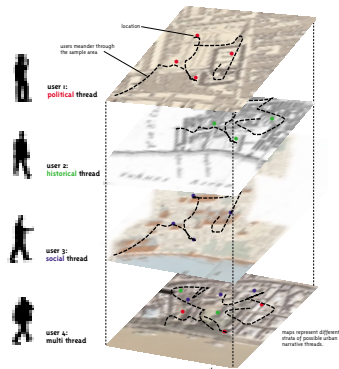


# URBAN TAPESTRIES



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Urban Tapestries is an interactive location-based wireless application allowing users to access and publish location-specific multimedia content (such as local historical information, personal memories, pictures, short movies and sounds). It is a forum for sharing experience and knowledge, for leaving ephemeral traces of peoples' presence in the geography of the city.

Urban Tapestries is more than a history trail, it is dynamically interactive rather than merely responsive. It enables a community's collective memory to grow organically, allowing ordinary citizens to embed social knowledge in the new wireless landscape of the city. Users will be able to add new locations, location content and the 'threads' which link individual locations to local contexts.

Urban Tapestries privileges the experience of the user over typical 'publishing' systems (such as in museums) which control and author the user experience. For example, in addition to being able to upload text, sound and images to the system, at each UT location encountered the user will be prompted to record an audio clip of their sound environment, which they can later edit together to create a 'sound map'. Sound is indelibly linked to memory — often acting as a powerful trigger for recall. Each sound map will be a unique recording of a personal journey: something the users can later share with friends. Urban Tapestries affords its users a novel way of authoring their own experience of inhabiting the cityspace and communicating it to others via an album of memories structured around sound.

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