PUBLICLY SHARED DOMESTIC-RELATED AMENITIES: POCKETS OF PRIVACY ENHANCING PUBLIC SPACE

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This article discusses amenities that are shared by anyone in public space, such as public barbecues in Australia. The idea is generalized to a range of domestic-related amenities, from kitchen-related to bathroom-related, etc. As these domestic-related amenities relate to usage that is typically conducted within a dwelling, the amenity and its architecture can be considered a "pocket of privacy" in public space (Pocket). Our discussion explores how these publicly shared domestic-related amenities can address particular needs of society in the context of their economic, symbolic, aesthetic and ethical value. Specifically, we suggest that Pockets productively address the politics of public space and private place in three key ways: through the negotiation of the presence of people in public space, through the negotiation of individual and collective usage of the amenity, and through the gap between the symbolic and economic power created by the usage of these amenities. We conclude by proposing planning principles that may enable the economic, symbolic, aesthetic and ethical value of these amenities to be fully realized in ways that balance the politics of public space and private place.

Key words: public space, private usage, domestic, amenity, social interactions.

INTRODUCTION

With the rise in value of real estate in big cities, there is a corresponding tendency for urban residents to only afford increasingly smaller dwellings. For small dwellings with high occupancy levels, both the size of common and private places tends to be smaller. Sharing dwellings amongst more than two families or between many families in a housing block (strata) is a common way to share amenities, space and costs. Further, solutions for the "extension" of dwelling space and its amenities can be made outside the private space of the dwelling. For even more flexible use, this extension of the dwelling can be into public space. The use of these amenities is not restricted to a group of inhabitants. This requires innovative solutions conceived at the intersection of urban planning, architecture and design. This article explores the manner in which domestic-related amenities may be shared publicly in this regard. The concept is discussed in its financial, social and political dimensions, and thus in terms of its feasibility.

An example of publicly shared domestic-related amenities in Australia is the public barbecue available at many city beaches

and parks. These are popular amenities in the Australian cultural context. They provide opportunities for families that lack private space and facilities. The amenities enable social interactions with passers-by and other groups using adjacent barbecues. The typical public barbecue occupies a small area of the existing overall public space, so that public space keeps its necessary characteristics of spatial looseness, spatial openness and functional openness, enabling a diversity of use. Spatial looseness means that public space is large enough to welcome a crowd of people, and that the design does not restrict the use of public space to one or a few determined uses. Spatial openness means that public space is open-air and easily accessible from pathways. Functional openness adds to spatial looseness and means that the size, design and urban context of the public space enable a wide range of uses, especially strangers hanging around without being noticed.

The example of the Australian public barbecue can be generalized to other types of amenities that are commonly present in the domestic sphere but bear different potential for social interactions when transferred to public space. The size and setting of these varied amenities can be adapted to enhance potential social interaction. The size and settings for these will be explored in this article, which will further define the concept of "pockets of privacy" in public space (Pockets) and the type of publicly shared domestic-related amenities that can enhance public space.

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Numerous historical examples exist of domestic-related amenities shared in public space. The public baths of ancient Greece and ancient Rome, Turkish baths from the Ottoman Empire, the Gellert Baths in Budapest operating since the 15th century, and the public baths in Paris, were all public spaces and at the same time, places of private use. In the late 18th century, the City of Bath's waters are described by Sigfried Giedion as a place of socialization between people of different social status (albeit restricted to one gender) (Giedion, 1961: 147).

Recent social phenomena require a holistic approach to private place and public space:

- Increased inhabitation density and the loss of privacy. Living in a dense urban environment, where rents are high and, as a result, dwellings are small and densely inhabited, the lack of opportunities to be "private" in private places increases the need to activate other places as alternative settings to carry out private and domestic activities. Leaving the confines of a small dwelling also adds an element of relief and freedom. While emerging in Western countries, this sentiment is not new in other cultural contexts, for example in Vietnam, as described by Lisa Drummond in the article "Inside-out: Practices of Private–Public Space in Contemporary Urban Vietnam" (Drummond, 2000);

- Poverty-induced loss of privacy and amenities. People subject to poverty find it challenging to access typically available amenities. Moreover, the amenities currently available in public space are commonly insufficient for a person that relies on public amenities for regular, ongoing support; and

- The need for social interactions in a modern context. In a world where social media is an increasingly central mode of social interaction, encounters in "real life" remain an important catalyst of social life, underscoring the need for public space to accommodate "real life" encounters (Ujang *et al.*, 2018: 117).

A holistic approach to large-scale space and small-scale place enhances the sustainability of the city. According to Douglas M. Cotner's Unified Field Theory of Adapted Space, sustainability requires unification of the micro and macro scales of human settlement and activity (Cotner, 2009).

The question raised in this article is: can Pockets enhance social interactions, and thus "real" public space? A sub-question refers to the architectural aspect of the "pocket": is there a spatial display and a shape of the Pocket that would enhance public space more than another? The implications of these three phenomena make the potential for Pockets to enhance social interactions, and thus real public space, significant and impactful.

The research underpinning this discussion is primarily based on a review of literature at the interface between psychology of the individual and sociology of the collective. The second method employed is design-based research of the concept of Pockets in the pedagogical context. For this, industrial design students at UNSW Sydney designed a range of Pocket projects. These projects, and especially the choices they made for their selected amenities, were analysed to develop knowledge of the array of domestic-related amenities that could be considered for Pockets.

DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

Immutable definitions of "private place" and "public space" do not exist. McDowell argues that "the division between the public and private is a socially constructed and gendered division" (McDowell, 1999: 149). However, a general sense of the meaning of these terms is necessary.

In this article, the term "public space" refers to larger open-air public areas whose boundaries are buildings and/or roads, or other large scale natural or artificial features. In line with the analyses of Habermas (1989), Lefebvre (1991: 83-195), Harvey (1989: 212), and Davis (1990: 222-263), public space has characteristics of spatial looseness, spatial openness and functional openness, which enables a diversity of usages. Another fundamental characteristic of public space, as understood in this article, is its unfettered accessibility: it is publicly accessible to anyone, not ticketed, and accordingly, means no one feels like a stranger (Toloudi, 2016). In this article, public space is owned by a public institution.

A Pocket is a place. The term "place" is understood here to describe the area "used for a specified purpose or activity" (Delbridge *et al.*, 1991: 1352) by one person or a group of persons. "Privacy" is a notion that is linked to a series of related categories such as private sphere, intimacy, secrecy, interiority, and subjectivity. Anthropologist Morton H. Levine defines privacy as "the maintenance of a personal life-space within which the individual has a chance to be an individual, to exercise and experience his *(sic)* own uniqueness" (Levine, 1980: 11). This first definition suggests that this experience can occur in the context of social interaction with other people. Three gradients of privacy are adopted in this article: the "area of privacy" as a place in which a solitary person undertakes an activity; the "sphere of private contacts with friends and family"; and the "sphere of private contacts with strangers" (Figure 1). The exercise or experience of "private place" in this article comprises the domestic-related activities that are usually undertaken in the interior of a dwelling. The meaning of "private place" is therefore based on the possibility of private usage, rather than private ownership.

From the above description of various gradients of privacy, in contrast with traditional, functionally defined architecture, Pockets:

- Do not relate to a fixed function: neither strictly individual nor strictly collective, Pockets question the definitions of "individual" and "collective" for a given period and a given context; and

- Do not related to a fixed status: neither strictly private nor strictly public, Pockets question the definition of "private" and "public" for a given period and a given context.

In this sense, Pockets create new links, both between the individual and the collective, and between public and private life.

There are two reasons why the term "pocket" is adopted in this discussion:

- First, the customary definition of a pocket is a small container in which something may be kept. It is the space between the inner (interior of the pocket) and the

exterior (clothing); an interior that is in direct formal connection with the exterior, and thus not totally closed. It can vary in its size and level of openness. In this sense, a pocket symbolises the threshold between the public and the private; and

- Secondly, the word "pocket" is associated with the French word *poché*, which describes the areas of an architectural section that reveals some detail of the structure or character of the boundary between the interior and the exterior. These are often drawn as filled-in areas of the section, often with cross-hatching or solid black, to show wall thicknesses. Lois Weinthal in *Toward a New Interior* suggests that the *poché* is a metaphor for the "bridging" between the interior and exterior (Weinthal, 2011: 576). The concept of the *poché* expresses the spatial potential of Pockets to reveal relationships between private place and public space. The notion of a "pocket" is an apt metaphor for a Pocket as a designed artefact that defines a place (open or not totally enclosed) with a usage that relates to domestic practices which are usually private, but is immersed in public space. The pocket intertwines interior and exterior, and yet both remain distinct.

Pockets question orthodox notions of the public and private. When well designed, they enhance the potential for interactions between public space and private place, without confusingly merging the two domains.

2017 studio context: The aim of the studio was to design a more inclusive and effective public food preparation facility that both enhances public park amenities for a wider and more diverse range of user groups, and considers a broader range of usages than just the cooking activity on its own. The brief given to the students comprised the following requirements: study how public park environments can be enabled, activated, re-configured and improved through Pockets; accommodate and service the various needs of culturally and socially diverse users; develop a design approach that caters to these wider needs associated with a diverse range of foods being prepared and consumed in public; and develop innovative product design solutions to support this aim.

2018 studio context: If a person is sharing a room with someone they do not know, or do not know well, especially on a temporary basis, this shared room is unlikely to feel like their home. As noted above, one solution to the problem of loss of privacy is for public space to accommodate some of the requirements of a home. If it is not possible to comfortably spend time in the privacy of one's home, this time is likely to be spent in public. As a result, public space may be considered for hosting some of the typical domestic activities, such as cooking, eating, meeting friends and entertainment. The question for the participating students is: how is it possible to effectively enable this? The course convener formed partnerships with industry to interact
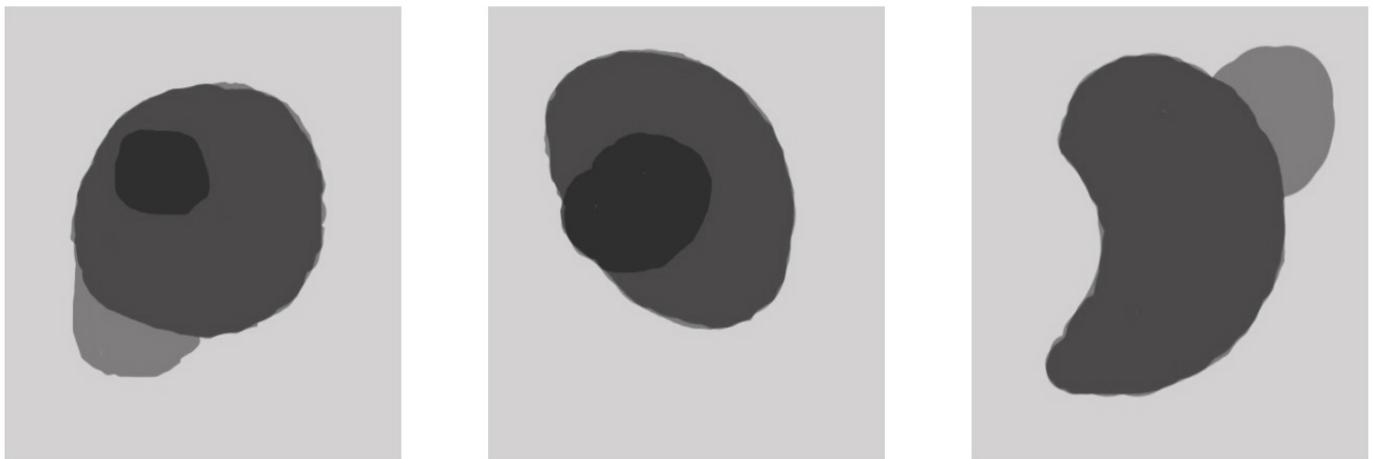

Figure 1. Example of evolution in time, in and around a Pocket, of place and space of different statuses. From the core of the Pocket towards its periphery in this example: area of "privacy", "sphere of private contacts with friends and family", "sphere of private contacts with strangers" and public space. (Source: authors)

AN EXPERIMENT IN THE PEDAGOGICAL CONTEXT

The question of how to best activate public space through private place (domestic-related) activities was posed to 3rd year undergraduate students enrolled in the Industrial Design Studio course at UNSW Sydney, in the form of two related assignment briefs during the first semester of 2017 and in a revised form in 2018. In 2017, the brief title was "Improving Public Park Amenities for Personal/Group Food Preparation"; in 2018 it was "Room Sharing with Strangers", which involved the transfer of one domestic-related amenity into public space. Pockets were developed in both studios (the two subjects being akin to two sides of the same coin).

with the students to give these projects a "real life" feel to the course task. Four industry participants were engaged: Emerdyn (the oldest street furniture company in Sydney), the Place Manager of Georges River Council, an experienced landscape architect, and the CEO of Cocoon (a room sharing business). All agreed to provide feedback at concept level and at students' final presentations. Factory visits and field trips were also part of the students' activities.

In total, 13 groups of students participated in 2017 and 2018. They proposed a variety of conceptual solutions (listed in the table below).

Table 1. Description of Pockets designed by UNSW Industrial Design students in 2017 and 2018

Projects	concept		Type of amenity		
			working	cooking	living room
2017 Studio: POP for Public Cooking	1	Remy		mobile cooking	
	2	Cosea		ultimate social centre	
	3	Roundus		connecting generations	
	4	Wallaby		inclusive socialising	
	5	Insel		social integration	
	6	Open Space		ad hoc BBQ kit	
	7	Scintilla		varying forms of cooking	
	8	Social		mobile app	
2018 Studio: Room sharing: associated Pocket	9	Between 2		public microwave	
	10	Cocoon Pod	outdoor workspace		
	11	Byta	portable work top		side table
	12	Coogee			public living room
	13	Pebble			outdoor cinema

For all of the kitchen-related Pockets, the approaches taken by the students can be grouped into two categories: fixed or mobile. Two example projects illustrate these different design approaches.

Project 1 *Remy* (Figure 2) is a mobile unit that allows users to create either publicly exposed positions, or a more intimate position (for example, under a tree or adjacent to another park feature such as close to the edge of a lake or reservoir).

For Project 2 *Cosea* (Figure 3), the students explored the concomitant activities associated with cooking and accordingly provided amenities to meet these, such as access to water and temporary storage of associated equipment. This design is intended to serve not only the purpose of cooking, but also amenities for spending time outside, charging electronic devices, providing shade, a rest to lean against while cooking, and a wind break. The students created an environment that incorporates some of the conveniences that can be found at home, and adapted them for outside public use.

The main research findings from the 2017 and 2018 Industrial Design Studio projects were:

- When creating a Pocket, it is very viable, even for students, to consider a connection to place, a connection to the "other" in public space and the "openness" of public space;

- Small-scale facilities are adequate to create Pockets: students concluded that Pockets at a small scale preserve the integrity of public space while performing their intended function. Students revealed that larger-scale Pockets, while performing as a functional area, resulted in a loss of the sense of public space. Maintaining the integrity of public space is one reason some students developed mobile Pockets. This idea was unexpected and emerged from experimentation; and

- When given the opportunity, students developed a variety of amenities from the range of typical domestic activities. Some of the chosen amenities were unexpected. The students creating only one project related to cooking in 2018 reveals the potential for other domestic-related Pockets, and their needs.

This last finding leads to ideas that are developed in the next section, comparing different types of domestic-related amenities and their potential to enhance public space.

Figure 2. Project 1: Remy - Roving Cooktop, by Digby Ayton, Dayna Kohn, Benjamin Le, Sean Pataki. 2017 UNSW Industrial Design Studio: Pocket for Public Cooking

Figure 3. Project 2: Cosea - Public BBQ, by Chenming Li, Josephine Wilandouw, Jeremy Hizikia, Ibrahim Diaz, Fave Chen. 2017 UNSW Industrial Design Studio: Pocket for Public Cooking

THE RANGE OF AMENITIES

Using rooms found in a typical Western society apartment, the range of domestic-related Pockets can be expanded beyond the kitchen:

- Bedroom-related. Bedroom-related Pockets are useful for people in need. There is also a need for people who would like to have a short rest (in train stations, for example). In this case, respect for privacy is sensitive; hence Pockets need to be designed taking into account boundaries of "privacy". Social interactions around these Pockets mostly occur before and after sleep, in the "sphere of private contacts with strangers" (Figure 1). The protection of privacy and the connection with public space improve user safety. For example, "architectural designer James Furzer has developed a modular homeless shelter that would hang off the sides of existing buildings and launched a campaign on crowdfunding platform Indiegogo to finance a prototype" (Mairs, 2015);

- Washing room-related. This amenity includes shower and/or bath facilities. This type of amenity could provide utility to people who want to use washing-room-related services during their away-from-home day, such as after cycling to work, or at the end of a work day before heading elsewhere, etc. As with bedroom-related Pockets, respect for privacy is sensitive, and therefore, washing room-related Pockets need to be designed taking into account boundaries of "privacy". There are numerous examples from the past, such as the Paris public baths;

- Study room (home office)-related. This type of Pocket is very relevant to modern life as people are more mobile and enabled by technology to use various places for work and study purposes. There are numerous related architectural experimentations, such as the accessorising of public benches and tables with power points and USB charging ports. Student Karen Kong designed an example called Cocoon Pod; and

- Living room-related: As this Pocket is related to the sharing of conversations, entertainment and play, it is very useful for improved social interactions. This type of amenity is particularly relevant for people who wish to access home cinema devices with high quality sound systems, or other entertainment devices such as video games (Figure 4). Although "entertainment" is frequently linked to commercial interests, the living room-related Pockets envisaged offer entertainment facilities for free, aligning this type of Pocket with the principles of this article.
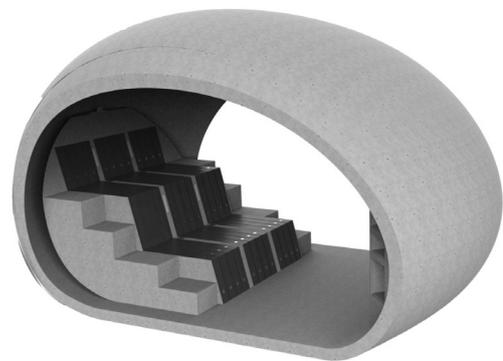

Figure 4. Pebble, by Zhiquan Zhang, Yaxuan Li, Luoning Dai, Jiachen Lu, Ningjin Li. 2018 UNSW Industrial Design Studio: Room sharing: associated Pocket

The potential for Pockets to enhance public space differs depending on the type of domestic-related function in question. The Pockets chosen by the students during the 2017 and 2018 Industrial Design Studio experimentation were living-room, kitchen, and workplace-related. These three kinds of Pockets bear the highest potential to enhance social interactions. The range of domestic-related amenities can be organised on a spectrum, from the lowest to the highest potential to enhance public space (Table 2).

Importantly, the economic, symbolic, aesthetic and ethical values of Pockets also differ depending on the type of amenity in question.

Table 2. Comparison of different types of domestic-related Pockets

Lowest			→		Highest
	Bedroom-related	**Bathroom-related**	**Study room-related**	**Kitchen-related**	**Living room-related**
Potential of enhancement of public space	No	Mostly no, as bathroom-related activities relate to intimacy and/or nudity (Culturally specific)	Medium No when work requires concentration, solitary activity	Rarely no	Rarely no
	Rarely yes	Yes if activities relate to care, without excessive intimacy	Yes for co-working, or if person is available for social interaction while working	Mostly Yes As the dining table is a social place of the inhabitation	Yes As it is the most social place of the inhabitation

SHARING AN AMENITY: SOCIAL BENEFIT CREATED BY ECONOMIC, SYMBOLIC, AESTHETIC AND ETHICAL VALUES

As Pockets are an enabler of performing private activities in public space, their key contribution lies in their social value for the community. Other potential values of the amenity are studied in this section: a quantitative economic value of the amenity, a symbolic value, an aesthetic value, and an ethical value.

There is an economic aspect to sharing a valuable amenity in public space, as some persons would not be able to afford this amenity otherwise. This economic value differs from commercial interests, as it excludes any sense of another party's commercial interest. The Pocket is not privately owned, and is part of public space.

There is a symbolic value of the amenity: it potentially valorises the area (Gieryn, 2000: 465), the urban setting, and the people who use it. David Engwicht is an urban planner who focuses on adding symbolic value to public space in order to gain a social benefit (Engwicht, 1999; Engwicht, 2015). The precise symbolic value depends on the context, but is especially noticeable in disadvantaged contexts.

The precise symbolic and aesthetic value of a Pocket depends on its successful integration in context. There are two design strategies for Pockets: they are either integrated in the initial stages of the design of public space, or they are an intervention in the existing public space. Advantages and disadvantages differ for each in terms of aesthetic value to public space and to the urban fabric. In the case of a Pocket inserted into existing public space, the advantage is that the context, the actual usages, and thus the potential for social interactions, are known in advance (thus assisting the selection of an appropriate Pocket design). The disadvantage of this strategy is that the introduction of an inserted Pocket can be incongruous, as the initial public space was not designed by taking its presence into account. In the case of a Pocket designed concomitantly with the design of public space, the advantage is that the location can be more freely chosen so that the coherence of the public space as a whole, including the Pocket, is enhanced. There are no direct disadvantages to this strategy if the Pocket is well designed.

Therefore, the planning and design of Pockets is preferably integrated in the design of the public space itself, from the first stages of the planning and design process, to ensure the coherence of public space, and the adequate integration of the Pocket. The addition of Pockets to an existing public space is still of benefit, however, provided there is no resulting incongruence with the existing urban fabric and no consequential overabundance of artefacts in the public space.

The qualitative aesthetic value of Pockets is linked to their ethical value by virtue of an allied concern regarding public utility. The quality of public space relies not only on its formal characteristics, but on the fact that it is possible to interact with others. That the very purpose of Pockets is to not restrict the forms of possible social interaction, and moreover that this purpose is not commercially-focused, enhances its ethical value. One specific ethical value of Pockets is the increased participation of minorities in public space. When a Pocket enhances real public space, everyone feels welcome. The amenity itself can be a driver for the increased presence of people usually absent (or not visible) in public space. This provides an important social benefit: it enhances equality, sympathy, fraternity, and awareness of diversity and difference in society. In particular, Pockets can be a valuable resource for those in need, providing the homeless with support for everyday life. Due to their location in public space, Pockets avoid overt social segregation for those in need. People in need – who are usually not visible in public space – can avail themselves of Pockets not only to support their daily needs but to create opportunities to engage in public space via the anchor in domestic-related amenities.

POCKETS CATALYSING POLITICS: THE GAP BETWEEN SYMBOLIC AND ECONOMIC POWER

The economic dimension to sharing a valuable amenity in public space has political implications. Pockets transgress the usual hierarchy of access to available amenities according to given economic and social status. According to Rancière, this is a characteristic manifestation of politics. In *Disagreement*, Rancière identifies the beginning of social emancipation with the reforms led by Solon (Athens, 594

BC) that conferred citizenship as a result of the abolition of debts. Democracy, and thus politics, emerges with the "irruption" of the poor into a world controlled by (and for) the wealthy. Before the reforms led by Solon and Cleisthenes, the aristocratic order of things was based on the symbolic dignity of a class as related to their economic status. Now as then, "politics" arises when this identification between symbolic and economic power is interrupted – when a power is instituted that cannot be linked to the power of elders, founders, the wealthy and the knowledgeable (Rancière, 1999: 74). According to Rancière, it is the gap between symbolic power and economic power – the assertion of different hierarchies – that creates a rupture. This rupture creates a public "scene", where new modes of citizenship are introduced governing the relations between rulers and those being ruled, and thus a change concerning symbolic identities (Rancière, 1999: 36). The gap – the rupture with previous hierarchies – creates politics.

In the case of Pockets, a shift is created in social hierarchies, as lower economic demographies have access to highly valuable amenities – mini cinemas, barbecues, etc. – amenities not available at home but access to which in the public domain confers symbolic power. Politics in the context of Pockets arises through the gap between symbolic and economic order created by enlarged social participation in public space. In this sense, the ideas around symbolic value developed in the work of David Engwicht exemplify the significant political potential of Pockets.

POCKETS CATALYSING POLITICS: MULTIPLE POCKETS ENHANCING THE NEGOTIATION OF SPACE

Any assessment of the value of Pockets needs to consider the number of Pockets that are built in one public space. Skateparks exemplify the way users negotiate their presence in an array of different platforms and areas. While skateparks cannot, *per se*, be considered Pockets (they are too large to be a "pocket" immersed in public space), the smaller platforms are, akin to Pockets, places of social interactions. Skateparks enable freedom of usage in time (e.g. being active, taking a break) and in space (e.g. active areas, resting/watching areas) and thus a freedom of interaction with others. Skateparks are open-air areas, contiguous with urban space (when there is no fence), and open to the general public, even if the sport is typically associated with a certain level of fitness linked to age. Furthermore, other than local "rules" underlying social interactions and the dynamics of community cohesion, there are no laws that significantly restrict the public character of skateparks. This confers on skateparks a high social benefit. *The Guardian* insists on the positive role skateboarding can play in community cohesion (Borden, 2015b). According to Iain Borden, "there are signs of architects doing more to engage people with spaces" (Borden, 2015a), as the benefits to the community become tangible.

Similar to the placement of resting and observing areas inside a skatepark, setting Pockets at a distance from each other in public space is an efficient way to initiate and develop dynamics involved in the negotiation of space. Instead of providing just one amenity, providing three or more amenities theoretically enhances the negotiation

of space and thus the social benefits of Pockets which, in turn, enhances public space. While the specific distance between amenities needs to be tailored to the type of amenities proposed in the context of individual sites, a system combining three amenities (or more) in a spatial relationship is suggested to maximise an open and fluid system of social interactions (Figure 5).
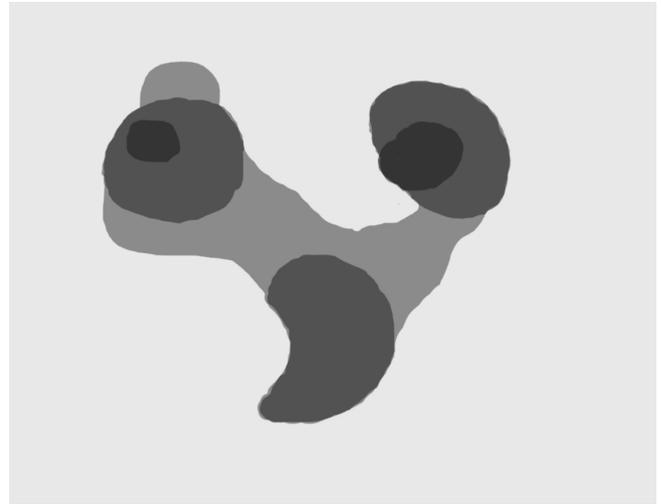
Figure 5. Diagram showing one example at one moment in time of areas of "privacy", "sphere of private contacts with friends and family", "sphere of private contacts with strangers", and public space in the case of multiple Pockets
(Source: authors)

The potential for social interactions depends on the type of amenity. As mentioned above, a mini cinema enhances public space less than a kitchen-related amenity. But the benefits of setting three mini cinemas in a system (for example) manifest in the configuration's ability to enhance conversations before and after screenings, well in excess of the social potential of a single mini cinema. Additionally, a system of multiple amenities serves to draw users' attention away from the amenity itself, and onto the social dimension of collective interaction. Drawing on the efficacy of skateparks to enhance public space, multiple closely located amenities are considered more likely to enhance public space than multiple isolated amenities.

CONCLUSION

The concept of publicly shared, domestic-related amenities addresses the needs of contemporary Western societies faced with a range of social challenges, from those linked to historically entrenched relationships between the public and private realms, to those associated with current urban density levels.

In relation to these former needs, when adequately located, planned and designed, Pockets offer significant economic, symbolic, aesthetic and ethical value to our urban communities, including the ethical distinction of elevating the visibility of minority community members typically under-represented in public space. Equally, Pockets act productively on the politics of public space, in two key aspects:

- By providing access to valuable amenities otherwise not available to all, Pockets disrupt the conventional alignment between social status and access to resources, creating a gap between symbolic and economic orders; and

- By causing a recalibration of boundaries between public space and private place, Pockets facilitate a negotiation between individual and collective usage, both at the scale of the Pocket, and at the scale of multiple Pockets when set at adequate distance from each other. The space around the amenities is negotiated continuously, by continuously different configurations of people. This negotiation of presence and usage significantly enhances public space.

In relation to the needs associated with current urban density levels, Pockets offer ways to ameliorate increased inhabitation density and the loss of privacy; poverty-induced loss of privacy and amenities; and the loss of "real" social interactions in a modern context.

In each case, considered planning and design of Pockets – preferably integrated in the design of public space itself – is needed to ensure that the lines between public and private space are maintained, that public space retains its essential "public" quality and is not overwhelmed, and that design quality is maintained to avoid (socially and economically) costly Pocket maintenance. Recent studio experimentation in the pedagogical context continues to inform understanding of the benefits of Pockets, particularly regarding Pocket types, numbers, and optimal system configurations. Future experimentation promises greater understanding of the potential for the concept to enhance the social fabric of our public spaces.

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