

October 10, 2013  
Notes from exploration of the abandoned building on 29th Street:  
The large open space on the first level.

Towards the end of the day, working my way down from the rooms on the second level, I arrived at a large open space on the first level of the building. The purpose of this space seems completely different than any other part of the building that I've explored so far.

Clearly untouched since the evacuation, this room has a sensation of expectant uncertainty flowing through it. Everything was left frozen in time—dust and almost organized save for a few beer cans here and there. As elsewhere in the building, there is no sign of hurried departure. People seem to have somehow all stood up and walked out at once, calmly carrying most of the room's contents with them.

Near an exterior entrance to this room, on the ground, I found a map of the space itself, but it's useless as a guide: all of the significant information has been heavily redacted with a black marker.

I'm looking for the artificial equivalent of cockpit voice recordings, but I doubt I'll find it. The deliberate erasing of the record tells me something important though: there was anticipation that someone (the me?) would be trying to interpret what was being undertaken here.

Why was this undertaking (a cult meeting? art exhibit?) so abruptly aborted? It's as if they were planning for disaster, but I can see, standing here in the middle of this incredibly still, silent place, that disaster never arrived.

October 11, 2013  
Notes from exploration of the abandoned building on 29th Street:  
The large open space on the first level.

Here's a list of what I've found in this room so far. I am using the map to mark where I found each item, including the map itself.

- a) A compass, a ruler and a knife stacked neatly inside of a slightly deflated inflatable boat.
- b) 3 chairs, a computer keyboard and a stack of dirty dishes.
- c) Nothing. But it was clear, due to the focus of overhead spotlights, that something important—central—had been here.
- d) A photograph of a skull fragment.
- e) A messy locker/glove, stained with paint (and possibly blood?).
- f) A pair of headphones.
- g) An old wooden structure with the words "Foley Wind Machine" stenciled onto one of its trusses.
- h) A glove compartment-sized box labelled "Instant Village: Just Add Water."
- i) Here's where I found the map. And a crumpled calling card bearing the text "Flux Factory."



Untitled (As of Yet) is supported, in part, by National Endowment for the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.



October 17, 2013  
Notes from exploration of the abandoned building on 29th Street:  
Analysis of contents of folder found in courtyard area.

Not a comprehensive survey but to show the range, articles within the folder that I found today include an archival news clipping about the 1989 San Francisco Earthquake; a snarky 2011 fluff piece on a SUNY Purchase art professor teaching squatters rights in his free time; a blog post about a midnight traffic jam in China in August 2010; and several articles about Edward J. Snowden.

Many of these contain hand written notes or circled portions of text. The folder also contains 12 very strange and disparate photographs; 12 heavily redacted short paragraphs (describing presenters at the conference?); and the aforementioned symbols or logos. By orienting the symbols properly, assembling and rearranging words from the censored documents, and via clues in the photographs that help explain the objects left behind, I have been able to decode two important messages:

One explains why I may have so abruptly lost contact with my people: it describes how predictive data processing is integrated within all mainstream communication technology now. These technologies can no longer be safely used at all for private communication among creative operatives.

The second message contained some map coordinates and a technique for circumventing these new developments. I will employ it now, leaving even more deeply encoded instructions for whenever wants to meet all of us at the next "conference."

If you are reading this, you have found them.

October 17, 2013  
Notes from exploration of the abandoned building on 29th Street:  
Courtyard space on first level.

I think I just found the "black box" that I've been looking for! Jammed underneath a pile of rusty partial bicycles in the courtyard area and very lightly damaged by the elements—a simple manila folder holding a jigsaw of clues. The text on the folder tab has been crossed out and some of the contents are very obviously missing. But I think I know now what was going on in the big open space on the first level!

Time is a bit of the essence now that I know. I fear that by moving the bicycle pile, I may have triggered some kind of alarm system, so I'll write quickly and try to upload photos of my notes and everything that I've found to a safe server just in case something happens to the hard copies: I was right to investigate this building as potentially significant to my search, but it's clear now that I am not the only one keeping tabs on it.

Back to findings: The folder contains news articles, photographs, email exchanges; three symbols (maybe logos?) representing local organizations that seem to have been supportive of the clandestine activities taking place here, and some descriptive bits of text that all point towards one goal: I don't know what the gathering that occurred was called, so for now I'll refer to the event as "Untitled (As of Yet)."

Based on a quick glance at these items, I'm guessing that Untitled (As of Yet) was some kind of information sharing or training event brought about (under duress) by the May 2013 disclosure of the American National Security Agency's PRISM surveillance program. It seems that this building was hosting operatives from an international resistance movement—very likely connected with the one that I am trying to retrace myself with. It looks like the Untitled (As of Yet) event brought experts in various types of adaptation under adverse conditions together to participate in a showcase of their strategies for connecting with one another and evolving. At first I thought I was reviewing material about a traditional disaster preparedness training because the folder includes clippings about several major natural and manmade disasters, but the pieces don't add up. The goal of the conference seems to have been to share viable protocols for community organizing without the use of the internet. And to strengthen the mind and body against habit and conventionality.

It is clear that this group was aware that its activities were under surveillance and that it was holding this conference specifically to disseminate knowledge before dispersing to points deeper underground.

Still, there does seem to be some coded information intentionally left behind here and I'm almost certain that it points to their knowledge of a program even more comprehensive and nefarious than PRISM. I will be reviewing the contents of the folder more carefully tonight, but want to examine one last portion of the building before the light starts to fade.