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  

* books have been placed on Reserve in the BE Library