Monument Lab
Mapping Monuments
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Timing

Intro and getting settled: 5 minutes

About Monument Lab: 10 minutes

Data, Maps, and Monuments: 10 minutes

Demo: Re-imagining the map of St Louis: 15 minutes

What’s Next: 5 minutes

Q&A: 15 minutes
Investigating Representation in Public Spaces: Monument Lab's Field Trip Project

November 19, 2020 at 3:00 PM EST
Monument Lab
Citywide Exhibition 2017

Michelle Angela Ortiz
Seguimos Caminando, 2017
City Hall, Philadelphia
Photo: Steve Weinik/Mural Arts Philadelphia
What is an appropriate monument for the current city of Philadelphia?

MONUMENT LAB

Copying exists in the middle spins, wind + movement, interesting the spaces to see.

Sketching in this space.

Passing Through.

Miscellaneous.
WHO DECIDES THE FATE OF PUBLIC SPACE?

NAME: MONUMENTSitimate ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC SPACE IN TORONTO

Downtown

It is entrusted.

1. PUBLIC
2. STATE
3. PRIVATE
4. PRIVATE

PROCESS BEHIND ITS CREATION (FROM WHAT YOU KNOW OR WHAT YOU IMAGINE)

The monument was created as part of an online survey. It was then
and evolved.

DO YOU KNOW IT NOW?

The monument at Toronto controls
the citizens have free access.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADD TO MONUMENTS?

Toronto do
to all citizens that

 üret.
On data...
“Data collection has long been employed as a technique of consolidating knowledge about the people whose data are collected, and therefore consolidating power over their lives”

Catherine D’Ignazio and Lauren F. Klein. *Data Feminism*
“Identifying information as data, rather than as either of those other two terms [evidence and fact], served a rhetorical purpose. It converted otherwise debatable information into the solid basis for subsequent claims.”

Catherine D’Ignazio and Lauren F. Klein. Data Feminism
“But what information needs to become data before it can be trusted? Or, more precisely, whose information needs to become data before it can be considered fact and acted upon”

Catherine D’Ignazio and Lauren F. Klein. *Data Feminism*
On imagination...
“.. imagination is a terrain of struggle. Whose imagination reigns? One way to understand the inequalities and injustices we see is that many people are forced to live inside someone else’s imagination. ... And part of democratizing and resisting the imposition of that imagination is also cultivating our own counter-imaginaries, a more liberatory imagination.”

Dr. Ruha Benjamin (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tf0nEQTlw04)
“And so imagination is not ... an afterthought, it’s not a luxury, it’s not something just for the privileged. It is a terrain of action, and we have to begin to actually struggle and work towards materializing a world in which we can all thrive.”

Dr. Ruha Benjamin (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tf0nEQLw04)
Mapping St. Louis
HOW WOULD YOU MAP THE MONUMENTS OF ST. LOUIS?

NAME YOUR MAP:

DRAW A MAP OF ST. LOUIS:
MARK MONUMENTS AND EXISTING SITES (CURRENT, POTENTIAL, HISTORICAL, AND/OR EXPANDED). A MAP FROM ANY VIEWPOINT AND AT ANY SCALE (COUNTY, CITY, NEIGHBORHOOD, ADDRESS, STREET).

DESCRIBE YOUR MAP:
WHAT DID YOU CHOOSE TO MARK AND WHY?

HOW DO YOU IDENTIFY? (OPTIONAL):

AGE:  ZIPCODE:  YOUR NAME, (S), AND/OR HASHTAG:

monumentlab.com  #monumentlab
How would you map the monuments of St. Louis?

**Highways: Modern and Ancient**

**Describe Your Map:** What did you choose to map and why?

What can you see from the highways that is monumental as someone who has moved away and always enters via the highways. But I also knew of all the ancient Native monuments which were destroyed in the name of urban expansion.

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**Name Your Map:**

**The St. Louis Earth Mound Tradition**

**Draw a Map of St. Louis:** Map existing sites and any existing sites current, potential, historical, and/or imagined. Map you may visit active and any scale (county, city, neighborhood, address streets).

**Describe Your Map:** What did you choose to map and why?

The last real native mound in St. Louis city

Ancient mounds

Ancient pyramids

The ancient city

- **Age:**
- **Zipcode:**
- **Your Name, @, and/or Hashtag:**
public-iconographies

Data represented the places mapped during the summer of 2019 as part of a partnership between Monument Lab and the Pulitzer Foundation.
Analyzing the data

And making the map
How would you map the Monuments of St. Louis?

Monument Lab researchers gathered 750 hand-drawn maps from St. Louis residents and visitors responding to our guiding question. This map is an interpretation and reflection on those we collected. Like all maps and monuments, this artifact is impermanent and incomplete.

Legend

- Monument Locations
- Zipcodes where respondents live
- Respondents answered: "how do you identify?" (That's 285 respondents)
NATIONAL MONUMENT AUDIT