

Assignment 1

Parametric Modeling and Drawing

September 26 2005

This assignment will be presented in class on Monday October 17th

Project Presentation

To quote Mies Van der Rohe, “God is in the details”. Design and construction of building details is perhaps the most complex segment of the design process. Designing the connective tissue between walls and floors, roof and exterior wall, and exterior walls and the ground is challenging and requires the architect to research and test new building concepts with models or through drawings. The goal of this assignment is to present design and construction methods of detailed connections for your project in the form of drawings on paper. You are required to present a plan and elevation of the building first, and secondly, of a detailed corner. The details should be designed based on the architectural intent and material quality of the overall structure as well as on the environmental and structural performance requirements for the building. The following are examples of what should be considered in the design of a detail:

Appearance/Weathering: When designing a detail connection it is more important that it maintains its appearance over time, rather than evaluating it solely on aesthetic beauty. It is most difficult to design a detail that is easily maintained through many years of rain, wind and exposure to the harsh sun. It is important to anticipate how materials will change due to this exposure and design with that in mind.

Waterproofing: Water is a building’s greatest enemy; one rain storm can destroy carefully designed details. In addition, water damage is often extremely difficult to remedy, as evidence of leaks may occur far from the source, and in locations that are difficult to access.

Strength: Details usually must last at least twenty years and often more. They have to resist stresses caused by water, wind and other physical forces in addition to weathering issues caused by these forces.

FIELD WORK

Week 1 Field Trip

Designing great details comes from experience in both building them and years of observation after the building is constructed. A great builder takes note of details that have not worked over time, corners that leak, colors that fade or assemblies that separate due to building movement. Take notes! Ask questions and learn from the experience of others.



Week 2 Designing the Detail

First draw a floor plan and elevation in AutoCAD of your project. The drawing should be at $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'0''$ plotted on 24"x36" paper. The drawing will be used by the builder to lay out details and price the project. Make sure to vary line weight and annotate drawings in order to orient the contractor. Second, design the building's exterior shell while outlining its (1) internal and (2) external material, (3) structure and (4) connections.

Week 3 Construction Presentation

This drawing is a collection of details in 2D taken from the digital project 3D model. Drawing should include a full section at $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1'0''$ and called out details at $3'' = 1'-0''$. As a group you should work together to pull information from various areas of research into one drawing for review by a builder from Emphyrean.