



SECTION MATTERS: WALKING TO REVEAL A REGION

Typical proposals for travel and study might consist of plans to study the architecture of a particular foreign city, the work of one architect across a continent, or exemplary instances of a particular building type across the globe. There is no critique to be made of such proposals, and all of these methods expand our understanding of the discipline of architecture through empirical studies of the built environment. However, I want to note that each of these proposals, if tracked on a map, would look like a series of dots—a discrete network of information-rich nodes, silos of architectural excellence.

In today's digital society, in which endless information is accessible with a swipe, it is all too easy to silo ourselves among people and information that affirm our belief systems. It is difficult to find an opportunity to have a meaningful exchange with people with whom we disagree.

As students of architecture, travel is a powerful vehicle to understand visual cultures, methods of construction, and unfamiliar contexts. I would like to make a proposal to travel in a different way—along a continuous line instead of in discrete points—making the argument that this is an important way to experience and contextualize architecture and the built environment.

My project “Walk the Line,” as shown in my portfolio, demonstrates one effort to explore my

surroundings and design in a linear fashion. I would like to develop this investigation, both in terms of method and representation.

I am excited to submit a proposal to travel along the Camino Portugués in Portugal. This is the second-most traveled route on the Camino Santiago, which is a network of pilgrimage routes in Western Europe that lead to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. The Camino Portugués route extends up the western coast of Portugal, from Lisbon to Santiago de Compostela, over a length of 383 miles. I propose to walk the entire route over the course of a month.

The route passes by recognized architectural masterpieces from Lisbon to Porto to Galicia, across medieval bridges, and also through nameless rural pastures and towns. This juxtaposition of exceptional and banal is part of the spatial and temporal experience of contemporary life. Taking a walk like the Camino Portugués would critically engage that understanding, and situating the project on an old pilgrimage route further introduces beauty and complexity to the project.

Walking there would be a physical exercise both in revealing traces of the past and in negotiating the past with the present moment. I expect that the route has a reciprocal and productive relationship with its surroundings, as well as with the other people who walk there.

READING LIST

Adams, Rachel. *Wanderlust: Actions, Traces, Journeys 1967-2017*. MIT Press, 2017.
 Deleuze, Gilles and Felix Guattari. “1440: The Smooth and the Striated.” *A Thousand Plateaus: Capitalism and Schizophrenia*. University of Minnesota Press, 1987.
 Hunt, John Dixon. “Time of walking.” *Studies in the History of Gardens & Designed Landscapes*, Vol. 36, No. 4, pp. 297-304.

Foster, John Bellamy. “Marx’s Theory of Metabolic Rift: Classical Foundations for Environmental Sociology.” *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 105, No. 2, 1999, pp. 366-405.
 Moor, Robert. *On Trails: An Exploration*. Simon & Schuster, 2016.
 Tronto, Joan. “Care.” *Moral Boundaries: A Political Argument for an Ethic of Care*. Routledge, 1993.

BUDGET

Accommodation	\$4,000
Meals	\$1,000
Luggage Transfers	\$600
Transportation to/from Airport	\$300
Airfare	\$1,200
Gear (Backpack, Hiking Boots, Hiking Poles etc.)	\$1,000
Contingency and Miscellaneous	\$1,900