BROAD STREET IN FLUX

Case study. First canonical collaborative FLUX project.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. May 10, 2026.

PROJECT RECORD

DATE:	2026-05-10
PHOTOGRAPHERS:	Dante Sisofo, Dylan Stone
ROUTE:	Cheltenham Avenue → Philadelphia Navy Yard
DISTANCE:	~11 miles
FRAMES:	50 total (35 Dante Sisofo / 15 Dylan Stone)
CAMERA:	Ricoh GR IIIx
IMAGE CONTROL:	High Contrast B&W
FILE TYPE:	Small JPEG
GPS:	Embedded via GR World (Ricoh app)
DURATION:	~7 hours (07:45 → 15:31)

CONCEPT

Two photographers. One street. One day.

Both moved north to south across the full spine of Philadelphia — Cheltenham Avenue at the northern boundary to the Navy Yard at the southern terminus — documenting the city in real time from two separate positions on opposite sides of Broad Street.

Every photograph contains the exact date, time, and GPS coordinates of the moment it was made. The GPS data is not a tag added in post. It is embedded in the original JPEG at the moment of exposure via the Ricoh GR World mobile app.

The goal was not to make "good photographs."
The goal was to make a complete temporal and geographic document of a city in flux.

This project functions as:

- a street photography archive
- a GPS-mapped document
- a chronological sequence
- a zine
- a reproducible methodology

STEP_01 — CAMERA SETUP

Camera

Ricoh GR IIIx

The Ricoh GR is the correct tool for this protocol.
Small. Fast. Pocketable. Shoots small JPEG. GPS-compatible via Ricoh app.

Image Control Settings

```
Image Control:       High Contrast B&W

High/Low Key:        -2
Contrast:            +4
Highlight Contrast:  -4
Shadow Contrast:      0
Sharpness:           +4
Shading:             +4
Clarity:             +4
Grain:               ON
Grain Size:          2
Toning:              OFF
```

These settings produce a high-contrast monochrome output in-camera.
No post-processing. The JPEG is the final file.

Reference: Ricoh_GRIV_Monochrome_Settings_Dante_Sisofo.pdf (20 MB)

Shooting Rules

Small JPEG only. No RAW. No large JPEG. Small JPEG files transfer faster, automate faster, archive more efficiently, and produce no editing backlog.

Move continuously. Do not double back. Do not overthink. Photograph what is in front of you. Respond to light, gesture, form, and movement.

STEP_02 — GPS WORKFLOW

This is the most technically critical step. If GPS is not configured correctly, the automation pipeline breaks. All downstream outputs — captions, CSV, maps, zines — depend on GPS coordinates embedded in the JPEG metadata at capture time.

GPS Test Session

Before the project walk, a GPS test session was conducted on May 3, 2026 — one week prior. 42 test frames were made on foot near Philadelphia to confirm that GPS coordinates were accurately embedded, persisted through camera sleep/wake cycles, and survived the transfer pipeline.

The test confirmed accurate GPS embedding across an extended walk.
Source: `source/in-flux-broad-street/gps t3est/`

Ricoh GR World Setup — On Camera

```
Menu → Wrench Icon → Wireless Communication
  Wireless LAN:                ON
  Action Mode:                 ON
  Pairing:                     Execute Pairing
```

```
  Smartphone Link with Store Location:  ON
```

Ricoh GR World Setup — On iPhone

```
Settings → Privacy & Security → Location Services → GR World
  Allow Location Access:    Always
  Precise Location:         ON

Inside GR World App:
  App Settings → Background Location Information Transmission:  No Time Limit
  App Settings → Location Information Transmission Frequency:   High
```

Confirming GPS Is Active

Indicators of confirmed GPS recording:

- Camera shows connected status
- Satellite icon active in viewfinder
- Blue iPhone location arrow active (visible in status bar)
- Test photographs contain populated GPS EXIF fields

Test before the walk begins. Make 1–2 test photographs and verify GPS fields in EXIF.
Do not begin the project walk until GPS confirmation is complete.

STEP_03 — THE WALK

Start

```
Meet time:   07:00
Start point: Cheltenham Avenue (northern boundary, Philadelphia / Cheltenham Township)
Direction:   South
End point:   Philadelphia Navy Yard
```

Methodology

Dante photographed one side of Broad Street.
Dylan photographed the opposite side.

Rules during the walk:

- Keep moving south
- Do not double back
- Minimal street crossing
- No discussion of what to photograph
- No synchronizing shots

The sequence of capture becomes the structure of the archive.
The order of the walk is the order of the zine.

Sequence

First frame: 07:45:58 — 1436 West Cheltenham Avenue, West Oak Lane, Philadelphia
Last frame: 15:31:24 — Philadelphia Navy Yard area

Total duration: approximately 7 hours 46 minutes.

STEP_04 — IMPORT AND FOLDER STRUCTURE

Folder Structure Created Before the Walk

```
BroadStreet_InFlux/
■■■ Dante/
■   ■■■ Photos/
■■■ Dylan/
■   ■■■ Photos/
■■■ Output/
```

After the walk, each photographer transferred their photographs from the camera to their laptop via the Ricoh GR World app or direct USB connection, then dragged the files into their respective Photos/ folder.

Canonical Archive Structure

After processing, photographs were renamed to the canonical FLUX filename convention:

```
broad-street-in-flux_{seq:03d}_{photographer-slug}_{YYYY-MM-DD}_{HH-MM-SS}.jpg

Examples:
broad-street-in-flux_001_dante-sisofo_2026-05-10_07-45-58.jpg
broad-street-in-flux_003_dylan-stone_2026-05-10_07-57-08.jpg
broad-street-in-flux_007_dante-sisofo_2026-05-10_08-24-37.jpg
```

Sequence numbers are assigned chronologically across both photographers combined. Gaps in a single photographer's sequence indicate frames by the other photographer during that time window.

STEP_05 — AUTOMATION PIPELINE

A single script execution reads all JPEG files, extracts EXIF metadata (including GPS), performs reverse geocoding to convert coordinates to street addresses, generates captions, and produces all downstream outputs automatically.

What the Script Does

```
INPUT:   JPEG files from Dante/ and Dylan/
OUTPUT:
  broad-street-in-flux-google-my-maps.csv    GPS + address data for Google My Maps
  broad-street-in-flux-captioned-zine.pdf    Captioned zine PDF
```

Caption Structure

Every photograph is automatically captioned:

```
2026:05:10 08:24:37
6831 North Broad Street, East Oak Lane, Philadelphia, PA
```

Dante Sisofo

Caption components: timestamp, full street address (from GPS reverse geocode), photographer name. No manual captioning. No manual sequencing.

Reference script: auto-script.pdf

Archive JSON

The archive generator produces a structured JSON manifest:


```
{
  "filename": "broad-street-in-flux_007_dante-sisofo_2026-05-10_08-24-37.jpg",
  "originalFilename": "R0022840.JPG",
  "photographer": "Dante Sisofo",
  "photographerSlug": "dante-sisofo",
  "date": "2026-05-10",
  "time": "08:24:37",
  "address": "6831 North Broad Street, East Oak Lane, Philadelphia, PA",
  "lat": 40.05787,
  "lon": -75.140704
}
```


50 entries. Every frame. Archive: archive.json

STEP_06 — GPS MAP (PROTOTYPE)

GPS coordinates embedded in the photographs were used to plot the walk geographically. This was an early field test of GPS-mapped photography workflows — not a finalized automated system, but a manual prototype that confirmed the data was usable.

Early Mapping Workflow

The automation script exported a CSV of GPS coordinates and street addresses. That CSV was manually imported into Google My Maps to visualize the route.

1. Script generates: broad-street-in-flux-google-my-maps.csv
   Columns: Latitude, Longitude, Address, Photographer, Timestamp
2. Google My Maps → Create new map → Import CSV
   Place markers by: Latitude / Longitude
3. Google Photos album imported separately
   Photographs manually attached to approximate capture locations

This confirmed that GPS embedding was working correctly across 11 miles and 7+ hours of walking — and that the coordinate data survived the full transfer and processing pipeline.

The Google My Maps export is a prototype visualization, not the canonical archive interface. The live archive at `flux.dantesisofo.com/broad-street/` is the primary access point. The CSV is preserved as a secondary geotagging artifact.

This early mapping work helped define what an automated FLUX project generator would eventually need to produce: coordinates, addresses, and spatially indexed photographs, generated without manual import steps.

CSV file: broad-street-in-flux-google-my-maps.csv

STEP_07 — ZINE PRODUCTION

The captioned zine PDF is generated automatically by the script.

Print Settings

```
Paper Size:   8.5 × 11 in
Orientation:  Landscape
Double-Sided: ON
Flip On:      Short Edge
```

Assembly

```
Stack sheets.
Two staples on left side.
```

The object should feel temporary, reproducible, distributable.
The zine is not precious. The zine is evidence.

STEP_08 — ARCHIVE GENERATION

The HTML generator (`generator/flux-generator.html`) produces a complete static archive website from the photographs and metadata. The archive includes:

- Chronological image grid
- Photographer filtering
- Map integration
- Downloadable PDF
- Downloadable ZIP of originals
- Metadata manifest

Archive: `archive/index.html` (local package)
Live: flux.dantesisofo.com/broad-street/

OUTPUTS

Digital

archive/index.html	Live archive web page
archive/broad-street-in-flux_dante-sisofo_dylan-stone.pdf	Project PDF (31MB)
archive/data/archive.json	50-entry GPS manifest
archive/data/metadata.csv	Metadata CSV
archive/downloads/photos.zip	All originals (236MB)
documents/broad-street-in-flux-google-my-maps.csv	GPS coordinates CSV (prototype map export)

Physical

```
Printed zine (staple-bound, 8.5×11, landscape)
Loose photograph stack (50 prints, unbound, chronological)
```

Video

```
video/broad-street-behind-the-scenes.mp4    167MB — behind the scenes documentation
video/broad-street-in-flux-book.mp4         32MB  — zine flip-through
```

Audio

```
audio/15th-street-philadelphia-city-hall-station.m4a    Field audio, 15th Street
```

LIVE ARCHIVE

flux.dantesisofo.com/broad-street/

Chronological grid. Photographer filter. Downloadable PDF. Downloadable originals ZIP.
GPS manifest. All 50 frames.

DOWNLOADS

broad-street-in-flux.pdf — 31 MB — full project PDF
flux-generator.html — 60 KB — offline HTML generator
broad-street-in-flux-google-my-maps.csv — GPS coordinates CSV
archive.json — 50-entry GPS manifest
metadata.csv — metadata manifest
auto-script.pdf — automation script
ricoh-gr-monochrome-settings.pdf — 20 MB — camera settings document
photos.zip — 236 MB — all 50 originals — available at live archive

---

PROTOCOL DISCOVERIES

What this project confirmed or clarified about the FLUX protocol:

GPS must be confirmed before the walk begins.
A one-week pre-test session (May 3, 2026) was necessary to confirm GPS embedding worked correctly across camera sleep/wake cycles and extended walking sessions. The test is not optional.

GR World must be set to "No Time Limit."
The default background location transmission limit causes GPS data to stop being embedded after a set period. This setting must be explicitly changed before the walk.

Small JPEG is the correct file type for this workflow.
RAW files would have added processing time, storage overhead, and editing friction with no benefit for a high-contrast in-camera monochrome workflow.

Chronological interleaving of two photographers works.
Assigning sequence numbers across both photographers simultaneously — based on capture timestamp — produces a coherent combined sequence. The archive reads as one document, not two separate sets.

The automation pipeline must be tested before the walk.
Running a test import and verifying GPS extraction, reverse geocoding, and caption generation before the project date eliminates uncertainty during processing.

LESSONS LEARNED

What worked:

— Ricoh GR World GPS workflow: reliable, accurate, embeds coordinates in real time
— Automation pipeline: one script execution generated all outputs
— Chronological interleaving: the combined sequence reads as one coherent document
— High-contrast monochrome: consistent visual language across both photographers
— DIY zine assembly: cheap, fast, reproducible

What would change:

— Dylan had fewer frames (15 vs 35). A clearer briefing on target frame count per photographer would produce a more balanced archive.
— The route took longer than estimated (~7.5 hours vs ~4 projected). Future walks should build in more time or establish checkpoints.
— The `gps t3est/` session revealed that GPS embedding is not automatic without explicit setup. This step should be formalized in any participant kit.

REFERENCES

Asset	Location
Camera settings	ricoh-gr-monochrome-settings.pdf
Automation script	auto-script.pdf
GPS coordinates CSV (prototype)	broad-street-in-flux-google-my-maps.csv
GPS setup screenshots	media/screenshots/gps/ (local package)
Prototype map screenshots	media/screenshots/maps/ (local package)
Generator screenshots	media/screenshots/generator/ (local package)
Physical zine photos	media/book/ (local package)
Field documentation video	embedded above
Zine flip-through video	embedded above
GPS manifest	archive.json
Live archive	flux.dantesisofo.com/broad-street/
Project PDF	broad-street-in-flux.pdf

FLUX_PROJECT_v1.0 — flux.dantesisofo.com/wiki/broad-street/