Architecture Studio: 1st Year Spring

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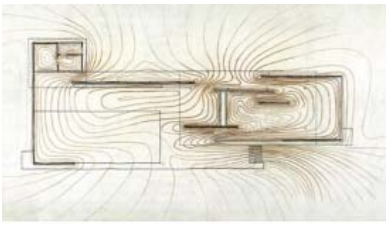
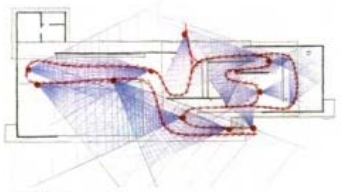
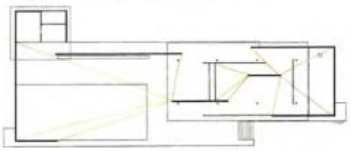
Off. Hr: M/W/F 12:30-1:00pm & by appt. in MM302

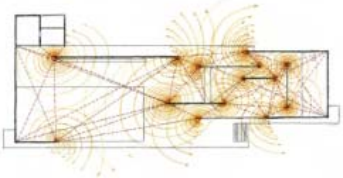
Spring 2013, CMU, Arch #48-105, M/W/F 1:30-4:20
Class Website: www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/48-105
(2/15/13)

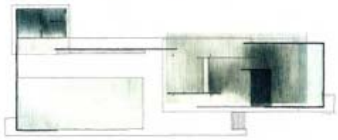
Project 2: BUILDING ANALYSIS

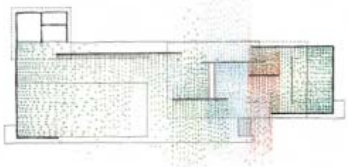


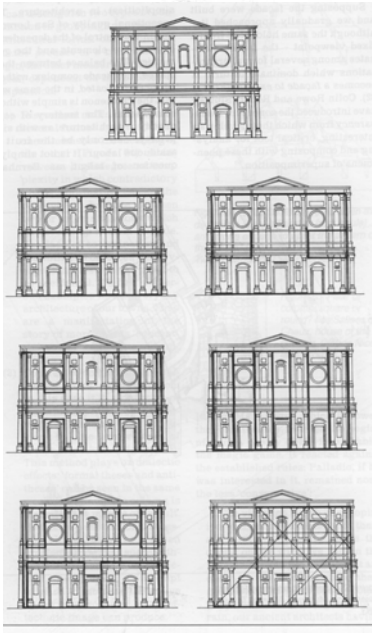












Assignment 2b (for Monday Feb. 18, 1:30)

1) Keep searching for more information on your building. Don't stop: there's plenty more out there, you just need to keep re-searching! Look for more articles from the time period. Look for critiques of the building, or how architects or historians have interpreted the building since then. Use Avery Index! Use JSTOR. Use Google Books, and Google News! Use the library website for researching precedents!

2) Write a 1-page synopsis on the architectural significance of your building. Why is your building important for architects? What is "amazing" about your building, in general, and in detail? How does the architect orchestrate the transition from inside-to-outside? Why? Upload your essay to Blackboard BLOG for your studio (see "Studio Blogs" button on main menu, over email).

3) In preparation for analyzing your building, read at least one, and skim the rest, of the following sources on architectural analysis & composition (excerpts of all readings are avail. on Blackboard; Clark is also online through the library website; a copy of Hanlon and Ching are on a desk in "Studio A"):

Clark, Precedents in Architecture: Analytic Diagrams, Formative Ideas, & Partis 3rd ed. (2005)
Hanlon, Compositions in Architecture (2009)
Ching, Architecture: Forms, Space, and Order (2007)
Leupen, ed., Design & Analysis (1997):

Work to understand how each of these authors discusses the most significant aspects of architectural design in a slightly different way, leading to potentially different kinds of understanding and analysis.

4) Having found factual documentation of your building, and having read sources on architectural composition and analysis, draw 30-50 analysis drawings or diagrams of your building. Focus on a broad range of design issues, and use a variety of different analytical-drawing techniques (feel free to use physical or digital models, and use 2D images of that work as well). 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.

A common set of themes to emerge from all four sources which could form the basis for several diagrams:

- CONTEXT / SITE: Analyze how your building "fits" within its context, or stands out. Find your building using Google maps and Google Earth, chart views, landscape features, streets, nearby buildings, etc. How does the building touch the ground? Does it look like it's neighbors? How does it nestle in the landscape? Why?
- STRUCTURE: Analyze the structural system of your building, what holds the building up. In plan & section, attempt to isolate and accentuate the structural components of your building (load bearing walls and columns), as opposed to enclosure systems. What rhythms does the structure create? How does structure define space? How does the structure organize the program? Distinguish between stacks of load-bearing members, sticks used to frame the structure, or planes to enclose space.
- SEQUENCE / PROMENADE: Analyze how people approach, circulate, or use the building. Highlight the sequence of experiences the architect intended. Consider creating a "storyboard" with abstracted vignettes of the flow through the building. Draw the various layers, zones, or thresholds encountered.

- PROGRAM / USE / FUNCTION: What are the distinct programmatic spaces in your building? Draw the program as an assembled set of "program blocks" (consider making a model, or a digital model with quick cubes of space) Is the programmatic massing the same as the overall building massing? Distinguish between the primary or "served" components, and the secondary or "poche" components.
- SPATIAL DEFINITION: Using line and contour, create sketches that are similar to your analysis work last semester, regarding the spatial ideas and overlays in your building.
- LIGHT/OPENINGS: Analyze the building's relationship to the sun. Use Ecotect or your intuition to abstract how light comes into various parts of your building. How does the architect work with openings in the facade/roof to let light in? What are the different "moods" or "atmospheres" of light created? How do they relate to program and circulation? Can you draw them?
- SEVEN SENSES: Analyze the sensual effects of your building; things that are visible, audible, smellable, touchable, feelable, etc. Look at textures, dappled color in light, rhythms. Consider how stairs and ramps affect your bodiy experience of space, hierarchy, mood, etc.
- GEOMETRY/FORMAL PATTERNS: Trace over the primary plan, section, elevations, massing paralines, details, construction drawings, or other photos/visuals. Show the steps involved. Find as many formal patterns and groupings as you can. Highlight issues of symmetry/balance, additive/subtractive, verticals/horizontals, 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.
- CONSTRUCTION / DETAILS: Using a wall-section or other detail drawings, or construction photos, analyze or describe how the architect created certain effects through construction. Analyze and draw diagrams to explain why the architect used different materials for different parts of the building.

Create many diagrams quickly in sketch format. Feel free to use physical or digital models, and use 2D images of that work as well. Then redraw the diagrams so they are neat and well-composed onto pages into a GRID of similar analysis drawings-diagrams.

Bring printouts to studio on Monday, and submit with filename **Lastname_manydiagram.pdf**, to server at:
\\archpcserver\Studios\S13_48-105\03 Analysis Many Diagrams