

ARTIFACT ANALYSIS



Artifact Name/Title: Faded street pavement markings

Describe it (as if you were explaining it to someone who can't see it):

There are pavement markings denoting a crosswalk and bike lane. Parts of these markings are fading away much more than the rest of them.

Understand it:

Where is it from? Markings were likely worn away by motor vehicles.

When is it from? It would be interesting to find out when markings were installed.

Who used it? What was it used for?

People walking are supposed to use the crosswalk as a safe space to cross and people on bikes the bike lane a safe place to ride a bike.

Analyze it:

Does it have any functionality that may have been unintended by its designer?

The intended functionality by DOT seems to be to let people cross and ride a bike safely. However, it may not always be working exactly as intended.

What can we infer from it with regards to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs? N/A

Contextualize it:

What did you find out from this artifact with regards to the street environment?

Cars turn this way most of the time and the bike lane is frequently run over by them. Motor vehicle angle for turning is relatively wide (and fast) as revealed by the desire lines. A turn made at closer to 90 degrees would be slower and have better visibility of the people crossing and biking by.

How might you make street design changes that make everyday biking easier and more pleasant based on the insights gained from this artifact?

Restrict motor vehicle turning speed and extend physically protected bike and pedestrian space to make it safer and because the desire lines reveal that motor vehicles don't require all the space allocated to them to make the turn.