Cole Nielsen

LA 1201

Homework 5

TA: Rachel Kerber

For this homework, I observed the central area between all the dorms in superblock. This landscape primarily consists of some sidewalks, mulched areas with plants, trees, grass and a construction site. This landscape as viewed as Spirn described as a “single evolving system within nature” is rather interesting. One thing that immediate stands out when viewed through this lens is the construction happening in superblock (to install a steam pipe), right in the area I observed. This in context of the landscape I observed being an evolving system within nature suggests the construction represents a temporary devolution of the landscape away from nature as the grass and plants that were there were ripped up in order for the construction to go underway. However, it is preamble that the landscape will return to its original state in terms of greenery, bring the landscape to its original state as a system nature. Even though the landscape is returns essentially to its original state, it still represents an evolution over time with nature and man. Another aspect of the area I looked at that is interesting through this lens is the rat traps placed in a few places throughout the area. The placement of the traps shows an attempt by my man to against nature (animals in the form of mice/rats) and in some ways devolve the landscape away from nature by taking away biotic factors (animals) in the landscape. Both the cases of construction and rat traps show direct human interactions on the landscape which directly change or “evolve” the landscape with context to nature.