

Architecture Studio: 1st Year Spring

Spring 2012, CMU, Arch #48-105, M/W/F 1:30-4:20
Class Website: www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/48-105

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Off. Hr: M/W/F 12:30-1:00pm & by appt. in MM302

(2/16/12)

Project 2b-d: BUILDING ANALYSIS

Assignment 2b (for Monday Feb. 13, 1:30)

- Draw 30-50 drawings or diagrams of your building using a variety of different analytical techniques. Work to create several "series" or iterations of one drawing type or theme; but also work to create many different kinds of drawings. Be sure each diagram or drawing is distinct and deliberate: not a doodle or mere gesture.
- Create many diagrams quickly in sketch format, and then redraw the diagrams so they are neat and well-composed onto pages.
- Submit with filename **Lastname_manydiagram.pdf**, to the server at:
\\archpcserver\Studios\S12_48-105\05 Analysis Many Diagrams

Assignment 2c (for Wed. Feb. 15, 1:30)

- Continue to refine and add to the 30-50 drawings and diagrams you made
- Read the excerpts from Clark & Pause, Precedents in Architecture (Blackboard) for other ways to investigate and diagram your precedent building.
- Continue researching and analyzing your building according to inter-related themes, at various scales, and using various media (2D & 3D) and drawing types:
 - 1) SITING: Find your building using Google Maps, analyze the orientation to the sun, views, landscape features, streets, nearby town, other buildings, etc.
 - 2) MASSING: Identify and abstract the general massing of the whole building, as well as parts and details of the building. How do parts aggregate (or get subtracted) to become wholes?
 - 3) SPATIAL ANALYSIS: Create sketches that are similar to your analysis work last semester, regarding the spatial ideas and overlays in your building.
 - 4) FORMAL PATTERNS: Trace over the primary plan, section, elevations, details, construction drawings or other photos/visuals of your house to find as many formal patterns and grouping as you can. Highlight issues of symmetry/balance, additive/subtractive, verticals/horizontal, light/dark, curves/orthogonals, light/shadow, repetitive/unique, parts/whole. Find rhythms, hidden shapes, proportions, axes, spaces, angles, shapes, scale, or any other formal patterns you can identify. Show what is missing, what's obvious, and what's hard to detect. Work to abstract parts, explode others, show Ikea-type assembly processes.
 - 5) ACCENTUATE RELATIONSHIPS: Look for relationships, hierarchies, and ways to accentuate, to make noticeable the difficult to see or understand.
 - 6) GEOMETRIC RE-CONSTRUCTION: Attempt to re-create the basic plan and elevation/section using only a straightedge and compass, beginning with the first general geometric shape, dividing it, adding to it, etc. Show the steps involved.
 - 7) USE/FUNCTION: Think about how people approach, circulate, or use the building. Highlight the sequence of experiences the architect intended?
 - 8) STRUCTURE: In plan & section, attempt to isolate and accentuate the structural components of your building; distinguish between stacks of load-bearing members, sticks used to frame the structure, or planes to enclose space.
 - 9) PLAN-TO-SECTION: Find and accentuate similarities or dissonances between section and plan, how they reinforce each other to create experiences.

Assignment 2d (for Friday Feb. 17, 1:30)

- 10) ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT: Focus on a specific architectural element (e.g. roof, wall, column, window, threshold, foundation, courtyard, etc.) as indicated on assignment 2a, or as discussed with instructors. Analyze and accentuate how your element, and the related construction details, materials, and assembly methods (how something is made) can reinforce central experiences and ideas of your building through all the senses. Explore a variety of 2D and 3D media and techniques to find the best fit of medium and message.
- Compile and compose the analysis of your element and submit an 11x17 sheet with filename **Lastname_element.pdf**, to the archpcserver.

