

# # 407 41348 25MAJOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

KEY WORD:

LEPROSARIUM / PHYSICAL / HOUSING IMPROVEMENT / HANDYCAPPED LEPERS

MONGKOL SAJJASKULWONG: THE IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING FOR THE HANDICAPPED

LEPERS IN PHRAPRADANG LEPROSARIUM. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO. PROF. CHAVALIT

NITAYA, Ph.D. 108 pp. ISBN 974-332-015-6

Prapradang Leprosarium in Samut Prakan was established to cure and provide housing for 933 handicapped lepers. At present, most of the housing area is crowded and deteriorating leading to unsuitable living conditions. The Leprosarium has planned to better the living quarters.

The objective of this study is to find ways to reconstruct the present living quarters in response to the needs of the lepers. The study is based on the conditions of the housing, problems and needs. The data is collected by using a field survey, observation, interviews, a study of standard housing for the handicapped and the lepers and other related theories.

It is found that the old wooden building needs demolishing along while the new reinforced 3-storey building with 52 rooms needs improvement. Each room covers 14 square meters. The new building is equipped with multi-functional areas, restrooms, balconies and double loaded corridors. Such physical features are not suitable for living resulting in 4 main problems. The first is ventilation due to the layout, floor plan and corridors. The second is lighting inside the building because of the lighting positions and corridors. The third is the design of the 3-storey building and the installed equipment which does not suit the lepers' physical handicaps. The fourth is the social conditions since the building structure does not lend itself to promote interaction among the lepers.

To solve such problems, an improvement should be made to the layout, floor plan, design, unit plan, equipment and details. Consequently, the lepers' physical and mental health will be better. It is also worth studying the economic and social aspects related to the physical structure of the building studied.

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