

Urban Design emerged in middle of the twentieth century as a practice that primarily posed its vision of a renewed, humanist city to the assumed, shared interests of reigning political and economic authorities. The challenge for Urban Design today is to develop modes of analysis and design that can effectively intercede in a less hierarchical cultural landscape—i.e. in the competing and often contentious relationships that exist between land speculators and the individual citizens and groups that have increasing political rights to participate in the making of the built environment. With this larger challenge in mind, these conferences will explore connections between the complex, hybrid geographies that may be revealed and manipulated through Urban Design and the kinds of constituencies and development interests that ultimately have purview over these new geographies. Of particular interest will those ill-defined spaces and sites that have typically been resistant to analysis and design due to both their form and that fact that they are subject to the claims of multiple and sometimes invisible owners, clients and publics.

These topics will be explored in two separate conferences, both co-sponsored by Northeastern University and Harvard University, and held at Northeastern University in the spring and fall of 2003. The goal of both parts of the conference will be to investigate how new methods for describing, analyzing and designing the urban geographies in question can be coordinated with, and ultimately inspire a more creative engagement with the potential sponsors for, and beneficiaries of, urban design.

**Thursday
February 13, 2003**

2:00–2:30pm
Registration

2:30–3:00 pm
Introduction

George Thrush, AIA, Chair
Department of Architecture
Northeastern University
Alex Krieger, FAIA, Chair
Department of Urban Planning & Design
Harvard University

3:00–6:00 pm

Panel 1

“Mapping the New Spaces of the City”

6:30 pm
Keynote Address

William Morrish
Elwood R. Quesada Professor
of Architecture
University of Virginia

**Friday
February 14, 2003**

9:30–12:00 pm
Panel 2

“New Engines of Development”

2:00–5:00 pm
Panel 3

Roundtable:

“The New Agency: Democratic Representation in the Processes and Outcomes of Urban Design and Development”

5:00–6:00 pm
Concluding Comments

and Proposed Agenda for Next Meeting

**Northeastern University
and
Harvard University**

A two-part conference conceived as a continuation of the investigations begun at the Columbia/Harvard/Van Alen Urban Pedagogies conference held in April 2002.

Northeastern University
Raytheon Amphitheatre
Boston, MA 02115

Part 1
February 13 & 14
2003

Northeastern University
“Mapping the City’s New Boundaries,
Engines and Constituencies”

Part 2
October
2003
Northeastern University
“New Programs, Projects and Modes
of Agency for Urban Design”

Information and registration:

architecture
151 Ryder Hall
Northeastern University
Boston, MA 02115

617 373 4637
www.architecture.neu.edu
architecture@neu.edu



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Panel 1

Mapping the New Spaces of the City



Topics Explored:

Modes of analysis and mapping that explore, reveal and visualize new genres and patterns of urbanization

Respondents:

Rosalind Greenstein
Lincoln Land Institute

Harriet Tregoning
Secretary of Smart Growth
State of Maryland

Alex Krieger, FAIA
Chair

Department of Urban Design
and Planning
Harvard University

Moderator:

Andrea Kahn
Associate Professor of
Urban Design
Columbia University

Speakers:

Roger Sherman
Sci-ARC/UCLA

Richard Sommer
Associate Professor
Urban Design and Planning
Harvard University

Chris Reed
STOSS Landscape Urbanism
Boston, MA

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Panel 2

New Engines of Urban Development



Topics Explored:

New Institutional, Private and Public Sector strategies for assembling, planning, developing and managing sites which present complexities with regard to pre-existing infrastructure, brownfields, and multiple or overlapping owners and municipal authorities.

The Amalgam of Private Money and Public Interest/Emerging Programs and Project Types in the City

Speakers:

Willy Sclarsic

Partner
Continental Wingate Development

Jerold Kayden

Planner/lawyer
Harvard GSD

Robert L. Culver

VP for Finance & Administration
Yale University

Respondents:

Roger Sherman

Designer Sci-ARC/UCLA

William Morrish

University of Virginia

Moderator:

Tim Love

Northeastern University

The New Agency: Democratic Representation in the Processes and Outcomes of Urban Design and Development

Roundtable:

How are the ideals, rights and goals of various public interests being addressed in the design, development and reform of new spaces in the city?

If there is competition for access to, and stakes in new development, how can urban design more constructively legislate and model debate over the form new spaces may take?

Moderator:

George Thrush
Chair
Department of Architecture
Northeastern University

AN

John DeVillars

Brownfields Recovery, Inc.
Environmental Perspective

Ann Beha

Architect
Preservation and Historical Heritage Perspective

Harriet Tregoning

Maryland Smart Growth
Governmental/Public Sector Perspective

Anthony Flint

Reporter
The Boston Globe
Community Perspective

Chris Gordon

Massport
Regional Transportation Perspective

William Morrish

University of Virginia
Design Perspective

Richard Sommer

Design Perspective