

Public Spaces | Public Life for Seattle's Central Waterfront

Scan I Design Master Studio, Autumn 2011 [Larch 504/Arch503]

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Project 02: Design Precedent Studies

DUE: Presentation: Wednesday, 12 October

Poster, 2 copies report for booklet, and digital copy on U-drive: Friday 14 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 someone from 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 have visited; 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. Include connective features between city, waterfront and water, waterfront edge treatment, public spaces and uses, habitat provision and if/how the design addresses future sea level rise.
- 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 seasons and times of the day and night. What lessons does it provide for our design project?
- Designers and clients for the project
- The list of resources that you used. **Be sure to credit images and sources of quotes.**
- **Poster at 11 x 17" with essential images and information.** The poster can be an enlargement of the first page of the narrative report, or can include additional information from the report.

You will present your study to the class on Wednesday, 12 October, showing the document pages digitally.

Due Friday 14, October: Poster 11 x 17 hung on designated wall, 2 hard copies narrative report submitted to instructors, and digital version loaded onto the U-drive.

You might find it useful to look at past precedent studies, including those for urban waterfronts. Some case studies may already exist which require upgrading, and you are welcome to work on those (some are included below). Past studies are on the course website, with hard copies in the Case Study binder.

Potential Precedent Project List

WATERFRONTS

Vancouver BC SE False Creek Waterfront and Hinge Park
Vancouver BC Coal Harbor and Convention Center
Toronto Lower Don Lands and Central Waterfront
Portland Waterfront: Tom McCall Park + Waterfront South and/or East River Esplanade
East River Park/ East River Waterfront Esplanade and Piers, NYC
Hudson River Park, NYC
Riverside Park South, NYC
Gantry Plaza State Park NYC
Crissy Field, San Francisco
Chicago Waterfront
Charleston Waterfront Park
Baltimore Inner Harbor
Midtown Manhattan Waterfront
Minneapolis Central Riverfront
Malmo Western Harbor/Bo01
Oslo, Norway Harborfront
Barcelona Waterfront
Sydney Darling Harbour (Barangaroo)
Amager Strandpark, Denmark
Islands Brygge Park, Denmark
Ijburg, Amsterdam
Wellington Harbour, New Zealand

Feel free to substitute other cases that you're interested in.

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

Waterfront Center: www.waterfrontcenter.org

ASLA Awards: www.asla.org

* Gehl and Gemzøe, *New City Spaces*, Danish Architectural Press 2003

* Gastil, Raymond. [Beyond the Edge: New York's New Waterfront](#) New York, N.Y. : Princeton Architectural Press, 2002

* Fisher, Bonnie, and Beth Benson. *Remaking the Urban Waterfront*. Urban Land Institute. 2004

* Marshall, Richard. *Waterfronts in Post-Industrial Cities* London ; New York : Spon Press, 2001

* Breen, Ann and Dick Rigby, *Waterfronts: Cities Reclaim their Edge* New York : McGraw-Hill, 1994

* Gehl, Jan. *City to Waterfront : public spaces and public life study* : Wellington, Wellington: Wellington City Council. October 2004.

* books have been placed on Reserve in the BE Library