

Learning Places Fall 2019

SITE REPORT #1

Gowanus



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PART 1: SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. What are some general observations about the character of this neighborhood? What does it remind you of? How does it make you feel? While observing the site, it is not obvious of the damage people in the community is making. Beginning, with nice buildings with a garden in front and pathways wide for 3 people to walk on. However, after coming all the way in to the site, you'll find giraffes, garbage and poor scenery, again its mix with modern building design. It kind remind me of my neighborhood, and it make me feel like anything can happen either dangerous or a scandal.
2. How is the natural world contained or shaped by human activity or architecture? In what ways does the natural world invade or disrupt human activity, planning or architecture? Humans contain these beauties of nature by either preserving them or renovating them as its original, but with the technology of architecture it guides people either to harm or protect, as well add more art. For instance, people might use the current of a canal as a sign that anything in the current goes away. But these paths like the canal can help people travel faster and easier to a location, which promotes other technology to travel, like a boat or a car for roads. The natural world can also disrupt human activities, such as, over flooding and earthquakes can cause big destruction and able to kill or harm humans and animals.
3. What people did you observe in the neighborhood and what activities are they engaged in?

Most people either were coming or going to work or school.

4. Reflect on a **specific** place you viewed in this neighborhood. A specific place means a single building, or an intersection, or an individual built structure, etc.
 - a. Insert 1 photograph and/or sketch and provide a *creative* caption for the image. The caption should be a word or short phrase that suggests a theme or conceptual association related to the photo or sketch.



Contrast to hide the secrets of the neighborhood.

- b. What is the *program* of the space? How are people meant to interact with one another and with the environment? The location is a residential area, but in this space at the front of the building has no purpose of use but to guide people in and out of the perimeter as well, a nice nature experience.

- c. describe a possible creative reuse of this **specific** space for a performance:
 - a) Which areas are best for performers/activists and which areas are good for observers? Do these spaces overlap? Mention specific objects and structures in your answer. The best areas for performers will be outside of the building area so like on the sidewalk, maybe not be the best but it works find to get the attention from people walking by, as well the residents.

 - b) What kinds of performance would work best (intimate or grand; processional or stationary; text and/or music; interactive or passive audience; etc.)? The best performance in the area would be intimate, where it won't agitate the audience and cause problems but something passive.

QUESTIONS for FURTHER RESEARCH. These should follow directly from your analysis section and be complex and specific enough to serve as the basis of a research project.

Questions might relate to architectural or environmental observations, socio-political problems and/or solutions, demography, history, zoning, civic processes, performance strategy, etc.

1. Question? What architecture action can help the safety of the community?

2. Question? What actions can the public do to better the area?

3. Question? What kind of technology can be used to clean the canal?

PART 2: RESEARCH

Choose and revise one of your research questions for further research.

Revised Research Question:

What structural condition can Guwanus obtain to embark future change?

Find and cite 2 sources that address your question in MLA format. Respond to the questions below.

CITATION 1: Japitanamarlowe, Michelle V.1, mvjapitana@carsu.edu.ph, and Edgar C.2, mcburce@yahoo.com Burce. *Engineering, Technology & Applied Science Research*, vol. 9, no. 2, Apr. 2019, pp. 3965–3970. *Aci*, EBSCOhost.

Why did you select this source? How does it address all or part of your research question?

I selected this source because it explain a sort of technology to restore bad quality water but a way to warn the government the conditions. This citation address part of my research question, it is something the people of local can either agree or disagree with in order to promote change without doing a drastic impact.

Is the source credible? Why or why not?

Yes in way, it can revile more of an answer to the question, even though it a second hand resource.

What further information would you need to answer your question? Where would you look for additional sources? I would need a source that can open up other options of restoration but as well a history background, because a bit of history can give clues to the type of technology or design can be use.

CITATION 2: “Gowanus Lowlands.” *Gowanus Canal Conservancy*, 23 July 2019, gowanuscanalconservancy.org/gowanuslowlands/.

Why did you select this source? How does it address all or part of your research question?

This will help answer, of how the public can guide (map) the technology throughout gowanus and what needs to be majorly focus.

Is the source credible? Why or why not?

It is credible to the people doing full research of site and what their future plan of gowanus might be.

PART 3: Performance Reflection (after second site visit)

Write a 200 word reflection about how you felt during the second visit to the space and during the performance activities. How did this visit change your perception of the place and your relationship to the natural and built environments? Did the experience of 'performing' in the space (i.e., moving your body) teach you anything new about the landscape or architecture?

My experience at the second visit was something unordinary, it felt like I was braking the boundary of comfort in a positive way. I believe the performance was to enhance the realization that Gowanus wasn't just a regular place with a common problem. I notice that no matter how much change in structure the developer makes, it can't change the fact the community and the environment itself makes Gowanus "the end of the stick "a dump, people either don't care or are just use to it. So much can be done at this site. Gowanus a is a pot of gold for attraction, business and sort of history monument , listing the fact that it has a water resource, a great amount of sunlight supply and an amount of plant species. The issue is the water treatment and how poorly the environment is kept. The performance was a way to remind me that I'm part of Mother Nature just as the plants.