Green Means: Sustainable Design

Fall 2004

The Evergreen State College

Impara, Leverich, and Van Dusen

Studio Problem #3

Neighborhood Study 1 - Natural Layers 10/5/03 - 10/19/03

This fall you will be working on a study of an Olympia neighborhood green space, the Mission Creek Reserve in northeast Olympia. The City of Olympia owns this land and the Parks department is considering developing it into a park (not yet defined) in the next decade. We will work first on site studies as a group, revisit it in more depth, and then create individual designs for the site. The city is interested in a survey map of the site and its context to help them better understand the resources, connections, and opportunities available as they look ahead. The local neighborhood association is also interested in mapping and cataloguing the site. This group has taken on stewardship of the land.

Mission Creek runs through the site from the SE to the NW. The Mission Creek watershed extends from approximately Bigelow Ave. to Priest Point Park. The reserve consists of two parcels; the larger parcel is 29.2 acres with 6 acre wooded site adjacent to the north. It is accessible from street right of ways that abut the site. The reserve is surrounded by residential neighborhoods with (primarily) single family homes. Numerous animal paths (from two and four legged animals) traverse the site.

At the concept level, the intent is to gain experience integrating the different kinds of ecologically relevant data into informative text/graphic forms that can guide designs and decision-making. During this problem we will introduce drafting basics and fundamentals, basic architectural drawings (plan and section), contour mapping, overlay graphics, and site data collection through on and off site activities.

You will first observe the physical/ecological/ biological characteristics of the site and document the information we gather. [The second phase of the study (10/21/03 - 11/04/03) will bring in human elements such as built form, ownership, and zoning.] For both phases you will present the information in graphic and textual form. These documents will include base maps, overlays, and site sections with accompanying narratives.

Resources:

Site Information is available at www.geodata.org/online.html. You can use the address (1200 Lybarger St NE) to search for the parcel number, from which you can see plat and other maps.

Maps - additional maps will be available in studio (from the library and the city)

On campus: Lab Stores- basic survey gear, solar access gear, etc.

Media Loan- digital cameras.

Weather information

Schedule:

10/5/03 10/7/03	Site visit to Mission Creek Reserve (bus# 21 (or 62 and others going to Ralph's) from transit station)
	Studio workshop: Assignment based on site visit and other graphics concepts
10/12/03	Site visit – soils with Lisa Palazzi, Pacific Rim Soil and Water
10/14/03	Studio Workshop: Assignment based on site visit and other graphics concepts
10/19/03	Neighborhood Study Interim Pin up and Review #1

Presentation Requirements:

Base site plan of entire reserve and surrounding neighborhood

each student

include contours and boundaries

Proposed scale: 1"= 100' on 24" x 36" vellum

Overlay or graphic with Sun, Wind, Temperature information

Overlays for each section on trace

one student from each triad per overlay

Geology & soils

Water/wetland, drainage, watershed, rainfall

Flora & fauna

Site section(s) @ 1" = (with possible vertical exaggeration)

each student

Sketches: context, physical site character; site features or details

each student

Written Site Description

Evaluation criteria:

Content: is the information clear and understandable? Workmanship: does the work exhibit care and thought?

Graphics: clarity, economy, consistency!

Spirit: how compelling is the presentation of this place?