

Application of **Universal Design** in the Built Environment

Editors:
Asiah Abdul Rahim
Ismawi Hj Zen



INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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Published by:
IIUM Press
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2011
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Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Asiah Abdul Rahim & Ismawi Hj. Zen: Application of Universal Design in the Built Environment

ISBN: 978-967-418-205-2

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia – MAPIM
(Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed by :
IIUM PRINTING SDN. BHD.
No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3
Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves
Batu Caves Centre Point
68100 Batu Caves
Selangor Darul Ehsan

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CHAPTER 6:
PROVISION OF BARRIER-FREE
ENVIRONMENT AT WATERFRONT
DEVELOPMENT IN MALAYSIA

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Mohd. Amin, Sulzakimin Mohammad, and Che
Raiskandar Che Rahim,*

INTRODUCTION TO WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT

Waterfront development is fast becoming one of the recreation areas in the city with the demand for leisure and recreational needs by the increasing urban population.

Paumier (2004) stated that waterfront areas have now become important resources where changes in transportation and development economics have made land and buildings available for reuse. Due to this, a new battleground over conflict between public and private interest occur causing increasing tensions between global capital and local place identity. The regeneration of the waterfront and development became a global concern because rapid urbanisation and introduction of automobiles have turned the once active waterfront into a derelict land, with many dilapidated and abandoned warehouses.

The waterfront development does not only incorporate recreational facilities but has been the target for mixed development such as residential, retail, commercial and institutional use. With its scenic view and close proximity to the city centre, the waterfront is now becoming one of the prestigious sites in the city especially for commercial development. Glazer and Glazer and Delaporte (1980) defined waterfront as port areas of large development that are located on the coasts, along rivers, at the terminus of shipping channels or alongside bays leading inland from the ocean.