





Australian Government National Capital Authority

Designing for a future Capital City

Nolli diagrams (named after Italian architect and surveyor, Giambattista Nolli) are a means of representing the relative sizes of built and open spaces in a city. The examples presented here offer snapshots of various city centres from around the world. A close comparison shows us that Canberra's urban environment, with lower density, extensive open spaces, green hilltops and parkland is unlike any other major city. Maintaining Canberra's unique character and its democratic ideals means achieving a delicate balance between practical planning and grand vision.

Legend

Government

Public parks

Paths and roads

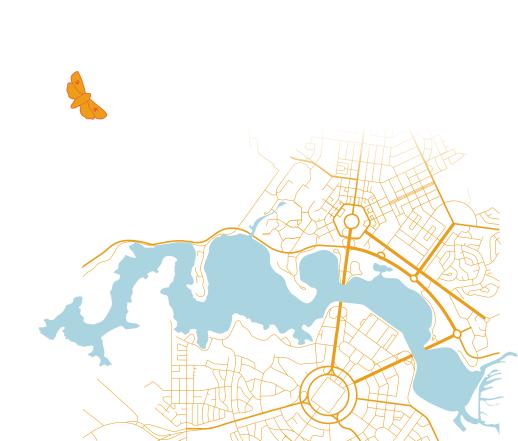
Lakes and rivers

Industrial or private space

Buildings

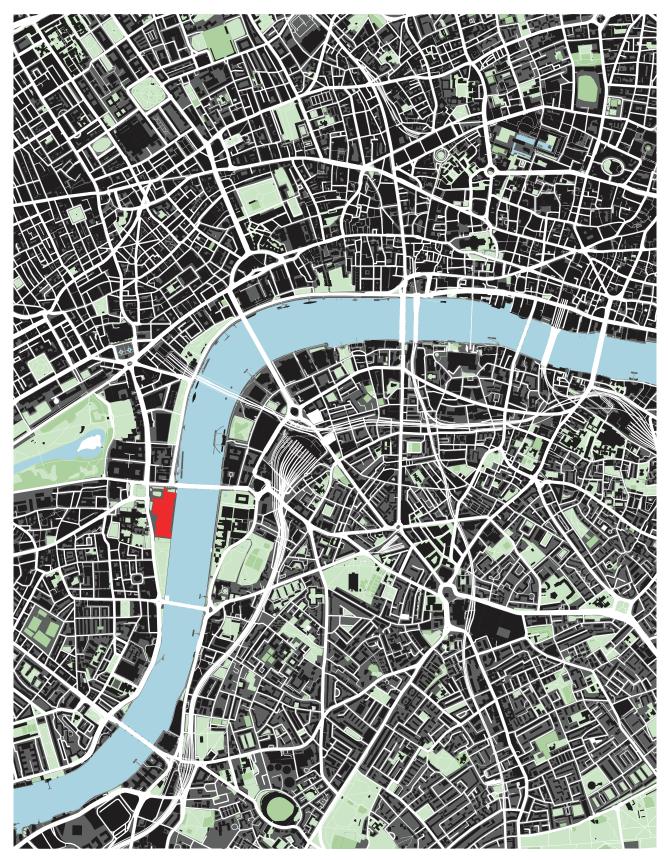
Look closely at the 4 nolli maps. Compare Canberra with Washington, London and Beijing. Washington is a city built according to plan rather like Canberra. Describe some of the similarities you see? London and Beijing developed naturally over a long period of time. How might these cities look different to Canberra?

Explore Canberra's past, present and future.

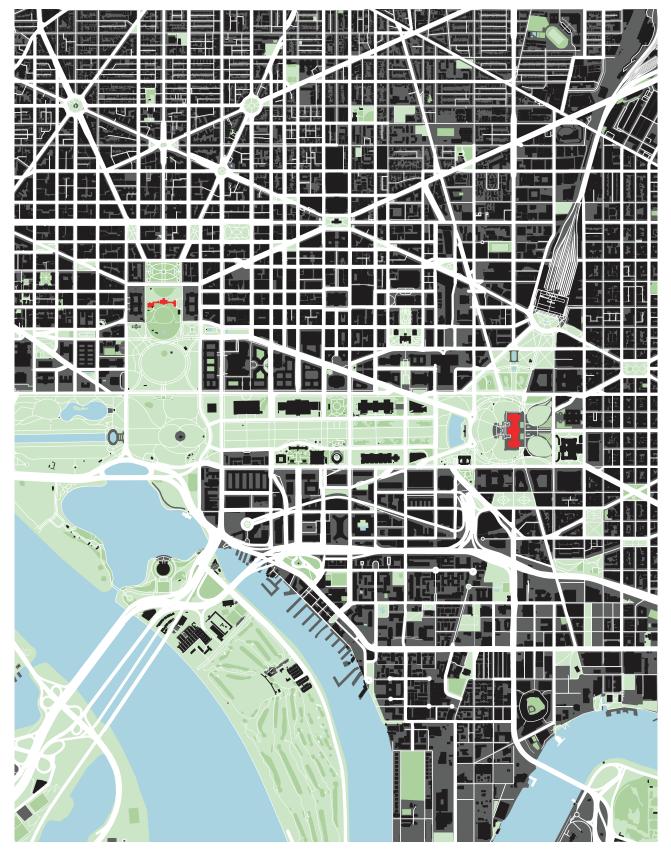




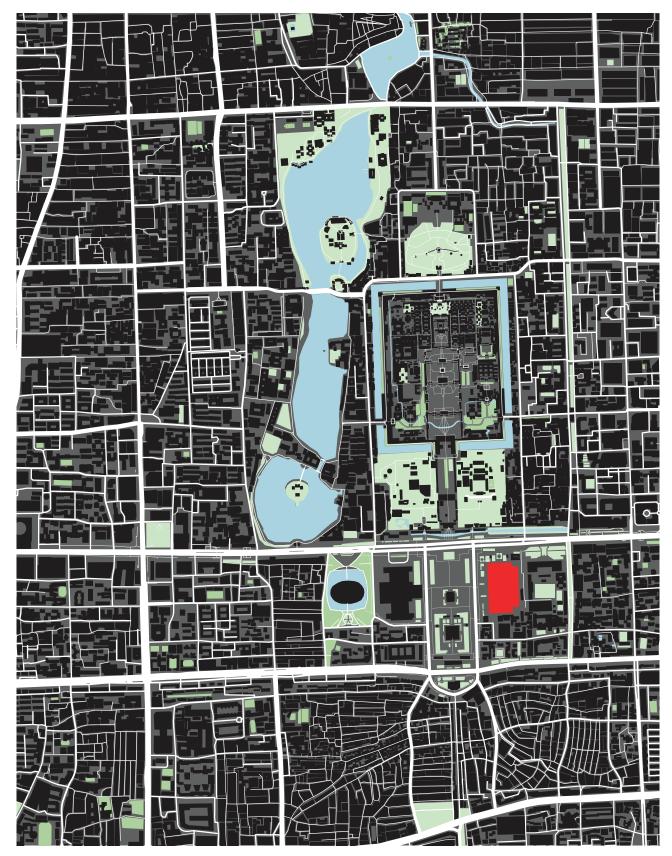
Canberra



London



Washington



Beijing