

Operation Portal Recon



Training Module

Please read and understand the following criteria to understand what is considered a good Portal. *There will be a qualification test* required to join Operation Portal Recon.

What makes a good Portal?

High-quality Portal candidates are those that help Agents discover and enjoy their community, such as:

- *A location with a cool story, a place in history or educational value.*
 - Interesting story behind the location/object
 - Signboards with educational information
 - Historical significance (apart from just being old)
- *A cool piece of art or unique architecture*
 - Statues, paintings, mosaics, light installations, etc.
 - Venues that showcase fine art (e.g., performance art theaters and museums)
 - Buildings designed by renowned architects/structures famous specifically for their architecture

- *A hidden gem or hyper-local spot*

- A popular local spot that you would take a friend visiting your community for the first time
- A popular spot where locals gather, but may be lesser-known outside the community
- Tourist spots that showcase local flavor and culture and that make your city/neighborhood unique
- More off-the-beaten-path tourist attractions (i.e., if you weren't a local, you wouldn't necessarily know to go here)
- Adventurous tourist attractions - think lookout towers, observatories, signs or markers atop mountain peaks, etc.

In addition to using the above acceptance criteria, we often add candidates that are a special nod to industries and networks that connect people around the world, just as Ingress connects Agents around the world. These include:

- *Public parks*

- Public parks are great, high-quality places for Portals: they are common all around the world and encourage players to walk, exercise and enjoy public spaces

- *Public libraries*

- A nod to education and discovery, cornerstones of Niantic & Ingress
- Includes little free libraries, provided they are not on private residential property; does not include mobile libraries

- *Public places of worship*

- A nod to the otherworldly, which is integral to the story of Ingress

- *Transit stations*

- A nod to the transportation industry, which also connects and unites people around the world
- Accept transportation hubs (like Grand Central Station), but not every single small transit stop (like a subway station or a bus stop)

Low quality Candidates

If you come across any of the following, please reject it as a low quality Portal by rating a 1 star for the “Should this be a Portal?” question:

- Candidates on the grounds of *primary/secondary schools*
- Candidates on *private residential property*(including farms)

- Candidates that obstruct the driveway of emergency services and may interfere with the operations of *fire stations, police stations, hospitals, military bases, industrial sites, power plants, and air traffic control towers*
- Candidates that are *not permanent*, including *seasonal displays* that are only put up during certain times of the year
- Candidates that are *natural features* (Includes pictures of landscapes as well as submissions where the subject is a lake, river, stream, mountain, volcano, waterfall, etc.; photos that include man-made points of interest - plaques, signs, etc. - near natural features are acceptable).

Please give the Portal a 1 star if the candidate has the following issues:

- Candidate is not an object but the photo of a *person/group of people, body parts, live animals*
- The photo is pulled from a third party source (shows a watermark) or is low quality (e.g., pitch black/blurry photos or photos taken from a car)

Ratings Scale:

You will be asked various questions about a Portal candidate and will answer by rating on a scale of one to five stars. In general use the following guidelines when deciding how to vote:

- If you strongly agree choose 5 stars
- If you are unsure or have no opinion choose 3 stars
- If the answer is definitely no then choose 1 star

When you answer *"Should this be a portal?"* with a 1 star rating, you will not be required to answer the other questions and can move to the next candidate.

Your low quality rating will be recorded. Submit now?

Submit

Cancel

Checking Location:

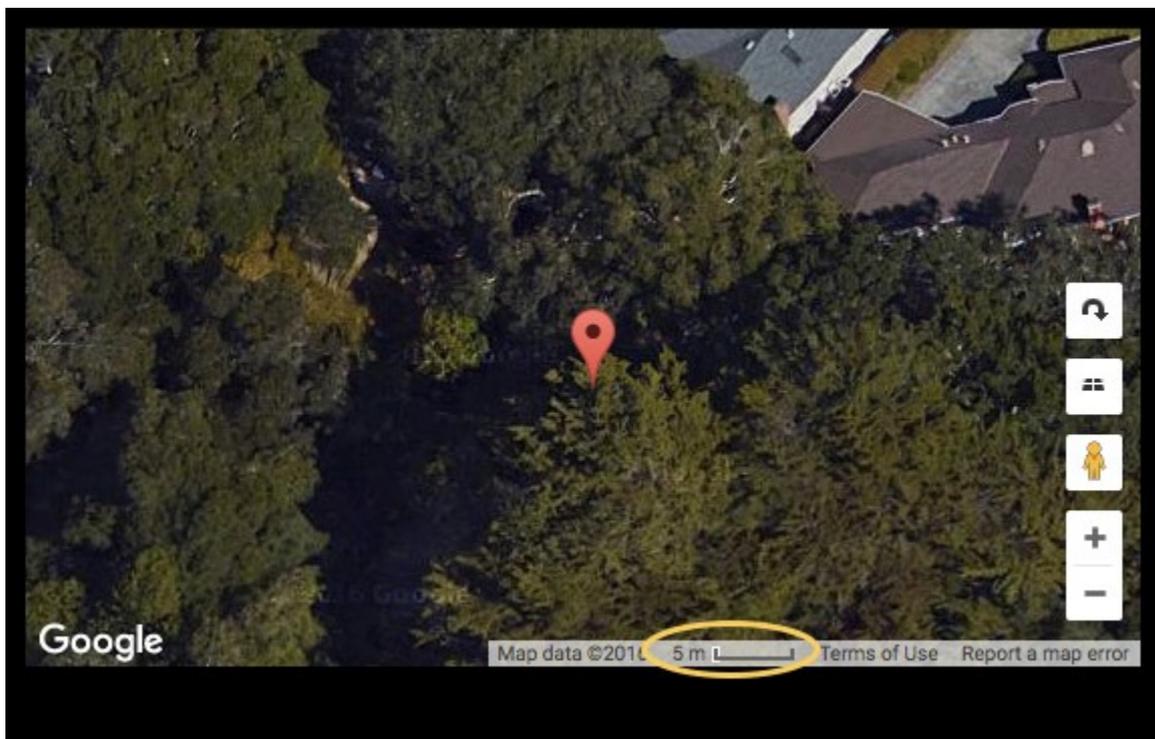
The location of the Portal is extremely important. We want Agents to be able to visually see and experience the Portal candidate when they visit the location. You will be asked to rate the location by answering the following questions:

1. Is the location marker in the accurate spot?
2. Can the Portal be safely accessed if the marker was in the right location?

To rate the accuracy of the location:

- Rate 5 stars if you can find the Portal candidate in the map and the marker is on or within a few feet of the object
- Rate 3 stars if the Portal candidate is likely to exist in the location if obscured by trees, or if you are unsure of the location
- Rate 1 star if the Portal candidate cannot be found on the map

Note: At times, you may not be able to view the Portal candidate in maps or Street View if the candidate is inside a park or under a tree. For these cases, use your best judgement to decide whether the candidate could exist at the location. You can use the Portal photo and look for clues in the background to help you decide.



To rate the accessibility of the location:

If the candidate does not have safe pedestrian access (for e.g. on a roundabout or on the side of the road with no sidewalk access), rate 1 star for the “Can it be safely accessed?” question.



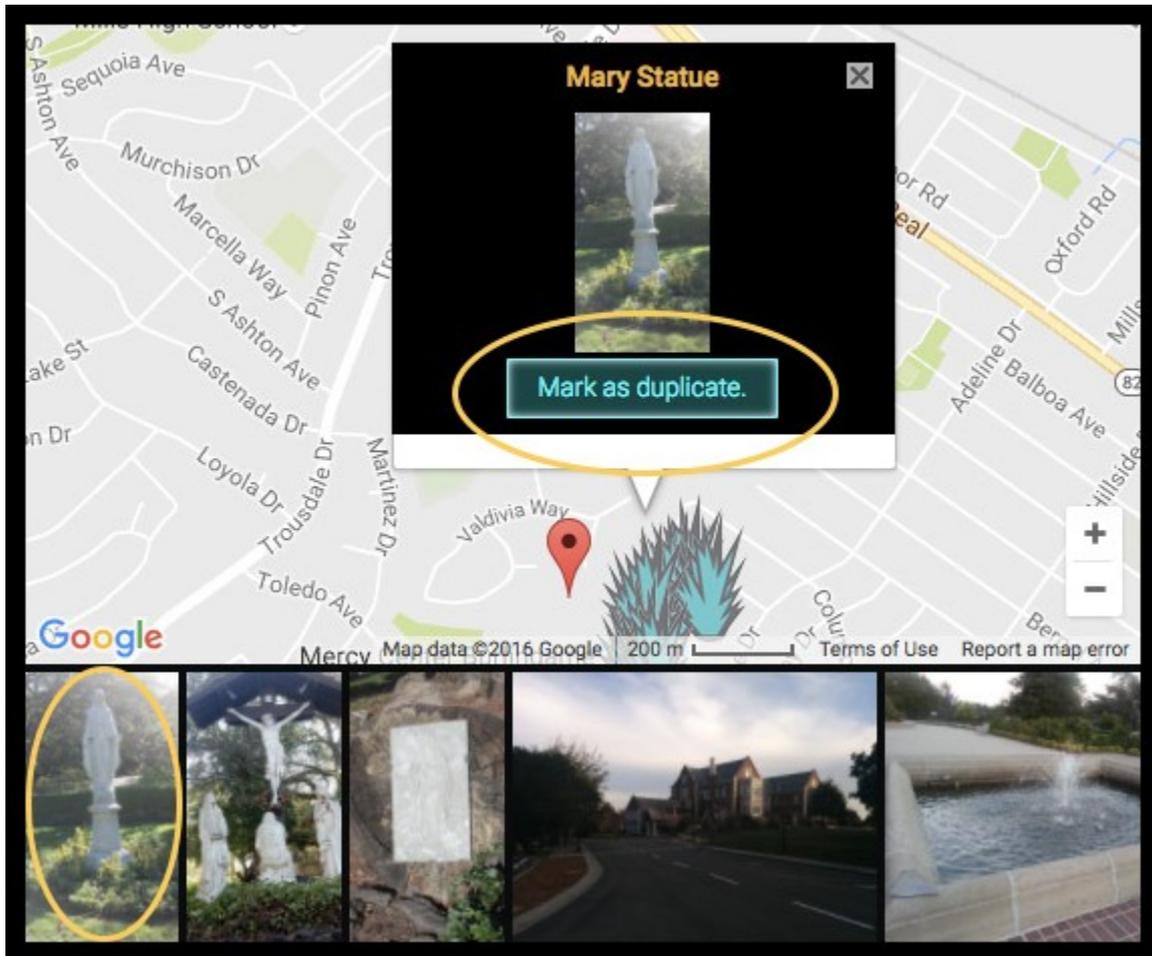
Example 1: There is a cross walk leading up to the object and an area next to the object for players to stand. This candidate gets 5 stars for the question “Can it be safely accessed?”



Example 2: There is no pedestrian access to the candidate. Mark this a 1 star for the question “Can it be safely accessed?”

Check for Duplicates:

At times, you might come across a candidate that is a duplicate of a live Portal. In these cases follow these steps to look for and mark duplicate Portals.



The Check Duplicates section will display a list of live Portals around the candidate. Scan through the photos and if you find a live Portal for the candidate you are reviewing, follow these steps:

- Click the Portal photo
- You will see a pop-up in the map with the Portal details. Confirm that it is a duplicate of the candidate you are analyzing
- Click the “Mark as Duplicate” button

If you think you are ready to go to the test, please click below. Remember if you fail to pass, you may not qualify for access, so take this seriously. Are you ready?

Start Test