DESIGN PORTFOLIO

MATTHEW TEHAN

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MATTHEW TEHAN

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EDUCATION

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University - Blacksburg, VA
- *Bachelor of Architecture:* May 2010
- Graduated Magna Cum Laude with a GPA of 3.68

EXPERIENCE

Klingmann Architects and Brand Consultants - New York, NY
- *Architectural Intern:* October 29 2010 - November 8 2010
- Selected to participate in the 10-day competition project "Place Lalla Yeddouna" sited in Fez, Morocco to design an architectural solution for rehabilitating the local economy through extensive renovation and the addition of an agressive new program into a 7,400 sq m UNESCO World Heritage Site. Worked directly with the principal in constructing the design concept and written text for the presentation boards as well as working on the 'rehabilitation team' to design a renovation strategy and solution.

Metropolis Magazine - New York, NY
- *Marketing Intern:* February 2009 - June 2009
- Worked with the marketing team in preparing for and hosting the International Contemporary Furniture Fair, including contacting vendors for inclusion in the annual Design Guide. Also assisted in page layout for the magazine and in updating the annual Giants List of top architecture firms in the country.

Perkins Eastman Architects PC - New York, NY
- *Architectural Intern:* September 2008 - January 2009
- Involved with a design-build team on a 138-unit residential building in Lawrence, NY. Personal contributions included plan revisions, interior elevations, finish and door schedules, life safety planning, and stair and elevator detailing, as well as assistance in coordinating MEP and structural engineering drawings.

Baskervill - Richmond, VA
- *Architectural Intern:* May 2008 - August 2008
- Involved in multiple projects including the construction document phase of a 790,000 sf production facility for Canon, the preliminary design phase for two medical office buildings each over 50,000 sf, and the existing conditions drawings for two renovation projects.

Madison Spencer Architects - Charlottesville, VA
- *Architectural Intern:* May 2007 - August 2007
- Worked on multiple design phases with this small architectural firm focusing on single-family residential projects. Assisted in making construction document sets and in making design portfolios for clients. Also worked in the field documenting existing structures for later restoration and addition projects.

SKILLS

Proficient in the use of AutoCAD, Revit and 3DS Max, the Adobe CS4 Suite, Rhino 3D, SketchUp, and the Microsoft Office 2010 Suite. Also skilled in the ancient art of hand drafting and rendering with a penchant for intricate models and a love of (good) photography.

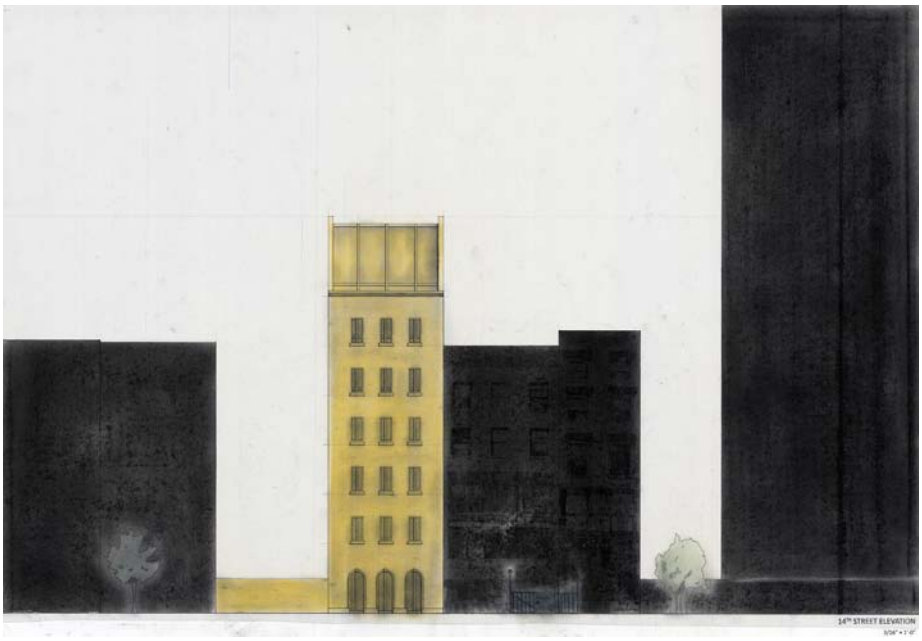
AWARDS

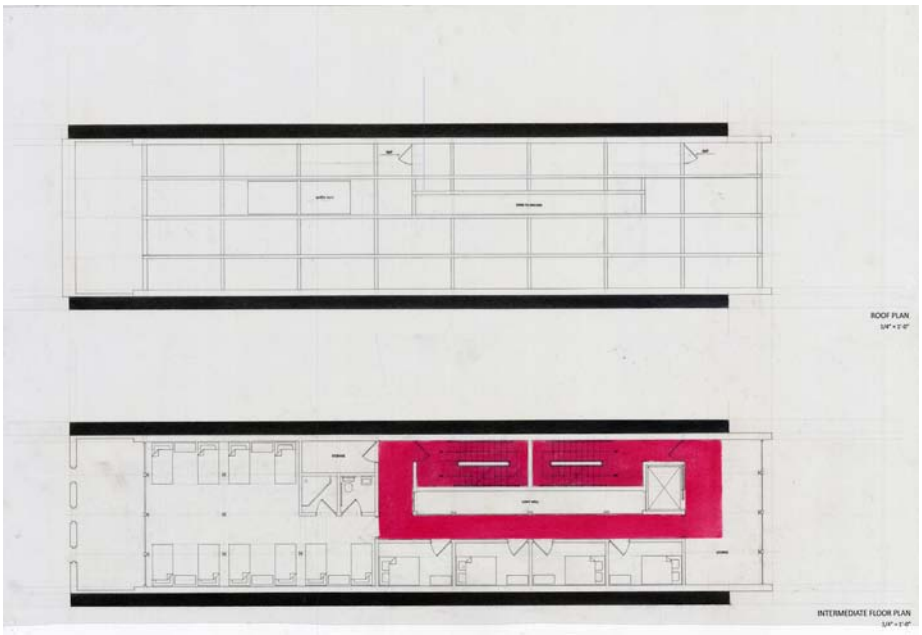
Eagle Scout with Silver Palm awarded March 2003 in Troop 555 of Mechanicsville, VA.
Dean's List academic achievement awarded consecutively from Fall 2004 to Spring 2010.

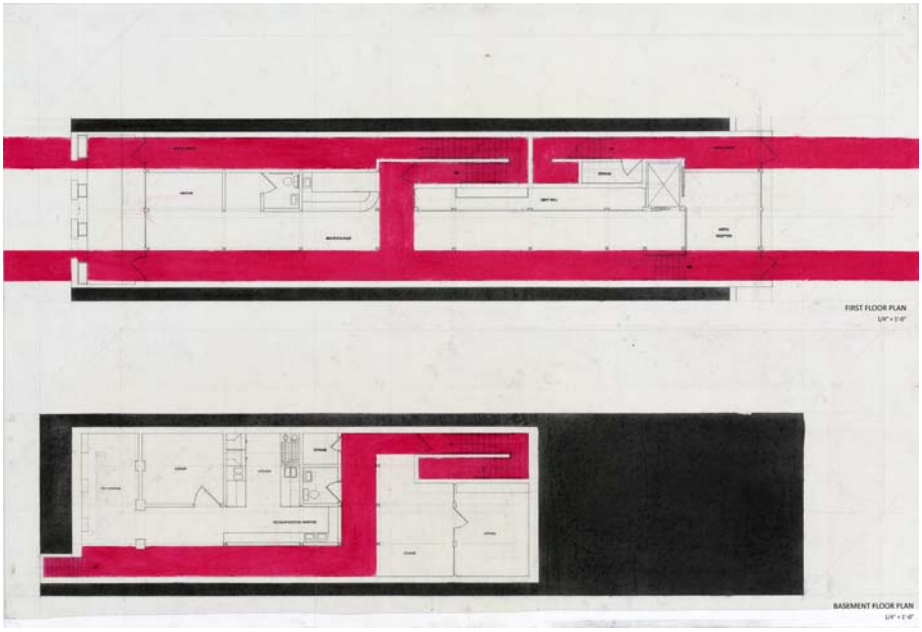
Undergraduate Thesis

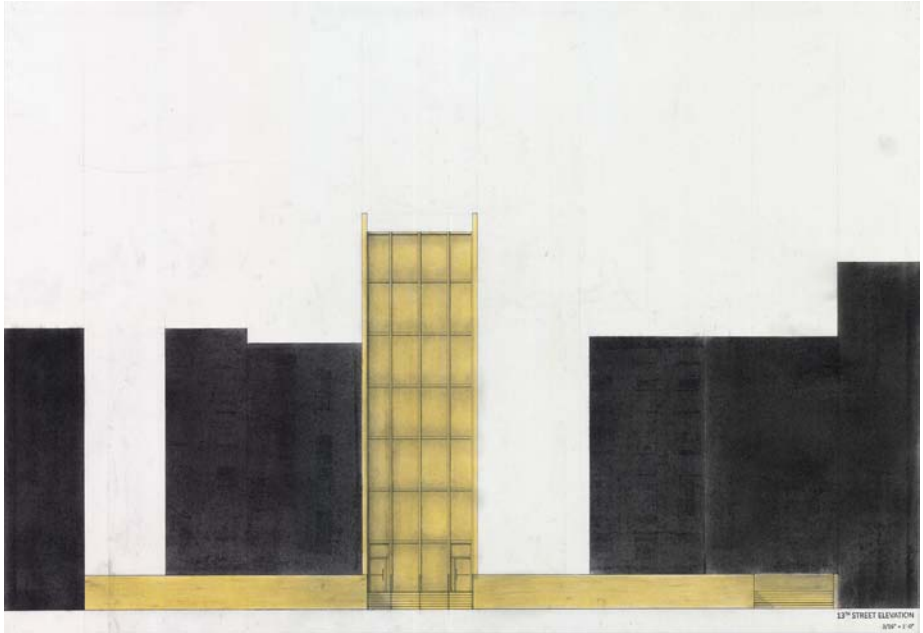
The Collective Eclectic

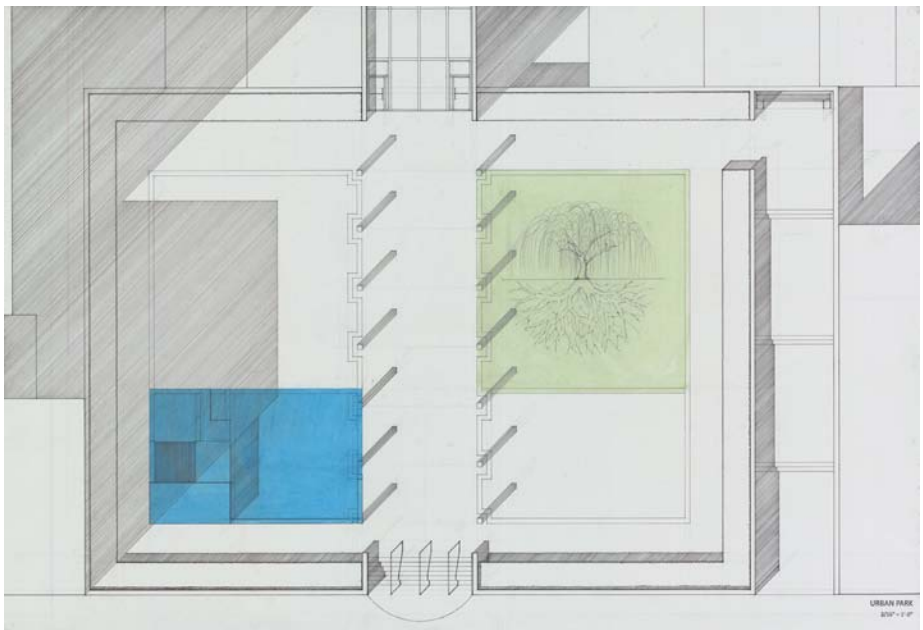
This project began through studying boundary, and exists as a dialogue about the city of New York as an eclectic collection of people and cultures that together create the vibrant life of the city. The program consists of a hostel with a full-service restaurant and adjoining urban park, and was chosen to reinforce these relationships architecturally at the building scale.

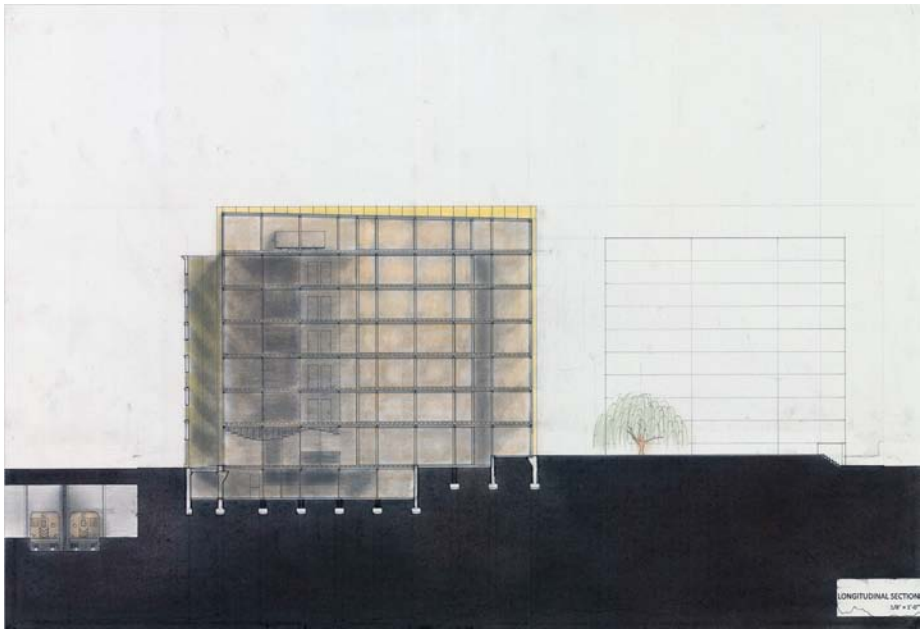






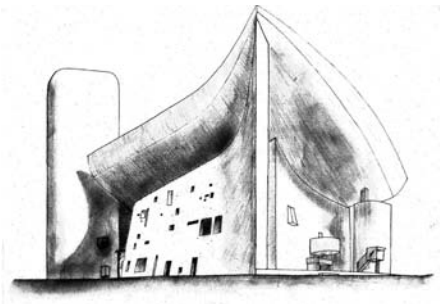

13TH STREET ELEVATION


URBAN PARK


LONGITUDINAL SECTION

First Year

The first year of my study was focused on “learning to learn”. I began to understand design as a concept and worked on developing the sensibility of my eyes and hands in relationship with this understanding. In the opposite spread is an early example of working with page layout. Along the bottom you will see a spatial composition in paper, a hand sketch of Le Corbusier’s Chapel at Ronchamp, a photograph of contrast, a clay plate fired and glazed, a still life photograph, the forming of expression in an inanimate object (wire), a physical model playing with light, and a clay pot fired and glazed.



WHY

IN REFLECTION, THE THINGS LEARNED IN THE FOUNDATION DESIGN PROGRAM WERE NOT MEANT TO BE TAKEN AT FACE VALUE. THE ANSWERS WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE FOUND. HOWEVER, THE STIMULATING AND OFTEN EXHAUSTING STUDY OF PARTICULAR AREAS DROVE HOME NOT ONLY THE IMPORTANCE OF QUESTIONING, BUT OF ASKING THOSE QUESTIONS WHICH HAVE NO ANSWER, AND SEARCHING WITHIN THE MIND, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND THE WORLD OF DESIGN IN PURSUIT OF UNDERSTANDING. IN CONJUNCTION WITH AMONG QUESTIONS CAME OPPOSITION AND QUESTIONING OF THOSE THINGS UNDERSTOOD: A FORMULATION OF THESIS AND ANTI-THESIS. IN ORDER TO FORM A MORE PERFECT UNDERSTANDING, ALL POINTS OF VIEW MUST BE QUESTIONED. THE SUM OF UNDERSTANDING COMES FROM THE DEEP KNOWLEDGE IN ALL OF THE PARTS. —WHY NOT?

Learning to Learn: Learning How to Ask the Right Questions

Learning comes as a result of analyzing the world around us through various methods, and this analyzation most often occurs through questioning. Throughout the foundation design program, a myriad of questions were asked. These questions were asked through three broad aspects of design: Physical, Non-Physical, and Moment.

"Architecture is a second nature that is laid on top of the real one. When people who practice our profession speak of the environment, they ought to remember this. To talk about the sustainability of architecture means understanding nature, respecting animals and plants, siting buildings and factories correctly, making use of sunlight and wind. To interpret the placeform, every project requires a specific study, a deep understanding of its history, geography, geology and climate. 'What interests me is shaping form and product together forcefully sculpturing the land, leaving a deep mark on the pre-existing nature or urban structure, but, at the same time, making the architecture an accomplice, a partner, wided with the characteristics of its surroundings'. Renzo Piano on 'Genius Loci'

"Architecture not only as a structural compilation of material in space, interiors, etc. within a building, but also the geology, climate, and surrounding nature. Further, the inclusion of past, present, and future, woven to create a structure that blurs the lines of these boundaries". Reflection on Frank Lloyd Wright's "Organic Architecture"

The Pragmatic level, that objects, notions, etc. exist on is physical and actual reality. The questions of "what is this thing," "what can it do," among others are examples of what kinds of questions were asked in order to study and learn from the studio environment.

The Semantic/Syntactic level analyzes the meaning and structure that underlies and exists beyond the pragmatic notions of ideas and things. Questions such as "why," "how," and "what does it mean," explored the non-physical realm of the semantic/syntactic that existed within the works.

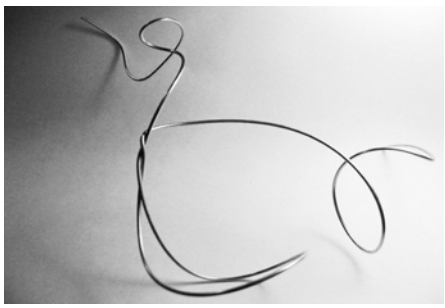
Physical or Real: more specifically, "what is this thing," through the analyzation of material, form, and quality, and most often through the method of touch.

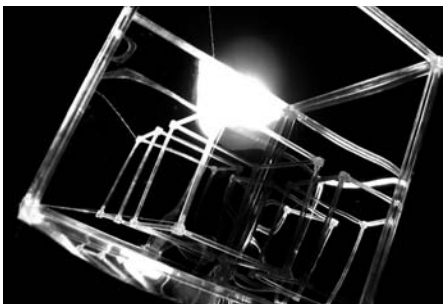
Non-Physical or Perceived: also, "how do I understand this thing," through the study of composition and photography among other things through the method of sight.

Moment: also known as connection, the place where two or more things come together and have an interaction. was looked at through the physical connections that occurred as well as the dimensions (time, space, etc.) that these moments occurred within.

These primary questions, among other less broad categories, could then be seen within the context of two aspects of design: the Semantic/Syntactic and the Pragmatic.

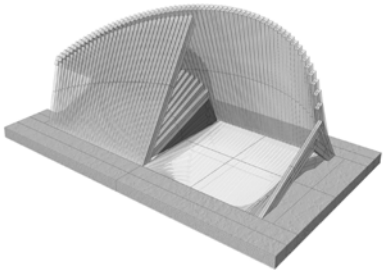
WHY NOT

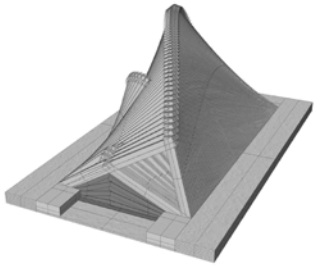


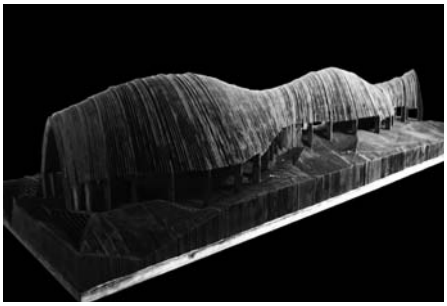


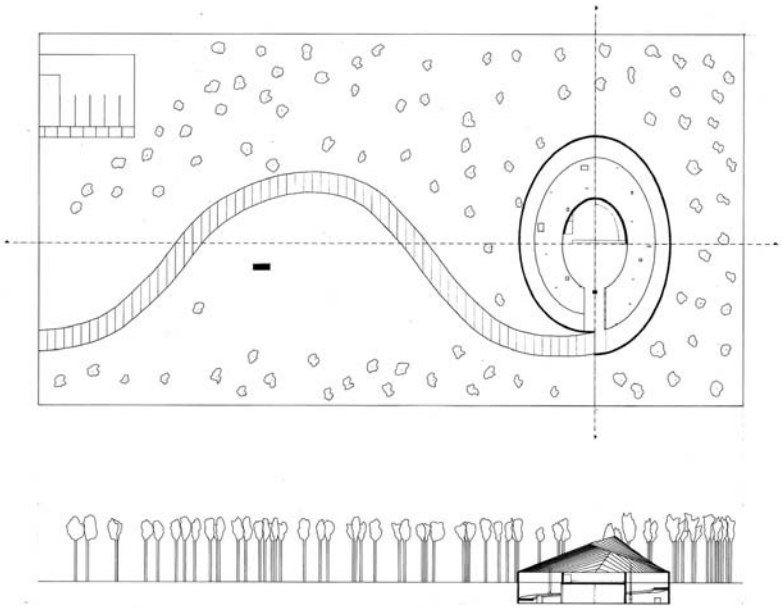
Second Year

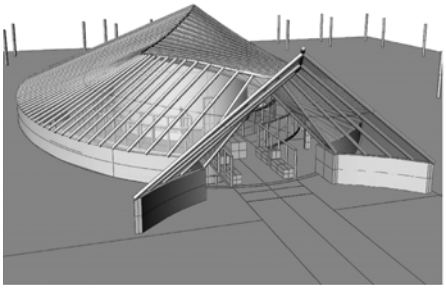
This year began with a development of an architectural construct, and then this construct (and architectural ideal) was tested against progressively demanding outside factors. The construct was tested starting with the need to enclose space, followed by the demands of a site, then by meeting the needs of a program, and finally by existing within the bounds of building and legal code.

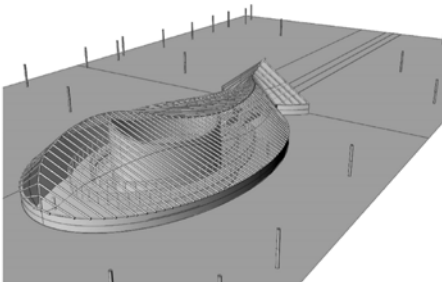


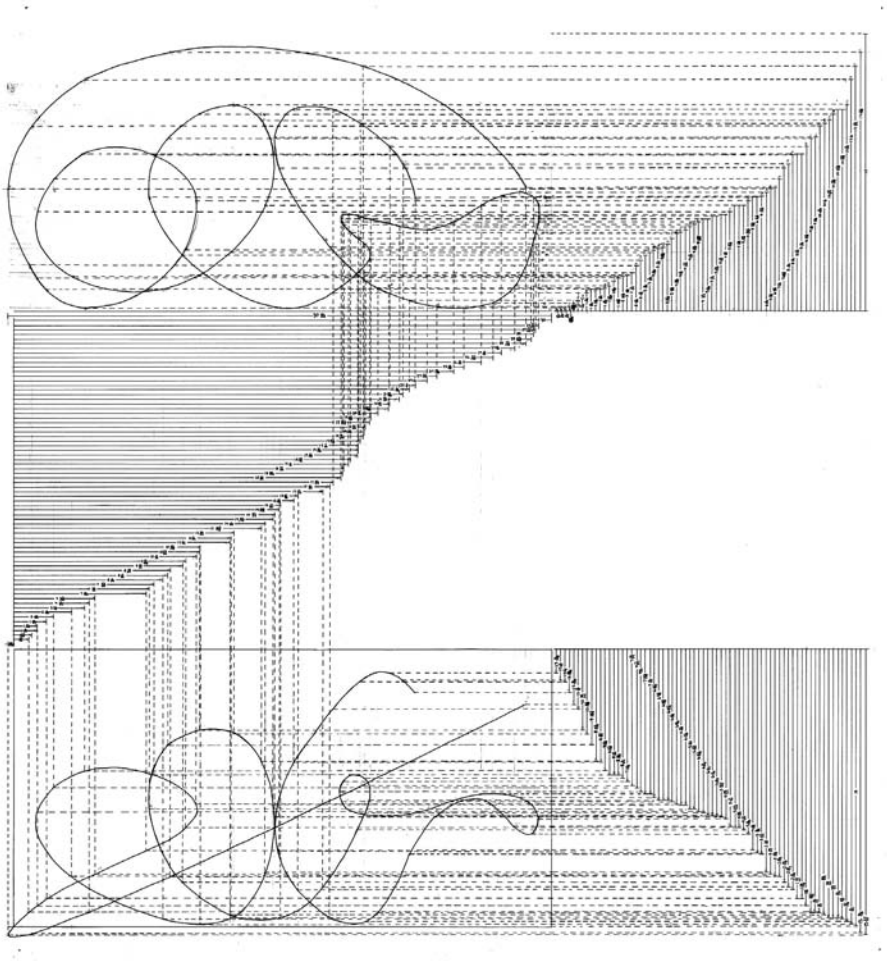


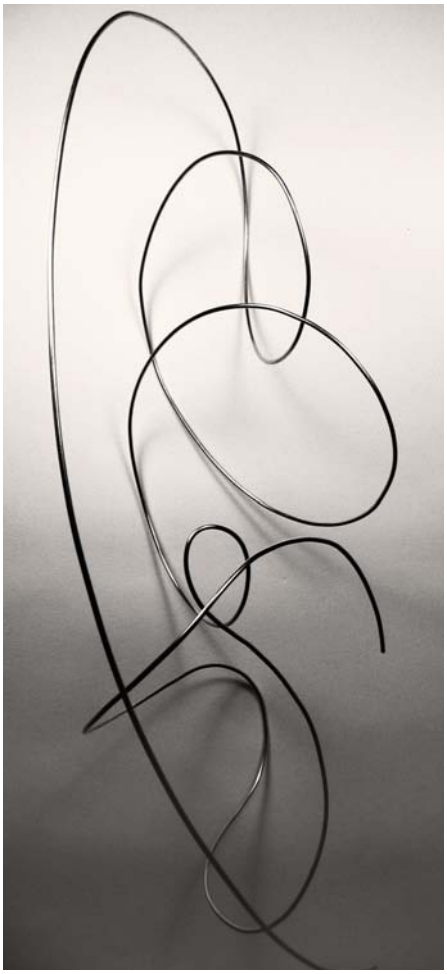






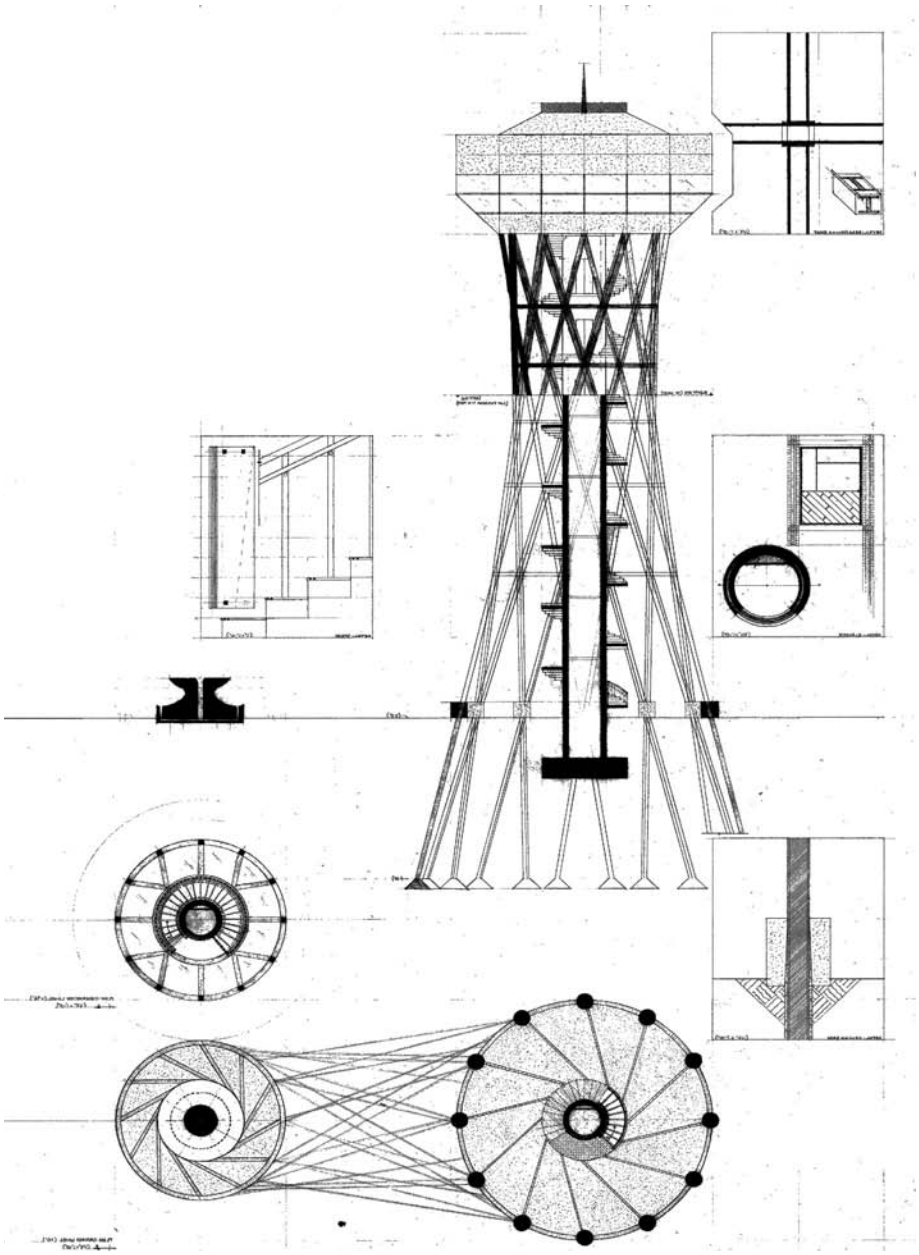


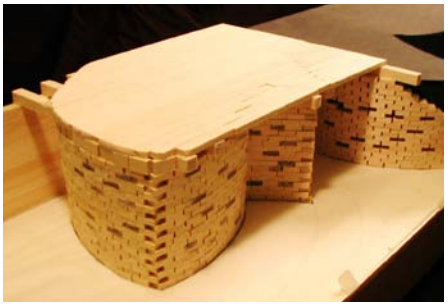


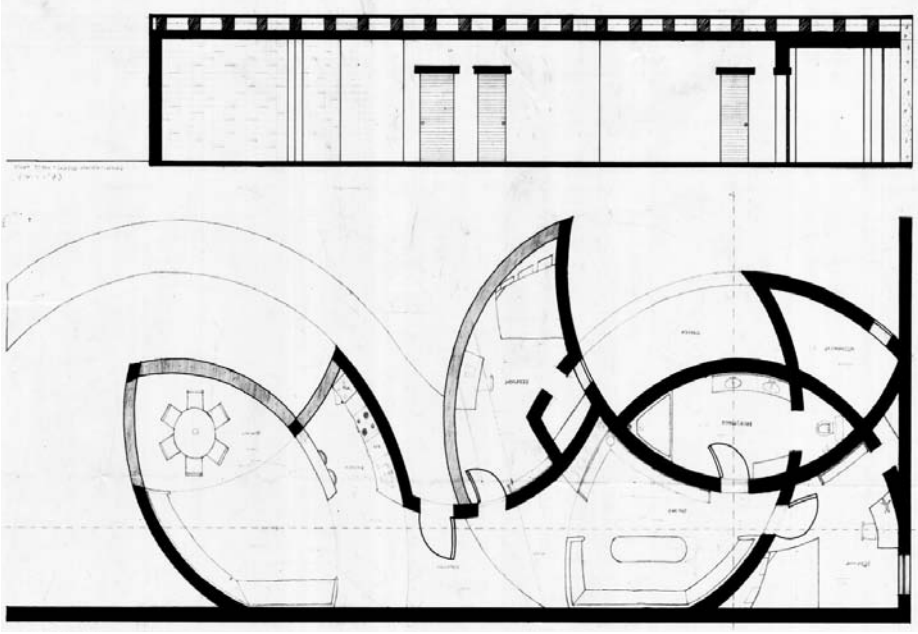


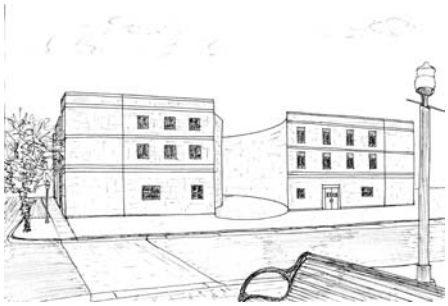
Third Year

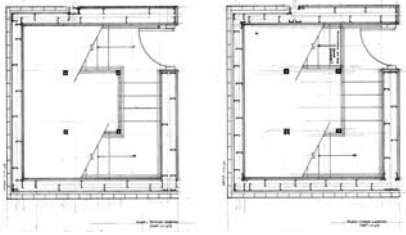
After the foundation of my architectural intentions had been thoroughly tested during second year, third year further pushed my architecture into the realm of reality with a focus on structure and construction technique. The three main projects throughout the year were a tower folly, a single-family masonry home in Santa Fe, and a multi-use building including an architectural office, library, apartments, and a large outdoor gallery in Blacksburg, Virginia.

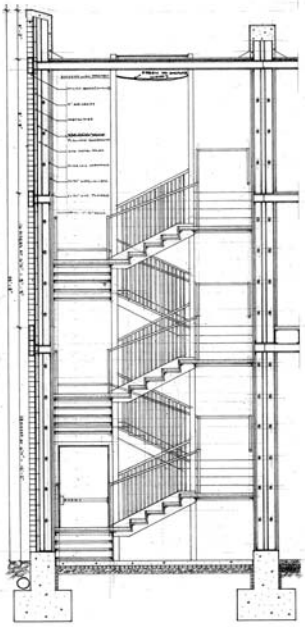


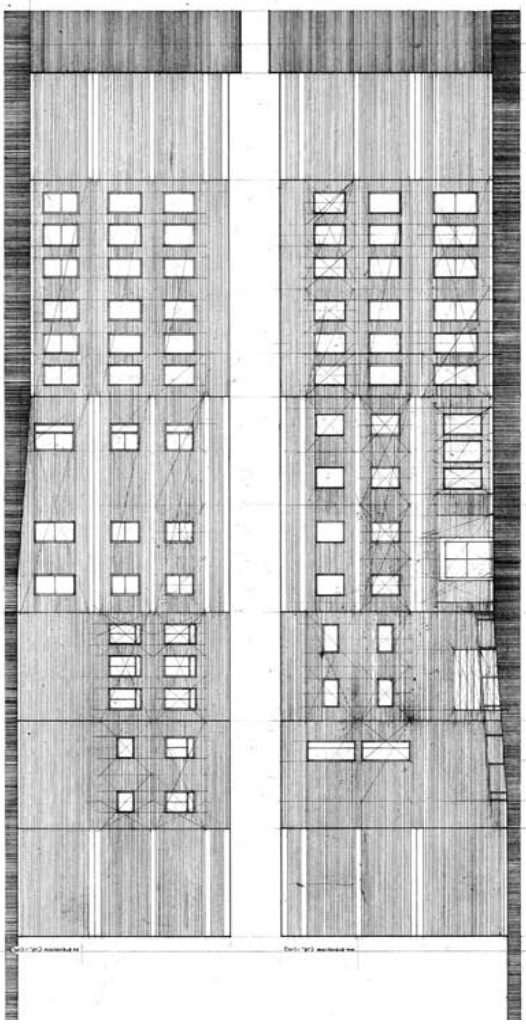


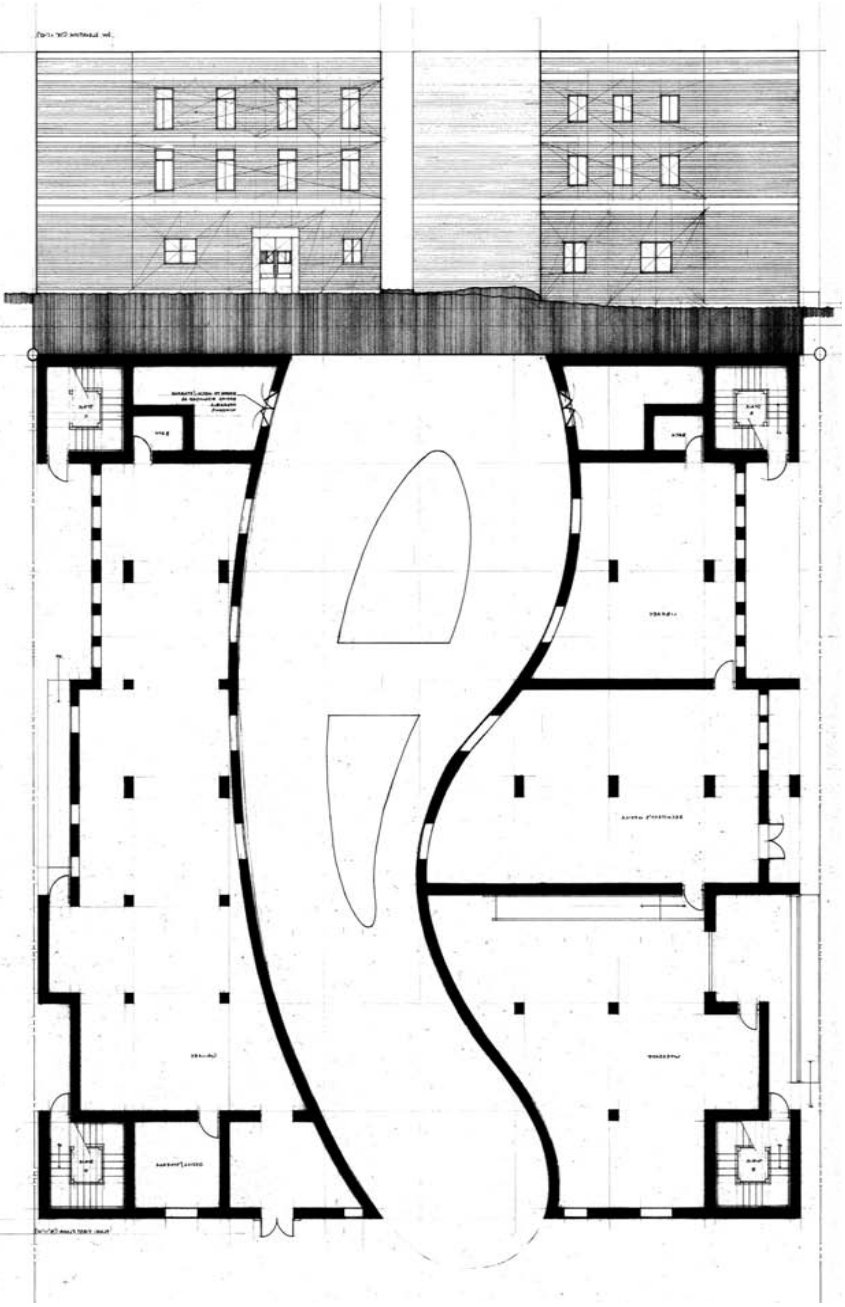






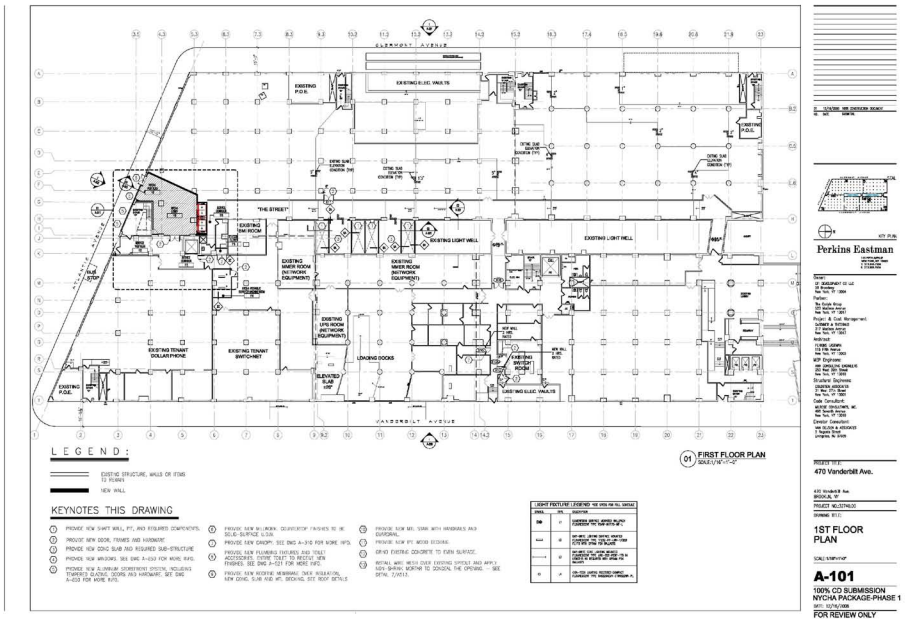


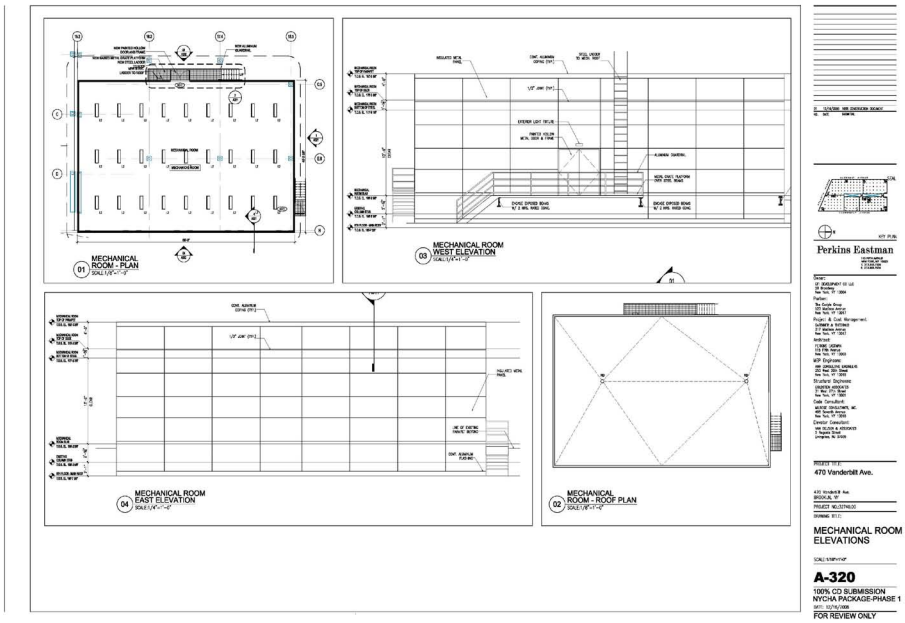


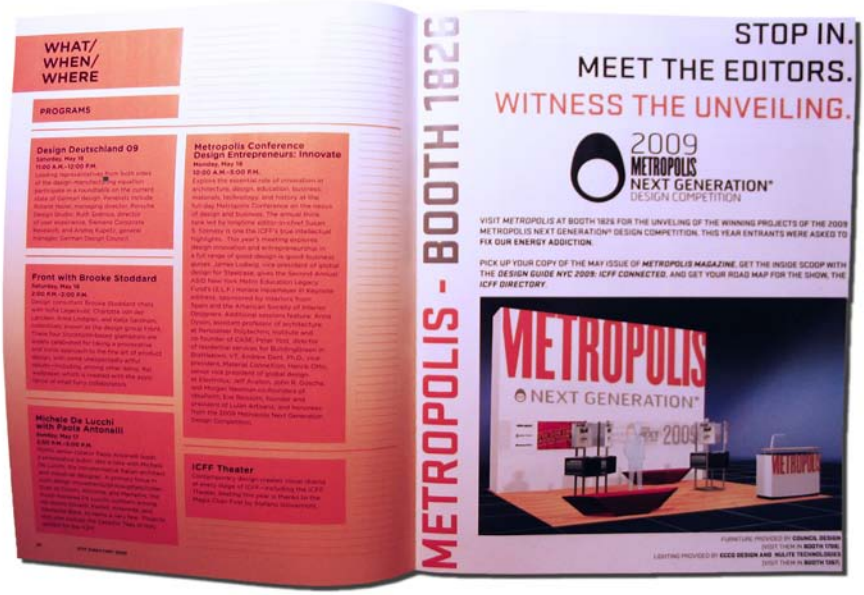


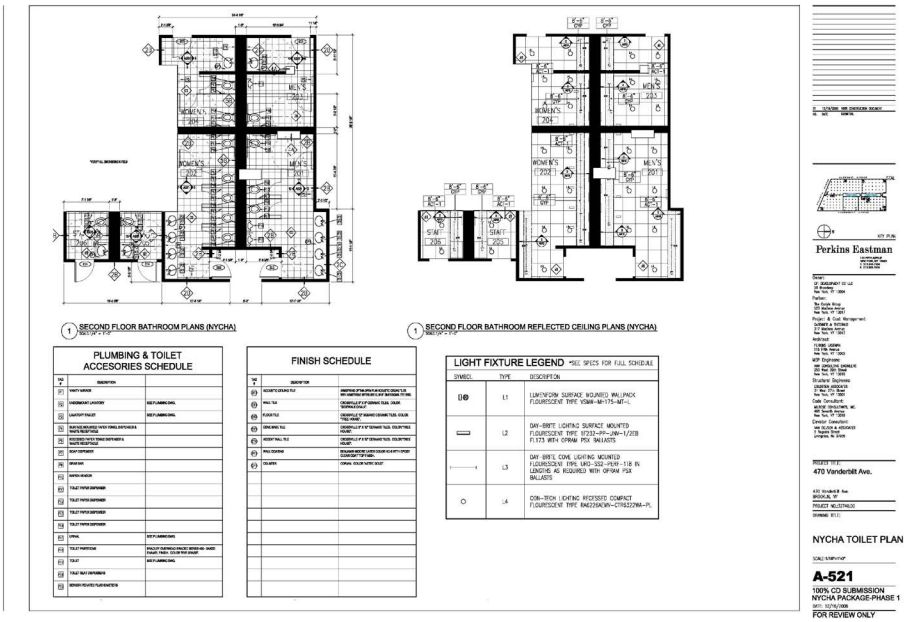
Fourth Year

For this year in my education I left the studio environment and traveled to New York to work for Perkins Eastman during the fall semester, and for Metropolis Magazine during the spring semester. These experiences (along with summer internships with other companies) served to round out my education with real-world experience. The images shown are construction documents from a renovation project in New York that I drafted with Perkins Eastman and the various publications in which I had input with Metropolis Magazine, including the advertisement for the Metropolis Booth at the International Contemporary Furniture Fair.








1 SECOND FLOOR BATHROOM PLANS (NYCHA)
1 SECOND FLOOR BATHROOM REFLECTED CEILING PLANS (NYCHA)
PLUMBING & TOILET ACCESORIES SCHEDULE
FINISH SCHEDULE
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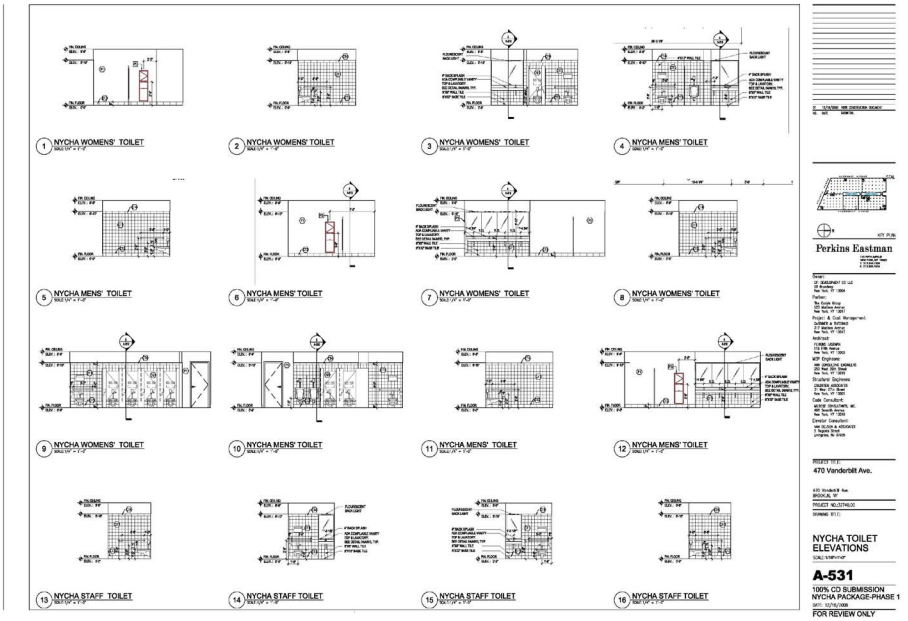
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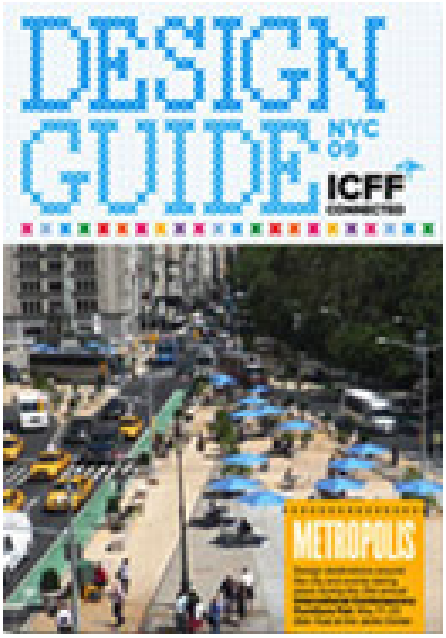
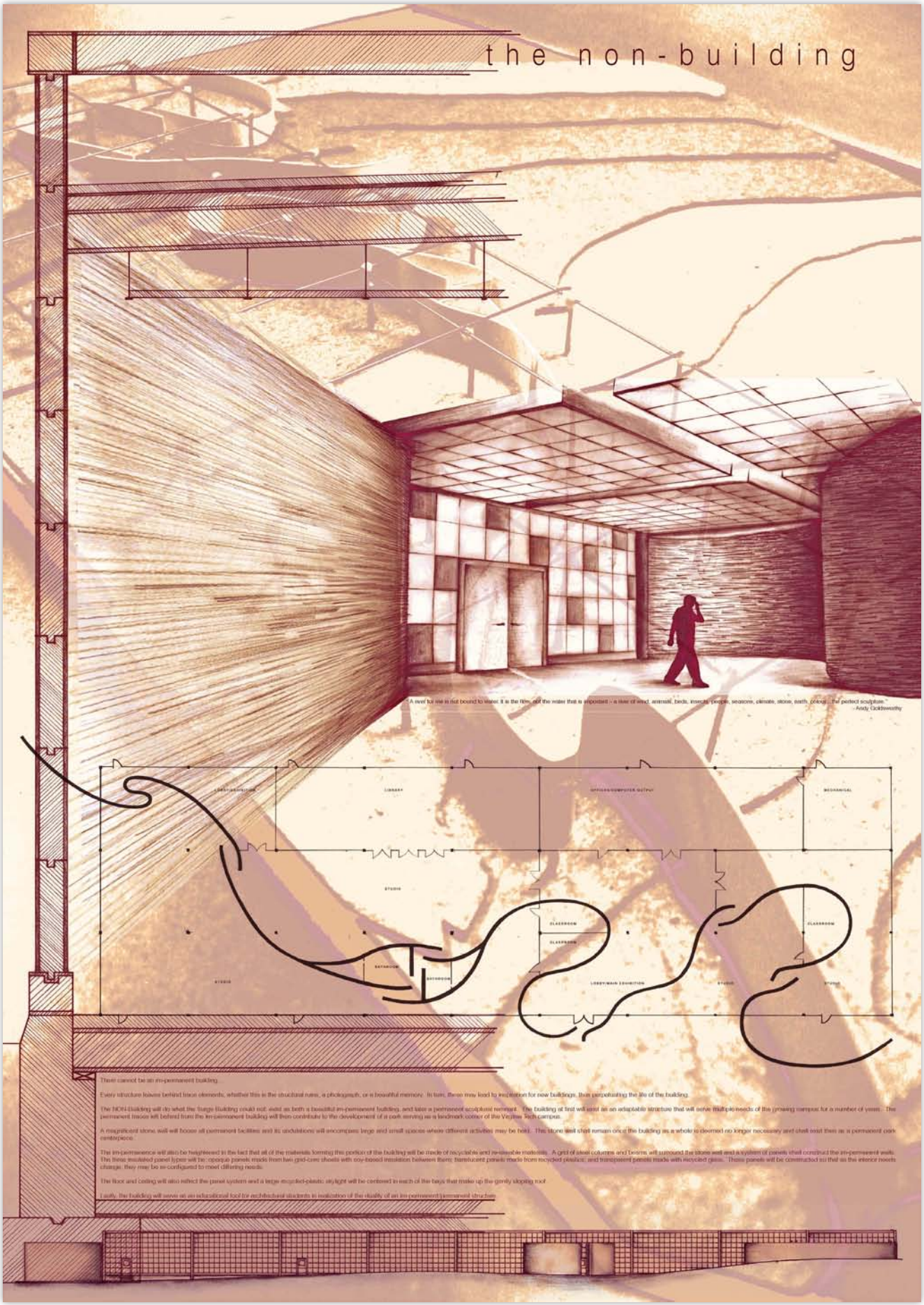
Also: Ross Lovegrove / Jenny Holzer / Pierre Paulin
METROPOLIS
May 2009
Pinning Our HOPES on the Wind
A visionary new idea to achieve energy independence—by using the towers we already have
Nine ways to help break our unhealthy addiction to oil


DESIGN GUIDE NYC 09
ICFF
METROPOLIS

ARCHITECTURE and DESIGN
METROPOLIS
THE REAL FUTURE OF GREEN
Take a Generic Building and Turn It into a Showcase for Sustainable Design

the non-building



There cannot be an in-permanent building.

Every structure leaves behind trace elements, whether this is the structural ruins, a photograph, or a beautiful memory. In turn, these may lead to inspiration for new buildings, thus perpetuating the life of the building.

The NON-Building will do what the Surge Building could not: exist as both a beautiful in-permanent building, and later a permanent sculptural remnant. The building at first will exist as an adaptable structure that will serve multiple needs of the growing campus for a number of years. The permanent traces left behind from the in-permanent building will then contribute to the development of a park serving as a landmark corner of the Virginia Tech campus.

A magnificent stone wall will house all permanent facilities and its undulations will encompass large and small spaces where different activities may be held. This stone wall shall remain once the building as a whole is deemed no longer necessary and shall exist then as a permanent park centerpiece.

The in-permanence will also be heightened in the fact that all of the materials forming this portion of the building will be made of recyclable and re-usable materials. A grid of steel columns and beams will surround the stone wall and a system of panels shall constitute the in-permanent walls. The three insulated panel types will be: opaque panels made from two grid-core sheets with soy-based insulation between them; translucent panels made from recycled plastics; and transparent panels made with recycled glass. These panels will be constructed so that as the interior needs change, they may be re-configured to meet differing needs.

The floor and ceiling will also reflect the panel system and a large recycled-plastic skylight will be centered in each of the bays that make up the gently sloping roof.

Lastly, the building will serve as an educational tool for architectural students in realization of the duality of an in-permanent/permanent structure.

The Collective Eclectic

Playing across the boundaries of time, and lost somewhere between natural and man-made, two ampitheaters exist; locked in perpetual conversation with an ever changing landscape between them. As they age they will in turn become fixed relics in the past, joining ranks with the eclectic collection of current objects on the site.

The conversation will exist in a shroud of mystery and retain a character of grace as people come here to speak, to observe and discover, or to mark in the wood their own passing stories.

The ampitheater on Belle Isle will exist as a centerpiece to the collection of the past and will act as an axis of discussion for the island, whereas the ampitheater at the Hollywood Cemetary will act as a centerpiece for reflecting on the connection between the Island and its city.

- 27 June 1905
But what is the past? Could it be, the firmness of the past is just an illusion? Could the past be a kaleidoscope, a pattern of images that shift with each disturbance of a sudden breeze, a laugh, a thought? And if the shift is everywhere, how would we know? In a world of shifting past, these memories are wheat in wind, fleeting dreams, shapes in clouds. Events, once happened, lose reality, alter with a glance, a storm, a night. In time, the past never happened. But who could know? Who could know that the past is not as solid as this instant...
- Einstein's Dreams

July 21, 2008

To Whom It May Concern,

In my twenty year architectural career in Richmond, Virginia, I have had the opportunity to mentor many individuals beginning in this profession.

In my opinion, there are key characteristics to look for: a positive attitude; a willingness to do whatever is asked of one—no matter how small the task; the ability to ask questions that help one to understand what one is doing; the ability to take a task as far as one can go, then knowing when to ask for assistance to take it further; and the willingness to learn.

Matthew Tehan is a friendly and pleasant young man who displays all of those characteristics. He definitely is someone who has great potential to go far in this profession and would prove to be a valuable asset to your firm.

Sincerely,

Lisa Canady McWhirt

Lisa Canady McWhirt

Lisa Canady McWhirt 650 North Pinetta Drive Richmond, Virginia 23235 804.560.3764

Perkins Eastman

ARCHITECTURE
CONSULTING
INTERIOR DESIGN
PLANNING
PROGRAMMING

January 12, 2009

Re: Matthew Tehan

To Whom it May Concern:

Matthew Tehan has been working with Perkins Eastman as part of Virginia Tech's Intern program since September of this year. He has worked with us on numerous projects such as preparation of marketing materials, construction documents and shop drawing coordination.

His primary task this fall was working with a team doing construction documents for a 138 unit residential building in Lawrence, NY. While on this project Matthew's work included unit plan revisions, interior elevations, finish and door schedules as well as stair and elevator detailing. He assisted in the coordination of MEP and structural engineering systems as well as preparing the life safety documents.

Matthew has been an eager and quick learner while working with us and has performed his work professionally. He has communicated and worked well with his fellow team members and had met his project deadlines. If you would wish to discuss Mathew's career opportunities with me, you may contact me at 212.353.7245.

Sincerely,

Joseph DesRosier, AIA
Principal

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Terry Surjan
201 Cowgill Hall
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Dear Terry,

As the Marketing Manager of *Metropolis* magazine I have had the pleasure of working with Matthew Tehan for the past three months. Here at *Metropolis* magazine, Matt has been a wonderful addition to the entire staff. During his time here, I've considered him a counterpart who takes wonderful direction, initiative and delivers great work on time and with ease. He has been an asset to the magazine. I would like to take this opportunity to outline some projects he has added great support to.

Matt headed up coordination of distribution lists to New York area architecture and design locations, manufacturer showrooms and museums for a city guide *Metropolis* published each year—using his own knowledge and research, as well as friendly attitude in contacting these venues.

He has also continuously been working on a database of the top 100 architecture firms in the nation, making cold calls, and obtaining important information about the firms and their leaders.

He has been detrimental in supporting the marketing department with all event coordination and planning. In addition to all of these projects, Matt designed house ads for inclusion in the city guides we publish for New York and Chicago.

Matt is a dedicated worker and adds to any team with his research, eagerness to help and initiative. He has proven to be a take-charge person who is able to successfully develop, plan, implement, and communicate.

It is for these reasons that I offer only wonderful feedback of evaluation regarding Matt's work here. His intelligence, drive and professional abilities will truly be an asset to any school, or firm. We are sad to see him leave the team here at *Metropolis*. If you have any questions regarding this evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Taylor

Kimberly Taylor
Metropolis Magazine
ktaylor@metropolismag.com