



UPGRADING INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS IN GREATER CAIRO THROUGH LANDSCAPE-BASED APPROACH

By

Dalia Sayed Basyouni Salem

A Thesis Submitted to the
Faculty of Engineering at Cairo University
in Partial Fulfillment of the
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in
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Title of Thesis: Upgrading Informal Areas in Greater Cairo through Landscape-based Approach.

Key Words: Informal Areas, Community Development, Landscape Interventions, Participatory Approach, People's Preferences.

Summery:

Recent research about the reasons for the rapid appearance of informal type of housing in Egypt has shown some positive aspects and advantages to live in these communities, such as self-sufficiency, sense of safety and social solidarity. Informal settlements in Greater Cairo could be vastly improved by focusing on its potentials. This research thus is an attempt to enhance the open spaces in informal settlements by small-scale, low-cost, and community-driven interventions, and it investigates landscape interventions that can be applicable to the physical potentials found in informal settlements. These interventions are considered as a tool to upgrade these areas through questioning its conditions, its constraints, and its particular problems. Moreover, by exploring the newer trends of landscape interventions associated with poorer contexts. Since the community is the main aspect in informal settlements, the study inquired to what extent residents have the willingness to participate in landscape interventions, which accordingly affect the efficiency of the landscape interventions as an input in upgrading process. Recommended interventions should take into account the public preferences as a delimiter key in the context of informal settlements, because the research aims to gain greater insights into the positive and negative factors that affect individuals' preferences for their open spaces, and consequently their willingness to participate in the process of upgrading.

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