Willow Creek Community Church, Barrington, IL.
- Sanctuary built in phases, seats 4,500, +/-18,000 members
- Campus setting important to my design, potential for future project
- Shear size and phases show some signs of add-ons and unclear master planning
- Imperative to projects of scope and future potential
- Chapel treated as separate entity, can be used for independent functions
- "Fire Vestibule" creatively deals with the code
- Sanctuary size lends itself to auditorium feel
- Not a place of intimate communion, more of a gathering space
- Open web joists and acoustical ceiling
- Balcony levels need access to main floor
- Large side windows create wonderful daylighting
- Note atrium and multi-purpose rooms great atmosphere of fellowship and interaction
Ginghamsburg United Methodist Church, Near Dayton, OH

- Facility close to size of facility I am dealing with
- Campus setting and Master planning serve as model to draw from
- Many small groups and activities, incl. Renovating homes, furniture, cooking, fellowship,
- Sanctuary seats about 1,100, Created as a first phase of building, later will become multipurpose,
  Large stage with Arched seating serves well
  Focus that rest of spaces take off from
  Separation of offices, education, adults, children, less congestion
  Use of concrete block and metal roof do well without being expensive
- Focus of congregation and staff can be felt, strong growth,
- This building serves its function well as a place to base mission from
North Anderson Church of God, Anderson, IN
- Main floor slope, balcony steeper
- Geometry and forms not straight forward
- Stained glass behind stage very powerful, need for large curtain when showing films
- Hanging lights, wood, very yellow ambiance
- Glulams and wood deck very clean and warm, use for my project
- Rest of facility does not hold together real well, circulation, basement rooms
- Site slopes to stream and wooded area need to capitalize upon that side and its views
- Much of the parking is behind this area, but building has definite "rear", does not address well

Eastside church of God, Anderson, IN
- Several additions with octagon sanctuary similar to North Anderson Church
- Open airy Narthex space important to interaction
- Seating gets all as close to stage as possible
- Stage designed well for various functions, large performing area
cases studies

St. Peter's Lutheran Church Columbus, IN
- Sanctuary addition to existing
- Exterior cladding addresses either side of facility
- Important note, seating arrangement lends to small intimate activity,
  Overall draws together congregation
- Not designed to be expanded upon for future growth
- Very much a place of worship inside, feels like what it is supposed to be
interviews/meetings

10/4/96
Mtg. with Rod Underwood
Discussion of Thesis direction based on interests and career goals
- In a real world project, design is a part of the larger whole, so reflect that in the design
- Possibility of a joint project with a “Design Based” Thesis that I take to buildable point

10/14/96
Mtg. with Robert Barnstone
Directions for the project of the Thesis
- Total understanding of a project
- Use a smaller size, concentrate on detail aspects to bring to more buildable point
- Idea of full circle, compare end results to beginning goals

10/29/96
Mtg’s. with Rod Underwood & Mark Darrell
- Small, more manageable project would allow me to take the process further
- Ideas of Industrial Revolution and assembly line breaking things into smallest pieces, ways of thinking lead to things such as middle management and the building process breaking into pieces as well
- New technology and the Information Revolution have allowed new ways to get things done with less people and for people to accomplish/manage more
- More job satisfaction and accomplishment with leader or team approaches that cover whole projects, apply to architecture as well?

10/16/96
Mtg. with Leonard Wolfson
General discussion about Thesis year possibilities
- Goals & interests lead to overall management, project architect
- Idea of working with many consultants
- Master plan and first phase of building as project
Interviews

11/20/96

Meeting with Dave Mackey

Approach to Thesis: Use precedent projects to gain a frame of reference
- Outline & document the process that a building went through, to built point
- Identify the participants & where they were involved
- Document the final product

For my actual project
- Evaluate that process & change/recreate it to implement the architect into all phases
- How does each entity work with the architect and alter the steps that occur now?
- Document the final product and compare the two projects to determine ways the architect can help project

Issues
- Clearly define Premise, What I am about
- How are things done now in the building process?
- Budget, Proforma

11/27/96

Phone Conversation with Leonard Wolfson

Discussed 3 Thesis options
1. Work with a developer to find a recent project, document process it went through to get built
   Change that process with me as architect, work with client, lender, etc. at each step to arrive at better solution
2. Adaptive reuse Project in Muncie
   Involves “Client with a dream”
   Act as client advocate
   Not as much chance for “Design” of a project
3. Project in Bloomington
   Tear Down & reuse barn frame as a theater type structure
   Interesting chance for design
   Long distance make contact & documentation difficult

Outcome
- Lean towards a real project
- Use comparison idea, but only as a reference. Do not do exact same project
- Building Design is what ultimate grade is based upon
- Private ownership projects easier, try church groups, possible master plan, good relationships
Interviews

12/30/96
Mtg. with Wayne Anderson, Senior pastor, Eaton Church of God
- Communicate idea of “Architecture” and “Relationships” as I am trying to address them
- Establish client relationship, trust, allies,
- Information needed from them to go ahead
  Demographics, Long Range Committee goals
  Questionnaire of needs & goals for areas of specialty in facility
- Plan for 1200-2000 people
- Design of a ministry, not just building

1/20/97
Mtg. with Joe Fischer, Thesis Student-Practitioner
- Definition of Quality, State of being
- What we, as architects have the potential to bring to project
- Agree that over time, architects lost intimate knowledge of many aspects and now only “Surface treatment” in understanding
- Architect’s disinterest in areas of building lead to others taking away, pass liability
- Quality of spirituality, construction, efficiency, detail
- Trades understand quality in their areas
- Important point, The intellectual pursuit of a project really must come from one person’s head, not a group thinking effort at this point
- The times when a “style” was closely followed and built upon, led to buildings of better “Quality” because kept building upon that style until near perfection
- New “change the world” view of each project leads to washy not quality answers
- Who defines quality for a project?
- Corbu, Wright Had a contractor/architect relation to quality
  Today, it is to improve economy
- Change orders and bidding killing quality in contractors, fairness

1/23/97
Mtg. with J Robert Taylor
- Chance for utility/usefulness, pragmatic side of the thesis
- Future of architecture lies? Computers, robots, where people/architects fit in?
INTERVIEWS

1/30/97
Mtg. with J Robert Taylor
• Discuss Quality
• "Project administrator"
  Historically a project manager
  Goal of continuous process
  Quality in timely manner from inception to completion
• Important point
  Architect needs ambition at front end of the project
  Educate client and architect
  Bring in knowledge and expertise at front end
  We do not do a good job of illustrating our talents and values
• Process, Establish well defined objectives per phase to insure quality
• School, Subjects of time, money, materials, techniques, regulatory agencies are not
  sufficiently covered
• Architects do not get a thorough digestion of precedent study
• Take one piece of the project to a buildable point, window, furniture

2/5/97
Mtg. with Warren Beebe
Real Estate information
• Ownership-Title Questions
  County Assessor’s Office
• Treasurer’s Office
  Tax information, May have exemptions, change farmland to building site
• Zoning
  Churches very liberal
  Issues: Drainage, Roads, Schools, Utilities, Environmental Studies
• Financial
  Mortgage Company
  Campaign funding
  Anderson Base Office
  Possible Day Care, Rent out for other activities
  Tax exempt
  How to buy new land
  What to do with old building, Collateral, Other uses
Interviews

2/7/97
Mtg. with Leonard Wolfson
Distill things to do with the thesis
More hold on the "Process" - Tangible Value of Architect
- Assist Clients with the Site, selection, evaluation
  - Relationship with client - Value you as responsible for success of project
- Financial knowledge and contacts
  - Relations with banks and lenders, "Good Faith" with client
Early Stage Involvement
- Charging for the service, separate
- Real Estate component to your service
- Risk Taking, calculated, regarding investments and services
  - As advisor, trust with client

2/10/97
Mtg. with Eaton Church Staff
30-100 acres
Areas
- Worship
  1000-1200 initially expandable to 2200-2500
- Daycare children preschool
- Adult Activities
- Young people
- Ballroom Fellowship Foodcourt
- Mini-Kitchens in strategic places, convenience
- Classroom spaces
  Different categories, sizes
  Sound, visual barriers
- Office wing
  Private offices and general open pool area
- Counseling centers
- Small Chapel
- Music Spaces
- Technical area
- Extra storage space
Community/Fellowship focus of church
Statement to Delaware county
Hope/Possibility
Campus Setting
  Garden mindset
  Enrichment, enhancement of relationship and experience
Materials
  Maximize glass
  Brick
  Plaster/Stucco
Well defined circulation
  experience of spaces
Maps And Site Selection
Close to SR 28
Partial to site by delta High School
What is Best given these preferences?
Project Site adjacent to Delta High School based on
  Drawing in Community
  Drawing in Students
  Closer to Muncie community
  Large Amount of Open Space to plan

2/13/97
Jeff Madilow
Anderson Church Competition
Initially 3-3.1mil project
Congregation
  Needs Assessment
  750-1000 people f/ meals
  Only space in area
  Foot Print- Circular, Commons at end of existing
    Below Mech, Theater, Classrooms
  Pod Unit for 1S offices
  Commons serve as hub for future sanctuary

1st Phase Design
Arch Renderings and Footprint
Model Common after Willow Creek, Restaurant and Food Court
MEET WITH CONGREGATION AND SCALD BACK TO 1.8MIL.
NEW FEE TO 106K-ARCH
CONVERTING OLD FACILITY 30,000SQFT TO 16 LIVING UNITS
ESTABLISHING LONG TERM BASIS WITH DAUSS

2/20/97
MEETING WITH MIKE DAUSS; DAUSS ARCHITECTS, ANDERSON

PROCESS
• Programming session, Charette with the client
• Program derives from that, Space Summary
• Master Planning
  Typically not enough money to do what is desired
  Discuss options/Feasibility
• What building will be
  “Facilitator” Role with client
  Room Layouts
  Budget
  Architectural knowledge guide
• Presentation “Selling” to Congregation
• Bidding Process
• Notes:
  Repertoire with several local contractors, references, relationships
  Process moving to one entity Design/Build
  Facility Manager
    Campus Setting
    Church-prevent “Hodge Podge” Buildings
  Respect for architecture declining
  Lending Institutions see Architect as a necessary evil
Interviews

2/27/97
Mtg. with Charles Schumate, Board of Extensions & Home Missions, Anderson
Financing/Advising for church growth & expansion

- Church growth
  Requires a Spiritual Dynamic, Maturity
  Numbers and growth point to changes for the facility
  The “Nucleus” of people must be strong and focused
  Building basic function is a meeting space for those people to fellowship/work

View as “Mission” Base
Important to move people with the building
  Not only spiritually, but with circulation and layout

- Property, when to build, what to invest in
  Many groups jump too early-American need to own something
  Time for careful planning and Funding build up

- Rule of thumb: Groups that rush in without solidity in spirit and in plan will never reach over 200 members
- Important Note that the Facility Plays a large role in the attraction and retention of people
  Proactive versus Reactive in the management of the congregation

2/27/97
Mtg. with Rod Bargerstock, Building Fund Campaigns, Board of Extensions and Home Missions, Anderson

- Typically Programs are 3 years
  Shorter- Too much too soon
  Longer- People do not commit
- Requires the involvement of 50-60% of people through Committees, mailings, promotions, visits, dinners,
interviews

- Expected amount to reach
  2X Annual income ex. $120,000*2= $240,000
  - special giving $30,000
  total $210,000
  ave giving $165,000
  Average those two figures $187,500
  Reduction factor .8
  Expected amount $150,000

2/27/97
Mtg with John Kane, JSK Architects, Anderson
- Elements of Facility: Worship, Christian Education, Fellowship, Recreation, Administration
- Quest for the congregation
  What do you believe?
  What do you do about that belief?
  What tools and facilities are needed to accomplish it?
- Design, Variation of theme
  Relation of whole to part extremely important
  Relation of Christ Ed to Worship to other functions
- Sanctuary over 18 rows people lose interest
- Narthex as a hub of activity, "Crossroads" of facility
  Other spaces take off from
Site

The first issue to address regarding the site was where to locate a new facility. The existing site does not have the space needed for expansion, and its location is poor relative to visitors and the majority of the congregation it serves.

The site was chosen to serve as much of the congregation as effectively as possible. Its location, close to SR 3 and SR 28, puts it in close proximity to the local high school, elementary school, and the Muncie community. It occupies a corner site adjacent to the town of Royerton, on SR 3. The site is a point of transition and addresses the town and highway to the east, the subdivision to the south, and the trees and farmland to the north and west. A small creek meanders through the north edge of it, which gives and opportunity for drainage, as well as being a design feature.

"The greatest volume of new construction continues to occur in new and still-developing suburbs where roots are shallow and neighborhood ties tenuous, and where congregations often perceive their mission as encompassing not only worship but education, fellowship, and various programs of outreach ..." (Gaskie, 123)
Master Planning

The client wanted +/- 100 acres for the initial phase of the project. The plan relates to the surrounding town and the automobile scale of the highway by stepping back and leaving an open "green". The "green" is repeated to the west of the building, opening up to activities and the landscape. The diagonal axes from the building, which serve as a separation between the green and parking areas, focus the views of people approaching the building, as well as funneling the views of passers by.

The location of the flood plain significantly affected the relationship of the building to the water. In earlier designs, I tried to emphasize that element and span the building across it. In the final design, only the chapel, set apart from the rest of the facility, interacts with the water. Since no buildings can be constructed on that flood plain, the plan calls for a "scenic drive" along the north side of the site. Pavilion and picnic areas can be placed in those areas to take advantage of views and the water. Most of the large parking areas to the north and south of the new facility will be used minimally during the week. Therefore, parking closest to the building will be "high traffic" normal construction. The rest of the lots will be topped with gravel or limestone with walkway medians to get to the covered axis entry. The lots closest to the multi family housing will be paved and serve double duty as basketball, tennis, and activity areas, in addition to parking for church events.

The safe, semi-rural atmosphere of similar subdivisions was stated as a goal for the housing in this project. The new units draw from the size and density of the existing housing. The southeast corner of the site is occupied by an ice cream/games shop. Similar types of community, market, and family business activities are encouraged along the east side of the site.
Multiple family assisted units (1-4) are planned for the area sandwiched by the existing housing and the small business area. These could be used for people new to the area, older members of the community, people near the poverty level, or short term visitors. Single family units are planned along the south edge of the site adjacent to the existing subdivision. They face the green and benefit from the northwest views from the site.

Issues of zoning for the site will require little more than filling out the paperwork to change them. The county plan commission encourages the development of businesses along the highway, and the church and residential structures can be built with no problem as well.

One point that I did not have time to deal with was that of the sanitary waste for the site. Royerton has no sewer system, so some kind of treatment facility will likely be needed to advance with the project.
Schematic Design

The foremost design criteria for this project were its visual impact, statement to the community, attention to materials, presence and use of light, relationship between spaces, links between the exterior and interior spaces, and how the overall form relates to the community around it.

The design began with spatial relationships and layout. The core of the facility is the multi-purpose area, narthex, and sanctuary, with the narthex as a “crossroads” for circulation and interaction. The sanctuary, to the east, utilizes east morning light and presents a more refined, articulated structure to the town and passers by. It is flanked by “ambulatory” spaces that provide a semi-separation for circulation and entry into the space. The narthex crosses the main axis, linking the parking and the chapel to the rest of the building. Balcony spaces wrap around the interior and overlook the space. The multi-purpose area is a large, two story space surrounded by flexible classrooms. The criteria for the chapel was to capture an intimate, close-knit experience for small events, such as weddings and funerals. It is offset from the cross axis and overlooks a sheet of damned up water to the east.

Next, I looked at the building in section to create a structure that could easily be modified to use throughout the building. The heavy timber truss construction was chosen based on its power in form and its relation to natural materials. Its span capabilities created a unified, flexible space, and the depth of the structure created a canopy transition space that filters light, and blurs the above plane. The linear roof monitor is an important visual link for the building as a whole, it carries through each space, and as a link to the heavens above.
schematic design

isometric at narthex

section at sanctuary

section at narthex

preliminary section sketch

facade sketches

section at offices
Design Development

Refining the design led to four material choices in the building: metal roof, wooden structure and interior, rough concrete block infill, and glass. To mesh the construction with elegance in design, the vertical truss and column members "sandwich" the diagonal truss members. The columns are made up of four smaller columns and serve as light filters for the windows behind as well as providing a rhythm and relief for the exterior. The windows are placed behind these columns to link the structure and the occupants inside and outside.
insulated roof deck

light fixture at column

window sketches

roof deck to beam

column to foundation

facade exploration
final design
reflection

I look back on the thesis project and believe that I have begun an exploration that will last the rest of my career. The initial goals of meeting people and gaining a better understanding of how buildings get built have been addressed well and have been invaluable to me. I have always felt that my future did not lie with a traditional architecture firm. This experience has helped solidify that position by introducing me to other areas, relatively untapped by the architecture profession.

Overall, it was difficult to get a handle on the scope of the project because infinite paths lie in each direction. The dual effort of creating a project in addition to exploring process did not allow me to take either as far as I had hoped to.

If I were able to do the project again, I would concentrate all efforts beyond master planning to the chapel space. It has the same design potential, yet its smaller size would keep it more manageable. I also would use more traditional media in addition to the electronic model. That approach might provide more assistance and understanding of design over the computer alone.

Beyond the thesis, I have grown more as a person in the last five years than any other time in my life. The most important aspects of this education have been critical thinking and introspection.
bibliography


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the little boy

thesis proposal
The Little Boy

by Helen E. Buck

Once a little boy went to school
He was quite a little boy
And it was quite a big school
But when the little boy
Found that he could go to his room
By walking right in from the door outside
He was happy.
And the school did not seem
Quite so big anymore

One morning
When the little boy had been in school awhile
The teacher said:
"Today we are going to make a picture."
"Good!" thought the little boy
He liked to make pictures
He could make all kinds
Lions and tigers
Chickens and cows
Trains and boats-
And he took out his box of crayons
And began to draw.

But the teacher said, "Wait!
It is not time to begin!"
And she waited until everyone looked ready
"Now," said the teacher
"We are going to make flowers."
"Good!" thought the little boy
He liked to make flowers
And he began to make beautiful ones
With his pink and orange and blue crayons
But the teacher said, "Wait!
And I will show you how."
And it was red with a green stem
"There," said the teacher
"Now you may begin."

The little boy looked at the teacher's flower
Then he looked at his own flower
He liked his flower better than the teacher's
But he did not say this
He just turned his paper over
And made a flower like the teacher's
It was red with a green stem.

On another day
When the little bot had opened
The door from the outside all by himself
The teacher said:
"Today we are going to make something with clay."
"Good!" thought the little boy
He liked clay
He could make all kinds of things with clay:
Snakes and snowmen
elephants and mice
Cars and trucks
And he began to pull and pinch
His ball of clay

But the teacher said:
"Wait! it is not time to begin!"
And she waited until everyone looked ready
"Now," said the teacher
"We are going to make a dish."

"Good!" thought the little boy
He liked to make dishes
And he began to make some
That were all shapes and sizes.

But the teacher said: "Wait!
And I will show you how."
And she showed everyone how to make
One deep dish
"There," said the teacher
"Now you may begin."
The little boy looked at the teacher's dish
Then he looked at his own
He liked his better than the teacher's
But he did not say this.

He just rolled his clay into a big ball again
And made a deep dish like the teacher's
It was a deep dish.

And pretty soon
The little boy learned to wait
And to watch
And to make things just like the teacher
And pretty soon
He didn't make things of his own anymore
Then it happened
That the little boy had to go to another school.

This school was even bigger
Than the other one
And there was no door from the outside
Into his room
He had to go up some big steps
And walk down a long hall
To get to his room
And the very first day
The teacher said:
"Today we are going to make a picture"
"Good!" thought the little boy
And he waited for the teacher
To tell him what to do
But the teacher didn't say anything
She just walked around the room.

When she came to the little boy
She said: "Don't you want to make a picture?"
"Yes" said the little boy
"What are we going to make?"
"I don't know until you make it" said the teacher
"How shall I make it?" asked the little boy
"Why, any way you like" said the teacher
"And any color?" asked the little boy
"Any color" said the teacher
"If everyone made the same picture
And used the same colors
How would I know who made what
And which was which?"
"I don't know" said the little boy

And he began to make
A red flower with a green stem.
The architect, once a master builder with total control over all aspects of a project, has over time, become only a step in that process. Factors such as a broadening knowledge base, creation of new trades and professions, and a passing of liability from architect to those other trades have contributed to this situation. My thesis will design a process to reinstate/empower/redirect the architect toward that role of control and orchestration of the building process.

THESIS PROJECT

The thesis project will be the process of defining how typical buildings get built, and exploring ways to redefine and change that process to put the architect in a more influential, controlling situation. As a part of the overall building process, I will produce a building in conjunction with a local church congregation on a local site. The final product will be a precedent for architectural process and will include a master plan with the first phase of building.
**proposals**

**architecture** (är′kə-ték′cher) noun
Abbr. archit., arch.
1. The art and science of designing and erecting buildings.
3. A style and method of design and construction: Byzantine architecture.
4. Orderly arrangement of parts; structure: the architecture of the federal bureaucracy; the broad architecture of a massive novel; computer architecture.

[Latin architectura, from architectus, architect. See ARCHITECT.]
— ar′chi-tur-al adjective
ar′chi-tur-al-ly adverb

**architect** (är′kə-tekt′) noun
1. Abbr. archt., archt. One who designs and supervises the construction of buildings or other large structures.
2. One that plans or devises: a country considered to be the chief architect of war in the Middle East.

[Latin architectus, from Greek arkhitekton : arkh-, archi- + tekon, builder.]

**architectonics** (är′kə-ték-tōn′iks) noun (used with a sing. verb)
1. The science of architecture.
2. Structural design: the architectonics of an elaborate fugue.
3. Philosophy. The scientific systematization of knowledge.

**relationship** (ri′la′shen′ship′) noun
1. The condition or fact of being related; connection or association.
2. Connection by blood or marriage; kinship.
3. A particular type of connection existing between people related to or having dealings with each other: has a close relationship with his siblings.
4. A romantic or sexual involvement.

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Proposal

Dustin Hunter

My thesis topic deals with the process a building goes through from conception to completion. Over time, I believe that the role of the architect as building orchestrator has become a role of consultant and perhaps employee. In essence, the architect has become just a step in someone else’s process. I believe that this process is now controlled by clients, lending institutions, and developers. The architect’s main objectives of creating total quality buildings has been replaced by the “bottom line” financial return important to these other entities. If the architect is to achieve his/her design goals and implement their ideals of social reform and betterment, an understanding of how buildings get built beyond physical construction and who controls it is needed. But beyond that, the architect must become involved in or become a part of that process.

My project will entail defining that process. The physical side will involve a master plan and first phase of building design for a local church facility. This design phase is only a portion of the total which will include:
Research, Work with the local group/client to frame the project, Contact developers and lending institutions to understand the criteria needed to finance and arrive at the design phase, Find similar projects as precedents for the overall process, Define and explore ways to implement the architect at each phase of the total building, program the building and define what will be needed to construct it, and go through the stages of schematic design, cost estimates, and design development.

The program will include: A master plan for the site including future growth, environmental concerns, landscape issues, zoning, codes, and parking. Also included will be the building program including: Sanctuary, offices, fellowship hall, kitchen, classrooms, library, mechanical areas, toilets, children’s areas, choir areas, storage, and activity areas.

The design objectives include: Setting a precedent by defining ways to empower the architect to gain more control over the building process, symbolize and facilitate the beliefs of the client in atmosphere, feel, and form, respond to climatic and site data to produce an efficient, environmentally friendly building, and intimately understand the aspects involved in building construction through the process being defined.

My thesis is based on process and relationships. I have identified three relationships that parallel each other as a vehicle to define a process that puts the architect in more control of the total building process. They include: God and the Individual, The Architect and the Building Process, and the Built Form and its Occupants/Context.
December-January
Research of Church Planning/Financing/Design
Research Role of Architect, Project Mgt., New Directions for Practice
RELATIONSHIPS: Establish Meaning and Definition for this Project
Process Research
Define ways to change/define new Process based on Relationships between Architect and other members of Building Process

February
Begin Schematic Design,
Revise Preliminary Design Process, Establish Criteria, Phases
Master Planning

March-April
Spatial Relationships/Massing
Sections/Modeling
Design revision & Details
Thesis book assembly and publication

The project will be located in the Muncie area due to the high amount of interaction needed to define a building process, but also because the first step in changing the role of the architect is to address the environment we live in everyday, not by designing fictitious projects in a bubble.

My research overview includes: consultants; Rod Underwood, David Mackey, Uwe Koehler, Bill Tabberson, Leonard Wolfson, Builders Tech Design/Build Firm, Arch 451 Research class, and my construction experience.
THESIS TOPIC: ISSUES AND POSITION

My topic deals with how to design a building process that empowers the architect and puts him/her in the role of orchestrator.

Several factors have contributed to the diminished role of the architect. I will explore how and why that role has changed over time. The knowledge base of the building profession continues to grow, which makes it increasingly difficult for a single person, or even a profession to grasp. Over time, new trades and professions have come into existence, each taking a share of the industry. Widespread education has made more people intellectually competent. This, I believe, gave a false sense of equality, lessening the importance of the architect as a needed ally, advocate, and advisor in the building process. A problem lies in the definition of equality. Where the architect understands the history of building, the reasons behind movements, art, and abstraction, addressing environmental concerns, and combining the many aspects of a building in its totality, other professions claim equality in understanding how materials go together alone. This attitude cites the difference between them and the architect is applied decoration and cosmetics. To the average person, it is easier to assign a value to the tangible aspects of engineering or construction than to rate how well a building captures the essence of what it is. If this proves to be true, as I think it is, somewhere along the line, the value of total integration and design is being missed.

The next issue is to address the participants in the diminished role of the architect. First of all, architects themselves have contributed by passing responsibility and liability to other professions. The other, most direct influences have been professions that define success or failure almost solely on financial returns. Among them, I note developers, lending institutions, the building trades (contractors), and in some cases clients. The fact that money is the deciding factor in building cannot be ignored. Rather, this fact will be studied and used to express the value and importance of the architect to a project.

The goal of my thesis is not only to explore, but find ways to address these issues by giving tangible values to what architects do, and outlining ways in which the architect can become involved in all steps of the building process. I believe that by implementing good design, environmental consciousness, and a total understanding of buildings from conception to completion, the architect can become integral to each phase of a building. However, the value of these aspects must be presented in such a way that it appeals to the other parties by avoiding potential building problems, designing energy efficient buildings, and creating more returns on their investments.
My position is that architects have the most general knowledge and vested interest in creating quality buildings. Architects coordinate large amounts of information and ideas, which suites them to orchestrate total projects. The goals of the architect include being the client's advocate and looking out for their best interests, designing for the quality of space and the well being of its occupants, designing energy efficient buildings, and designing environmentally friendly buildings.

Architecture first interested me at an early age while working with a local contractor. While gaining practical experience, I found a love for design and the details of construction. This early experience has instilled a love for putting building together. Consequently, during my high school years, I focused on math, science, drafting, design, and I worked in the construction industry whenever possible. During my work experience, I have noticed apathy and negative attitudes between and towards architects, engineers, clients, businessmen/investors, and especially contractors. I also noticed that the projects I was involved in were segregated. No one really took control or had a vested interest in the quality of the building. This planted the seed that led to my thesis today. What can I do to help the architectural profession and bring together the building process? Thus, my goal is to explore ways to put the architect, who I believe is most qualified, in a position of control over a total project.

Toward this end, I recently interned at a Design/Build/Management Firm. I intend to continue working in the same type of firm during breaks and after completion of my degree requirements. The close interaction and teamwork of professions is an important model to follow.

By no means am I belittling design issues of architecture. Rather, I am defining a path that will allow the architect to apply those skills to the total building process. Ignoring what goes on in the everyday world will not propel the profession toward its desired goals of social advancement and influence. But, by initially addressing the pragmatic, our overall influence will be greater and of more value to the general public.
STATEMENT: RELATIONSHIPS AS A VEHICLE TO DEFINE THE BUILDING PROCESS

In defining the thesis topic and strategy, the vehicle to help me achieve these goals and ideals has been unclear. Through discussion and interaction with my colleagues, I believe the thesis is the sum total of what I am about and believe in, as an architect, as well as a person. As an architect, I have set forth the thesis topic. Now, as a person, I set forth the method to implement it.

My relationship with God is the most important thing in my life. It is a RELATIONSHIP, a one on one, close interaction. While not to the same degree, this parallels what I would like to do with the architect in the building process. Through a close relationship and interaction with the different parties involved, I want to establish the architect as a valuable and needed entity in each phase of a building. I do not propose to put the architect in a role of dictatorship, but rather establish him/her as the orchestrator of relationships and information to bring about a better built environment.
PROJECT: DESCRIPTION/PROGRAM

Because my thesis involves a total process in addition to a physical building, the building
will be smaller to medium scale. I have chosen to work on a church project based on familiarity with it,
the design opportunities inherent to it, and the need for the architect as advocate and orchestrator in
many situations. A preliminary outline for the project is as follows:

Meet with pastor and church members and begin to frame the project of what they might
want
Find a similar project and the people involved, define the steps went through to arrive at
finished building
Contact lending institutions, investors to find out what criteria they require to get funding
Work with them to choose advantageous site (congregation, environmental issues, commu-
nity)
Define the project and scope of work
Define building program
Understand steps to take to go ahead with project
   Site acquisition
   Utilities
   Zoning, Codes
   Preliminary cost estimates
Discuss precedent projects and what I, as architect can do for this project
   Tangible things to show value of architect
   Ways architect can do more for a project without taking liability for every little
   thing
   what can architect do for this project that a “normal” process may not do?
Possible strategies to finance the construction process
Begin the Design process
   Study vernacular church architecture
   Similar precedents
   Implement goals and ideals of church and what it should be
   Master plan site
   Schematic design (maybe a portion of whole master plan)
   Develop conceptual ideas
   Design development using the various parties and advisors for input
Arrive at a reasonably complete solution, including some of the fine detail work
Explore contractual issues beneficial to this project

This outlines the proposed scope of my thesis project as a process. This building portion
will include a first phase of the master plan, depending on scale. I hope to take advantage of the design
opportunity of church architecture, and exhibit the skills learned during my education. I believe that the
design process is extremely important, and am not devaluing it with the thesis. Rather, I will defining
ways to give the architect more control and design opportunity in it.
DESIGN OBJECTIVES: METHODOLOGIES & SCHEDULE

Ten years from now, I want to be able to say that the thesis project was not just "a hospital" or "an airport", it was a crucial stepping stone in my life and career. I believe that a thesis is the culmination who you are as an architect and as a person.

My thesis is based on process and relationships. I have identified three relationships that parallel each other as a vehicle to define a process that puts the architect in more control of the total building process. They include: God and the Individual, The Architect and the Building Process, and the Built Form and its Occupants/Context.

My thesis as a process can be broken down into 4 phases as a means to understand it: Research, Thesis Design, Project Design, and Thesis Completion. In reality, the "phases" will be dependent upon each other in a cyclical way, so research may still be done during the completion phase and so on.

Because the building design and production is only a part of the whole thesis, it may not necessarily be taken to the same level of completion as a thesis that focuses only on that phase. However, by addressing as much of the whole process as possible, this project will provide avenues for more influence and design opportunity on the part of the architect. As a result, the finished thesis will have more opportunity for "design" than a traditional project focused thesis.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 21-Jan. 12</td>
<td>(tentative)</td>
<td>Research of Church Planning/Financing/Design</td>
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<td>Research Role of Architect, Project Mgmt., New Directions for Practice</td>
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<td>RELATIONSHIPS: Establish Meaning and Definition for this Project</td>
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<td>Questionnaires/Discussion with Client (Pastoral Staff), Needs of Future Facility</td>
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<td>January</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Revise Preliminary Program (Outline Possibilities, Benefits Architect can bring to Project)</td>
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<td>Project</td>
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<td>Solidify Thesis Statement and Process (Goals to Achieve)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Review Thesis Statement and Process with Advisors (Finalize)</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Process Research: Akron Church (Gill Tobias AAA Architects)</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Process Research: C.O.G. Anderson, IN Church Extension and Missions</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Process Research: Financial Institutions Criteria for Funding</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Process Research: Developers</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Digest and Document Relationships and Connections Needed to change the role of architect</td>
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<td>Establish ways to give tangible value to architect</td>
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<td>Ways architect can do more for a Project without taking all Liability</td>
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<td>What can architect do here that a &quot;Normal&quot; process doesn’t</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Define ways to change/define new Process based on Relationships between Architect and other members of Building Process</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Review/Finalize Process with Advisors</td>
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<td>February</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Begin to Establish or Continue Relationships with Different Parties of Building Process</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Strategies for Church to &quot;Go Ahead&quot; with Project</td>
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<td>(Financing the Phases of it) (Time Permitting)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Strategies for Church to &quot;Go Ahead&quot; with Project</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Strategies for Church to &quot;Go Ahead&quot; with Project</td>
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<td>(Float Day)</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Begin Schematic Design, Revise Preliminary Design Process, Establish Criteria, Phases</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Site Investigation</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Site Investigation: Zoning and Codes, Acquisition Costs, Utilities</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Select Site Based on Congregation, Community, Environment, Cost</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Master Planning</td>
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<td>Master Planning</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Master Planning, Spatial Relationships/Massing</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
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<td>Spatial Relationships/Massing</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sections/ Modeling</td>
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March 8-16

Visit Existing Facilities: Case Studies (TBA)
Willow Creek Community Church, Barrington, IL
North Anderson C.O.G.,
Work on Presentation

March 17
Mid-Semester Reviews

March 19
Mid-Semester Reviews

March 21
Mid-Semester Reviews

March 24
Sections/Modeling

March 26
Sections/Modeling

March 28
Design revision & Details

March 31
Design revision & Details

April 2
Presentation drawings, modeling, and board production

April 4
Presentation drawings, modeling, and board production

April 7
Presentation drawings, modeling, and board production

April 9
Presentation drawings, modeling, and board production

April 11
Presentation drawings, modeling, and board production

April 14
"Final" Thesis Reviews

April 16
"Final" Thesis Reviews

April 18
"Final" Thesis Reviews

April 21
Minor Revisions & Incorporation of Jury Feedback

April 23
Minor Revisions

April 25
Thesis book assembly and publication

April 28
Thesis book assembly and publication

April 30
Thesis book assembly and publication

May 2
Mount thesis exhibit in gallery

May 5

May 7

May 9

May 10
Commencement
CONTEXT: PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL

The general physical context is undefined as of now, but will be in the Muncie area. Much of the built environment in this area is a hodgepodge of pseudo-style and plain brown buildings. The challenge in this situation is to give the building independence while not creating another competing eyesore. The building will draw from its context and strengthen it by meshing and uniting the surroundings.

The social-cultural setting is perfect to employ this thesis idea because relatively little "architecture" is practiced here. The majority of buildings are bare bones, low end commercial structures built by businessmen and developers with little architectural input. Lending institutions are reluctant to fund anything that differs from the minimal norms. Architecture in these situations is seen as a hindrance to the main objective of financial returns. These structures are seen as nothing more than a generic box for generic activity. A tremendous challenge lies in changing the view of architecture to that of an integral part of a building’s success.

The sprawl of Muncie, especially the North side, has separated and segmented its functions and activities. Goods, services, and activities have been shoehorned and dropped into generic buildings speckled about the suburban landscape. People in the community have little interaction other than fighting for parking spaces and carts at Wal-Mart. This building will serve as a place for its congregation and the community. It will serve as a place for worship as well as community meetings, theatrical productions, elderly care, day care, social functions, sports activities/tournaments, workshops, and classes. The congregation of the church provides a supportive, family atmosphere for each other and would like to do the same for the community.
RESEARCH: OVERVIEW AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

I find that divisions exist between the different trades and design professionals who supposedly work together in the building process. From my experience, and the research material I have collected, solutions to problems and new directions for practice are based on one profession's point of view. Some see a building as the result of a very pragmatic formula. Others see it as a pure theory and concept that is degraded and ruined by actually building it. The points of view from each one seem to be that their way is the best way, their job would be easier if they didn't have to deal with the nonsense and "crap" of other professions, and they only view the project in terms of their "piece of the pie". The architect too, has many of the same attitudes and arguments. It seems that no one is really taking responsibility for the vision and orchestration of the overall project. The Architect, by definition is a person who collects information, organizes it, plans it, and arranges it. The key for the profession of architecture is relationships, and the orchestration of the total process.

Research into church design points to a focus on community interaction and everyday use. The mindset of church as only a place to sit on Sunday is a thing of the past. The
key to the growth and success of the congregation is relationships. The thesis topic and the project parallel each other in this respect. Further research will focus on these ties and interactions between building professions, the building, the congregation, and community.

Hashagen, Werner R. How to get it Built, Better-Faster-For Less! La Jolla, CA: Werner R. Hashagen, 1987


PROGRAM TOPIC:

RELATIONSHIPS: THE BUILDING PROCESS

General
This is the program for the facility portion of my thesis project. It is in the preliminary stages, being based on my experience of the church and an initial meeting with the senior pastor. The existing facility is located in the small town of Eaton, IN, on a side street, next to the elementary school. Initially, it served the Eaton area, but has since grown to include attendees from Hartford City, Muncie, Anderson, Gaston, and Alexandria. A low profile location, several building additions, and a limited site make plans for future growth and expansion extremely difficult. Attendance has increased, despite the building’s limitations, and the construction of a new facility is seemingly inevitable. Preliminary information suggests that the congregation and surrounding communities would be best served by relocating adjacent to a main highway closer to the Muncie area.

Beliefs and Design Goals
The Church of God is based in Anderson, IN, and is a prominent denomination. It believes in the Trinity of The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It also believes that Jesus Christ died for the sins of man, and has risen to bring salvation to anyone who believes in Him. The driving force behind this project is not the building. It is to look at where the congregation is, where it needs to go, and how to get it there. This project is a vehicle to help it get there.
There are many different beliefs and denominations, which create confusion and indifference towards all churches. The Eaton congregation would like to get past all of that “stuff”. Church is not just a place to sit on Sunday morning. The image Eaton would like to give to the community is church as a group of people coming together to serve Jesus Christ, each other, and the community.

Scope
In addition to a new building, the scope of the project calls for 30-40+ acre complex with parking, sports fields and support buildings, playground/park area, and future planning for building growth and surrounding housing. Due to the large nature, a master plan, with building phases will be needed.