

TOWN PLANNING

By the Urban Planning Commission

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE SELECTION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITES

1. AREA:

The size of the site should depend not only upon enrolment and kind of school but also upon the recreational needs of the students.

(a) The site must be wide enough to make adequate provision for athletic fields, playgrounds, lawns, agricultural activities and future building extension.

(b) The minimum requirements as to standard area of sites for elementary schools are indicated below: (G. O. Memorandum No. 39, s. 1938).

One-half hectare (1/2 Ha.) for a barrio school which has only one or two classes and no grade above grade II.

One hectare (1 Ha.) for a central school which has not more than four classes or for a barrio school which has from two to four classes.

Two hectares (2 Ha.) for schools which have from five to seven classes, inclusive.

Three hectares (3 Ha.) for schools which have from eight to ten classes, inclusive.

Four hectares (4 Ha.) for schools which have more than ten classes.

2. LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY:

Central location relation to the present or future distribution of population to be served. (A neighborhood unit of from 600 to 1000 families will normally require an elementary school). The site must be well located and easily accessible. It should be accessible to the greatest number. It might be best to locate the site some distance from the town in order to provide equal accommodations for outlying settlements. In urban plan-

ning, children of elementary school age should not be required to walk farther than 400 to 500 meters.

The school site must have a suitable frontage on a public road, preferably on a quiet side street, if it is in the city. Sites having irregular boundaries should be avoided for obvious reasons.

The site should not be shut in from the main highway by private property. It should not lie behind dense groves of tall trees, nor where it will be surrounded by swamps and irrigation ditches.

3. SANITATION:

The site must be well drained and sanitary. It should be removed from such insanitary conditions and undesirable surroundings as public markets, slaughter-houses, garbage dumps, swamps, and stables for animals.

4. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION:

The topography must be such that a satisfactory athletic field can be laid out. The general contour of the land should be level and sufficiently elevated. Provisions must be made for ample lawn areas in conjunction with proper settings for the buildings. In other words, the site must be an agricultural land that require minimum expenditures of labor for grading, filling, and drainage.

5. SOIL:

The soil should be suitable for some form of gardening or agricultural work.

6. RELATION TO MAIN STREETS OR THOROUGHFARE:

Elementary school children should not be exposed to the dangers of thoroughfare traffic and should not be made to cross railroad lines (at grade).

7. RELATION TO SURROUNDING AREAS:

Children should not be required to cross business or industrial dis-

tricts to reach the school.

The site should be removed from objectionable features such as noise, odors, dust, heavy traffic highways, cock-pits, jails, dance-halls, bowling-alleys, ship-yards, railroad yards, manufacturing and industrial establishments, and localities of questionable character. It should not be located near military barracks, fire stations, hospitals, and cemeteries.

School buildings might conveniently be grouped with other public or semi-public buildings and school playgrounds might be combined with neighborhood parks or play-fields.

8. ORIENTATION:

The site should permit the proper orientation of the school building to secure the best ventilation and light.

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE SELECTION OF PUBLIC MARKET SITES

1. AREA:

One (1) hectare is the minimum area required by an average community of about 20,000 people.

2. ACCESSIBILITY:

To be readily and easily accessible, to producers and consumers alike, and should usually be located near the central shopping district. It should never be hedged in between the industrial and commercial areas.

3. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION:

Land to be sufficiently level and not subject to floods.

4. RELATION WITH THE SURROUNDING AREAS:

- (a) The site should preferably be within the limits of possible expansion of commercial areas.
- (b) It should be easily accessible from the neighborhood units it is to serve.
- (c) It should relate well with the present and anticipated arrangement of main thoroughfares and transit facilities. To avoid traffic congestion and undesirable inter-

ference with other commercial and business activities, the market buildings and tiendas should be sufficiently far from the main road. The approaches to the site should be carefully planned.

(d) Generous space should be provided for parking motor and animal-drawn vehicles, either on the site or immediately adjacent thereto.

(e) Provisions for drainage and the disposal of refuse should be carefully studied.

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PRONUNCIAMENTOS

CAYETANO ARELLANO.—It is by the municipality that a nation begins, and in it are embedded the rudiments of the three powers that rule the State in general.

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GREGORIO ARANETA.—Let Faith be the light to illumine our intellect, Charity the lever to move our Will and Hope for a Higher and Everlasting Life, the nectar to quench the thirst of our ambition.

—»«—

GRACIANO LOPEZ JAENA.—We have to rely upon ourselves alone for our own progress and regeneration.

—»«—

RAFAEL PALMA.—What makes man's greatness is not devotion to pleasures which, after all, are transient, but it is the good done to the Commonwealth which makes his name ever be remembered and his memory revered long after his bones have crumbled to dust.

—»«—

APOLINARIO MABINI.—The science of governing does not consist in knowing how to choose the best and the most perfect form, but the most useful and expedient.

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