**Oral History Walks:**

**Mapping the Intangible Landscape Attributes through a Multi-sensory Narrative**

Landscape image and function, which is relative to human’s perception and actions towards the landscape, is critical in phenomena mapping. It may be interpreted as intangible values that may contribute to the modification of the landscape quality. A hypothesis related to its image and function relates it to the possibility that different types of actors connect to the landscape in different measures and stories.

Being able to understand the intangible values that define the landscape character may consider the present experiences and observations of the researcher not just as the interpreter of data, but also as a mobile instrument who becomes part of the landscape and whose knowledge of the place becomes prompts in cataloguing the intangible and tangible values of the landscape. It is a usual approach in similar disciplines like geography and anthropology and is described synonymously to ethnographic research (Pierce and Lawhon, 2015) where “long-term observational participation” include walking in the study design.

Two mobile methods for discovering the people-landscape relations is considered for this project: (1) The Dérive from the realm of Situationists and Psychogeography (2) Walking Methods of Landscape Research. The last possibility that the researcher would like to explore is to apply the mobile method in the interface of Oral History, Public History, and Local history mapping through an Oral History Walks, where the discovery of the stories can be made in a stroll of identified sites in Cavite.

**The Derive as a Mobile Method**

The Dérive has been entirely synonymous with the act of walking as the realm of psychogeography (Coverley, 2018) has seen its subversive analogy to the fast-paced movement in the city. This approach of discovering the character of the urban ground is a call to understand the overlooked character of the place through the opposing notion that walking, as an act, can reveal the “true nature that lies beneath the flux of the everyday (sic)” (Coverley, 2018). Knabb (2006) in his translation of the “Theory of the Derive”, published during 1950’s in the *Internationale Situationniste* as put forward in writing by Guy Debord, also supports this by saying that the technique can prove to be useful in exploring the psychogeographical articulations of the city through several aspects that are unexplored when one is swiftly moving in a place. Coverley (2018) supports this by stating that the action can
also resonate the “sense of place” or the “psychic connectivity of landscapes both urban and rural”, and as such can be looked like a tool to experience the city in its different form.

The application of the dérive as a method is different from the usual journey or stroll associated with understanding a place. The methodology is designed to be a drift (Knabb, 2006), which is structured from the notion that the person or persons engaged in the dérive drops all habits and activities within the day to explore the variations happening in the city. The possibilities of landscape perceptibility and landscape affordances may be different and similar in constant psychogeographical contours and currents. It looks at the possible behaviours and emotions found in every situation in the city that is noted while one “drifts” or does an “aimless stroll” around the city. It is unplanned and is designed to revolve upon the notion of “chances” and that the result of the derive is never considered to be always similar nor different. A good consideration in applying the dérive (Knabb, 2006) is understanding the geographical elements, and the ecological challenged brought by site conditions like rain; as well as the aspects of human lives that can lead to cessations of the drift into the shorter period as expected. To be able to structure it can be a challenge especially since it is designed to be unbounded, but recent discoveries did bound the method through certain criteria. The most recent one applied the derive in smart technology, (The Dérive App, n.d.), headed by Eduardo Cachucho, who has used the unplanned exploration of urban space as bounded by conditions set within the digital application and through the application of certain site conditions. An example is the structure of a game, where one does a stroll of the city following what they call as “urban tasks” that direct people in a semi-controlled stroll of any urban space as semi-directed with search protocols like – finding architecture, urban, and social points of interests to name some of the possible spaces within a place. Although it deviates from the notion of drifting, the app has applied a possible movement towards discovering things that are not part of the usual routine when exploring the city and has made the person involved in the derive to understand more aspects of the city than they usually had.

The possible application of the Dérive in Cavite looks at the possible exploration of a selected historical town centre and new town centre. To be able to explore the notions of space by Cavite’s inhabitants, the person to be chosen in the derive must be living within the region and must be able to engage in the walk in one (1) hour per site. The challenge is to grasp the idea of space based on the stroll and to record items in the landscape that they find memorable and make them remember the space during the stroll. The structure of the method will be further developed before it is applied in the next few months.
The Walking Methods of Landscape Research

Further discussing the aspect of the walk as a useful tool in discovering the image and function of the peri-urban landscape grounds on the argument of Macpherson (2016) and her analysis of the moving bodies as a tool in landscape research. In her analysis, the body is considered as one of the variables needed to engage in a walk, and that the moving body is highly dependent on different aspects of the walk as it is highly “affective” and can be altered by biological, social, as well as ecological systems.

Aspects of the walk include, for instance, “route, distance, and terrain” (Macpherson, 2016) and as such affect the experience resulting to different durations of the walk as well as different experiences and feelings along the path of the itinerary.

Walking can also be looked at as the research object itself (Pierce and Lawhon, 2015). The walk can be the variable that can add what Pierce and Lawhon (2015) consider as the “geographical-experiential” prompt in a vessel being studied. As one engages in a walk, the quality of experience changes and can only be explained by the walker in the possible context of landscape affordances.

A gap in the walking method looks at how the qualitative data may be reported adequately without putting too much bias. Cataloguing efficiently to prove the empirical approach still poses some issues of validity. As a counterargument, the tool is subjected to chances of invalidity as the structure of the walking method is argued not to undergo standardization. The data gathered is then in a biased setting leading to the generalisation that the experience is highly walker-dependent.

Applying Brown and Raymond’s tool (2007) in linking the concept of place on what they consider as the biophysical landscape, the walking methods may consider restructuring by asking respondents who engage in the walking methods to place coded landscape values on areas of place attachment of the study region. They controlled the number of “special places” into six, and perhaps this approach to limiting the essential places may also be applied when developing this methodology. These areas may also be considered to include a query on what makes these places memorable, redeveloping the tool to include qualitative descriptors.

Another possible structure suggested by Pierce and Lawhon (2015) include a series of pointers to be added to the walking method, namely to limit the walking experience into
spatial and temporal boundaries as well as perceptual familiarity that engages the walking individual in a controlled setting. In that way, a more structured walking experience is noted in sites to be studied.

Walking as applied in creating site experiential diaries to extract the peri-urban cultural phenomena of settlements will be developed as a tool for this research. The Study design will be developed in the coming months.

**Audiowalk Approach in Oral History**

A good discussion brought by Bradley (2012) is the adaptation of Oral History through the application of new technologies. One example in Bradley’s (2012) discussion is the use of performance as a central theme of the Oral History audiowalk where the individual immediately becomes engaged in the narrative through the landscape and that the landscape becomes not just a background, but is a multi-sensory narrative in itself. A useful application of the audiowalk is the creation of possible audio material from the dialogues of the community and embed it in spaces to be able to bring out stories from the people engaged in the audiowalks.

What one should consider in Oral History, as a method in historical research, is that it is structured in a three-way conversation ((SGSAH/SS Spring Into Methods Programme, 2018) and is intersubjective in the three dimensions. Being able to remove the bias that can lead an interviewee towards a single direction of a story is strongly encouraged, yet continuous improvement of the Oral history process to adapt to present technologies is also looked upon as more historians seek the application of more recent smart technologies (Bradley, 2012).

**Oral History Walk Procedure**

This part in phenomena mapping considered the consolidation of evidences gathered from the narratives of the selected walkers to be able to gather landscape attributes attached to the sample site. In this case, the landscape character unit considered is located in Tagaytay-Nasugbu road, which is critical as it contains both natural and cultural properties that are assumed to be representative of the Cavite Landscape.

The procedure adapted the walking / mobile method and oral history structure for conducting interview to be able to gather the narratives from participants. The goal is to gather stories that shall show the correlation of man to his landscape, removing its dichotomous character,
leading to the possibility of an indirect and direct relationship to the physical landscape attributes.

The next part included the searching of the actors to be interviewed. Categorisation of walkers were done using the categorisation of the industry sector. Considered as one of the drivers of change in Cavite is its changing industry as more areas are converted to accommodate the new user type. What is essential in this considered approach is that the study may create differences in the responses from the different actors chosen as the involvement in the different types of environment may be caused by their exposure to the different industry types.

Industry actors are divided into 16 types, and a sample from each category is taken to stratify the text that shall be transcribed from each story. The controlled variable shall be the landscape, and the route to be taken by the 16 actors. The time and dates to do the walks are considered irrelevant, as the stories will be highly dependent on the walkers interpretation of the landscape to be walked at.

To be able to identify the site, the researcher did an initial traverse of the route to be undertaken to do an initial inventory of visual components present in the proposed route. The inventory is essential in analysing the sensitivity of the walker in both natural and cultural components present. Safety and security is also considered, given that the proposed walk will happen between 9am - 4pm, during the times of the day that is well lit and when physical attributes will be highly visible.

Each 3-minute story will be transcribed at a software, Stories Matter, where proper procedure for Oral History documentation applies to each transcribed narrative. Each story shall be put in the "Analyse That" Software where principal component analysis will be done to each text. This procedure considers this statistical approach to be able to extract landscape factors and categorise factors from the transcribed text that make the intangible character of the peri-urban landscape of Cavite. The cross-analysis to the landscape character units will be done after.
### Categories of Walkers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Male/ Female</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential background</td>
<td>Resident/ Non-resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry Sector</td>
<td>Primary/ Secondary/ Tertiary/ Nonworking sector</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Primary: Agriculture, Livestock, Fishery; Secondary: Mining, Manufacturing, Electricity, Construction; Tertiary: Retail, Hotels, Transport, Real Estate, Public Administration, Education, Health and Social)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time of walk</th>
<th>When</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M-R-P-01</td>
<td>Male – Resident – Primary</td>
<td>Tagaytay-Nasugbu Road</td>
<td>9:00 am – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Feb 2-3 (first set)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M-R-P-02</td>
<td>Male – Resident – Secondary</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Feb 9 -10 (second set)</td>
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<tr>
<td>M-R-P-03</td>
<td>Male – Resident – Tertiary</td>
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<td>Feb 23-24 (third set)</td>
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<tr>
<td>M-R-P-04</td>
<td>Male – Resident – Nonworking</td>
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<tr>
<td>M-NR-P-05</td>
<td>Male – Non-Resident – Primary</td>
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<tr>
<td>M-NR-P-06</td>
<td>Male – Non-Resident – Secondary</td>
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<tr>
<td>M-NR-P-07</td>
<td>Male – Non-Resident – Tertiary</td>
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<tr>
<td>M-NR-P-08</td>
<td>Male – Non-Resident – Nonworking</td>
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<tr>
<td>F-R-P-09</td>
<td>Female – Resident – Primary</td>
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<td>F-R-P-10</td>
<td>Female – Resident – Secondary</td>
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<tr>
<td>F-R-P-11</td>
<td>Female – Resident – Tertiary</td>
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<td>F-R-P-12</td>
<td>Female – Resident – Nonworking</td>
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<td>F-NR-P-13</td>
<td>Female – Non-Resident – Primary</td>
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<td>F-NR-P-14</td>
<td>Female – Non-Resident – Secondary</td>
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<td>F-NR-P-15</td>
<td>Female – Non-Resident – Tertiary</td>
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<tr>
<td>F-NR-P-16</td>
<td>Female – Non-Resident – Nonworking</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Walk Conditions:
- **Time of walk**: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- **Location**: Tagaytay-Nasugbu Road
- **When**: Feb 2-3 (first set)  
  Feb 9 -10 (second set)  
  Feb 23-24 (third set)

### Question
- **What comes into your mind from what you are seeing now?**

### Probing Questions
- Can you elaborate that thought?
- Tell me more about what you are thinking of
- What do you mean by?
- What is it used for?
- When was this? Is it during the time when you were…?
- When did it happen?

### Recording Tools:
- Audio Recorder (Tascam; phone device)
- Video Recorder (Gopro cam; 360 cam; phone device)
- Pen and Paper (Site Diaries / Notes)
Research Project Title: The Peri-urban Landscape Phenomena of Cavite, Philippines

Research Investigator: Cathe Desiree S. Nadal (PhD Candidate)

Research Assistants: Tovie Clartine P. del Rosario, Norman Brito, Marco Ortiz

Informed Consent Form

My name is Cathe Desiree S. Nadal, a third year Ph.D. Landscape Architecture student at University of Edinburgh working on my dissertation, "The Peri-urban Landscape Phenomena of Cavite, Philippines". To give an overview, the aim of my research is to define the emerging peri-urban landscape phenomena at the outskirts of Metro Manila, specifically in Cavite, as a baseline for future planning and management approaches for the landscapes at the urban-countryside interface. To be able to to this, I will be documenting the landscape attributes through photos and stories from the actors present in Cavite.

This vast array of attributes associated with the landscape identifies the phenomena happening through different cultural manifestations, identified as tangible and intangible landscape values. Some of the landscape attributes that can explain the peri-urban landscape phenomena is hypothesized to be part of the stories and everyday lifestyle of people who experience and become part of the landscape.

Ethical procedures for academic research undertaken from UK institutions require that interviewees explicitly agree to being interviewed and agree to how the information contained in their interview will be used. This consent form is necessary for us to ensure that you understand the purpose of your involvement and that you agree to the conditions of your participation. Would you therefore read the accompanying information sheet and then sign this form to certify that you approve of the procedures to be undertaken for this interview?

What does taking part in the study involve?
I will interview sixteen (16) randomly selected people who are currently residents and non-residents of Cavite. The interview will be conducted “face-to-face” with me and my research assistant while traversing an identified pathwalk along the Tagaytay-Nasugbu Highway. If you agree to take part in this study, you will be engaged in a 3-to-5 minute walking interview. We do not anticipate that there are any risks associated with your participation aside from weather-related challenges like rain and possible effects of the cold winds from the highlands. You have the option not to answer any question you do not wish to answer, and you may stop the
interview at any time. You also have the option to decide not to take part at any time.

**What will happen to your interview?**

Your interview will be recorded using an audio and video recorder and then written down (transcribed) exactly as spoken on to paper. The transcript of the interview will be analysed by me, Cathe Desiree S. Nadal, as the main research investigator. Access to the interview transcript will be limited to me and researchers with whom I might collaborate as part of the research process. Any summary interview content, or direct quotations from the interview, that are made available through academic publication or other academic outlets will be anonymized so that you cannot be identified, and care will be taken to ensure that other information in the interview that could identify yourself is not revealed. You have the right to put your own name to your interview recording and transcript, or, may prefer to be anonymous (in any case your name will not be included in any publication or written documentation). For us to use your material, in any publications, we must ask you to assign copyright – not to ourselves, but to a responsible institutional archive (in this case, we will be using the University of Edinburgh’s Data Share repository) or be destroyed depending on your approval. If you wish, your interview can also be used by future researchers who might wish to consult archival data related thereof. The full transcript of your interview will also be copied and sent to you for your checking, giving you the opportunity to indicate if you wish to take out or change some of the transcribed information. This procedure is in line with your legal rights and we operate strictly to the moral, ethical, and legal requirements of the university.

Research Project Title: **The Peri-urban Landscape Phenomena of Cavite, Philippines**

I hereby consent to be interviewed for the purpose of the above research project and for my interview to be recorded.

Name ………………………………………………. Signature ………………………………………
Address……………………………………………………………………………………………………
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Contact Number………………………………………………………………………………………….

**Life and History Form**

Name (print/optional)…………………………………………………………………………………………
Address………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Date of Birth………………………………………… Place of Birth……………………………………
Age:……………………………………………… Occupation:……………………………………
Tel. Number (optional)…………………………………………………………………………………………
Research Project Title: The Peri-urban Landscape Phenomena of Cavite, Philippines

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Interview Recording Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interviewing Checklist – the interviewee…</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No/ Not Enough</th>
<th>Further comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Checked sound levels of recorder prior to beginning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Included interview ID statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asked interviewee for place and d/o/b</td>
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<td>Listened carefully (and showed this)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asked clear questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asked neutral (rather than leading) questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mostly used open questioning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avoided asking multiple questions at the same time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Did not interrupt the interviewee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gave the interviewee space for reflections between questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Used follow-up questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Responded to what the interviewee said with further questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avoid inferring something the interviewee had not actually said</td>
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<tr>
<td>Included time locators if needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Showed empathy where appropriate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matched interviewee's pace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ended interview at appropriate point</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thanked interviewee/ showed appreciation</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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Research Investigator (PhD Candidate): Cathe Desiree S. Nadal

Research Assistants: Tovie Clartine P. del Rosario, Norman Brito, Marco Ortiz

Recording Agreement Form

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__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
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__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
I hereby assign the copyright in my contribution to the Edinburgh Data Share, digital repository of the University of Edinburgh. I understand that it will be stored and used as detailed here.

Signed: ................................................................. Date: ......................................
Name (print)

.................................................................
Address

.................................................................
Postcode ..............................Tel. no.

Signed (for Edinburgh Data Share): ...................................... Date: ......................................

Archive ref. nos. 1. TRANSCRIPT ........................................ 2. SOUNDFILE .................