

Abstract

This thesis is a study of the conservation of "cultural heritage" in the case of "the Project of Ayutthaya Historical City". The thesis focuses on the conservation project, which is not just a conservation in term of ancient remains, but a construction of the new meanings and the history of those spaces. With the management process, the construction of space is not only focused on the uniqueness of the space, but a controlling of the meaning within the order of social relation of space, especially for the people who live their lives in those "historical space".

The historical space which this study chooses to concentrate is the area around the Phra Mongkhon Bophit Hall in the historical town of Ayutthaya. The area absorbed the direct impact of the management of historical space by the Fine Arts Department. Before the resettlement program began in 1994, people live here as a place for working and living. The anti-resettlement program is a discreet process by nature. On the surface, they accepted the programme, but deep down inside, the resentment had transformed into narrative stories. The function of these stories is to create the alternative meaning of the space which differs in definition from the official version, and to represent the people who live there in those spaces.