Digital Imagery as Meaning & Form in Human-Computer Interaction Design

Project 3. Digital Imagery as Technology & Information

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Project
Find or create your own images or illustrations which denote or picture the notion of digital imagery as a distinctive digitally enabled technology or as a means or form of information. This is a design research project—I am not interested in your original concepts, but rather things you find by observation or secondary sources that are interesting and compelling. Choose three contrasting images or illustrations. At least one of your choices must be connected to digital technologies in some way.

Format:
Your project must be presented on three and only three landscape mode pages in pdf format. The first page should be a sketch, the second page should be your final research or concept, and the third page should be your primary and secondary attributions lists, as in the example/model solution that follows. Upload your work to oncourse, as instructed in class. Be certain to reference all of your sources accurately and completely.

DUE
I561: FEB 1st no later than 4:00 PM
I590/I400/H400: FEB 3rd no later than 9:00 AM
A FINAL form completed project.

Explain why your choices complement or contrast one another and what’s interesting about them. To do so, you may want to use or research some of the following terms: GIS, geotagging, resolution, privacy, expectations of privacy, analogue versus digital photography, visual information. This list of terms is by no means complete—use your own initiative to relate your research to existing concepts in interaction design and HCI as best you can.

The example on the pages that follow gives an idea of what a design research project could look like for the purposes of this class project. The example is by no means the most ideal project—yours should not be longer, but it can and ideally should be more compelling and interesting.
where am I?
Google Street View

Google maps provides a street view which allows people to see what a place looks like, in addition to a map. The feature has raised all sorts of privacy issues. See for example: Helft, M. “Google Zooms in Too Close for Some.” NY Times Technology (www.nytimes.com/ 2007/06/01/ technology/ 01private.html)

Google Maps Street View Feature
(source: maps.google.com)

Geotagging Cameras
Several consumer grade digital cameras on the market now offer geotagging, which labels digital image EXIF records with longitude and latitude information. This information can be used to precisely record where an image was taken, in addition to when.

Geotagging Cameras
(source: www.samsung.com)

PBase World Database
The PBase World Database sorts images according to geographical locations. Unlike Google maps street view, these images show the most interesting features of specific places, as they are contributed by people who seem to care about the aesthetic qualities of the photographs in the collection.

PBase World Database
(source: www.pbase.com/world)

(All sites referenced on this page accessed on 1.27.2010)
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