

TheWall



thewall.name

Title: TheWall

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PAPER PROPOSAL

Locative media, wireless and networked systems actively reshape cartographic imagination through a system of portable, space-based exchange of information and experiences. Coupled with new cartographic technologies and the web, **TheWall** engages with these emerging new spatial vernaculars to convey the impact of a segment of the security/barrier wall, currently being built in Israel and Palestine, upon selected U.S. and Canadian cities. Like trade routes that residually altered the cultures and communities through which they passed, locative and mobile projects such as **TheWall** changes both the experiences within and memories of familiar and local spaces by shadowing the impact of the structure's trajectory upon local communities and lives, translating distant events in local terms/on local ground.

BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION

TheWall is a locative and transpositional mapping project that superimposes a segment of the security/barrier wall, currently being built in Israel and Palestine, upon selected U.S. and Canadian cities. Participants can view the project on the web, as well as download maps and media to allow them to walk the shadowed trajectory of the wall in their own city.

The project is a second in the series called "**Shadows from another place**" (<http://shadowsfromanotherplace.net>) which uses cartographic interventions, Global Positioning System coordinates, maps, city sites and the web to translate and represent the impact of political or cultural traumas -- such as wars or shifts in borders and territorial boundaries -- that take place in one location, upon another. The first in the series, "San Francisco <-> Baghdad" collapsed distinctions between "foreign" or "domestic," creating a hybrid space that erased the safety of geographic distance and portrayed the impact of the distant invasion of Baghdad in local terms/on local ground.