

Mohammad Ali Khalili (PhD) Faculty of Design & Creative Technologies

Nowadays, political and socio-cultural transformations encourage public libraries to become platforms within communities by implementing new changes to their functions. Thus, future public libraries are anticipated to form social infrastructures maximizing their interventional impacts, such as transport infrastructures, educational facilities, and public spaces. Accordingly, reaching the above requires modification of reimagining public libraries via space syntax parameters. Considering this research's scope in Auckland, this study asks: How can public libraries be repositioned as urban social infrastructures through spatial reconfiguration and integration with their surrounding urban context?

To reach the above inquiry, presenting a new approach leading to the term "public access" within the location, which makes the opportunity of breaking the boundary between the library, the location, and the surrounding urban context.

According to Van Nes & Yamu (2021), the space syntax analysis anticipates effects of architectural and urban space on users by using its indicators and measures. Accordingly, I will compare two circumstances within the depthmapX platform. Thus, the findings of the existing circumstances through the selected location are compared with the findings of the new suggested initial approach for the selected location. Accordingly, the comparison illustrates how the new suggested initial approach enhances the integration value and how it impacts choice and connectivity status via new routes within the selected location compared to the existing status. Moreover, the impacts of the expected findings are expected on the surrounding urban context of the selected library's location as well.

With regard to findings, I will present a set of comparison charts regarding the analysed space syntax indicators to represent the potential of the new suggested initial approach for the final model of my research study, which will be expected to form the ultimate approach for reimagining or repositioning public libraries as permeable and socially integrative infrastructures.

Keywords

Public Libraries, Sociability, Social Infrastructure, Public Access, Space Syntax

References

Van Nes, A., & Yamu, C (2021). *Introduction to space syntax in urban studies*. Springer Nature. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-59140-3>