

No. 1 - Mapping Pattern Templates

City of Houston

Due January 26, NOON – Note: Preliminary progress deadlines also apply.

Mapping the city through the development of ‘pattern templates’ which communication your understanding of the city is a way of creating a visual language about place and its form.

Assignment Objective:

- To develop a general understanding of the city through observation and representation.
- To develop a series of ‘pattern templates’ which represent the student’s interpreted ‘language’ of the city’s form.

WHAT YOU WILL TURN IN:

Develop a series of ‘pattern templates’ which best represent an overall representation of a language which you identify as your interpretation of the city. The language is represented graphically through a series of individual sheets which together weave the language and are displayed through both a power point presentation and two sheets within the limits between 30x40 and 36x48 inches. This means you are allowed to display your work in a format you desire (this format should be reflective and with intention) as long as you do not exceed the larger limits specified.

PRELIMINARY DUE DATE: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2006

The preliminary deadline is intended to serve as a work in progress crit. You will post to your folder by 8pm. I will then review the work and repost comments back to your student folder. On Friday, you will have time to work in studio, but we will also take time to go downtown and experience aspects of the city.

FINAL DUE DATE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, NOON

You must post your work in pdf format to your student folder located on the studio website. This is located through my faculty page. Click websites, click the appropriate course, scroll to your individual student folder. Directions for posting are also located on the website homepage.

The following internet sites are intended as a general resource and do not cover all areas to research. In addition, it is not intended that your work takes place solely through research inside a building, but rather that you become engaged with the city through experience – walk, drive, ride, observe, document.

<http://www.houstontx.gov/>

City of Houston website provides all information relating to city projects, departments, etc...

<http://www.centralhouston.com/Home/default.asp>

Central Houston Inc is a critical organization in the redevelopment of downtown Houston. They are the primary planning coordinators for downtown.

<http://www.houstondowntown.com/Home/Business/DoingBusiness/>

Houston Downtown Management District. This site contains a number of pdfs of maps, demographics, market studies, etc...

<http://www.mainstreettirz.com/>

Main Street Market Square Redevelopment Authority is a Reinvestment Zone known as a TIRZ created for the redevelopment of the Main Street Market Square downtown district.

<http://www.houston.org/>

The Greater Houston Partnership promotes living and working in Houston.

<http://www.downtownhouston.org/home/default.asp>

Houston Downtown Alliance is a broad-based civic organization that promotes a vital downtown.

<http://www.houstonpavilions.com/home.php>

This is a key development project being developed in downtown Houston. Students in the summer 2004 and Fall 2004 studios worked on this project. The project architects are HOK, Inc.

<http://www.houstondowntownpark.org/>

Houston Downtown Park Conservancy is responsible for the development of the new downtown park to be completed by late 2007.

<http://www.buffalobayou.org/>

Buffalo Bayou Partnership is responsible for the coordination of all redevelopment of the Buffalo Bayou area and addresses primarily greenbelt issues.

<http://www.co.harris.tx.us/>

Harris County website provides appraisal and tax information along with other relevant sources.

<http://www.heritagesociety.org/>

The Heritage Society of Houston addresses the historic context of Houston.

<http://www.ridemetro.org/>

Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) is an integral transportation organization with a great deal of power within the city.

<http://www.ballparks.com/baseball/national/bpkas.htm>

Information provided on the downtown ball park.

<http://www.rateitall.com/t-51-soccer-stadiums.aspx>

Provides a list of soccer stadiums throughout the world – rates best by fans.