Visionary Chicago

See a city's spectral skyscrapers and plug into the city?s architectural consciousness with an interactive iPhone app.

Historyâ€"and city skylinesâ€"tend to be constructed by the winners, but that's never the whole story. Alexander Eisenshmidt, an architecture professor at the University of Illinois-Chicago, discovered the truth of this maxim while researching unfinished Chicago building projects and collecting a dossier of grandiose proposals, eccentric dreams, and impossible ideas that form an alternate skyline, a city that â€œexists in our architectural consciousness."Visionary Cities" fuses this fantastical landscape with the city of today. The collaborative project is an iPhone appâ€"driven tour of fantastical schemes revealed at the sites for which they were designed. Itâ€™s an extension of the version that architects Irene Cheng and Bretty Snyder created for New York City in 2009. The Chicago edition is based on the research of local architect and writer Alexander Eisenschmidt, who describes it as â€œa directory of ideas, ideas of how to engage the city".
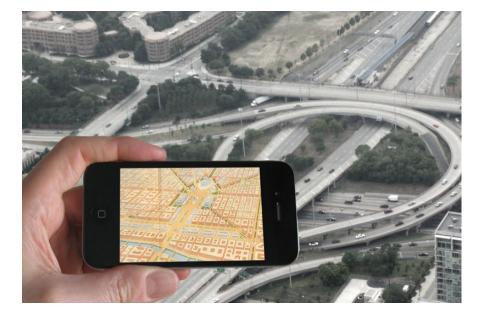
Project author or developer:
Alexander Eisenscmidt and Cheng + Snyder

Where:
US / Stati Uniti / Chicago Metropolitan Area

Website:
nothingmajor.com/features/82-visionary-cities-and-the-p hantom-city-app/

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