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Network mapping of housing systems: The case of medium-density dwelling design in Australia

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Network mapping of housing systems: the case of medium-density dwelling DESIGN in Australia

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Context: A brief history of the Great Australian Dream

“containment, consolidation and centres” (forster, 2006)

Context: The current agenda
“containment, consolidation and centres” (forster, 2006)

Images from the NSW Government Department of Planning and Environment 2013 North West Rail Link Corridor Strategy

Context: The current agenda
- Management
- Production
- Exchange
- Consumption

Housing Sub-systems (Burke and Hulse)

Stakeholder Engagement in Housing Sub-systems
Stakeholder Engagement in Housing Sub-systems
ACTOR: “any element which bends space around itself, makes other elements dependent upon itself and translates their will into the language of its own” (Callon & Latour, 1981, p. 286)
Relationships

-who/what

-when

-type

Key Actor Interviews
Design relationships: un-locking the design ‘black box’

- provides input / opinion for design decision making (strength 1)
- sets boundaries to design decisions
- provides propositions for consideration by others (strength 2)
- limits future design decisions by others
- determines / PRESCRIBES set design decisions (strength 3)
- takes actions / makes design decisions (strength 4)
Design relationships: un-locking the ‘blackbox’
Actor-Network Theory Definitions

**Actor**
"Any element which bends space around itself, makes other elements dependent upon itself and translates their will into the language of its own" (Callon and Latour 1981 p. 286).

**Focal Actor**
one who acts to align the interests of a diverse set of actors with their own interests (enacts translation) (Callon 1986)

**Mediator**
Mediator: actors who ‘transform, translate, distort and modify’ (Latour 2005 p.39)

**Obligatory Passage Point**
A situation that has to occur for all of the actors to be able to achieve their interests, as defined by the focal actor (Callon 1986).

**Intermediary**
the language of the network. Anything that “passes between actors in the course of relatively stable transactions” eg text. Product, service or money. (Bijker and Law 1992, p.25)


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Ego-between
focal actor
• high(est) in-degree and/or out-degree in network
• highest ‘between ness’ in network

mediator
• high in-degree and/or out-degree actor with capacity for adaption (not fixed/prescriptive)

obligatory passage point
• high in-degree and/or out-degree actor who sits in a network position which gives them the power to allow design decisions to become reified.
• focal actor providing prescriptive design information (e.g., regulations)
Re-mapping the existing (actual)
Re-mapping the existing (actual)
Re-mapping the existing (actual)
current projects seeking user input in design, Melbourne

SHAPE YOUR LIFE

Outside the box

Outside the box

(draft) Mapping ‘outside the box’
‘outside the box’: international examples

Baugemeinschaft (joint building venture) and Baugruppen (Building Group), Germany

Collective Custom Build UK

Complex housing provision system

Network mapping of existing (SUPPLY DRIVEN) housing provision employing ANT

Analysis of network using SNA tools to define network attributes and aid in simplification of network representation

Comparison of existing provision system with Australian and International (DEMAND DRIVEN) alternatives to identify

Summary
identify

BARRIERS to change entrenched in the existing system, and

OPPORTUNITIES for change to:

• increase occupant participation in the MDH provision system
• shift focus from MARKET VALUE to USE VALUE
• provide increased choice to purchasers, bringing it in line with the familiar low-density system

and REDUCE THE MISS-MATCH between urban policy intentions and reality to assist in the realisation of suitable housing outcomes for individual households.
........on the combination of 3 three system/network frames originating from 3 distinct fields of enquiry

........on the simplification of visual network mapping to focal actors mediators and obligatory passage points for comparison purposes

other opportunities enabled by a Systems/ANT/SNA combination

Inviting your thoughts and comments