New Urbanism and Shared Space

Norman W. Garrick
In Shared Spaces, Design controls behavior
Signs, signal, lines play a subordinate role
Like New Urbanism,
Shared Space draws on age old traditions of design
Hans Monderman was inspired by these types of traditional places in conceptualized Shared Spaces
The best public spaces and streets are ones were Human Behavior governor
Contemporary traffic engineering is based on regulation and control
Design were Human Behavior control
System Time

Traffic Behavior Governs

Single purpose
Regulated
Impersonal
Uniform
Predictable
Context Time

Social Behavior Governs

- Multi-functional
- Culturally defined
- Personal
- Diverse
- Unpredictable
Conventional Design is a Bad Fit for Context Time
A Round Peg in a Square Hole
Shared Space Design Fits Context Time
Die Laweiplein, Drachten, The Netherland
From Presentation by Koop Kerkstra

Die Laweiplein - Before
Deregulating Drachten
Die Laweiplein - Before
From Presentation by Koop Kerkstra

Die Laweiplein - After
Die Laweiplein - After
The Laweiplein
Evaluation of the reconstruction into a square with roundabout
Assessing the Laweiplein

- Less congestion - time through the intersection decrease by about 50%
- Relatively constant traffic speed
- Vehicles cede priority to bikes and pedestrians
- Fewer traffic accidents
- Higher quality of public space
Restoring The Drachten Canal
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“We desired simplicity, quality and elegance”

David Moylan
Deputy Leader
Council of the Royal Borough
of Kensington and Chelsea
Kensington High - After
Kensington High - Before
Winthrop Street, Cambridge, MA

Shared Space Design in USA
Winthrop Street, Cambridge, MA

Image: Chris McCahill (2007)

Shared Space = New Urbanism
Shared Space put the **Design** back into Street Design