ARCH 574.E2 The Urban Studio

PREMISE AND DESCRIPTION

The Urban Studio is focused on master planning, urban design, and building design on a site in Chicago’s South Loop: The 78.

The Site: Approximately 62 acres in Chicago bounded by

- Roosevelt Avenue,
- Clark Street,
- 16th Street, and
- the Chicago River.

Studio members working in teams or individually will develop an urban design/building design strategy for the site which seeks to harmonize with the existing structures of the city and anticipate the future needs of residents and visitors while creating a new neighborhood. Students can consult with one or more of the following: the Chicago Department Planning and Development, the Marshall Bennett Institute of Real Estate at Roosevelt University and Chicago area architects.

Project Name
The 78

Site Information

- A 62-acre new downtown development and green space southwest of Clark Street and Roosevelt Road
- The site is currently more wildlife than city life because it has no sewers, accessible roads or other city services
- The site is bordered by Roosevelt Road, Clark Street, 16th Street and a half-mile stretch of riverfront on its western edge

Opportunities

- The development has the potential to permanently alter and reshape the view of Chicago’s skyline from the south
- Fill what’s known as the “hole in the center of Chicago”
- Strengthen Roosevelt Road as a shopping destination, improve access to the river and tie the South Loop to Chinatown