1955
Guy Debord, [philosopher, writer] and situationist movement

Psychogeography is “the study of the precise laws and specific effects of the geographical environment, consciously organized or not, on the emotions and behaviour of individuals “. [An introduction to a critique of urban geography, 1955].
the dérive [drift] - an aspect of the situationists’ wider drive to achieve a revolutionary transformation of everyday life.

insisting on pedestrianism to experience astonishment and encrypted events of the city
since the late 1970s psychogeographic analysis has become one of the cornerstones of postmodern geography and major way of postmodern writing on the city.

this highly experimental discipline is used by some professionals interested in transforming urban spaces.

also practised by young [conceptual] artist in their urban explorations.
- shared communal experience
- shared neighborhood vision
- long-term neighborhood relationships through community-oriented urban planning
- future action
development of criteria necessary to create a great neighborhood or a great city

questions raised:
1. what’s unique here
2. what do we need to revitalize it
3. how to make it function
4. how to give it expression
5. how can it differentiate itself
   - preserve
   - experiment
   - promote
6. design principles:
   - create bonds
   - communicate
   - community
7. Where is this neighbourhood going?
4 psychogeographical portraits:
- Bowmanville
- Old Toronto
- Williamsburg
- Zmaj Colony

Possible topics:
- Heritage buildings
- Urban squares
- Green space
- Traffic
- Individualism
- Connectivity
- Mixed usage spaces
- Mixed living
- Urban art
- Potential for tourism
- Atmosphere
- Need for expansion
- Neighbourhood identity
The subjective analysis, mental reaction, to neighbourhood behaviours related to geographic location. A chronological process based on the order of appearance of observed topics, with the time delayed inclusion of other relevant instances.
CONFLUX: the annual NYC festival for contemporary psychogeography
http://confluxfestival.org/

Urban Paradoxes
- how psychogeography transforms space into communal place
http://www.urbanparadoxes.com/

The Common Language of Space – way of looking at the social, economic and environmental functioning of cities
http://www.spacesyntax.org/publications/commonlang.htm

Algorithmic Psychogeography
– The generic principle applied to the city walk
http://socialfiction.org/psychogeography/algoeng.htm

Psychogeography: a beginner’s guide.
http://tesugen.com/archives/05/10/psychogeography

Psychogeography for Beginners
by Magda Knight
http://www.mookychick.co.uk/spirit/psychogeography.php

http://urbansquares.com