Sketch of shared space in the alley.
Collective space is integrating private and public life. Streets and parks are a kind of collective space in the urban structure.

The interaction between movements and public life is essential in the urban context. Public life is first and foremost concentrated to streets and pavements with a high flow of people. The shared space in the alleys can be seen as a collective space, where private and public life integrate. The shared space is adjusted to a human scale and pace and admit people to meet for planned and unplanned activities.

The immediate contact between private and public life is creating an interesting contrast and has developed to be part of people’s everyday life.
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ILLUSTRATIONS

All photos taken by author.

Plans based on comprehensive maps in master plans for Ha Noi and Ha Dong.

Detailed maps and plans for Van Quan developed by author.