

Architecture, Design and Materials Spring 05
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Project 2 Language of Details
Relationship of Detail to Architecture

Reinforce Language of Structure through Detail

Details (ornament) reinforce geometry
Expression of structure through detail
Not applied, but integral to design
Solid/void fluctuate; ambiguous reading of surface
Abstraction of form; activation of surface through 'transparency'
(slutsky/rowe definition, in/out surface, layering)

Louis Sullivan, Guaranty Building, Buffalo, 1896
Carlo Scarpa, Querini Stampalia, Venice, 1949

Simple Straightforward Language of Detail

Details not accentuated or concealed
Focus on form and space

Gehry, Case, Cleveland, 2002

Details Disappear

Soft thin boundary, reinterpretation of structure to skin hierarchy (skin dominant)

Sejima, O Museum, Nagano, 1999

Transforming Structural Language

System of detail is the structural aesthetic system
Physicality of perception, definition of spaces
Language of boundary of volume, thin or massive, soft or hard
Hierarchy of structure and skin, use of geometry of grid

Mies, Barcelona Pavilion, 1929
Vito Acconci, Mur Island, Graz, 2003
Toyo Ito, Brugge Pavilion, Belgium, 2002
Toyo Ito, Serpentine Gallery Pavilion, London, 2002

Plan, Section, Elevation

C-N Ledoux, Cemetery at Chaux, 1785