The Meanings behind its Changing Use: Instagram Pier in Hong Kong Liza H.Y. Chan (Student No.: 6112994) Master of Science in Human Geography Utrecht University

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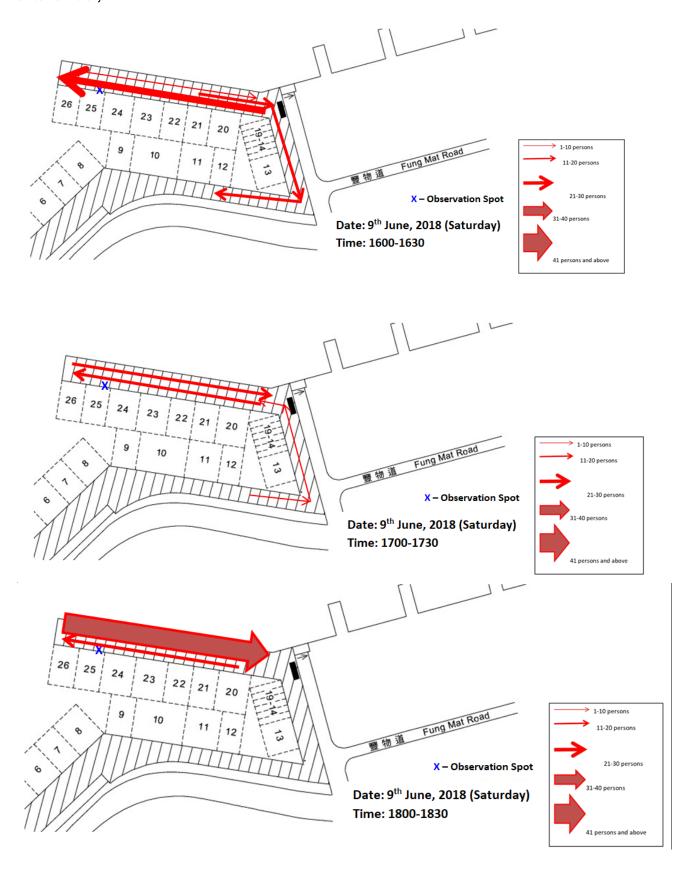
I. Observation Schedule

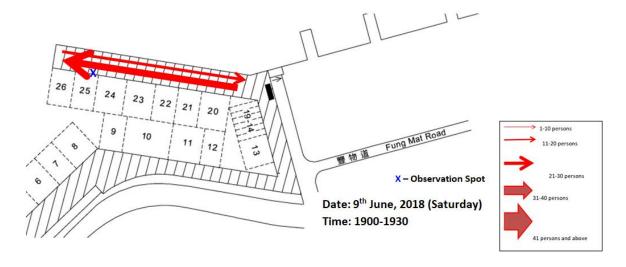
Observation	Date	Time slots
Exploratory	30th May (Wednesday)	1400-2000
Observation 1		
Exploratory	2 nd June (Saturday)	1400-2000
Observation 2		
Actual Observation 1	9th June (Saturday)	1400-1430 (Spot 1)
		1430-1500 (Spot 2)
		1500-1530 (Spot 1)
		1530-1600 (Spot 2)
		1600-1630 (Spot 1)
		1630-1700 (Spot 2)
		1700-1730 (Spot 1)
		1730-1800 (Spot 2)
		1800-1830 (Spot 1)
		1830-1900 (Spot 2)
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		1930-2000 (Spot 2)
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		1430-1500 (Spot 2)
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		1530-1600 (Spot 2)
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		1630-1700 (Spot 2)
		1700-1730 (Spot 1)
		1730-1800 (Spot 2)
		1800-1830 (Spot 1)
		1830-1900 (Spot 2)
		1900-1930 (Spot 1)
		1930-2000 (Spot 2)
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		1430-1500 (Spot 2)
		1500-1530 (Spot 1)
		1530-1600 (Spot 2)
		1600-1630 (Spot 1)
		1630-1700 (Spot 2)
		1700-1730 (Spot 1)
		1730-1800 (Spot 2)
		1800-1830 (Spot 1)
		1830-1900 (Spot 2)
		1900-1930 (Spot 1)
		1930-2000 (Spot 2)
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		1430-1500 (Spot 2)
		1500-1530 (Spot 1)
		1530-1600 (Spot 2)
		1600-1630 (Spot 1)
		1630-1700 (Spot 2)
		1700-1730 (Spot 1)
		1730-1800 (Spot 2)
		1800-1830 (Spot 1)
		1830-1900 (Spot 2)
		1900-1930 (Spot 1)
		1930-2000 (Spot 2)

II. Movement Maps

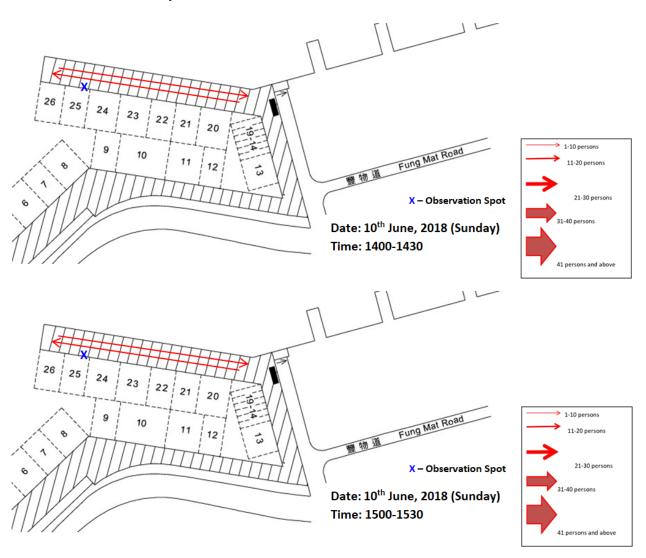
- (1) Observation Spot 1
 - a. Saturday, 9th June 2018

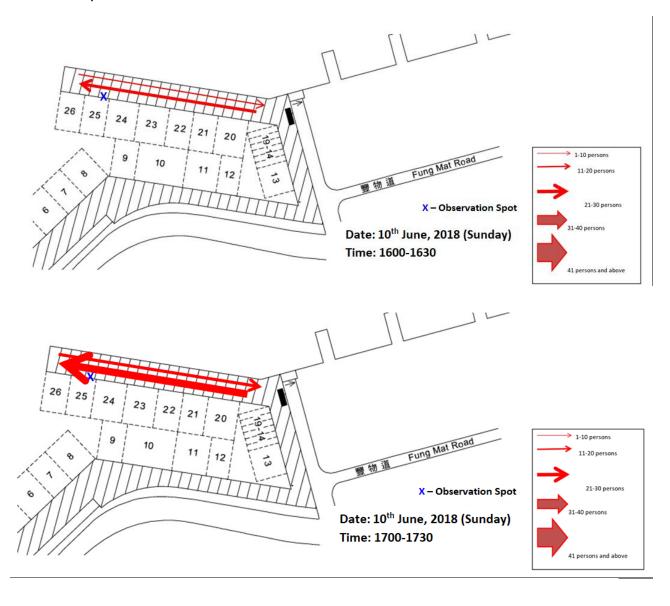


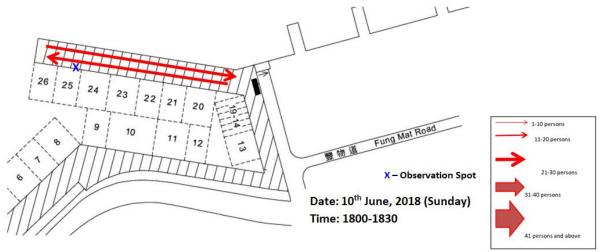


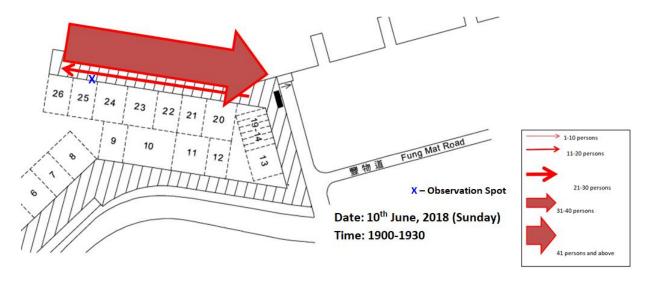


b. Sunday, 10th June 2018

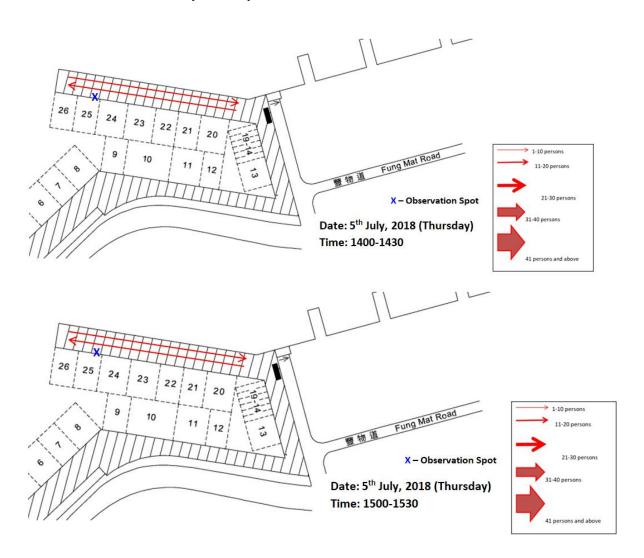




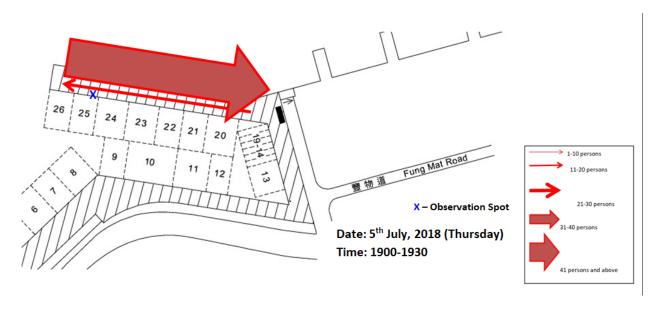




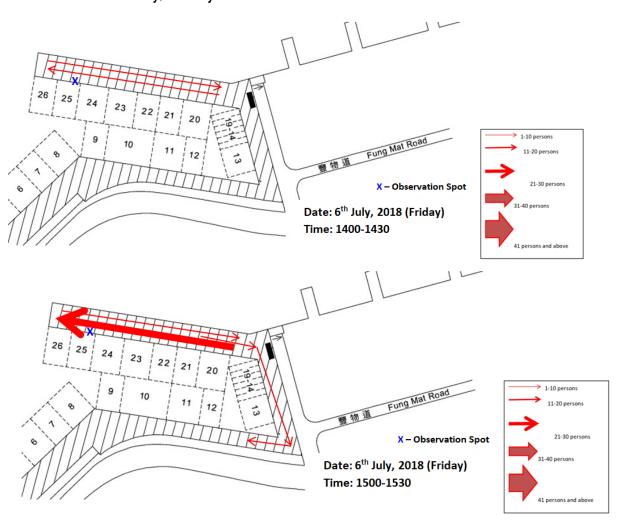
c. Thursday, 5th July 2018



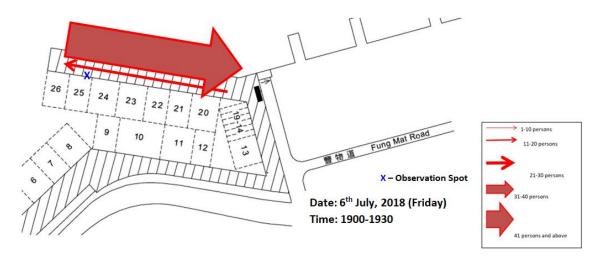




d. Friday, 6th July 2018

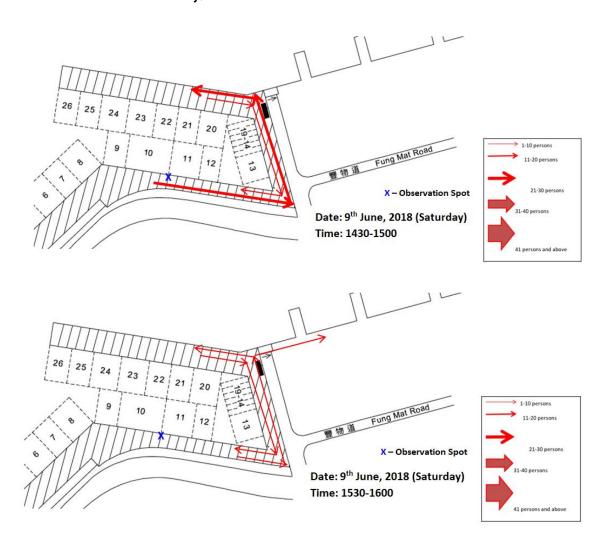


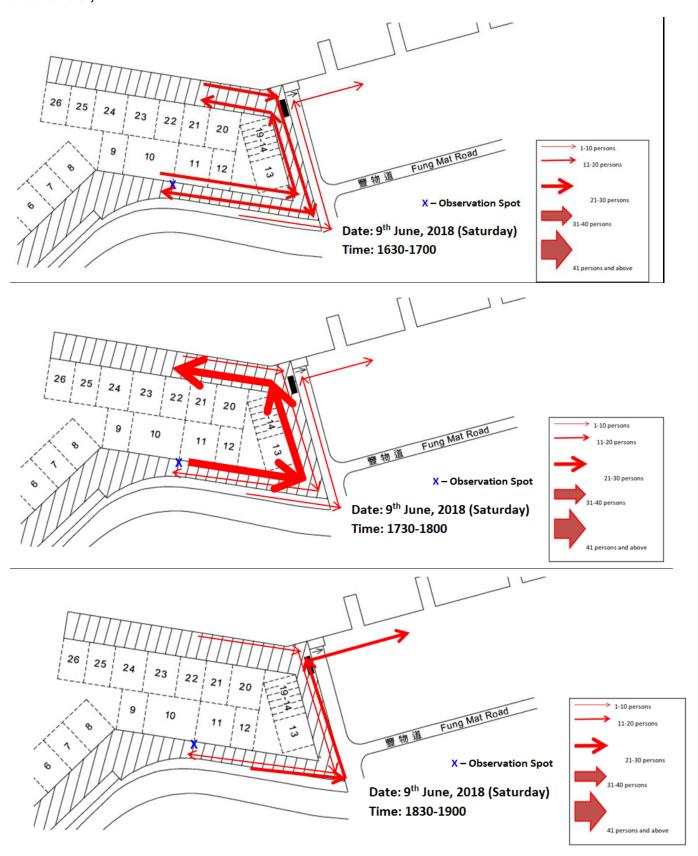


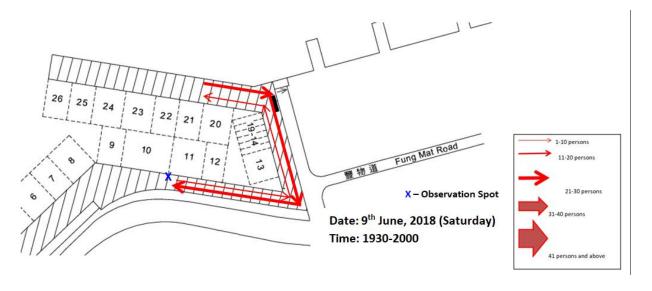


(2) Observation Spot 2

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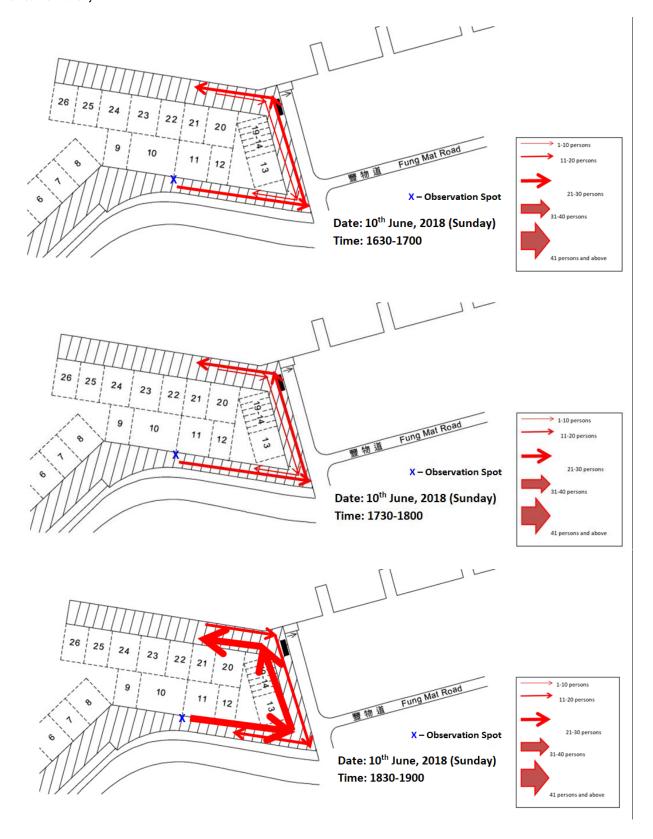


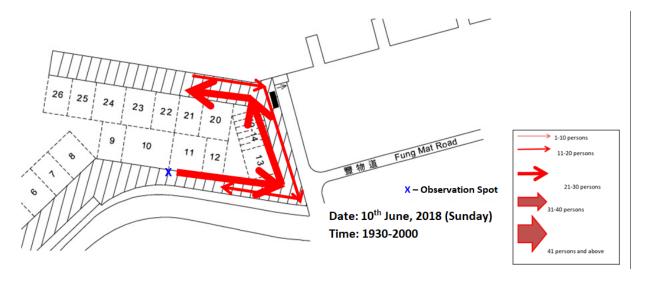




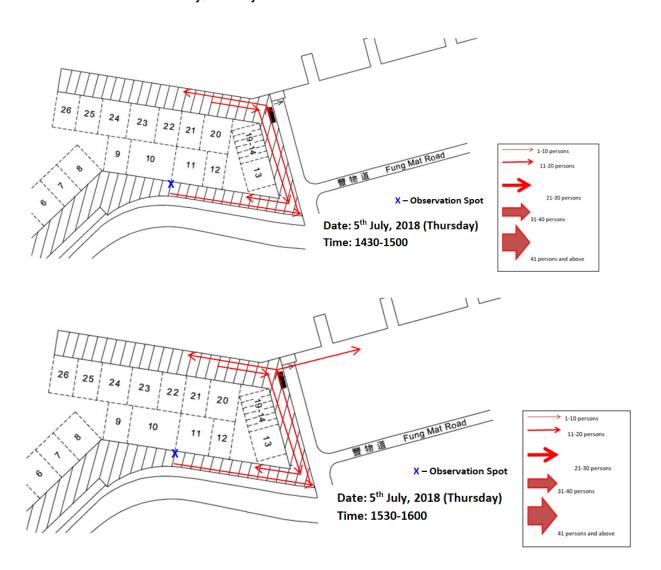
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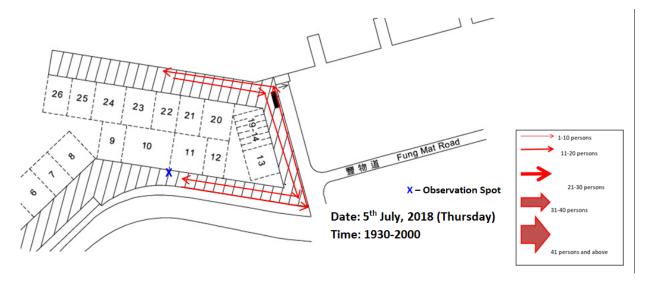




c. Thursday, 5th July 2018

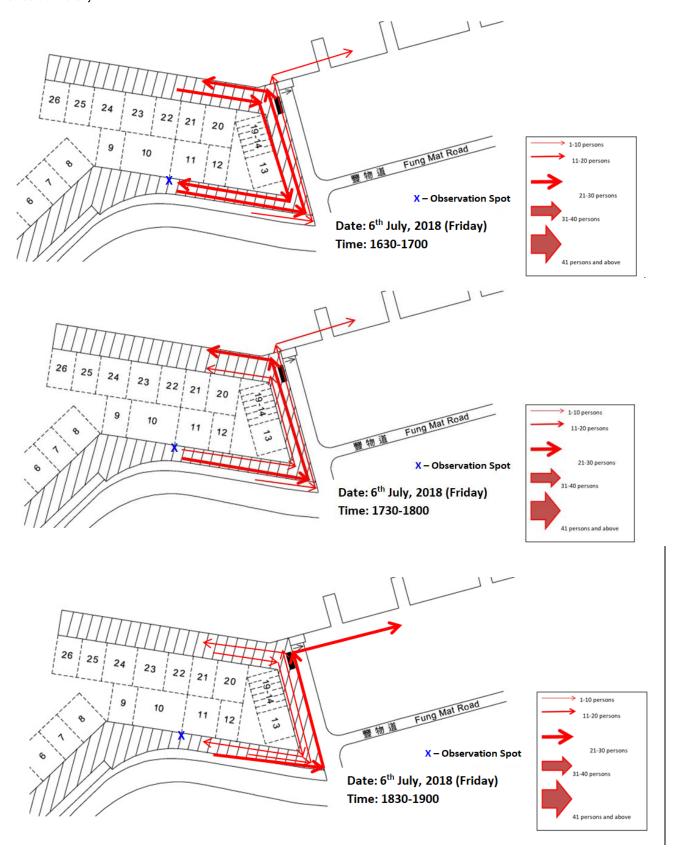


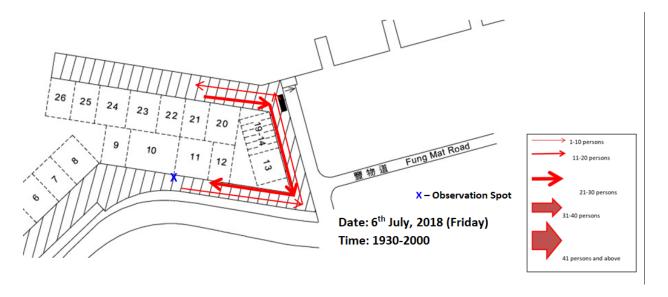




d. Friday, 6th July 2018



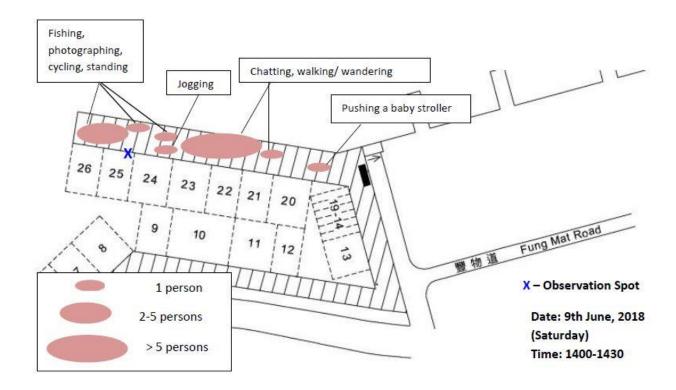


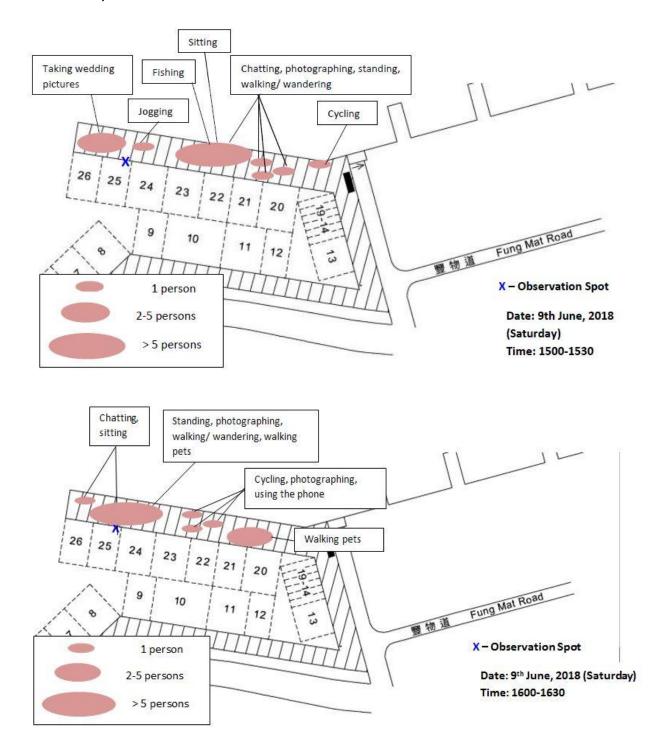


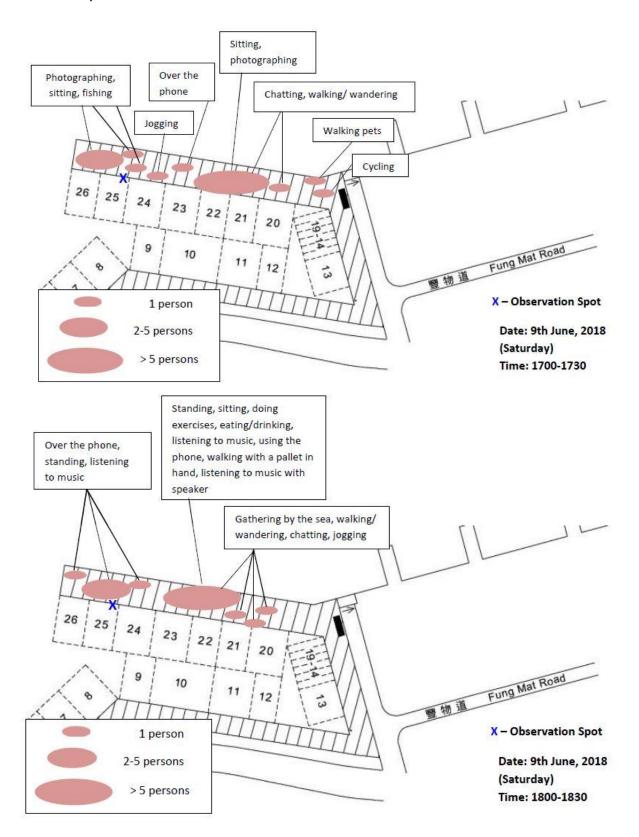
III. Behavioural Maps

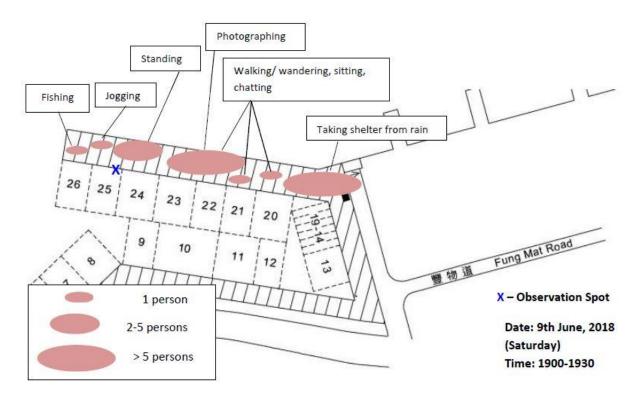
(1) Observation Spot 1

a. Saturday, 9th June 2018

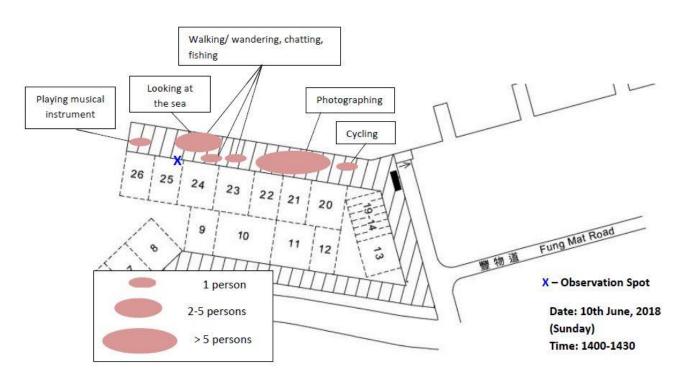


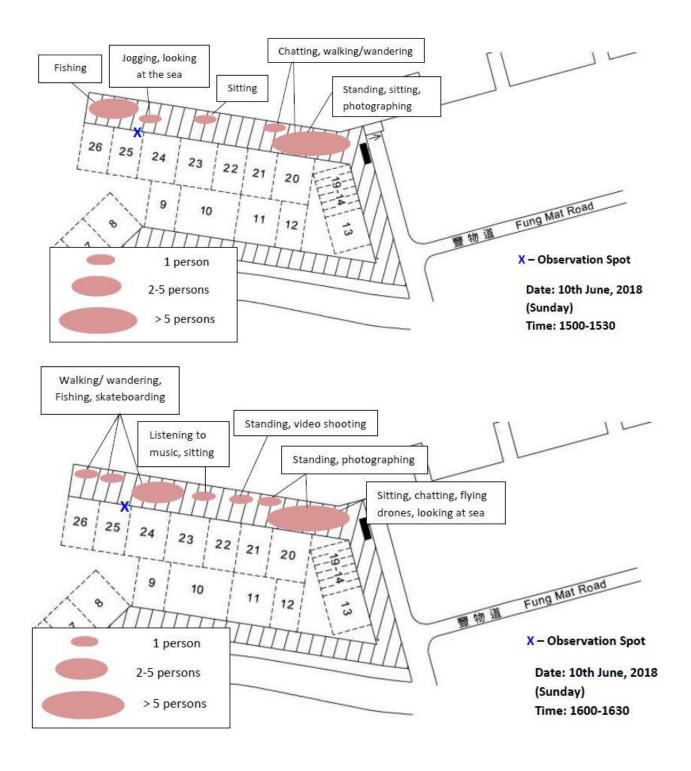


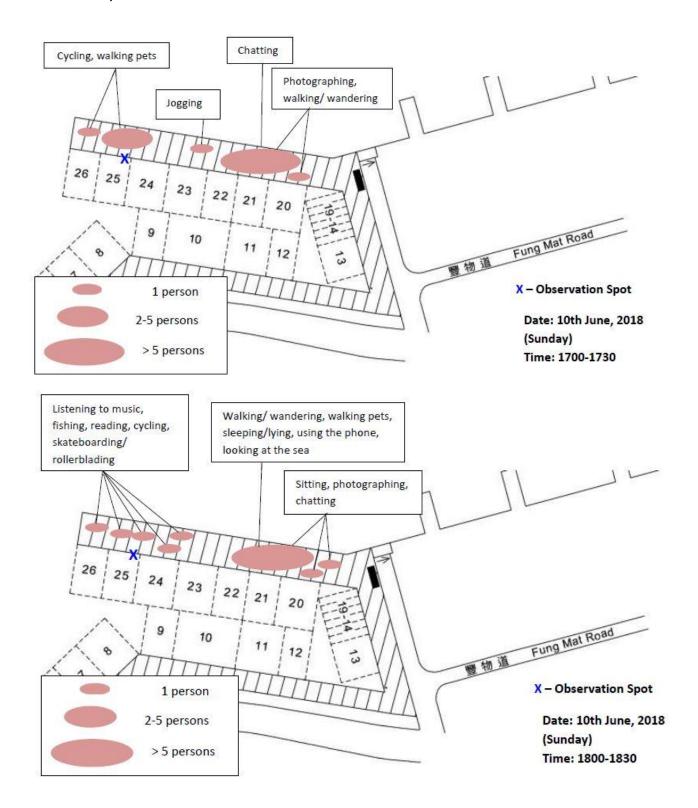


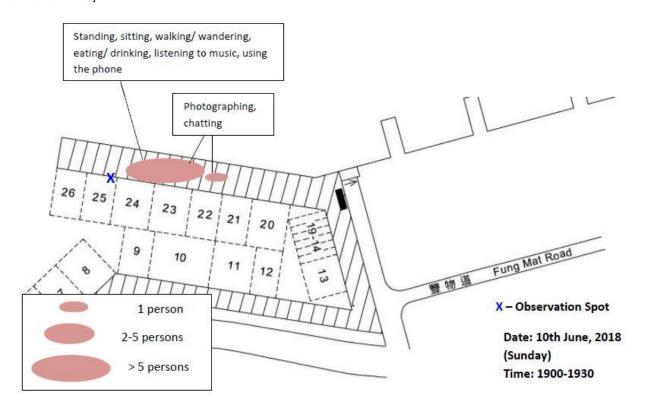


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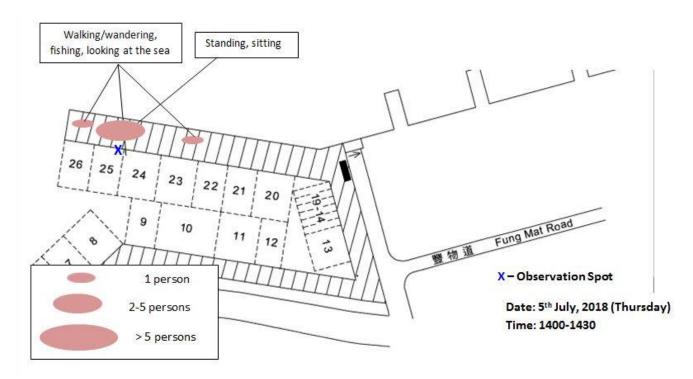


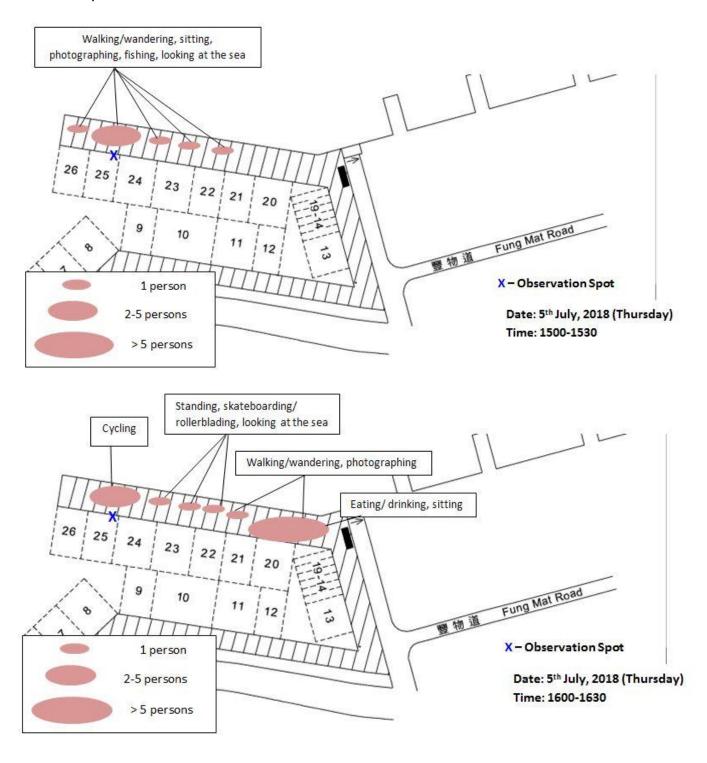


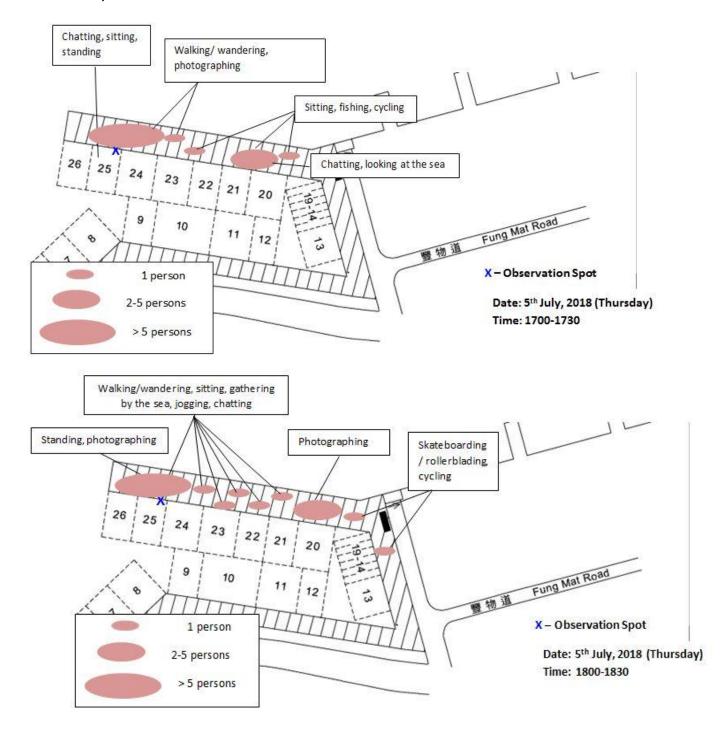


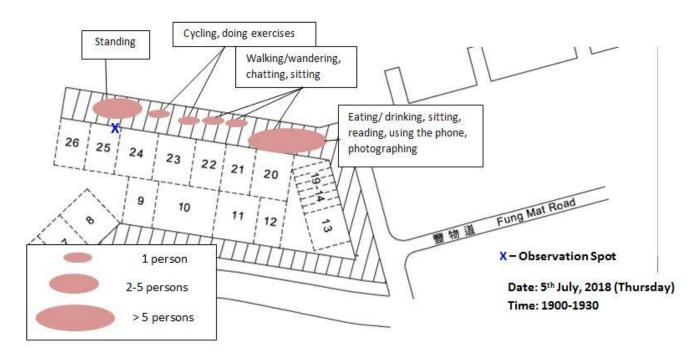


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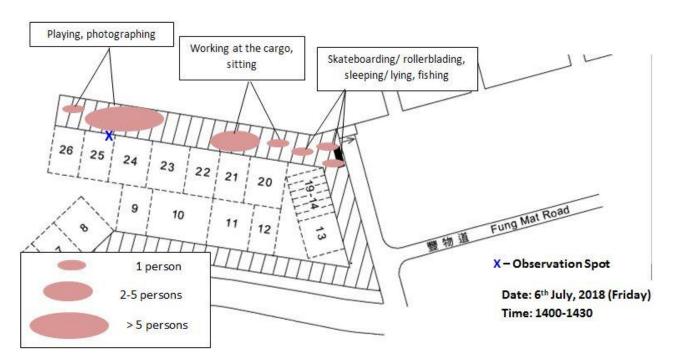


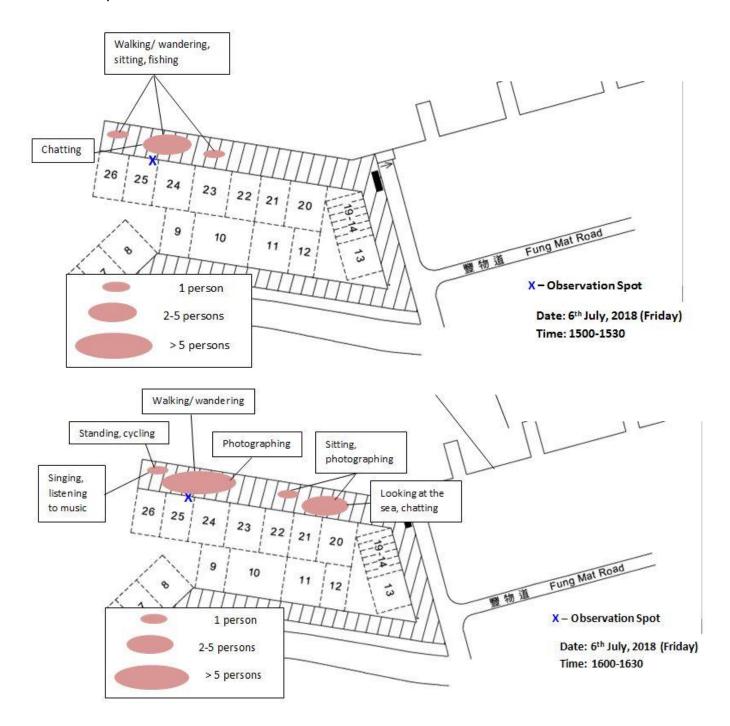


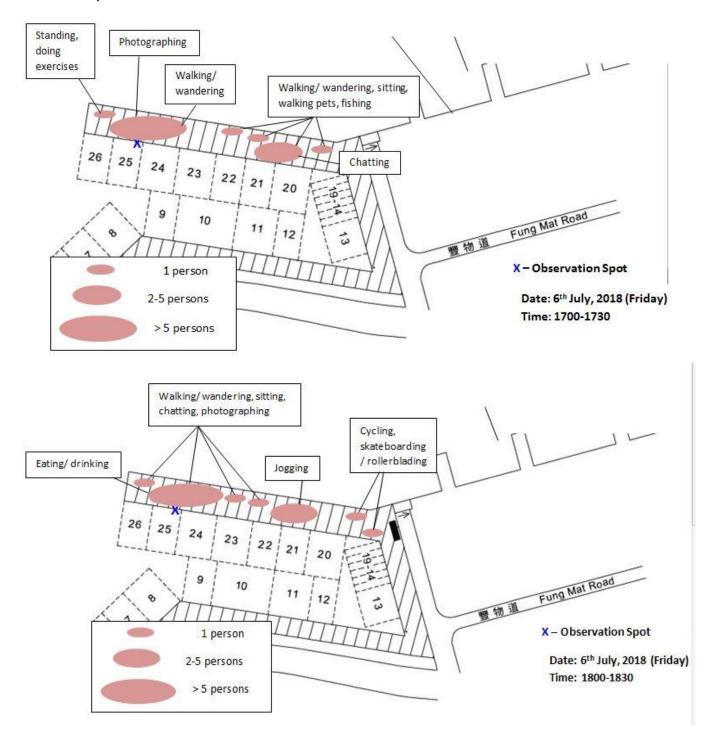


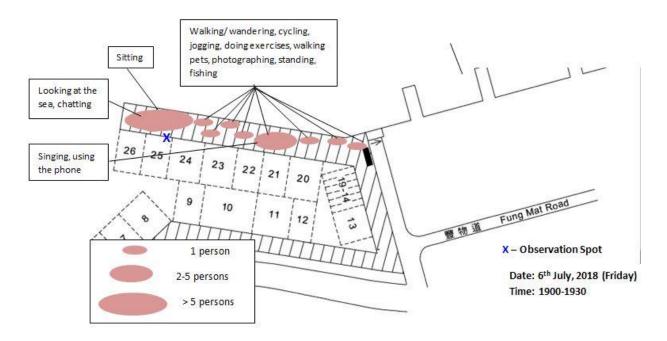


d. Friday, 6th July 2018



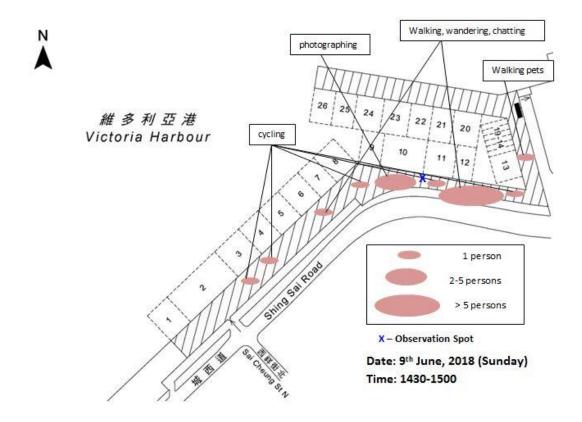


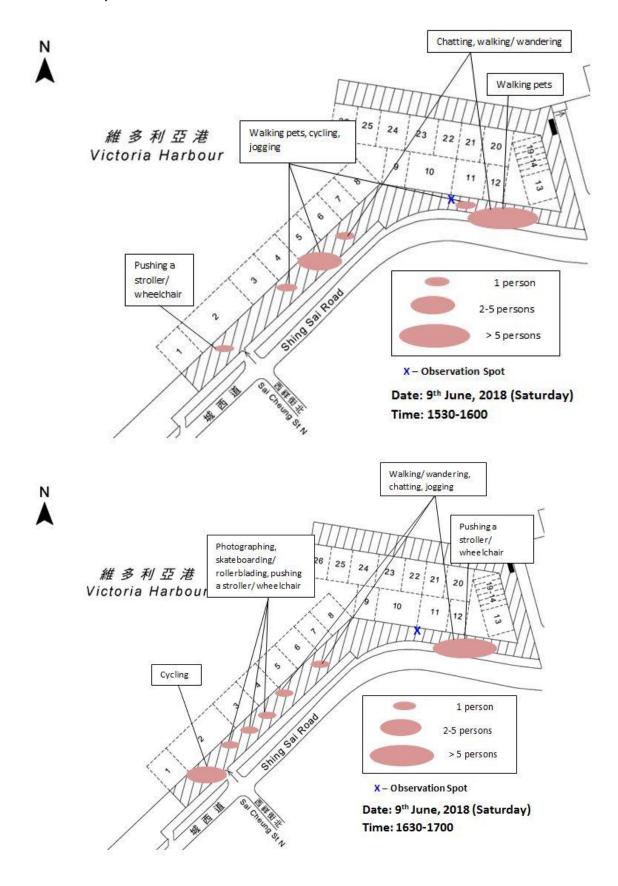


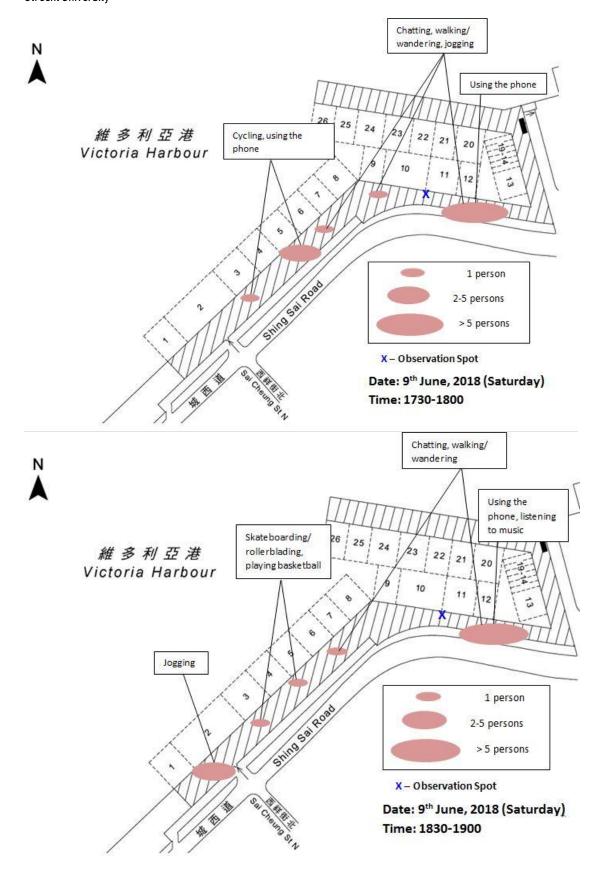


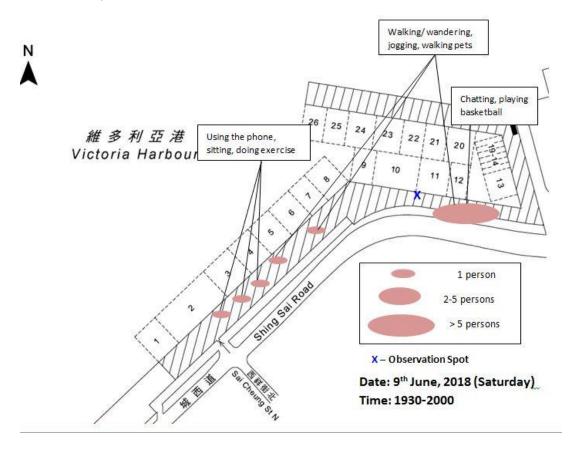
(2) Observation Spot 2

a. Saturday, 9th June 2018

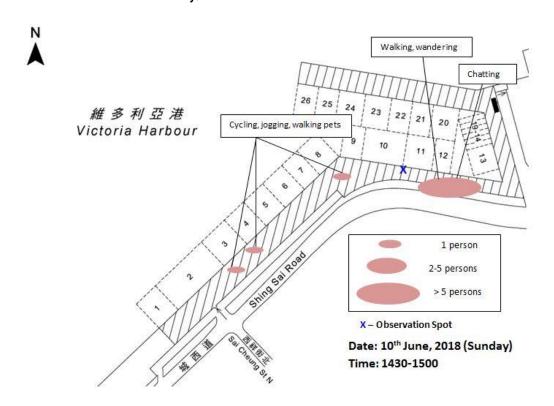


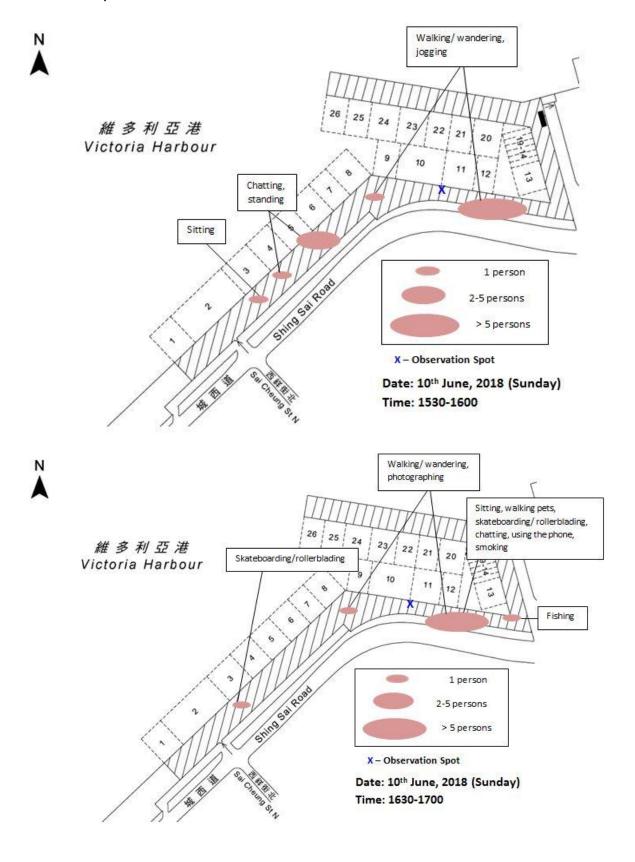


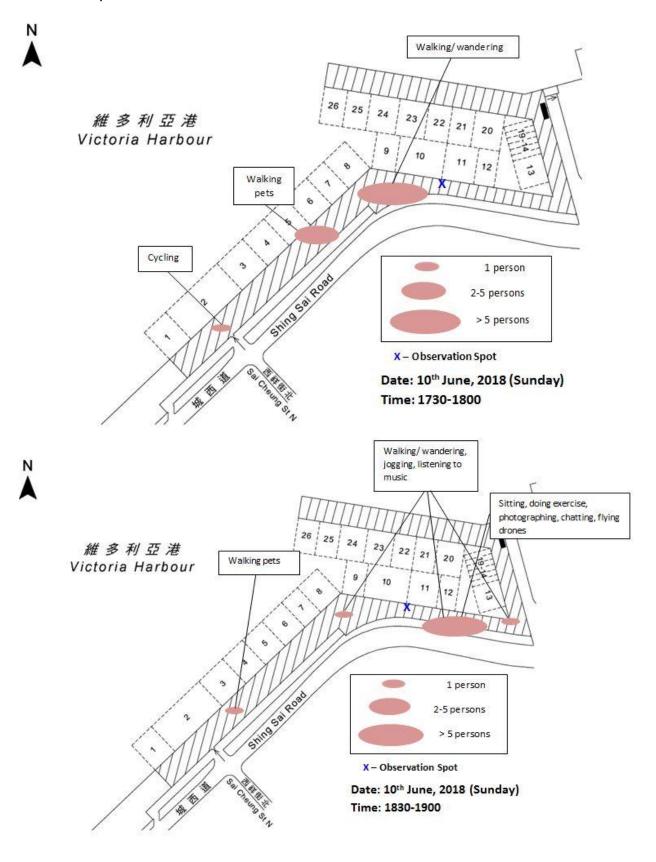


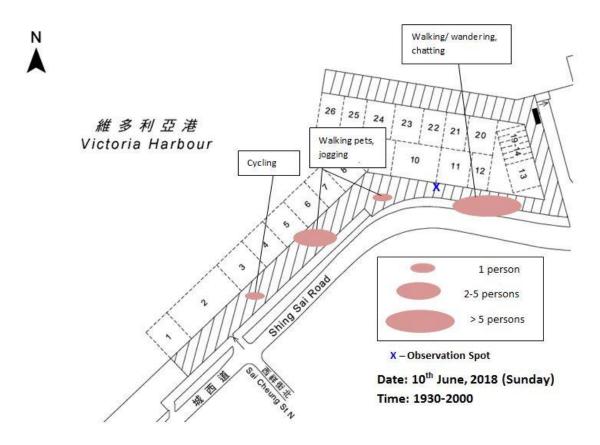


b. Sunday, 10th June 2018

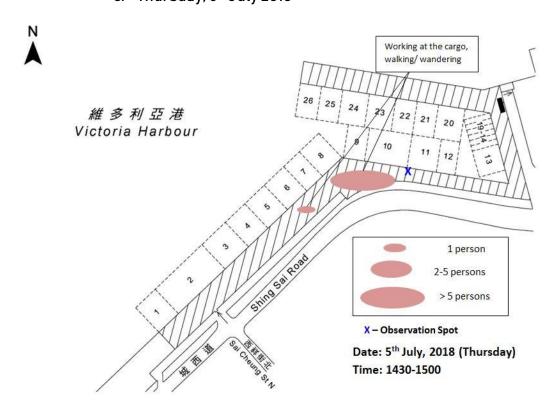


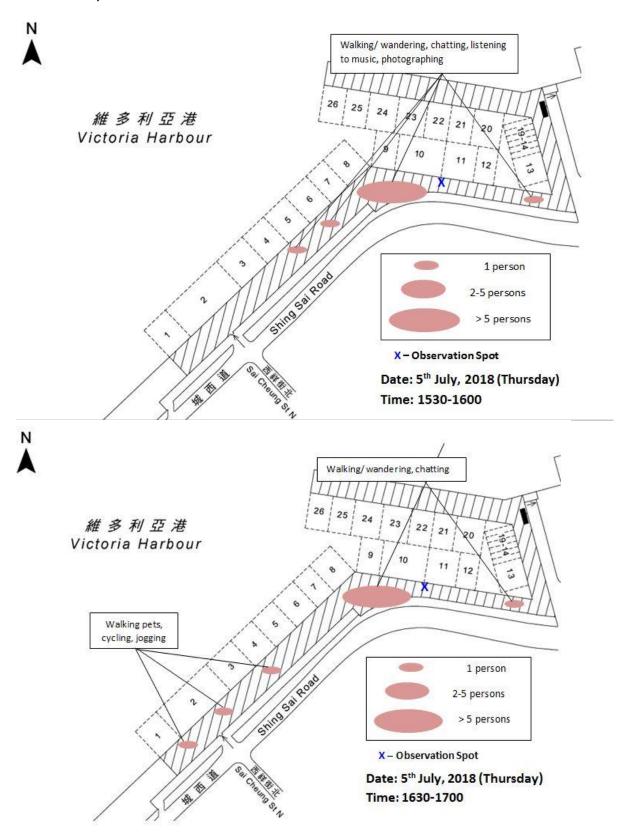


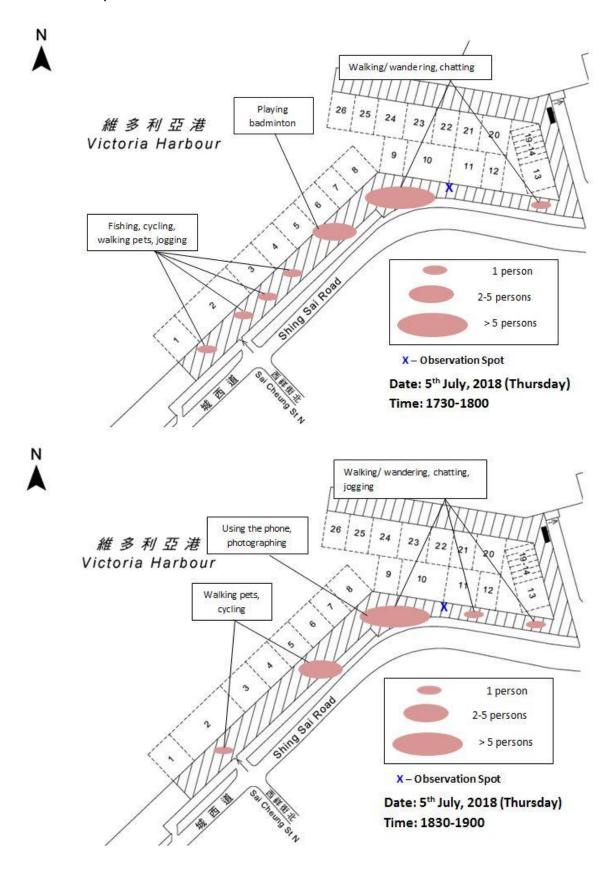


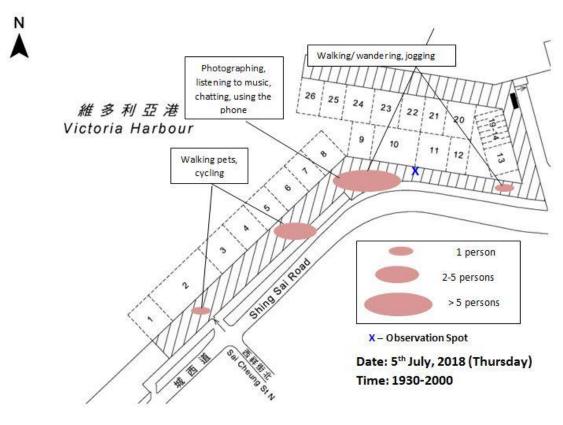


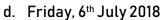
c. Thursday, 5th July 2018

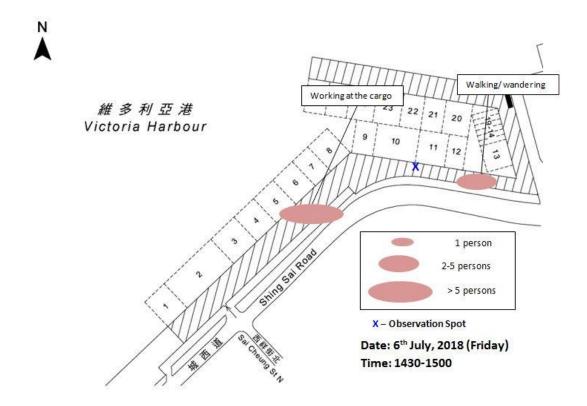


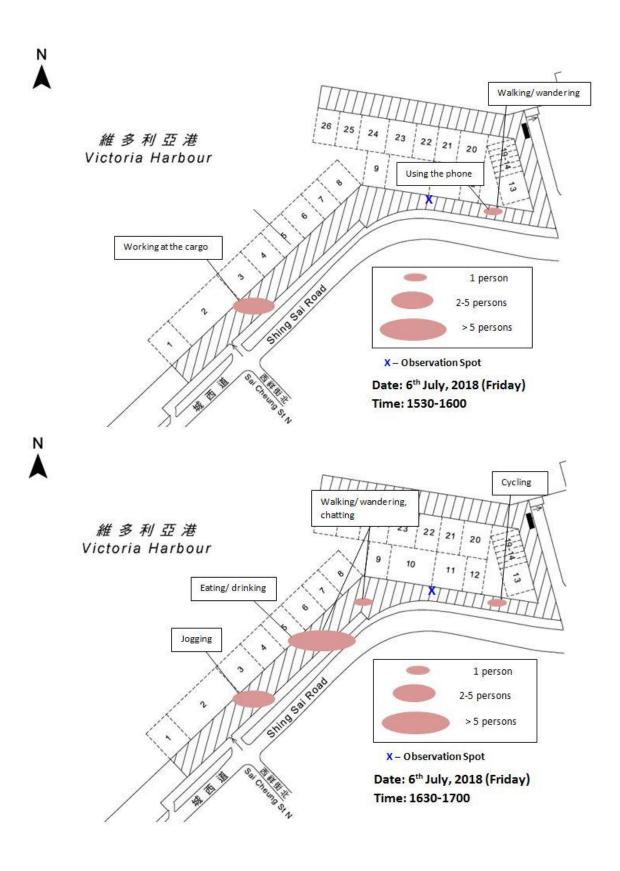


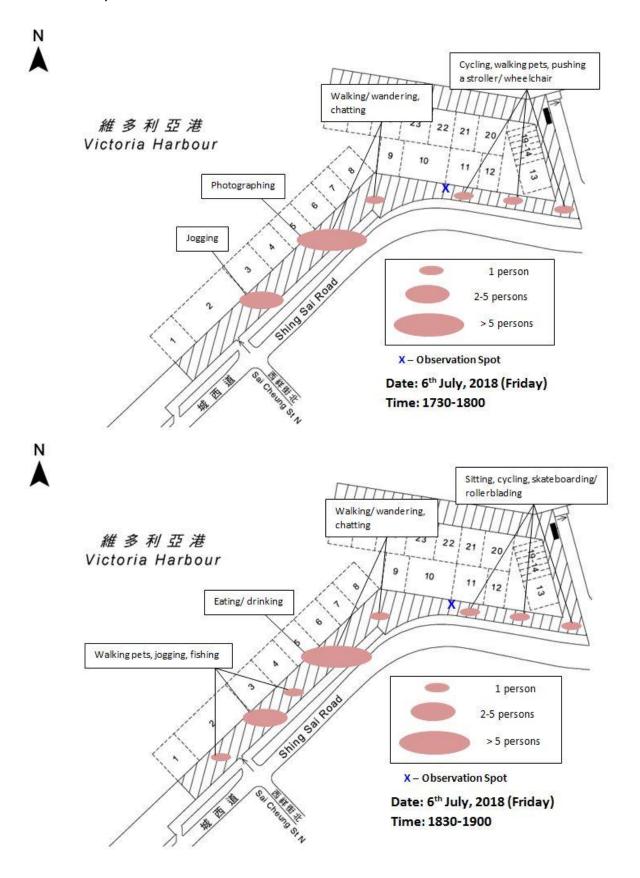




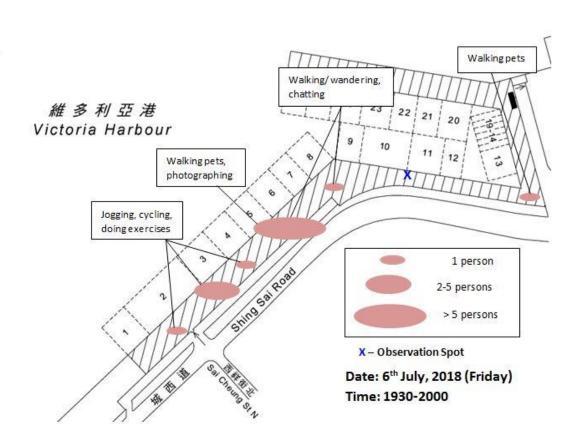












IV. Tables Derived from Behavioural Maps

(1) Observation Spot 1

a. Saturday, 9th June 2018

Number of users on Saturday, 9th June, 2018 at Spot 1	
Time slot	Number of users (in 10 mins of the
	time slot)
1400-1430	24
1500-1530	32
1600-1630	27
1700-1730	31
1800-1830	58
1900-1930	45
Total number of users	217

Duration of stay	
0	19.8%
1 – 2 mins	20.3%
>2 - 3 mins	4.1%
>3 - 5 mins	7.8%
>5 - 10 mins	24.0%
>10 mins	24.0%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1400-1430	11.1%
1500-1530	14.7%
1600-1630	12.4%
1700-1730	9.7%
1800-1830	31.3%
1900-1930	20.7%

Gender	
Male	42.4%
Female	43.8%
Not Available	13.8%

Alone/Group	
Alone	21.4%
Group	60.5%
Not Available	18.1%

Age	
0-12	0.5%
13-19	0%
20-39	51.2%
40-59	22.1%
60-79+	12.4%
00 17	12.470

No. of activities at one time	
1	37.3%
2	60.0%
3	2.7%

Type of activities	
Conversing face-to-face	24.7%
Walking/wandering around	24.4%
Otheractivity	15.2%
Standing	8.5%
Sitting	8.5%
Photographing	7.3%
Jogging	2.7%
Fishing	2.1%
Over the phone/using the phone	1.5%
Walking pets	1.5%
Cycling	1.5%
Eating/drinking	0.6%
Stretching/doing exercises	0.6%
Pushing a stroller/wheelchair	0.3%
Listening to music/listening to the radio	0.3%

b. Sunday, 10th June 2018

Number of users on Sunday, 10 th June, 2018 at Spot 1	
Time slot	Number of users (in 10 mins of the
	time slot)
1400-1430	20
1500-1530	15
1600-1630	29
1700-1730	25
1800-1830	33
1900-1930	17
Total number of users	139

Duration of stay	
0	7.2%
1 – 2 mins	19.4%
>2 - 3 mins	5.0%
>3 - 5 mins	20.9%
>5 - 10 mins	25.9%
>10 mins	21.6%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1400-1430	14.4%
1500-1530	10.8%
1600-1630	18.0%
1700-1730	23.7%
1800-1830	12.2%
1900-1930	20.9%

Gender	
Male	49.6%
Female	50.4%

Alone/Group	
Alone	26.6%
Group	73.4%

Age	
0-12	0.0%
13-19	5.8%
20-39	74.8%
40-59	17.3%
60-79+	2.2%

No. of activities at one time	
1	31.7%
2	51.6%
3	14.9%
4	1.8%

Type of activities	
Photographing	24.4%
Conversing face-to-face	14.9%
Sitting	14.0%
Walking/ wandering around	13.6%
Standing	10.4%
Other activity	5.9%
Fishing	4.1%
Over the phone/ using the phone	2.3%
Cycling	2.3%
Listening to music/ listening to the radio	1.8%
Walking pets	1.8%
Skateboarding/ rollerblading	1.8%
Sleeping/ lying	0.9%
Jogging	0.9%
Eating/ drinking	0.5%
Reading	0.5%

c. Thursday, 5th July 2018

Number of users on Thursday, 5 th July, 2018 at Spot 1		
Time slot	Number of users (in 10 mins of the	
	time slot)	
1400-1430	10	
1500-1530	8	
1600-1630	20	
1700-1730	27	
1800-1830	40	
1900-1930	45	
Total number of users	150	

Duration of stay	
0	28.7 %
1 - 2 mins	43.3%
>2 - 3 mins	4%
>3 - 5 mins	9.3%
>5 - 10 mins	2.7%
>10 mins	12%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1400-1430	6.7%
1500-1530	5.3%
1600-1630	13.3%
1700-1730	18%
1800-1830	26.7%
1900-1930	30%

Gender	
Male	48%
Female	52%

Alone/Group	
Alone	31.3%
Group	62.0%
Not Available	6.7%

Age	
0-12	0.0%
13-19	1.3%
20-39	66.7%
40-59	22.7%
60-79+	9.3%

No. of activities at one time	
1	37.3%
2	60.0%
3	2.7%

Type of activities	
Walking/ wandering around	38.6%
Photographing	13.2%
Sitting	12.3%
Conversing face-to-face	8.2%
Other activity	7.3%
Fishing	4.5%
Jogging	4.5%
Standing	4.1%
Cycling	2.7%
Eating/ drinking	2.3%
Skateboarding/ rollerblading	0.9%
Reading	0.5%
Over the phone/ using the phone	0.5%
Stretching/ doing exercises	0.5%

d. Friday, 6th July, 2018

Number of users on Friday, 6 th July, 2018 at Spot 1	
Time slot	Number of users (in 10 mins of the
	time slot)
1400-1430	45
1500-1530	12
1600-1630	18
1700-1730	28
1800-1830	33
1900-1930	40
Total number of users	176

Duration of stay	
0	17.0%
1 – 2 mins	29.5%
>2 - 3 mins	5.7%
>3 - 5 mins	13.6%
>5 - 10 mins	9.7%
>10 mins	24.4%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1400-1430	25.6%
1500-1530	6.8%
1600-1630	15.9%
1700-1730	18.8%
1800-1830	22.7%
1900-1930	10.2%

Gender	
Male	54.5%
Female	45.5%

Alone/Group	
Alone	34.7%
Group	65.3%

Age	
0-12 0.0%	
13-19 17.0%	
20-39 36.9%	
40-59 21.6%	
60-79+ 20.5%	
available 4.0%	
40-59 21.6% 60-79+ 20.5%	

No. of activities at one time		
1	55.9%	
2	41.4%	
3	2.6%	

Type of activities	
Other activity	18.4%
Sitting	15.7%
Walking/ wandering around	15.7%
Photographing	11.9%
Playing	10.7%
Conversing face-to-face	9.2%
Fishing	5.0%
Walking pets	2.7%
Stretching/ doing exercises	2.3%
Jogging	2.3%
Cycling	1.9%
Standing	1.1%
Singing	0.8%
Skateboarding/ rollerblading	0.8%
Eating/ drinking	0.4%
Over the phone/ using the phone	0.4%
Listening to music/ listening to the radio	0.4%
Sleeping/ lying	0.4%

(2) Observation Spot 2

a. Saturday, 9th June 2018

Number of users on Saturday, 9th June, 2018 at Spot 2	
Time slot	Number of users (in 10 mins of the
	time slot)
1430-1500	20
1530-1600	24
1630-1700	37
1730-1800	36
1830-1900	37
1930-2000	45
Total number of users	199

Duration of stay	
0	24.6%
1 - 2 mins	62.8%
>2 - 3 mins	2.5%
>3 - 5 mins	3.5%
>5 - 10 mins	6.0%
>10 mins	0.5%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1430-1500	10.1%
1530-1600	12.1%
1630-1700	18.6%
1730-1800	18.1%
1830-1900	18.6%
1930-2000	22.6%

Gender		
Male	51.8%	
Female	48.2%	

Alone/Group	
Alone	45.7%
Group	54.3%

Age	
0-12	4.0%
13-19	1.0%
20-39	47.2%
40-59	28.1%
60-79+	19.6%
Not Available	0.0%

Type of activities		
Walking/ wandering around	46.4%	
Conversing face-to-face	23.0%	
Jogging	12.1%	
Cycling	6.0%	
Walking pets	4.5%	
Over the phone/ using the phone	3.0%	
Pushing a stroller/wheelchair	1.1%	
Photographing	1.1%	
Other activity	0.8%	
Skateboarding/ rollerblading	0.8%	
Listening to music/listening to the radio	0.4%	
Stretching/ doing exercises	0.4%	
Sitting	0.4%	

No. of activities at one time	
1	50.6%
2	48.3%
3	1.1%

b. Sunday, 10th June 2018

Number of users on Sunday, 10 th June, 2018 at Spot 2		
Time slot	Number of users (in 10 mins of the	
	time slot)	
1430-1500	8	
1530-1600	20	
1630-1700	22	
1730-1800	22	
1830-1900	29	
1930-2000	34	
Total number of users	135	

Duration of stay	
0	85.2%
1 – 2 mins 14.8%	

Gender	
Male	62.2%
Female	37.8%

Age	
0-12	1.5%
13-19	2.2%
20-39	45.2%
40-59	35.6%
60-79+	14.8%
Not Available	0.7%

No. of activities at one time	
1	52.8%
2	43.8%
3	3.4%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1430-1500	5.9%
1530-1600	14.8%
1630-1700	16.3%
1730-1800	16.3%
1830-1900	21.5%
1930-2000	25.2%

Alone/Group	
Alone	53.3%
Group	46.7%

Type of activities	
Walking/ wandering around	48.9%
Conversing face-to-face	14.0%
Jogging	11.2%
Photographing	5.6%
Walking pets	5.6%
Listening to music/listening to the radio	3.4%
Standing	2.2%
Sitting	2.2%
Over the phone/ using the phone	1.7%
Cycling	1.7%
Skateboarding/ rollerblading	1.1%
Other activity	0.6%
Smoking	0.6%
Fishing	0.6%
Stretching/ doing exercises	0.6%

c. Thursday, 5th July 2018

Number of users on Thursday, 5 th July, 2018 at Spot 2	
Time slot	Number of users (in 10 mins of the
	time slot)
1430-1500	5
1530-1600	7
1630-1700	10
1730-1800	12
1830-1900	30
1930-2000	32
Total number of users	96

Duration of stay	
0	75.0%
1 - 2 mins	17.7%
>2 - 3 mins	2.1%
>3 - 5 mins	0.0%
>5 – 10 mins	3.1%
>10 mins	2.1%

Gender		
Male	58.3%	
Female	/.1 7%	

Age	
0-12	0.0%
13-19	0.0%
20-39	56.3%
40-59	34.4%
60-79+	9.4%
Not Available	0.0%

No. of activities at one time	
1	53.6%
2	46.4%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1430-1500	5.2%
1530-1600	7.3%
1630-1700	10.4%
1730-1800	12.5%
1830-1900	31.3%
1930-2000	33.3%

Alone/Group	
Alone	61.5%
Group	38.5%

Type of activities	
Walking/ wandering around	48.0%
Conversing face-to-face	16.0%
Jogging	12.0%
Walking pets	7.2%
Cycling	4.8%
Other activity	4.0%
Photographing	3.2%
Over the phone/ using the phone	2.4%
Listening to music/listening to the radio	1.6%
Fishing	0.8%

d. Friday, 6th July, 2018

Number of users on Friday, 6th July, 2018 at Spot 2	
Time slot	Number of users (in 10 mins of the
	time slot)
1430-1500	8
1530-1600	6
1630-1700	11
1730-1800	22
1830-1900	30
1930-2000	35
Total number of users	112

Duration of stay	
0	51.8%
1 - 2 mins	33.0%
>2 - 3 mins	3.6%
>3 - 5 mins	1.8%
>5 - 10 mins	9.8%
>10 mins	0.0%

Gender	
Male	54.5%
Female	45.5%

Age	
0-12	0.0%
13-19	0.0%
20-39	40.2%
40-59	43.8%
60-79+	9.8%
Not Available	6.3%

No. of activities at one time	
1	46.2%
2	46.2%
3	7.7%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1430-1500	7.1%
1530-1600	5.4%
1630-1700	9.8%
1730-1800	19.6%
1830-1900	26.8%
1930-2000	31.3%

Alone/Group	
Alone	36.6%
Group	63.4%

Type of activities	
Walking/ wandering around	44.2%
Conversing face-to-face	21.8%
Jogging	8.3%
Other activity	6.4%
Walking pets	4.5%
Cycling	3.8%
Eating/ drinking	3.2%
Photographing	2.6%
Fishing	1.3%
Stretching/ doing exercises	1.3%
Pushing a stroller/wheelchair	0.6%
Over the phone/ using the phone	0.6%
Sitting	0.6%
Skateboarding/ rollerblading	0.6%

(3) Observation Spot 1 & 2 – Weekday (9th and 10th June)

Duration of stay	
0	31.4%
1 - 2 mins	31.3%
>2 - 3 mins	3.0%
>3 - 5 mins	7.7%
>5 - 10 mins	14.5%
>10 mins	12.0%

Gender	
Male	50.4%
Female	45.2%
Not available	4.3%

Age	
0-12	1.6%
13-19	1.9%
20-39	53.6%
40-59	25.5%
60-79+	12.9%
Not available	4.5%

No. of activities at one time	
1	42.0%
2	49.4%
3	8.2%
4	0.4%

Distribution of people per timeslot	
1400-1459	10.4%
1500-1559	13.2%
1600-1659	16.7%
1700-1759	15.1%
1800-1859	24.2%
1900-2000	20.4%

Alone/Group	
Alone	35.8%
Group	58.6%
Not available	5.7%

Type of activities	
Walking/ wandering around	32.3%
Conversing face-to-face	20.2%
Photographing	9.2%
Other activity	6.7%
Sitting	6.5%
Jogging	6.4%
Standing	5.5%
Walking pets	3.1%
Cycling	2.9%
Over the phone/ using the phone	2.1%
Fishing	1.7%
Listening to music/listening to the radio	1.2%
Skateboarding/ rollerblading	0.8%
Pushing a stroller/wheelchair	0.4%
Stretching/ doing exercises	0.4%
Eating/ drinking	0.3%
Sleeping/ lying	0.2%
Reading	0.1%
Smoking	0.1%

(4) Observation Spot 1 & 2 - Weekend (5th and 6th July)

Duration of stay	
0	38.0%
1 - 2 mins	32.0%
>2 - 3 mins	4.1%
>3 - 5 mins	7.5%
>5 - 10 mins	6.6%
>10 mins	11.8%

Gende	er
Male	54.5%
Female	45.5%

Age			
0-12	0.0%		
13-19	6.0%		
20-39	49.4%		
40-59	28.8%		
60-79+	13.1%		
Not available	2.6%		

No. of activities at one time		
1	47.8%	
2	48.9%	
3	3.3%	

Distribution of people per timeslot			
1400-1459	12.7%		
1500-1559	6.2%		
1600-1659	11.0%		
1700-1759	16.7%		
1800-1859	24.9%		
1900-2000	28.5%		

Alone/Group			
Alone	39.0%		
Group	59.2%		
Not available	1.9%		

Type of activities				
Walking/ wandering around	33.5%			
Conversing face-to-face	12.6%			
Other activity	10.4%			
Sitting	9.1%			
Photographing	8.9%			
Jogging	5.8%			
Playing	3.7%			
Fishing	3.4%			
Walking pets	3.0%			
Cycling	3.0%			
Standing	1.6%			
Eating/ drinking	1.4%			
Stretching/ doing exercises	1.2%			
Over the phone/ using the phone	0.8%			
Skateboarding/ rollerblading	0.7%			
Listening to music/listening to the radio	0.4%			
Singing	0.3%			
Pushing a stroller/wheelchair	0.1%			
Reading	0.1%			
Sleeping/lying	0.1%			

V. Interview Guide

(a) Basic Information

- a. Age
- b. Gender
- c. Occupation
- d. Education level
- e. Place/ District of residence

(b) Instruction to the Participant

This interview lasts around half an hour and it is to get to know how users experience the Instagram Pier. During the interview, please take a picture of what you think it represents the Pier the most. To begin with, if you are spending time at the Pier, where do you go and what do you do? Please feel free to bring me to the route that you take and places that you go normally.

(c) Topic List

i. Introduction

- 1. How do you know the Pier? When and why did you start visiting? Do you do the activity in other places as well?
- 2. How often and usually what time do you visit the Pier? How much time do you spend here? What are the factors that make you visit it?
- 3. (With the picture that the participant has taken/ provided) Why do you take this picture? How do you think it represents the Pier the most?

ii. Possibility

- 1. Are you able to get access to the Pier every time you visit there?
- 2. Do you think you are allowed / free to do what you want at the Pier? Is there any form of regulation or control that you have encountered? Are you satisfied with its use now?
- 3. Do you think the Pier is publicly owned? Do you think you own a part of the Pier? Or other particular groups of users instead?
- 4. Do you think you have the right to change it/ are able to participate in changing it to what you desire?
- 5. Is there any habit/ routine that you have established with its presence? Do you have any unforgettable experience related to the Pier?

iii. Diversity

- 1. What are the activities that you have seen at the Pier? Do you think they are diverse throughout the Pier or at specific location? Do you think they are important/ necessary for the users and why?
- 2. Do you expect the different activities happening at the Pier? How do you feel about them (satisfied or not)?
- 3. Do you think different activities do influence one another?
- 4. Do you normally go with family or friends to the Pier?
- 5. Do you encounter people you know at the Pier? Do you interact with other users at the Pier?
- 6. What are the types of users you can find at the Pier? Do you think they are diverse throughout the Pier or at specific location? How do you feel about them? Do you think different users peacefully co-exist at the Pier?

iv. Disorder

- 1. How do you think about the physical and social setting of the Pier? Is there any particular part of the Pier that you like the most and why?
- 2. Do you think the Pier is in order? Does that influence with what you do/ other activities happening at the Pier and why?
- 3. Do you think the Pier gives you opportunity in imagining and creating your own space?
- 4. Do you feel comfortable and safe visiting/ doing activities at the Pier?

v. Closing

- 1. Have you heard about the newly-opened Central & Western District Promenade (Western Wholesale Food Market Section)? Have you been there or to other public spaces? Can you find a place similar to the Pier in Hong Kong?
- 2. Have you heard of the redevelopment plan of the Pier proposed by the government? What do you think about it?
- 3. If the Pier no longer maintains as what it is now, will you continue to visit the space or go for other alternatives?
- 4. What is public space to you? What is your ideal public space?
- 5. If you have to describe the Pier with three words, how would you describe it and why?

VI. Background Information of Participants

		Background Inform	nation of Participants		
Interview	1	2	3	4	5
Participant	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5
Age	27	38	60	45-50	31-35
Gender	F	М	М	F	F
Occupation	Flight Attendant	Photographer	District Councillor	Accountant	Art administrator ;
					Community event
					organizer
Education level	Bachelor Degree	PhD	Master Degree	Master Degree	Master Degree
Place / District of	Kennedy Town	Lamma Island	Clear Water Bay	Kennedy Town	Shatin
residence					
Interview	6	7	8	9	10
Name	P6	P7	P8	P9	P10
Age	40-45	20-25	50-55	35	70-75
Gender	M	F	F	М	F
Occupation	District Councillor	Bank Staff	Worker at Wholesale	Photographer	None
			Market		
Education level	Master Degree	Bachelor Degree	Primary School	Master Degree	Primary School
Place / District of	Kennedy Town	Kennedy Town	Nearby	London, UK	Nearby
residence					
Interview	11	12	13	14	15
Name	P11	P12	P13	P14	P15
Age	30	25	50-55	23	50-55
Gender	M	F	M	М	F
Occupation	Company Director;	Civil Servant	Accountant	Accountant	Housewife
	Event organizer and				
	consultant				
Education level	Higher Diploma	Bachelor Degree	Higher Diploma	Bachelor Degree	Secondary School
Place / District of	Sai Ying Pun	Shek Tong Tsui	Sai Ying Pun	Sai Ying Pun	Sai Ying Pun
residence					

VII. Transcripts

(1) Participant 1

Date: 14th June, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P1

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: This interview lasts for around half an hour and this is to know how the users experience the Pier. During the interview, please take a picture which you think it represents the Pier the most. So, let's start. If you spend time at the Pier, where will you go usually and what will you do? Can you bring me to your usual route and describe what you usually do?

P1: Usually I will walk past the Shek Tong Tsui Tram Terminus and cross the road next to the wholesale market, and then enter the Pier with that small entrance. There are two ways here in the Pier, I usually go to the side that is close to the sea.

LC: Is there any special reason that you usually go to this side?

P1: Because I like sea personally...I would like to be closer to the sea, so I walk to this side. I usually come at night; sometimes it is quite dark to go the other side at night. And for the other side, in the morning, there are some workers with bamboo sticks, cargos, etc., so the view of that side is not that wide and open. There are also those on this side, but they are usually being placed in order, and here, close to the sea, it seems that it is wider and more open. So at night, I can see the view at the opposite side.

LC: What time do you usually come and how often do you come?

P1: Usually I come after dinner, around 8 something. But recently I come here less often, now I come around once a month. In the past, I come here more often because I have eaten at the restaurants nearby, or had a meeting with friends...like after dinner, I will date my friends to do exercise with me. So every month, I come here once every 3 to 4 months.

LC: Is there any factor that affects you to come or not?

P1: During public holidays I will come less often, because I feel like there are a lot of people...and I come here less often in the afternoon, because the sun is too strong...yes, because there is no shade...so I usually come here at night. And I don't come when it is raining...

LC: So how do you know about this place at the beginning?

P1: Hmm, I don't really know how I know...I think it's my friends who brought me here...yes, I have heard about this place before, and a friend who lives nearby, she knows about the way and I asked her to bring me here. And I discovered that there were not too many people...despite the place is for cargo-working, no one will ask you to leave...and I think aah, it's so near to the sea, and it's cool and open, therefore I come here quite often.

LC: Do you remember when do you start coming here?

P1: I started coming here since secondary school...it should be around 10 years ago...how long have we graduated?

LC: We graduated in 2010.

P1: Yes, around 8 to 10 years ago...

LC: What do you usually do here?

P1: I usually come here and walk, and jog...

LC: Will you do those activities in some other places?

P1: Of course I walk and jog in some other places, but I think...

LC: It looks like there are people filming there...

P1: Yes! And it seems weird that I am holding an umbrella here...(laughs)...but I think it's different here because there are no boundaries...maybe they are there to film those car-racing scenes. Maybe they want to look for me to help them in filming, haha...

LC: So when you arrive here, you normally use this route to come?

P1: Yes, usually I walk till the end, and I walk back...

LC: Will you stay here for some time then? It looks like there are water police...

P1: Yes...so near! They look smart! Look, there is also a drone there. That looks like a Ferrari...that symbol is...ok, let's go back to our conversation.

LC: Will you stay here for some time then?

P1: Yes, usually yes, usually I come here to jog and during night, there are many people...some people walk their dogs, and then I will run slowly...run for a step or two, and then walk...and to feel the breeze...and sometimes I look at the sea, sometimes when I come with my friends and chat, and we will stop here for some time.

LC: How long do you think you usually spend here?

P1: Half an hour...if it's this spot, within half an hour.

LC: Do you enter the Pier successfully every time you come here?

P1: Yeah...

LC: But you have just mentioned that you sometimes enter at the side of Kennedy Town (Berth 1-12), is it smooth as well to enter from there, or is there anything to block you from entering?

P1: Kennedy Town...it's that side...around those three boats (pointing at the boats)...and I enter through that way. Actually on that side, I have heard that it will be blocked, but so far I can enter from there every time I come here. It seems that there is one time that the gate was closed...

LC: The gate was closed?

P1: Actually there is a gate at the entrance, inside the gate there are loading and unloading activities... at the bus terminal, that gate is always closed...but some time before, there was a gap, and people will try to enter...but later it is closed, people cannot even climb to get in. I think several months ago, there was a large-scale religious event and a big area was being used, I have heard that people couldn't get in during that. But I am not sure, cause I haven't got in when there was the event. We cannot get in actually, cause there is always a sign saying that people can't wander in the working area, but people just go in and out freely.

LC: Do you think you can do what you like and to do it freely here?

P1: I think so. The main thing for me to do here is to feel the breeze.

LC: Do you think there is any form of restrictions here that restrict what you do?

P1: Yes, sometimes...you see, like there are people filming here, and they just block the way and don't let you walk there. Sometimes it is even large scale, when TVB is filming here and the area is being blocked with some constructions, and they will just ask you to leave...but for others, I think there is no restriction...because the space is huge, and people do their activities using little space only, so I think it is okay.

LC: Do you agree that the Pier belongs to the public? When you see the area is being blocked...how do you feel?

P1: How do I describe? I think I cannot say that the public says it all, because the Pier has its daily operations, loading and unloading goods...but for the time period after its operations, I think everyone should be equal to use the space...like them (pointing at the people who are filming)...as the space is not private, so they should apply for doing the filming. I think as long as the space is opened to the public, people should be able to do what they desire.

LC: Are you satisfied with its use now?

P1: I am satisfied, cause at the moment, there is not too much restriction for people to get in.

LC: I would like to get back to the question, do you think the Pier belongs to the public? Or do you think you are able to use a part of the Pier, or do you think to some extent, the Pier is also belonged to you?

P1: Hmm...

LC: Or do you think there are particular groups who use the Pier more? And that it seems that the Pier belongs to them?

P1: I think the Pier is equally used by different groups, and I saw many activities...and people don't bother each other...it's just sometimes when there are people filming, then they use a large area, but it does not happen

frequently. I think it's acceptable, and everyone can use it equally. Actually I don't really know whether the area belongs to the public, or it's private and that they don't care whether people going in or not...

LC: How about your own feelings?

P1: I think after the office hours of those cargo facilities, it is public, as everyone can go in and do things freely.

LC: Do you think you have the right to change the use of the Pier? Or do you think you can participate in facilitating some changes?

P1: I think so...for example, if the government wants to change the purpose of this space and there will be a public consultation, and you can voice out your opinions...

LC: Have you heard for the redevelopment plan here?

P1: I am not sure...I think I have received some pamphlets about it, are they talking about that side (Berth 1-12) or this (Berth 13-26)? They are talking about community gardens...but it was still too early to talk about that when I know the plan, and I haven't really looked into the concrete plan...

LC: But how do you think about such plan?

P1: I think as long as the plan is meaningful, that can go further...but sometimes the government thinks of something non-sense, thinks of facilities which are not really necessary and reasonable...why don't you just let people to do their activities freely here then?

LC: What are the facilities which are not necessary and reasonable?

P1: For example, they build chairs at space without clouds, and like those...(pointing at the Promenade)...and perhaps like growing trees and grass...I think there are quite some parks nearby, but there are few spaces which let people to do activities freely. There is no problem to add trees and grass here, but it should not be at the whole area. If you put unnecessary greening here, people have less space to use, less space for jogging, I think the plan should be further researched into...

LC: Do you have any understanding about the plan on community gardens?

P1: Not really...is it open for public for farming?

LC: It is like those community gardens organized by Leisure & Cultural Department, people can rent a part of the community gardens to farm...

P1: I visited that side (Berth1-12) less...but I remember that there is so much rubbish at the seaside there, and there are those bamboos being placed...and it affects me in viewing the sea. So the development doesn't really affect me, I think it is acceptable to use part of the area of development. But if people plant trees and flowers here, I don't think it is meaningful.

LC: Do you think the Pier allows you in creating your own space?

P1: I think so...because the space is huge and open, and it is rare to compete in using the space.

LC: So you said that you come for jogging and walking, do you think you do these because of the presence of the Pier? Or vice versa?

P1: I come here intendedly for viewing the sea. And sometimes when I am free, or I want to calm down myself, then I will come on my own. But for jogging, I do that in the park or in the street mostly. So it's not that because there is the Pier, I come here intendedly...you can say I just drop by here.

LC: When you are jogging or walking in other places, how do you find it different than doing those at the Pier?

P1: I like here more, because there is breeze, it's more open and with more space and not too many people, so I feel comfortable. And I can just admire the view here, so I like it here.

LC: So when you enter through that gate (pointing at the main entrance), and then you directly take this route (Berth 13-26) to walk here, where else do you go next?

P1: Next...it depends on the time...if I have plenty of time, then I will just walk towards Sun Yat Sen Park...and now because the Pier has being renovated a bit...and of course sometimes I walk the other way round back to Kennedy Town (Berth 1-12).

LC: What activities can you find here?

P1: Taking pictures, being successful on the Internet, fishing, jogging, dating, chatting, cycling, skateboarding, filming, singing, doing barbecue...it's spectacular during the Mid-Autumn Festival, there's not only a group of people doing that...these are the activities mainly.

LC: Do you think the activities are diversified? Are they generally being held throughout the Pier or specifically at certain locations?

P1: Usually people chat here (Berth 13-26), by the seaside. Fishing, is the same. Skateboarding is generally here as well, and cyclists usually take a U-turn here (at the end of Berth13-26) to go back. People barbecue near the entrance over there, by the sea as well. Taking pictures...people usually take pictures with cargo, if it is daytime, they are usually by the sea. Aah, and people walk their dogs as well!

LC: Do you think these activities are important to the users?

P1: I think it's important, people can only fish here, or at the Promenade only.

LC: Do you expect all these activities, is there any that you didn't really expect it?

P1: Hmm...I think it's my first time to see a race car here. At one time I saw people filming at that side (Berth 1-

12), even with fire! Motorcycles, cars, it was exciting!

LC: How did you feel at that time?

P1: I felt amazing! For other activities they are normal to be seen.

LC: Do you think one activity affects one another?

P1: I don't think so...those activities are quite individualistic and only occupy little space...and it is relatively calm and doesn't bother people much...even if you are jogging, the next minute you are running towards the other direction.

LC: Do you come here alone or with your family or friends?

P1: I come here with friends sometimes.

LC: Have you seen anyone you know when you are spending time here?

P1: Yes!

LC: Or will you interact with people you don't know?

P1: No, not really...because people just come here and concentrated in doing their own thing, there is not too much interaction.

LC: So you have met people you know here?

P1: Yes...

LC: Who are those users?

P1: I think most of them are residents in the neighbourhood, and the range of age is wide, so male, female, elderly or young, all of them come here.

LC: Do you think particular groups just use a particular part of the Pier?

P1: Fishing...they don't move much; and skateboarding, they are just here (Berth 13-26)...because there are dogs, and people jogging, so they tend not to move everywhere.

LC: Do you think the users can peacefully co-exist?

P1: Yeah! I haven't seen people arguing.

LC: How do you think the physical setting of the Pier?

P1: I think it is okay to see these pallets here...because it is a cargo working area, and they are not being placed everywhere but at specific spots only. It's just sometimes there is one or two randomly at the space, then people can use it to sit, so it is sort of convenient to people. And all the others are in order, so I don't find any inconvenience.

LC: Do you think the pallets can affect people to sit here?

P1: Yes, absolutely...cause people want to find something to sit on.

LC: Do you think the Pier is in order?

P1: Yes...I think it's not to bother one another.

LC: On the other side, with more pallets and cargos, how do you feel about that?

P1: Sometimes there are bamboos there, and they are so high that I cannot see the sea, and the street lights there are fewer, and sometimes it's quite dark here...and as people are walking their dogs there, sometimes there are dog shit...and it's too dark to see, so I tend to think that side (Berth 1-12) is more dirty.

LC: So can I say that you like this part (Berth 13-26) more?

P1: Yes...

LC: Do you feel safe and comfortable to jog and walk here?

P1: Yes for both, it's comfortable with the breeze, and safe with plenty of people...

LC: You said you usually come at 8pm?

P1: Yes, there are not too many people but quite some amount of them. But you don't feel that there are plenty, I think around 30 to 50? It's big here, so you don't feel it's crowded.

LC: You said you have visited the Promenade section?

P1: Yes, I did.

LC: Do you know when did it open?

P1: Ohh...you need to look for that online, I think around one or two months ago?

LC: You will walk there every time you come to the Pier?

P1: Yes.

LC: How do you see the difference between the Promenade and the Pier?

P1: I like here more because...you can see that there are four protruding parts, maybe because it's new that so some people are gathering at the parts which are the nearest to the sea...I like the Pier more because I want to be close to the sea and it is more open here, the Promenade is too narrow and the path is short.

LC: Do you think the Promenade can replace the Pier?

P1: I don't think so, because at the Promenade, there is a theme, four different themes at each protruding part, one with grass, one with children's playground...so this may restrict who is going to use the area. But here it's not, you can do whatever you like, because there are no facilities for you.

The Meanings behind its Changing Use: Instagram Pier in Hong Kong Liza H.Y. Chan (Student No.: 6112994)

Master of Science in Human Geography

Utrecht University

LC: Can you find a place in Hong Kong which is similar to the Pier?

P1: Hmm, I dare not to say whether there is a similar place...but I don't think so...where can you find the sea in Hong Kong? I don't think I can find one, if it is close to the sea, most of the time they are Promenade

parks...those are not as open as here, and they have their design like paths for jogging. I don't think so.

LC: So you know the government would like to redevelop the area, if the area is redeveloped and no longer

maintains as what it is now, do you think you will continue to visit?

P1: How can I come after the redevelopment? Am I right? If it is redeveloped and there are many facilities...I

don't think I will come.

LC: If this Pier no longer maintains as what it is now, will you still come for jogging, walking, admiring the sea?

P1: I will see how it becomes...if it is just with few railings, I guess I will come...but if it's...I don't know, it depends

how it is being changed.

LC: Do you think there are other places to replace the Pier for you to do those activities?

P1: I just jog or walk, so maybe I can go to those Promenade parks...but of course, it's not the same as here,

without any railings, which satisfies me.

LC: Do you think it's dangerous to be without any railings?

P1: (sitting by the sea) A little...now it's a bit dangerous and I am a bit afraid...haha...but normally you won't walk

to the edge of the Pier, so it's okay for me.

LC: But you still enjoy it as it is without railings...

P1: I will just walk till here, haha (pointing at a certain distance from the sea)...as long as I don't see the railings

which gives me the great view of the sea, then it's great for me.

LC: What is public space to you? How is your ideal public space?

P1: To me, a public space is open to everyone to use, no restrictions on what situation and what kind of people

can use...and you can do whatever you would like to do, of course it's not something harmful to others. As long as you can enjoy your time here, without producing any nuisance to people, then it is my ideal public space

already.

LC: Can you please take a picture that you think it represents the Pier the most?

P1: Can I take a picture here?

LC: Yes sure...

P1: I am going to take it that way...

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LC: Why do you think this represents the Pier?

P1: Because you can see what people are doing, and the whole setting of the Pier...but you can't see the right side here...I take this picture as I want to show the fishing person, so I have to give up the right side. Let me try this way...let me walk a bit further...aah this one!

LC: If you need to use three words to describe the Pier, how would you describe it?

P1: Three words!

LC: Or one word, if you find it hard...

P1: Everyone takes what they desire! Can I say it this way?

LC: Yeah, why?

P1: Because everyone does their own stuff, the place is the same, but people can think of different activities that they would like to do! Hmm, another word...freedom? Yeah, no one cares what you do here...you can do what you like.

LC: So here comes the end of the interview.

P1: I hope I can help you.

(2) Participant 2

Date: 16th June, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P2

Language of Interview: English

LC: Okay, I will start the interview with some basic information. Can you tell me what your age is?

P2: I am 38, male.

LC: (laugh) Obviously...What is your occupation?

P2: I am a photographer.

LC: Okay, and your education level?

P2: PhD.

LC: Where are you living now?

P2: I live in Hong Kong, Lamma Island.

LC: So this interview lasts around half an hour, and it is to get to know how users experience the Instagram Pier. During the interview, please take a picture of what you think it represents the Pier the most. To begin with, I would like to know if you are spending time at the Pier, where do you go and what do you do usually?

P2: (laugh) Hmm, it is a very small place so when I come here I tend to stay here...at the beginning I was going to also another side of it towards the bamboo stack...but now I stopped and concentrated my attention on the Pier itself...so from the entrance that we have just met and till the end of the water.

LC: So can I say that your usual routine is that you just enter from that place, and then you just directly go to this place (Berth 13-26)?

P2: Yes, because I am interested in the users of the Pier, people coming here for taking photographs of themselves, with friends or alone and what is interesting is the repetition of the same imagery...cause maybe they say something on the platform that they believe to be popular and they come here trying to repeating that iconic image that they have seen like for example, on the poles...

LC: Yeah, like everyone is taking the same, similar pictures...

P2: Yeah, exactly, that's what interests me and why I started the project.

LC: And how do you know the Pier?

P2: I used to live in Kennedy Town so I basically started to walk around in the area and I found it one day, and I returned and I started to recognize all the repetition. And when I learnt that it is called the Instagram Pier, I wanted to create the Instagrammer account for the Instagram Pier, so that is how it begins.

LC: How often do you visit here?

P2: For the first year I think I came almost every day, sometimes even twice a day, like in the morning. I tried there in the morning, but you don't see this, so the best time is always towards this sunset, so let's say after 5 o'clock.

LC: And when did you start visiting here?

P2: It was...maybe September 2016.

LC: So your usual activity is to take pictures?

P2: I am documenting the area, which is, yes, involves taking pictures. (laugh) Yes, it is fair enough...

LC: But how do you think this place is special? Can you find other similar places in Hong Kong?

P2: For photo making, there are other spots which are famous in Hong Kong and where people tend to go. What I feel for this one is spatial, because it is free in the way the architecture is free, there is no boundary, there are no rails between the people and the sea...so it is really...everybody can do what he wants, it's like an extension of your own home. Especially in Hong Kong where you have very small housing and this is therefore a part of it, especially for the resident of the area. So that is what I think it is unique.

LC: What do you think are the factors that make you visit this place?

P2: It started as a photography project for me, artistic project, like a documentation project of modern society. That's why I find the strength of coming here every day and photographing the same thing every day, because it is very boring in the way...I don't know, after three times, you almost have seen all...but by returning, you make it stronger...you find the images, you need to have an interest in it...and I am interested in social media, separate presentation, selfie, photography, so that's what make me come back.

LC: But after you have moved to Lamma Island, you still...

P2: Now I come much less often, I come every two or three weeks...

LC: And you still insist to come?

P2: Yes, yes, it is part of my life (laugh)...yes, it is part of my life and it's ok...I am happy to come back and see...

LC: But Lamma Island is a place which is close to the sea...

P2: No, no, it's not the same thing...I mean this place allows me to explore a certain aspect of modern society and I cannot do it anywhere else, so I kind of narrow my interests to this place.

The Meanings behind its Changing Use: Instagram Pier in Hong Kong

Liza H.Y. Chan (Student No.: 6112994) Master of Science in Human Geography

Utrecht University

LC: Are you able to get access to the Pier every time you visit here?

P2: Yes, so far, yes...I know we should not be here because it's a working area so nobody should be here to

explore in this area...but nobody ever asked me to leave.

LC: But do you know what is the original purpose of this area?

P2: Ya, it is a cargo area, loading stuff...

LC: And do you think you are allowed or free to do whatever you want at the Pier?

P2: Aah...I mean personally, I never did anything particularly stupid...you know I just come here and make

photographs, I don't climb things...I saw people climbing on top of the container...so on the cranes...I can perceive those are being dangerous, potentially dangerous stuff, but if you don't do that, nobody asks you to

leave. Perhaps if you come here and fly drones, they will come and ask you to stop...but I never see somebody

being thrown out...even if I do realize that, nobody should leave.

LC: So you don't think there is any form of regulation?

P2: No, there is regulation but yes, they are not very strict which is good.

LC: And are you satisfied with the use now?

P2: I think so! I mean it would be sad if it is going to change because there are plans to make it in line with the

rest of the promenade, with the rail protection but anyway it is going to modify the current usage.

LC: So you have heard about the redevelopment plan...

P2: Ya...

LC: And did you visit the promenade?

P2: Briefly yes, but you know I found it less interesting than this, personally I do like this more. But I do realize

that it is potentially dangerous, maybe kids can fall into the water, potentially it could be dangerous. But if you

modify, you will remove the idea of freedom and totality. I mean the relationship with the place will change.

LC: Do you think this Pier is publicly owned?

P2: Aah, I am not sure...

LC: Do you feel that this place is owned by the public?

P2: For the usage that is made of, yes, officially I am not sure. No, I think it is public but it is regulated by Marine

Department, so it is not really public.

LC: But as a user?

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P2: As a user, yes.

LC: Do you think you own a part of this Pier? Or do you think there is any particular group dominate in using this space?

P2: No...I understand what you are saying. But because I know what it is, so I cannot really answer...because I know it is not really public, but people use it as it is...I think it is the answer. It is not public, but it is used public.

LC: Do you think you have the right to change this place or able to participate in changing this place?

P2: Aah...me personally no, because I am not a Hong Kong...I am a temporarily resident, so I cannot say it's mine. But if I am a Hongkonger, I would say yes and I would like to have a say. (laugh)

LC: Do you think when you visit this place; it gives you the opportunity in imagining and creating your own space?

P2: Aah, I think the way I leave this spot; this area is I am observing it, so I don't feel I am using it as others do. I tried to be attached from it but I come here for a reason, and it's observing people using it, so there is little difference.

LC: So it's like you are very conscious in this space?

P2: Yes, I come here to observe and document for its usage. I wouldn't modify this place; I will just leave it as it is, because I am the one in interfering the space.

LC: Do you have any unforgettable experience?

P2: Once I saw a lady losing her trolley, baby stroller into the water.

LC: Really?

P2: Without the baby...but that could have been a tragedy.

LC: So is it an accident? The woman couldn't control the...

P2: Yes, it was very windy, and the wind pushed the stroller inside...but that moment the baby was outside...or else it would have been really really bad. But you see, it's something that could happen.

LC: But how do you feel about this kind of...like you have said that it can be dangerous with all the cargo facilities, and without boundaries near the water...do you feel this place is safe?

P2: I don't think it's safe. But you know, everything can happen anywhere. What is clear is clear if you come here, you are at your own risk...so everybody...we all know that. So if you take the risk of climbing on the container, and jumping from one to another, because I saw people doing it...and it's your life...you have to...I mean at some point you need to figure out and being able of thinking of the responsibility about what you do, cause even if there is a protection and you walk on the protection or you do something silly, it is with the same risk.

LC: Do you feel comfortable when you are in this area?

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P2: Aah, yes, yes...I mean for me it's like home, I have been here for so many hours, it's a really an extension of

my home.

LC: What are the activities that you usually see at the Pier?

P2: Eeh...well it depends on the time of the day, towards this time even, there is a lot of people photographing,

photographing friends, photographing themselves, photographing the sunset...eeh, walking the dog and animals, and also towards the evening also when the sun goes down...they will come for just walking, exercising, family

gathering...

LC: Do you think the activities are diverse?

P2: I think so, yeah...a lot of things you can see, people roller-skating, skateboarders, bicycles, dogs walking...

LC: Does any of the activities just happen at particular place?

P2: No, it could happen anywhere...some spots are more photogenic than the others, because you have some

containers, the cranes, the sunset, the ponds on the floor, the bamboo stack...so there are some spots which are more photogenic than others and attract more people. But like for the other activities, it can happen

anywhere...I mean some people may just sit on the edge and just watch the water, have a drink or a chat.

LC: Do you think these activities are important to the users?

P2: Aah, I think so, fundamental, if there is no other place in Hong Kong with an access like this on the water

side...

LC: Do you expect these activities that you have mentioned happening at this place? Did you expect these

activities?

P2: At the beginning you mean, or in general?

LC: In general?

P2: No, I think it's a human necessity, you know, and it is nice to have a place where you can do it.

LC: And do you think one activity does influence one another?

P2: I don't know, maybe you come here with the idea of doing something and then you may do something else. I

don't know...maybe you come here just for a drink and then you end up playing or making photographs...I don't

know. Yeah, potentially are "influentible".

LC: Do you come to this place on your own most of the time?

P2: Yes.

LC: Did you ever come with a friend?

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P2: Yes, but maybe 10% of the time, even less, 5%...

LC: As you almost come here every day...

P2: Today is special, haha, we have police... (the police van is nearby) (laugh) She is here!

LC: As you come to this place almost every day, did you encounter similar users?

P2: Yes, what I have seen is they all do the same thing...

LC: But do you see the same people?

P2: Yes...I am not saying everybody here now I have seen them before, but I can recognize the usually users.

LC: Do you interact with the people?

P2: No...I mean I spoke with three people maybe in two years...maybe with you four...(laugh)...but it is just the way I am, I think to be detached.

LC: Do you ever encounter people you know here?

P2: That I already met somewhere else?

LC: Yes...

P2: Aah, yeah, but I have some friends living in the area, so it can happen. Like for example that lady running, she comes here every day at this time. And the man before with that funny dog, he also comes here every day. So some people do come... (pointing at some people)

LC: And what are the types of users that you can find?

P2: Eeh...well, photographers, like making interesting photography like me for example, photographers, then there are couples making lovely photo together...tourists...because also tourists come here, a lot of wedding photographers and couples getting married...and we have the local residents, like old people coming for exercising or taking in some fresh air...eeh, people with animals, dogs, mostly dogs...and then groups of friends spending time together.

LC: How do you feel about that? Do you feel that they can peacefully co-exist?

P2: Yes, yes, definitely. I never saw any argument.

LC: And are these people just do their activities throughout the Pier, or just at specific location?

P2: No, throughout the Pier...like you see, it's very sparse, you have people everywhere.

LC: Okay, how do you think about the physical and social setting of the Pier?

P2: Like you mean the disposition of things?

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LC: Yeah.

P2: Taking into account it's simply like a...it's really just a cargo working area with really basic facilities, I think it makes it...it is beautiful because it is like that. You know, you don't have a sitting area, you don't have a thing

that plants for the people who come here, that's what make it interesting and beautiful.

LC: And you said most of the time you just go to this place? (pointing at berth 20-26)

P2: Yeah, if you try to walk to the other side, you have the same things you know...there are some containers, some...maybe different materials being collected...there is no facility, there is nothing plant for the usage actually happening.

LC: Which part of the Pier you like the most?

P2: I like more this part (point at berth 20-26) because it is more alive, more vibrant, there used to be another part towards Kennedy Town, like a big parking spot...where it was used mostly by dog owners, because the dogs could have run really freely, also you could cycle there, or any kind of physical activities...but now it is being turned into...eeh, how you called it? Community garden...I don't know were you here...all the residents trying to make up, try to stop...

LC: I was not here but I know about that...do you think the Pier in general is in order?

P2: Yes.

LC: And does that influence with what you do at the Pier?

P2: Well, I should say yes...because it's the reason why people are here, to make photos in front of those stuff that you don't see somewhere else, you know, that what makes it unique. And sometimes they do change position of containers, for example, so it gives some difference and modifies the usage of the area. So it's a continuous interaction between what is left and what you do.

LC: Okay, here comes the end, how do you think about all the redevelopment plan?

P2: I suppose it's a necessity, but it will change the soul of the place.

LC: And if this Pier no longer maintains as what it is now, will you still come?

P2: No...but I mean...maybe if I would become a resident of the area, I would come to get fresh air and get out of the house...yes I would come. But for my project, no, I would not come. It will be the end of the project.

LC: What is public space to you? What is your ideal public space?

P2: Something like this...there is no boundary...we stop our freedom, almost (laugh).

LC: As you come from Italy, can you find some places in Italy similar to this place?

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Liza H.Y. Chan (Student No.: 6112994) Master of Science in Human Geography

Utrecht University

P2: Eeh...well, it's a difficult comparison, you probably understand because you know Europe and we do have

more open spaces, where you can just feel free, and it's something...I don't think it's really happening in the city like...especially in the city part of Hong Kong because you have very tall buildings, mentally full of constraints, it's

true you know? Like also when you are entering your house, it's a small house, you really feel the walls around

you, and it does happen also on the water side of the city...big buses, old buses, old buildings, cement, in Europe

in Italy, you have a lot of possibility to experience freedom...

LC: So you think in general, the public spaces in Hong Kong, they are with more control?

P2: Yeah, very control, yes.

LC: Lastly, if you have to describe the Pier with three words, how would you describe it?

P2: No, I cannot...impossible...eeh three words! Social, freedom, water, these three words.

LC: And why?

P2: Because of all the things that I said already. It's social because you gather with friends, even if you are alone

you gather with others with similar interests. Freedom, because there are no rules, even if there are, you don't

feel it. And water, it's because it is by water and that also makes it unique and it gives you an incredible access

to the harbour. There is no separation between land and sea...very poetic. (laugh)

LC: I have one follow-up question...you said that you didn't really interact with the people here but did anyone

try to speak to you?

P2: Well, I did a couple of interviews about the project and after that, a few people have asked me if I was the

one who was making photos...but apart from that, not really...I met one guy with a bicycle, no...

LC: Okay, thank you!

P2: You are very welcome!

LC: And I still need you to take a picture that you think it represents the Pier, or to provide a picture?

P2: You want me to make a photo? Yeah, shall I give you the pictures later? I can't take a picture that quick.

LC: Yeah, you may.

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(3) Participant 3

Date: 21st June, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P3

Language of Interview: English

LC: But you think...you said that the area...people do things illegally there, do you think there are other similar places in Hong Kong?

P3: It's everywhere...it's everywhere where government where lots of spaces, people do their own thing, but whatever the back beach of Shek O, which is not under the LCSD, but is a free space...if you go to To Ta Wan in Ma On Shan and walk outside, To Ta Wan, the beach area which is not under any...so people do whatever they want, so there are lots of these areas around Hong Kong...the waterfront in front of Wah Kwai where people go swimming with the rocks, they have their own swimming pool arrangement with all the railings and everything so they could get easily out of the water. There are lots of areas where there is no responsibility and people are enjoying life, it's not an issue. You know in this particular case, it's an issue in the sense that the government is now taking over as the cargo working area, its users are going to reduce, with less cargo working needs. Whether that space it becomes, available for public use, and then it becomes public space. Then the space goes to a government department, the LCSD and the District Office, to become the manager of the space, and they officially call it then public space. Well, then, all the rules have to apply. Then they shall be responsible, they shall be very concern about safety issues, where the railing whether the people can get to the water, what activities there are because people complain...there is a conflict between activities and managers responsible, and then the discussion starts, and what happens is that the way people enjoy the space now and regimented and what the people do themselves, self-manage. There's a lot of freedom...people cycling, dog walking, rollerskating, sitting with the foot over the sea water, it goes all very safe...what we have is two or three dogs falling into the water, and one time a dead body was found, nobody knows where that actually came from, from somebody walking at the Pier, or from somebody falling off from a boat, or somebody killed by somebody or somebody who committed suicide, it's clear nobody ever given a report on the background of that person to what happens...sometimes they, but when you go back to the government, they push it and they can't make any conclusion. I don't think that's anything to do with the Pier. So we don't have any record of people falling or accidents.

LC: But do you think the users there think they feel safe or comfortable?

P3: Totally! Go ask people if they feel uncomfortable...I mean if someone who doesn't feel uncomfortable, mom has a young kid and she decides that her kid is crazy and runs around too easily or whatever...she will not go there...so the ones who are using it are people who consider it safe, the ones who are not using it may have some other ideas...they may, if you go and ask people that are not using it but live nearby, and say why are you not using it? They may say, well, because it's hot, there is no place to sit, can't buy ice cream, having young kid that may run into the water, having a dog who doesn't listen very well and may run into the water...I mean the people who have the reasons not to go are not going, but the waterfront doesn't need to be for everybody, you

know, every public space...there are researches about why people like to go there...so the whole debate now that should be happen is not being had is, so, how can we make that space flexible, a free space? If we take it over, and formally call it public space, and it's no longer called cargo working area, how can that public space a free space? And that's the challenge. Some of them are technical, like...if I hand over you the cargo working area, to the LCSD, you make it a free space, then it's considered as development. You are developing it into public space. Even if you don't do any work on it, by opening it up as public space and then you develop it into a public space because it was a cargo working area, the building regulation guidelines apply; it says there is a drop of more than 1.2 metres that has to be the barrier. So for redevelopment, you stick to that rule, unless you get an exemption from that rule. So almost by default, you have railings in that area unless you come up with a different design...you break down the sea wall and make there steps, so each drop is less than 1.2 metres, so then you have to come up with alternative designs...but you start spending quite a bit of money on the reengineering of the sea wall...and if the LCSD takes over, first they may think it is too expensive, they don't have the budget for it, also they do feel they do not have the expertise in marine engineering. So they have to get...and the archists...the architecture department, they do all the design and redevelopment for the LCSD...they may not consider themselves as experts in marine engineering, so they have to get the civil engineering department involved, so they have to do things that they normally not do, so that's always a problem in bureaucracy.

LC: Do you think the Pier has its order?

P3: An order? Yeah...are there dos and don'ts? Is there an unestablished dos and don'ts? Unwritten? Yeah...in dutch... "in volksmond"...yes of course! People don't kill each other, people don't bump into each other, people control their dogs, they may let at lieus but they control them. If they are out of control, people will be angry about the person who doesn't control their dog, people pick a dog shit, you don't see people leaving a dog shit behind, people keeping the area clean...you see people step aside to let other people take pictures...I mean, you see people look out for each other...it's all the normal behaviour of the civil goods, civil behaviour, people are civil to each other and that civil order works. You don't need to set rules.

LC: And how do you think about the physical setting? Like all the containers...

P3: Well, I think that makes an extremely interesting environment that people not usually experience therefore they enjoy it...normally they get plastic furniture and you know, bamboo, wooden floor ball whatsoever, the formular stuff that you normally get in public space...and here everything is different and people love that. People enjoy walking through the containers, the drones that are there, they take photographs of them, they sit on them, they stand on them, or they just walk by and enjoying that they can experience it and smell it! So...I mean in some public spaces, landscape architects and public space planners will spend a lot of time and money to try to create such an experience, and here, it's there. People enjoy that.

LC: So you do think the physical setting of the Pier is kind of linked to the social setting as well?

P3: Well, these things are interactive, in whatever the setting that stimulates certain behaviour...I mean if there was a different setting, then the social behaviour would have been different. It's interesting and you can make changes to the setting and that will change the behaviour...I mean the fact that we have the sunset and there is

no railing, people can make use of the space, people can take pictures with certain behaviour...but if it is stinking hot, when the sun is hot, people don't go. I think the usage...because there are no trees...I mean I assume one has to count to verify that. But Sun Yat Sen Park with trees and shades, in the middle of the day, probably has per square metre more people enjoying it than the Pier, because there is no shade. So, spare concretes hot. So there's no sunset, why would you go? But if it is cool, on a winter day, and the sun is a bit out and people go out of their cold apartments because there is no heating and then everybody will go and get a bit of sun at the Pier...so I think the setting and behaviour impact each other.

LC: Do you think people mainly go for the sunset only?

P3: I think the sunset is very important and I think the Instagram pictures that have come out are also conditioning people's behaviour. For a certain expectation people will go for the experience of the things they have seen on the Instagram that people want to see that themselves, they have seen all these stunning photographs. It has a reputation for stunning sunset. You get the sunset from the water in between, the mountain ridge on the end, it gives you beautiful sunset so that it has that reputation and people go for that, there's nothing wrong with that. It's good, it's fine.

LC: Do you think as most people just go for the sunset; do you think it restricts the diversity of the activities?

P3: You have to count what people do. People go for walks, people go for physical exercise, people go for jog, people go for a walk, people go for a conversation with their wife or girlfriend or boyfriend, and let the dog out...I mean there's a lot of reasons for people to go there. But you know, on Sunday, people may want to go for the walk at 5 o'clock because of the sunset. Are they going for the sunset? Or the conversation with their wife? Or because they want to be healthy? Or they woke up after their afternoon nap, this is their way to relax on a Sunday? So the sunset is an excuse, some people will go specifically for the sunset and take pictures, other people go because it's an outing, it's to be social to see people. I would think the sunset is 80% of the excuse of people to do the things that they like to do. And for 20%, there are specific things that people go for. But I think for most people, it's an excuse for what time they go cycling, what time they go hiking, what time they go jogging, what time they go for a family-friend conversation, what time they go sit there with a bottle of wine and some cheese, you know...(laugh)...people would like to do all of these things, you can do them in the mountains, you can do them on the roof of your building, or you can do them hip...so you cannot suggest that if it is just the sunset, because that would mean that why I cannot see other places with the sunset popular. You know, it cannot be just the sunset. Proximity, "devailablity", the amount of space that people have, is the fact that you can all be together like that, cause there is no railing, it's open, all the people can crowd in, there can be few hundreds of people all being together, close, shoulder to shoulder, all the strangers they don't know each other but doing the same thing...it's community, something like a spiritual experience. You know you do that but also with other people who enjoy it, so some possible community experience, even though you may not talk to each other much. But you are doing the same thing, it strengthens the bond, some people start recognizing each other, they walk the dog, and the people with the dogs become friends because they have their dogs! They know each other from dog walking during sunset at the Pier. These communities built relationships.

LC: Have you found any special activity that you have seen in the area? Like you didn't expect that...

P3: It's not...not individual activities because all the individual activities are very normal, like taking pictures, taking wedding photographs, go drone flying, go jogging, cycling, baby walking, having dinner, reading a book, sitting...but it is the setting with which people do that. I mean people can just use one of the concrete, they turn them into seats basically and this stops trucks from driving into the water, those concrete barriers, very low ones, like 50 centimetres high. Quite often you see people sitting and reading a book, well, that's not very comfortable, but that's what people use it. People see, people use these things, and they sit there for a long time! They just don't sit there and breathe in, they usually go for a few hours, relaxing and doing things, so...and to me, it's the combination of things that happened there...so people are drone flying and dog walking and cycling and walking babies, and playing with kids, and taking pictures...they are all in the same space...where the normal belief in Hong Kong is that you have to separate them...you cannot have cyclists to mix with pedestrians, or have kids and dogs walking which is dangerous... I mean they have all these ideas, but you have to separate all those activities. But here, it's a big proof, you don't have to at all! People can do all these things at the same time, at the same space, without a problem! And sure...I am sure sometimes accidents happen, kid falls, dog leaves a poo, dog barks...I don't know, some people bump into somebody, yeah, so what? People apologize and move on. And there's nobody to complain to, so nobody gets complaints, nobody can complain, and therefore it works fine! But the moment when there is an opportunity to complain, the management office, somebody will complain and then it becomes an issue. And once it becomes an issue, everybody have to get involved in resolving the issue. But don't make it an issue, then there's no problem. Something like the LGBT situation, everybody in Hong Kong, totally accept always, can be very extravagant, LGBT and when there's a book on the shelf, and someone points to it and says, "Hey, why is there a book on the shelf?" Then everybody makes it very difficult when there is a LGBT book on the shelf. And the society finds it very difficult to come up with sensible solutions. Somebody walks in with a sundress, with a lady dress, nobody will say anything...if it is already been a hundred years in the Chinese society, nobody...they will just accept it. But the moment when people start asking questions, it becomes difficult, cause then you have to make a choice, have a debate about it, and then nobody can do it, and then we are making all these very conservative decisions...same here! There is no management office to complain to, and nothing goes wrong! Everybody look after each other.

LC: But what do you think the Marine Department? Like what is their stance of managing the Pier now because for one time I saw that there is a guard she is distributing the paper?

P3: Well...as I said at the beginning, the sign post and the leaflets are being distributed by the Marine Department to make it absolutely clear that they have no liability that you are there at your own risk. In fact you are there in contravention of the law. They do that because otherwise if they acknowledge you to be a regular user, then they have the obligation to make sure that the space is safe, to whatever their standards are, because if something will happen...if they will be welcoming people...say yeah, welcome, it's open to everybody...and kids fall into the water and die and parents are so upset that there are no railings and sue the Marine Department, and then they go to court...and the judge will say, well, "Have you given ample warning?" And then Marine Department said, "No, because it's a cargo working area..." And the judge said, "Yeah, but you, for 20 years you let people in, using it as a public playground, you never make it clear that it is not a public playground..." And then there's a high possibility that the Marine Department, in the end will have to pay damages, for their failure to make it safer having its use as the public playground. So that's why they are hanging that out. Their position

is...they...every berth that you have it identified in your map is let out, and the Marine Department says that I am not responsible entirely...these berth operators are responsible for their own berths because we've let them out, so that's what they say. They suggested that there is some liability on their side, but also they know of course it is incredibly popular, so they don't want to stop people from using it and climbing down...because if they do that, they do full-gate control, only let people in who have the right to be there, then all the 23 operators of each of these berths will have to have a system for approving who comes in and goes out, that becomes very difficult...it's an open space with lots of operators, for the Marine Department it is the easiest way for them otherwise they will have to agree that everyone who comes in have to sign in, say which berth they are operating, and say "yeah yeah yeah..." Johnny is supposed to come and pick something up, but the guy hasn't arrived yet so he cannot call because he is on his truck and the other guy arrives and he cannot go in, it becomes very inconvenient for the motor operations.

LC: What do you think about the redevelopment plan that you have mentioned about the Community Garden?

P3: Well, the redevelopment, you will have to go way back, Caritas, the HKU have some ideas in redevelopment...you have seen the drawings maybe...it's like years ago...HKU and Caritas did already plan for the waterfront at Kennedy Town. You've not seen them?

LC: No...is it...

P3: Ohh, I know where they are...I have them. So the ideas have been going on for a long time (pressing his computer)...so you see this...HKU, Department of Architecture did this, and the Caritas...on how to use the entire waterfront...

LC: But is this being suggested to the government as well?

P3: Ya ya ya...but the Marine Department says that they cannot give it up, so now they have only given up three berths, and this area we got years years ago. Originally this piece is going to be removed, because they were falling apart, and in the Harbourfront Commission we stopped that. So you see they have these drawings for already a long time...I am personally not in favour of this plan here, because we don't have many of these marine facilities...we have 280 islands, we need space for goods to be going between Hong Kong, Kowloon and all the 280 islands, so there is always a need for cargo handling within Hong Kong, not just between Hong Kong and the big ships coming here, but within Hong Kong itself, so we need these services, and this is a great facility for it. But if you just take it away and give it up for public space, that doesn't make any sense to me. The first number one, primary use should be for marine uses and then I can say that I also have public use, and you can combine it. That's no need to combine now and it works, but if you do it this way, you cannot see it...look, there is no boat here. How can you have a marine facility but you have no boats? Why? Because you don't care for the boats...why don't you care for the boats? 1500 hectares, square kilometres of Hong Kong is water, 1000 square kilometres is land, you've got 800 kilometres of coastline and 280 islands. These marine facilities have their use. But in Hong Kong, not many people think about marine uses, so that's my problem with this one. It has always been that. So Caritas...so this is the whole book here...you want me to send you this book?

LC: Yes...

P3: I thought you're going to say that...

LC: (laugh) But you have also said it earlier if the space is being called or being said as a public space, then it is sort of no longer free? But how do you think you can balance between these plans or the current use of it?

P3: No...that comes to incredible debate, that's where you have to not being in a rush and start a very good placemaking process where you have lots of debate with the community but how to do it and how to deal with these challenges. Unfortunately we don't see it happen and unfortunately what we see is the District Council has already made up their mind, by pushing their ideas...the government wants to be seen that they have been doing something for the waterfront, so they just pushed it through, and then there is no debate, and you ended up with poor solutions. So the answer exactly is how you solve it, you got to have negotiation, where you end up with a negotiated solution or start a negotiation, but that negotiation process needs to be organized and not be in a rush because you are going to have the space for a thousand years, so why being in a rush? So that's another one for Caritas for that waterfront area...whether I have the plan from Caritas...

LC: Do you think if the Pier, the whole cargo area no longer maintains as what it is now, do you think it will still attract people to go?

P3: I bet there will always be people going...several millions of people living on a small piece of land! People wanna get some fresh air on Sunday, people will go...people who live in the neighbourhood, people will go...there's always people going. But whether it has the same experience, the same enjoyment, the same surprise, the same feeling that there is something special going on, maybe not! If it starts to look like...you know what they have done, in front of the wholesale market, the playground there looks like a playground that could have been in the mountain, in the city, same stuff, same kind of toys! So you have a Pier here, a beautiful Pier but what is done special? And then the other one is a sit-out area on the Pier, with the back to the sunset, how could you sit to the back of the sunset? I mean...so if they are going to have the same experience? I don't think so...I got this here...ok...I have sent you...I have put it in the dropbox.

LC: Thank you...

P3: But there is another plan, done before that...it was a workshop done by Caritas in Kennedy Town...you should contact the Caritas Community Centre and find the head of the Caritas and ask him for the plans they did at that time and the conclusions and the drawings and the recommendations for those workshops that they did. If you can get them, make sure I also get a copy of that afterwards...because I don't have them in my files...

LC: (laugh) ok...

P3: That was years ago, before the HKU did the plan...

LC: I would like to go back to some questions...do you think you are a regular user of the Pier and how often do you go there?

P3: I am not a regular user because I don't live in the neighbourhood...I think the regular users are the people who live in the neighbourhood, to walk the dog every day...I am not...I go there once in a while. I have gone

there more often because I am interested in the fact that it is a contested space, but I am not a regular user. How often I go? I don't know...twice a month? It depends...I mean if we have...because it is contested...maybe once a week on average? I come back regularly, and kind of a quickly inspect because my district, Pokfulam, my home is in Clear Bay, so I usually park my bike there and have a quick look and then go on.

LC: So far are you able to get access to the whole area?

P3: Yeah, I climbed over the fence if necessary. Yes.

LC: (laugh) ok...

P3: Like everybody else, we climb over the fences and remove the barriers and then we go in.

LC: But you did see some fences?

P3: Yeah...

LC: In your opinion, with all these redevelopment plans from HKU and from Caritas, do you think the Pier should be publicly owned?

P3: Well, the Pier is publicly owned. It is owned by the public than ever before and even in the future. Because right now, people are there despite the law, people are using it so they are owning the space in respective of the law. And they are there...against the law, in contravention of the law, so yeah...it's extremely publicly owned now. But once it's owned by a government department who officially owns it, then the public owns it less, because then there is the manager, space manager who has all these rules and that will impact the public ownership. So I think, right now, it's extremely publicly owned, more so than it will be in the future, once people officially take it over. To manage this public space, it will be not as much as publicly owned than this today.

LC: So you do think people have the right to change it to what they desire to be like?

P3: The difficulty is the implementation of change, I mean the moment you make it, you ask people they agree how to change it, somebody has to be responsible for doing the work and from managing it. But you're taking away the management of the current regime, the current regime is the cargo working area which is left open for public to use illegally...if you put in under any other regime, then the rules will come in...so you're basically changing it, but in the end it should be a public negotiation. And how you do that, is to start learning the pitfalls, the opportunities...to plant trees, you have shades, to have seats so you can sit better. The risk is you don't allow people to do anymore what they are allowed today, so how to come up with a negotiated solution? That can only be involving people in discussion that takes time, to safeguard the use currently, the free use of the space now, and how you are going to safeguard that?

LC: Have you actually talked to those companies who are letting the cargo working space and how do they think about that?

The Meanings behind its Changing Use: Instagram Pier in Hong Kong Liza H.Y. Chan (Student No.: 6112994)

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P3: No. Actually good point! I have never had a conversation with the actual cargo handlers that are using the space. I am sure some of them will concern about safety and security of goods, and otherwise...nobody cares, so

that's good, you should go talk to them. I'd love to see their input. Are you going to find them?

LC: I don't know...maybe for some time when I am at the Pier, I can manage to see those people perhaps.

P3: Yeah, if you go in the daytime.

LC: What is public space to you? What is your ideal public space?

P3: Public space is all space that is not privately owned. Because the moment when it is privatised, it's no longer public space. But there's privately owned public space, you know, shopping mall for example. But I don't consider shopping mall public space, although there is a great public use, but it's by the owners. So it's different forms of public space, and public space, yeah...it's negotiated and for the types of public space, it has different functions...up in the mountain...all public spaces have different functions and roles and they can change over time, which is dynamic...it's negotiated. And change is fine, you have to be very careful about small groups dictating, the user ownership of any public space...and especially when interventions are being made, at the end those interventions are positive in the sense that many people enjoy and consider them beneficial, that the change is beneficial rather than something that sets them back. And the risk is with this particular area, the risk is very high that you lose benefits of this last bit of open space with extraordinary use, combination of uses...it's

LC: I have one follow-up question, which is people mainly go there for the sunset, they do all kinds of activities

because of that...

P3: No, they mainly go around the time of sunset; they are not necessarily just going for the sunset. I mean, I made that difference very clearly otherwise...I think you have to be very careful with that. Because if you suggest that suddenly all the people just go for the sunset, then the government and planners and people who are going to do intervention, they are going to say...as long as it is, as long as people can enjoy the sunset, whatever we do

is fine. But it's not the case.

easy to lose that, it's difficult to maintain it.

LC: And do you think the activities happening at the Pier now just focus on specific area, at the whole cargo

area...or...

P3: People use the entire working area for cycling, jogging, some areas are used more for viewing the sunset,

some areas are for jogging, but that's the physical configuration of the space.

LC: If you have to describe the Pier with three words, how would you describe it?

P3: Free space, great free space, Hong Kong's best free space.

LC: And why? Can you explain a bit?

P3: Well, people have appropriated the space and they do whatever they want to do. And they do that in complete self-management. And therefore we now have a unique range or diversity of users, all using the same

Utrecht University

space, from cargo handling to flying drones, to cycling, to sun gazing, sunset gazing, to book reading, to dinner...you know, all of that...dog walking, scootering, taking pictures or wedding photographs, whatever, all of them are taking place in the same space, that combination of uses is unique.

LC: Have you ever taken some pictures at the Pier?

P3: Yeah!

LC: Can you provide me one of the pictures which you think it represents the Pier the most?

P3: Sure! It's on my Facebook. Have you seen my Facebook?

LC: Can you pick one of them?

P3: Sure, let's find there! It's a bit slow...here...you can find more pictures of them here but I think that one is definitely...where is my photo? Ahh, a couple of photos...let me see...that one, probably.

LC: Why do you think it represents?

P3: Anybody, everybody just hanging out at the side of the Pier, waiting for photographs...this one...these ones, one is from the back, one is from the front...and then this one, oh yeah, this is the other Pier, so here are the seats, the sunset is on this side, the back of the sunset I mean, how stupid can it be?

LC: Thank you!

(4) Participant 4

Date: 22nd June, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P4

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: First I would like to see you some basic information. What is your age?

P4: Haha, 45 to 50...

LC: What is your occupation?

P4: I am an accountant.

LC: But you have participated in organizing community events?

P4: Yes, true.

LC: What is your education level?

P4: Postgraduate...

LC: Which district do you live in?

P4: I live in Kennedy Town.

LC: Okay, the upcoming interview lasts around half an hour and I would like to know how the users of the Pier experience the Pier. During the interview, I would like you to take a picture which you think it represents the Pier the most...or provide me with any picture that you took before...

P4: No problem.

LC: Have you visited the Pier from time to time?

P4: Yes, but not too frequent...

LC: Around how many times a month you would say?

P4: It's hard to say...few times in a year.

LC: What attracts you to come here?

P4: There is breeze, and I can admire the sea here. It is open that I can just walk around.

LC: What do you usually do when you come?

P4: Yes, walking around mostly...

LC: What do you think is the Pier different from other places?

P4: I come here usually at night. There are no cars...and people are walking their dogs...I like watching people walk their dogs.

LC: What route do you usually take when you get here?

P4: I usually enter at the side near Kennedy Town (Berth1-12), and I usually walk at berth 1 to 3...but I seldom come to this side near Hill Road, I have tried but not that frequent.

LC: Can you access the Pier every time you get here?

P4: No...

LC: Do you think you are free to use the space?

P4: I think so, every time I am here.

LC: But you have heard of people with other experiences?

P4: Oh yes, the staff of Marine Department sometimes show up and distribute a paper to you, saying that you shouldn't be here. They will ask you to leave, but they don't really push you to leave.

LC: I know you have organized some community events, and you oppose the redevelopment plan of Berth 1 to 3...

P4: Now Berth 1 to 3 is closed, because the government would like to develop it into community gardens. Now the government is planning to make the plan concrete, including building railings between Berth 3 and 4, because they are under different government departments for management. Berth 1 to 3 are under the Home Affairs Department, the area is closed for some time before, and the government urges us to accept the community gardens, saying that they would like to re-open the area soon for community use. You can see that the people who are using the Pier don't really want to farm, here there is some distance from the residential area, and you can see that the wind is quite strong...today it's not that strong, but during winter, the wind is so strong...and the air is with salt particles, which is not really suitable for farming. The government doesn't accept this, and many residents have consulted experts in farming, and they all think the environment here is not suitable either for farming. And as the floor is made of concrete, its ability to absorb heat is great, the temperature becomes high and the species of plants are few to adapt to such weather. I don't think people who like farming will enjoy this. At the same time, it is a bit far for people to come here to take care of their fields. It is best if the fields can be just downstairs at your building, it is more convenient.

LC: What is the stance of the government now?

P4: The government just minimizes the area that is supposed to be redeveloped. They propose to develop 80% of the area of Berth 1 to 3. After our opposition, now they plan to develop around 20% of the area which is...as a member of the Protect Kennedy Town group, we still don't think the area is suitable for farming, so even if it

minimizes to 20% now, we still don't accept it. Except this 20%, the remaining is under the management of Leisure & Cultural Department (LCSD). We all know that there are so many restrictions with the management of LCSD. If they manage the Pier, it will become less free, now we can walk our dogs, jog, walk, cycle...to do all of these together but if it is under LCSD, it's not possible anymore, because they will divide the area for specific activities. If I want to cycle and at the same time, to walk my dog...it is not possible anymore. Or if children walk the dog, and their parents would like to cycle, it's not possible either. It's actually ridiculous.

LC: So the users here generally feel the same?

P4: Yes, yes! I think more than 95% of the users think the same as me.

LC: Is there a place at the Pier that the government will rent out?

P4: That should be Berth 1 to 3. Yeah, there was a Dao activity before...It's actually around that time that the Marine Department has given back Berth 1 to 3 to the government, and make it under the management of the Home Affairs Department. That event lasted for 2 weeks, and the area was being blocked. People didn't really know about it...those who normally go for walking the dog or walking, they suddenly saw that the area was blocked; they thought what's going on? Why was there so much construction? They didn't know what happened...

LC: What is the plan of the government with that 20% of the area?

P4: It is now open for bidding...

LC: Do you think there is any kind of restriction or control when you visit here?

P4: No, not really...except for former Berth 1 to 3 being blocked now. Of course when there are loading and unloading activities in this cargo working area, we need to be more careful, it's the same as you cross the road in the streets. The residents who usually come here, they know what the usual time for the operation is.

LC: How do you feel about the Pier then? Do you feel a bit dangerous?

P4: I don't think so! I think it's even more dangerous to cross the road in the streets. You know, the streets are narrow in Hong Kong and many places have constructions going on...when you pass through those places, it is even more dangerous than this. It is spacious here. You can definitely see a car coming towards. You have space to avoid those. On the other hand, if you pass through some buildings under redevelopment in the streets, there are entrances with trucks going in and out of the construction sites, the streets are too narrow for people to avoid those when there is an accident.

LC: Are you satisfied with the use at the Pier now?

P4: I think it's quite good. People can go in and out freely and they use it freely. Everyone is happy about the situation now.

LC: Do you think the Pier is publicly owned? Do you think you own a part of the Pier?

P4: It's hard to say whether you own it or not...but when residents come here often, they have built a sense of belonging. They think it's a part of their life. If you talk about ownership, it's like legal rights...people don't think in this way, they think it is a part of their life. It's their space for activities, and a part of the community. It's a familiar place with sentiment.

LC: Do you think people, or yourself have the right to change the Pier into what you desire, your ideal public space?

P4: I think the government should listen to public opinions for sure, as the government should plan things in a people-oriented approach, it's not at your convenience or to satisfy only a specific group in society. The residents have used this place for more than 10 or 20 years, they should have the right to do things right. I think the government officials sometimes go too far, they want to build something fantastic and grand. For example, they proposed that they can hold various types of events at Berth 1 to 3. Of course some residents are happy with that, but I think most of the residents think it is important to have such free space, which they can just come wherever they like.

LC: Do you think you can imagine and create your own space here?

P4: I think if you specifically ask this question, the residents will feel like they are not intended to achieve this. It is the environment which creates opportunities for people to use it. It is also about placemaking, that a place can be planned according to what people like and what they like to do.

LC: Do you have any unforgettable experience at those times you came?

P4: If you said unforgettable...it's probably the protest that we organized. I remember that earlier this year, during winter, we organized a running event. I remember that it's so windy and so cold at Berth 1 to 3. It's still cold even if you wore so many clothes. So under different seasons and weather, the place is used differently. How can you farm in such windy weather?

LC: What activities do you usually see here?

P4: Walking dogs, cycling, jogging...

LC: And does every activity happen throughout the Pier or at specific location?

P4: I think the entire Pier has all those activities, people go fishing everywhere here. The "finger" (while pointing at Berth 13-26) attracts people to fish. People also fish at Berth 1 to 3 too. And people just sit there and admire the sea. People set up a table here, drink red wine and eat...the most common activities are walking dogs and cycling. I have heard that at the middle of the night, students from the University of Hong Kong come to the Pier too. Some of them are more active and do all sorts of things; some bring their snacks and chat; some bring their own television and some chairs to watch TV together. Haha, it's funny!

LC: Do you think the activities are diversified?

P4: Yes! Because you can do whatever you like in this free space. And the space is large enough to do different kinds of things. Even when you said you are afraid of dogs, you can just avoid them as the space is big.

LC: Do you think the activities are important to the users?

P4: Of course! It's so stressed to live in Hong Kong, and it's good to have some space here for people to relax. We can already feel the breeze by standing here now, so during night time, when the temperature drops, it's quite comfortable. Our houses are so small, it is not right to just stay at home and switch on the air conditioning. This place is important for people to release their pressure.

LC: Do you expect the activities you mentioned to happen here?

P4: Yes, yes. Actually many users come from other districts, when I was collecting the 5000 signatures for opposition to the redevelopment plan, we stood at the entrance and the Shek Tong Tsui Tram Terminus and asked every person we saw whether they support the redevelopment plan or not, many people come from other districts. They have heard the popularity of the Pier and would like to pay a visit.

LC: Do you think there is a place similar to the Pier in Hong Kong?

P4: When you said about Promenade, the government did develop those, like the one at Kwun Tong, or like the newly opened Promenade section over there. But you feel different when you enter those...they look beautiful but the Promenade is narrow, I think half of the area that we have here at the Pier. They also built those facilities with which not everyone can use them. For example, those activities are for children, those seesaws, swings...of course some children like them, but some prefer bringing their own racket for playing badminton, doing whatever they like. I think the target group for those facilities is different. And I have paid attention to the situation after the Promenade has opened, more people use the Pier than the Promenade.

LC: Do you come here alone, or with friends or family?

P4: With family, yes.

LC: Did you see someone you know when you walk at the Pier?

P4: Yes! Many users live nearby, especially for those who walk their dogs.

LC: Do you interact with people you don't know?

P4: Yeah, sometimes I will chat to them, or to greet them. You see...those two girls must be from other districts...many tourists come here.

LC: Who are the users you normally see here?

P4: Different kinds of people...people who live nearby, those who live in other districts, or even those who live in the outlying islands and the New Territories...people of various age!

LC: Do you think they gather at specific location or spread out throughout the Pier?

P4: If it is residents nearby, they usually cycle and jog throughout the whole area. But for those who come from other districts, they usually go to the "finger" (Berth 13-26) and take pictures...

LC: How do you see people from other districts?

P4: You know it with what they wear...

LC: No, I mean how do you feel about people from other districts come to the Pier?

P4: Of course we welcome them, the space is open and should be used by everyone. Everyone in Hong Kong can come. I believe that this Pier doesn't belong only to the people who live in the Western District, but to everyone in Hong Kong. Everyone in Hong Kong has the right to use the Promenade. There are many promenades being developed now, and people can't get access to those. Or at Central, you need to pay to use the Promenade...

LC: Pay?

P4: I mean those promenades are being occupied by commercial use, you need to pay to those restaurants to get closer to the sea.

LC: Do you think the users peacefully co-exist at the Pier?

P4: Yes, yes! The space is relatively big here. I have heard that people have arguments at the Belcher Bay Park, because of competing in using the space...as it is too narrow!

LC: How do you feel about the physical setting of the space? With all those pallets?

P4: It's special with all those pallets...some people said they are dangerous because some young people climb up and take pictures, or just to get a better view. Of course you are adults, you need to be responsible in your behaviour, you know what is dangerous. But I think those pallets directly represent that the space is a cargo working area. It's unique with those pallets. Without them, the Pier does not shine.

LC: Do you think the physical setting is associated with social setting?

P4: I think people have got used to...if you come almost every day. Of course people from other districts will find the setting here interesting and they will take pictures.

LC: Which part of the Pier do you like the most?

P4: "Finger" (Berth 13-26) is beautiful.

LC: Why?

P4: Because it's protruding, it gives you a feeling of infinity, a feeling without any barriers. It is rare to find such space in Hong Kong.

LC: Do you think there is an order at the Pier?

P4: Yes! I think it's so orderly. Those cargo operators are not from Marine Department, they rent the berths, they have got used to people entering the area already, most of them don't oppose people to enter. Haha...icecream is being loaded here? I know some goods are being transported to the outlying islands. The reason for the Pier to operate still is that...some people have suggested moving the Pier...but I have heard that the Pier is important to transport goods to the outlying islands and even Macau. The Pier can't be cut!

LC: But is it less frequent to use as if back in those days?

P4: I think so...you see that Berth 1 to 3 are closed now. However, the Pier still has its importance.

LC: The government has those plans in redeveloping the Pier, if the Pier no longer maintains as what it is now, do you think people will continue in visiting?

P4: I need to see how it is being changed...if it is changed as opposed to people's thoughts, then people won't come.

LC: What is public space to you?

P4: I think public space should be open to everyone, of course public space has its own quality. Some are better and therefore attract people to go. For those being less attractive and less accessible, then fewer people go there. Public space with better quality can attract people to do what they desire.

LC: Lastly, how would you describe the Pier with three words?

P4: Haha, so difficult! Three words! Maybe three words, good, great and marvellous!

LC: Why?

P4: Of course it is a great place! There is a commercial value and it is with public space value. It is so popular that it attracts people to visit. For people who live in Shek Tong Tsui, there are no parks except Sun Yat Sen Park which is really far away...my office is near the park and during 11am or 12 noon, there are not too many people...but during weekend it's the other way round. People place their tent there and spend their time with their family.

LC: Can you take a picture as mentioned? Or to provide a picture that you have taken before?

P4: Of course...let me take a picture. I like seeing those posts, and the handle for people to get on and off the boat.

LC: Thank you for your time today.

(5) Participant 5

Date: 25th June, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P5

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: What route do you usually take when you get here?

P5: I will walk to this side (Berth 13-26) first...actually in the past...

LC: Do you always enter via that entrance?

P5: Yes, because for the first time I learnt about the place, I entered through that entrance. And I felt the space is mysterious and interesting.

LC: When did you know about the place?

P5: Wow, it's been years ago! There is a story behind, it is related to my previous relationship. When I was studying in the university...you won't disclose this public right?

LC: No, it will be anonymous.

P5: So, I can tell the truth, haha. It's around 2009 when I was studying in the University of Hong Kong, I liked a guy, my classmate at that time who loves taking photographs. Every time we finished class, he would go to the Pier...and then I was curious where he was going, and I followed him one time...wow, look, that looks cool! (pointing at the middle-aged women who are doing exercises together) So it's been 9 years! But actually for other people, they have come here for a long time already. I still remember at that time, there were not too many people know about this place, so it was like a secret, mysterious playground.

LC: So after you have learnt about the Pier, you started to visit?

P5: Yes...and I have visited here quite often, because I love admiring the sea. This sea view is superb that there are no railings and you can feel the infinity of the ocean. And it is even at the direction of the sunset, it's my personal hobby. So even before the Pier is granted the name of "Mirror of the Sky", I have always visited here already.

LC: Do you come here to admire the sea most of the time?

P5: Yes, actually it's quite boring...I don't know whether you can write something out of it...haha! When there were not too many people in the past, I loved sitting at those two posts with red lights, they are located at the far edge of the Pier. And I was like a bit emotional, a bit sad, sitting there and watch the sea and the waves. But it's funny that because the waves were quite high, sometimes I could see shrimps jumping out of the sea. Haha! I felt a bit scared...but I did that quite often...I think there are many people doing the same thing as me, they will sit at the far edge, but not doing much, just watching the sea and drinking some alcohol. Later, for these last few

years, I have become a member of the Sai Wan Community Concern group for 3 years? 4 years? Around 3 or 4 years...during this period I have organized a number of community events and sometimes those are being held here. We had a tour on ghost stories in the neighbourhood, and we brought residents here and told them some ghost stories.

LC: Are there ghost stories here?

P5: Actually there are meanings behind those tours...they are not just about ghost stories...at that time Liu Xiaobo has passed away, as his ashes are being thrown to the ocean...and then there are some residents, you know there are some residents who are quite enthusiastic in politics, they suggested that to make the Pier to be the last spot for the tour and talk about the story of Liu Xiaobo. We were saying that as the ashes of Liu Xiaobo are now in the sea, we can remember him everywhere. So we went to this seaside that time. However, I have come here frequently as well, no matter for a meeting, or drinking with the residents, or chatting with them. We took a pallet and then sat there. You see, this blue pallet was not there before, now it is used by the people for placing their bags, it's funny.

LC: You said you will come and chat with the residents, do you think the Pier is a good place to do that?

P5: Of course! I usually tell people that the Pier is interesting in the way that it has its order. For example, you can see people contemplating, jogging, cycling, dancing...there is a negotiation behind. Of course, in recent years, people are questioning whether people climbing on those cargo facilities are dangerous. This is for sure, because in the eyes of the management, if you get hurt by climbing up those pallets, the one who is responsible for that is not the government, but those cargo companies. Those companies are scared...but in the eyes of the residents, they think it is a vibrant and diversified space. Of course the natural environment here is stunning, making people hesitate in visiting parks. This Pier is up till there (Berth 1-12), there is the bus terminal, where Berth 1 to 3 locates, and there is a large piece of playground. Before I just knew this side (Berth 13-26), but when I discovered that there is space as well, I would also visit there but not as frequent as here. That part is also nice, and there are some small railings made of stone with which you can sit on. So how should I say? This place is supposed not for people to enter, but people do, and the government don't really restrict people, and the Pier itself produces the path and its order. Many residents run circles, from here to Kennedy Town, and then the other way round, also for cyclists. This is a thing that people negotiate with one another.

LC: You said people are doing different things here, do you think there are some conflicts in between?

P5: Yes, do you mean face-to-face conflicts?

LC: Yeah, like the users have conflicts to one another.

P5: There is one I saw, it's those cargo companies, when they saw people climbing on their equipment...actually when it is late at night, people will follow those pallets and climb to the top, so I have seen some companies feeling dissatisfied. But if you ask me about other conflicts, I haven't really seen them. There are some criticisms on the internet to the middle-aged women who are dancing...but there are not really big conflicts.

LC: So you have mentioned that people would climb up those pallets and when you sat at the far edge, you felt a bit unsafe...do you think it's safe and comfortable to use the space then?

P5: Yeah I feel safe, and of course I don't have the intention to jump into the sea. And I don't think many people would come here to jump into the water. I think there are some numbers in supporting it. The pro-government camp always talks about people committing suicide here, because there are no railings and it is therefore dangerous, but the numbers regarding to this are only a few, when you compare it with other numbers committing suicide by jumping into the water. There are other places in which people do that, but for this place, the number is not obvious. It's obvious that some dogs fell into the sea, but if you ask me whether I am scared or not, I don't think so. Because I think it is different for me to come here than visiting a park? When I visit a park, I will feel that it is too safe, with plenty of railings, and I won't die even when I am at the edge of the sea. At this place, I already know its nature, this is a Pier and all people enter through that entrance. I think all people who come here are not supposed to make a mess out of it. I know this is the Pier, and I have entered it...I would like to admire the place and therefore I won't make a mess out of it. I don't think it is dangerous, even if I sit on the edge...sometimes there are waves coming up, but at those times you won't get close to that. For those pallets climbing, I will remind people not to do that if I can...you need to teach them. The government doesn't recognize people can enter the space, but are you kidding? You don't recognize and you don't think you need to consult people for its change, but people just enter. I think that's funny. The nature or the meaning of a space should be fluid, how it is portrayed by its users. The government sometimes build something with low public use...so it is not about what David Harvey says, the urban designers say it all.

LC: What do you think are the factors that keep you visiting the space? And how often do you visit here?

P5: I think a reason is the space is really beautiful...if I would like to see the city scene, I can see it and if I want to enjoy a view with less busyness, I can choose to look at this side. Sometimes it is interesting to look at that direction, you can see the whole Kennedy Town, and the development of this place with all the lights from the buildings. But I like something tranquil, I feel that it is so so stunning in the afternoon! Secondly, people are so free...look at those middle-aged women, they place some pallets there and sat. I think it's funny. People have got used to the rules in those parks, being regulated and know that they should not do particular things. Here it is ambiguous, people know clearly that they can't enter but it becomes a habit of them entering. At the same time, there is no police, this further encourages people to visit. It's organic! There is no other place in Hong Kong which is so beautiful!

LC: So you don't think there are similar places as the Pier?

P5: No, even if the government would like to develop the Pier, it would be difficult. And how often do I visit here? How should I say? It depends on my mood. I think three or four times per month, as I am not living in the district. And I come here during sunset. I live in Shatin, most of the time I will check the sunset time, and come here by public transport and run till here. But I am not a person who takes pictures, I just want to look at it.

LC: So you said when you first came here, it's because of your relationship...do you think there is specific meaning of this Pier to you then?

P5: No, haha! We are not in the movies...I don't want to remember some relationships...the meanings are complicated with me and him. Especially when I now walk a bit front to protect the Pier, I become closer with the Pier, and therefore I am emotionally attached to the space. At one time, I came here when the typhoon signal No.3 is on, and it was so sunny...and one time when the typhoon signal changes from No.3 to 8, I came here too. It was 1am, and I wanted to take a panorama, because there was something going on the following week with some protests. I would like to take a picture but I failed, there was no one at the Pier, because of being late at night and the weather condition was bad. I feel something for this place, I would love to keep this space as it is.

LC: Are you successful in getting access to the Pier every time you come here?

P5: No, there are no barriers...I don't know where the staff are.

LC: I saw once that there is a staff distributing a paper to the users.

P5: The reason for that paper is when the Pier becomes popular, they need to do something and these measures usually last for 2 days only. For these ten or twenty years, there is no such a thing called opening hours here. There is not only one cargo working area in Hong Kong, people go into other areas as well but not too many...for example, like the one in Chai Wan, there are many companies and the space is not as spacious as here, and it is far away from the city. The staff there will ask you to leave, and because it's too crowded, you can't really have a great view with all the boats blocking. So it is a natural beauty here at this Pier.

LC: Do you think you can do activities freely in the space? And even if you said the government doesn't bother to control here, do you think there is still any form of control?

P5: I don't think so, because there is no staff walking around or the presence of CCTV. I just come here and walk, or to look at the seaview, I am not a model or a photographer, so I don't have such pressure...haha...

LC: Who are the users?

P5: I think it depends on the time slots I come. Sometimes when I have had dinner with my friends, we would come here and have a drink and chat. I was not staying at the student dorm, I usually had dinner in Kennedy Town and we would enter that way and have a drink together. So I think the combination of people depends on the time. For example, when it is after sunset, you have a walk after dinner, and you usually see elderly people hanging around. And when it is later at night, young people come and therefore those climbing activities are more frequent during that time. And walking dogs, cycling, you can always find them. Aah, I think for the cyclists, they come here even during the afternoon. You can't do that in the parks, you need to cycle on the paths, and for dogs, there is a weird and small area for them. Here, everything gather, and the dogs won't hit by the cyclists.

LC: Do you think the activities are spread out throughout the Pier or at specific locations?

P5: If you ask me, we called this area (Berth 13-26) "finger". Originally there were the most number of users at Berth 1 to 3, and now the embarrassing thing is that Berth 1 to 3 is being blocked, people normally would walk till there but now, they can just walk to Berth 4 and then go back. Or at Berth 4, there is an exit. I don't know if it

affects the number of people going there...but if you ask me, I think those parts (Berth 5 to 12) are usually with fewer people. When there was a firework, those boats would park here. This is a part behind Kwan Yick Building, and there is a place with lots of bamboo sticks, many people will take pictures there. So far, before the West Island MTR Line is open, there are some places being used for storing construction materials. At that time, those places were a bit dangerous but people who come they realized it, and they avoided going there.

LC: So you think the physical setting affects the places where people carry out activities?

P5: Absolutely, the physical setting includes the location of those cargo companies. I think there should be a tent here before...but it seems that it is removed...I think the entrance is important...the entrance in Kennedy Town is closed, and later people just use a string to enter, they need to have half of their body exposed to the sea to enter the area. So it is dangerous! I feel so dangerous for the two times I went there. It is so fucking dangerous, I need to stress that! And they have opened the gate for 2 or 3 days and then it is closed again...so that deters me to go.

LC: Do you think the activities are diversified?

P5: I think the Pier has helped in letting people to achieve some milestones in life, taking wedding pictures, taking model pictures, taking graduation pictures, walking dogs, giving birth to a baby, getting old...there's a lot...

LC: Do you think there are some activities out of your expectation?

P5: I think the "Mirror of the Sky"? You know it's fake, I don't expect people go that far for taking pictures...let me think...hmm...some people will watch TV near the entrance, they are actually the people of those companies...I haven't seen such wild activity before, like watching TV, eating and barbecuing...we haven't talked to them yet but it is so interesting. I have thought of organizing a movie screening here.

LC: Have you seen anything unforgettable here?

P5: If you ask me, the whole Pier is unforgettable, because in Hong Kong there is no such place without regulation. I think it's unforgettable already...I mean it! If you walk to the park nearby, it is all standard...can we sit on a pallet? I am lazy, tired, and getting old, haha...hmm...unforgettable things...

LC: Or any unforgettable experience?

P5: Ahh, I know...it's sort of about my relationship, but it's not that good to add these personal things to an academic paper, haha...I have some friends who filmed here...what I feel unforgettable is that through the films made by my friends, I can feel their emotions towards this place that they want to keep it. The story is about the relationship between Hong Kong and the mainland, and the setting of the story is at this place. I don't know why I have so many friends filming the Pier as the background in their films. These are unforgettable in terms of images. But if you said it for real...it's a bit personal...it is that our concern group has come and paid a visit for several times. We have researched into when the Promenade is opened, will that affect this area? Our groupmates are so close together, and it is unforgettable. Sorry, I haven't got married here, haha!

LC: So you have been to the Promenade, how do you find it different from here?

P5: There is regulated, though the facilities are more playful than before. There are more varieties in activities...you can treat that as Tamshui in Taiwan, it is being regulated and you can't see the entire view of the sea.

LC: Have you met anyone you know at the Pier? Or even if you don't know them, do you interact with then?

P5: I sometimes met those residents I have known who walk their dogs...I don't really remember their names, but in recent years, I always bump into them. And they are funny. I interact with those I don't know too, when it is even later, when we sit at the edge of the Pier and chat...I mean those pallets, and I usually look at my neighbours who sat next to me. Sometimes students from the freshman orientation camp of the University will come here, or at the end of the camp they come and have a drink. Sometimes I will laugh at them, and say, haha, orientation camp; sometimes I will see what others are doing. Yet, of course I don't really know people from these interactions. I am not that active, haha...wow, the scene behind is so beautiful! (taking pictures)

LC: Do you think the Pier belongs to the public?

P5: Yes, I truly think it's true...that's what I said, its nature is not public, but its development makes it public.

LC: When you are using the Pier, do you think there is a part of the Pier which is belonged to you?

P5: Is that about the sense of belonging?

LC: Yes. Let me take a picture...

P5: Sense of belonging? Yes, I have! Especially when I need to voice out my opinions with regard to the Pier. Seriously, I have the sense of belonging. Our residents use it actively.

LC: Do you think there is any group of users dominate in using the space?

P5: I think the users are mostly residents, of course there are more people from other districts during weekends. Yet, most of the time, the users just live nearby.

LC: Have you heard from residents about their views towards people from other districts visiting the Pier?

P5: I don't think I have heard of any negative comments about that. I think the residents are happy about that the Pier has become popular, I don't think there is any negative comment online too. There are not much opposition.

LC: Do you think you have the rights to change the space?

P5: Of course! Everyone has their rights, not only at this space. Our city needs to voice out what we need...those debates on land issues...what is the point? How do you estimate the number of population? Really, if you ask me if I am involved in these debates, I would say yes. I think everyone has the right to participate in the development of the city. We have the right to the city. Fuck! We should have the right! I need to use the swear word to emphasize my anger. Really, I think Hong Kong has a big problem now. For the Umbrella Movement, there is different interpretation. But I think the land issues are serious in the way that we live in this problem.

Whether we can enjoy this seaview despite the small size of our houses, it affects us every day. Another issue is universal suffrage, when can we have universal suffrage in Hong Kong? We lack knowledge in reading government documents, and those thoughts of being indifferent towards politics, thinking those have nothing to do with our lives, this is a universal problem. All of these need to be solved gradually. I think Hong Kong has made efforts in that already. The situation in Hong Kong is not that worse. Not all people come out to say what they want, but they know cognitively that they can actually voice out what they want if they are discontent towards the building of a bridge...more and more people are doing that, when comparing to the past.

LC: Do you think the Pier has given you opportunity in imagining and creating your own space?

P5: You mean in practice? I don't think it has, because the government has already decided those plans, and killed our imagination. Though I think I have the right, it is difficult to practice such right in Hong Kong. We are not in power...this also involves power and resources. The local community organizations do not have power and resources, thereby they have no say. For example, in some cultural organizations or think tanks, they have social labs in discussing with the government on how to improve a specific environment. Yet, when you look into these projects in-depth, those are initiated by the government. The department wants to improve the library, and it invites an organization to let public participate, which is public engagement. However, the agenda-setting power lies in the government. At the end, what is accepted and implemented is also determined by the government. Therefore, the government department hasn't considered talking to the public about the Pier. The discussion is closed. I remember I have attended some forums regarding the Pier. If the government led by Carrie Lam (the current Chief Executive in Hong Kong government) wants to have a vivid image, why not using the Pier as a way to show the practice of urban planning? This practice is not only a one-way consultation and a step-by-step procedure, but it is a public engagement, forming a small urban planning or management group.

LC: So you said that the final decision by the government is dealing with Berth 1 to 3?

P5: Yes, but when you look at the documents in the District Council, no matter the pro-government or prodemocratic camp, they are all talking about the extension of the Promenade, which is to "promenade-ize" the Pier, an extension from Central. The difficulties that we have encountered, now continue again, Berth 5 is now being kept for use at the Wholesale Market, because the market is still in use. And the area near the Western Harbour Tunnel is hard to being connected, they have built the Promenade but still hasn't opened. Yet, I believe that Berth 1 to 3 is to set a demonstration...also the Promenade to the use of the Pier now. That is a political strategy to prove that the Pier can be like that as well, which is a bit more diversified than before, not with the traditional approach in management. When you think more in-depth, there is an order here already, it is a self-initiative thing, why do I need you to manage it for me?

LC: If the Pier becomes similar as the Promenade, or Berth 1 to 3, will you still continue to visit it?

P5: I think I will...this question is a bit...maybe complicated...but if it no longer maintains as it is now, I will need some time to digest emotionally. But if you ask me, I will still come as it is so beautiful, but I will come with a feeling of unfortunate, as it is no longer free as it is now.

LC: What is public space to you? What is your ideal public space?

P5: I think it is...let me tell you something I don't want at public space. I don't want people to watch me, I don't want restrictions, I want it to be real...the meaning of real is that when I use it, I don't feel guilty and I am not afraid, cause there is some strange public space out there. For example, there is some public space located at several floors above a building. When I get there, I am being asked. Why are you coming? I think I need not to answer such question in public space, I don't need to give response to someone. I won't feel guilty that I have used a space of others. Hmm, this is a difficult question. Hmm, actually I prefer a public space without management, surveillance or even just an open space. An open space without any facilities for city branding. Now the Pier is open to everyone...you don't need to add facilities which are claimed to be accessible for all, because I always think that that is a distinguish for something with those accessible facilities. You don't need those to let the space be accessible. If it is open, then it is accessible. What I mean is that if there are those facilities, then there are seats being built...there are different functions being set. For example, when the government would like to build a children playground, there is calculation behind. If you build a slide, there is a calculation for public safety. You have to calculate how many pads should be put on the ground. If there is a ditch there, you can't calculate it. Often in the urban parks, playgrounds cannot be added because of the existence of ditches. I would say even if I am a beggar, I am able to get in the public space. The conclusion is about how I perceive the public space in Hong Kong, which is too much management and restrictions, so if there are not any of those, that is what I would like to have.

LC: If you have to describe the Pier in three words, how would you describe it?

P5: Hmm, open? Diversity...comfortable. I think the special thing about the Pier is that it seems that people secretly go into the space.

LC: Do you know there are any other places similar to the Pier?

P5: If you say about secretly going into public space...the Western Kowloon Harbour Promenade? People just go out of the railings. I don't think I know others. I think the Pier is quite mysterious, and site-specific, it is the backyard of the residents. You can find online on the instructions of going into the Pier.

LC: Can you take a picture to show that you think it represents the Pier?

P5: Let me take in front of the warning sign...or pallets...hmm, let me think...let me take this one, this edge that I have always come to feel the breeze...I think this one! There are four people just putting some pallets here, and just place their bags there, in the middle of the Pier, haha, it is interesting.

LC: Can I ask you on your basic information? What is your age?

P5: 31 to 35.

LC: What is your education level?

P5: Master degree.

LC: Which district do you live in?

P5: Shatin.

LC: What is your occupation?

P5: I would say art administrator and community event organizer.

LC: Thank you for your time.

(6) Participant 6

Date: 28th June, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P6

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: I would like to ask some basic information of the interview. Which age group are you in?

P6: I am in my 40s.

LC: Okay, is it 40-45 or 45-50?

P6: 40-45.

LC: What is your job and your academic background?

P6: District Councillor. I have a master degree.

LC: Are you living in this district?

P6: Yes, I live in Kennedy Town.

LC: Okay. This interview, aiming to know the experience of pier users, would last for around 30 mins. May I know if you go to the Pier often?

P6: When talking about the pier, there are several parts. One part is the new part; one part is the so-called mirror of the sky, which is the extended part; one part is the cargo working area; one part is berth 1-3.

LC: Actually my focus is on the so-called mirror of the sky and the cargo working area.

P6: Let me clarify. First, the whole area is originally a cargo working area. Berth 1-3 were originally for cargo working, for unloading stocks and for transport from/to outlying islands. the whole area was originally a cargo working area. So how did it transform into the current status? It was started after residents in the neighbourhood expressed their concern if they could enter the area at night and we have communicated with the Marine Department. Legally it is not allowed for people to go into the area as it involves insurance problem. If there is accident, there would be no insurance coverage as this is a place for cargo working only. Later the Marine Department adopted the policy which issued warning letter to the trespassers, without strictly asking them to leave. So this policy has taken place for a few years.

LC: How often do you come here?

P6: I seldom come here.

LC: Is it possible for you to show us a photo you took in the Pier?

P6: I did not take photo in the Pier as I usually only go at night.

The Meanings behind its Changing Use: Instagram Pier in Hong Kong Liza H.Y. Chan (Student No.: 6112994)

Utrecht University

LC: Okay. This area is originally only for cargo working. It is in a later stage that people start entering this area.

Do you know when it was?

Master of Science in Human Geography

P6: The whole cargo working area is a reclaimed land. I think the cargo working area started operating in the

1980-90s.

LC: You mentioned that you came to this area before. What do you usually do here?

P6: I mainly chatted with residents who came to this area. Actually I don't go a lot. Sometimes I received

complaints from not only the residents but also the official users of this cargo working area, like the operators of

the berth or the shipowners, as sometimes the trespassers may move or steal their stuff or enter the ship to

play with their dogs.

LC: How often do you come? Once per month?

P6: Around 1-2 times per year.

LC: As far as you know, what are the groups of visitors to the Pier?

P6: Local residents. Usually on Monday to Friday night. As this is a popular place now, there are people from

other areas of Hong Kong coming to the Pier on weekends.

LC: Do you think there are diversified visitors?

P6: In terms of usage, yes. People do different things such as jogging, dog-walking, biking, drinking beer, sitting

and chatting here.

LC: Do you think these activities are important to the users?

P6: As Hong Kong is a small place, people can find a space for them to do things they like in the Pier. The Belcher Bay Park like the one opposite to the Pier is too crowded and small. So residents in the neighbourhood gradually

bay rank like the one opposite to the rief is too crowded and small. 30 residents in the heighbodi hood grad

came to the cargo working area to do the activities. There is a transforming process.

LC: Do you usually come here alone?

P6: Yes

LC: Have you seen anyone you know when you are spending time here?

P6: Yes, like some residents living nearby.

LC: Will you interact with people you don't know?

P6: Seldom. Like if the dog is cute then I talk to its owner.

LC: You stated that there are different groups of users and sometimes you receive complaints. Yet, do you think

the users can peacefully co-exist?

P6: There is no formal management in the Pier, so there can hardly be formal complaints. Usually if there are disputes in the area, police would be asked to intervened.

LC: What crime is that then?

P6: Something like theft and the illegal movement of stuff owned by the users in the cargo working area.

LC: Does something like this happen frequently?

P6: People violating are usually from other area but not the neighbourhood. There are not much of such cases.

LC: What do you think about the complaints? Do you support that the area should be open to public or should continue the status quo?

P6: This has been a heated issue which has been discussed. I support that the area should be open to public with the condition that there should be a place to relocate the cargo working area. There is social impact and may influence people if it is not settled well. In the process of discussing with the cargo users, as some trades are in a declining trend, we are able to use some berth (berth 1-3) for further development for leisure usage. These all need to be discussed.

LC: How do you deal with the disputes between users in the neighbourhood and the people working in this area?

P6: I communicate with the Marine Department and be the communication bridge between the parties. Visitors should not touch or move things owned by the operators.

LC: A lot of residents living in the Western District come to this Pier to do all sorts of things. What do they think about the outside visitors?

P6: As stated, as the residents in the neighbourhood and the outside visitors come at different time, there are so far not many disputes.

LC: Do the majority of people go to the Pier in sunset time?

P6: I think mostly it is the outside visitors who would go at dusk for the sunset. Local residents do not go there to see the sunset every day.

LC: Do you think the activities are diverse? Are they generally being held throughout the Pier or specifically at certain locations?

P6: This place actually. People jog here and walk dogs. But as this is a one-way road, people may just go one-way then go home.

LC: Although you mentioned that there are disputes, do you think the Pier is in order? or is there underlying order?

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P6: As a district councillor, I think there are underlying problems. First, this is an area for cargo working. There are not safety measures and no infrastructures for visitors. For instance, as there are no railings along the sea, there were instances that some dogs falling into the sea or even people falling after drinking too much. So as a District Councillor, I need to make sure the availability of infrastructures if the area is open for public usage. For example, the bamboo in the area is very dangerous especially during typhoon days. The containers may fall down on people. Currently, there is no management so there is no prohibition of people during those typhoon days. There should be regulations made so that accidents would not happen. We need to guarantee the safety.

LC: Why do people go to the Pier?

P6: There is limited space in the district and it has been their habit to come.

LC: What do you feel when you are in the pier and what time do you usually come?

P6: It is quite comfortable here and I usually come at night.

LC: You talked about the importance of infrastructure. Did you try to understand the perspective / feelings of the users on this matter?

P6: If users are using the Pier, they would not think it is dangerous. If they think it is dangerous they would not have come. Yet, there are people who do not come to the Pier as they think it is dangerous here. So the lack of infrastructure in fact has prohibited this group of people from going to the Pier. For the newly established part of the Pier with infrastructure like washrooms and railings, there is greater flow of people.

LC: Are there more people going to the newly established part?

P6: I do not have statistics on the flow of people. But people like going to the new part as there are infrastructures. This gives them different feelings.

LC: Government is developing this place. There is public discussion on the government proposal. Why is it so?

P6: It is very natural to have different views in the society. The users of course feel that it is not necessary to change anything. Yet, people who don't use the Pier due to the lack of infrastructure or with safety concerns may have expectation and different mindset. There must be such dilemma in the society.

LC: How do you think this can be solved?

P6: We need to understand the situation. It is important to allow more people to use the site. Openness should be the policy and everyone should be able to use the area.

LC: Do you agree that the Pier belongs to the public that it is a public space?

P6: No, it is a cargo working area, not a public space. My definition of public space is that it should be allowed by the government for the public. Currently, there is restriction to enter this cargo working area so I don't think it is a public space.

LC: Although the area belongs to the Marine Department, people have high flexibility/freedom to enter. Do you then think the Pier is an underlying/implicit public space?

P6: No, it is simply a space that the public can use due to compromise of different parties. Some people say that roads are public space so they should be able to walk on them and do all sorts of things there like the Walk on Des Voeux Road Central event. I do not agree with this concept. A space only serves the function of itself and if it is not for public space, it is not a public space anyway. In the cargo working area and the Pier, there are all sorts of activities carried out by people like the pier operators, there are restrictions on the activities and the time of public usage. Say like the public cannot enter the Pier in the morning as there is operation ongoing here.

LC: From what you say, so you think a public space should be planned to be a public space?

P6: It should be made to be a convention. Not creating trouble to the others. Say like if the Pier is in use by cargo working, I cannot enter. As long as there is priority over the usage in the Pier, it is not a public space.

LC: What do you think about the government proposal to develop berth 1-3?

P6: When talking about the addition of basic facilities or infrastructure, most people generally support this area as asked. As for the community garden, it is more controversial. Although there are some disputes, some people agree with such concept as it can be used for environmental teaching. The percentage of community garden usage is very high. I think the Pier can be more than only a space and can serve more purposes.

LC: Yet, some people criticized that the planning of the community garden is not open to all.

P6: It is only 20% of the whole area and is proposed to open to all. It is a 24/7 area that there is no restriction on the opening hour and everyone can enter instead of only the people who rent the garden. This is what we hope to do so. All Hong Kong people can register to rent the garden. This is very open.

LC: Can you find a place in Hong Kong which is similar to the Pier?

P6: The Chai Wan Public Cargo Working Area maybe.

LC: Why didn't people just enter there like going to the Western District Public Cargo Working Area?

P6: I am not sure about it as it is in the Eastern District.

LC: Do you think the whole Pier should be publicly owned?

P6: I hope to achieve this in the future. Yet, the usage problem must need to be solved before that. There is a proposal of the Central & Western District Council coordinated with the University of Hong Kong. In long term the area is expected to be totally open but the prerequisite is to find another space for cargo working.

LC: Do you think people have the right to decide the use of the Pier?

P6: I do not opt for unlimited extension of rights. People can of course express their views towards the use of the Pier. Nonetheless, as this main purpose of the Pier is cargo working area, the livelihood of people like the

operators of the berth needs to be taken into account. We cannot be so selfish. It is the government's role to decide the use of the Pier, to deal with the views of different groups in the society. The example is like berth 1-3. By persuading and negotiating with the stakeholders of the cargo working area, the part of berth 1-3 was released and open for the public, which does not affect the livelihood of the real users of the Pier. If people have the right to decide the use of the Pier, it may induce a lot of trouble and may lead to a mess eventually.

LC: Okay, so do you think there is value for the Pier to remain? If no, do you think people would be able to find substitute of the Pier?

P6: You mean for which group of users? Residents or the ones working here?

LC: Both groups of users.

P6: As they have different views, I think this needs to be solved through communication and discussion. One side cannot determine over another side. Berth 1-3 has been developed from such discussion.

LC: Do you enter the Pier successfully every time you come here?

P6: Yes, it is free at night. They would only give you a warning letter if you come during daytime.

LC: Do you think people are free to do anything they want? Is there any control?

P6: I think there must be control but I would say the tolerance here is higher.

LC: If you need to use three words to describe the Pier, how would you describe it?

P6: Wow it is a difficult question.

LC: The three words can be on the use or the future of the Pier.

P6: Umm, I hope that the future of the Pier can be open to all with all the infrastructure and to be safer.

LC: Can you then think of one word to describe the Pier?

P6: Co-existence. But this is a very fragile relationship and different groups of user just tolerate each other and this relationship may be broken if one group go across the bottom line.

LC: Thank you. Here comes the end of the Interview. Last thing - as you stated that you did not take photo in the Pier, can you choose the photo which can represent the Pier the most?

P6: These photos only show the activities of the visitors but not the people working in the cargo working area. I think such a photo should be able to show them.

LC: Thank you for your time.

(7) Participant 7

Date: 30th June, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P7

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: I would like to start with some basic information of participant. What is your age?

P7: 20-25.

LC: What is your occupation?

P7: I work in the back office of a bank.

LC: Your education level?

P7: Bachelor degree.

LC: Which district do you live in?

P7: Kennedy Town, Western District.

LC: This interview lasts for around half an hour and this is to know how the users experience the Pier. Before the interview, please take a picture which you think it represents the Pier the most. So, let's start. Why do you know about the existence of the pier?

P7: I live nearby so I know.

LC: Then when do you know about it?

P7: In one year, when I was in USA studying, I heard people talk about it so i know. But actually when i was younger it wasn't that famous. In these years, many people go and I know it from the photos posted by others on FB.

LC: When is your first time consciously going there?

P7: It's the summer in 2016 when I was back to HK. I walked there and took photos there. In the past, during Mid-autumn festival, I went there too.

LC: Usually what time will you go there?

P7: Early evening.

LC: How long do you spend there usually?

P7: 45 mins.

LC: Do you usually go there with family?

P7: Yes.

LC: Have you met people you know there?

P7: My mum met some other residents there. The frequency is much higher than me haha.

LC: If you meet someone you don't know there, will you interact with them?

P7: I won't, haven't tried before.

LC: Is there any special reason that you usually go to this side?

P7: it's near to my home, stunning and have natural breeze.

LC: How stunning is it?

P7: We can see the light in the opposite side of the sea and it's an open area to walk which is rare in Hong Kong and there is less air pollution.

LC: Will you do those activities in some other places?

P1: If you are talking about walking distance, I only come to this area; for other places, it will be less frequent; However, I won't choose this over others to walk.

LC: Can you get into here every time successfully?

P1: Yes!

LC: When you are here, will you feel the constraint here? Or do you think it is just being free?

P1: Yes it's free as there is some aunties dancing there haha.

LC: Are you satisfied with the usage of the pier?

P1: Yes...but sometimes the aunties are disturbing, but I know it's kind of subjective.

LC: But can you see others dissatisfied about that as well?

P1: Yes, some young couples. However, some uncles are happy to see the performance haha, so it really depends on who's the audience

LC: Do you think generally people peacefully coexist in this space?

P1: Yes as no one will compete for the space here haha.

LC: Any people quarrel there?

P1: No, so far I haven't seen anyone who will be staying at the same area, even when others wanna use the space. There is no one quarrelling here.

LC: Do you think this pier belong to the public?

P1: Yes, as it's free.

LC: Can you see any groups who have been dominating this area?

P7: Nope, just the aunties and the fishermen who have been using the space most frequently; but we just keep our distance and continue our activities separately.

LC: Do you think there is one part of the pier does belong to you when you are using it?

P7: No, I don't have that strong feeling towards it.

LC: Have you heard of the controversy of the redevelopment of pier?

P7: I haven't heard of it before.

LC: Yes, in No 1-3 of the pier, it will be developed into a community garden.

P7: Oh my god...how? It's so small here.

LC: Have you been to the new promenade?

P7: Yes but it's so small and there are so many Mandarin speakers.

LC: If you have to compare that area with Instagram Pier, which one do you prefer?

P7: The pier, as it's wider and the air quality seems to be better.

LC: Do you go walk because the existence of the pier or vice versa?

P7: I guess it's because of the pier as my mum forced me come here with her haha.

LC: Your mum always comes here too?

P7: Yea perhaps she comes here daily.

LC: what activities do you see people do here usually?

P7: Couples' dating, aunties' dancing, fishing, taking photos of wedding and for posting on Instagram, taking videos and dog-walking. Sometimes some grandmas watch TV together here and also some cycling.

LC: Do you think the activities are diverse?

P7: Yes it is, especially when it comes to HK, such a small area yet you can see so many different activities happening at the same time.

LC: Do the activities usually happen at the same area or generally disperse?

P7: People only watch TV at the 2 spots and I have seen someone BBQ there.

LC: Have you seen any activities that are unusual to you here?

P7: The dance of the aunties, though it's actually normal haha; because in the past there was no such thing but when i thought deeply, it actually makes sense, just like people dancing in Mong Kok.

LC: Who do you think are using this pier?

P7: Retired people, high school and university students, the new immigrants (mainland).

LC: Are they usually situated in the particular part of the pier or just disperse?

P7: Everyone is just walking, and people always stop in Pier1-3 For the cargo, it is just a road but not staying there.

LC: How do you see the physical environment of the pier?

P7: Keep it this way, don't add too many things here, or else people might compete for the area.

LC: what's the relation between the physical environment and the social setting?

P7: This is so academic, haha, so-called facilities are actually left by the pier workers but occasionally they are used by the public; people just utilize the things there; For social linkage, those elderly brought their chairs there.

LC: Any parts that you like the most in this area?

P7: The berth 1-3 there, as it's more quiet and cozy.

LC: Do you think there are any rules there? Are people doing their own things there?

P7: It's peaceful, or else there won't have that many middle-aged women go. Sometimes there is some rubbish left but people are generally self-disciplined.

LC: Do you think the area is comfortable and safe?

P7: Yes, it's Hong Kong, haha, in most places I feel safe.

LC: if you are told that the government wants to make some changes here, if after developing it's different from now, will you still come here?

P7: It depends on how it is 'developed'. As you know, the government got nothing to do but they will do some useless things which do not bring positive impact to the society. Sometimes it may attract people from other

The Meanings behind its Changing Use: Instagram Pier in Hong Kong Liza H.Y. Chan (Student No.: 6112994)

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districts, but it will affect those who are from this district, that they no longer have quiet space to hang out. Just like now, with the MTR, so many people come and take photos here; if it can be kept as quiet I will still come.

LC: If there are so many externals come, what do you feel?

P7: They take photos the most at 5-6pm to take the sunset; as they view the pier differently as locals who live in the Western District, they just come here to take photo and put on Instagram; For those who live here, it is a walk after dinner that what they gain is different. If it's at night and people want ro have a quiet place to go, fewer people will come that will affect us.

LC: Do you think there are so many externals here now?

P7: So far I found it ok, of course I can't see if it's locals or are they coming from other districts by their looks. Haha, there are not so many people that I assume they come from Sai Wan.

LC: What does public space mean to you?

P7: I think it means it won't be biased to people from one aspect, that each person can use the space freely and not catering to a particular group and affecting others' space.

LC: Do you think Instagram Pier is the public space in your mind?

P7: Temporarily yes, but I don't know in future will it be too many people to come like those aunties.

LC: If you need to use three words to describe the pier, what will they be?

P7: Simple: there is nothing here, just an area for you to walk; Quiet; Childhood memory: As I always came when I was small, when it was not given the name as 'Instagram Pier'.

LC: Can you provide me with the photo? The one that is most representable to you?

P7: OK.

LC: Why is it so?

P7: It best represents the pier to me cause I can see the cargo boats and stuffs piled together as a whole from this broader angle.

(8) Participant 8

Date: 5th July, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P8

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: When do you usually come and what do you usually do here?

P8: I come here everyday, as I work nearby at the Wholesale Market, I usually come for fishing in the afternoon and sometimes I will have a walk in the area at night...but sometimes when it is too sunny or it's raining, then I don't come...

LC: Do you come here alone?

P8: No, I come with my husband, he is now fishing at the Promenade area.

LC: Have you encountered any people you know here?

P8: Yes, of course! I come here everyday, people are similar, and I know everyone here.

LC: Can you enter the Pier each time you come?

P8: Yes.

LC: Why don't you go to the Promenade area like your husband does?

P8: It is hard to fish there, as there are railings. I usually come here, it's a bit dangerous...but it is more open and easier for me to fish.

LC: Except here, do you go to other places to fish?

P8: I always come here, or nearby, sometimes I go to Sun Yat Sen Park.

LC: What do you think about the activities happening at the Pier?

P8: There are many people taking pictures here...and now it is summer, there are students coming in here and cycle which I find it not that good...it's kind of dangerous, and sometimes they are at your back and you can't really see them...and those people who fly their drones...they are dangerous too.

LC: Do you think the Pier is publicly owned?

P8: I don't think it is? It belongs to the government...but it just allows people to come in.

LC: How about in your perception?

P8: I just think the area should be opened to the public...it's good to be used by the public, and we have more spaces...

LC: What do you think about the Promenade area then?

P8: It's beautiful, it's well-built...as far as I know, everyone likes it.

LC: But you said that's difficult for you to fish ...?

P8: Yes, but I don't think I should be that selfish...it's good for everyone to use it.

LC: If the entire Pier is built in the way how the Promenade is built, do you like it?

P8: That's great! It looks beautiful!

LC: Have you heard about the redevelopment plan?

P8: Yeah, you said that way right? (pointing at former Berth1-3) I heard that some parts will be used for farming, for growing vegetables, I think it is a waste...cause not everyone can use it...the area should be open to everyone.

LC: Okay, last question, can you describe the Pier in one word?

P8: Beautiful! The sunset is beautiful here, you know, many people are taking pictures here...the sunset is so marvellous...sometimes I receive pictures from people and they look stunning!

LC: Have you taken pictures as well then?

P8: Yeah, it is just so beautiful...but I normally just focus in doing my own stuff.

(9) Participant 9

Date: 5th July, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P9

Language of Interview: English

LC: So may I ask you some basic information?

P9: Sure.

LC: What is your age?

P9: 35.

LC: And your occupation?

P9: Photographer.

LC: And your education level?

P9: Master degree.

LC: And where do you live? Do you live nearby?

P9: I live in London.

LC: Oh, you live in London! So you are a tourist here, is it?

P9: I am visiting my cousin who lives here.

LC: Aah, okay! But how do you get to know this place?

P9: Hmm, how do I get to know this place? Instagram I think?

LC: Okay.

P9: I have a map of interesting places to go in Hong Kong.

LC: Is it your first time to be here?

P9: Here yes, with Hong Kong it's my second time.

LC: To this Pier it's your first time...

P9: Yes.

LC: How do you find the Pier?

P9: You mean how do I like it?

LC: Yup...

P9: It's nice! It's nice that you can go freely inside here...

LC: So you come here mainly for taking photographs?

P9: Yeah! I heard that the sunset is beautiful.

LC: How long have you been spending here already?

P9: Maybe one hour?

LC: What do you think are the factors that make you visit here?

P9: Hmm, it's by the seaside, so it's a bit cooler than in the city. There's interesting containers, ships, other stuff...you can get a nice view...

LC: Do you think there are any other places similar to this place? Maybe not in Hong Kong? Maybe in London?

P9: Ehh...bababa...In Tokyo there is the area around the Tsukiji fish market I guess?

LC: But do you know what is the original purpose of this place?

P9: Yeah, loading and unloading cargo...

LC: What do you think about the activities happening here?

P9: It's not so busy...it doesn't seem very busy...

LC: Do you see other people, like doing different kinds of activities?

P9: It seems that people who are working here...but there's also people just walking and taking photos as well...

LC: Do you think there is a diversity of activities?

P9: Yeah!

LC: Do you feel comfortable here? Or do you feel safe here?

P9: Yeah! It seems safe.

LC: Have you also walked to that side, the Promenade? (pointing to the Promenade)

P9: No, not yet...I just walked from there to here, and then I am going there...

LC: What do you think about public space? Do you think here is a public space?

P9: There's signs say that it's not, but since people are walking in here, it seems like it's a public space...it's hard to say.

LC: If you need to use one word to describe this Pier, how would you describe it?

P9: This Pier! One word? Ahh...Interesting? It's not a good word...but interesting! I mean it's...two words, is that okay?

LC: Yes!

P9: Real life! It's not fake...

LC: And why?

P9: Because there is some kind of relativity going on here, as well as people walking around...but for example, if you go to some other areas on the side of the water, it's very artificial, and it's designed for people to go there and here, it's designed for work to happen...so for me it's very interesting.

LC: Does your friend know about this place as well?

P9: Probably yes...

LC: Thank you! Thank you for your time. Bye.

(10) Participant 10

Date: 5th July, 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P10

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: When do you usually come to the Pier?

P10: I come here a couple times every day. I have always come here for already 17 to 18 years I would say...

LC: Where do you live?

P10: Yes, I live so near to here...see, just upstairs there...

LC: So you usually come for walking the dog?

P10: Yes, I have this dog for so long already...it is registered at the Pier; you can say that it is the resident at the Pier already.

LC: So you are one of the tenants of those cargo working companies?

P10: No...but I know all the people here...I have come here since I was very young.

LC: How do you find the activities at the Pier?

P10: If you ask me, I would say all the activities happening at the Pier should not really be happened...you see, all these parts originally are sea, it is just after all the reclamation, it then became a cargo working area. This is meant to be a cargo working area, and people should not enter and do their activities. Some people said now there is more space for activity now, but in the past, we are always like this, we just bring our kids to the Peak if we need space...I think it is valid and reasonable for the Marine Department to ban people going in the Pier...come on, this is a cargo working area...but not people's cycling path...it's just that nowadays there are less and less companies renting the area...so people go into the area unconsciously with the less tightened control...

LC: But you also go into the area for walking the dog...

P10: It's different for me...this dog has always been here, it is born here, and it is registered here...everyone knows it...

LC: Do you think there is an order at the Pier?

P10: I don't think so...I would say some people are even uncivilized...

LC: Uncivilized?

P10: Yes, many people are so undisciplined...this is not a cycling path here...and those students from the University of Hong Kong...are so irresponsible, especially after 7:30pm...they are so noisy, and I have heard that

when people ask them to be quiet...they just replied that they are from the University of Hong Kong...so what? You are a university student and then you can do whatever you like? Non-sense.

LC: Have you been to the newly-opened Promenade?

P10: Actually that part was opened long ago right before that Promenade is open...cause the area was for workers at the Wholesale Market, you didn't need to permit to get in...but then after the emergence of illegal workers, the area was closed...and now it's open again...to me it is not really special.

LC: Do you find it safe when you come here?

P10: It is more dangerous in the morning, and the wind is really strong...

LC: If you need to use a word in describing the Pier, how would you describe it and why?

P10: I don't think I can make the comment of it being beautiful or not beautiful. I think it is important to clarify that here, it is a cargo working area but not an area for leisure.

(11) Participant 11

Date: 5th July 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P11

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: May I ask you some basic information?

P11: Yes.

LC: What is your age?

P11: 30.

LC: What is your occupation?

P11: It is hard to say...haha, externally, I am a company director. In reality, I work as an event organizer and consultant.

LC: Your education level?

P11: Higher diploma!

LC: Are you living in this district?

P11: Yes, yes...just that there is a year that I was living in Japan for working holiday. But at that time, I came here once every three months because of work.

LC: This interview lasts around half an hour, I would like to see how the users experience the Pier. During the interview, I would like you to take a picture to show that it represents the Pier the most.

P11: That's fine.

LC: How do you know about this place and when did you start coming?

P11: I knew here since I was born. But of course, at earlier times, I didn't know I could enter. But when I knew that I could enter, it was after Secondary 7. It was 2007 or 2008. That time I came here occasionally. Sometimes I came here with a few cans of beer with my friends and chatted, or I came here during the Mid-Autumn Festival to admire the moon. At that time, I also didn't do exercises often. And later, I would come here for jogging and then I started to come here more often, maybe once a week.

LC: Have you come here often now then?

P11: Now it is a bit less because of work. I work in Kowloon and it is hard to schedule a time to come. But whenever there is time for me to exercise, I will run here and jog, and then go home and take a shower.

LC: So you come here for exercising most often?

P11: Yes, except some activities I did for community.

LC: What attracts you to come?

P11: I think it is because it is without any management. You can do whatever you like, without any nuisance to others. No one asks you to commit crime here. My friends and I come here for a drink after going somewhere for fun, and it is free to get here. Am I right? And it is not just me using the space. This space is so wide and big that it can let you have your privacy. Of course you should not disturb others, some people were saying that the middle-aged women dancing is too noisy. If they actually turn the volume of the music down, it is okay.

LC: So do you know that there are some kinds of conflicts in between?

P11: Perhaps some, it is normal, as the music volume was loud. But even if it is loud at the Pier, it is not as annoying as in the park, cause here it is spacious. They are dancing, and others are jogging...so the space for conflicts is less due to the spacious environment.

LC: Do you know there are other conflicts?

P11: Yes, the main conflicts are the cargo companies and the users. Some users will climb up those cargo or pallets for photo-taking. They turn those pallets into a mess. After they use those pallets, they don't put them back in the original place. One thing that angers the cargo companies the most is that people just pour water on the ground in order to take those pictures with the "Mirror of the Sky", and they don't make it to original after pouring water. That water can attract mosquitoes to grow. Some people just go inside the office of those cargo companies and steal something. It's like they sit there and then take something with them after sitting. That makes the companies unhappy. The companies hold the view that everyone can use, but it is not okay to have disturbed them.

LC: So do they prefer not letting people to go in?

P11: It is still not that extreme. Maybe there is one or two company, but not all of them. It has been said for some years, to ask people to be self-discipline. But, aah, Hong Kong people, how can they be self-discipline? They claim themselves to be self-discipline in front of foreigners, but to our own people, they are not! Some teaching is still needed...we should all just try.

LC: Do you think the activities are diverse here?

P11: Of course, you can see some elderly walking, elderly, middle-aged, and youngsters, they all jog here. I just bumped into a resident nearby, he said that he was writing his doctoral thesis...he didn't know how to continue with writing, so he came here to get some inspirations. Some people were cycling...there was a group of people cycling and they would have a small speaker to play music. There were people skateboarding. With such environment with no facilities, people just look for what they can do.

LC: Have you seen any group dominating the space?

P11: Of course it's the cargo companies. They have rented here, and the facilities belong to them. They own here, and Marine Department as well. But if you say after business hours, I would say none. There are some people who can weaken the coherence between people, let's say people who skateboard, as they occupy the middle of the Pier for that. Sometimes they can easily bump into kids...the other group is those middle-aged women who dance, they play music loudly and dance for an hour. Sometimes they behave, but sometimes not. But it is rare to have those activities called off, people just rolled their eyes and then left.

LC: Generally, do you think there is an order?

P11: Different users have their opinions. It is rare for them to intervene others. Can you say that it is an order? I think this is, cause no one intervenes from one person to another.

LC: Do you agree that this is a public space?

P11: In theory it's not. In practice, it is a naturally-formed, a public place with unwritten rules. I would say it is a publicly-agreed space. But in theory, it is not a public space.

LC: What is your ideal public space then?

P11: The ideal public space should be recognized by both the government and the people. Are those places with railings public spaces? I don't think so. You cannot do so many things in there (pointing at the Promenade). You can't cycle there, and you can't jog because you may bump into kids. You can fish there because there is one designated area for that; you can't do that out of that area. So it is restricted for you to carry out activities. You can just do what the government recognizes you to do. How do you use a space and your related thoughts are being restricted. If an open space which is not opened...I am not saying you can do whatever you like in an open space...it is not the same...if there are too many restrictions, like those parks under the Leisure & Cultural Department, how is it different from being in a prison then? It is even worse if you are in those parks, you are being enclosed...am I those animals in the zoo? I think everyone knows what are the dos and don'ts in a public space. What can you do not to bother people? You should have your own discipline if you are a citizen or member of the society. A public space is where you can do things you like without restrictions.

LC: So have you heard of what people think about the public space at the Promenade?

P11: They think there is one more park for children, more people go fishing there. Actually there were people fishing already before it is built...for those who always go fishing there will always go fishing, those who don't go will not go...it is not that when there is a new designated place for fishing, then suddenly people would like to go. But if you say if there are more children going to the space, I would say yes, there are families visiting there. But it is not belonged to the Pier...if you say whether that will affect the current users of the Pier, I would say it won't. The users of this Pier will continue using the Pier, maybe sometimes they will go to the toilets at the Promenade. But if you ask whether the Promenade will replace the Pier to the users, I don't think it can. You can do limited activities at the Promenade, the restrictions at the Pier are far less.

LC: How do you think the environment here? Do you feel comfortable and safe?

P11: I think it's safe, even though we are just with 1 metre distance to the sea. Am I going to fall into the sea? Or else there is suddenly a crazy man pushes me in. I don't think there will be...am I right? Those cyclists cycle really fast with more than 20km per hour, will they cycle into the sea? I don't think they will...everyone has self-discipline, I think it is safe here.

LC: Do you think it's the physical setting of the Pier which influences the activities happening here?

P11: You can say so. There is a historical factor, around 1980s, the area is reclaimed. But it is opened not until mid-1980s. Those cargo companies are the residents of the district...they will come after business hours, and during mid-autumn festival, they come here for barbecue. Originally, the Pier is used by them as residents. The Pier is not a closed area, so people from outside go in and walk in the Pier, or to feel the breeze after dinner. There are many people doing this. It is just that there is a gate at the Pier, but it says "public pier", so why can't the public get in? Everyone just uses it.

LC: Do you think the Pier belongs to the public?

P11: This is a public cargo working area...and those cargos are private, this is a cargo working area belongs to the public, so it is public.

LC: What do you think about the redevelopment plan regarding to Berth 1 to 3?

P11: The plan hasn't undergone much consultation. There is no exactly a consultation being initiated by the government. It has just undergone some ridiculous processes. It is so-called being fought by the District Councillors, and being put in the policy address in the government, suddenly it needs to be done. In such process there is some so-called consultation, why it is so-called? Because the District Council is being consulted with the District Councillors and the Promenade working group, with which the District Councillors claim that they are representing the voice of the people. There is some sort of consultation being led by the progovernment District Councillors, but we can't really take it as references. Those questions in the consultation are biased, they only found those residents who support the plan...and the consultation was even only being held a week before the meeting at the District Council, saying that they have collected 200 reports, and they haven't submitted to the Council. Only until the day before the meeting, they have disclosed that. They were not asking the real users at the Pier, they only asked the people who belonged to their elected territory, which locates in the far end of Kennedy Town, absolutely not near to the Pier. So how can you say that you can take that as references? And when you ask any of the residents, is it good for the government to build another park? Of course they will say yes. But they won't tell you that that particular space now is being used by the public already very frequently. They have the mind that the current users enter the Pier illegally, so they don't count those people as users. It is so funny, come on! There are some privately owned spaces with low frequency of use, and people don't even know the existence of those spaces. Are they public spaces then? No! It is contradicting that the government tells you that this public space is not public, but the users have treated it as public space, a publicly-recognized open space. I think Berth 1 to 3 should stay as it is, and something like community gardens, open terraces, and two toilets are built there...and built it as an event area...it doesn't have to be in this way. People jog, cycle, walk their dogs, admiring the sea view, having a drink...they are using the space already! But it is that those public spaces under management which cannot offer us. You can try doing all these activities at the

Promenade, and the Leisure & Cultural Department will say that with a sign stating that you cannot cycle, drink alcohol, walk your dog, and with lots of railings, and tell you that the area is opened only from 9am to 6pm. Is it the public space that we would like to have?

LC: Do you think the people will still use the Pier if it becomes similar as the Promenade?

P11: People will still use it, but it will be different...it becomes the great work done by Carrie Lam (the Chief Executive in the Hong Kong government)...it becomes that people are forced to use the space. It is being changed as what the government wants, and neglects the actual thoughts of the users. Have they really walked into the Pier? I have asked a District Councillor to come and ask what the users want, but he won't listen, because he is someone who would like to get things done as what the government wants.

LC: Do you think people have the right to change the Pier as what they desire?

P11: I don't think we have the right to change at present...we are now using it...do you mean changing the Berth 1 to 3? Or changing the use of the entire Pier?

LC: The use of the entire Pier.

P11: If that is the case, it should not be just us to voice out our opinions, but also the cargo companies and the government...to sit down and have a discussion. If the cargo companies would like to continue their business, and don't want to give up the Pier...the government has to realize that if the Pier changes to something like Berth 1 to 3, or the Promenade, the cargo business in Hong Kong then encounters the problem. There is no product, no food, no furniture being transported to the outlying islands. In every way, the government should not change the use of the Pier, to change its use apart from the use of cargo. For the activities after business hours, if the cargo companies and the government let us use the Pier...and if they complain that people make the space into a mess, then we should sit down and have a discussion. Why? Because many people come for fun, take pictures, we saw different people here when we entered...some people even treated here as their space to earn money, taking pictures for models, or for wedding. There is so much happening here...if you say whether we can change the use of the Pier...we have to discuss really. If the government just does it as what it wants, it does not benefit the whole community and society.

LC: If you need to use three words to describe the Pier, how would you describe it?

P11: So-fucking-brillant! Aren't it? If you have to summarize the whole Pier, I would say in this way.

LC: May I ask a follow-up question? Do you feel the activities are diverse throughout the Pier?

P11: Yes! It is just that this "finger" part (Berth 13-26) usually have less cargo facilities because of the strong waves...it is an open space in the heart of the residents.

LC: Do you have any unforgettable experience related to the Pier?

P11: Personal or at occasion? Personally, I have had fun with my ex-girlfriend, and it is romantic with a violinist playing music at the Pier.

LC: Then do you feel emotionally attached to the Pier?

P11: That is my ex-girlfriend, so it is the past already, haha...but if you talk about unforgettable stuff, have you listened to someone to play violin before at the Pier? I haven't, so it's unforgettable. Of course, later I have organized events for preserving the Pier, those are unforgettable as well...

(12) Participant 12

Date: 7th July 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P12

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: Okay, the upcoming interview lasts around half an hour and I would like to know how the users of the Pier experience the Pier. Did you take any photo in the Pier?

P12: Yes

LC: During the interview, I would like you to take a picture which you think it represents the Pier the most. First, I would like to ask you some basic information. What is your age?

P12: 25

LC: What is your occupation?

P12: Civil servant.

LC: What is your education level?

P12: Tertiary education.

LC: Which district do you live in?

P12: Western District.

LC: How did you get to know the existence of this Pier?

P12: I knew about it around 10 years ago. People always come here on Mid Autumn Festival to celebrate with their friends and family.

LC: So when did you start going to the Pier?

P12: Few years ago.

LC: Why do you come to the Pier?

P12: I come here for jogging, seeing the seaview and walking around. I also brought my overseas friends to the Pier for sightseeing.

LC: Why did you bring tourists to come here?

P12: I think this is quite a unique tourist spot, like a hidden gem in Hong Kong. Hong Kong is always famous of its seaview, but tourists mostly see it from Central or Tsim Sha Tsui. Tourists can look at the seaview in the Pier from a different angle. Plus there are different good restaurants which I can bring them to.

LC: Is there any other place that you can go for the activities that you conduct in the Pier?

P12: I can do the activities on the street or in the park.

LC: So you would do the same thing in other places. Where do u prefer?

P12: I prefer the pier. The park is too narrow and crowded and it does not feel very good to jog there as there are always people blocking your way. The street is similar too.

LC: Which part of the pier would you go to? Can you please show me on this map?

P12: I actually go to every part of the Pier. I just jog around.

LC: So which part do you like most?

P12: (point to the map at Berth 13-26)

LC: How long do you stay here? And when do you usually come? What is your frequency?

P12: I usually spend around an hour here and come after 6pm. My frequency depends much on the weather and I usually come more in the winter.

LC: How do you think about the environment of the Pier with respect to its original purpose as a cargo working area?

P12: I think the environment is quite good. Quite special with all those cargo things.

LC: Do you think it is dangerous here? Is it comfortable?

P12: It is comfortable with the sea. But I think it is a bit dirty as it is a cargo working area. Sometimes I see rats here.

LC: Oh you saw rats? How did you deal with it?

P12: I just ran away, haha.

LC: Do you think it is safe in the Pier?

P12: I think it is generally safe. But it is not very safe to go after midnight as it is a bit dark.

LC: Based on your experience, can you enter the Pier freely?

P12: Yes

LC: Are you free to do whatever you like? Is there any restriction to your activities?

P12: Theoretically there may be people stopping you from like entering the Pier. Yet, I haven't experienced these before.

LC: What do people do here?

P12: Dog walking, watching TV, dancing, taking photos, filming videos.

LC: Do you think the activities are diverse?

P12: Yes, and people bike and play music here too

LC: Oh do you mean the guy playing bagpipes?

P12: Yes, that Scotland instrument!

LC: Among the activities you list, which one is the most unexpected?

P12: The guy who plays bagpipes in the Pier.

LC: What are the groups of people who visit the Pier?

P12: Old people, people who want to do exeP12ise or want to take photos.

LC: Do you think any of these groups dominate the Pier?

P12: No, the area is quite big. I don't feel that.

LC: Are people peacefully co-existing then?

P12: Yes, people exercise self-restraints here.

LC: Do you think the Pier belongs to the public?

P12: What is your definition? Is it about ownership or usage?

LC: Ownership in your definition. It means that you feel like you own the pier or part of it.

P12: No, I think it is a place for people to do things. It should belong to the Marine Department.

LC: Do you think people have rights to think of ways to make the Pier a better place?

P12: As the Pier is owned by the government, I think I have such rights.

LC: Do you think the Pier provides you with opportunities to create or imagine your own space?

P12: Yes, as there are not many people in the Pier especially on weekdays. You can basically do whatever you like in the Pier.

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LC: You mentioned that you jog and walk around in the Pier. Do you do these activities because of the Pier or the

other way round?

P12: I think the existence of the Pier motivates me to do those activities. But in another sense I come here

because I want to do those activities like jogging too. It is like a complement.

LC: So far did you have any unforgettable experience?

P12: Yes, like I saw domestic helper pretending to walk dog, and people watching TV here. It is quite

unimaginable. People are doing social networking here I think, like a group of old people watch TV together in

the Pier.

LC: What do you mean by 'pretending'?

P12: A domestic helper just sat in the Pier and let the dog stand there for like 20 minutes, then just went home

with the dog. She pretended to walk the dog.

LC: You mentioned about social networking. Do you usually go to the Pier alone?

P12: Yes.

LC: Have you ever seen people you know?

P12: Yes, I saw the father of a friend.

LC: Do you interact with the people you do not know?

P12: No

LC: Did you see people interact with each other?

P12: Yes.

LC: Is the Pier important to you? Why?

P12: Yes it is, I can do all sorts of things here. Hong Kong is too small.

LC: Do you think there is order here in the Pier?

P12: Yes I think there is implicit order.

LC: Any examples?

P12: There is no disturbance from other people. People are acting civilly.

LC: Do you think there is relationship between the physical environment and social setting in the Pier? In other

words, does the physical setting of this place encourage social interaction?

P12: Yes, the setting of the pier attracts those activities. Like people take photos of the cargo working area and the bamboo, it is all around the physical setting.

LC: Do you think this is a public space?

P12: Yes

LC: Why is it so? What is your definition of a public space?

P12: I think it means all people can use a space.

LC: Have you heard of the government's plan to develop the Pier? What do you think about the community garden?

P12: Yes I heard of the proposal. I think the government has built some sort of playground here already. And I know that the Pier would eventually connect to the Promenade in Sheung Wan and Central. For the community garden, I think the idea is quite stupid as this is so close to the sea and it is very windy here. The crops might be blown away very easily. Yet, I think the playground is somehow needed in this District as there is not much in the neighbourhood after the demolishment of the Hill Road Park.

LC: Have you been to the new part of the Pier?

P12: I haven't been there yet.

LC: If the Pier is developed in accordance with the plan, which means that the setting may not be the same anymore, do you think people will still go to the Pier?

P12: I think it depends on the actual government plan. If the Pier is transformed to a way that it no longer welcomes people with too many unwelcoming infrastructure or facilities, then people may not go. But if those unwelcoming infrastructure can be avoided, i.e., they do not occupy too much of the Pier, people who dislike such things can avoid that area and use other parts of the Pier.

LC: Can you please use three words to describe the Pier?

P12: Public; boundless; seaside

LC: So do you think seaside is an important element?

P12: Yes.

LC: What do you mean by boundless?

P12: There are no railings along the sea and you feel the proximity to the sea. Oh and people also fish here.

LC: Do you think it is dangerous without those railings?

P12: It depends on the age of the users. For children it may be dangerous. For me it isn't.

LC: Ok, here comes the end of the interview. Can you please show me a photo that you think that can best represent the Pier?

P12: Ok, here it is.

(13) Participant 13

Date: 8th July 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P13

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: This interview lasts for around half an hour and I would like to know how the users experience the Pier. During the interview, I would like you to provide a picture that you took which represents the Pier the most. First, how do you know about the Pier?

P13: I have heard of it from friends. My friends always go there for jogging.

LC: When did you first know and when do you start visiting?

P13: I have lived here for so long but it is only recently that I heard of the place. It is originally a place for cargo use, and it is only the recent three or four years that I first heard of it. I think a few years ago, we went there during Mid-Autumn Festival, we went there for playing lanterns and candles.

LC: You said that you only knew it recently?

P13: It is only recently that it becomes popular.

LC: So you have known it recently then you go there during Mid-Autumn Festival?

P13: I have been there during the Festival, but as it is at night, the environment is different from daytime.

LC: What do you usually do there?

P13: Jogging.

LC: How long will you usually stay at the Pier? What is the usual route that you normally take?

P13: I usually go there through the Western District Wholesale Market. I walk from Water Street, to the wholesale market.

LC: Do you think you can do your activity in other places instead of the Pier?

P13: Yes, but the Pier has a better view. I will go to other places to jog too...

LC: What do you think are the differences when you jog somewhere else?

P13: I think it's different as I go to various places in different time. During sunset I usually visit the Pier, but in the morning I go to other places.

LC: Why don't you go in the morning?

P13: Cause it is a bit too sunny, and during Saturday, there are still some cars...it is better on Sunday though.

LC: Could you get access to the Pier every time you go there?

P13: Yeah...I usually go there on Saturday, but not on weekdays...on Saturday morning there are still some cargo working, but not anymore in the afternoon.

LC: As you know the original purpose of the Pier, do you think you can do your activity freely there? Is there any form of control?

P13: I have thought that I may affect the work of the cargo workers before...normally I will wait till they have finished working and then I go inside.

LC: Are you satisfied with its use now?

P13: If it is the Pier, then there are few or even no facilities, and the part with the Promenade has toilets and there are facilities for the public to play with.

LC: Will you jog to the Promenade part?

P13: Yes, but it is a bit inconvenient, because it is not connected to the rest of the Promenade. I need to run, and then u-turn and leave in the middle of the Pier.

LC: Do you like jogging at the Pier or the Promenade more?

P13: It depends on the time, it is more comfortable to jog during sunset at the Pier.

LC: What do you think about the physical setting of the Pier?

P13: I know that there is the development of community gardens on the other side? Maybe after it is developed, then the Pier is optimized.

LC: What do you think about the plan?

P13: It is good for the environment.

LC: Do you feel comfortable and safe at the Pier?

P13: That area with cargo and the workers is not that safe...there are many bamboo sticks for construction and cranes. The Promenade part is safer and the part near Kennedy Town is not that safe.

LC: So when you are jogging, you do feel unsafe?

P13: Yeah, so I only enter after business hours.

LC: What if the Pier becomes similar to the Promenade? How do you feel about it?

P13: I think the purposes of the two parts are different. The Pier is for those cargos to work.

LC: Do you normally go alone or with others to the Pier?

P13: I usually go alone or sometimes go with my family.

LC: Have you ever encountered someone you know at the Pier?

P13: Yes, I have bumped into my friends who jog too.

LC: Have you interacted with people you don't know then?

P13: I have seen my classmates from primary school there...they are taking pictures and admiring the sunset...maybe it is a good place to see people you don't normally meet anymore...but it is rare for me to interact with people I don't know. If we have common interests, then we interact...for example if we are all jogging, then we greet each other.

LC: Do you think people only jog at specific locations at the Pier?

P13: I think they are spread out at the Pier. I think the Pier is better with more shades.

LC: Do you think jogging at the Pier is important to you?

P13: Yes, it is important but it can be replaced. If I don't go to the Pier, then I can go somewhere else.

LC: Do you think the users are spread out or at specific locations of the Pier?

P13: Mostly there are located at Berth 13 to 26...but for the Berth 1 to 12, there are fewer people.

LC: Do you think the Pier is a public space?

P13: A part of the Pier is common area, and there is a part for their working. It's like the university...

LC: Is the Pier your ideal public space?

P13: Yeah...

LC: Can you find any place that is similar to the Pier in Hong Kong?

P13: I think it is mixed use...

LC: Do you think there is an order?

P13: Yeah, there is an order...every part has its function.

LC: Do you think the Pier is publicly owned? Is it belonged to the users?

P13: I think it is half-half. A part is for working, and a part is for leisure.

LC: Do you think there is a particular group of users who dominate the Pier?

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Utrecht University

P13: Yes. Those people dominate the Pier for taking pictures after the work of the cargo workers.

LC: Do you think you have the right to change the Pier to what you desire?

P13: What I would like to fight for is to separate the working and leisure use of the Pier. If it is working, then people should not go in. If it is leisure, it should be separated from the working and some facilities should be added.

LC: Do you think you go to the Pier because of the activities that you do or the other way round, you would like to go to the Pier, so you have such activities?

P13: It is because of the Pier, so I do those activities.

LC: Have you seen something you did not expect at the Pier?

P13: Yeah, those people who are flying drones...they are dangerous. And this is not a place for walking dogs...there are parks for dogs.

LC: If the Pier becomes similar as the Promenade, will you still use it?

P13: Yeah I will, and it is good to be transformed to a part of the Promenade, it is better for leisure than those cargos working.

LC: If you need to use three words in describing the Pier, how would you describe it?

P13: It's funny, cause one part is for working and another is for leisure so it is special. And the second word, entertainment! And third, beautiful? Total enjoyment!

LC: Please show me a picture of your choice which represents the Pier the most.

P13: This one...the Mirror of the Sky!

LC: Why?

P13: It is a popular spot, and many people come for it.

LC: Actually do you like that many people start visiting the Pier?

P13: That is no problem to me, it is a shared space.

(14) Participant 14

Date: 8th July 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P14

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: This interview lasts for around half an hour and I would like to know how the users experience the Pier. During the interview, I would like you to provide a picture that you took which you think it represents the Pier the most.

P14: Sure!

LC: First, how do you know about the Pier?

P14: My Dad brings me there. I know it also because it is being called as Instagram Pier. My friends said that it is beautiful to take pictures.

LC: What do you usually do there?

P14: I usually look at the dogs walked by the people.

LC: How long will you usually stay at the Pier?

P14: Around half an hour.

LC: What is the usual route that you normally take?

P14: I walk here back and forth, from the new Promenade to the Kennedy Town.

LC: Why?

P14: I would like to have a walk and admire the view, the sunset, looking at people taking pictures and the dogs.

LC: What attracts you to the Pier?

P14: I come here to do nothing.

LC: Do you think you can do your activity in other places instead of the Pier?

P14: Yes! But the view of anywhere is different. I would like to admire the view at the Pier, and there is no cargo working area being opened other than this.

LC: Could you get access to the Pier every time you go there? And what is the original purpose of the place?

P14: Yes...it is a Pier with cargo. Isn't it?

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LC: As you know the original purpose of the Pier, do you think you can do your activity freely there? Is there any

form of control?

P14: I don't think there is...I haven't seen a security guard. I can go in and out freely.

LC: Are you satisfied with its use now?

P14: I think there are more and more people taking pictures, and they block my way in walking. They take

pictures with those containers...I don't understand...sometimes they put a tripod in the middle of the Pier and

block the way. This affects my speed in walking.

LC: Do you think the activities are diverse?

P14: Taking pictures, looking at the sunset, walking dogs, jogging...I don't think there are more.

LC: Who are the users?

P14: People who were born after 1980s and 1990s? They are always there taking pictures. And there are people

skateboarding.

LC: How do you find the physical setting of the Pier?

P14: I like it that I can look at the sea, and as cargo workers are working there, sometimes it may not be pleasant

with its cleanliness.

LC: What do you think about the difference of the Promenade and the Pier?

P14: It is safer at the Promenade, with railings by the sea side...people won't fall easily to the sea. And there are

no cargos there, and no bamboo sticks...but for the Pier, it is important for those companies to earn money, it is

better to keep it.

LC: But do you feel dangerous without the railings at the Pier?

P14: Yeah, I think so...if the kids just fall accidentally...I think it is slightly better at the Promenade...when it

comes to safety.

LC: What if the Pier becomes similar to the Promenade?

P14: The two parts are now different...the Pier is for working, but now people use it for taking pictures.

LC: Do you go alone or with friends or family to the Pier?

P14: I visit the Pier with my mom.

LC: Do you go with your friends?

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P14: Not really. I will recommend the Pier to them...but it is so popular that they may know already with all those containers.

LC: Have you ever encountered someone you know at the Pier?

P14: No...

LC: Have you interacted with people you don't know then?

P14: Yes...those who asked me to help them taking pictures...does that count?

LC: For the activities happening at the Pier, do you think they are spread out throughout the Pier or happen at specific locations?

P14: If there is containers, then there are people.

LC: Do you think the activities that you have done at the Pier are important to you?

P14: Yes, it is important to breathe in fresh air.

LC: Do you think the users are spread out or at specific locations of the Pier?

P14: People just go to places with containers. The part near Kennedy Town has few people.

LC: Do you think people peacefully co-exist at the Pier?

P14: I haven't seen any conflicts...

LC: But you dislike people taking pictures right?

P14: Haha you can say so, but I don't take pictures myself...because I am jealous that people can take pictures with their beloved ones...haha, and it is that sometimes they block my way.

LC: Do you think the Pier is a public space?

P14: Is it a common area? Or is it owned by those companies? No...it is managed by the Marine Department but it doesn't have any form of control...I think it is a common area, because people can go in and out.

LC: Is the Pier your ideal public space?

P14: Any place with the use of different people can be regarded as ideal public space, as it is public, and it is a space.

LC: Can you find any place that is similar to the Pier in Hong Kong?

P14: No...

LC: Which part of the Pier do you like the most?

P14: I think the parts with boats...it is the characteristic of the Pier. It looks old school.

LC: Do you think there is an order at the Pier?

P14: How do you define order? For people or the Pier? I think there is an order.

LC: Do you think the Pier is publicly owned? Is it belonged to the users?

P14: Yeah it is, it is belonged to the public.

LC: Do you think you have the right to change the Pier to what you desire?

P14: I don't think I have the right, it is what the Marine Department desires...it is up to the government. I can only seek for the help of District Councillors to fight for what I want...for example, to be safer at the Pier.

LC: If there is no such Pier, will you still do the activities you are doing?

P14: Yeah I will...I can go to the cruise terminal in Kowloon to look at the sea.

LC: If the Pier becomes similar as the Promenade, will you still use it?

P14: Half-half. It is important for the existence of the cargo working, it gives working opportunities. If it is changed, then it is no good to the workers. And the Instagram users will think as there is no container anymore, why should I come? It has its uniqueness anyway.

LC: If you need to use three words in describing the Pier, how would you describe it?

P14: Oh-my-god! Why do people take pictures with those containers? And why is it so stunning to see the orange sea with the sunset? Why is there still such great space in Hong Kong? So it's oh-my-god! Haha!

LC: Please show me a picture of your choice which represents the Pier the most.

P14: This one with containers, because people take pictures with them, and the containers are the tools for earning money for the workers.

(15) Participant 15

Date: 8th July 2018

Interviewer: Liza Chan (LC)

Participant: P15

Language of Interview: Cantonese

LC: This interview lasts for around half an hour and I would like to know how the users experience the Pier. During the interview, I would like you to provide a picture that you took which represents the Pier the most. First, how do you know about the Pier?

P15: My husband brings me there...

LC: What do you usually do there?

P15: Taking pictures, admiring the sunset and it is beautiful!

LC: How long will you usually stay at the Pier?

P15: Half an hour.

LC: What attracts you to the Pier?

P15: It's stunning! The sunset! It is so nice with the sunset.

LC: Do you think you can do your activity in other places instead of the Pier?

P15: Yes, but I don't think I can have such nice view somewhere else. And it is near my home! It is a free entertainment. And the sea in other places is farther.

LC: Could you get access to the Pier every time you go there? And what is the original purpose of the place?

P15: I think so! It is a Pier for loading and unloading goods.

LC: As you know the original purpose of the Pier, do you think you can do your activity freely there? Is there any form of control?

P15: Yeah...and I haven't seen a single security guard, so I assume there is no control.

LC: Are you satisfied with its use now?

P15: Yeah, people walk their dogs...

LC: Do you think the activities are diverse?

P15: Yeah, quite...people admiring the sunset and sea, chatting together and talking about their past, those are quite nice.

LC: How do you find the Promenade?

P15: There are nice toilets.

LC: Have you heard of the redevelopment plan? How do you think of it?

P15: Yeah, I think the Pier should be preserved and not to be changed, it has its uniqueness and shows that Hong Kong is a port for importing and exporting goods, the Pier should be kept.

LC: How do you find the physical setting of the Pier?

P15: I think it is okay. I accept such environment as it is quite hygienic.

LC: Do you feel comfortable and safe at the Pier?

P15: Yeah, really comfortable and safe...I haven't heard of any robbery...I think the Promenade part is good with those toilets, but the facilities are for elderly only, but not for us who are younger, haha.

LC: How do you find the Promenade part?

P15: It is fine with the two toilets, but the part is too small, it is better to have it connected with other parts of the Promenade.

LC: Which part do you like better then?

P15: It's different. The Promenade is new and looks better, the Pier is old but with its uniqueness. The view is also better at the Pier. So I have said that the new one should not replace the old one.

LC: What if the Pier becomes similar as the Promenade?

P15: I don't like that, I want varieties.

LC: Do you go alone or with friends or family to the Pier?

P15: I go with my family. I think this is a good gathering for families.

LC: Have you ever encountered someone you know at the Pier?

P15: No.

LC: Have you interacted with people you don't know then?

P15: It's rare for me.

LC: For the activities happening at the Pier, do you think they are spread out throughout the Pier or happen at specific locations?

Utrecht University

P15: They are all over the Pier. I think it is better with more shades at the Pier, cause my parents have mentioned that it is too sunny to go out, and there is nothing...so they don't have interests in going.

LC: Do you think the activities that you have done at the Pier are important to you?

P15: Yes! It is a family gathering. And we don't need to just look at the phone screens. We can look further.

LC: Do you think the users are spread out or at specific locations of the Pier?

P15: They will just go to places with better view, and stay there...and they gather near to the sunset. Berth 1-12 has fewer people. People don't go there if they are not jogging.

LC: Do you think people peacefully co-exist at the Pier?

P15: Yeah, I haven't seen any conflicts.

LC: Do you think the Pier is a public space?

P15: Yeah, absolutely. It is not private, it is public. People can go in and out freely, regardless of their age, nationalities, gender.

LC: Is the Pier your ideal public space?

P15: As I usually go at weekends, so I don't know how it is like with all the cargo working.

LC: Can you find any place that is similar to the Pier in Hong Kong?

P15: If you see the presence of cargo...I don't think so.

LC: Which part of the Pier do you like the most?

P15: The part that you can view the sunset? And I like the Promenade part more...

LC: Do you think there is order?

P15: There is no order but it is that people are self-discipline. The users are self-discipline. I haven't heard of any disputes. Do you mean the users or the cargo?

LC: I mean the Pier in general.

P15: I think so then...a part for working and a part for leisure.

LC: Do you think the Pier is publicly owned? Is it belonged to the users?

P15: Yeah...

LC: Do you think there is a particular group of users who dominate the Pier?

P15: Those who take pictures and walk their dogs...

LC: Do you think you have the right to change the Pier to what you desire?

P15: I am satisfied with the current use, I don't want changes.

LC: So you would like to defend for the use now?

P15: Yeah.

LC: But you said you would like to have more shade?

P15: Yeah, maybe add some trees; it is good for the environment.

LC: Do you think you go to the Pier because of the activities that you do or the other way round, you would like to go to the Pier, so you have such activities?

P15: I think it is both...

LC: If there is no such Pier, will you still do those activities?

P15: Maybe less? Because the Pier is near to me, it is a free entertainment and it is attractive.

LC: Have you seen something you did not expect at the Pier?

P15: No...there are so many people taking wedding pictures though...why taking pictures with the containers? It is strange to me. Maybe it is related to their career? Haha!

LC: If the Pier becomes similar as the Promenade, will you still use it?

P15: Yes! It is better, and there are no cargos working, it can attract more people and even tourists.

LC: But you said that you would like to preserve the Pier?

P15: What I meant is that if the Pier can be served as an extension of the Promenade, from here to Admiralty...but if the Pier no longer exists, then I don't prefer that. And I don't want it to be changed to how the Promenade like, its uniqueness no longer exists then.

LC: If you need to use three words in describing the Pier, how would you describe it?

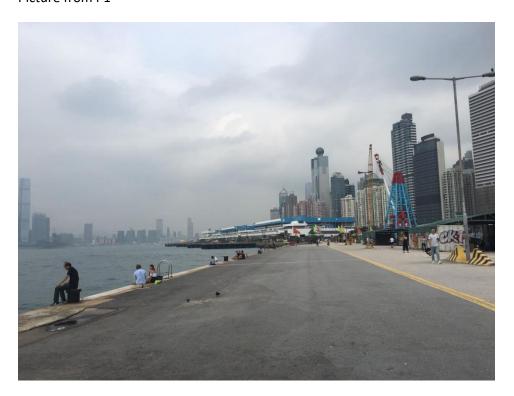
P15: Cheap, stunning and great! It's cheap because you don't need to pay a penny, it's stunning because of the view, it's great in my view.

LC: Please show me a picture of your choice which represents the Pier the most.

P15: This one, with boats and the sunset, because it gives you a sense of freedom and without restrictions. And there is a sea view.

VIII. Pictures from Participants

(Note: some participants are not able to be in contact with after the interview or are reluctant for providing the pictures.)



Picture from P3





Pictures from P5

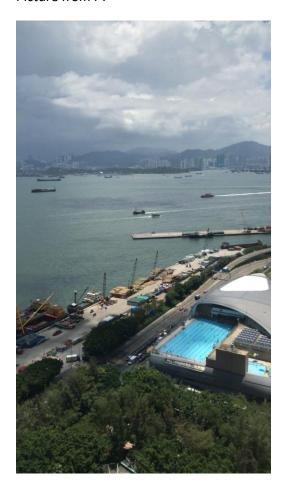


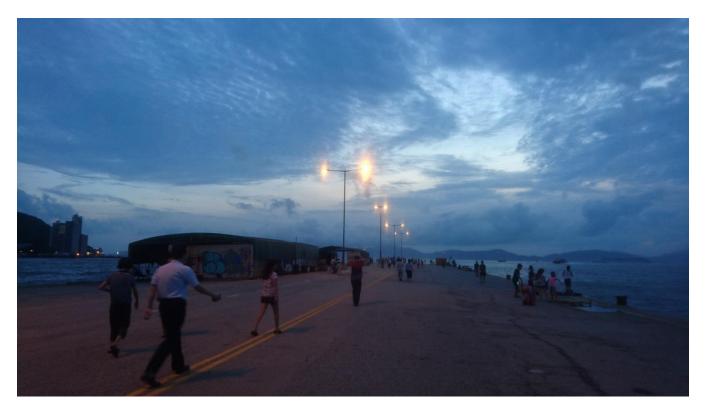


Picture from P6 (Source: Internet)

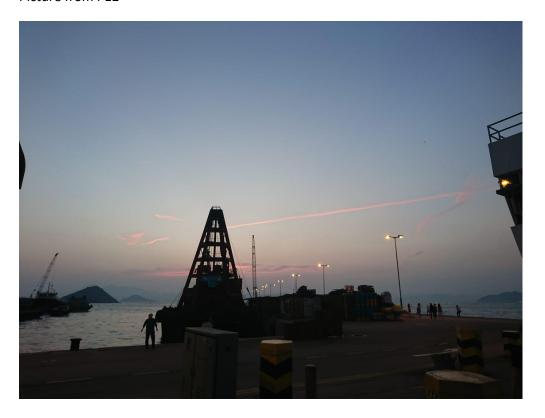


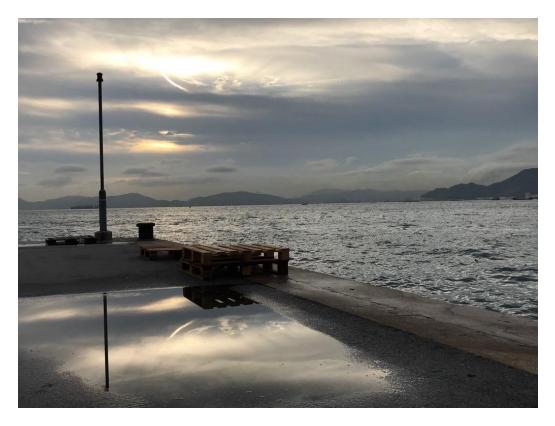
Picture from P7





Picture from P12





Picture from P14 (Source: Internet)

