

LA 7002 Graduate Design Studio

LSU Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture Spring 2009

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Faubourg-Marigny (wikimedia commons)

Project 1.001 – Observe . Illustrate

Landscapes, environments and cities are complex and difficult to understand, at one moment they are experiential and at another they are planned and structured. The initial phase of discovery will examine two aspects of observation and analysis. The first will ask you to create a series of maps and diagrams that create a framework to understand the urban scale relationships of the site. The second phase will ask you to identify a phenomena that illustrates a component of human experience within the site.

Understanding what it means to experience a site is intuitive and tends to be anecdotal, translating that information into a mode of representation requires a designer to carefully analyze and synthesize information. Sites are constantly in flux through a broad range of changes in phenomena. These temporal changes can occur through physical or perceptual alterations in spatial conditions. You will explore the Marigny-Bywater area searching for phenomena that occurs on micro and/or macro scales. Identify the phenomena and the specific site conditions that make the phenomena possible. You will then devise a journey through the Marigny-Bywater in order to experience this phenomena within the context of the neighborhood.

You should take into consideration the following as you develop your journey:

- What is the length of the **event**?
- What are the specific components that make the **phenomena** possible?
- How is the **experience** changed throughout the journey?
- Are there specific **signals** that occur?
- Is the **phenomena** tied to another **event**?
- Is the **phenomena/event** site specific? In what ways?
- How do you quantify or identify the **phenomena** as it relates to experience?

Representation

Framework – It is important to develop a clear series of measured drawings in order to fully analyze a site. Each student will create two scales of plans at their own discretion, one must show the Marigny-Bywater neighborhood and its defined boundary, the second will show how the Marigny-Bywater fits into the larger context of New Orleans. Each scaled base map should fit onto 24"x36" landscape sheets.

Each student will then create a series of overlays using either analog or digital media that represent each of the following: roadways, building massing, vegetation, flood infrastructure, building typology, program/use, and topography. Each of these layers should be created with the highest craft and accuracy while also creating a beautiful representation of the site element. It is important to determine at what scale each layer should be represented and if necessary to represent them at multiple scales. Be very deliberate about choosing a scale to represent a particular site element.

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Composite – The journey through the Marigny-Bywater will be documented in three ways; perspectival, sectional, and planar. The perspective and section representations will be accomplished in the first two site observation exercises and the planar aspect will be composites of the overlay information, abstracted and distilled to divulge relationships between each layer of information. Each student will create 5+ composites to tease out relationships within the neighborhood/city. The composites may be analog, digital or a hybrid representation that is accurately crafted and expresses the phenomena and experience on the site.

Deliverables

(2) Base Plans, 24"x36" Landscape Layouts @2 Scales (scales TBD)

(7+) Overlay Information, 24" x 36" Landscape Layouts (scales TBD)

(5+) Composite Diagrams/Maps, 24" x 36" Landscape Layouts (scales TBD)

Site Observation 0.001 (path) (30 photos, 15 drawings)

Site Observation 0.002 (sections) (30 photos, 15 sections . scale TBD)

Due Wednesday, February 10th, 2008 @ 1.30pm.

It is important that you are ready to pin-up with all of your work at 1.30pm. Anyone not present at 1.30 will be considered late.