

Map Practice #2: Mental Mapping of Your Home Community

Due: 11am, October 26

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Question 1: How did you define the boundary of your home community? Has your main mode of transportation (e.g. car, public transit, walk) you think affected your choice of area you want to consider as a home community boundary?

The boundary of my home community consisted of the places I frequented the most while living in Columbia City: from the library to the north, to my house in the south, to Lake Washington in the east, and the farmer's market to the west. I usually walked when traveling westward from my house yet drove when travelling eastward. There were many shops and restaurants and things to see west of my house, whereas east of my house consisted mainly of houses until reaching the lake or Seward Park.

Question 2: What were the most important data that you decided to include in your mental map? Why do you consider them important and meaningful part of your home community?

Looking at my mental map, I included many restaurants and local shops found along the main street running through my community. They were important and meaningful to me as I have a special memory associated with each place. For example, the first time I went to the Mexican restaurant, it was terrific. Unfortunately, each additional time I went there the food tended to be rather salty for my tastes. I kept returning hoping it would be the same as my first experience, but I never quite learned my lesson. The diner with my favorite breakfast dish opened a few months before we moved overseas and turned into a fond tradition to visit every time we came home to see family, even though they lived an hour away. On one occasion, while waiting for a table, we walked around looking for what had changed since our last visit, and happened upon the fun, cool, glasses shop. It was there that we met a very friendly store associate and ended up buying new glasses for my husband, with frames made from vinyl records.

