

# Urban Liminal Spaces: Busan

## - When the Show ends

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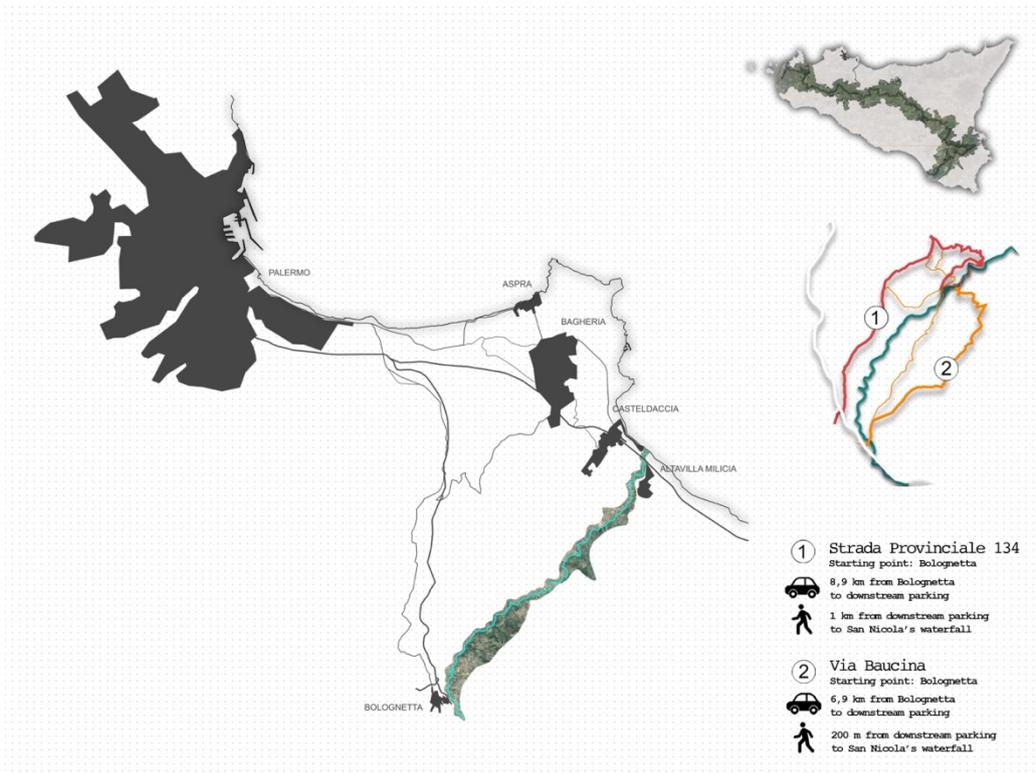
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### BACKGROUND OF URBAN SPACE

Busan is the second largest city after the capital Seoul and the largest trading port in Korea. It was used as an evacuation city during the Korean War, resulting in rapid development. As a result, roads or residential complexes were not planned and were made disorderly whenever necessary, which became a major feature of the Busan city. In addition, as the name suggests, about half of them are made up of mountainous areas, so you can easily see places developed using the slope as it is. Due to the recent development, it has been difficult to find these characteristics in east-Busan, but there are still many places where they live with their old appearances, such as Gamcheon Culture Village and Choryang Ibagu-gil.

This 2023 Winter Workshop Busan, held in Pusan National University from February 16 to 28, 2023, was the first official student exchange program of SUAE Asia programs among three countries. The participants from three countries had an opportunity to interact with the foreign students and professors aside from presenting and sharing research results.

Fig. 1: Site plan and directions, LabCity Architecture, DARCH Unipa, 2021



## LIST OF URBAN LIMINAL SPACES IN BUSAN

### 1. Gwanganli Beach.

#### Location / Type

219 Gwanganhaebyeon-ro, Gwangan 2(i)-dong, Suyeong-gu, Busan / Linear

#### Context

Gwanganli Beach is in southeastern Busan and is a crescent-shaped beach with a total length of 1.4 km. The Gwanganli Bridge is in front of the beach and it is lit up at night. So many hotels are located on the north side of the beach. The south side of the beach is lined with high-rise residential buildings. Therefore, this beach is located between a tourist area and a residential area.

#### Activity : playing, sitting on stairs, taking photo, show, drawing portrait, sleeping, picnic, demonstration

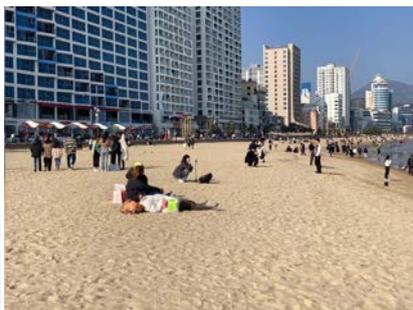
When there is a summer or festival, many tourists visit and enjoy it. However, even if it is not, it is possible to have a wide and open space due to the sea, and due to the developed commercial district in the area, residents and people in Busan can be seen doing various activities everywhere.

#### Special Characteristics

There are as many as 300 sashimi restaurants and cafes nearby, so it is a popular place for both visitors and residents.

The beach, which is essentially nothing but sand, is transformed into a liminal space by visitors and local people enjoy various activities such as concerts, eating, drinking and so on.

Also, if the hotel area and a residential area were next to each other, some problems might arise. However, since this beach is located between the two areas, it also serves as a buffer zone.





## 2. Millak Waterside Park.

### Location / Type

361 Gwanganhaebyeon-ro, Suyeong-gu, Busan / Linear

### Context

Millak Waterside Park is in the southeastern part of Busan and facing the sea, so this park is a little windy but sunny. It is located on the east side of the Gwanganli Beach, which is visited by many tourists.

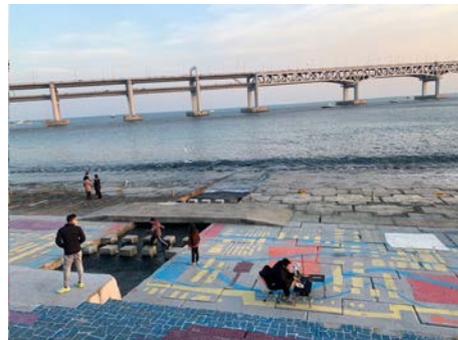
### Activity : sitting, talking, eating, drinking, picnic

At evening and night, people sit on these steps and talk, or eat and drink food bought at nearby stores. The park also serves as a walking course for neighborhood residents and there were scenes of interaction between people sitting and walking. And this place is also famous for the spot where young people can interact easily, because so many people visit here to enjoy the Busan.

### Special Characteristics

This park is little far from the Gwanganli Beach, which is visited by many tourists. the peak time of this place is night time and weekend. And it is used through all seasons without winter when the weather is cold. The most distinctive feature of Millak Waterside Park is that there are many steps from ground to sea, and each step has its original number so that people can deliver food.

We consider this park, that can cause a variety of activities by time, has a potential of liminal space.



## 3. Busan Sajik Sports Complex

### Location

45 Sajik-ro, Suyeong-gu, Busan

### Context

It is located on the border between mountains and residential area and Sajik-dong and Geoje-dong. And it is the place where the 2002 Asian Games were held and consists of various facilities.

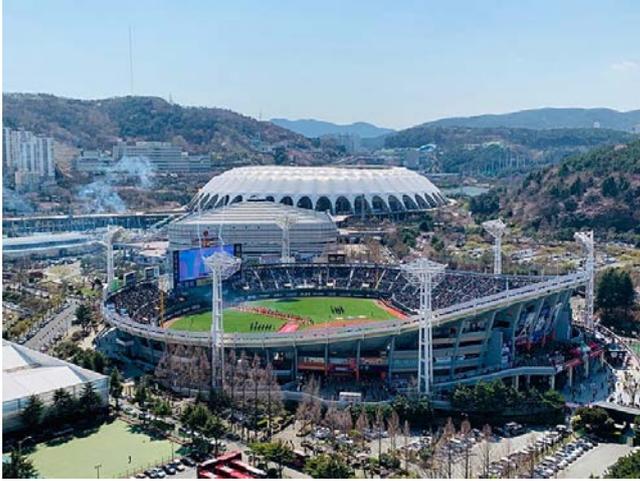
### Activities

The Sajik sports stadium has baseball stadium, basketball stadium, indoor tennis court and swimming pool. The sports games of baseball and basketball are held regularly. but even when sports event is not held, the space around the stadium and the road are also used as a park where residents can take a walk and enjoy a variety of

sports like roller-skating, jump roping, riding bicycle and running.

### **Spatial Characteristics**

This place can be considered unplanned space. Because the designer's original purpose was just for sports game but now local people is also using that place for other purposes. And it seems like ambiguous space because this space has an owner but is opened to everyone for free charge like public space.



#### **4. Millak-Dong Breakwater.**

##### **Location / Type**

113-52 Millac-Dong, Suyeong-gu, Busan / Linear

##### **Context**

It's near the harbor, so there are many boats docked in the harbor, and in the morning the fishing boats are used to go out fishing.

##### **Activities : Walk , Stay , Eat , Fishing**

This shape of the breakwater is a gathering and protection for the ships, but the frescoes on the wall and the stairs facing the sea show its attraction to the visitors.

The higher side has a good view of the ocean, and the lower side, towards the inner shore, is used for boats to dock. Also, people fish on this side because the sea is calmer.

##### **Spatial Characteristic**

Although it is only a small path, it has wide stairs and high differences. It is located between tourist attractions, so it can be a place to stay and rest rather than walk through. It also provides a safe space for nearby residents to fish.

As for peak time, this area sees more public activity in the morning during sea time and on weekends when there are more visitors.



5.

##### **Location / Type**

877 Jeonpo 2(1)-Dong, Busanjin-gu, Busan / Point

##### **Context**

It is right in front of the market so there will be many cars that transport and trucks that sell goods all over the street.

##### **Activities**

A variety of activities are held at this place. Some people are sitting at chair for Go or long-term games and the others are standing next to them to watch the game. And some people are just passing by. And besides the exit, there is a storage and elderly is selling the goods from that storage.

## Spatial Characteristics

So it has a variety of functions. People create that area not by designer and also have social relationship. it exists because of the market so the sight of the area was natural for us and we just ignored it a lot of time. So as a result, it can be considered as liminal space.



## 6. Seomyeon Pojangmacha Street.

### Location / Type

41 Seomyeon-ro 68beon-gil, Busanjin-gu, Busan / Linear

### Context

It is located on the sidewalk behind Lotte Department Store, near Seomyeon Station, which is a transfer station and is easily accessible from all over Busan. In particular, Seomyeon is a representative tourist destination, and there is a lot of space for young people, and the Seomyeon Market is next to it, so there is always a large floating population regardless of age or nationality

When the Lotte Department Store was built, the government remedied the pojangmacha that have existed here before. So this street which can be used as a sidewalk, a roadway, and a space where stalls can be placed was chosen for the placement of pojangmacha

### Activities : Walk , Sit and Eat , Drink , Street

During the day, this is a public road and the exit of Lotte Department Store's parking lot, where pojangmacha's car is placed in a storage room, taking advantage of moving easily.

Stalls will start operating from two o'clock which offer no seats, people standing, and enjoying food. Around 6:00 p.m. is dinner time, and pojangmacha, which offers the seats is open at this time. By securing a space where chairs can be placed, people can eat and drink cozy in separate spaces. It can also raise this curtain to form an open space connected to the sidewalk.

### Spatial Characteristic

Pojangmacha is a local feature of Busan, Korea, and its preservation and integration by the government have created a street that is completely different by day and by night.

The lively activity at night and the sight of only cars passing by during the day shape the peak time and no-peak time of this street

