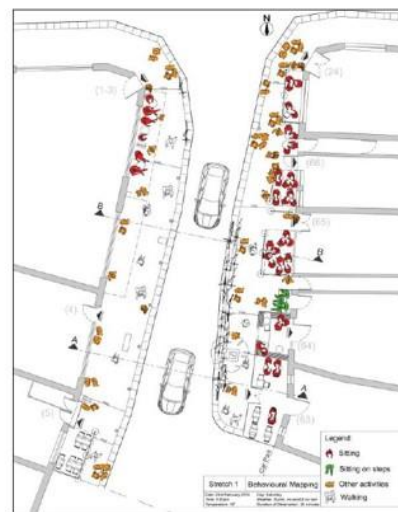
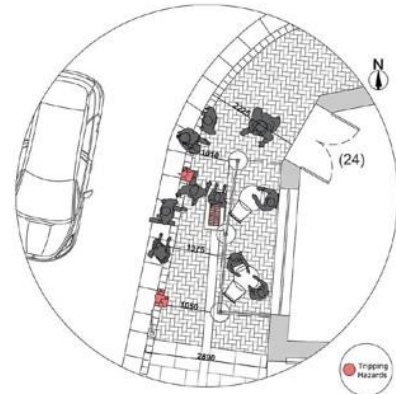


2019 Munia Almaquadma ***Tension between ease of movement and vitality: South William Street, Dublin***



Streets typically comprise one-third to a half of a city's area, forming channels for movement and generating social life (Southworth & ben-Joseph, 2003). Since pedestrians are the prime users of these streets, the footpath is an essential element in the construction of urban life (Bloomberg & Burden & Burney & Farely & Sadik-Khan, 2013).

This research focuses on South William Street, winner of "The Great Street Award" in the 2019 Urbanism Awards. It was studied by employing a mixed methods approach of quantitative and qualitative methods. Detailed data was gathered on the street's physical shape, while ethnographic observations were made on the life it facilitates. The research investigates the two main features of pedestrians' experience of the street: ease of movement and vitality. Identifying a positive friction between these, it asks how each feature interrelates. The results show a strong tension between the two features, and some characteristics of ease of movement and vitality directly affecting each other. The street was found to be physically non-compliant with the requirements that support movement, but in a manner that did not influence the vitality of the street. On South William Street, the success of one feature does not entirely rely on the presence of the other.