

Public Spaces | Public Life for Seattle's Central Waterfront

ScanIDesign Master Studio, Autumn 2011 [Larch 504/Arch504]

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Project 3a: Program and Preliminary Concepts

Project 3b: Refined Design Concepts

Project 3c: Individual or small team Site Program and Parti

DUE: 3A-MONDAY 17 OCTOBER
3B-MONDAY 24 OCTOBER
3C-WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26

Overview

In the next sequence of assignments, you will divide into five teams develop programmatic and design concepts for our study area of the aquarium, Pier62/63, Waterfront Park, and the spaces afforded by removal of the viaduct and rerouting of Alaskan Way. You will also consider connections to this district, including to the Pike Place Market and city districts to the east, to the waterfront areas north and south, and to destinations connected by Elliott Bay.

To help you develop your programmatic concepts, you will participate in a workshop during Friday's class entitled "Life, Space, Building," Subsequent to that workshop you will create a refined program and preliminary thematic and spatial planning concepts; this is the first part of the assignment. In the second part of the assignment, you will develop design concepts for your district for review by Master Teacher

Bianca Hermansen. Concurrently, you'll explore a smaller portion of the district individually or in a subteam, which will influence refinement of the overall design concept. You'll present your subteam's approach to Bianca as the third part of the assignment.

Project 3a: Program and Preliminary Concepts

For this phase you will begin with the results of your Life-Space-Building exercise. **Revisit site information collected during the first week and presented by last year's teams, and further explore the many available resources about the Central Waterfront (see resource list) to fully engage in understanding the entire district, in the context of Seattle's waterfront.** You will develop and refine the program developed through the Life-Space-Building exercise, and expand upon and organize it with continued research and reflection.

Your **program** should organize the **activities, qualities, and facilities** you wish to accommodate in your district. In particular, you should specify:

- The user groups and activities your district will serve.
- The spaces (interior and exterior) those uses and activities require
- The character and approximate size of each space
- The adjacencies and synergies among spaces
- The connections that are needed to invite users and provide multi-modal access to the site.

It may help to reference or overlay spaces that you know to determine appropriate sizes for facilities.

Then, **identify the overarching themes your group feels are important for your district.**

Lastly, your team should develop a **spatial concept** that manifests the themes and addresses the program elements you have selected, expressed in a diagram or series of diagrams that display the key facilities and qualities you are proposing.

Be sure to include proposals for connections to the city and bay.

Project 3b: Concept Development

Here you will further develop your spatial response to the program, focusing at the district scale but also incorporating more fine-grained scales, from systemic to experiential, and considering both architectural and open space. For example, your spatial response might consider:

- Time (past and future)
- Space (near and far)
- Ecology (human and natural)
- Movement and stasis
- Prospect and refuge
- Color and texture
- Light and shadow
- Metaphor and poetics
- Etc

Here you revisit your initial overarching themes and then work back and forth between the programmatic and design concepts to achieve coherency among the themes, program, and design. Development of individual or subteam ideas might also influence development of the Group/District Concept.

Project 3c: Individual (or small team) Site and Parti

You will select a portion of your district that you would like to work on in more depth over the course of the term, and develop an initial "parti"--or conceptual and spatial diagram. You'll explore this site during an in-class exercise, and then refine it for presentation to Bianca.

PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS:

Project 3a: Program and Concepts (Group)

Written program, themes and spatial diagrams that depict the activities, qualities, and facilities your district will accommodate. Your list of activities and facilities should indicate the general size and quality of each space. Be sure to indicate and accommodate activities that would be continuous along the waterfront, as well as those particular to each of the areas in this district. Also include diagrams that indicate your proposals for connecting the district to the city and bay.

Due **MONDAY, 17 OCTOBER**, at the beginning of class, for presentation to the class.

Project 3b: Concept Development (Group)

Diagrams, sketches, and a model (working digitally or by hand) that communicate your design concepts. Please include plans and sections (at different scales), along with vignettes of important spaces or views. You may consider using collage or your precedents to communicate your design concepts.

Due **MONDAY, 24 OCTOBER**, at the beginning of class. During class, you will present both the programmatic and design concepts to Bianca Hermansen.

Project 3c: Individual or Small Team Site Program and Parti

Narrative, and diagram(s) of your selected site that convey your chosen concept and program, your initial spatial approach, and **images** that convey your ideas and character of the space.

Due **WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER**, at the beginning of class. During class (and also on Tuesday and Thursday), you will have desk crits with Bianca Hemansen to discuss this work.

Some things to consider:

- Think out of the box. Use what you know and can learn about the site and waterfront -- its history, current use and future potential to guide but not constrain you.
- Work collaboratively to take advantage of diverse backgrounds and representational skills and to push each others' creativity. Take advantage of each others' knowledge.
- Draw upon multiple media to communicate your ideas
- Develop several solutions quickly, early. Use those to help you work together, iteratively, to arrive at your final proposed solutions.
- Be sure to relate your proposals to the surrounding context.
- Label all your sketches and drawing with concepts or qualities; clearly identify team members.