

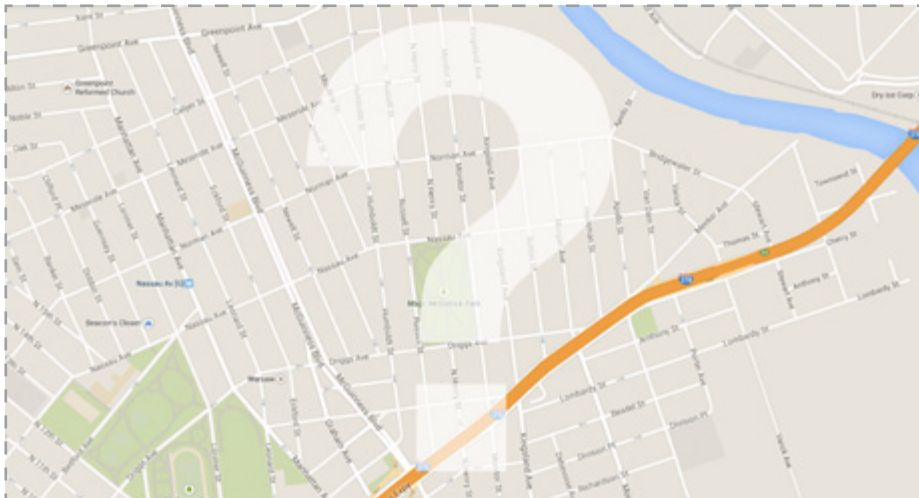
Future Counter Cultures: Oil Spill as a Place

In the future, perhaps the oil spill itself might become an opportunity to rethink urban development. Not only in the usual terms of resiliency, affordable housing, stainability,



park space, jobs, but rather maybe this is a space where countercultures and counter narratives can happen and grow in space and time. We think that many of these future cultures, same as the whole Greenpoint's history, have a lot to do with the water and maritime activity. We are thinking about activating the water.

Maybe we could produce a space where we could re-seed it with maritime and industrial operations and not condos or fancy restaurants. It could facilitate new kinds of maritime traffic. As a reminder, we also thought that the oil spill just shouldn't go away. Somehow we need to leave a piece of it there as a reminder that we won't forget about it in the future and we won't make the same mistakes again. It might be in more figurative terms. It should remind us that we did not care about the land exactly well for a very long period of time. Partially it would be a counter narrative to successful clean up stories that would remind the future generations not only how we won over the pollution, but also that people were getting sick in this area from the environment. It could be perhaps a floating island in Newton Creek, in a shape of the oil spill. The



Island would allow other boats dock to it. We would like to add a beach to the island. It would be providing access to water. If the people would start using the water, it will create greater demand for access to it and to fix and remediate. Plant life on the floating island would be also a remediating factor. It could be a great example of pumping oxygen into this type of water. There should be also a free boat, for anyone to use. We have there some industrial ruins. No hard edges. We would also like to involve wetlands, but also it should be something like an industrial incubator.

It has lot of to do with expanding the idea of what is considered quality of life, that's not all polished and clean, but it also involves decay and reminiscence of our past. It is really important to keep an ongoing conversation about these things, so that energy that many people feel isn't trumped by some agency positions or planning.



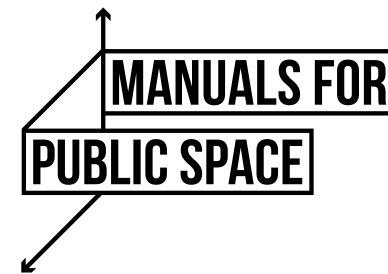
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How to Create a Community Field Research Station

Future Counter Cultures: Oil Spill as a Place

Manual for Greenpoint Series



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