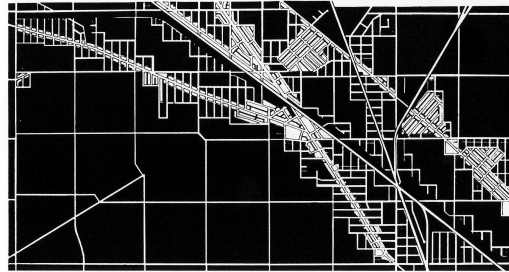
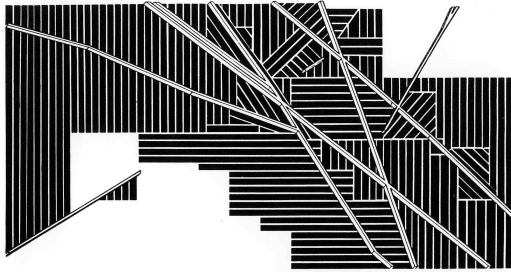


**3b: Developing site strategies – 2 week**



Mario Gandelsonas, *Chicago in X-Urbanism*

The site investigation is suggesting that a terrain of landscape can be conceived as a synthetic ecology. The condition in what is considered natural or artificial is ambiguous rather than absolute. We have disengaged from romanticizing the landscape and have prioritized a systems understanding that capitalizes on performance specificity. Site becomes an operable field embedded with dynamic ecologies that are active and interconnect in feedback loops. Within the site as a complex field condition, territories of ecology exist in co-evolutionary relationships.

Our objective is to test the insertion of an infrastructural-programmed system as a series of forces acting upon our field. Tectonic intervention will become a series of operative manipulations and (dis)configurations. We will treat the procedure of site incorporation, as embedding a secondary synthetic ecology into the existing synthetic ecology. This intervention has to respond to the field and become codependent. The infrastructure will have site-specific program, scale and circulation requirements.

Site mappings will inform site identity and result in rules for transforming and growing tectonic synthetic ecologies that react to the existing site condition. Each student will choose and focus on several site sub-systems from the accumulated mappings and establish critical relationships. A secondary set of mappings will be generated that will directly inform a strategy for re-forming the Albany Bulb site and creating spatial configurations that operate as tectonic synthetic ecologies.

**The Albany Bulb Physical Endurance Camp: Controlled and Uncontrolled Occupation**

*Specific requirements will be given in the next project phase*

The program for the site is a physical endurance camp that engages and formalizes three site conditions.

1. Bay insertion (activities engaging the waters edge)
2. Ground transformation/expansion (activities engaging extend flat/inclined areas)
3. Ground extrusion (activities engaging and requiring vertical surface/elements)

**Controlled:** Three months out of the year the site operates as a strict boot camp for people trying to get in-shape. The participants come to the site five days a week, three hours a day and have to participate in a vigorous training program. Several spaces will be allocated for indoor/enclose facilities. All site circulation will be designed with intent and conceptualized as performance promenades.

**Uncontrolled:** In the remainder nine months, the site becomes a public park. The infrastructure can be appropriated for extreme use and misconduct.

The location and organization of the program components on the Albany Bulb will be chosen on an individual basis based on criteria discovered in the site analysis.

All project infrastructures accommodating the program parts will be interconnected into a singular organization that takes on a condition of either, centralized, decentralized or distributed. Therefore program elements must be sited with specified relationships to other program components and any existing infrastructure.

The designed Infrastructure will include spaces of occupation (nodes) based on the activity and designed circulation terrains (networks). It is critical that the designed infrastructure establishes a clear relationship to the synthetic site ecologies identified individually from the composite mapping.

**Objective 1****Individual mapping accumulation (2D or 3D, utilizing the mappings from assignment 3a)**

From the collective class mappings, utilize multiple information layers to create individualized sampling. The organization of your sampling will be presented in a comprehensive mapping.

All mappings must include physical attributes. This includes: land (topography) and water (bathymetry/tidal conditions) as well as access routes weaving into the site from external territories.

Theses systems will become the operable field condition in which other data set mappings will be overlaid.

**Objective 2****Create a comprehensive mapping**

Choose two other sub-systems based on what you find relevant in the site condition and for the project program.

Establish relationships between multiple scales and inter-level intensities. Invent a comprehensive mapping that depicts diverse ecology classifications.

Determine conditions from your sampling connections including:

Local and global effects	Symbiosis	Levels of intensity
Origins for change within specific territories	Intersections	Sprawls
Organizational systems	Fluctuations	Nodes and Networks
	Change over time	

**Objective 3****Site Manifesto Text**

Write a short paragraph (200-300 words) establishing a site thesis.

What are the performative conditions of the site that establish the sites identity?

How do these conditions operate as a system of relationships?

**Objective 4****Site model (A), Ecology relationships**

This first model will be a 3-dimensional re-presentation of your ecologies mapping, of the entire Albany Bulb. The model will explicitly reveal systems relationships and systems interactions. As a foundation, the model will expose conditions of the topographic, bathymetric, and circulation network. Based on individually established rules, you will incorporate the other sub-systems you mapped into this model and determine criteria for evaluating three relevant site locations where program may reside. These site locations should create an inter-reliant network of circulation and visual connection.

Materials and techniques:

Scale 1"=200'

One material will be assigned and you may choose a second sheet material that is no thinner than 1/16"

Select a method for accumulated a structured terrain that describes the mapping data through information and pattern organization.

**Site models (B), three selected territories**

Locate three relevant site locations and build three individual models that reside in one of each of the zones.

1. Bay insertion (activities engaging the waters edge)
2. Ground transformation/expansion (activities engaging extend flat/inclined areas)
3. Ground extrusion (activities engaging and requiring vertical surface/elements)

Generate your three selected sites at 1/8" =1'=0"

Utilize your complete mapping to invent a series of rules for manipulating the ground condition of the site in order to form your individualized site topography. Keep in mind the insertion of the program.

These models should demonstrate design intent through a manipulation of specified site conditions that are derived from the process (ecologies studies). Also consider that the site will be further transformed by the insertion of programmed spatial elements, therefore you are manufacturing the site into a designed identity.

Consider:

Pattern formation

Forces

Self-organization

Spontaneous behavior

Order/disorder

Adaptive conditions

Materiality

Circulation

Spatial interactions

**Reading**

Corner, James, **Agency of Mapping**

Corner, James, **Terra Fuxus**

**Additional readings**

J. Corner and A. MacLean, **Taking Measure Across the American Landscape**

**Mappings**, D. Cosgrove, ed., selected essays (Intro, J. Corner's, L. Nuti)

**Schedule**

W	10/07	Introduction of Project 3b
F	10/09	Objective 1 + 2 Maps of mandatory sub-systems (physical attributes: land, water, access) Maps of 2 sub-systems of choice Begin Comprehensive mapping (Ecology map)
M	10/12	Objective 2 + 3 Comprehensive mapping (all sub-systems forming Ecology map) –2 iterations Manifesto
W	10/14	Mid-Term meetings
F	10/16	Objective 3 +4(A) Revised Ecology map and Manifesto Physical model (A) –2 iterations
M	10/19	Objective 4(A) + 4(B) Developed physical model (A) Physical models of the three specific sites (B) All Objectives
W	10/21	Review Project 3b: sub-systems maps; Ecology map; Manifesto; Physical models