

A Methodology for Learning Which Places People Value in a Community: An Addington Case Study GEOG 402 Group Assignment 2015

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Executive Summary

This project aimed to produce a methodology to identify the attributes of a place people value and those they do not in the suburb of Addington. One aspect of this methodology was piloted in a normally under-represented demographic. This suggested methodology will give decision makers a way of collecting a wide and representative cross section of what this and other communities' values. This information can be utilised in placemaking and other public place projects.

Addington was the first suburb of Christchurch and was an important industrial hub in the early 1900's. It was in a state of relative decline until the 2011 earthquake sequence where its comparably low level of damage and suitable land zoning led to rapid and large-scale development.

A methodology based on Placemaking Chicago's template was adapted to identify stakeholder and groups in Addington that could be engaged to obtain their values with different techniques. A pilot study was conducted at the community house, Manuka Cottage, where personal interviews were conducted to learn which places this normally under-represented group value and those they don't. The results showed the places they valued reflected their current situation and revolved mainly around affordable food, shelter and clothing. The method used to obtain people's values in this pilot study worked well to learn the values of normally under-represented groups.

The lessons learned from this project can be applied across other techniques to obtain values. For meaningful and representative consultation multiple, tailored techniques are required.

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Cover photo credit: St Marys Church , Church Square (Spragg, B.)

Executive Summary photo credit: Demolition of the Woods Mill (flickr.com)

1 Introduction

Since the 1990s, interest in 'place' has surged across a spectrum of social sciences, and the phrase "place matters" has quickly become something of a mantra to many academic disciplines (Arefi, 2014). However, increasingly this concept has appeared questionable on the local scale, and even more so in the urban context (Palermo and Ponzini, 2014). Contemporary society and politics continue to create urban settlements that lack meaning, symbols, and spirit, with the human dimension all but ignored within many communities around the world. It is within this context that the need for placemaking as a technique for revitalizing and rejuvenating spaces within cities steps in, turning spaces into 'places' embedded with meaning, social practice, inclusiveness and lived experience.

People's lifestyles have changed alongside a changing and developing world. More than half of the world's population have moved from rural into urban areas, and in New Zealand this is demonstrated by 87% of people living in urban and suburban areas. The main reasons for immigration are economic and employment; however, the large population growth in cities have affected urban planning and design.

Many urban cities have seemingly created an 'isolated' society, with increasing dependence on cars, suburban sprawl, and a lack of connection between buildings and the spaces that surround them. These ideas of conventional urban development are causing cities to face lost interactions and people cannot access and gain benefits from each other within public space. Over time many urban designers and researchers have discussed the drawbacks of modern urban planning. Today, the concept of urbanity is

beginning to change, and efforts are concentrated more on the design of public open spaces (Arefi, 2014).

Christchurch was severely damaged by Earthquakes in 2011 and many of the city's buildings have been demolished. This has led to significant levels of rebuilding and redevelopment in the city, and yet the danger remains that the 'fragile social infrastructure' of communities and neighbourhoods will be damaged in this transitional period of recovery (Friedmann, 2010). Urban design issues from the past have been considered and urban design philosophies such as placemaking can be incorporated in the rebuilding of the city to mitigate this issue. This report studies the post-earthquake development of Addington, a suburb close the central city in Christchurch and focuses on identifying the attributes and features of places that people value, and those they don't.

1.1 Aim and Focus

This project utilises community based learning and group work with the following aim and focus:

Aim

To identify the attributes and features of a place that people value highly, and those they don't in Addington

Focus

To produce a suggested methodology to achieve the aim and pilot one aspect of it targeting a normally under-represented group

This methodology will give decision makers a way of collecting a wide and representative cross-section of what Addington and other communities value. This information can be utilised in placemaking and other public place projects.

2 The Suburb of Addington

Addington was the first suburb of Christchurch and is located 2.5 kilometres to the southwest of the central business district (CBD). It covers an area of 106ha and is home to 3,675 residents (Statistics NZ, 2013). In the past, Addington was an important railway hub for businesses and industries.

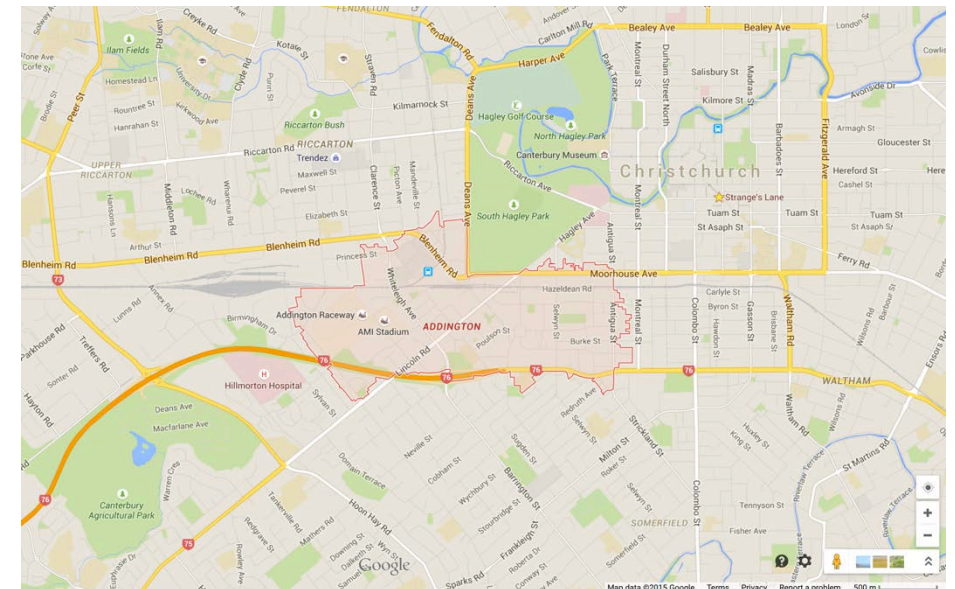


Figure 1. Map showing the location of Addington (Google Maps, 2015)

The area has seen a recent surge in growth as many businesses that have lost their city centre offices in the earthquakes relocate to Addington. As a consequence Addington is becoming a vibrant and exciting area. The economic elements of the suburb consist of light industries, retail,

commercial blocks, and the various kinds of residential dwellings. Many cafés, bars and restaurants have opened to support the new developments (Council, 2012). There are many significant buildings, such as Horncastle Arena, Addington Raceway, and the Court Theatre. With its location to the CBD and significant growth, Addington is an ideal area to study placemaking, what places people value and how different groups values and opinions differ.

2.1 History

Addington has always been a well-known suburb of Christchurch due to its unique character and proximity to the city centre. Because of this proximity to the CBD many significant pieces of infrastructure were built in this area including the Water Tower, Railway Station and workshops, and factories. In the 18th century, the suburb was known as railway junction or Addington Junction. The railway had an important role in the area's development. The south rail line was built across the city and opened to Rolleston in 1866 and opened the North rail line to Rangiora in 1872. The suburb became the centre of the industrial belt with many warehouses and factories of various sizes established. As the number of workshops increased in Addington so did the shops and other support businesses in the area. The early 1900s brought rapid economic growth and the establishment of the sale yards, racecourse, jail and barracks. The railway workshops grew into large industrial employer in Christchurch (Wilson, 2008). With the requirement for labour on the rise many people immigrated to live in Addington and nearby areas and walked or rode bicycles to work. At its peak the railway yards employed 2,000 people (Brown, 2009 & Wilson, 2008). The workshops were not only a place for working, but also the place for cultural and social activities. The railway

workshops fostered the unique character of the local community. Most shops were in easy walking distance and there were many opportunities to find jobs within the local area. The livings standards however were not very equal and some employees claimed that only two groups of people (managers and foremen) lived to a good standard (Wilson, 2008).

The Wood Brothers flour mill, a large four-story brick mill was established in 1891 and located on Wise Street. The mill's power came from steam, and the lighting was electric. In 1913, the mill was upgraded and in 1924 the storage building was extended. In 1936 the mill had the largest output of flour in the South Island. In 1970 Wood Brothers Limited closed and the buildings have been used for a variety of purposes since. For example, apartments, a bakery and exhibition space had been operating from its space until it was closed after the 2011 earthquake (Christchurch City Libraries, 1990).

Since the 1950s, the numbers of manufacturing businesses have reduced. With the impact of 'greenfield' development, decreasing demand for railway transportation and the increasing of land prices, people started to relocate their business and homes. By the 1970s, Addington was losing the sense of community and vibrancy with developments such as the building of Brougham Street Expressway cutting the suburb in half. Many workplaces, shops and leisure places moved to other suburbs (Wilson, 2008).

The Addington sale yards grew out of the agricultural strength in the farmland around Christchurch. It was located on the road from South Hagley Park in Dean's Avenue until it was moved to city outskirts in 1997. The sale yard was once of the main business in Addington and vital for the Christchurch economy. At its peak it was a major employer with hundreds of

staff. The sale yards needed various employees, for example, office employees, drovers, branders, meat company buyers and transport operations (Leech, 2013). After several zoning and development issues the site today is still in ruins (Napier, 2014 (as cited in Harrop, 2014), and was recently demolished.



Figure 2: The Addington Village sign on Lincoln Road (flickr.com, 2015)

2.2 Addington and the Earthquakes

The earthquake sequence in 2011 had a significant effect on Christchurch and the city centre. Addington suffered some damage such the Wood Brothers Mill, some older shops, and some residential homes. In general the suburb held up relatively well compared to other Christchurch suburbs and the land was not subject to many liquefaction areas. For this reason and due to its proximity to the city and zoning there has been significant development in Addington since the earthquake.

The number of office businesses, residential and rentals have increased with re-location of several businesses. This has affected low-income residents with the average cost of residential renting rising 35 % (Harrop, 2014). Lees, et.al, (2008) suggest there are pros and cons to this rejuvenation and gentrification of suburbs (Table 1).

Table 1: The example of the gentrification impacts (Lees, et.al, 2008 (as cited in Harrop,2014)

Pros	Cons
Inducement residential owners to improve or build their property	Houses and land cost are going up and force people to move out
Higher value of property	Cannot afford the accommodation
Decrease the risk of crime	Mental issues from displacement
More social mixing	Decrease number of social diversity (from disparate community to ghettos increasing)

Increase the opportunity to develop the city	Industrial displacement
The growth of local economy by rising consumer purchase	The increasing of property price



2.3 Demographics

The following information is sourced from 2013 Census data (Statistics NZ, 2013)

Addington Key Statistics

- The population of Addington is 3,675 (up 19% from 2006).
- Addington is 1.1% of Christchurch’s population.
- There are 1,545 dwellings.
- The median age is 32.7 years.

2.3.1 Ethnicity

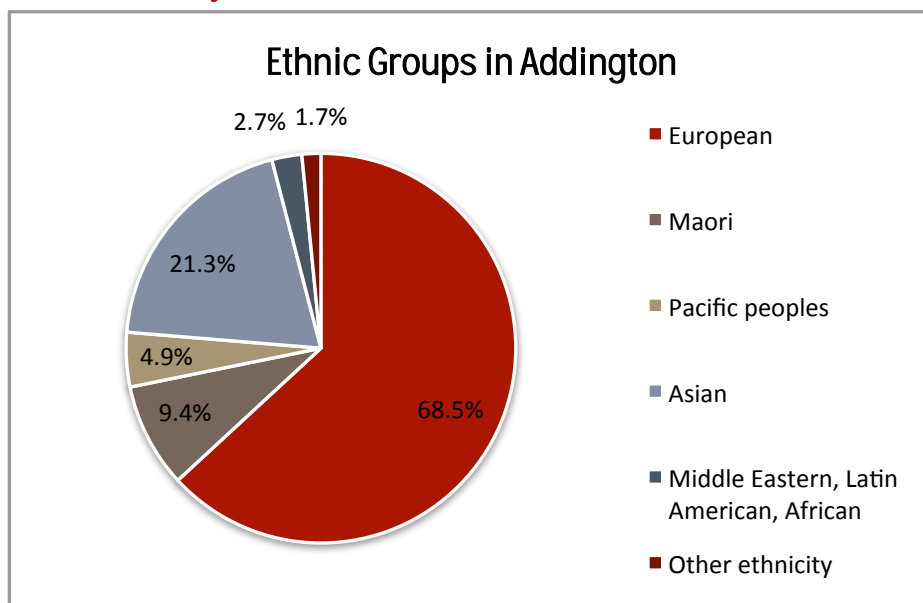


Figure 3: Ethnic groups in Addington (Statistics NZ, 2013)

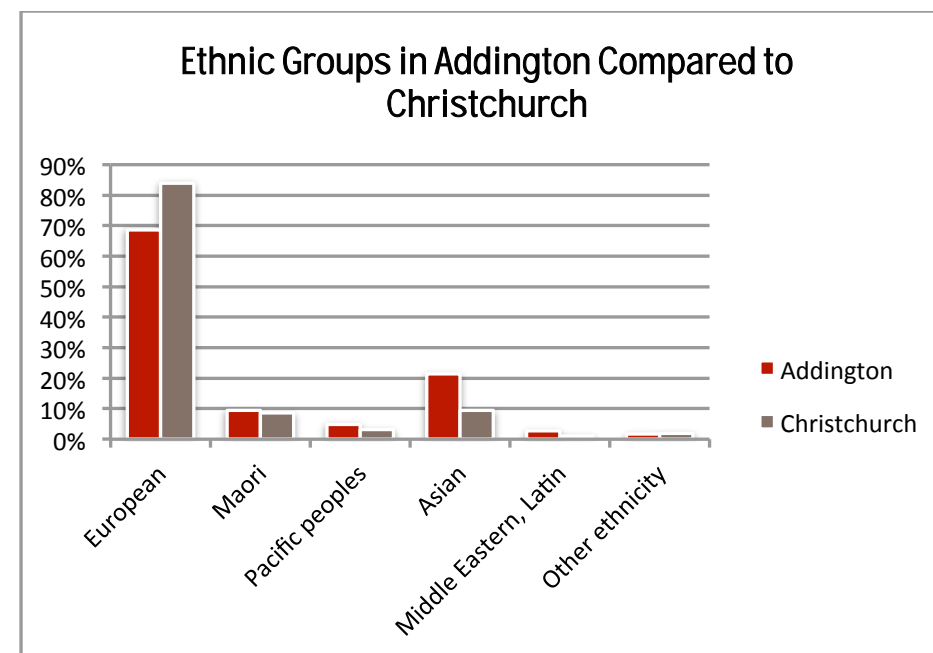


Figure 4: Ethnic groups in Addington compared to the whole of Christchurch (Statistics NZ, 2013)

2.3.2 Marital Status

For people in Addington 15 years of age or older

Statistic	Addington	Christchurch City
Never Married	51.0%	37.5%
Married	29.9%	44.5%
Seperated, Divorced or Widowed	19.1%	18.0%

2.3.3 Education and Employment

For people in Addington 15 years of age or older

Statistic	Addington	Christchurch City
Formal Qualification	78.9%	80.4%
Bachelor's of Higher	23.9%	21.1%
Unemployment	7.0%	5.1%
Median Income	\$27,700	\$29,800
Annual income of \$20,000 or less	37.5%	36.3%
Annual income of \$50,000 or more	19.1%	27.1%

2.3.4 Families and Households

Types of families in Addington

Statistic	Addington	Christchurch City
Couples with Children	32.7%	39.8%
Couples without Children	47.9%	42.8%
One Family Household	52.3%	65.6%
One Person Household	32.6%	25.6%
Average Household Size	2.4	2.5

2.3.5 Communication

Households with access to different forms of communication

Statistic	Addington	Christchurch City
Access to Internet	73.0%	79.2%
Access to Cellphone	79.9%	84.2%

3 Placemaking

As mentioned earlier, since the 1990s, interest in ‘place’ has surged across a spectrum of social sciences, and the phrase “place matters” has quickly become something of a mantra to many academic disciplines (Arefi, 2014). However, increasingly this concept has appeared questionable on the local scale, and even more so in the urban context (Palermo and Ponzini, 2014). Contemporary society and politics continue to create urban settlements that lack meaning, symbols, and spirit, with the human dimension all but ignored within many communities around the world. It is within this context that the need for placemaking as a technique for revitalizing and rejuvenating spaces within cities steps in, turning spaces into ‘places’ embedded with meaning, social practice, inclusiveness and lived experience. Placemaking, while complex and challenging to define, can be described as a quiet movement that inspires people to collectively reimagine and reinvent public spaces at the heart of every community (Project for Public Spaces, 2014). As both an overarching idea and hands on approach, placemaking is essentially a collaborative process by which we can shape our public realm in order to maximize its shared value. By supporting its on-going evolution through paying particular attention to the physical, cultural and social identities that exist within any community, we are able to understand and define what shapes places (Project for Public Spaces, 2014).

Placemaking has the potential to be one of the most transformative ideas in urban planning and design of this century, strengthening the connection between people and the places they share. Town planning or urban development practices regarding the physical transformation of urban contexts is simply not sufficient, with the challenge lying in the need to

improve the quality of life, by taking into account the resulting effects on community wellbeing, development and empowerment (Madureira, 2015). However, the list of available tools for achieving this is somewhat short and well known. Current placemaking experiences tend to focus on the improvement of liveability and urban sustainability mainly through the modification or transformation of public space (Gehl, 2010). According to Gehl (2010), what is missing here is the ability to think about how public space might generate common meaning and social interaction between a *plurality of subjects*. The suggestion? “...First life, then space, then buildings....” (Geh, 2010 p. 95). Perhaps the placemaking framework needs to take into account the participation of people in the construction of urban places, right from the very beginning of urban development, rather than being seen as an afterthought, or a last minute consideration.

3.1 Placemaking in Post-Earthquake Christchurch

It can be argued that the city of Christchurch, New Zealand, is one in which the concept of urban development from ‘below’ can be analysed in detail, and with a unique perspective on urban regeneration. The city is in the ‘period of recovery’ stage (see Figure 5) after the series of earthquakes that struck in February 2011.

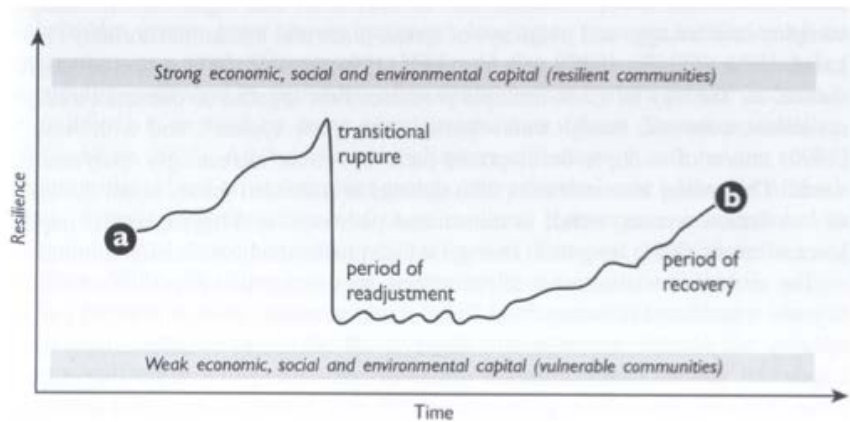


Figure 5: Representation of Christchurch's community transition since the 2011 earthquake (Wilson, 2012 p. 58).

Here, placemaking from a grassroots perspective has sought to eliminate the gap between peoples wants and needs and the construction of urban space, and allowed old places to be 'taken back' through collaborative people-centred planning (Friedmann, 2010). Christchurch has seen an enormous outpouring of local energy in which local citizens have played an active role in environmental improvement and management processes (Friedmann, 2010). This has been seen through the revitalization of inner city and suburban public spaces, in an attempt to bring back the spark and soul that was missing from the city of Christchurch, and its residents, in the wake of the devastating earthquakes. Examples of these counter energies are shown in the many transitional city projects that have 'emerged from the rubble and confusion' of the 2011 Christchurch earthquake (Montgomery, 2013) including initiatives such as GapFiller and Greening the Rubble. These

placemaking projects happening on the ground in Christchurch prove that the regeneration of the city does not need to rely on large-scale development by the public or private sectors. These projects give the people of Christchurch an opportunity to contribute to the city's regeneration, returning ownership and encouraging empowerment for Christchurch citizens.

3.2 The Way Forward?

The biggest challenge so far, is to include and encourage the participation of citizens into the construction of urban places, at a scale which eliminates the divide between the 'ordinary citizen' and the 'professional', who speak languages that 'ordinary' people do not understand (Hall, 2008). This is a challenging notion that involves situations of engagement, empowerment and involvement across all sectors of society, and across a variety of scales. This concept is especially relevant for the exploration of the suburb of Addington, a diverse and complex community, and one that has been historically associated with a lower-economic status, poor housing and higher unemployment. While these issues have been highlighted since the earthquakes, coverage surrounding community engagement and consultation still remain low and this has posed even more challenges for post-earthquake recovery decision-making processes in Addington.

While challenging and complex, the term placemaking and its many facets has shown us that the way forward; and the idea of community involvement and inclusion within urban planning for cities and suburbs can be seen as the 'solution' to this problem. The remainder of this report will allow for the exploration of Addington as a suburb in regards to placemaking for

communities within the post-earthquake space. Particular focus has been placed on methods used to gain full participation and engagement with *all* members of this diverse community in decisions for the future of their suburb.

4 Methodologies for Obtaining Community Values

4.1 Previous Work

Some examples of previous methodologies and relevant literature are explored below.

4.1.1 Public Life Study

According to Harrop (2014), a public life study methodology was selected as it is a tool for determining how public spaces, particularly in the suburb of Addington are used and valued. A number of observation techniques are included in the public life study methodology, which were conducted throughout the day and night. The 'counting method' is one of the observational approaches of the public life studies, recording the number of pedestrians who use the public open spaces for ten minutes in each hour. This counting method presents a clear picture of the daily rhythm of public open spaces (Gehl & Svarre, 2013). The pedestrians are divided into different groups based on gender and age groups, namely children (0-14 years old), young adults (15-29 years old), middle age (30-64 years old) and elderly (more than 65 years old). Children and elderly people were purposely included as often they are not considered as significant during planning and

designing of public open spaces (Gehl & Svarre as cited in Harrop, 2014). Other observational approaches of a public life study are Tracing and Behavioural Mapping. Tracing technique is drawing lines of pedestrian's movement on the map, especially their selected entrances and choice of direction. By using the Tracing method, the observer is able to capture the spaces that are used the most and spaces that are used less. The information collected from this method will help the planners to identify the future development of public spaces (Gehl & Svarre, 2013). Similarly, by employing the behaviour mapping approach, the observer typically records people's activities such as children playing and people waiting for transport on maps. This method provides a precise picture of common activities that people in public open spaces (Gehl & Svarre, 2013).

4.1.2 Charrette Methodology

A design charrette methodology is a tool, promoting young people's participation in the placemaking process. Many academics suggest that the age of youth should not be an impediment preventing them from contributing to developing their environments as the surrounding environment can influence children's thinking and development (Hart & Simpson as cited in Sutton & Kemp, 2002). The Unity Council in the United States used the design charrette as one of the several data collection techniques when designing the Union Point Park. This method was employed for gaining the youth's perspectives and desires toward the new development of the park in order to make sure that the park would benefit them. By organising the design workshop, which involved more than sixty teenagers, the youth were encouraged to provide their visions toward the new park development (Hou & Rios, 2003). There is empirical evidence

suggesting placemaking will generate significant benefits for children such as heightening social skills and environmental awareness (Sutton & Kemp, 2002). Once the new generations have been involved in designing activity, it will lead to increasing the sense of belonging to the spaces in their community (Mullahey et al., as cited in Sutton & Kemp, 2002).

4.1.3 Placemaking in Chicago

There are a number of factors contributing to developing spaces into places for all. In Chicago, several techniques have been employed in order to explore the people's desires and needs in relation to placemaking. Project for Public Spaces and Metropolitan Planning Council (2008), introduced a guideline for community placemaking called "Step-by-Step Guide". This is a tool providing useful practical steps of neighbourhood placemaking for a community to enhance their development. In order to gather a diverse perspective from people who live in the community, some key steps are included in the guidelines such as identifying key stakeholders and conducting place evaluation workshops. According to Project for Public Space & Metropolitan Planning Council (2008), it is crucial to understand the dynamics of the community through various community partners. They identified eight different local placemaking partners in the community, namely friends and neighbours, nearby stores and businesses, long-term residents, non-government organisations (NGOs), local community groups, streets and sanitation ward office (this is covered by local government in Christchurch), local government officials and professionals, and individual experts. Project for Public Spaces and Metropolitan Planning Council (2008), also suggested that several techniques, including mapping and interviewing should be applied for data collection. After identifying community partners,

several techniques should be applied for data collection including mapping and interviewing. The data collected is then delivered and discussed with the key stakeholders in a 'Place Evaluation Workshop' to establish clear direction and priorities for placemaking (Project for Public Space & Metropolitan Planning Council, 2008).

4.2 Suggested Methodology

The public life studies and the design charrette methodologies are practices for urban design. They are not only useful tools for gaining information in relation to identifying public open spaces use but also getting feedback for effective placemaking. However, as the time constraints for this research project, it is difficult to employ either public life studies or design charrette methodologies for this project. In order to carry out a public life study, the researchers are required to have sufficient time to do observations throughout the day. Similarly, organising design workshops with a large number of participants for the design charrette methodology would require a lot of time. Table 2 presents some possible approaches that can be used to obtain solid information from different stakeholders in a community.

In the case of community placemaking in the Christchurch suburb of Addington, the local community group (Manuka Cottage-Community House) was selected as a pilot project for community placemaking as it supports local people, including those from low socio-economic background. It is very important for planners to understand a wide range of local residents'

perspectives and opinion towards 'their' places. This is because the deprived and lower income individuals, households and families typically feel uncomfortable to express or share their experiences in the community as they often consider themselves as 'powerless' people who could not alter the decision making process (Dodson and Schmalzbauer as cited in Woolrych & Sixsmith, 2013).

According to Patton and Cochran (2002), qualitative research is one type of scientific research, providing information in relation to understanding social life. By utilising an in-depth interview technique it gives the researcher the ability to explore in detail the interviewee's perspectives and experiences through specific research questions. Also, the interview technique has been used as one part of the participatory approach, which is aimed at including local residents' opinion into urban planning process (Woolrych & Sixsmith, 2013). Employing the qualitative research in the case study of Addington is considered as the most suitable methodology to identify key attributes of places that Addington residents value and those they do not.

Table 2: Suggested methodology for different stakeholders

Stakeholders (Based on Placemaking Chicago)	Example in Addington	Suggested approach
Friends and Neighbours	Addington people	Individual interview
Nearby Stores and Businesses	Addington Coffee Co-op etc	Conduct an individual interview (if possible) Invite them to the consultation workshop at the community hall
Long-Term Residents	People who have lived in Addington more than 10 years	Individual interview
Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)	Salvation Army	Individual interview (if possible) Invite them to the consultation workshop at the community hall
Local Community Groups	Manuka Cottage-Community House	Conduct interview on the day when they have group activities
Local Government Officials and professionals	Christchurch City Council officials	Invite them to the consultation workshop at the community hall (probably at the night)
Individual Experts	Dale Harrop	Individual interview

5 Pilot Study

In much academic literature, local communities have tended to be constructed in an *instrumental* way by policy-makers: spatially fixed homogeneous agents of change with shared experience of poor housing and social exclusion (Maginn, 2007). This has led to the interpretation that all local communities are eager to be involved in local decision-making, however, 'community' as well as being a relational concept, is also a dynamic one (Maginn, 2007). If policy makers are genuinely committed to *full* community participation, it would seem fairly obvious that they should try and access as many stakeholders and community members as possible, and yet this failure to constantly 'profile' local neighbourhoods and communities seems to be a reoccurring theme in post-earthquake Christchurch. Policy makers need to demonstrate a genuine commitment to not only involving and informing community members in the process, but also embracing community diversity and conflict (Maginn, 2007).

Local communities are in a constant state of change, uniting and fracturing over space and time in response to a myriad of factors happening around them. Addington is the perfect example of this, with recent new developments post-earthquake acting to 'push out' what is referred to as 'the old Addington' by residents and locals alike, creating confusion over belonging, identity and place for many residents. It has also resulted in the exclusion of many members of the community in the decision-making processes around the future of the suburb. By 'lifting the lid' on the Addington community, we have discovered what Maginn (2007 p. 28) sees as, "...a frantic mix of people who belong to and are excluded from all manner of communities that cut across spatial, class, age, gender, ethnic,

sexuality and ideological axes..." It is within this space that our chosen methodology was a mixed ethnographic-type method of both participation and semi-structured interviews within a community hub context, in order to access the diversity and challenge that makes up the *real* Addington community.

5.1 Manuka Cottage

Part of the complexity of placemaking and creating enjoyable shared spaces is that the term 'placemaking' often encompasses more than just the tangible spaces within a city. Often, it is the activity and sense of community that are generated from places and spaces within cities that are most important to its residents. These places allow for the growth of feelings of inclusion, belonging and empowerment through spaces of shared meaning and value that might not be available elsewhere. It is within this context that Manuka Cottage, Addington's community house, and home of the Addington Community Development Project, steps in as a place in which these feelings can be explored and analysed in depth. Contributing towards not only a shared identity for the users of Manuka Cottage and its services, but also a sense of 'coming home' (MHERC, 2015), Manuka Cottage is an example of placemaking within this diverse suburb, where the Church and its square have become the heart of the community.

Manuka Cottage, located temporarily in St Mary's Church Square since the 2011 earthquake condemned the original building, has become known as the 'hub' of the Addington community. Academically, hubs are becoming increasingly recognised as the physical places where people can meet on an equal basis, designed so that people from any or all community, men and

women, young and older alike, feel comfortable and enthusiastic about using them as points of exchange (Burrage, 2011). These hubs often develop as informal meeting points, and when properly managed, encourage wider connections, and perhaps contribute to the breaking down of barriers and 'comfort zones' that may be inhibiting social enhancement and connection (Burrage, 2011).

The scope for using hubs inclusively in this way is enormous (Burrage, 2011). Not only in suburban areas where informal meeting points might be scarce, but also in disadvantaged areas where housing density might be greater, but facilities are often not (Burrage, 2011). Manuka Cottage provides exactly this within Addington, providing a range of community orientated services that support and encourage networks to become established within this diverse community. Examples of Manuka Cottage's services include; 'Pop in for a Cuppa', Walking groups ('Walkie Talkies' and 'Addy-venturers') Women's only times, play-groups, gold-coin community lunches, the 'Fruit and Vege Co-op', 'Ideas and Action group' and the Addington Time Bank. All of these services are run mid-week and are based out of Manuka Cottage's physical location in the Church Square.

It was for these reasons that Manuka Cottage and its diverse range of people involved in its development was chosen to be our pilot study for capturing the voices of the community, and hearing what placemaking means to them. By accessing Manuka Cottage and undertaking research and data collection through their services, we were able to directly reach the heart of the community in a way that would otherwise not have been possible had we only listened to only one representative of the community. As Burrage (2011

p. 84) quotes, "...Communities do not comprise of just one person...there are many voices which must be heard." Through this, we recognised the importance of accessing Addington's 'hub', and Manuka Cottage was the perfect example.

5.2 Methods

In recognizing the diversity of the people and groups that use Manuka Cottage and its various services, we engaged in semi-structured interviews in the most informal sense possible. By simply attending Manuka Cottage's 'Pop in for a Cuppa', the gold-coin lunch and the 'Fruit and Vege Co-op', we were able to gauge the sense of community that existed within this place through a mix of observation and interviewing. The interview questions were designed to unfold in a conversational manner, allowing room for impromptu questions or slight changes dependant on the situation, and allowed the participants the freedom to express their views in their own terms (Cohen and Crabtree, 2006). We wanted to be as natural as possible, and engaged in conversation with 15 community members over cups of tea within Manuka Cottage's setting. The interviews ranged from brief chats (+5 minutes) to extensive conversations (+30 minutes). The unique social knowledge that we gained from this 'quiet' method proved to be invaluable in our research process (Noy, 2008), and the qualitative data is analysed and discussed below.

5.3 Results

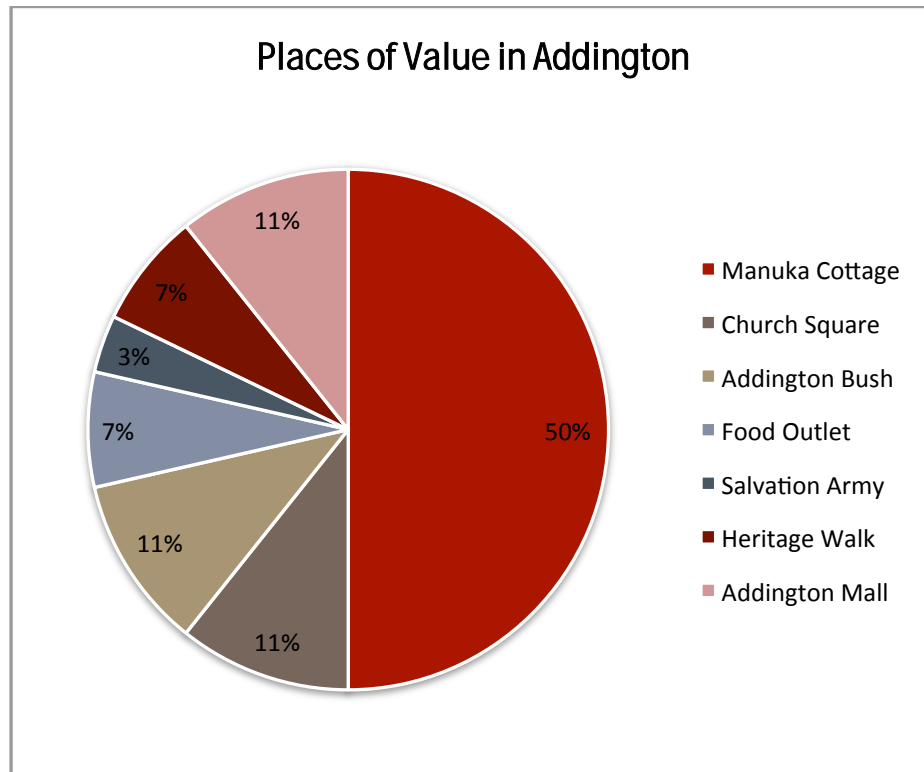
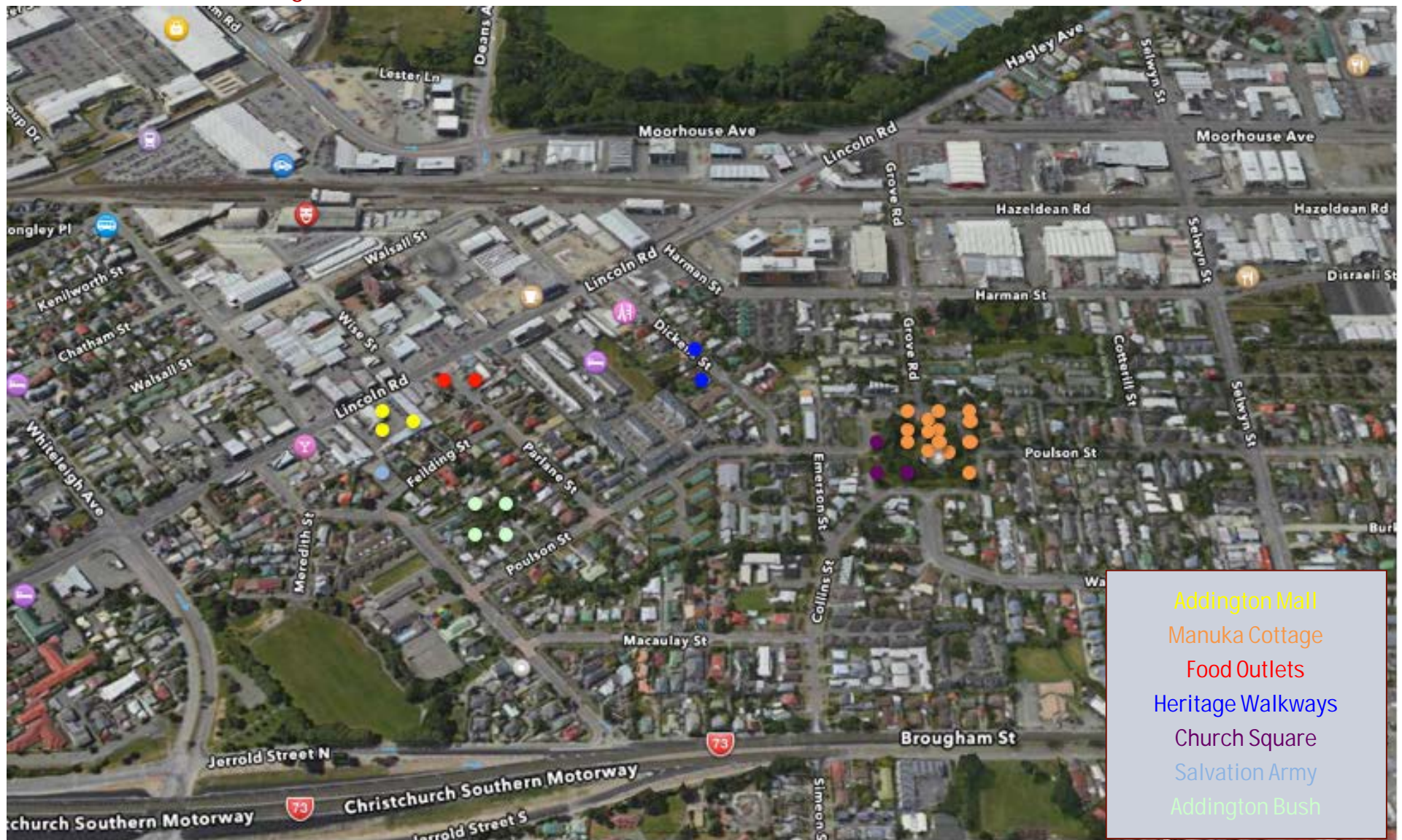


Figure 6: Graph showing interview response on places of value in Addington.



Figure 7. Interviewing at St Marys Church.

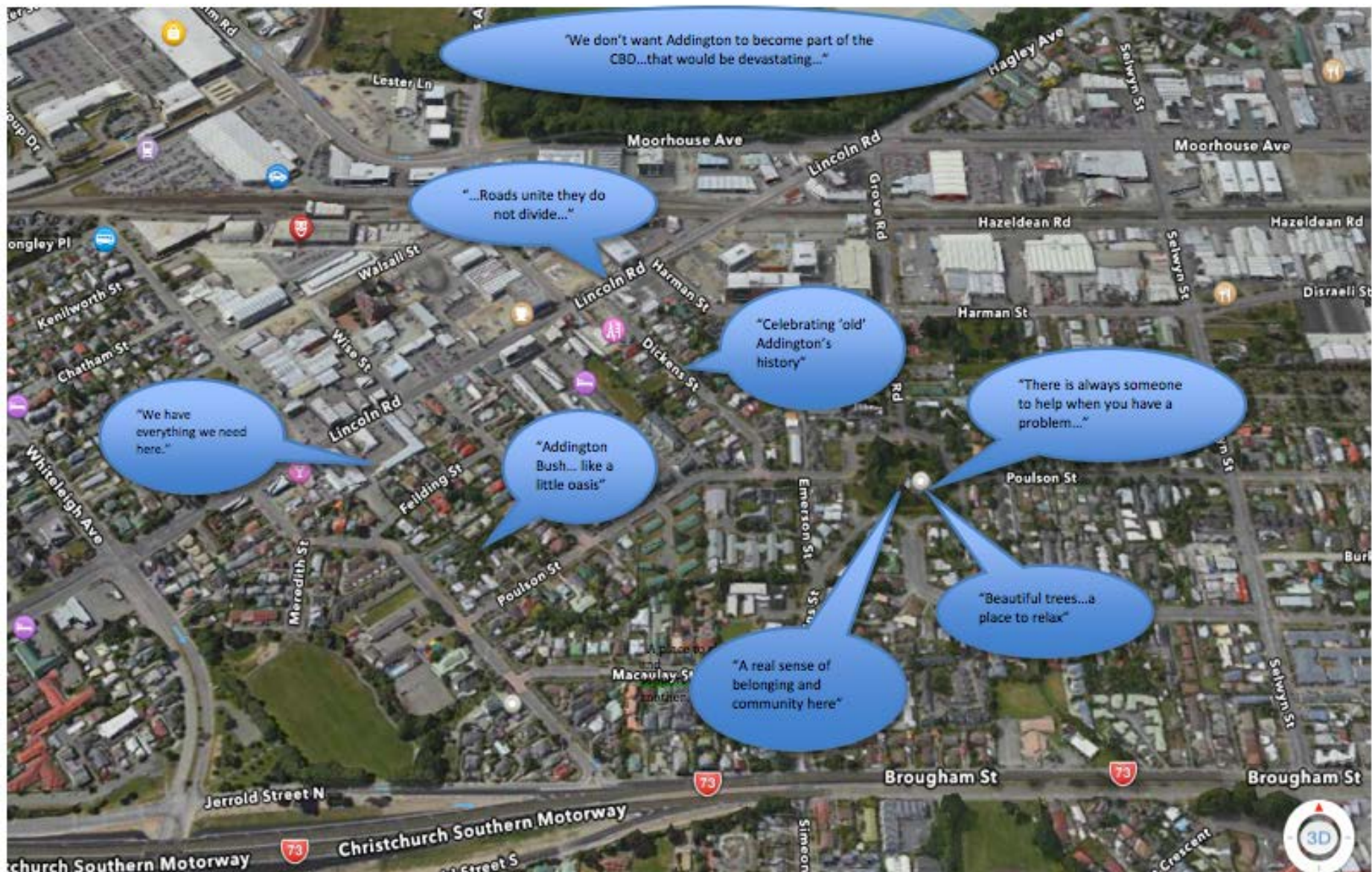
Places of value in Addington



Places of lower value in Addington



Perceptions of Place in Addington



P. Khamvilay C. Wium
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12 June 2015

Perceptions of Manuka Cottage



6 Discussion

Our group found this form of interviewing worked well to understand values of both lower socio-economic groups and the elderly within the Addington community.

The personal interviewing style of casual, dynamic discussion where we could modify questions to help stimulate conversation led to several important comments coming through. We also used non-technical language they were familiar with, eliminating the divide between the 'ordinary citizen' and the 'professional', who may speak languages that 'ordinary' people do not understand (Hall, 2008).

Even though our samples size was small the information obtained was very informative. Being in their space seemed to help the interviewees be more relaxed and open. Also, as we are students, and not in any way affiliated with the council or any bodies of power, I hope we seemed more approachable. We were informed that some of the people at Manuka Cottage have issues with reading and writing so by having us ask the questions and record the answers this eliminated this potential communication barrier. There was initial discussion about using social medial or an email survey but this would have had very limited reach with this group due to access and familiarity with technology. In general the survey participants were very interesting to talk to and provided important information and they seemed to appreciate their opinions being listened to.

As a general observation the places valued aligned with their current situations and mainly focused around affordable food, shelter, clothing and durable goods. All participants enjoyed the company and interaction with others that Manuka Cottage and its organized events provided. Several people were very interested in conserving the history of Addington and one person was even writing a book on it. A reoccurring theme was that the new developments and the pressures on traffic and parking that this brought were not valued, and were identified as an area of 'concern' for many residents.

There are several issues to consider when trying to learn values that arose during this project that would be equally relevant for any process intended to determine a communities values.

The timing of the event or process has to be considered and aligned with the intended target demographic. For instance, wanting to talk with young professional residents then during the day would not be effective. The communication type is also important; having face-to-face conversations with the elderly worked very well, where as using social media would likely to have had a limited response. The opposite would be likely if we wanted feedback from youth. The location of the event is also important. Many elderly or lower socio-economic groups may have issues with transport.

The need to educate the group you are working with about what you are planning or trying to achieve is important, however care needs be taken as to not influence their views. A majority of the participants mentioned St Mary's Church and Manuka Cottage as places of value. This bias is not surprising but

has to be recognised and understood that this is not consistent throughout Addington.

Demographics should be taken into account and consultation tailored to give equitable representation. Addington has the highest percentage of Asians in Christchurch however none were present at our interviewing session. If any group makes up a significant demographic but are not captured in the consultation an alternative method or location should be investigated. For example an Asian religious or business group could be approached for feedback.

It was very beneficial having four researchers to interview people, and the ability to work in teams is recommended. It may not be practical or affordable to do this in all cases, however it is important to consider, so that suitable people and resources can be employed on future projects.

What was highlighted by the responses from participants in our pilot demographic what that basic needs have to be met before people focus on the nice to have aspects in a community such as placemaking.

Limitations of our particular pilot include:

- Limited sample size.
- Single time period and single visit.
- Bias around location and responses linked to Manuka Cottage.

7 Summary

The method used to obtain peoples values in this pilot study worked well to learn the values of normally under-represented groups. The lessons learned from this project can be applied across other techniques to obtain values.

For meaningful and representative consultation multiple, tailored techniques are required. The suggested basic steps to create a methodology to determine the place people value and those they do not are show in Figure 8.

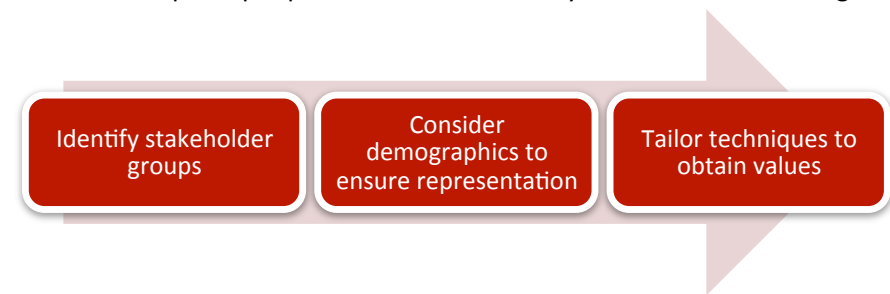


Figure 8. Basic steps for the suggested methodology.

In order to capture the voices that often aren't heard in community consultation processes, these recommendations provide a framework for a suggested methodology to catch those individuals who may have 'slipped through the cracks.' The community, and the people who make up these diverse suburbs and neighborhoods in Christchurch all deserve a chance to make their voices heard. Without placing people at the centre of the development process, Christchurch has the potential to become another 'faceless' city. It is up to us to ensure this does not happen, and this suggested methodology could be seen as perhaps a step in the right direction.

8 Acknowledgments

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10 Appendices

10.1 Info Sheet

College of Science

Department of Geography
Tel: +64 3 3667001, Fax: + 64 364 2907



Community Place Making in Addington: Information Sheet

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are a group of post-graduate students from the University of Canterbury. As part of the GEOG402 *Sustainable Urban Development* course, we are engaging in a problem based and community-based learning approach to explore community placemaking in the suburb of Addington. Placemaking is a process of considerable interest to local councils as a means of engaging citizens in the future of their suburbs and generating a greater sense of belonging.

The focus of our project is to identify the attributes and features of a place that people value highly, and those they don't within the suburb of Addington. The purpose of our project is to produce a suggested methodology to obtain the above information and pilot one aspect. This methodology will give decision makers a way of getting a wide and representative cross-section of what Addington and other communities value in terms of placemaking, and we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to pilot our study using your feedback as an example.

All information is anonymous and this project has been reviewed and approved by the Department of Geography at the University of Canterbury and is subject to the University of Canterbury Human Ethics Guidelines. If you have any other questions or comments about this please contact Prof Simon Kingham, Department of Geography, University of Canterbury simon.kingham@canterbury.ac.nz Phone. [03 364 2893](tel:033642893). We are happy to make our assignment available to any participant who is interested. We really appreciate your time in helping us with our project.

Best Regards

Chloe Wium,
Phonesavath Khamvilay,
[Papichaya Jindachote](#)
Brendan Hawes

Pilot Group Questions

How long have you lived in Addington?

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

What sort of places would you like to see in [Addington](#)?

Do you have any questions about this study?

10.2 Questionnaires



②

How long have you lived in Addington? before/after eq
6 years

Comer along 4 times a week.

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?
 1. W. Ashdale street Catholic Worker Home. quiet. like to people to come & enjoy it. Not happening all my life.
 2. Church
 - Addington bush

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington? (social interaction)
 - sense of family / community - sharing & caring for each other.
 - sense of belonging
 - support offered in the comm. centre.
 - regular meetings place to chat & support are available

What place could be improved in Addington and why?
 New building for Manawa cottage - been too long
 - allow for more in the comm. centre
 - women's stronger at cottage
 - need a strong male leadership

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?
 - don't want commercial building to have over the community
 - boundaries / clear sense of community.
 - sense of history to be preserved.
 - place for younger people / see more young people.

Do you have any questions about this study?

①

How long have you lived in Addington?
14 yrs

before earthquake - no problems

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?
 Church. - St Marys - community & concensation
 Home - my own place

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?
 People - Everything you need here -
 meeting place - Hub. Friendly faces!

What place could be improved in Addington and why?
 Mall (small but not too bad) note: Mall is Barrington well
 (have everything they need.)

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?
 all OK

Do you have any questions about this study?

③

How long have you lived in Addington?
 30 yrs
 before eq

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?
 church.

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?
 activities in church (fresh fruit & veg market).
 Mon, wed.

What place could be improved in Addington and why?
 traffic
 parking
 facilities
 small shop (expensive)

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?
 More parking.

(council funding:)
 Do you have any questions about this study?
 popular change before -
 after eq not change.
 - ~~no~~ for 30 years more
 building, houses fly.

many things happen after earthquake

④

How long have you lived in Addington?
 Here for earthquake

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?
 dominos - miller bar

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?
 \$5 pizza - tastes good
 pokras jacketpot 1936 100 years ago
 buses are OK

What place could be improved in Addington and why?
 More accommodation - houses
 - affordable

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?
 taxi stand

Do you have any questions about this study?
 leave some copies of the
 report with the sign

How long have you lived in Addington?

3 years and half

Handwritten initials or mark.

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

Church.
Manua cottage
Addington Heaven

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

to amor to pray. have a cleat
Mon, Thur, x3week
Addition heaven
watering plant
planting plants
more mos
police
invoubi
(safer community)

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

More shops

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

More work
More accomodation
shopping building.

Do you have any questions about this study?

Excellent

How long have you lived in Addington?

(6)

4 years (move from Fiji)
after eq.

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

Church (community)
shops

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

community group
~~max~~

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

have farmer market, every week; 2nd week
(far from Additon) or even once a month

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

Handwritten arrow pointing from the 'farmer market' response to the 'places to see' question.

Do you have any questions about this study?

How long have you lived in Addington?

~~18/04~~
2 years
Dec 2012

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

Lincoln road - Mahuka Cottage

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

New developing sense community
Temporary accommodation
Manage cottage

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

Open spaces - both public and private are being lost
parking area (replaced by bars)

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

small businesses were affected because there are a lot of large business
↓
negative

Do you have any questions about this study?

"Social unite they do not divide"

identify the suburb/neighborhood = important
Suburb - connectivity changing
- council meeting call the decision
More involvement - trying to overcome

How long have you lived in Addington?

2 years
After the earthquake.

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

Home
Church
Library

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

Lunch, coffee
ppl someone can help when you have problem - support
Construction course → Mahuka helped him / pointed him that way

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

public toilets

Do you have any questions about this study?

How long have you lived in Addington?

11

before earthquake

addington place

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

like more bussiness & variety.

(before small village)

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

mall

want maga zine show.

retail show
supermarket

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

Do you have any questions about this study?

people don't know much
- Addington Bush - have to
create s.o. for using place.
- support people to use their
areas or empty space
in their for ~~do~~ doing
some commu activities
or do crop
- vege market in community.

How long have you lived in Addington?

12

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

best place

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

walker

Foot path. (for ~~rest~~)

parking

all bussiness move here -> trash problem

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

Do you have any questions about this study?

Time Bank: i over 100 people not all trading.
many skill
not allow money taking skill
o/paper)

- body sitting
- house lamping
- clean window
- dog walker.

How long have you lived in Addington?

25 years

used to have
vege market
and people would like to
have it again.
get people use their area
for crop.

M (13)

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

home. (council flat) . huge area and associate with.
church (oldest) many area.

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

new walk way take place of historic place

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

→ historic places should be place (4 church)

(don't like new Addington)

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

Do you have any questions about this study?

Mike. 967 22 48. (can provide photo, more info)

Addington boundary → road & boundary change from
past to present.

How long have you lived in Addington?

24 years.

(14)

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

shopping area. Burger King.
(Addington mall) B
coffee co-op

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

Addington ground
good road

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

can't go to . . .
more fast-food shops.

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

the road.
crossing

Do you have any questions about this study?

Ms K.H. Heard

(15)

How long have you lived in Addington?

Lived in Addington since 1958. 56 years.

What is your favorite place in Addington and why?

Market Square - lovely grounds - Beautiful trees.
 Historical Church. - Close to Hoagley Park & Botanic
 Garden. Tree lined streets.

Tell me about a positive experience you've had in Addington?

Many good neighbours - good schools.
 Great friends, close to town etc.

What place could be improved in Addington and why?

Probably traffic situation. -> Do not want Lincoln
 road to be a four lane highway. Busy enough
 as it is. - Need to think of safety for all
 people. Need less urbanisation.

What sort of places would you like to see in Addington?

More variety in shops. Not so much in the
 way of Pubs etc - too many.
 More child friendly facilities.

Do you have any questions about this study?

No but thanks for the opportunity to
 share thoughts.

Addington has changed since the earthquake
 - e.g. more entertainment facilities
 e.g. Town Centre - seems to have moved
 - but not still is.