

On being left behind

The Haunting Legacies of 2012

Phil Cohen Livingmaps Network



The Future Past Imperfect



The Legacy Values Tournament

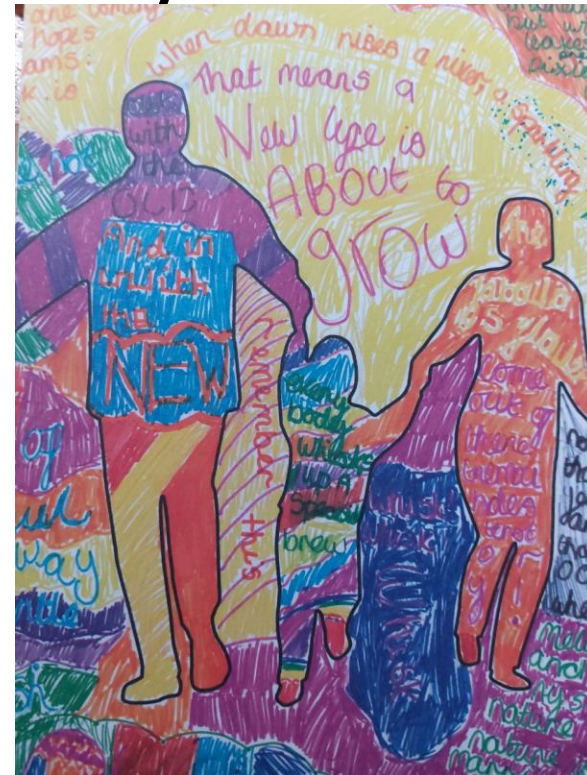
- GIFT LEGACY Heritage Heirloom (Moral Economy)
- PAYBACK LEGACY Dividend Endowment (Market Economy)

The Generational Contract

The inheritance of competitive dis/advantage

What does one generation owe or expect from another?

The twenty- twelvers : a generation betrayed?





The Post Olympic Stadium

making the strange familiar, being away at home

-



Trace Elements for an Olympic Hauntology

- Legacy as the 'ghost part' in the dual fabrication of QEOP
- Between the No Longer and the Not Yet
- Afterwardness and the déjà vu: the trauma of 'regeneration'
- 'Living the Dream' : the reverie of a present tense epiphany beyond an evanescent past and an unreachable future
- 'Higher, Faster, Stronger' : the drive for ever greater productivity in bodies, machines and manufacture haunted by its unsustainability
- Regeneration's 'Other Scene': The hungry ghost of vampiric capital
- The legacy deficit :What is left behind for those who are left behind?

Time Bombs: the afterwardness of 2012

- Burying the past
- Regeneration trauma and the return of the repressed
- Bomb scares on QEOP 2007- 2018
- Environmental hazards and the industrial legacy

A disaster waiting to happen ?

- You have to look at the Olympic site as a disaster waiting to happen, and everyone on it as potentially acting with suicidal stupidity. The site itself is marshland, it's heavily contaminated, and because of the war it's a potential bomb site. If you don't get it right you could end with a dead body. *Bill Chappell Head of Safety Dig, Design and Demolish Project*
- Aidan was a bomb detector and a very good mate of ours. They found lots of munitions on the Olympics site, hundreds of shells...We had a lot of good times with him. No-one thinks of people like Aidan. But if he hadn't been there we might have had a bomb go off and there would be no more Olympics *Gary Carpenter (Rigger)*.

THE REVENANTS

- I was proud to be the Official Olympic Poet . The Olympics did a lot of good for East London, gave it a new sense of pride in its identity -*Lemn Sissay author of The Spark Catchers*
- believe community is self in multitude- /the way the past still dedicates to us/its distant, present light. The same high sky,/same East End moon, above this reclaimed wilderness,/where relay boys are raced by running ghosts.“ *Carole Anne Duffy ,author of Eton Manor*
- A troop of excited Orthodox Hasidic boys, in black suits and skullcaps, were zapping around and around the free rim of the Velodrome. They couldn't know that this was where, back in 2012, a cyclist had been dragged under a bus ferrying journalists to the venue. The man died when sat-nav maps in the summoned ambulances failed. They had not been reprogrammed to keep up with the pace of development. Now the section of the Park where Rogers chose to walk had its bucolic delights. It looked good in the flattery of that golden hour beloved by filmmakers. London, I had to acknowledge, comes to terms with whatever damage is inflicted on it. We ramble and forgive. New memories are made. New oppositions. We wander and thrive. *Ian Sinclair author of Ghost Milk in 2022 article*

THE NOSTALGICS

- The Olympic Ideal as a Home for imagined community
- A focus of restorative or reflective nostalgia
- Recreation of the ambiance or spirit of Games Time through commemorative events and re-unions
- The longing to return to a more optimistic future associated with an imagined past
- A sovereign island nation at peace with itself or Once upon a time in Brexitland
- Legacy as a renewal of shared heritage and invented tradition

The severely disenchanted

- ‘They made all these promises , how we was all going to benefit, how it was going to ensure that our children had the same opportunities in life as the kids who lived in the post areas and went to private schools, how we was all going to be healthier and better off and what happened- nothing, absolutely fuck all. All that happened was that house prices went up, working class people were forced out of the area, and a whole bunch of middle class professionals moved in , all them of them talking about the importance of ‘the community’. I was one of the locals that fell for it. I thought well for once , perhaps they mean it , and after all Stratford was a bit of dump, it needed a make over. But I should have known better...’
Claudia McKay local resident 2022

The view from next door

- Living near the Olympic site was a nightmare. The noise went on day and night, we couldn't put out washing out cos it got covered with layers of dust , I used to lay awake at night worrying that the house was going to collapse from the vibrations and then when it was finished , just when we thought it was all over and we could get on with our lives , it started all over again...they started building all these luxury flats and offices for what they called the 'new East Enders', the folk who worked in Canary Wharf and the city. My dad said it was like a capitalist bomb had hit Stratford. The whole experience was one long stress... *Maria Jones (local resident)*



We are groundbreakers, we have to negotiate with the ground and reach agreement with the forces of nature. Steering a full-faced tunnel boring machine is like steering a submarine blind underground. You have to have a feel for the earth, as well as all the technical information you need to keep it on course - Rob Maloney TBM Operator



GROUNDbreakers
Immersive Trail & Guide

London Aquatics Centre

When the Centre was constructed the remains of a 2000-year-old village were discovered by archaeologists. We build a story of what life must have been like at this riverside settlement, inhabited during the Bronze and Iron Ages.

To find more Augmented Reality locations, visit the Google Map at bit.ly/groundbreakers

Making the most of the Bank of England Aquatics Strategy
Part 2: The River and the River Age to the Olympic Age



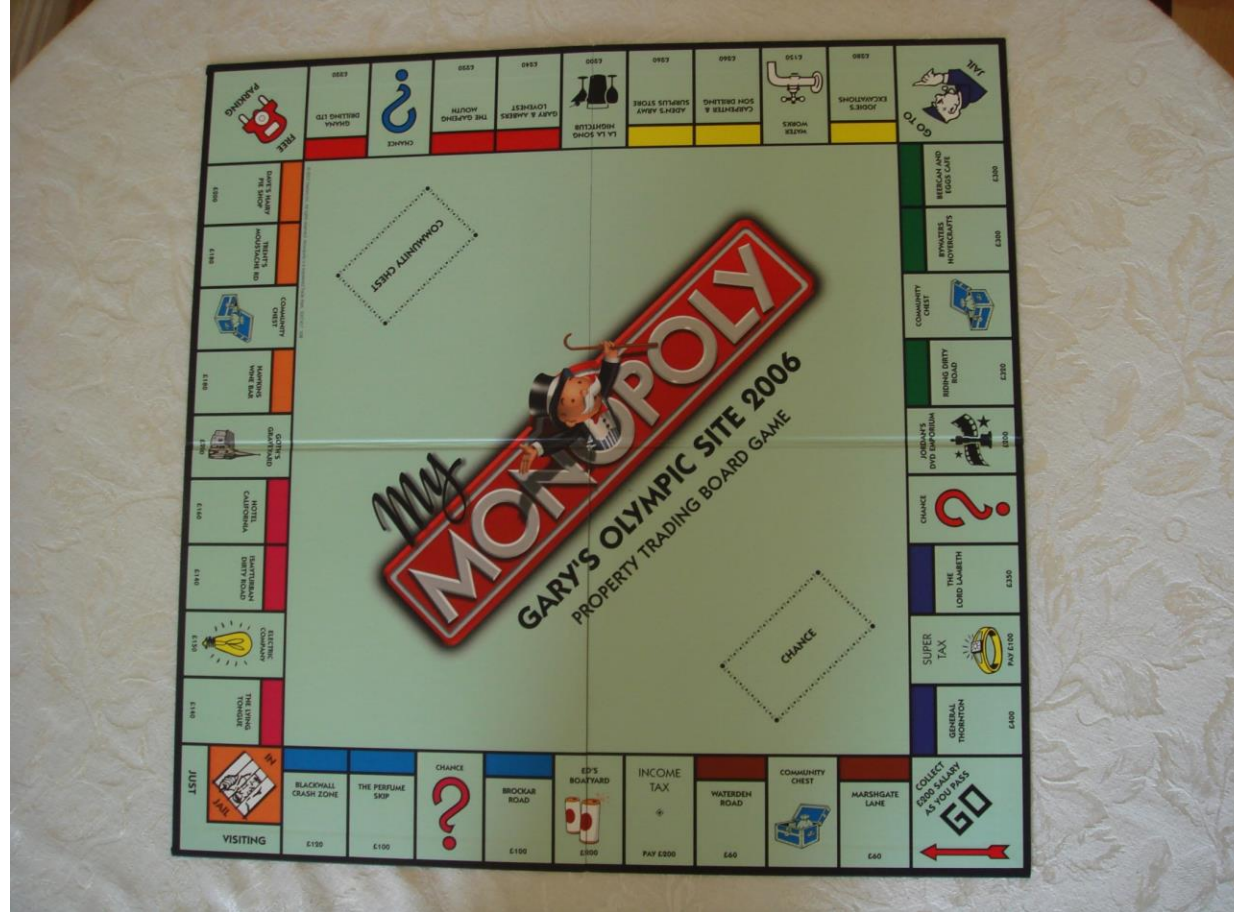
Scan the code to
step into history

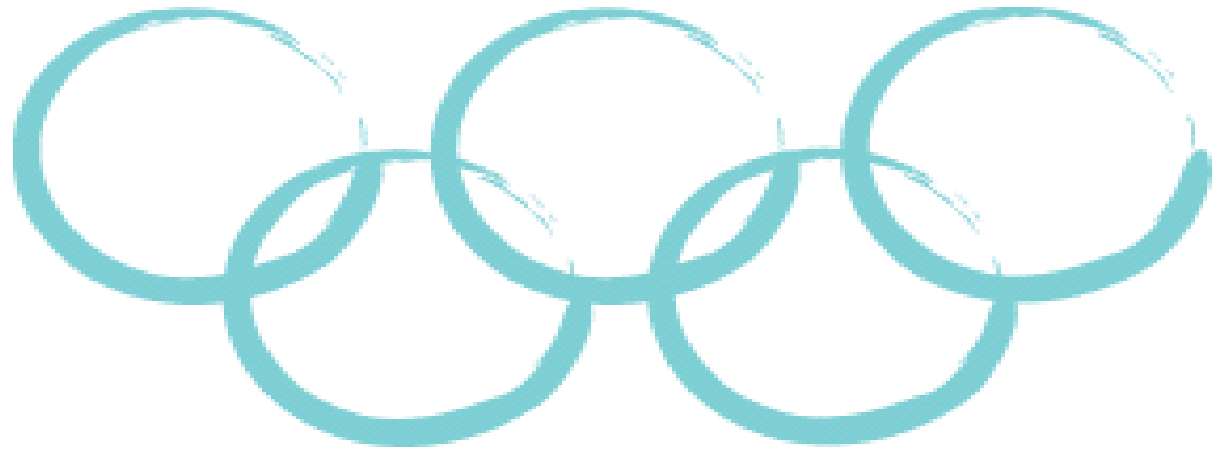
My dad gave me this Xmas present, like a Monopoly set but showing all the roads we've drilled around the Olympics site and all the things we've found. Its called Gary's Olympics Site 2007 and its got lots of little private jokes .

It's good piece of memorabilia for us.



Gary's Olympicopolis





Further information:

www.livingmapsnetwork.org.uk

www.philcohenworks.com

