

# Porous Public Space: Urban Nature for Climate Adaptation

Scan I Design Master Studio, Autumn 2016 [Larch 501/Arch504]

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With Master Teacher Louise Grassov, Schulze + Grassov

## PROJECT 01: District and Site Analyses

DUE:  
PRESENTATION - Monday October 3 (posted to Google drive by noon)  
PRINTED PAGES and DIGITAL FILE - Friday October 7 (posted to Drive by noon; bring printed copy to class)



**While in Copenhagen you investigated and documented one of the topics below at both the 5-minute walk distance** (or whatever planning scale is relevant) **and at the site scale**. You identified **existing and anticipated patterns & features, opportunities/assets, and needs**. Now that we're in the studio, you will **augment and integrate that on-site research with archival research**. What can you learn from **maps, GIS data bases, and publications**? What are the underlying qualities of the district and site that cannot be observed? What are **planned projects** for implementation that would impact the site and its potential uses? How do the class observations, or others' documentation of **existing human use** patterns on the site influence your analyses? Consider what is **existing, planned and possible**. Work as a group to form a cohesive theoretical framework. In particular, pay attention to the contextual forces that will influence your site-scale work later in the term, but also be willing to expand the analysis, blur boundaries and be creative.

Your team will graphically represent your analyses in annotated graphic format (maps, diagrams, infographics) in a **presentation to the rest of the class** on Monday, Oct. 3 (ppt, prezi, pdf, etc.) The purpose of the presentation will be to inform your classmates of what you've learned, so the presentation should be informative, memorable and succinct. You may also have questions that you can pose to others, to help fill out or clarify your final submission. Then, **format the final version of your analyses using the same template as we are using for the precedent studies**, due along with the digital file on Friday, Oct. 7. Your areas of research are below; expand and tailor as you see fit:

**1. Land and Activity Uses**, places of "gravity", activity nodes, edges and patterns. Especially focus on the ground plane. Include current and planned future uses, and connections to surrounding uses. Include commercial, housing, cultural, gathering, recreational, etc.

**2. Public Space "Rooms" and their qualities:** spatial/volumetric, climatic (wind, sun), character, scale sensory stimuli. Include staying and moving spaces (e.g. rooms and streets). What features invite access for diverse users? What features invite interaction? What features are needed?

**3. Mobility Patterns and Features:** Flows of pedestrians, bicycles, motor vehicles. Anticipate future patterns as well as document current; include patterns beyond the 5-minute walk to include the larger networks. At the site scale, what features provide clear transitions and zones for movement and lingering? Where are they needed? (might want to look at Louise's handout)

**4. Blue + Green:** What is the shape of the ground plane, and how does water flow? Where are opportunities for water collection, infiltration, and display? What are vegetation patterns? Where are gaps in green corridors? Where are needs and opportunities for urban greening for human health and comfort? For other species? How does this site fit into a larger connected open space system?

**5. Local Narratives:** Evidence of human stories / history. What patterns and remnants provide the scaffolding for reading the city's structure and meaningful past? What landmarks, edges and features define the site and district? What stories are there that are visible/not legible/should be made more visible?

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*"The success of our public spaces is closely linked to how they are connected to the city network and where they stand in the hierarchy of the surrounding urban space."*

– Schulze + Grassov, Parameters for Public Space