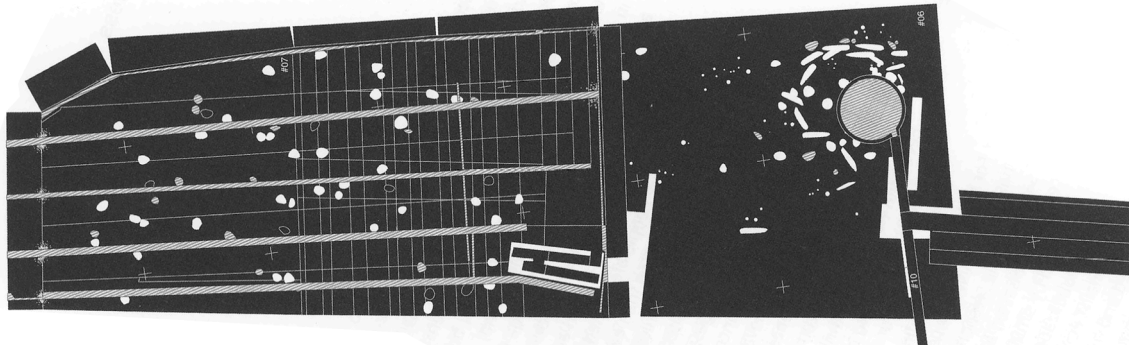


Project 3: Mappings



Smout Allen, *Grand Egyptian Museum*, in **Pamphlet Architecture 28**

The most challenging mappings today are found in the creative and imaginative work of artists, architects and designers, neither seeking absolute empirical warranty for their maps nor claiming for them any metaphysical revelation. Mapping in a flexible era has become a creative and critical intervention within broader discourses of space and the ways that it may be inhabited.

Denis Cosgrove, *Introduction* in **Mappings**, p.19

Project 1: *Site Performance and Site intervention* and Project 2: *Extracting Strategies* have paved the way for what we are about to do for the rest of the semester: only with more bandwidth, depth and overall complexity. Project 3a and 3b are really the first phase of a design process enabling you to develop an architectural intervention on the Albany Bulb site: the Research phase. But as you will see in Project 3a, *research*, in architectural terms, is very much part of the design process. Very early, the information collected is *edited* -in itself a creative act, and *translated* in a visual form –one further creative action. The reason being that architects design with *visual* material (drawings, models, materials, etc), so for a given research information to be *useable* in the design process, at minimum it needs to be visualized.

3a: Collecting/editing/translating information – 1 week

A lot of significant raw information exists in non-visual form - historical texts, demographics data, statistics, etc, and these will need to be *translated* into visual information and **mapped** on the site. And a lot of raw information – geographical maps, photography, graphs, are already visual but can't be used unedited for they contain superfluous or distracting information. They need to be purged and redrawn before being **sited**. Editing and translating “found” information into useful design material is as much a purging process than it is one of collecting.

You will be working in Site Systems teams (per lottery), but each student is responsible for at least one sub-system. Each sub-system is documented and mapped separately and an accretive map is produced as a team effort to reflect the system as a whole.

Process

- Collect, edit, purge, translate existing photographs, texts, graphs, maps, etc.
- Map the edited information. The map is *sited*, in other words, the information is represented in relation to the site (in plan and/or section). The information should be mapped at minimum 2 different scales:
 - i. zoomed in (local occurrence) and/or
 - ii. the Bulb as a whole (from Highway to Western tip: 1" = 400') and/or

- iii. the Bulb in context of Albany, the East Bay shoreline (from Bay Bridge to Richmond: 1" = 1200') or the whole SF Bay (1" = 4 miles)

ProductionIndividual

- Sub-system map: 2-D (plan, section or elevation) or 3-D map (axonometric) in Illustrator or Rhino (Vector)
- Editor's note: short paragraph accompanying the map stating properties, cause to effect relationships, projections in time...
- Printed document: the Sub-Systems maps and Editor's note are formatted according to a given template and printed to be bound as a collective "Site analysis for the Albany Bulb" document.

Team

- Site System map(s): One or more drawings revealing relationships between sub-systems: Composite map of sub-systems (layered) in 2-D, 3-D or axonometric, using Rhino or Illustrator (Vector)
- Editors note: short paragraphs accompanying the maps stating meaningful relationships uncovered between sub-systems, cause to effect, dynamics...
- Printed document: the Site System maps and Editors notes are formatted according to a given template and printed to be bound as a collective "Site analysis for the Albany Bulb" document.

No. Students Site Systems: sub-systems

- 4 **Topography:** for Bulb and along shoreline from Bay Bridge to Richmond: actual characteristics, evolution of the Bulb's morphology and topography, bathymetry, location of "landmarks" and/or land/aquatic features (sand beaches, marshes, dunes, islands, piers, mudflats, art etc)
- 4 **Geology:** ground composition and its evolution (above and under water), liquefaction map, erosion
- 5 **Infrastructure:** for Bulb and along shoreline from Bay Bridge to Richmond: roads, highways, ferries, walking/hiking/bicycle trails, access to the Bulb (and other shoreline areas), parking, public transportation, utilities (PG&E, aqueduct/sewage), EBMUD (East Bay Municipal Utility District), evolution
- 4 **Water and Air:** water's edge (tidal condition), creeks, rainfall, aquatic life, marshes, eventual rise of sea level, debris washed ashore, seasonal wind patterns (speed, direction), air pollution, temperature, scenic resources from Bulb
- 4 **Natural resources:** terrestrial and marine, plant and animal life: species, quantity, life cycles, rare/abundant (endangered), evolution of plant life since landfill, patterns of growth and densification
- 3 **Inhabitants:** for Bulb and along shoreline from Bay Bridge to Richmond: population count and trend, permanent/transient, demographics (ethnicity, age, revenue), current site occupation and prospective occupation (week days/weekends, times during the day)
- 5 **Land use:** current uses (programs) and evolution over time (Bulb and shoreline from Bay Bridge to Richmond), prospective development (Eastshore State Park project, Race track), protected areas (current/projected), Albany zoning, ownership

Readings

F. Capra, *The Systems view of life*, Chapter 8 of **Turning Point: Science, Society and the Rising Culture**, 1982.

Additional reading (see also bibliography on WIKI)

M. Gandelonas, **X-Urbanism**, Princeton Architectural Press, New York, 1999.

Schedule

| | | | | | |
|---|-------|---------------------------------------|---|-------|--|
| W | 09/30 | Introduction of Project 3 | M | 10/05 | Desk critiques: mappings |
| F | 10/02 | Desk critiques: Information collected | W | 10/07 | Individual and group pin-ups: mappings |

Notes on Template / Print document

Format: 11" x 17" Portrait (see WIKI: *BulbSiteAnalysisTemplate*)

Texts: A short text should explain the research (interesting findings, particular features, relevant facts, cause to effect, specific relationships, etc). One paragraph for each Sub-system map and one for each System map (sub-systems combined).

- Verdana, 10 points (locate according to space available)

Scales: Use a graphic scale on each page

- 1" = 4 miles San Francisco Bay (North = Top of page)
- 1" = 1200' East shore from Bay Bridge to Richmond (North = Top of page)
- 1" = 400' Bulb from Western tip to Highway (North = Right of page)
- 1" = tbd Local occurrence (zoomed-in)

Indicate North orientation on each page

For Topography/Bathymetry:

Include min. 6 transversal sections of the Bulb/Neck/Plateau (@ 1" = 400' in X; 1" = 200' in Y)

To do list:

- Cover / Back Cover design
- Section separators design
- North indicator design
- Graphic scales design
- Collecting pages, printing and binding document (2?)