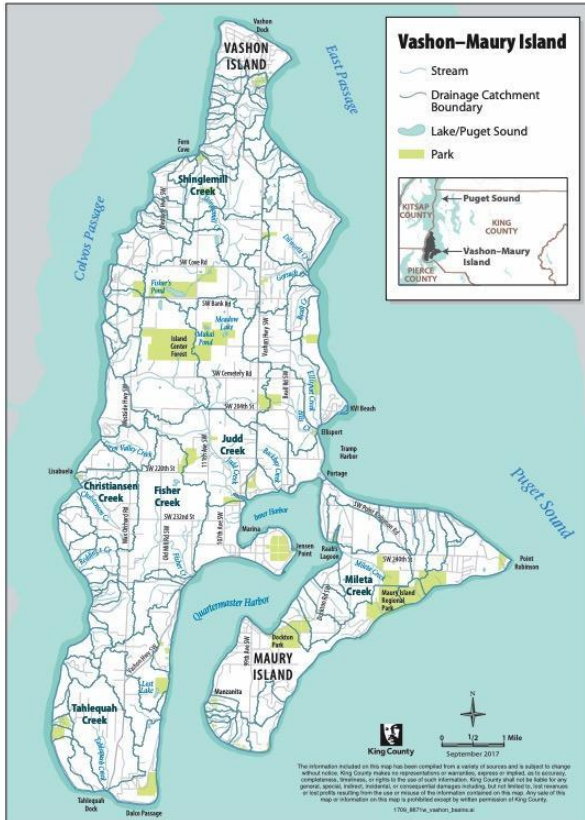


PROJECT 02: Site and Context Analyses and Narratives

DUE: PRESENTATION Monday October 12 (posted to Google Drive by 1pm)
FINAL DIGITAL FILE Wednesday October 14 (posted to Google Drive by 1pm)

G-Drive: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0A1rliKya93t-Uk9PVA>



To generate responsive design ideas that are appropriate to the site and to Vashon Island culture and environment, it is of paramount importance to learn as much as we can about the island and the Heron Meadow. **What are key island narratives? How is the Heron Meadow connected to the environmental, social and cultural functions and stories of the island? What feelings, qualities, features, processes, needs, opportunities and constraints are present in the Meadow and its related contexts?**

We will work together as a studio to identify and share what we can learn from our research, and create base materials that will guide the various scales of our work – from island-wide planning for access and storytelling, to the flows, qualities and potentials of the 2-acre site. We have a number of [resources](#) that will support your remote research, and (only) if desired, we can facilitate site and island visits.*

Work as a 2-3 person group within your theme area to identify the conditions and patterns at a range of scales (see below). Consider what will be useful to inform future programming, concept and schematic site planning and development, and detailed design. What narratives and stories are important and interesting?

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. 12** (ppt, prezi, pdf, etc. – about 10 minutes per topic) The purpose of the presentation will be to inform your classmates about 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 template that is provided**, due in a digital file on **Wednesday, Oct. 14**. Your final pages should be uploaded to the [Final Files](#) folder within the Assignment 2 folder on the Drive. Your possible areas of research are below; expand and tailor as you see fit. **As you find resources, please add them to the appropriate folder for your topic on the course Google Drive.**

ALL TEAMS:

Review the results of the [VNC Summer Workshop](#) in the VNC folder in the Drive. These will help to set the context of your studies, and also familiarize you with community's overall wishes. (However, expand your analyses and narratives to further incorporate island and regional contexts.)

*For those who would like to visit the meadow this week/week-end, we'll collaborate on mapping our impressions and naming the subspaces of the meadow -- a base [Site Impressions Map](#) is in the Map folder on the Drive. There's also a folder for your [photos](#) – please contribute, especially to help those who aren't able to participate in the site visit. Sign up for Friday tour and artist interaction times [here](#) (Drive>Syllabus & Schedule>Oct. 2)

Research and communicate the topical content below, considered in the context of **what is relevant to the site and its connections** – its stories, capacities, opportunities, limitations and community desires.

Investigate your topic at **multiple scales**:

- 1) **Puget Sound and/or Vashon Island;**
- 2) **Adjacent uses, flows and contexts; and**
- 3) **Heron Meadow + VCA site.**

Below are suggestions for each topic, but don't limit yourselves to these investigations! Consider the impacts of **current and projected climate change, and social equity concerns related** to all. [Sign up](#) for one topic in the G-Drive. Most teams will be (3) people.

1. Water & Soil

Puget Sound aquatic context
underlying geology and soils, geological history
watersheds – boundaries, flows and dynamics
wetlands, ponds
wetland buffers / regulations
groundwater, potable water source
stormwater flows
wastewater

2. Ecosystems, Vegetation and Wildlife

pre-development vs current ecosystems
ecosystem habitat types, niches
species & guilds – vegetation, insects, birds, mammals, etc.
spatial connectivity and flows: corridors, patches
threats to ecological health (e.g. stormwater)
adaptations

3. Human History, People and Culture

Indigenous peoples, culture, stories and uses (past and current)
colonial settlement and surveyed conditions (check the 1860s GLO maps in the library, which should be available online)
historical land uses - e.g. homesteading, agriculture, industry, etc.
cultural histories and stories, related to landscape (who farmed here?)
current social and cultural contexts
historic structures (e.g. milk barn on site)
historic and resonant materials

4. Places, Uses, Users and Circulation Networks – Island and Center

places for gathering, commerce, education, recreation – destinations and sources
pedestrian, bike, vehicular and water circulation related to the site and contextual uses
recreational/educational trails, networks, parks and public spaces and resources
site and adjacent site users, user-profiles
schools and institutions – relationships, resources

5. Topography, Shape and Climate

site and context topography – build a 3-D model? Site sections illustrating topo?
slope
edges
climate and site microclimates
sun/shade/wind patterns through the seasons

We will work together to compile a “Site Experience” map, which will capture and share **views, places, and sonal, sensorial and emotive qualities**, etc. of the site.

Some Web Resources – See also Resource List, Resources and Maps in the Drive.

- <https://vashonlandtrust.org/>
- <https://vashonnaturecenter.org/>
- <https://vashonnaturecenter.org/heron-meadows-restoration-journey/>
- iNaturalist site for the Heron Meadow: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/heron-meadow-natural-history-project>
- VCA's Visiting Vashon Island website (lots of links): <https://vashoncenterforthearts.org/about/vashon/>
- Bruce Morser's historical installation at the VCA:
<https://www.vashonbeachcomber.com/life/honoring-center-where-art-and-history-intersect/>