This one-day symposium brings together researchers studying the contemporary city. In particular, the day is designed to create dialogue between critical scholars; it is hoped that the event will be characterised by discussion between those working in different disciplines, deploying a range of theoretical traditions and using a variety of methods to make sense of ‘urban’ contexts. This year’s event has a focus on research taking place in and on Liverpool - with topics ranging from neighbourhood change, public art, architecture, memory, and theoretical inquiries concerned with spatial dialectics, urban culture and capital, and assemblage theory.

The symposium is supported by the Publics & Practices research cluster, which is housed in the Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology at the University of Liverpool.
Timetable:

9.00 – 9.30  Coffee and registration
9.30 – 9.45  Introduction
9.45 – 11.15 Panel 1 chaired by Andrew Kirton

Kathy Burrell – ‘Home in Flux? Experiencing Churn in a City Neighbourhood’

Les Roberts – ‘Tracking the Urban Bricoleur: Spatial Dialectics and the Problem of Method’

Maike Pötschulat – ‘Constructing “The Student Experience” through Housing: A Case Study of Liverpool’

Break (15 minutes)

11.30 – 12.30 Roundtable discussion chaired by Liz Turner

Panellists: Ronnie Hughes (‘A Sense of Place: Eldon Grove’); Amina Elmi (Employment – Gifford Report Revisited), Emma Curtin (‘Challenging development dogma in Manchester: London Road Fire Station)

12.30 – 13.15 Lunch

13.15 – 14.45 Panel 2 chaired by Jo Hudson

Gillian Floyd – ‘Public Art, the People and the City: Identity through Discovery’

Sebastian Dembski – ‘Structure and Imagination of Changing Cities: Manchester, Liverpool and the Spatial In-Between’

Roy Coleman – ‘“Cool” Places and other Illusions’

Coffee break (30 minutes)

15.15 – 16.45 Panel 3 chaired by Claes Belfrage

Paul Jones – ‘Architecture as Spatio-Temporal Fix: The Case of Liverpool One’

Andy Davies – ‘Urban Life Amongst the Ruins? Thoughts about Assemblage and the Postcolonial City’


16.45 – 17.00 Closing remarks