public. The temporary project in Nantou Ancient City provides a linear storyline for exhibition by restoring several old factories, at the same time, improving the quality of public spaces.

The phenomenon of "Urban Village" is very common in China. Although most of the urban villages in China do not have such strong boundaries and contrast with surrounding areas, there are still lots of spot areas inside of cities disconnected from the rest of the city. In order to tackle this common problem in China, the research has extracted the essential points from Nantou Ancient City.

- In China, the temporary strategies should be in line with historical culture protection strategies. Old factory buildings with historical value left in the process of industrialization can be transformed and added temporary functions. Firstly, this method is more economically friendly for temporary disposal. Secondly, the historical buildings have additional value for attracting tourists. Thirdly, to preserve the memory of local residents on the plot, the site can also serve the local residents.
- 2. The temporary strategies should have the capacity to attract outside visitors. If looking at Nantou Ancient City at the time before and after 2017, it can notice the huge transition from a residence-oriented old town to a famous historical and cultural area. Attracting tourists can diversify the original single income structure of residents (rental fee) to an abundant income structure (commerce, public service, tourism, etc). Meanwhile, by attracting outside visitors, the bridge between the urban village and the city has been built.
- 3. Provide public spaces and common living conditions for local residences. The project in Nantou Ancient City provides more high-quality public space without destroying the internal living space. While increasing residents' income and improving the quality of public space, it avoids gentrification.

Nantou Ancient City provided a possible solution for the disconnection and inequality of urban issues in China. It enhances the important role of both tourists and local residents in the urban regeneration process. The critical points of Nantou Ancient City are studies and to be implemented into the proposal.

There are similarities and differences between these two case studies. The research has made a comparison in order to understand the impacts from urban background, meanwhile, extract some common points which can be globally tested. According to the comparison table in Chapter 3, it's noticeable that the most significant similarities are the participatory process and actors. Firstly, both of the projects started from the topdown process by signing the agreement of temporary uses, then the bottom-up process was stimulated due to the official documents. Finally, the top-down process and buttonup process would meet in the middle. As for the actors, both these two projects are composed of public actors, private actors and citizens. These similarities have significant meanings that the presence of public actors or the top part of the participatory process is very important in temporary strategies. If looking through the history of temporary research, the temporary uses are usually described as fringe and illegal activities. The absence of public actors may lead to a high risk of failure. Land use rights that are not clearly used for vacant land often hinder the process of urban renewal. Therefore, the municipality, government and other relative urban administrations are very important actors during the process.

According to the comparison table, there are also many differences that are related to existing problems, functions and purposes. After centuries of urban development in Paris, the urban system is more stable. Moreover, due to the long lag between the new and old urban planning projects, fault zones are often generated in the areas where urban renewal is about to occur. Temporary strategies are mostly used to compensate for the fault zones in the city. But the condition in China is different, the lag between old and new urban planning is very short due to rapidly rising land value. But because the city itself only experienced decades of modern development, there are large quantities of disconnected and inequality areas scattered around the city (e.g. Urban Village). Therefore, the temporary strategies in China are more experimental. While improving living conditions, it increases the fluidity of the plot and enhances interaction with the outside world in order to eliminate the isolation between the two places. Therefore, the additional critical elements are experimental and outside visitors.

5.3 Proposal

Two proposals were put forward based on the theories and methodologies which have been studied, in order to provide potential solutions for the city of Shanghai to deal with current urban issues (urban village and vacant land). Both two case studies applied temporary strategies, which means they have already defined the beginning and end of the project (last for two years). Two case studies are dealing with different issues, one for the problem of "Urban Village", another one for abandoned issues due to the lag between old and new urban plans. Because of the similarities with the case studies, two proposals each used similar temporary strategies with case studies, meanwhile, adjusted in order to be in line with local conditions.

The first proposal is located in Baoshan Road, Shanghai, which is close to the central activity area. However, the railway separated the site away from the center, making it less connected to the rest of the city. Meanwhile, it's also a big urban village, most of the residents are elderly, living in isolation from the outside. Another critical feature of this site is that it has historical buildings from the last century. By studying the case of Nantou Ancient City, the research has proposed the following strategies.

- 1. Protecting old buildings to retain the memories and renovating facades across the street.
- 2. Introduce a tourist storyline starting from the metro station, pass through the historical image gallery and alley of the old building block.
- 3. Provide public spaces and facilities for local residents (Outdoor activity center, old people activity center, old people university).

The temporary restoration project is located in the south of the area. The abandoned railway warehouses and offices have been transformed into public activity spaces for residents and historical image galleries for tourists. The project lasted for two years, using people's common memory of Shanghai in the last century to attract people's attention to this area. Use visitor-resident interaction and exhibitions to enhance connection with the rest of the city.

The second proposal is located in Yangpu district in Shanghai. The site is near the Huangpu river. According to the official planning document (Shanghai Masterplan 2035), the river bank of Huangpu river will be constructed as a continuous riverside trail. In the site, there are two textile historical buildings that are abandoned and waiting for restoration in future plans before 2035. Therefore, this site condition is similar to the pattern of Les Grands Voisins that the vacancy is caused by the gap between old and new urban plans. In that case, this research proposed a temporary solution to occupy these historical buildings for two years, to provide workshops, exhibitions and other service functions. It not only attracts outside visitors, artists, young start-ups, but also provides a public service for future offices which are located on the north of the site and will finish the construction soon. The proposal follows concepts which extracted and adjusted from Les Grands Voisins:

- 1. Occupy abandoned buildings for temporary uses before new urban plans.
- 2. Provide multi-functional plots and attractive points to attract young people and outside visitors.
- 3. Wake up memory of the old textile factory and review the history.
- 4. Create public spaces in front of the building plots to serve everyone.

5.4 Outcome: Thoughts on the future urban planning

China's current urban development has gradually moved from incremental expansion to the stage of stock renewal. The old urban communities as the important stock, they are undergoing renovation to promote urban renewal. This is also the social issue that this study focuses on. Temporary urbanism, or temporary use, can not only fill the gap between the old and the new, but also promote the renewal of the concept of urban planning. In the current social and economic turbulent era, the uncertainty of urban development makes buildings with different functions, more or less gradually decline, the emergence of temporary urbanism can just use a cheap way to alleviate the phenomenon of decay, and at the same time inject some fresh vitality.

However, China lacks an understanding of temporary urbanism, so laws, regulations are basically blank. This has also led to some conservative decisions on urban design. At the same time, the government plays an extremely important role in the history of urban planning in China, and few civil organizations can speak on behalf of the residents and put forward their opinions, the part that the people participate in is very small. Among the completed old city renovation, there are not many cases of distinctive and successful renovations, however most of them are similar and don't fundamentally solve social problems. Therefore, this research hopes to provide the following suggestions for urban renewal in China

- 1. For historical area, urban regeneration should protect history and give full consideration to the local residents, instead of putting them aside and focusing on the development of the future city. The masses are the users of the city and the soul of the city.
- 2. The renaissance of an area is based on the need for more public attention, so in the setting of functions, more consideration should be given to social public functions, which can increase the flow of people and increase social attention.
- 3. Public space can not only used as a rest area, but also for some temporary functions, such as urban farms, temporary exhibitions, etc. These functions can promote public participation and attract more social attention.
- 4. For the policy, the relevant departments should improve their understanding of temporary urbanism and do case studies, besides, they should also formulate some corresponding policies, expand the basic database of this topic, to broaden their horizons and provide a platform for future related research.
- 5. Public participation should start to be encouraged, the development of any city is carried out on the basis of the happiness of the people, and the interests of the masses are also the most important part in addition to the national interests. Therefore, in the future urban renewal, allow more people to participate in, let them use their own ideas to improve their living environment, this not only can improve the happiness of the people, but also can reduce some pressure of the planning departments.

Every country, every city cannot avoid the problem of urban renewal issues in the future. The development of cities requires gentrification, but this will cause land prices to skyrocket. This study hope that China will provide some opportunities in the future urban regeneration plans while ensuring that the development of the city is not affected, and more architects and urban planners should be encouraged to participate through temporary strategies to provide more options, and at the same time as an experimental method, to explore a more suitable form for future urban planning.

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