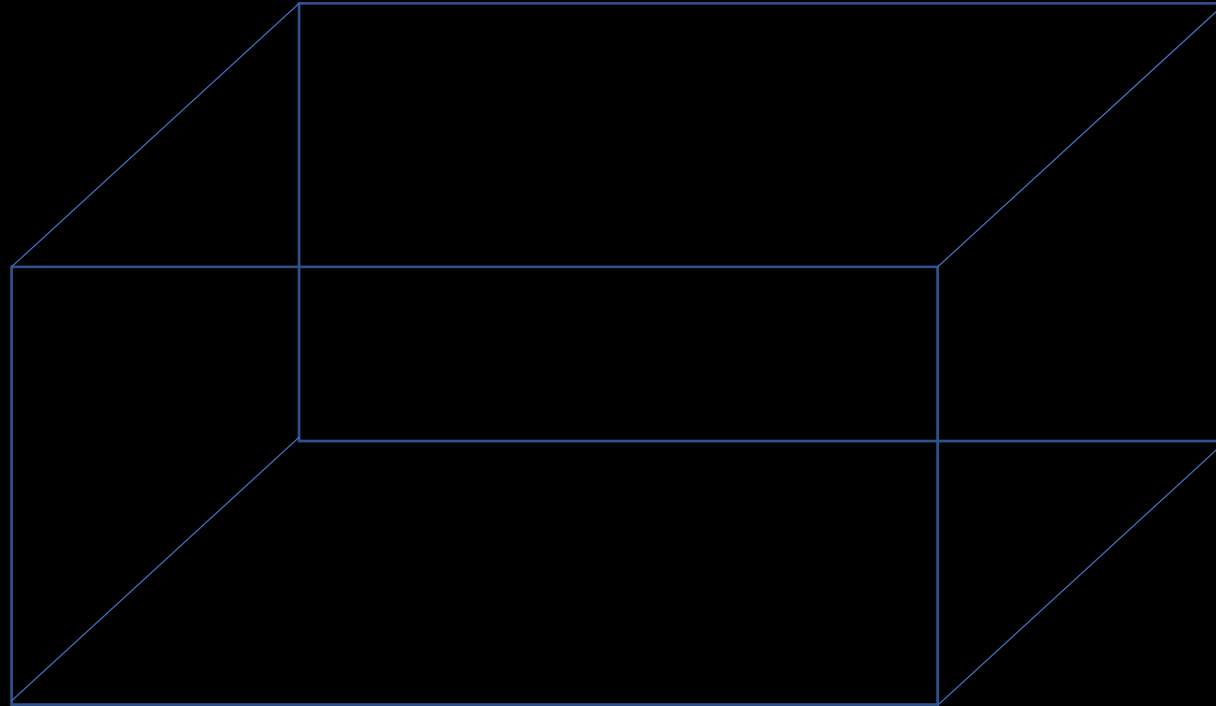
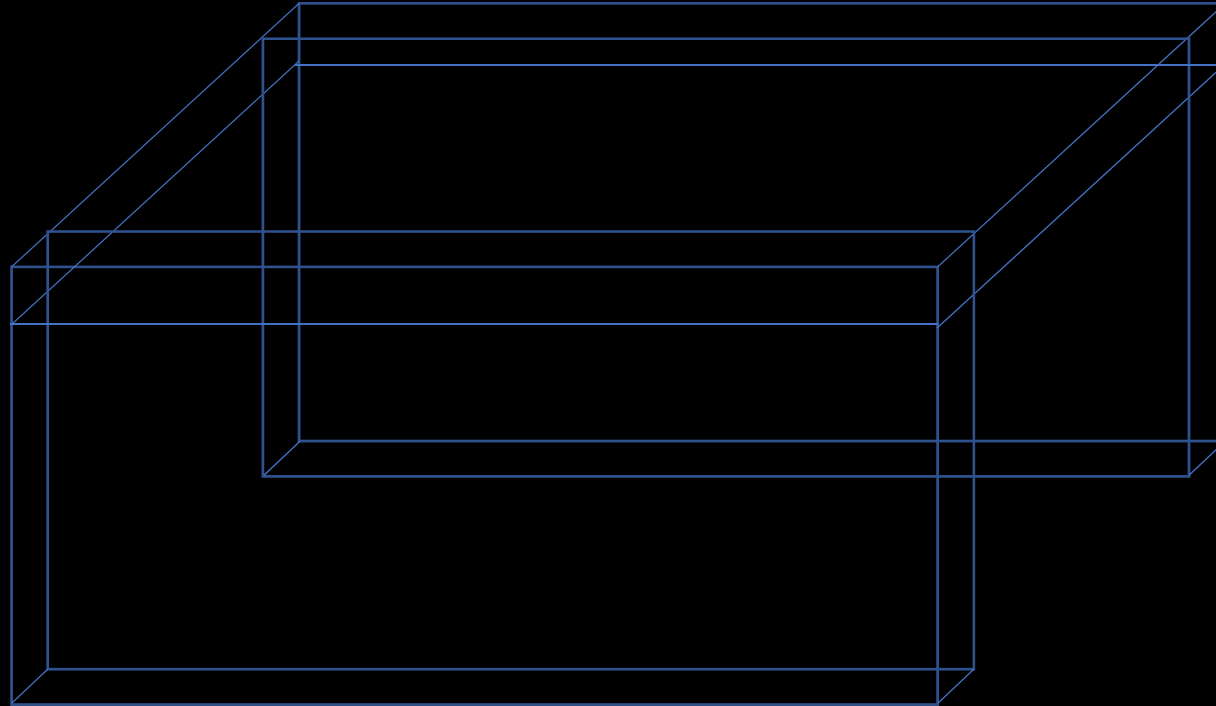


When we build, when we design, who matters?
Who is in the room?



Who is at the table?

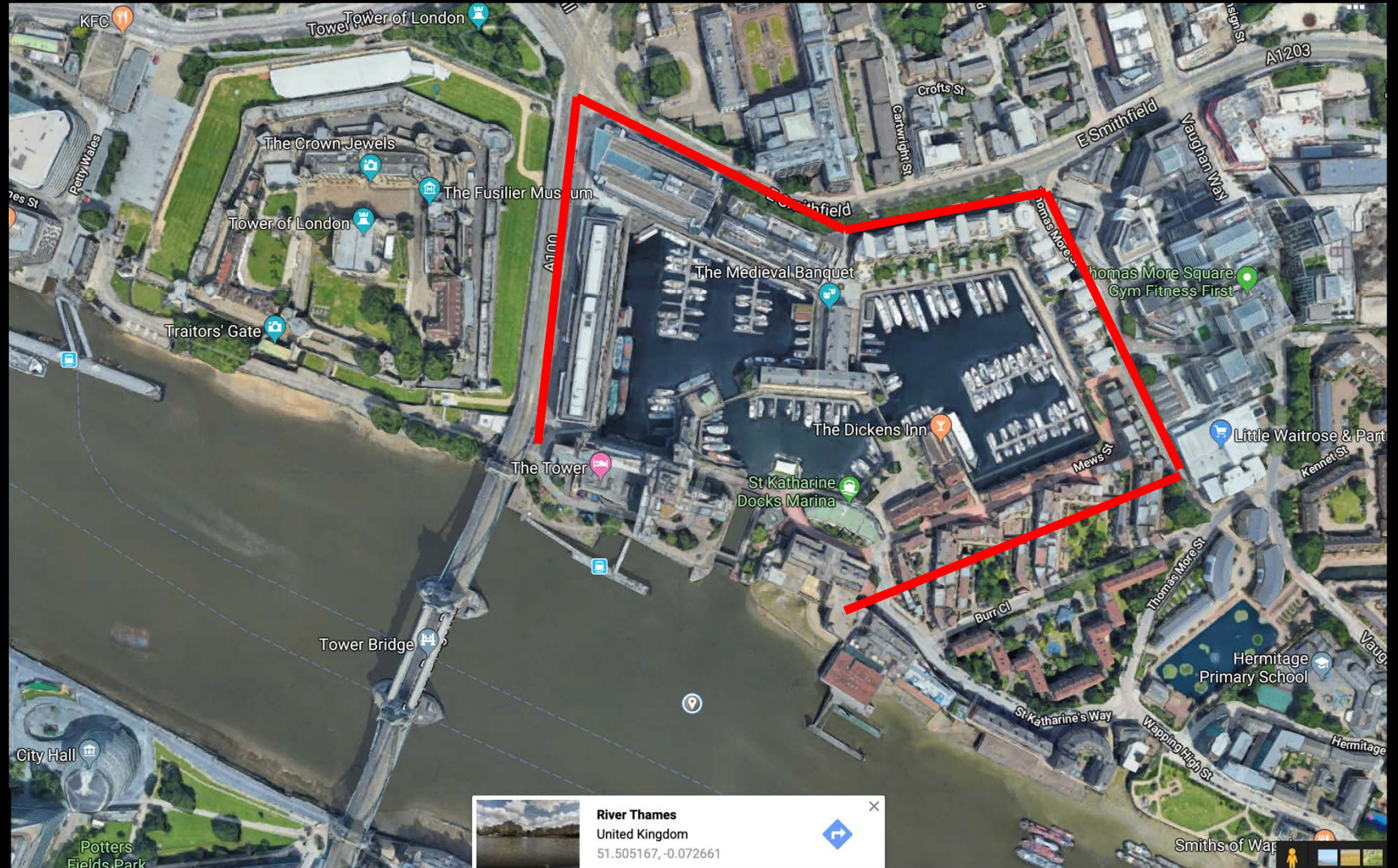


An example of
development:

St Katherine's Docks
London

Present Day

Pleasure craft marina
Hotel
Restaurants



St Katherine's Docks,
London

1599

Area prior to initial
Intense development

In the "liberties" east of the
Tower, outside of the city wall

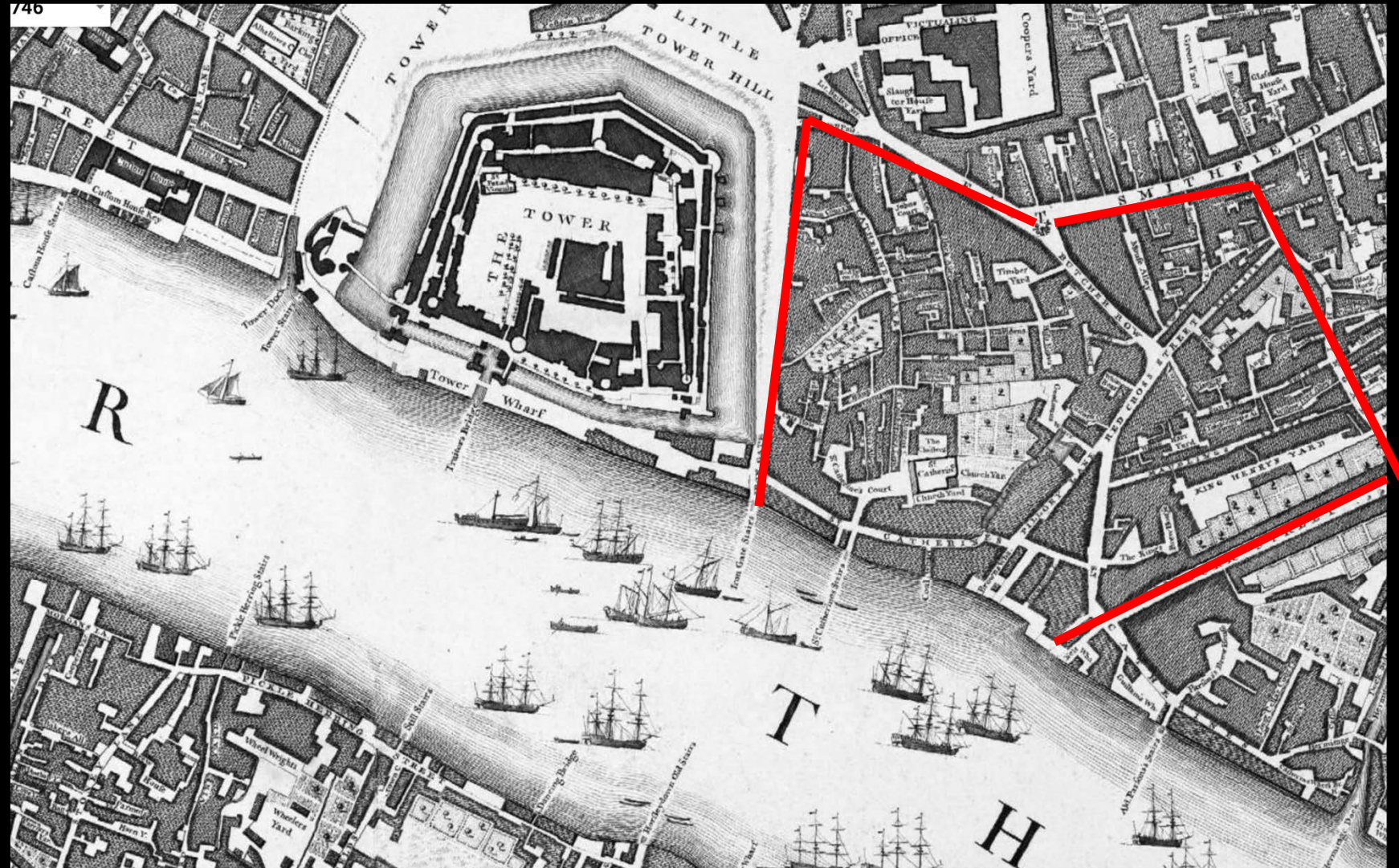
Few restrictions on
development and the practice of
trades



St Katherine's Docks
London

1746

Area prior to
redevelopment



St Katherine's Docks London

1828

Map of proposed dock
Site

(Basins overlaid on
existing neighborhood)



St Katherine's Docks
London

Who wasn't
in the room?

Gustav Doré
A Backstreet in London
1868



St Katherine's Docks
London

Redevelopment authorized by an Act of Parliament, 1825
Parliament largely controlled by landed interests

1828

23 acre site, riverside

1,250 buildings demolished
slum conditions – rent paying tenancy

11,300 inhabitants displaced
mostly port workers – a poor and multi-ethnic group
also survival sex-workers, foreign tradesmen

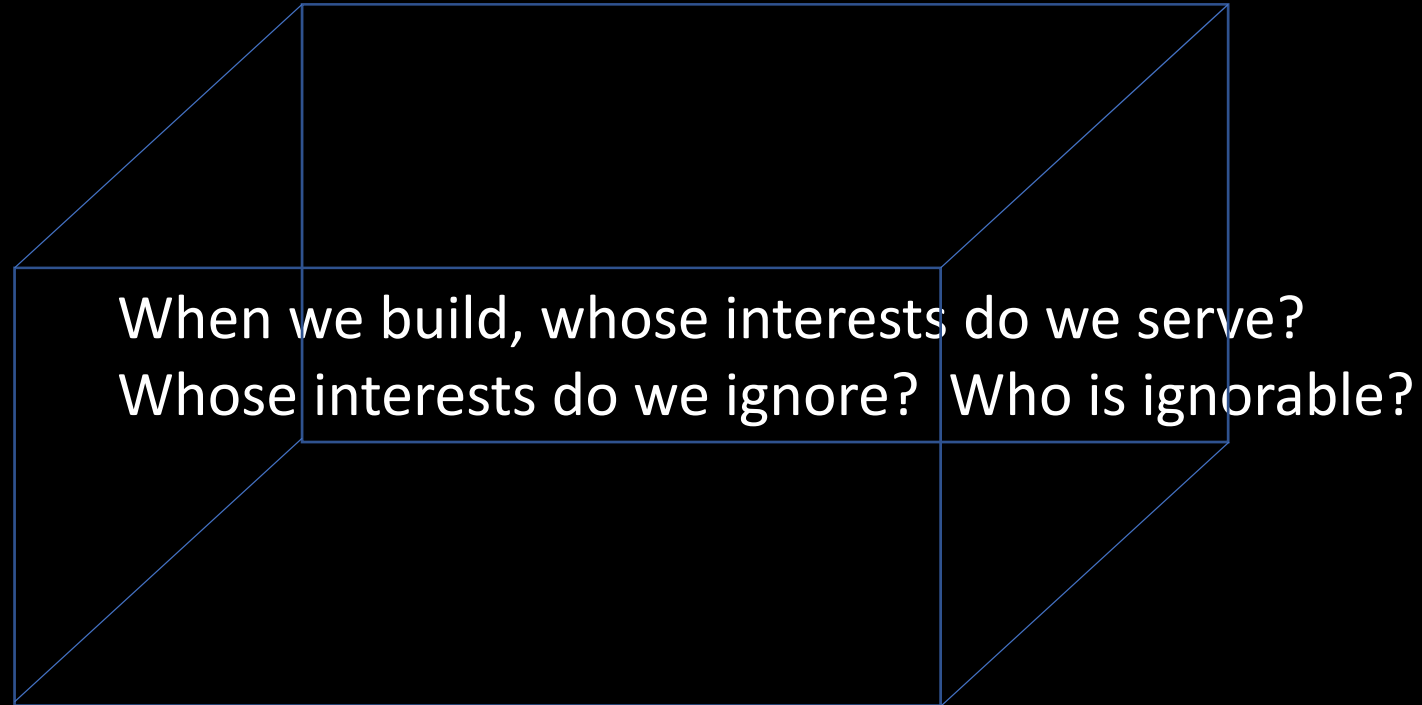
Only the land-owners were compensated

Tenants were simply evicted

San Francisco

2019

When we itch for change, when we push for something new,
who is in the room while decisions are made?



And what are the ethics of leaving the room empty?

An example:
Ignorable, oppressed people

San Francisco:
Tenderloin, 1963

Before Stonewall, but after
decades of discrimination
and police violence,
transgender women and sex
workers riot against police
oppression



San Francisco

1963-2018 Organizing/Lobbying/Fighting



St James' Infirmary

Lyon-Martin Health

Transgender Intersex Justice Project

El/La para TransLatinas

Trans/Thrive (API Wellness Center)

Tom Waddell Clinic (SF Public Health)

UCSF Center of Excellence in Transgender Health

Trans Employment Initiative

TransMarch

Transgender Law Center

Mayor's Office on Transgender Initiatives

...and many individual struggles

San Francisco

2019

Founding of the Compton's
Transgender Cultural District

First in the nation

First anywhere

From repression,
through resistance,
to a place at the table as
development decisions are
made



San Francisco

2019

To meet current and future needs we must broaden our expectations for who is invited to the table when changes to the city – or any human environment – are contemplated.

Proposed ethic:

The people are the city, all the people you value and all the people you don't.

Without its people, the city and all its properties are worthless.

San Francisco

2019

If we are lucky we each are now at best *temporarily* able, *currently* housed, or - as in my own experience - only *one word* away from transitioning from valued citizen to ignorable oddity.

Understanding this is called *empathy*.

San Francisco

2019

However, designers and builders must resist the temptation to let *empathy* be enough.

The voices of the ignored must be heard, and they/we must be at the table. You will never know enough about other people to make choices for other people. It's too much.

Therefore *inclusion* means *liberation* for the designer, not restriction.

San Francisco

2019

We know that perfection and full equality in design are not achievable.

We will never have complete equality of wealth, ability, or acceptance.

Knowing this, we must push for a better world for all, while working to ensure that the burdens of the present are shared equally.

San Francisco

2019

Imagine being able to let go of guilt.

That's a worthy task for design.