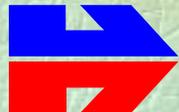


# The ILUTE-TLUMIP Linkage: Questions Arising

JD Hunt

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Joint Program in  
Transportation  
University of Toronto



# Outline

## Describe Questions Arising From Practical Development Work and Pursued in ILUTE Research

- Introduction
- Questions Arising
- Conclusions

# Introduction

## Context

- Oregon TLUMIP:
  - practical implementation, practical focus
  - work gives rise to issues - to 'questions'
  - cannot pursue these questions in practical implementation
- ILUTE:
  - seeking to be relevant
  - answer important questions, expand useful understanding
  - inform future practical implementations
- TLUMIP - ILUTE symbiosis
  - identify research questions arising in TLUMIP
  - explore in ILUTE
  - same people
  - with research results feeding back into practice

# Issues Arising Topic Areas

- Search Processes
- Treatment of Business Establishments
- Motivations
- Perceptions of Space
- Evolution of Sensitivities
- Public Agencies

# Questions Arising Search Processes

- Currently heavy reliance on logit choice models
  - strong assumptions
    - optimizing
    - compensatory evaluation
    - full information
  - hopefully behave 'as if'
  - computationally intensive
  - a 'hang-over' from aggregate modelling
- Proposing rule-based search instead
  - limited set of alternatives
  - satisficing
  - elimination-by-attribute
  - reduced calculations

# Questions Arising Search Processes

- Questions:
  - extent ongoing searches rather than discrete choices at fixed intervals?
  - method for identifying options? imitate and adjust?
  - extent non-compensating evaluation used?
  - roles of time and money budgets?
  
  - results more accurate?
  - get 'unanticipated' emergent aggregate behaviour?
- Some of this considered previously, now a new relevance

# Questions Arising Business Establishments

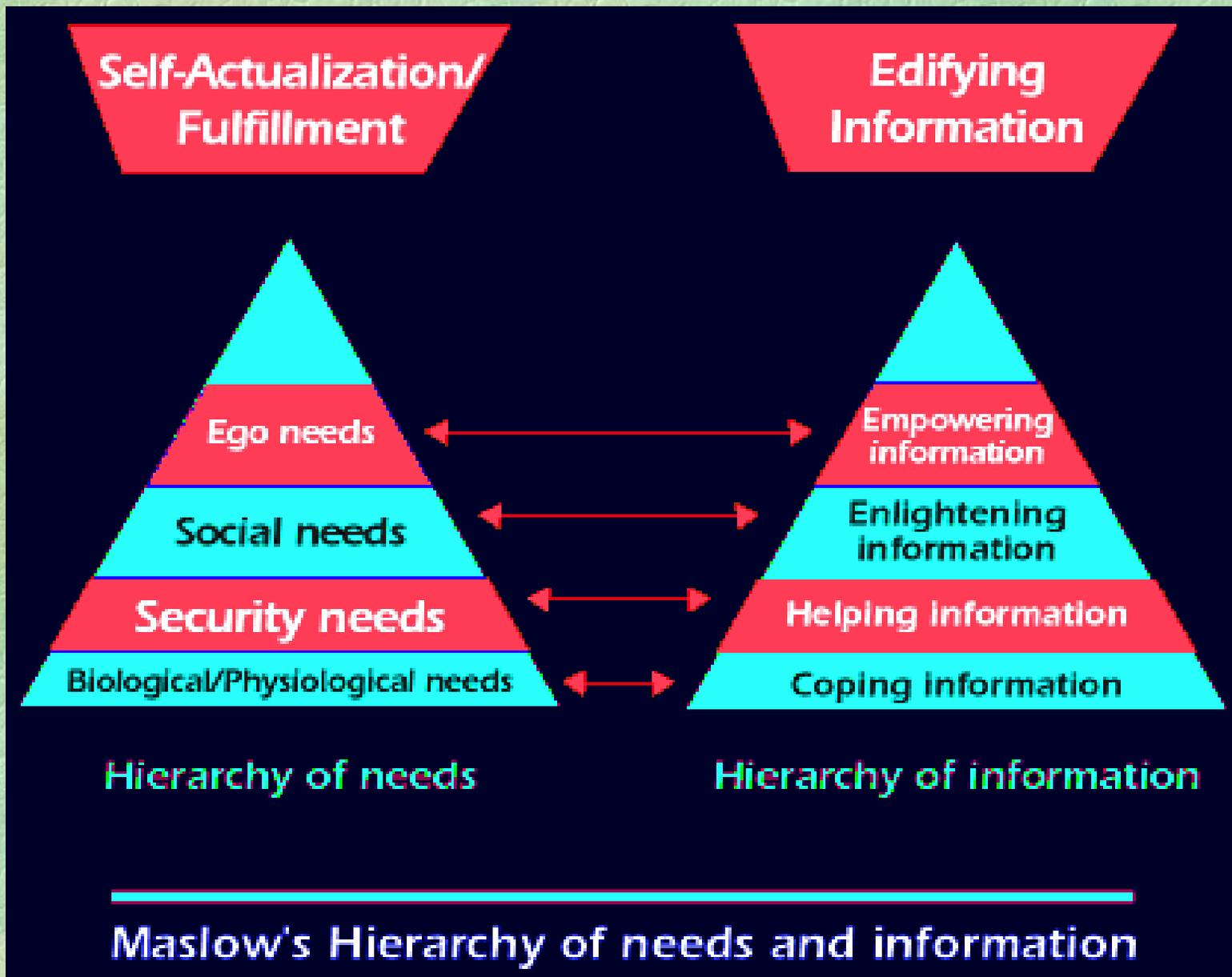
- Currently aggregate representation of economic production and consumption apart from households and space
  - misses out on benefits of micro-simulation
- Exploring micro-simulation treatment
  - agents are 'business establishments' (BEs)
  - some analogies to treatment of households
    - 'firmographics' like 'demographics'
    - utility-based location choice
    - variation in technical coefficients
  - some components like current aggregate treatment
    - production utilities, with buying and selling utility components
    - exchange zones with aggregate supply and demand responses
  - proto-BEs for testing new ideas

# Questions Arising Business Establishments

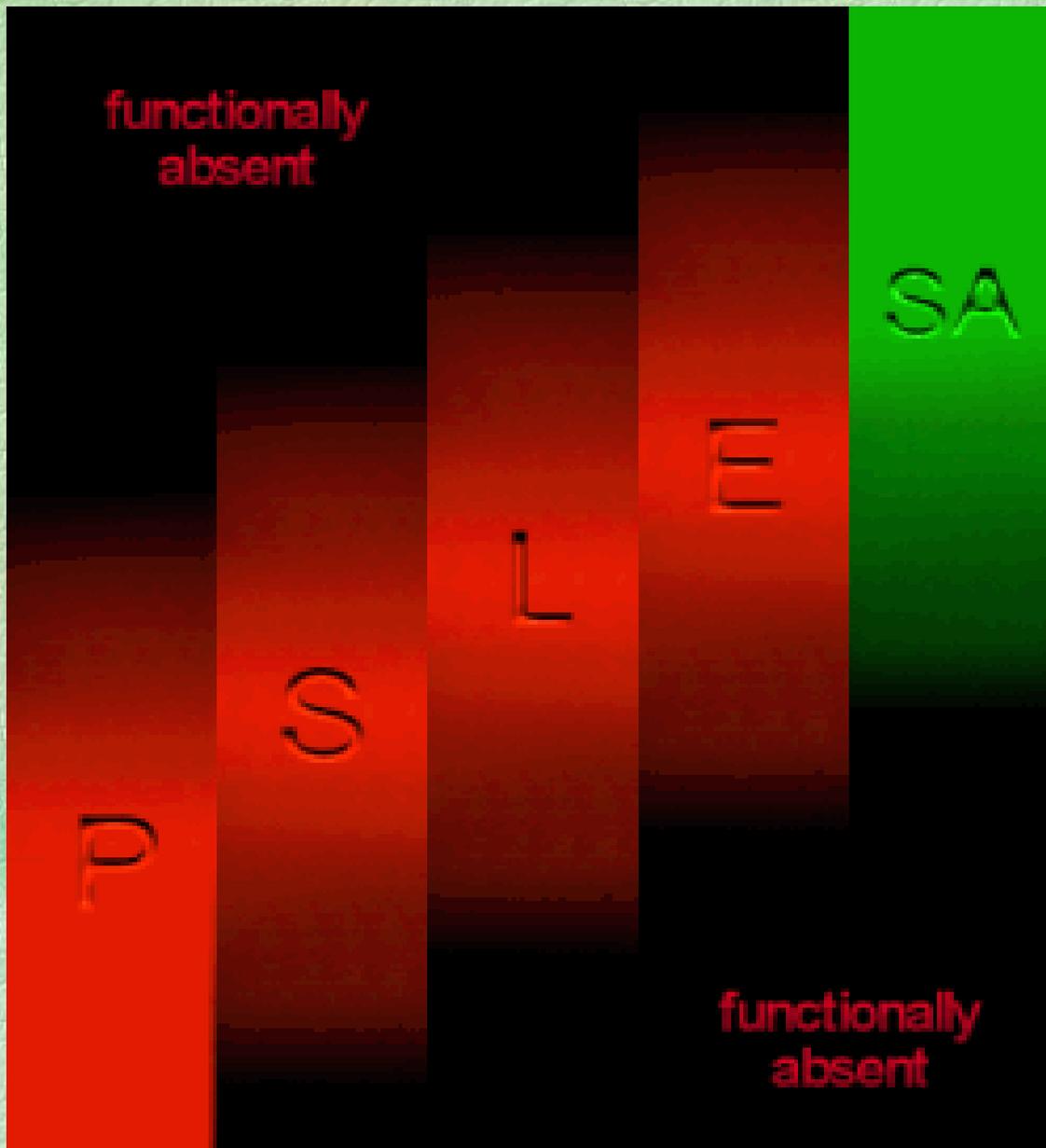
- Questions:
  - motivations for 'firmographic' transitions? any relevant constraints?
  - distribution of technical coefficients among BEs?
  - sources of relevant data? handling small heterogeneous population?
  - potential for micro-simulation of markets? aggregation of bids?
  
  - get reasonable development patterns emerging?
  - benefits justify effort?
- Some of this considered extensively previously; some not

# Questions Arising Motivations

- Currently no motivations apart from indirect utility maximization
- Motivations underlying activity patterns like activity patterns underlying trips
- Questions:
  - Maslow's hierarchy or extensions form a basis?
  - any relevant budgets? any diminishing marginal returns?  
any functional absence?
  - triggers for certain activities or 'projects' leading to activity patterns?
  - benefits justify effort?
- Area of extensive on-going consideration in Social Sciences



Source: website: <http://www.connect.net/georgen/maslow.html>



Note:

- current strongest needs dictate activities
- relevance (functional presence) of needs influenced by situation
- time cycles vary for different needs, increasing for higher levels
- motivations increase with increasing times that functionally present needs are left unsatisfied

# Questions Arising

## Motivations

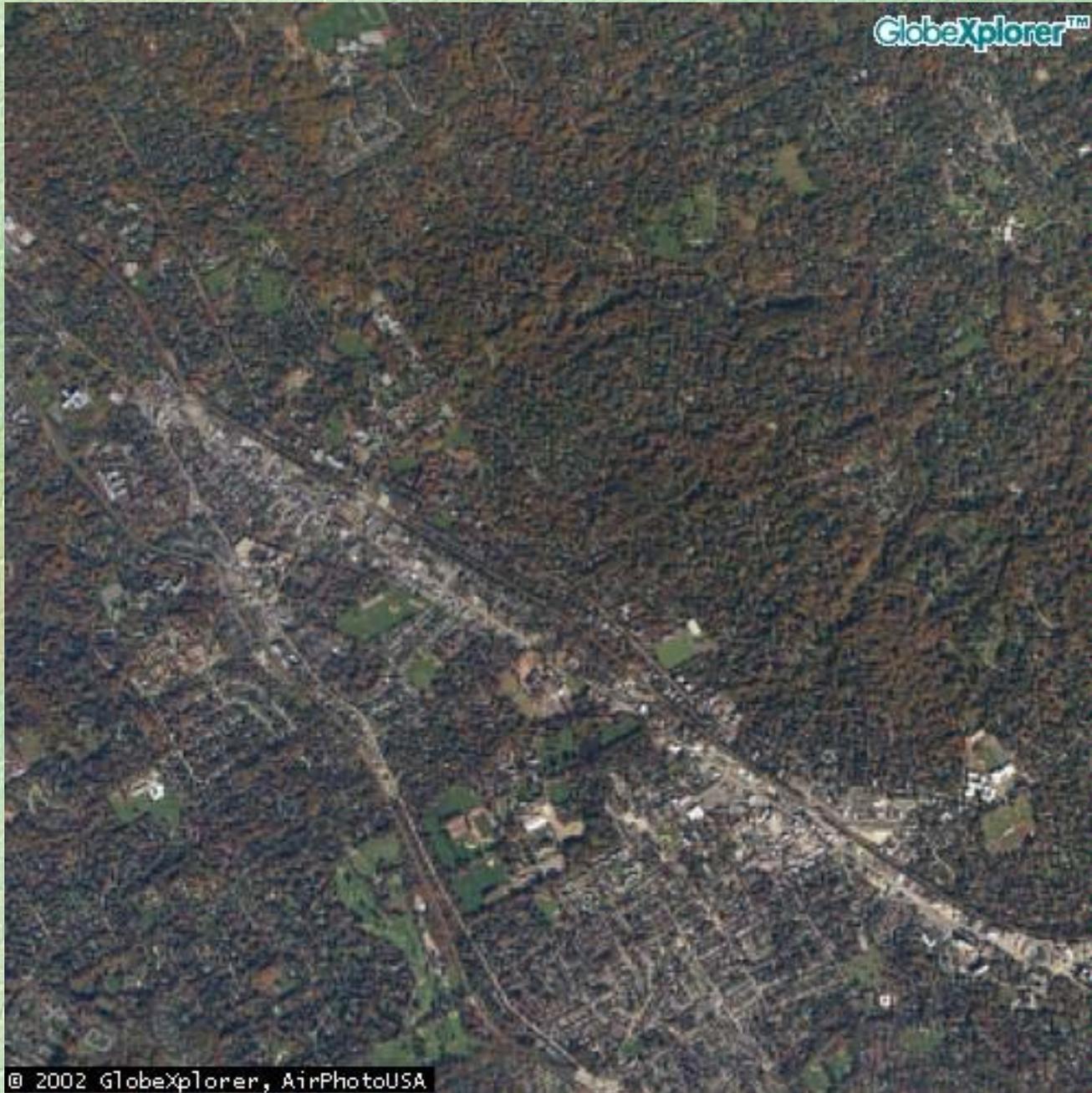
- Some work on nature of scheduling behaviour, working to conceptual model of scheduling process

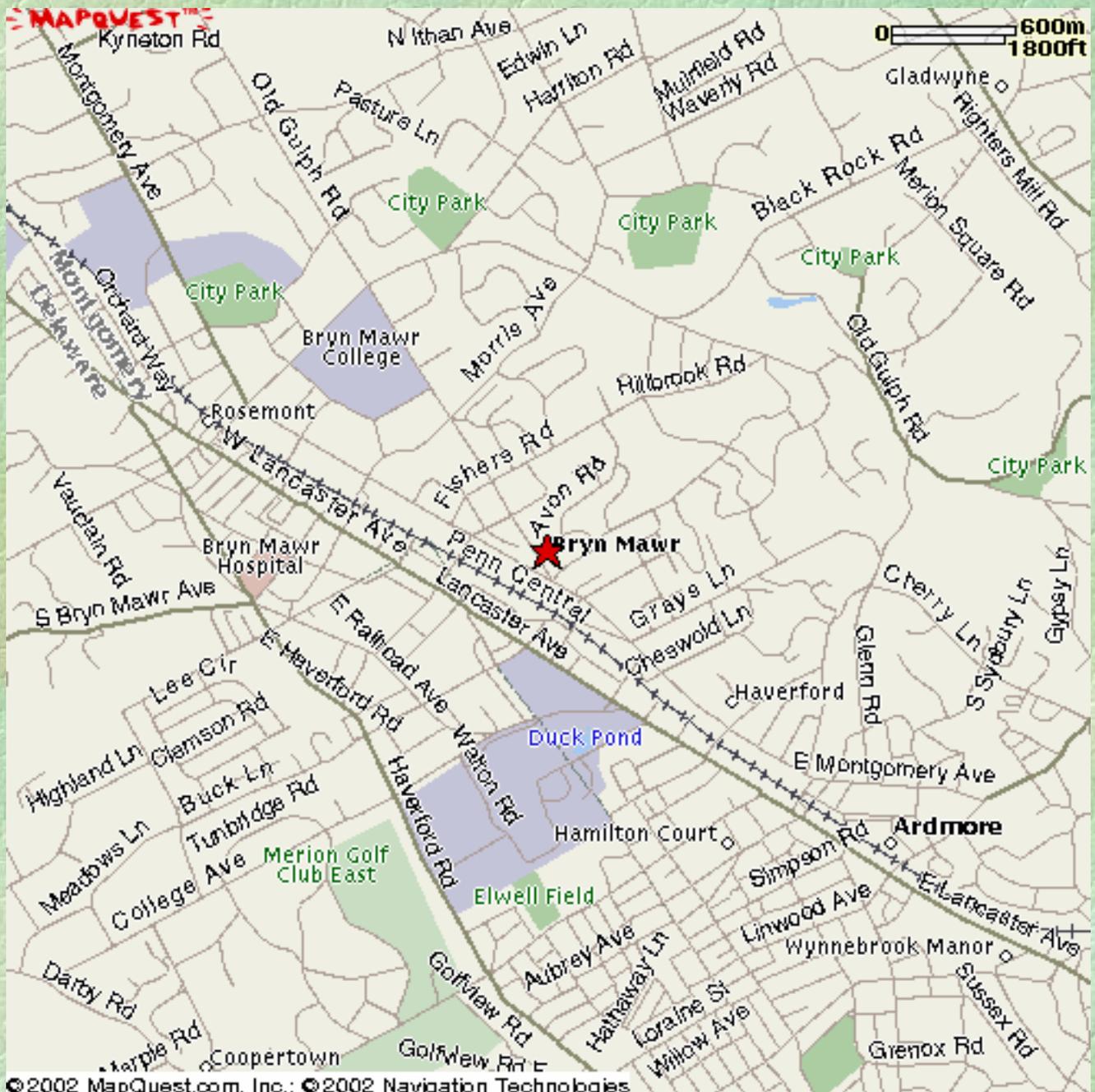
# Questions Arising Perception of Space

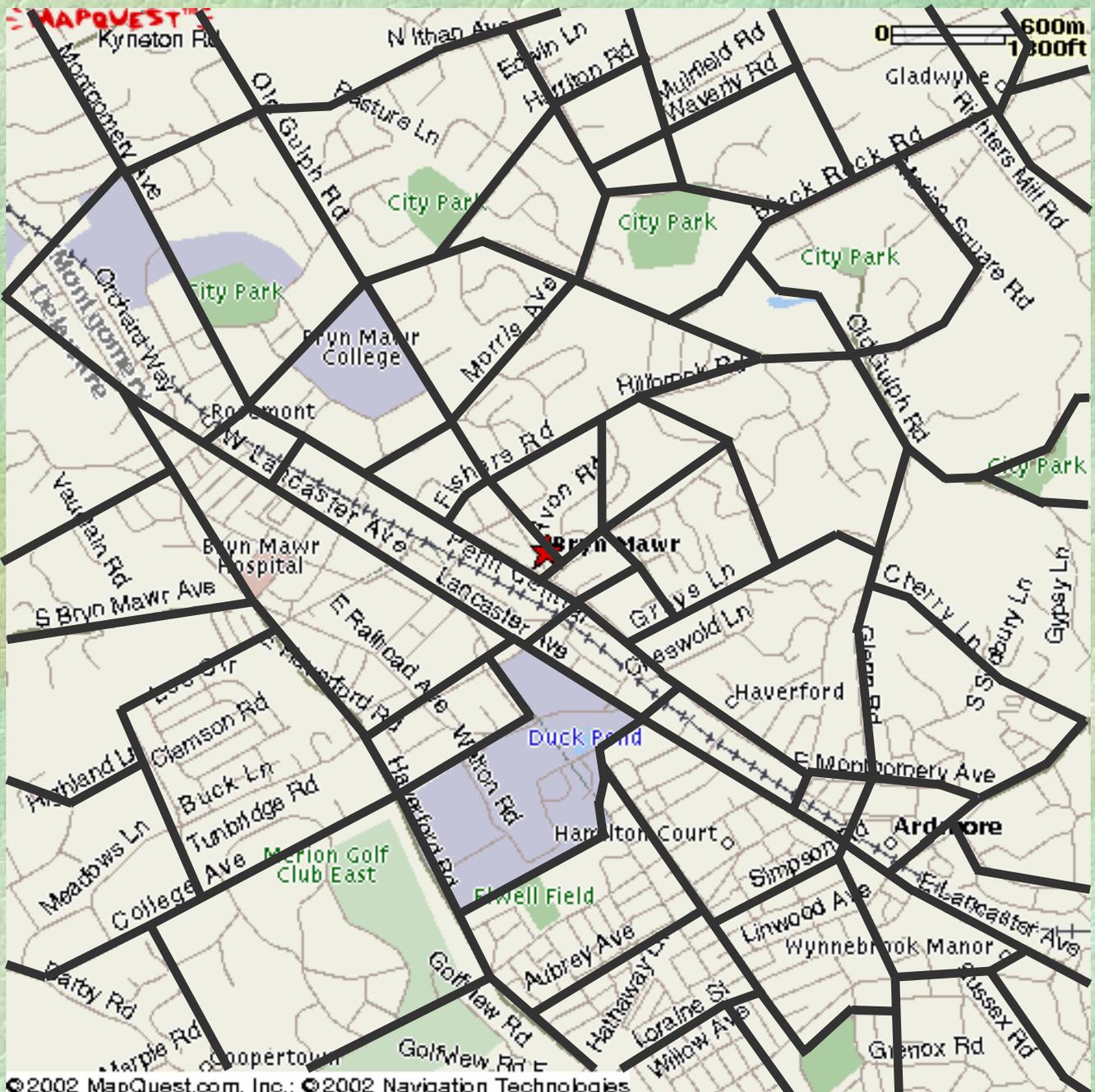
- Currently locations treated as discrete zones or cells
  - logit choices among zones, with all related assumptions
  - full information assumption inappropriate
  - large computational burden
- Actual perception seem to be much more simple
- Questions:
  - nature of perception of space in different contexts?
  - how do accuracy and precision of knowledge about locations vary across space?
  - relationships between search costs and distance from relevant points of reference in different contexts?
  - distance or generalized cost used to order search through space?
  - points of reference?

# Questions Arising Perception of Space

- Some work done previously:
  - mental maps
  - mapping physical space into cognitive space
- Concerted effort appropriate
  - space a key component
  - large reductions in calculation effort









830  
1820  
2880

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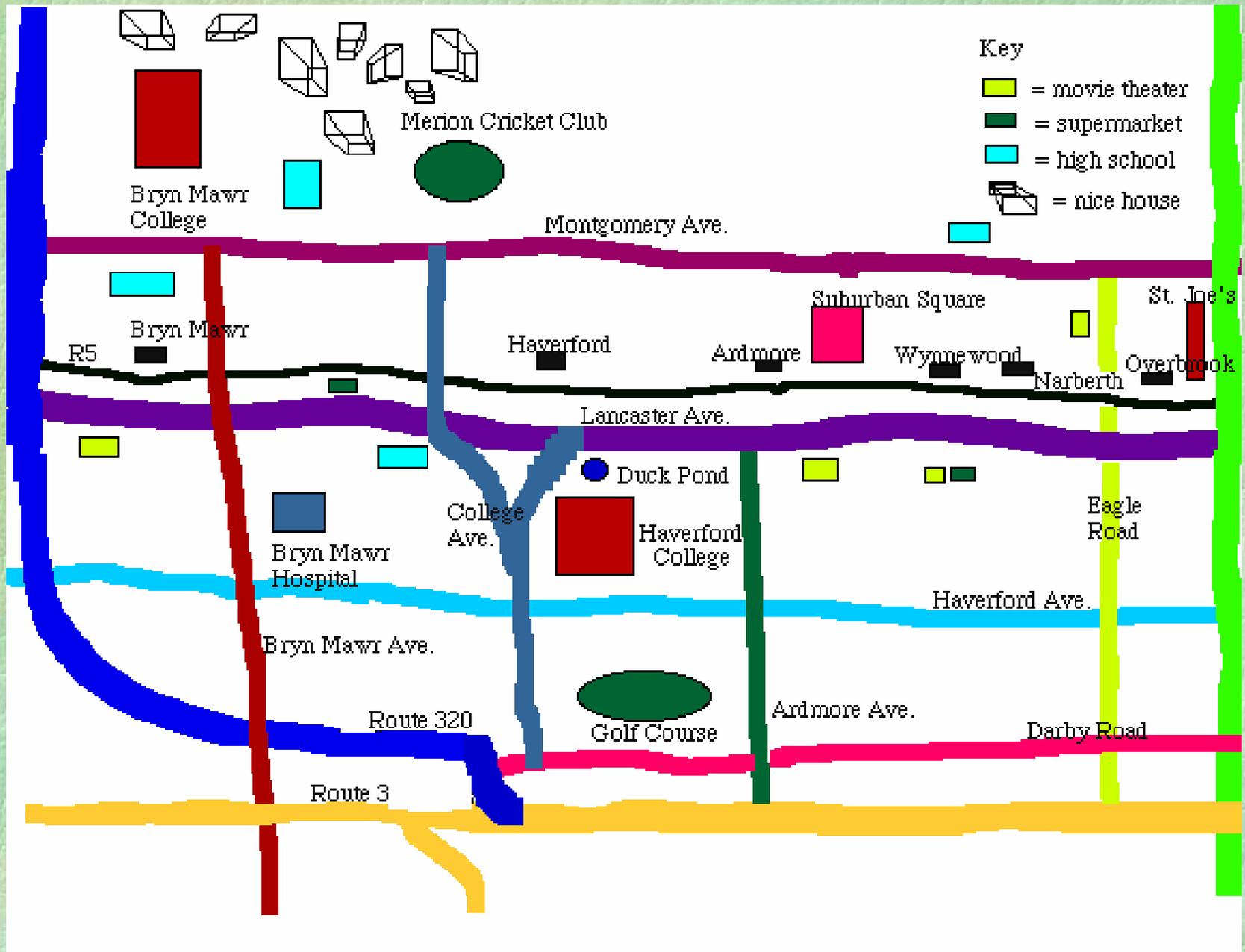
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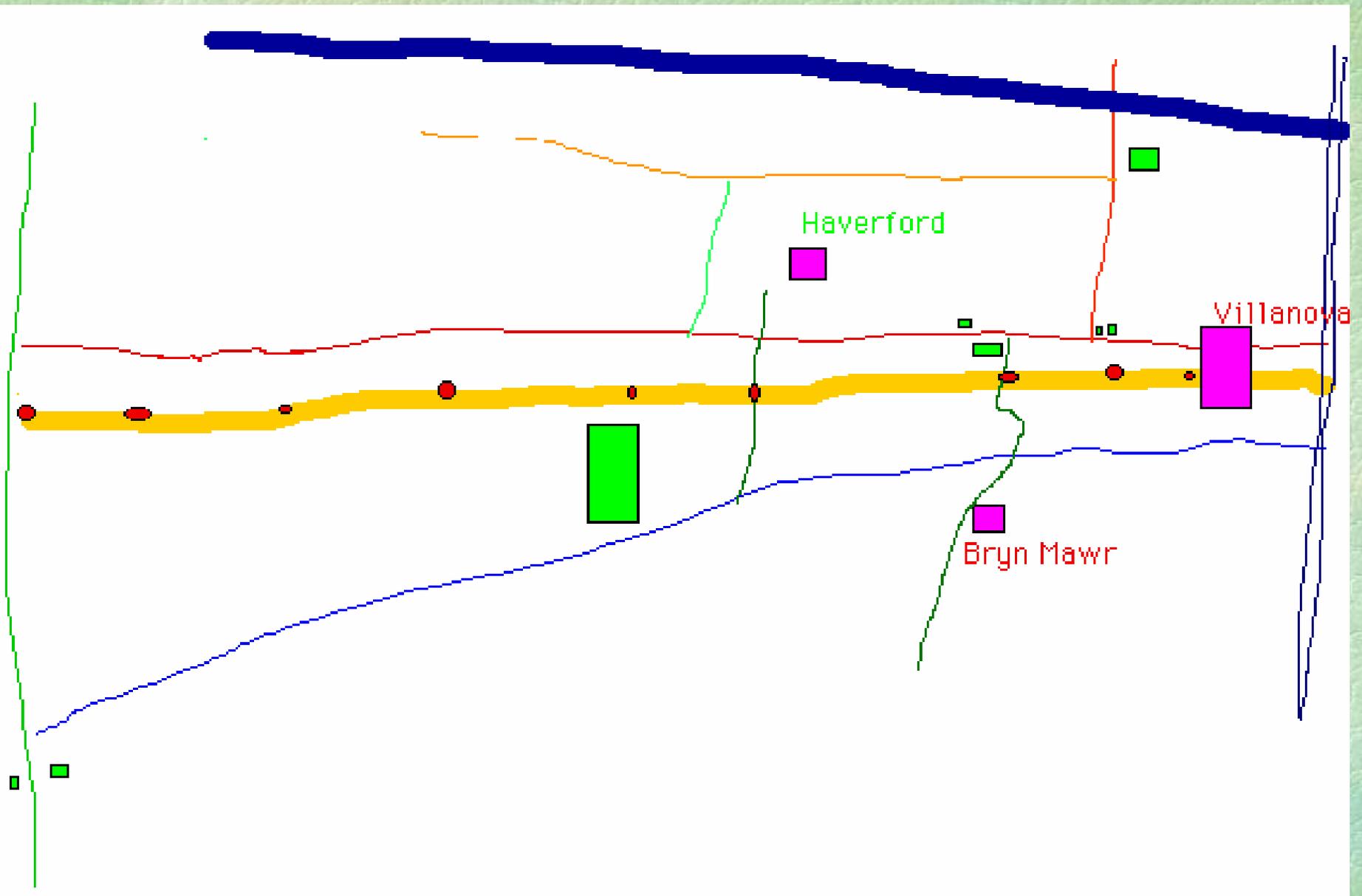
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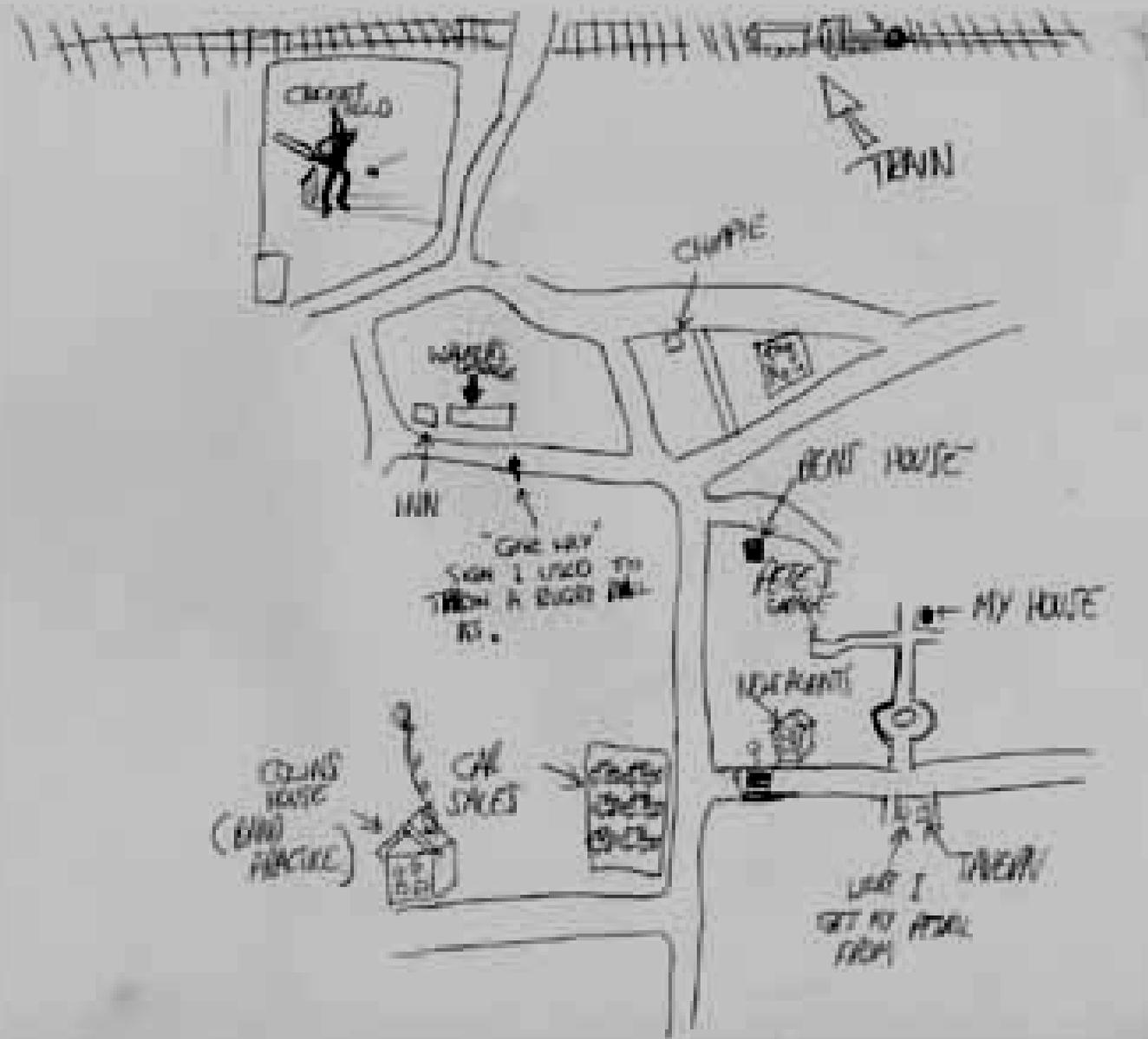
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Source: website: <http://www.brynmawr.edu/Acads/Cities/city360/lke.html>



Source: website: <http://www.brynmarw.edu/Acads/Cities/city360/lke.html>



Source: Nottingham University Psychographical Unit website: <http://art.ntu.ac.uk/mental/mental/map1.html>

# Questions Arising

## Evolution of Sensitivities

- Currently utility function coefficients representing sensitivities
  - vary across agents - making them 'heterogeneous'
  - could be changed over time
- Could vary sensitivities over time, influenced by
  - exposure and experience (desensitised?)
  - advertising
- Questions:
  - nature of changes in sensitivities?
  - exposure to alternatives alter sensitivities to alternative's attributes?
  - any trends or 'drifts' to specific values over time?
  - awareness campaigns or public education impacts?
- Relatively little consideration thus far

# Questions Arising Public Agencies

- Currently all policy elements coded directly
  - policy responses to changing outputs determined off-line by analyst
  - labour intensive
  - difficult to interpret
  - potential for inconsistencies across different analysts
- Considering 'authority agent'
  - simulates policy responses according to specified rules
  - allows more general consideration, easing interpretation
  - reduces labour requirement

# Questions Arising Public Agencies

- Questions:
  - how are general policy rules specified?
  - handling of exceptions to general rules (as random component)?
  - include general and exceptions together?
  - simulation of single agent behaviour with random component appropriate?
- Almost no consideration to date
  - some call for this in TLUMIP2 or soon thereafter