AEROPORT DE SEYCHELLES
Place and Placelessness in a modern airport in Seychelles

by

SERENE CHIEW CHEOK HOONG
HD991286M

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ABSTRACT

This thesis aims to address the placelessness of transitory spaces in transport
buildings, particularly in airport buildings, by exploring the notion of 'sense of place'.
The issues of the sense of arrival, departure and direction are investigated, where the
qualities of spaces are defined by site, functions, activities, light, volumes and
structure.

The building programme chosen is an international and domestic airport terminal
building in Seychelles. As one third of the country's total income is based on tourism
alone, the first impression of Seychelles that the airport presents to the tourist is
important. Thus, the task of creating a sense of place and identity in the airport is
essential.

The proposed scheme grapples with a complex programme of an international and
domestic airport terminal building, where it deals with the role of the airport as a
landmark and prelude to Seychelles, as well as the operational requirements and
management of the airport. The design focuses on the progression and experience
through the airport by the arriving passenger, the departing passenger and the visitor,
capitalizing on the potentials offered by the site, light, nature and building materials in
Seychelles.

Thesis Supervisors:
Dr. Ong Boon Lay, Mr. Low Boon Liang, Mr. O. J. Dale, Mr Alan Low