Report: Site-Specific Exhibition

Name: Emma Millington

Site Specific Exhibition Title: Golwg Pwblic

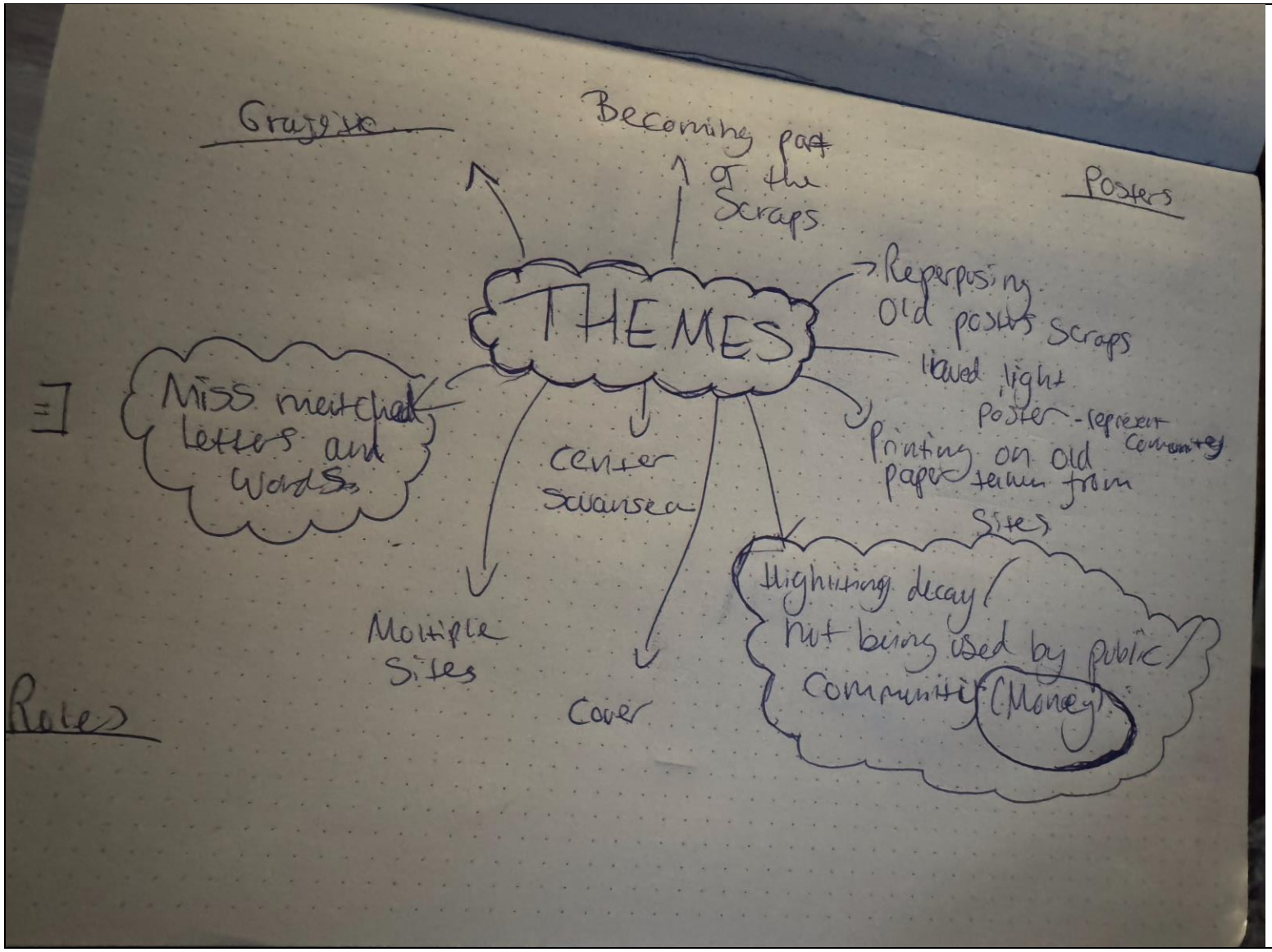
Rationale

- Clearly articulate why the chosen site is meaningful. What historical, cultural, or social importance does it hold? How do these attributes align with the conceptual framework of your work?

- Conceptual/Contextual Ideas: Discuss your group and individual interpretations of the broader themes your exhibition explores, such as identity, memory, community etc.

The site chosen for me was The Streets. The streets hold so many memories for all of the people at Swansea. The streets of Swansea hold memories all the way back to the Viking era the history of Swansea held a real importance to the work created. Swansea is a town filled with History, I was born in Swansea and so was all my family leading so far back. My family just small welsh boys fought in the war, lived working class lives to serve these streets and the people with in our country. I am so proud of being a welsh person and where I have come from. When I was younger my nana would take me on walks and tell me story's of my family and how the streets hold so many memories for us and our family.

As a group we went through ideas and concepts we wanted to discus or maybe use for our final outcomes. We discussed using old pieces of posters to create something new. We had a recurring thought of the old this stuck with me through out the project. We initially wanted to focus on money and what our money was wasted on and how Swansea has become a ghost town of shops. We went away with the idea and worked together on it for a while. Me and another practitioner in my group decided to use Archival imagery, we wanted the past to be brought forward to us. We in initially had the idea of printing on leafs and gluing them to the floor. However, that idea quickly changed after one of our group members drew an eye this then become the focus of our group. We thought about surveillance it's all around us every where we go we are being recorded or looked at so we decided that was going to be our main focus. In our world today people are so used to being watched wether that be through cameras, people or tracking on our phones. The idea of bringing the past forward and making them watch us, flipping the idea of modern day surveillance and making the past watch us. Once we had decided this me and the other practitioner that I was working with decided to use the archival photos. We spent a long time looking through these images and saw in a vast majority of these images there are people looking at the camera which to them was such an unusual thing to see so we decided to create this as our servaillance.


Graffiti
Becoming part of the Scraps
Posters
THEMES
Reperposing Old posters Scraps
Miss matched letters and words
Center Swansea
Printing on old paper taken from sites
Highlitting decay / not being used by public / community (Money)
Multiple Sites
Cover
Roles

A Summary of the Research

- Provide a concise overview of the research you have conducted over the past semester that has led you to the production of your site-specific intervention.
- Demonstrate your understanding of primary and secondary research skills taught over the past 18 months in developing your ideas from concepts to final installation. (Site visits/ practical experimentation, data collecting etc.)
- Use visuals!

Most research done by me was through the archives or first had accounts from my family about Swansea. I went out and used personal albums and images to help create these pieces I also looked at artists like Mona Hatoum Performace Still as I wanted to see how much attention she got what and how people watched her and interacted with her. This Piece consisted of her wearing shoes tied to just her ankle while she walked. I also looked at Doris Salcedo Crak this art piece was created in the Tate modern and was a crack in the centrer of the building it was a piece around a third world person coming into the heart of Europe this piece spoke to me due to the scale of the piece and how out was created. Another artist I looked into was Erik Kessle this was a piece created with archival images of a football team he edited the ball out and placed the on a football field in Switzerland and had a piece of video of people interaction with the piece it was beautiful.

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For me personally primary sources have been the most helpful through this project stripping it back to its roots which was the streets of Swansea and bringing in firsthand/account imagery from the archives really made this project what it was. I feel as though without these resources our exhibition wouldn't have had the same outcome. The images themselves being primary sources alone show the hours we put in to making sure we were using the correct resources for our exhibition. We used these sources in our experimentation over time we of course used archival images as well as different new outlets to try and create a final outcome government or me it all seemed back to archival images. We also went around different shops to map out and research where we would put our images

Techniques Developed for the Production of Your Body of Work

- Outline the tools, materials, or methods employed in creating your work. Highlight innovations or adaptations that you have considered to align with notions of ‘site specificity’.

- Practical Application: Describe how these techniques contributed to the final exhibition and supported its conceptual aims.

- Use visuals!

Somethings I employed while working on this project is adaptability and the ability to use photoshop to the max of my ability’s especially the cropping and making sure the images weren’t blurred or pixelated. We worked with vinyl, I have worked with vinyl before for previous exhibitions. Somethings we did while creating this exhibition was measure curtain areas around the kingsway as this is where we decided for our exhibition to take place. We had to measure and resize the images to fit the correct spaces. We had to also consider while out working with our spaces the weather as we decided for our pieces to be out on the kings way. Something that I also had to do that I haven’t done for most other exhibitions is visualize the space as much as I did for this exhibition. This exhibition was all around the space we needed the visualizations to be prefect while doing this so me and my partner in the exhibition went out took an image of what we would like the space to look like and created a photoshopped idea of what the spaces would look like. These all applied to the final outcome of the project as without the usage of my photoshop skills the images would have turned our extremely pixelated and unable to be used, some did turn out this way however that was intentional to the spaces we were assigning them to. In terms of the measurements and visualizing the exhibition this was extremely mportant conceptually and towards our final aims as we uses these specific spaces to highlight the images as well as keep them hidden in a way almost like a game of hide and seek, if we didn’t have our mark ups on the day organizing everything would have been a mess.

Individual and Group work overview

- Provide a summary of your contribution to production of a final site-specific exhibition.
- What role did you take in the group?
- What have you found challenging throughout the process?
- How have you overcome any hardship that you have delt with both in the making of your work, and working with others.
- what team and personal skills have you learned/practiced that might be useful in your professional development for future career opportunities?

I feel as though for this project I took on the roll of semi leader; I made the calls where calls were due, I made sure we were up to date with where we should be. In term of the exhibition, I helped out by doing a lot of the research to help us get an idea of what we wanted to display/create. I also got in contact with the council and Swansea Archives to ask for imagery we could use and spent hours in this space sifting through many different images and newspaper clippings to help us achieve our best. Me and another practitioner Joe did a proposal to Swansea Council for the space we chose which was the kings way. In the proposal we included mockup imagery, a description off the work, dates times and a risk assessment that I filled out and attached to the document. I also helped trim the final images and any mockups we did to ensure we were ready to go on th day. I also printed off leaflets' fir us to handout on the day of the exhibition cut them to size as well. I also created a website to then create a QR code that took people to the website so they could stay full informed on us as practitioners and our project. I also created the first round of posters we released as we were running short for time, so I had to create something quick.

Something I found challenging while working on this exhibition was getting everyone to contribute. At times I felt as though me and the practitioner I was working with Joe did most if not all the work. Trying to organize group meetings making sure everyone turned up and making sure we were all contributing as this was a group project even though we were creating two different pieces of work was hard but really important! Toward the end of the project is when people in my group finally started contributing but at first it was really hard. Another thing I found difficult was the marketing side of thing at first, we has one of our group members in charge of creating our marketing however as we got two weeks away from our exhibition and still had nothing but empty promises, we had to create it all ourselves.

I feel as though I over came these hardships by taking it into my own hands allowing me to take control and push my group as hard as I could although this was a challenge at first, I feel as though it helped with our final outcome. We had a run in with the council while we

were out putting our exhibition up which meant even though we went through all the correct protocols we couldn't exhibit on the day as the council classed it as "fly advertising" ands we needed to take it down. However, as a group we persevered and with a lot of determination we still made it happen! We decided instead to gather a group of my friends who saw my exhibition due to our advertising and asked them to hold our prints up making it impossible to look away it almost became even more beautiful. As a team we preserved and created a wonderful exhibition for the people of Swansea, it also gave the theme of a protest we had people beeping and clapping it created a community project I felt that was for the people of Swansea.

Some personal skills I have learned are photoshop skills, measuring accurately and I have learned to have the confidence to speak up and tale change while also allowing other peoples voices to be heard. I feel as a group I have learned a lot of skills revolving around how I interact with people and how to be professional at times where I found it extremely hard.

Golwg Public

Malachi Smith Joe Bunyan

Seren Davies Emma Millington

This work examines the quiet but constant presence of surveillance in Swansea, exploring how people move through watched spaces often without noticing. Using archival photography, the installation highlights that observation is not a modern tension—historical images reveal that the city has long been monitored, recorded, and visually documented. These photographs, once captured to depict everyday life, now stand as evidence of an ongoing gaze that stretches from Swansea's past into its present.

By reintroducing these archival images into the contemporary setting of The Kingsway, the installation creates a visual dialogue between two eras of watching. The contrast between older, more visible acts of documentation and today's subtle, ambient surveillance encourages viewers to reflect on how easily they become part of an unseen visual record simply by existing in public space.

The project is expanded by two additional bodies of work created by fellow practitioners. One artist contributes a series of illustrations responding to themes of public space, visibility, and the unnoticed systems that track urban life. These illustrations function as creative disruptions—moments that prompt viewers to question their own relationship to surveillance in the city.

The second practitioner builds on this further with a striking series of posters featuring eyes. These images operate as symbolic watchers, echoing the sensation of being observed while moving through public environments. Positioned within the streetscape, the eyes serve as a reminder of the persistent gaze embedded in modern life, making visible what is usually hidden or overlooked.

Together, these works transform The Kingsway into a temporary site of heightened awareness. By bringing archival watchers, contemporary observation, and symbolic eyes into the same environment, the project invites the public to consider how surveillance—past and present—shapes their understanding of Swansea, and how being watched influences the way we inhabit the city today.

Artists

Evaluation of the Exhibition

- Execution: Assess the success of the exhibition in addressing the site's history, community, or spatial dynamics. Provide install shots of your exhibition work.

Audience Interaction: Discuss how the audience engaged with your work and the site. Provide photographs that document this process.

- Reflection: Identify areas for improvement and potential future directions for your practice.

The exhibition as an overall was a success, it may not have gone as we plan but I feel the outcome was much better than we anticipated. I feel as though we responded to the site in a clear way, we created pieces linking to the theme of servailance and how it was hidden amongst us. However instead of it being hidden it was brought to forward for all the world to see.

To see the way the audience engaged with our work was amazing! We had my friends and family holding images we were meant to install but couldn't due to the council, members of the public were beeping at us and were over all really interactive with our exhibition as a whole which was amazing to see. Even though the exhibition didn't go how we planned I think the final outcome was phenomenal, the audiences reaction even when we were taking it down people stopped to stare just to see if we were causing trouble this linked back to the theme the idea of you always being watched, surveillance. Towards the end of our exhibition it became clear this piece turned into a community piece without the council telling us we couldn't install the exhibition hitch lead to us having to hold these pieces it wouldn't have been so interactive.

Some areas we could have improved on was our ability to come to an understanding quickly enough. I feel ass though due to the lack of effort by some people we struggled to get on track at first however when things started to fall into place we were able to pick up the speed and start working as a group. I feel as though I need to improve on my ability to get my opinions across I feel as though if I as a leader didn't spend so much time worrying about upsetting the team it wouldn't have taken us so long to get on track and understand each other. We were slow to start however we got there in the end.

Overall, I feel as though Our exhibition was a success we powered through any obstacle and came out on top with an amazing project to show for it all the hardships paid off.