

CTBUH 'UH'PDATE

*An Update from the Urban Habitat / Urban Design Working Committee
Issue 2 February 2015*

The CTBUH committee focusing on Urban Habitat / Urban Design was formed in October of 2014. With an interest in the role of the Tall Building within the city and how Tall Buildings affect the quality of Life for those that Live or Work within or near them. As research for the in progress publication "Urban Spaces Surrounding Tall Buildings" members of the Urban Habitat / Urban Design committee working with CTBUH HQ colleagues Organized the 7 Cities Winter Spaces Walking Tour. The goal of the tour was to understand how Urban Spaces function in winter cities and to understand the interconnectedness of the interior / exterior network in Urban Areas. The tours took place in Chicago, London, New York, Ottawa, Shanghai, Toronto and Vancouver. Participants from all tours used the hash tag #ctbuh7cities to tweet live from each tour.

More about the tours can be found at http://www.ctbuh.org/Events/ToursVisits/2015TourArchive/1501_WinterSpacesTours/tabid/6791/language/en-US/Default.aspx

The screenshot displays the CTBUH website homepage. At the top, the navigation menu includes: About CTBUH, Tall Buildings, Publications, Awards, Events, News, and Shop. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Tour Report, Seven Cities Winter Spaces Walking Tour:** A featured article with a photo of a winter scene and a link to learn more.
- New York Conference:** A link to the conference held in January 2015.
- Interactive Skyscraper Data:** A link to explore custom data, maps, charts, and more.
- Sign up for CTBUH Updates:** A call to action to receive the latest tall building info.
- Tall and Urban Database:** A section with a grid of images and links to explore tall buildings.
- Featured Tall Building:** A section highlighting specific buildings like 'The Skyscraper Center' and 'The Interlace, Singapore'.
- Global News:** A section with a grid of news items from various cities, including Manila, Moscow, Adelaide, and New York City.
- Regional Resources:** A section with a world map and links to regional pages.
- Featured Regional Event:** A section highlighting events like 'CTBUH Chicago: Tall Timber Buildings'.
- Latest Research:** A section with a link to the 'Creating Vertical Public Realm' research paper library.
- Video Spotlight:** A section with a link to a video 'Five Minutes with James Parson'.
- Turner:** A logo for Turner, a supporting contributor.
- Supporting Contributors:** A section listing major sponsors and search members by expertise.

At the bottom, there is a footer with contact information and a copyright notice: © CTBUH 2015 All Rights Reserved.

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Chicago (temperature during tour -1C / 30F)

Walking Tour participants gathered at the 23rd-floor conference room of Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture (AS+GG) in downtown Chicago for a lively introduction to the CTBUH Winter Spaces Walking Tour of the city, led by Richard Wilson, City Design Director at AS+GG. With handsome brochures in hand, the group, consisting of a mix of Chicago Architecture Foundation docents, city planners, students, architects working and retired, and journalists.

The Chicago tour visited many local landmarks and public spaces including the Marquette Building, Federal Centre Plaza, Chase Centre, One South Dearbourne and Daily Plaza and Millennium Park. Tour Participants also experienced Chicago's underground PEDWAY, which connected many stops. The tour ended at Millennium Park and with drinks at cliff hangers.



London (temperature during tour 9C / 48F)

London's walking tour was led by Dominic Bettison, Director at Wilkinson Eyre Architects. The tour participants met at the Fulcrum sculpture at Liverpool Street Station in the City.

From there, the tour explored several spaces including Broadgate estate above Liverpool street station, Bishopgate and Broadgate Towers, Leaderhill Market and Tower Place. Tour participants then boarded the Thames Clipper for a river cruise to Canary Wharf. At Canary Wharf participants were able to enjoy the Winter Lights Festival. The Winter Lights had been specifically designed to light up the urban spaces at Canary Wharf during the winter season.



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New York (temperature during tour 1C / 34F)

In New York City, CTBUH visited a network of eight interconnected, publicly-accessible urban spaces surrounded by and integrated with tall buildings. These interrelated interior and exterior spaces are designed to make walking easier and more enjoyable, and to increase the quality of life for those who visit, live and work in urban centers. They intermediate between tall buildings, streets, transit stations, and civic destinations. The purpose of the tour was to investigate how these spaces function in the winter, enhancing human comfort for those using the urban environment by providing shelter and urban programming at key locations. The Tour began at the lobby of Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF) directly across 42nd Street from Bryant Park and ended in the Winter Garden at Brookfield Place in Battery Park City. Albert Wei and Josh Chaiken led the New York tour.



Ottawa (temperature during tour -6C / 21 F)

The tour of Canada's capital city was jointly hosted by the CTBUH UH/UD Committee, National Capital Commission and City of Ottawa and began in the SunLife Centre, one of a number of full-block, climate-controlled indoor environments in the downtown area. The atrium of the Centre is a privately owned public space (POPS). The tour continued inside through World Exchange Plaza down Sparks Street to the National War Museum. The tour visited the Rideau Canal, which at over 7 KM long is the world's longest skating track. The tour visited Confederation Park where the Capital was celebrating Winterlude with ice sculptures an outdoor celebrations. The tour concluded at the Rink of Dreams at City Hall and a discussion and observations about from the tour. Randolph Wang from the City of Ottawa led the Ottawa walk.



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SHANGHAI (temperature during tour 9C / 48F)

Tom Ford of Gensler lead the Shanghai Walk. Dawn on the day of the Shanghai Winter Spaces tour was cold and overcast. A freezing wind drove the rain sideways. It was a perfect day for a walk.

Later that afternoon, 20 urban enthusiasts gathered to examine a series of outdoor spaces strung between the office towers and shopping podia along West Nanjing Road. The Shanghai contingent of the Winter Spaces Walking Tour was the first around the world to commence.

The purpose of the walking tours was to examine outdoor space at the base of tall buildings to help build an understanding of how such spaces function in inclement weather. More about the Shanghai tour can be found

at:<http://www.gensler.com/cities/2015/2/5/how-do-you-design-outdoor-spaces-for-inclement->



TORONTO (temperature during the tour 0C/ 32F)

The Toronto tour was organized by the CTBUH Urban Habitat / Urban Design Committee in partnership with the OPPI (Ontario Professional Planners Institute) CTBUH Canada and The City of Toronto. The Toronto tour was sold out with more than 50 people in attendance.. The tour was organized around a range of spaces, mostly exteriors, but some interior spaces too. One of the goals was to understand how a network of spaces in winter cities contributes to the quality of life for those that live, work and visit the urban areas. Through the tour, attendees learned of the importance of interconnectedness and how important interior gathering spaces are, especially when they are designed with a lot of transparency and views to the exterior. James Parakh UH/UD Chair led the tour along with Richard Witt, CTBUH Canada Chapter Chair. Picture below taken at City Hall in front of the 2015 Pan Am Games countdown clock. Video and more on the Toronto tour at <http://urbantoronto.ca/news/2015/02/ctbuh-hosts-winter-spaces-tours-7-cities-around-globe>



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VANCOUVER (temperature 11C / 52 F)

A key element to the success of Vancouver's design is the focus on great places and spaces and how the built environment contributes to creating convivial public space. The CTBUH 7 Cities Winter Spaces Walking Tour provided a great opportunity to explore how public places and spaces, particularly in the downtown, contribute to a vibrant winter experience. The tour began at the Coal Harbour Community Centre, which is a focal community facility in the middle of a dense waterfront district. This neighbourhood showcases the podium-tower design that includes a slim point towers. The tour explores Vancouver's Seawall and Jack Poole Plaza, home on the Vancouver 2010 Olympic torch. The tour passed through the historic Gastown district to the Woodward's building a recently completed mixed-use development that includes social housing, market housing, retail, higher education, office, and community space. At the heart of this building is an enclosed atrium. The tour was led by Holly Sovdi of the City of Vancouver



CTBUH UH / UD COMMITTEE Welcomes new committee members



CTBUH UH/UD Committee is pleased to welcome five new members who recently joined the committee.

Tom Ford is the UD studio lead at Gensler, Shanghai, China and led the shanghai #ctbuh7cities tour.

Vinda Dravid recently spoke at the CTBUH 2014 Shanghai, conference and is with Sterling Engineering in Mumbai, India.

Caroline Stalker is a Director at Architectus, Brisbane Australia.

Randolph Wang is a senior urban designer with The City of Ottawa, Canada and led the Ottawa #ctbuh7cities tour.

Holly Sovdi is the principal planner with the downtown planning division for the City of Vancouver, who also led the #ctbuh7cities walking tour.





CTBUH Urban Habitat / Urban Design Committee Members

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