

Project 3: Responsive Place

- Approach:* You are asked, in a very general sense, to propose, design, and describe a physical place that is mediated in some manner by information technology. Your specific emphasis should be on the role of architectural elements, whether furniture, surfaces (especially but not only walls), rooms, fixtures distributed at intervals through buildings or streets, etc. Mobile and embedded systems might play equal roles in this, and from the previous project you should continue equal emphasis on social and technical . Your approach might use some casual field observation, information flow models, device design, story scripting, architectural form-giving, or architectural component design; the balance of this is up to you. In comparison to the previous exercise, here more of your design attention must be directed to passive things that will not occupy their inhabitants' attention. How does architecture act in the periphery?
- Topic:* Our topic is material and energy flows. What is the role of information technology in the resource economies of a built environment? What about industrial ecology invites better use of situated computing? You might focus on production, operations, inhabitation, or public education. Look past the individual subject and the personal device to consider how some organization or discipline deals with some built space.
- Teams:* Please work in groups of 2 or 3, and preferably with different partners than before. Project team consultations will be scheduled for the week of April 10, but you should have a team and a provisional topic together by April 3.
- Format:* You may use any combination of drawings, diagrams, pictures, and models in your work, but you must provide web-ready documents of these in the end. For discussion, you may find it useful to complement this with some physical reference images or handouts. For identification and archival purposes as well, please create at least one 11x17 poster of the project.
- Due:* We will review this work in class, with guests, on Tuesday, April 17. Please keep an extra hour (3:00 to 4:00) free that day.