

Shooting Assignments – Neighbourhoods



Photograph a neighbourhood – any place where people live. Try to capture a sense of place. What is it about *this* neighbourhood that makes it special? Don't just shoot a collection of buildings, try to express the essence or soul of the neighbourhood.

You may or may not want to include people in your photographs. Make that decision based on what you want to express about the neighbourhood.

If it seems like a friendly community, a

place where people are important, then you'll probably want them included. If it seems cold and empty, a bunch of buildings where people just happen to live, then you may want to express that feeling by not showing any people in your photograph.

Notice how light affects the mood of a neighbourhood. Use the light to help express your feelings: dark and solemn, bright and cheerful, pale and sad, etc.



Also notice, that neighbourhoods, like people, tend to show their age. Is the neighbourhood itself young, middle-aged, or old? What about the people in them? Are many of them similar in age and character to their neighbourhood?

Look for clues about how people live: tree-lined avenues, trash cans in the morning, similarities and differences among the various houses or apartments. What kind of decorations do you see? Learn as much as you can by looking around.

You may want to get down low and look up, get up above and look down for patterns, shoot from a third story window, through trees or gates or from down an alley.

