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Khaosan Road is the old residential neighborhoods, located in the heart of Bangkok's conservation district, so-called Ratanakosin Island, located in outer Ratanakosin area. It is the largest backpacker enclave in Bangkok and in Southeast Asia. Besides, it also gathers other tourism support services. After the "visit Thailand year" campaign, launched by TAT in 1982 (The promotion campaign, the Ratanakosin bicentennial celebration), the grand palace and other historical sites in Ratanakosin island were promoted as primary sightseeing spots. Tourism became a potential industry as a government policy. The impact on the Khaosan communities due to the backpacker tourism greatly influence the transformation of spatial practice which are specialized from the other places in Bangkok. The study is based on spatial practice and urban transformation in 3 levels: city, district and street. Including pattern of culture and socio-economic condition which characterize the spatial practice in the area. The study area is focused along Khaosan Road, the main street (belongs to Talard Yord sub district, Phra Nakon District) and spaces adjacent to the main street.

The results of this study shows the principle role of Khaosan Road main street as a core public open space. It is the most famous walking street in Bangkok. Spaces along the main road are adapted for many uses. Several heritage buildings are renovated and valorize the space around. There are diversity, flexibility of using space. The public and semipublic space are connected to form a network. Many components gather to create the sense of place: physical elements of old community, integration of new design, human behavior and activities in the site including the feeling of informal environment. They create a new meaning for the Khaosan place. This quality of space is one of the element which makes Khaosan a distinctive area of Bangkok.



Student's signature



Thesis Advisor's signature

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