Thesis Additional Material

Guidelines for the Student Design Competition, May 1999

A Regional Meteorological Center and Field Station

ASCA Student Design Competition 1998-1999

"This year's competition addresses the issue of weather. How can weather affect a building's performance? How can weather affect the formation of its structure? How can it affect its ability to serve as an educational tool for the community? To chose ends, the competition challenges students to design a regional meteorological center and field station in Kill Devil Hill, NC.

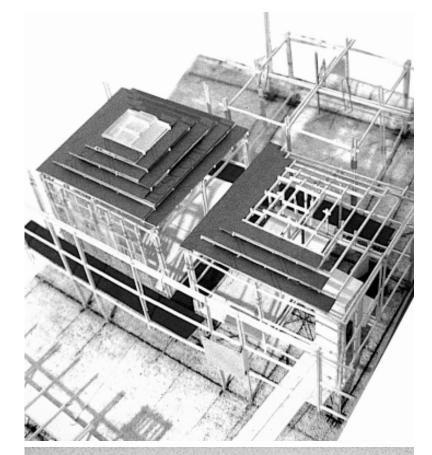
As the location of the first controlled, powered, heavier-than-air flight, the site is laden with symbolism, both in terms of its intrinsic qualities of wood, its lightness and flexible strength, were key elements in the design of the Wright Brothers' aircraft. Spruce and ash were used as integral structural components in the Brothers' plane. The launching students are asked to design a facility that will enhance the overall understanding of how weather affects both the topography and structures in coastal communities.

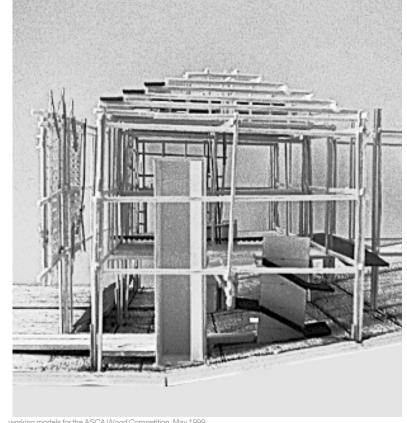
Issues and objectives

The central aim of the Meteorological Center and Field Station will be two fold; to collect and corresponding inability to adequately accommodate the volume of tourists who visit the site each day. By 2003, in fact the National Park Service's general management plan for the memorial grounds calls for the center to be removed, with the area grubbed and revegetated. Therefore, for the purposes of this competition, students may make one of three assumptions when formulating a site scheme:

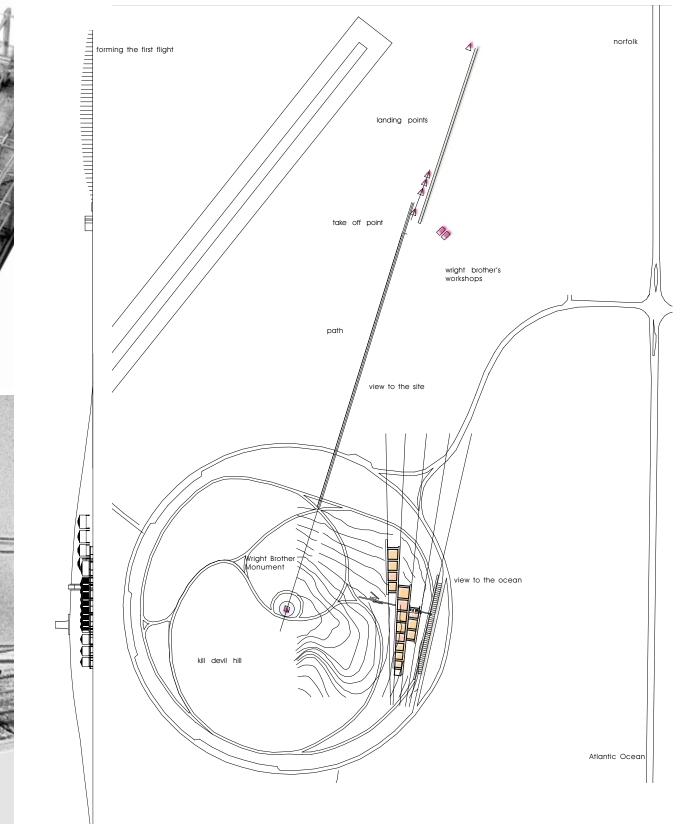
1) the visitor center remains intact where it is currently intact where it is situated;

- 2) the visitor center has been demolished and rebuilt in a different location on the site;
- or 3) the visitor center remains in its present location and is incorporated in with the Meteorological Center and Field station.
-to provide an educational center for the study of the long- and short term effects of weather upon both the structures and topography along the North Carolina coastline. The given site's proximity to the Atlantic Coast, and by extension its susceptibility to inclement weather during the sommer hurricane season, promoted a close investigation into the type of wood structures that could sustain weather"





kill devil hill WEATHER PIER



working models for the ASCA Wood Competition, May 1999

encompassing weather and history

51

Wilbur and Orville Wright's achievement of the first sucessful

The Wright Brother's workshop, 1903
airplane flight on Dec 17, 1903





Wright Brother Memorial at Kill Devil Hill, North Carolina, 1999 Encountering the weather by different layers

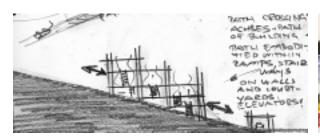




Cyclical flood



The site's closeness to the Atlantic Ocean



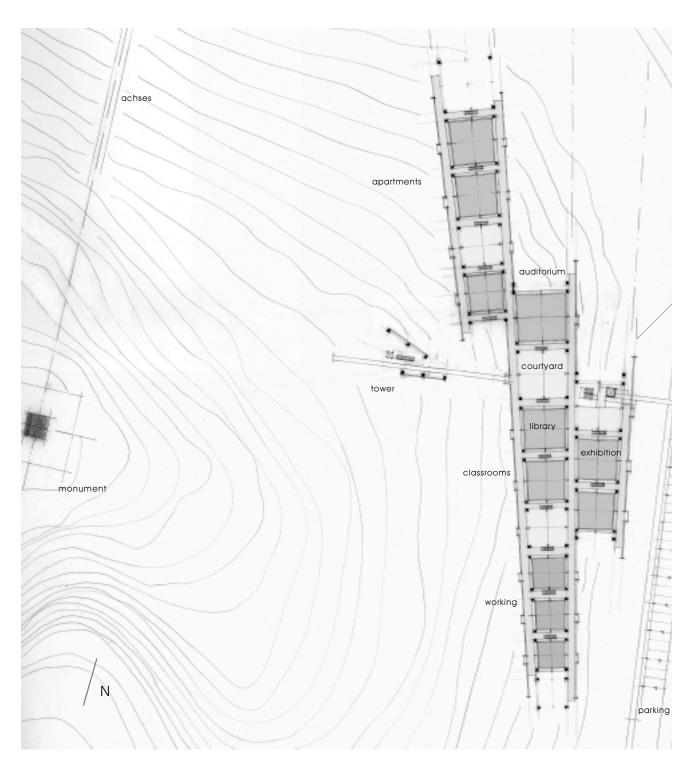
Main structure in wood



The meteorological center and museum

WEATHER PIER kill devil hill

52



siteplan scale appr. 1/500

from the outside to the inside

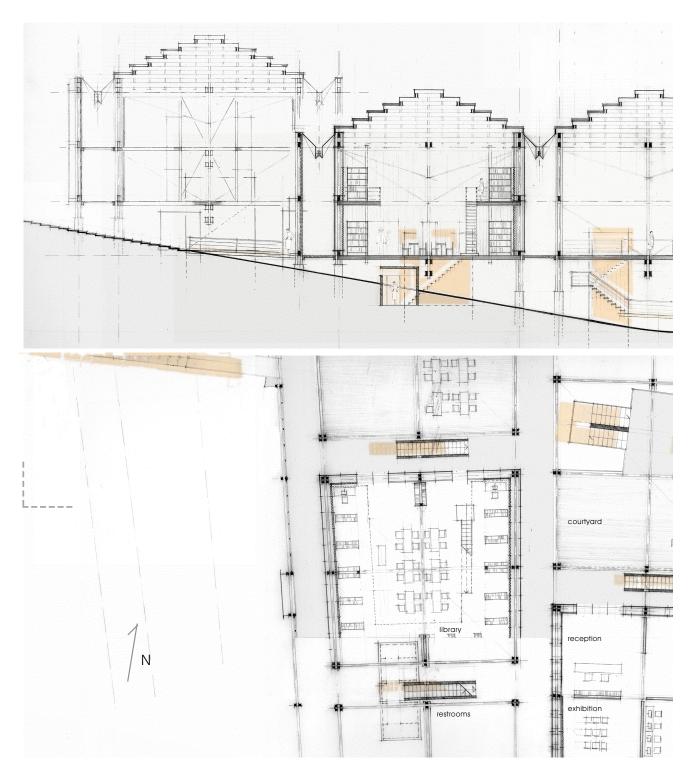




entrance, protecting wall, concrete elements

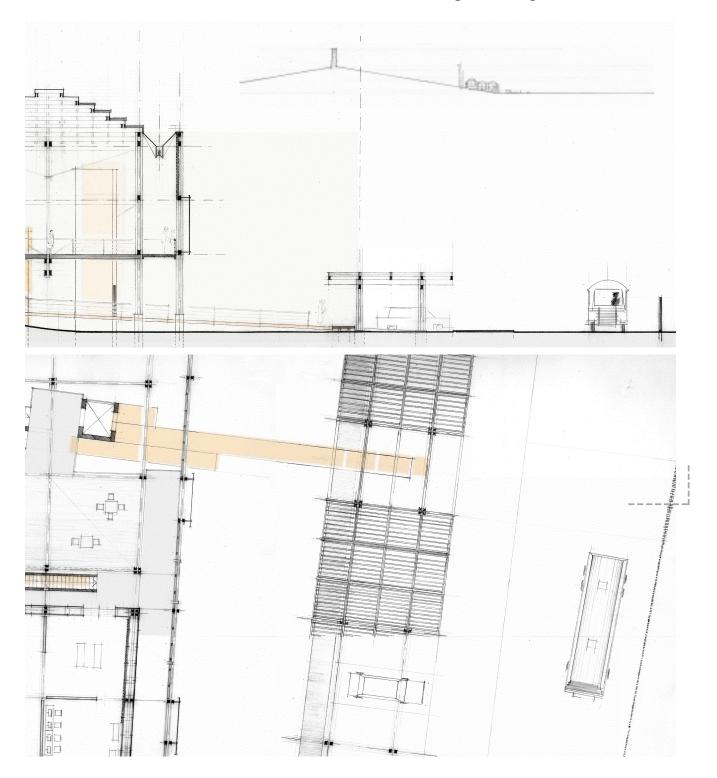
parking

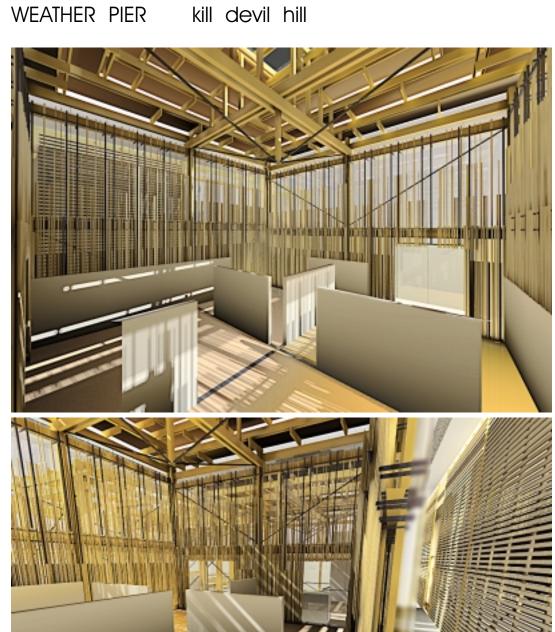
WEATHER PIER kill devil hill



part of the site-plan and the section scale appr. 1/100

walking through the space

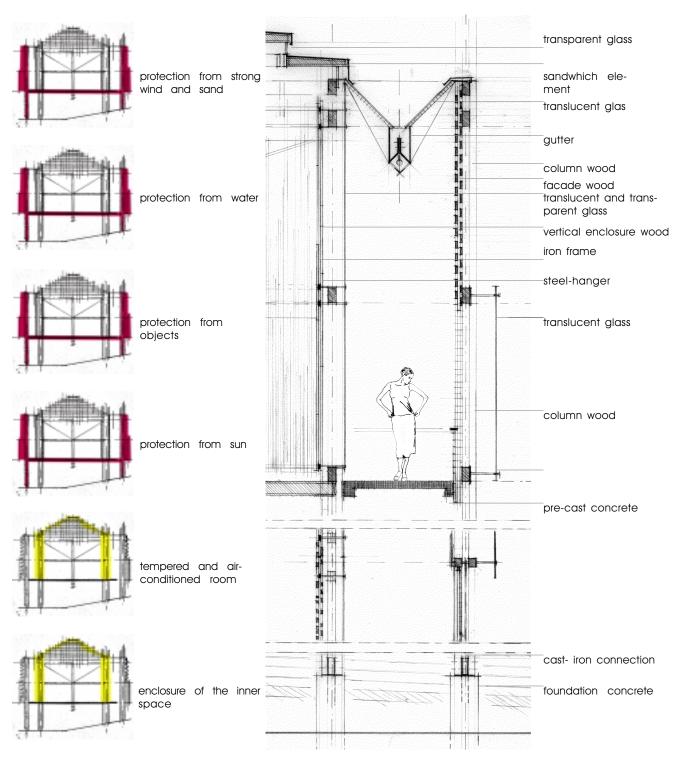




views from the reception hall and exhibition space layer

58

layers for wind, sand, sun and water



57

layer exercises detail facade layers

Student Design Competition, May 1999

Reflections

In this page I offer some reflections after the work on the competition was finished.

There are three considerations: the poetic attitude, the main space, and the issue of weather.

The first consideration is the idea to involve poetics into the design process. While designing I was fascinated with the idea to enhance the building due to the extreme weather conditions. I tried to transform the poetics of the wind into the project and failed. Some interesting questions arose:

Is it possible to transform poetics into the field of architecture?

What does it mean to interpret a poetic phrase? How far can one experience architecture as poetic?

The second consideration is the main spaces. In the competition I designed a repetition of main spaces which are held together by surrounding paths. These paths frame each main space, and through repetition a complex building was formed.

Some questions arose:

What are the consequences to add main spaces to a complex entity?

How can one design many main spaces in which each space is still identified separately? Does not each main space seek for its own identity?

How does the character of each space alter if connected together?

Are not the paths the main elements of the design?

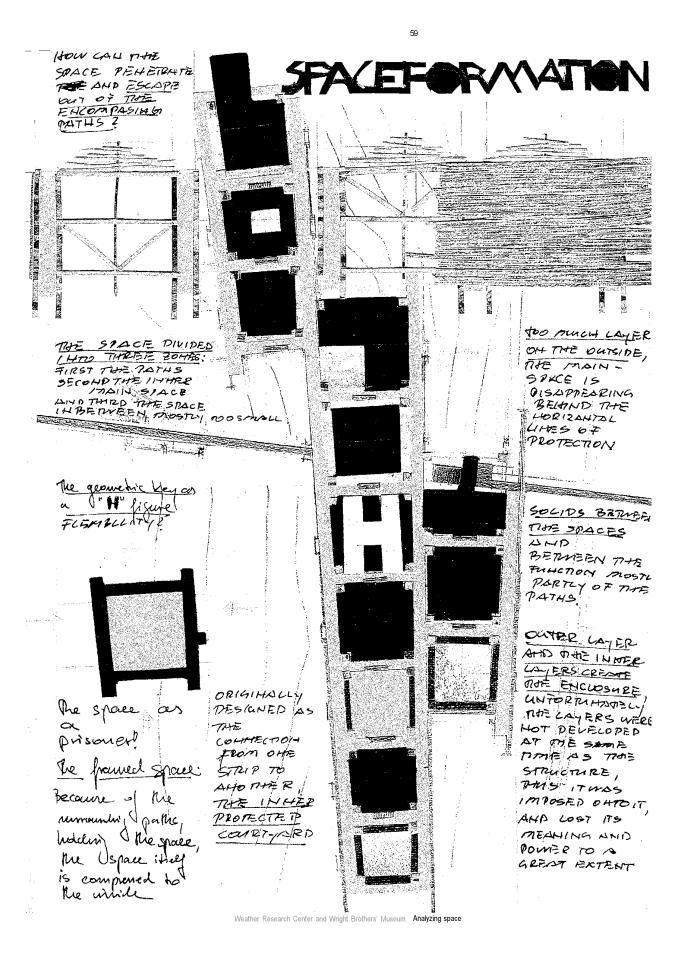
The last consideration deals with the extreme weather condition of the North Carolina beach. In the competition the program asked, "How can weather affect a buildings performance?" My initial concept of the buildings for the competition are air conditioned main spaces which are encompassed by a glass construction. These volumes protect the inside from temperature and wind. In order to protect these fragile main glass boxes from rain, sand and flying objects, a secondary enclosure encompasses it.

Between the secondary enclosure of wood studs and the inner enclosure of glass, there is the space for the path. The outer enclosure is perceived as a protecting wood wall:

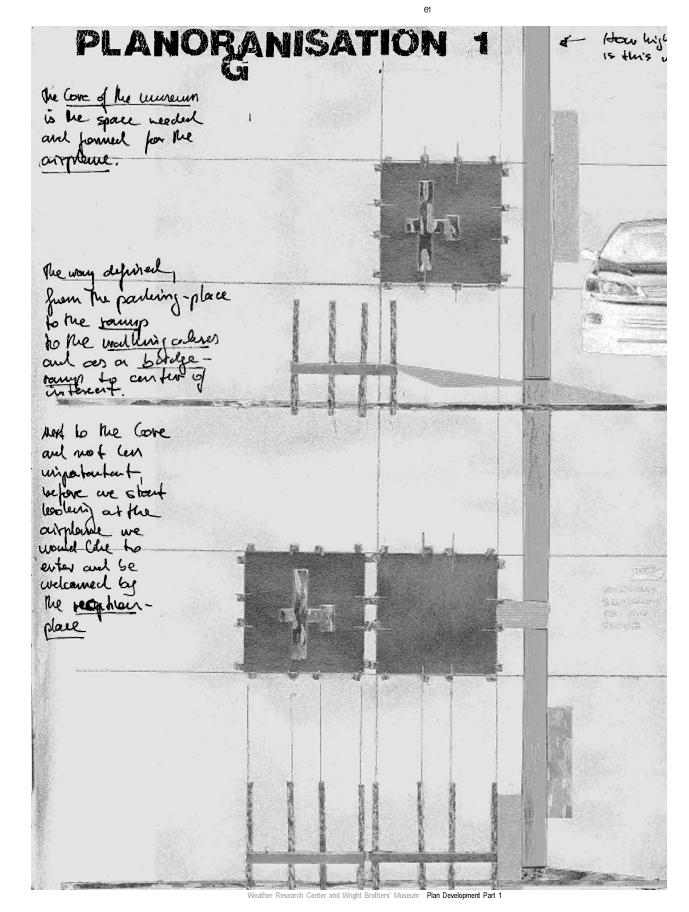
A question could be:

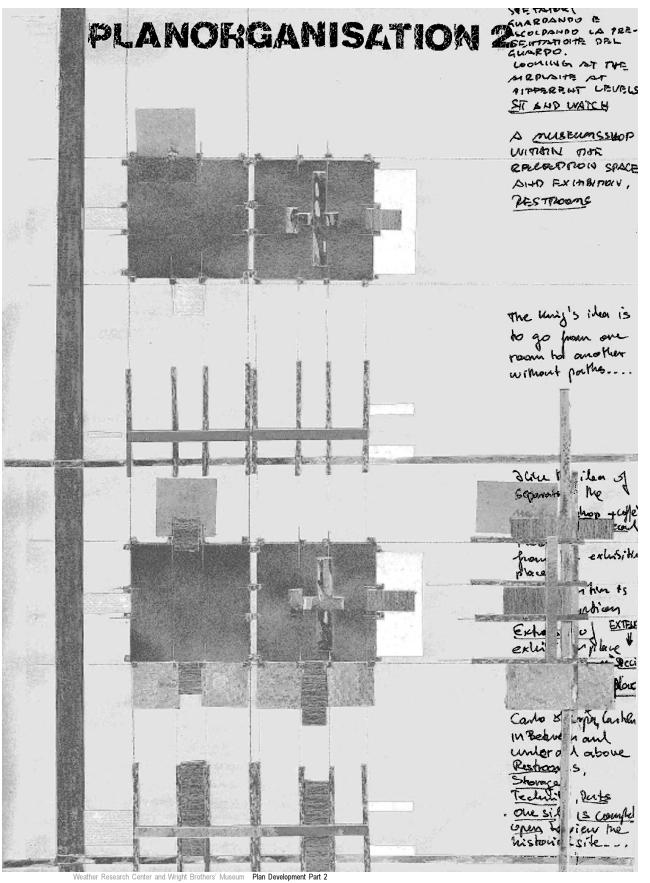
How can one design a protection for the building that the inside of the building is still perceived from the outside?

How far can one design a building that protects the building from the negative weather aspects but also have ability to use the positive weather aspects?



The Development of a Plan







Side Lines: a short Investigation of Geometry in Islamic Architecture

geometry:

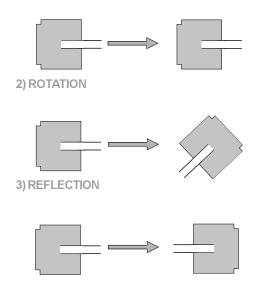
In my opinion, the research in the world of Islamic architecture offers a treasure of ideas. In the investigation of Islamic architecture it is crucial to understand principles in the use and application of basic geometry in architecture. The basic operations of geometry are the roots for the development of both western architecture and Islamic architecture:

The western world approaches the geometry in an additive way of succession, in which the geometric operations are made after the previous one is completed.

The Islamic architect operates geometry simultaneously like the simultaneously projection of different slides onto one wall.

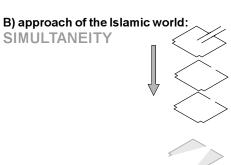
basic geometric operations of repetition:

1) TRANSLATE



A) approach of the western world: SUCCESSION



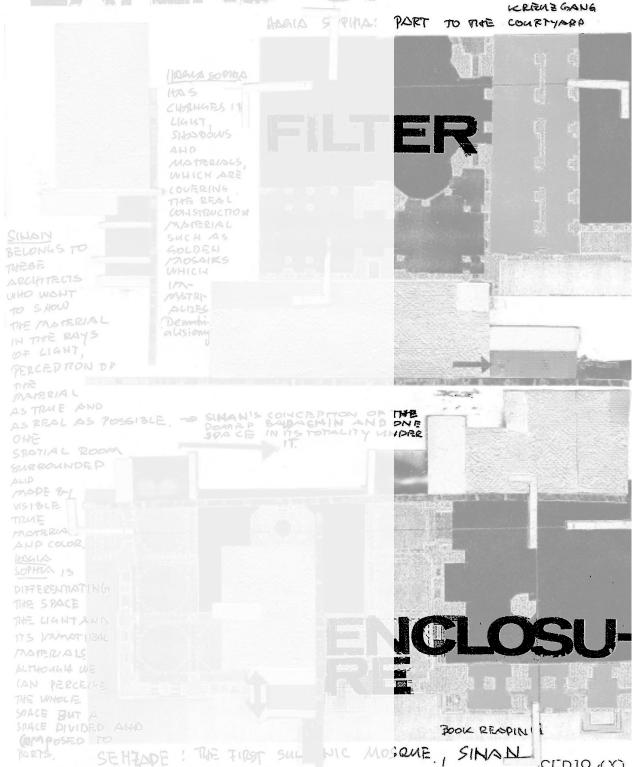


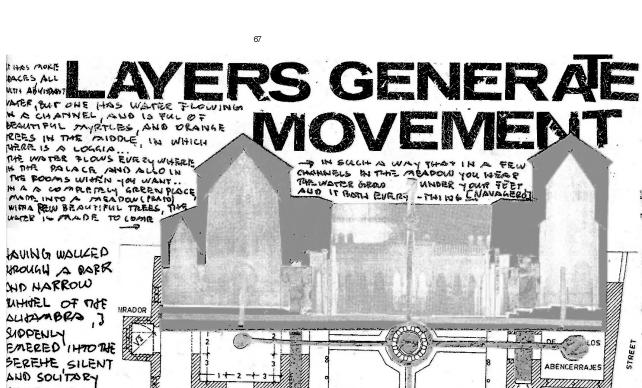
ALHAMBRA

LAYERS SPACES PLATE II Palacio de Comares and (See Chapter 13)

Weather Research Center and Wright Brothers' Museum Investigation Islamic Architecture

AYERS OF AGSGFA





REES IN THE MIDDLE IN WHICH WHERE IS A LOGGIA...

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WITH REW BEAUTIFUL TREES, THE

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Weather Research Center and Wright Brothers' Museum Investigation Islamic architecture

approaching architecture

I gave myself an assignment: to draw a picture of myself. To begin I want to say that architecture is not my life, but I love it and I believe in the joy of making a room or of discovering a detail. Louis Kahn described joy as the force of creativity. There is no architecture without vision and to borrow the words of Le Corbusier that there is no art without passion.

Visions are to become true. In fulfillment of our dreams renders us with satisfaction, joy, and the sweetness of life.

I asked myself where I want to start after graduation with my Master's degree. My goal is to work on a project from the very beginning to its final completion. I enjoy finding ideas and transforming these to more technical and detailed solutions.

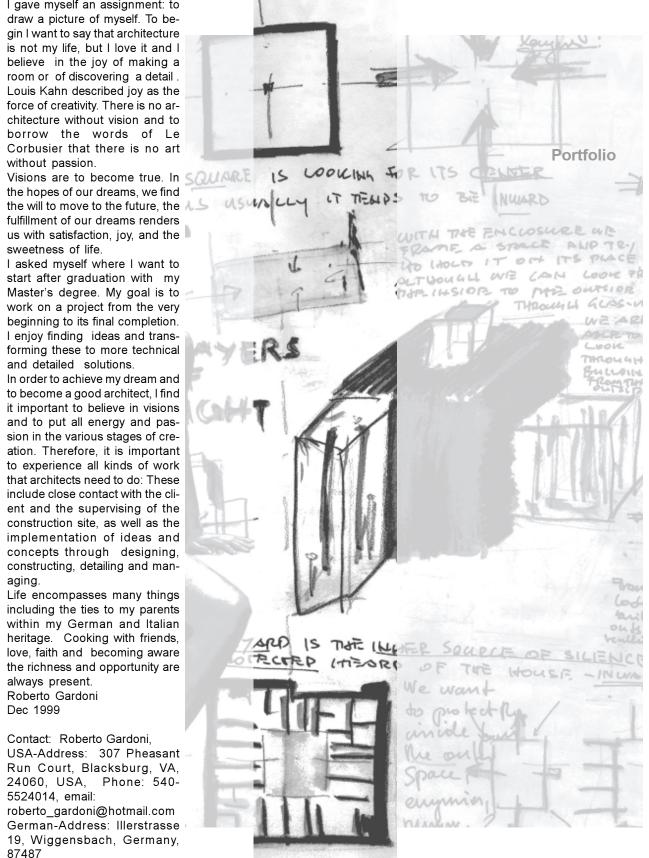
In order to achieve my dream and to become a good architect, I find it important to believe in visions and to put all energy and passion in the various stages of creation. Therefore, it is important to experience all kinds of work that architects need to do: These include close contact with the client and the supervising of the construction site, as well as the implementation of ideas and concepts through designing, constructing, detailing and managing.

Life encompasses many things including the ties to my parents within my German and Italian heritage. Cooking with friends, love, faith and becoming aware the richness and opportunity are always present.

Roberto Gardoni Dec 1999

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70

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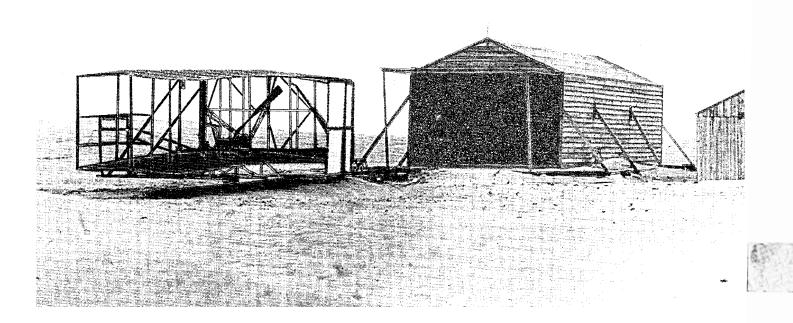
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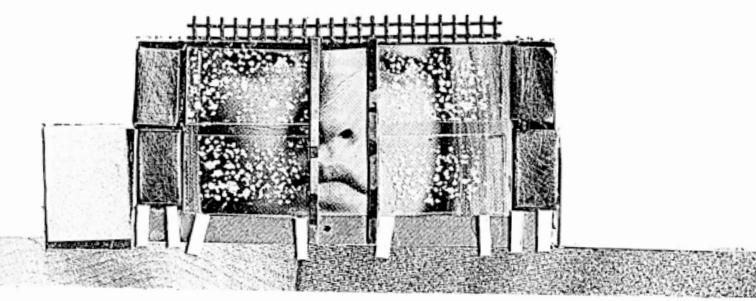
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Bibliography

approaching architecture

72





Vitae

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Carpentry

The book is dedicated to my parents, my sister, my brother and my grandma without their love and support it would have never been written.

Thank you for believing in me.