2.2 Just Passing Through

CS 5984 Design of Interactive Systems
January 26, 2005
Today...

- DG Chapter 1 follow-up: To New Horizons
- Project Description
- Just Passing Through
To New Horizons

- NY World’s Fair
- GM Exhibit
- Designers, Messengers, Spin Doctors
  - Robert Moses, Norman Bel Geddes, RG Tugwell, Lewis Mumford, corporations
- “scientific progress”
Project

- Team-based
- Theme-organized
  - Just Passing Through (More in a minute)
- Design Everything
- Site-specific
Project Phases

- Problem finding: what does it mean?
- Concept Design + Research: innovation or revisit?
- Design Development: how to make it work?
- Completed Prototype: demo, (test?), report, (business plan?)
Progressing through the project

- System with lots of feedback
- 4 regular presentations
  - each should be slicker than previous
- regular crits in “studio”
- Teach what you already know, learn what you need
Just Passing Through

Premise: digital technology affords DIVERGENCE (e.g. diversity and specificity)

Objects and systems communicate through:
- form
- content
- interaction of use
- situation
Just Passing Through

- Lots of interpretations
- How do information spaces align with physical spaces?
- What are some phenomena of “just passing through”?
Just Passing Through

- There are places we pass through.
- Sometimes that passage involves technology
Ideas and concepts have an interesting duality w.r.t. "passing through" - we sometimes pass through them and they through us.
There is often a choreography of passage.

It is often visible in organized activity.
2.2 Just Passing Through

Sometimes we need a road map.

Some times we pass through places that are only seen on maps.
Other times we get so involved in other things we don’t see that we are passing through
Sometimes things pass through that we don’t like.

Like the skunk that often gives off an odor in advance, are there ways that we might warn of impending encounters?
Just Passing Through

Technology sometimes enables our passage
Graffiti can mark territory, leave a trace of temporary presence, express an alternative program.
We say that the weather just passes through yet we often pass through it.
And childhood is one of many phases we pass through in life
Whyte vs. To New Horizons

- Cities Problems or Opportunities?
- Passing through?
- Details vs. generalities
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Coming Attractions...

- for Friday: Sketch Problem + reflection on representation due
- Friday: bring paper + pens / pencils
- Use class forum to introduce yourself
- for Monday: read DG chapter 2
- Al and Leo -- send me stuff by noon Monday