Orphanage Complex of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Plaine du Nord, Haiti

An Honors Thesis (HONRS 499)

by

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Abstract:

The design for the Orphanage Complex of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is for Father Andre Sylvestre of the Catholic Church in Haiti. A priest for twenty eight years, Fr. Andre has a vision for an orphanage complex to house orphans, provide schooling for the community, and create a setting for community growth. The orphanage complex is to be built on a parcel of land that is roughly fifteen acres which Fr. Andre has purchased near Plaine du Nord, Haiti. The vision is to house over 100 children with the completion of the complex, meaning that any design has to be focused on housing the 20 children already under Fr. Andre’s care, with plans for expansion. In this capstone project, I will be taking a second pass at designing the orphanage complex. I will be using the project design of my group from the Fall 2011 semester as well as jury comments to help inform the continued design of the complex. Included in this capstone project are a design essay, site design, and plans for the proposed first building. Included as appendices are documentation of the design from the Fall 2011 semester and jury comments that were referenced in creating this design.

Acknowledgements:

I would like to thank my group members, Kevin Snyder, Tim Thorlton, Maddie Toth, and M. Caleb Wild, for giving me permission to use our previous design to inform my design for this project.

I would also like to thank Professor Tony Costello for his guidance in this project and the sharing of his wealth of knowledge in the process of creating this capstone project.

Additionally, I would like to thank Father Andre Sylvestre for providing me the opportunity to help inform the design of his orphanage complex.
# Table of Contents:

- Design Essay .................................................................................................................. 4
- Spatial Requirements ...................................................................................................... 11
- Site Plan ........................................................................................................................ 12
- Site Diagrams ................................................................................................................ 13
- Dormitory Plan .............................................................................................................. 15
- Appendix A - Jury Comments ....................................................................................... 16
- Appendix B - Complex Design Fall 2011 ..................................................................... 22
Introduction:

The Orphanage Complex of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is designed on about a 15 acre parcel of land near Plaine de Nord, Haiti. The client, Father Andre Sylvestre, is a diocesan priest from the archdiocese of Cap-Haitien, Haiti. After attending a conference in Indianapolis in October 2008, where he learned that there were 600,000 orphans in Haiti at that time, his heart began to grow for these children who have been neglected and deserted. Following the tragic earthquake of January 12, 2010, this previously large number became even more alarming. Father Andre’s dream is to build an orphanage complex where these forgotten children can feel the love of being cared for and be provided with an education and healthcare to help them out of the cycle of poverty. Most importantly this would be a place where the children could hear the good news of the gospel.

Father Andre’s dream is a enormous one, so he has planned four stages to finish the complete project. The first phase of creating the Orphanage of Our Lady of Perpetual Help was to rent a house to begin the orphanage. This phase has been completed and Father Andre currently houses 20 orphans with hopes of housing upwards of 100 by the completion of the orphanage complex. The second phase of the project is the purchase of land and the construction of a residence with a clinic for the children. It is the second phase that is currently under way as Father Andre has purchased 15.47 acres of land and is starting plans to build the first residency building. This is a crucial time of design, making sure that the first buildings will be able to expand with and fit into the completed plan of the project. The next phase of the
project is the construction of a school that can function from kindergarten until the end of eighth grade. This will benefit the surrounding community as well, allowing neighbors to become educated. The fourth and final phase of the project is the construction of a chapel and vocational school. The vocational school will be used to teach students who have graduated from the K-8 school in the complex and also young people from the six neighboring parishes. Along with the vocational school, farmland, aquaculture ponds, a fish processing building, and a community soccer field are in the plans to be built to help make the orphanage a self sustaining site.¹

Site Plan:

The site plan has a strong diagonal gesture that is a pedestrian road that helps to inform the rest of the site design. This diagonal serves to connect the main entrance to the service entrance, and also to divide the site into two similarly sized areas. The pedestrian road creates an urban street with a juxtaposition of built and natural instances occurring along it as one travels. In an urban context, as a city grows, the built environment embraces the road as its artery providing it life. After the street has been populated with buildings, they then continue on smaller side streets branching off of the main road. This proposal attempts to do just that. As the orphanage grows in size and capacity, smaller side streets can grow off of the main thorough fare. For instance, the school can grow perpendicular to the road, thus creating a metaphorical side street.

¹ Information was synthesized from handout provided by Tony Costello to his ARCH 490/590 class in the Fall 2011 semester.
The main entrance to the orphanage complex occurs north of a proposed gas station and rest stop area. There is a parking lot located outside the walls of the orphanage complex that allows visitors to park before entering the solely pedestrian complex. The hope is that the parking lot and adjoining walkway connecting to the main entrance will draw tourists into the orphanage complex before they continue their journey to the historic citadel located down the road to the east of the complex.

To the east of the proposed gas station is the forest preservation and reforestation area, that also provides a scenic picnic area for tourists to enjoy. North of the main entrance there are spaces created by the artistic wall that provide space for the impromptu markets that are common in Haiti. The entire complex is surrounded by this wall that is primarily for the safety of the residents, but is also a design opportunity in itself. The gates of the wall can be closed at night to secure the complex from intruders, and there is a system of gates and walls that make the more private parts of the complex even more secure. The dormitory, for example, is the most secure area, being separated from the exterior of the site by three gates.

Through the main entrance is the most public area of the orphanage complex, the town square. A small market area, community garden, chapel, and clinic in this area are all open to the public. The chapel is southernmost building, creating an icon and terminating the pedestrian road that connects to the rest of the complex. This icon communicates the importance of faith in the complex and becomes the destination point through implied circulation. Each building throughout the complex has a system of arcades or covered
walkways to help connect buildings to reduce exposure to the hot Haitian sun. These reinforce
the courtyards and also serve as gathering places to encourage community.

Through the gate to the northeast of the town square, the pedestrian road leads to an
orchard and the dining building. In a small complex with the dining building is also a
classroom/multi-purpose room, library, and staff office. This would come second in the order
of construction, following soon after the completion of the dormitory. It is crucial to the
function of the orphanage complex, and with its completion, the complex could function for
some time while gaining funds to expand further. Mass could be held in the dining area before
the completion of the school and the chapel, creating an outlet to begin relationships with
neighbors. The dining hall also has plenty of room to expand back from the street as there is
need for expansion.

The next building along the road is the school. Students enter between two separated
parts, each of which has five classrooms. The L-shaped buildings create two different
courtyards that are bounded by a covered walkway on the northwest. Behind the school
buildings is a garden that will be created at the same time as the school. It will help to provide
food for the orphanage complex, and also serve as a hands-on learning opportunity for
students. The orchard will be used in the same way to encourage learning and curiosity.

Across the road from the school is the dormitory complex, where there are bathrooms,
sleeping areas for the orphans, a nursery, the staff residency, and also an area for guests to
stay. This will be discussed in more detail in the dormitory plan section of this essay.
Further down the road, through another gate, is the vocational training center and adjacent farmland and aquaculture ponds. This area of the orphanage complex acts as the continued education area. Young people from the community can come to the vocational training center to further their education and gain trade skills. The farmland and aquaculture ponds will be a source of income in addition to providing food to the orphanage complex.

North of the ponds is a building that will function as the fish processing building and also a security check for the service entrance. This will be the first building that will be erected in the entire orphanage complex, and will serve as a shed/shelter while crews are completing the other buildings within the complex. After the other buildings are completed, it will then be converted into the fish processing and security building.

The northwest corner of the site houses the soccer field that is enclosed on all four sides by the same security walls that appear throughout the complex. There is a gate to the southwest corner of the field that serves as the main entrance to the field for members of the neighboring communities. With the amount of traffic that will be coming and going from the soccer field, it is important that it be accessed directly from the outside, without players having to walk through the rest of the orphanage complex. There is a smaller secondary gate in the southeast corner of the field that makes access from the school or dormitory easier for residents of the complex.

Security and a feeling of safety are high priorities for the orphanage, which is the reason for the multiple walls. On the other hand, it is important that residents do not feel as though they are imprisoned by these walls. To fight against this, many of the walls are hidden by tree
lines to make the separations feel more like the edge of a forest than a hard unforgiving prison wall. An element that adds comfort to the dormitory is a 'grotto' or reflection area in the forest. While it is still enclosed by the security walls, they won't be visible from this small clearing in the woods. The hope is that the orphans living here will make this area their own and use it as an oasis of momentary separation from reality.

**Dormitory Plan:**

The gate to enter the dormitory is the third of a series of gates to make this the most secure area within the entire orphanage complex. The dormitory had a courtyard that is created between three inward facing buildings. An arcade helps the buildings to enclose the courtyard and also connects them. The northern building is the sleeping area for the orphans. In the proposed plan there are twenty rooms with a twin size bed in each room. When the orphanage complex is first being constructed, some of these walls could be left out to leave room for the clinic. As the complex grows and the other buildings are completed, the walls could then be added as shown in the proposed plan to house more orphans. If the twin beds were replaced with bunk beds, the capacity would then increase to forty. There are additional options for expansion if the walls of this building were continued southeast. More rooms could be added, two at a time, to accommodate an increased number of orphans.

The nursery is designed with an open plan so that as different needs arise, furniture or partitions can be added or taken away. As shown, there are cribs for four babies and a sitting area for the caretakers. The staff residences are located closest to the nursery for easy access to a crying child. They both have space for extra seating if there is counseling or something else
that needs to take place within the dormitory. The guest rooms are connected through an entry hallway that provides space for luggage, travelling gear, or even a desk. Being separated from the courtyard by the hallway gives guests an additional amount of privacy. Southeast of the dormitory is the wooded area with the proposed clearing for a reflection area. There are also possibilities for smaller gardens to be built between the forest and the dormitory, allowing the children another creative outlet for energy.

**Conclusion:**

Designing a project like this is different than most designs I have done during my undergraduate years at Ball State University's College of Architecture and Planning. This project represented a real need, and the desire for a functional solution. Too often in the world of academia, architectural projects become sculpture with only the designer finding worth in the solution. When you take the client and the people who are going to use the architecture out of the equation, there is no more architecture. Realizing this truth, and getting back to the basics of design with this project was very refreshing and gave me a refound interest in the profession.
**Spatial Requirements**:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>15 acres (653,400 s.f.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrance area on site</td>
<td>300 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dormitory with capacity to originally serve 30 children</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleeping area</td>
<td>3,000 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery</td>
<td>500 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathrooms (2 @ 250 s.f.)</td>
<td>500 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min. 4 showers, 5 toilets, and sinks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff residency areas (2 rooms @ 250 s.f.)</td>
<td>500 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest area (sleeping for visiting people, 2 rooms @ 140 s.f.)</td>
<td>280 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dining area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food preparation</td>
<td>2,500 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom/multi-purpose room</td>
<td>300 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library space</td>
<td>250 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff office</td>
<td>225 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational Training Center</td>
<td>3,600 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden/farm</td>
<td>50,000 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compost area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapel</td>
<td>2,500 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinic</td>
<td>2,000 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School (K-8, 10 classrooms)</td>
<td>8,000 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small market</td>
<td>1,000 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish processing building</td>
<td>400 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquaculture ponds with windmill for each (2 @ 5,000 s.f.)</td>
<td>10,000 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer field (100 yds. x 60 yds.)</td>
<td>54,000 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>140,155 s.f.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Built Space</td>
<td>24,855 s.f.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2 Requirements adapted from Anne Schnitzenbaumer's Honors College thesis from Spring 2011.
site plan

1. main entrance
2. community gardens
3. small market
4. chapel
5. clinic
6. dining
7. classroom, library, staff office
8. orchard
9. school
10. dorm
11. bathrooms
12. staff residency, nursery, guest area
13. 'grotto' / reflection area
14. farm
15. vocational training
16. aquaculture ponds + windmills
17. security / fish processing
18. service entrance
19. soccer field
20. field entrance
21. reforestation area
22. picnic area
23. external parking
24. gas station/ rest area
25. impromptu markets
26. road to historic citadel
27. new house
circulation diagram

privacy diagram
sheds from early construction

created with vocational

created with school

construction order
dormitory plan

sleeping area

arcade

entry gate

nursery

staff residency

staff residency

entry hall

guest room
guest room

bathroom

bathroom

to grotto

dormitory courtyard

0 ft. 5 10 25 50 ft.
ARCH. 490 / 590 – INDEPENDENT STUDY – STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITIONS FOCUSING ON URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN IN THE REBUILDING OF HAITI

Funded by: National Concrete Masonry Association and its Foundation
Instructor: Anthony J. “Tony” Costello, FAIA, Irving Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Architecture and Principal, Costello + Associates
Semester: Fall Semester 2011 (Distributed to students on 11 January 2012; submitted to NCMA w/ final report; date TBD)

Jury Comments: These comments were written by Tony Costello, FAIA, instructor for the course who acted in the role of (non-voting) Professional Advisor. Although none of these comments are direct comments made by a single juror, they represent a “consensus” view of the specific projects and written in a format often used in professional competitions to summarize award winners.

Projects:
2011 NCMA Student Design Competition: Orphanage Complex of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Students present; teams present their projects, then engaged in Q & A w/ jury members

Jurors:
Josh Naragon, Executive Director, ICMA
David Wheeler, General Manager, Wheeler Block Co.
Eston Hathaway, Davenport Masonry
Brian Hollars, AIA, Architect & Contractor
Scott Truex, Assoc. Professor of Planning

Tony Costello, FAIA, Course Instructor / Professional Advisor (Non-voting)

Format:
6:30pm - Tony will briefly introduce the logistics of this evening’s jury (below)
6:35pm - Tony will give a brief PowerPoint introduction to the orphanage project; owner (Fr. Andre); context & site; program; etc.
6:45pm - Team A presents; Jury Q & A
7:10pm - Team B presents; Jury Q & A
7:35pm - Team C presents; Jury Q & A
8:00pm - Students will leave the jury space
8:00pm - Jurors will discuss projects; determine award winners for orphanage project
8:25pm - Jurors review & discuss projects; determine award winners of Unit Block Competition
8:40pm - Students invited back
8:45pm - Jury Professional Advisor will announce the awards; jurors will make brief comments about each project. Professional Advisor will summarize in written form; distribute via e-mail to students by December 19th and incorporate them in the exhibit of work and final report
9:00pm - Tony: Acknowledgements & comments with jury present; jury departs for dinner
9:05pm - Tony: End of the course comments with students
9:15pm - Jury members to have dinner at Scotty’s

Awards: Given to teams w/ money to be divided equally
2011 NCMA Student Design Competition: Orphanage Complex of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

ARCHITECTURE
First Prize: $1,000.00  Second Prize: $500.00  Third Prize: $250.00

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE (Which for this competition was applied to the Site Planning & Design of projects as well as small-scale, landscape architecture design.)
First Prize: $500.00  Second Prize: $350.00  Third Prize: $150.00
Jury Comments: These comments were written by Tony Costello, FAIA, instructor for the course who acted in the role of (non-voting) Professional Advisor. Although none of these comments are direct comments made by a single juror, they represent a "consensus" view of the specific projects and written in a format often used in professional competitions to summarize award winners. The award money noted is divided equally among team members.

2011 NCMA Student Design Competition: Orphanage Complex of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / SITE DESIGN AND PLANNING:

FIRST PRIZE ($500.00): Team of Nicholas Buesking, Mo Han, Peter Seiter, Mary Walgamuth and Katie Werner

The jury unanimously agreed that this site plan and design was the strongest presented by the teams. They commented that this solution dealt very effectively with all of the challenges and constraints that they had to deal with. They commented that the linear scheme is used to very effectively zone and dictate the placement of the various components of the complex in a logical sequence from "most public" to "most private and secured." This criterion was stressed as being very important, given the issue of balancing the safety and security of the orphans with the desire to integrate the complex with the larger/external community. They felt that the team should have shown ... as the third small-scale diagram ... where security gates could be installed so as to create the sequence of "least secure to most secure spaces."

With regard to the linear concept, they appreciated the symbolic relationship to "the street" which is one of two major, historic, development concepts one encounters in Haiti. They felt that this team understood the historic importance placed on the corner in terms of being the origin of the diagonal axis that dictates the "spine" of this linear planning concept. They lauded the placement of the chapel/church at the "most public end of the axis which is at this corner" and the orphanage dormitory at the other which is "the most private/secure" location. In addition, they lauded ... again responding to historic precedence ... the placement of "the small, public square" behind the church that serves the market sheds enclosing it on each side. They also felt that it was a very well-considered location to begin the spatial sequence established along the "street" especially since the designer of the church locates two, flanking doors that allow for entry/egress to/from the square.

They commented that this solution also stood out for two (2) other important reasons: 1. The very aggressive manner in which the major, enclosing wall was truly designed to be a sculptural element that would establish this as an important place along the main thoroughfare. The lauded the development "outside the wall" as a series of defined spaces to accommodate and encourage very strong, "public transit" as well as social and economic interface with the larger community; and 2. The use of this wall system as an integral component of establishing the well thought-out, storm water management system.

The jury discussed and agreed that the single, major liability of this plan centered on the placement of the athletic / futbol field in a position that is very difficult for the public to access. However, they noted that a separate, gated/controlled entrance through the serpentine wall at the main thoroughfare would easily correct this and actually have this amenity function well when it is used by the students and orphans or when opened to the public. They also noted that they would have liked to see the entire site ... at least schematically ... developed to show the gas station - tourist complex in the southwest corner.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / SITE DESIGN AND PLANNING:

SECOND PRIZE: ($350.00): Team of Brad Brutout, Zhejia Dai, Hana Geswein, and Jamie Owens

The jury strongly felt that this concept ... that based on a very simple, disciplined and strong inward-oriented, courtyard builds on the historic Haitian (by way of the French as the Colonial power) public square/plaza/piazza within an urban grid ... was well thought-out and developed. They felt that the placement of the buildings around the square reflected the stated concern for the “public to private” requirement that impacts safety and security. The use of the continuous arcade to link these buildings displays a good understanding of this element as being prevalent in Haitian architecture. Lastly, they really complimented the use of the courtyard itself as both the garden as well as a storm-water management component.

The single, major problem with this courtyard scheme centered on the entries into it for the public ... both the main entry to it from the major thoroughfare and the one from the parking lot and past the chapel/church. They debated ... and could not tell ... if the chapel/church faced into or away from the courtyard or if entries were accommodated from both directions. They also wondered if the church should have some impact ... like a small, hard-scaped plaza within the major courtyard that could accommodate people either before and/or after services. They also wondered if the arcade might be “special” in front of the church.

Speaking of entries, the jury did appreciate the “formal auto-entrance” off of the new road to the south of the site, especially the landscaped/boulevard feel created to it. They also complimented the inclusion of the small “chapel-in-the-woods” in that it demonstrated “thinking outside” the stated program.

Like the first prize winning scheme, they commented positively that this solution also stood out for the aggressive manner in which the major, enclosing wall was truly designed to be a sculptural element, with this teams approach using the prevalent, right-angled, setback approach to creating spaces on both the exterior and exterior. Again, they felt that this wall would establish this complex as an important place along the main thoroughfare. Similarly, they lauded the development “outside the wall” as a series of defined spaces to accommodate and encourage very strong, “public transit” as well as social and economic interface with the larger community.

Speaking of inviting the larger community, the jury lauded the athletic/futbol field being positions on the northwest corner and using the wall to create an “earthen stadium-like” spectator viewing element. They felt that there should have been a major, gated entry off of the (serrated wall formed) public plaza at the corner. This could truly be a great space before and after games for the larger public to gather. Also could accommodate temporary vendors quite well.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE / SITE DESIGN AND PLANNING:

THIRD PRIZE: ($ 150.00): Team of: Kevin Synder, Colin Marshall, Tim Thorton, Kevin Synder, Madeline Toth, and M. Caleb Wild

The jury was impressed with this team's concept that attempted to combine the two, historic development concepts ... the linear "street" and the "public plaza/ urban grid." In doing so, the scheme as presented displayed a number of very strong points. Among them: 1. The creation of small-scaled courtyards around which the orphanage-specific, educational, and other buildings were grouped; 2. The accommodation of expansion in the future; and, 3. The juxtaposition of formal landscaping on the edge created by the serrated wall along the main thoroughfare and the natural/organic reforestation to the east and south-east; 4. The incorporation and placement and of the auto-access road and parking to allow for the larger community to access the site and yet not intrude on the pedestrian only complex; 5. The handling of the service drive to the edge of the complex to service the vocational school.

Again ... like the other two teams ... they enjoyed that this solution also designed the major enclosing wall as a sculptural element, with this scheme combining both the serpentine and serrated wall concepts. Both wall manipulations created spaces on both the exterior and exterior. They thought that the relationship of the trees planted in rows defined by the offsets in the wall was really well throughout and executed.

Also again, they felt that this wall would establish this complex as an important place along the main thoroughfare. Similarly, they lauded the development "outside the wall" as a series of defined spaces. However, the fact that these spaces were NOT SHOWN as being hard-scaped and meant to accommodate both transit and economic/social functions was seen as a MAJOR liability.

In addition, they really liked the placement and conceptual design (exterior space and pavilion) of the market ... which it appears the public passes through to access the main entry to the complex. However, the graphics again did not show this market plaza as being hard-scaped to the street curb.

The jury felt the placement of the athletic / futbol field was ill-advised in that it would require the larger community to have to travel through the entire complex to get to it, thus violating the concept of providing for safety and security of the orphans and students.

NOTE: Lack of either a key or labels of buildings on the plan caused the jury to have problems accessing which buildings and grouping were which.
2011 NCMA Student Design Competition: Orphanage Complex of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

ARCHITECTURE

FIRST PRIZE ($ 1,000.00): Team of Brad Brutout, Zhejia Dai, Hana Geswein, and Jamie Owens

The jury unanimously agreed that the consistent high-quality of the detailed design development of both the architecture and landscape architecture components of this team's project was the most outstanding of that developed by the three teams. This warranted the first prize being awarded by the jury with confidence and without reservation to this team.

Each building was developed to a standard that proved the reality that these were buildings that not only responded to a number of criteria related to sustainability, the local climate & natural forces, and the reality of being built with local materials and labor skills.

The jury felt the two (2) interior perspectives were very convincing in conveying the structure, construction material systems, and spatial quality. In addition, the quality of the natural light within these spaces was presented so as to be believable and the indoor-outdoor relationship (access and view) conveyed in the perspective of the dining hall was commendable. Incorporation of furniture lends scale and the only omission in the jury's minds was the lack of people.

The development of classroom building was held out by the jury as being the best of that of all teams and, specifically, the "exploded axonometric" drawings were acknowledged for both the information conveyed and their graphic clarity. The perspective of the exterior of the classroom gave the viewer a very realistic sense of how the building would be truly perceived by a viewer and inclusion of the boys playing futbol added to this realism.

The jury also felt that two (2) very important elements that this team included were: 1. The listing of the programmed spaces and their square footages; and 2. The "bullet points" stated under each perspective did an outstanding job of communicating the important aspects of their overall design approach.

The jury noted that the buildings also incorporated the "new" unit block design in their design that the team developed, thus nicely coordinating the two competitions.

Lastly, the detailed development of various landscape architecture elements as beautifully conveyed in the perspectives below the site plan were noted by the jury for truly conveying these elements and their contexts.
2011 NCMA Student Design Competition: Orphanage Complex of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

ARCHITECTURE

SECOND PRIZE ($ 500.00): Team of Kevin Synder, Colin Marshall, Tim Thorton, Kevin Synder, Madeline Toth, and M. Caleb Wild

The jury lauded the design exhibited in the three (3) architectural components that were developed in detail ... the School House, Orphanage, and Dining Hall. In addition, the landscape development as presented in the two sections under the Site Plan the manner in which the ground plane was manipulated to help define areas through changes in levels were recognized. In addition, the jury noted the spatial quality conveyed in the courtyard development at the top-right of the board and the skillful incorporation of the various species of trees that show an understanding of how each species structure and foliage can define spaces, create shaded areas, etc. The jury would have appreciated the sections being keyed in on the plan.

The plans are very straightforward and the size and placement of the individual rooms respond to the functions they contain. The creation of shaded outdoor spaces through the use of arcades/ trellis was lauded. The jury especially commended the design development of both the walls and the linear monitor at the ridge-line of the roof of the Dining Hall. They combine to induce/accommodate natural, flow-through ventilation which was a critical requirement. the Dining Hall.

The perspective drawings have unrealized potential to really “sell and promote” this project. Entourage and people would greatly help with this and would be worth doing for future incorporation in portfolios. Lastly, labeling drawings, The jury would have appreciated the labeling of drawings, the sections being keyed in on the plans, and some additional “bullet points” that explain key features.

ARCHITECTURE

THIRD PRIZE ($ 250.00): Team of Nicholas Buesking, Mo Han, Peter Seiter, Mary Walgamuth and Katie Werner

The jury felt that the development of detailed designs of the buildings and landscape components of this project lacks any coordination of the respective projects in terms of what drawings were presented, at what scale were they presented, and the level of detail to which the design had been taken.

The jury felt the plans for the school building, dormitories, and dining hall all display a design logic in terms of the configuration of the rooms and relationship to their immediate exterior space(s). They also felt that the development of all three (3) buildings in section, elevation, structural and material systems, as well as the spatial quality of the spaces created, received much less attention by their respective designers.

The employment of a singular design vocabulary for the chapel/church was recognized by the jury as appropriate, given both its singular, symbolic importance and siting at the terminus of the axial “street.” The ability of those entering the chapel/church to do so from both the public square facing the corner and the “street.” They also felt that the simple, but effective, design of the front entry that uses off-set curved walls to create doors that reveal themselves as one approaches the building was effective as an unfolding, visual experience. Lastly, the serrated side walls of the sanctuary were discussed by the jury as having great potential for creating a very dynamic, natural lighting effect within the space. Although mentioned in the oral presentation, the omission of any drawings showing the construction of and spatial quality created by the sanctuary’s roof prevents the quality of this important space being effectively communicated.
site plan

entrance plan
site section aa

site section bb

street plan
pergola perspective

courtyard perspective
dining plan

dining elevation
dining perspective

dining courtyard perspective
dormitory plan

dormitory section
school plan

school section

school perspective