

Visualising Alternative Futures

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In Australia, many large cities suffered the loss of important buildings during the building boom of the 1960s. During this time of demolition and re-building the 'face' of major cities changed forever. This period of savage removal of heritage and significant buildings has been the subject of much interest and debate till this day. There exists the need to provide virtual models of Australian cities 'how they might be' if these buildings remained in place still.

This paper describes the first stages of a project that is building a composite 3D model using VRML that combines existing heritage buildings with the 'missing' buildings of the city – those that were removed in the heady development days of the 1960s. It outlines the concept of the project and it describes the development of a 'proof-of-concept' prototype. Finally it discusses how the lessons learnt from this project might be applied to visualizing peri-urban landscapes