

## **LARCH 504 | Arch 503 Landscape Urbanism Studio | Fall 2008 |**

Rottle + Merlino + Stenning

**Public Spaces, Public Life for South Downtown**

### **Assignment 2: Design Precedent Studies**

**DUE: Monday 6 October**

Good design is often informed and inspired by precedent studies of previously designed projects. For this assignment, you will work in pairs (preferably with another discipline), and you will select a **precedent site** to research and present to the rest of the group. A list of potential places is on the back (or propose one of your own). Some of these sites you may be able to visit; for others your research will be primarily through websites, articles, books and interviews.

You will prepare documentation of the precedent study using a standard InDesign template that we will give you. The template will include space for:

- Narrative descriptions of the site, the planning approach, design features, and implementation.
- Photos, diagrams, quotes, sketches, etc.
  
- Your evaluation of the success of the space, or critique by others. Consider how the site works for a variety of users, different times of the day and night.
  
- Designers and clients for the project
  
- The list of resources that you used. Be sure to credit images and sources of quotes.

**You will present your study to the class on Monday, Oct. 6, showing the document pages digitally.**

**Hard copy and digital version loaded onto the U-drive**

## **Potential Precedent Project List**

### **Alleys and Pedestrian Streets:**

Chicago Alley Program  
Melbourne's Lanes (Gehl)  
Vancouver's Country Lanes  
Verona, streets in centro, Italy  
Pearl Street (Boulder) Halprin  
The Downtown Mall (Charlottesville), L. Halprin  
Fulton Mall, Fresno, CA, Gerritt Eckbo  
Pirates Alley, New Orleans  
Pze Navona to Trevi fountain pedestrian walkway, Rome

### **Sustainable Urban Streetscapes and Great Streets**

12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and other Portland streets  
High Point, Seattle  
SEA Streets, 110<sup>th</sup> Cascade, Pinehurst etc. of Seattle's natural drainage  
Via Guibbinari, Rome  
Devon Street, Chicago  
Kungsporsavenyn, Goteberg, Sweden  
Pearl District, Portland

### **Transit Hubs:**

Fredricksberg Station, Copenhagen  
Place de l'Homme de Fer, Strasbourg  
Placa dels Països Catalans, Barcelona  
Portland's MAX light rail station @ the Pioneer Courthouse Square  
Staples Street Bus Station, Corpus Christi, Texas  
Camden High Street (Camden Town), London  
Boston, Massachusetts

### **Open Space Connections**

Portland Lovejoy Fountain to Ira Keller Fountain (Halprin)  
Champs-Elysees?  
Swanston Street, Melbourne  
Piazza Navona to Trevi Fountain pedestrian connection, Rome  
Falconplein, Antwerp, Belgium  
Las Ramblas, Barcelona  
Cat Street, Tokyo

### **Lidding over tracks, parking, infrastructure etc.:**

Federation Square, Melbourne  
Freeway Park, Seattle  
Potsdamer Platz, Berlin  
Schouwburgplein, Rotterdam, NL (West 8 architects)

### **City Squares, open space, parks, green roofs, etc....**

Campo dei Fiori, Rome  
Pike Place Market, Seattle  
New Ballard Library and public park

Other project areas/projects that might be inspiring are welcome:

**great city squares, water treatment, waterfronts, green roofs and walls**, etc.

Some resources to get you started—also see the studio Resource / Library Reserve List:

Gehl and Gemzøe, *New City Spaces*, Danish Architectural Press 2003  
Dreiseitl and Grau, Eds. *New Waterscapes and Waterscapes*, Birkhauser  
Gaventa, Sarah, *New Public Spaces*. Mitchell Beazley 2006.  
Jacobs, Allan B. *Great Streets*. MIT Press 1993, 1995.