... In time, those Unconscionable Maps no longer satisfied, and the Cartographers Guild drew a Map of the Empire whose size was that of the Empire, coinciding point for point with it. The following Generations, who were not so fond of the Study of Cartography saw the vast Map to be Useless and permitted it to decay and fray under the Sun and winters. In the Deserts of the West, still today, there are Tattered Ruins of the Map, inhabited by Animals and Beggars; and in all the Land there is no other Relic of the Disciplines of Geography.

‘On Exactitude in Science,’ Jorge Luis Borges

The territory no longer precedes the map nor survives it. ... it is the map that precedes the territory... and thus, It would be the territory whose shreds are slowly rotting across the map.

‘Simulacra and Simulations,’ Jean Baudrillard

Make a map, not a tracing... What distinguishes the map from the tracing is that it is entirely oriented toward an experimentation in contact with the real. The map does not reproduce an unconscious closed in upon itself, it constructs the unconscious. It fosters connections between fields... It is itself a part of the rhizome. The map is open and connectable in all of its dimensions; it is detachable, reversible, susceptible to constant modification. It can be torn, reversed, adapted to any kind of mounting, reworked by an individual, group, or social formation. It can be drawn on a wall, conceived of as a work of art, constructed as political action or as a meditation. Perhaps one of the most important characteristics of the rhizome is that it always has multiple entryways... A map has multiple entryways, as opposed to the tracing, which always comes back "to the same." The map has to do with performance, whereas the tracing always involves an alleged "competence."

A Thousand Plateaus, Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari

You are required to make a mapping not a tracing. The map/model is a three dimensional site instrument. Your three dimensional mapping must be operational: it may fold, unfold, rotate, layer, fragment, re-stack, re-orient, etc. However, the architecture of the 'map' and its operations must add to the reading or desired mis-reading of the landscape as oppose to simply complicate it. The map/model should not limit BUT expand the possibilities for seeing, recording, researching, experiencing and engaging the site. You must derive your own notational system for the map/model. The map/model must contain within it rigorous site analysis as well as reveal untapped potential. It is not a literal and scaled representation of the site but a conceptual representation and design device. Its materiality and making must be well considered. You are limited in overall dimension such that it fits within an imaginary 30” x 30” x 30” volume. You must incorporate the material collected from the site in a significant and instrumental manner.

due: 2pm Tuesday, October 28