duality in architecture

a realization of truth
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[1] prologue
[2] symptoms
[3] variables influencing design

cause and effect design module
[4] case study | one
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This manual is not simply a regurgitation of information previously discussed during the creative project presentation, rather it is a further exploration of the design process. The creative project is only one aspect of the development of the thesis issues. What will follow is a description of the process by which a design criteria was established for the creative project, through the thesis issues. It should not, though, be looked at as an explanation of the creative project. This is a handbook of social design and it should be considered that the issues and methods discussed here can be, with little manipulation, applied to any situation in need of socially and culturally sensitive design.
variables influencing design

many factors in the client's background influence the design process and affect the outcome of each exercise in design. Below is a list that extends beyond the normal scope of contextual issues considered in design.

>culture
>values, or beliefs and rules people live by
>social status
>emotional state, or feelings that affect patterns of communication
>spiritual orientation
>internal experiences such as the biological and physiological impact on how a person interprets life situations
>external events
>family socialization about communication
>relationships
>current context of relationship
>content of message, such as sensitive or emotionally charged topics
Case study | one

**biochemical**
a brain change occurs. an over or underproduction of a chemical typology is culprit. euphoria, anger, fear, calmness, arousal. all potential emotional manifestations of the chemical imbalance. this pathological reaction must go through a process of interpretation. the transition from silent brain structure to that of an agitated state must be explained. the human mind interprets this change as a matter of course. the individual psychology of the subject must find a cause for the altered state.

**procedural**
the set of stimuli associated with this exercise were pre-existing factors of modern society. research of the miami/dade area led to the discovery of numerous agencies that exist to provide assistance to those in need. a thorough list was compiled and analyzed. derived from this list were four categories of assistance. those being: drug and alcohol addiction, sexually related abuse and disorders, social and cultural turmoil, and physical and psychological derangement. to establish a baseline to objectively compare the classifications, a list of hotlines was grouped by the afore mentioned classifications. of the hotlines listed, 12% were drug and alcohol related, 18% were associated with sexual abuse and/or disorders, 42% pertaining to social and cultural issues, and 28% were dealing with physical and psychological topics. this translation of contextual information into applicable data allows for the establishment of a set of guidelines. this data is applied in physical form to the cultural fabric of the site [one layer per need group]. using the translated data, the cultural fabric is animated [in time] to illustrate the local impact. this interpretation of data provides a model of the effects of these epidemic situations on the people of the area. the resulting cultural impact tunnels were one physical manifestation of the stimuli. another {interpretation} may not have had a similar outcome. an individual interpretation [one of many possible outcomes]. participants, in viewing this event, [atypical] must associate themselves with a cause for this change[shift] in the cultural fabric. a rationalization.

**fabrication**
the form generated by the interpretation of data was translated into architectural form [i.e. the cultural impact tunnels]. this undulating form stretches from north to south on the site. in the translation of the materialized form into architectural space, the cultural impact tunnels were evaluated and then trimmed to an appropriate mass in relation to that of the site. the resulting form emerges from the site in an evolutionary manner.
...drug and alcohol related_9 of 72 listings [12%]...

...sexual abuse and/or disorders_13 of 72 listings [18%]...

...physical and psychological topics_20 of 72 listings [28%]...

...social and cultural issues_30 of 72 listings [42%]...
Case Study | Two

**Biochemical**

An association has been made between the emotional embodiment of the altered state and the physical surroundings of the subject. From this point on, in the presence of stimuli similar to those existing in the precedent incident, the brain will reproduce an emotional reaction or sensation reflective of that exhibited in the previous situation. This reflection may be unwanted by the mind, but the brain doesn't care.

**Procedural**

This change in the cultural fabric is noticed. An association is made between the formulated stimuli data and its repeated validity in the exercise. These figures [a reservoir tapped again and again] become the link between built form and context. The connection established between cultural issues and their relevance is now evident. Each viewing summons truth, whether welcomed or not. A reflection on the emotions present at the first viewing as new manifestations arise from the folds of humanity [cultural impact tunnels]. The spectator is thrown back to the original interpretation. The furnace linger, or at least the mind thinks so. Manipulation of the psyche. The initial interpretation is in the mind, working as a slave to itself. The redundant use of the data emphasizes the predominate nature of the issues. These issues continue to influence the physical form. Representations of space in volumetric terms and the location of said spaces are determined by the [eminent] data. The dependency values used in the formation of the folds of humanity are translated to determine the amount and location of physical space on the site.

**Fabrication**

An initial volumetric value was assigned to pre-formulated space [the four main situational nodes] for programmatic purposes. As the project evolved and the data derived the final associations, the volumetric capacity shifted from 18,000 cubic feet per situation to a given percentage of the overall 72,000 cubic feet baseline. This adjustment allowed more dominant situations to service more people, absorb more information, train more volunteers, and collect more data. The spatial dependency on the original formulated data is clearly evident.
cultural impact tunnels

cultural impact tunnels and built space

sectioned building shell
information is filtered through the facility similar to the way in which a neuron in the human body passes along. Information data enters the facility through the computer terminal stations. It is then passed onto the data collection and research areas. Useable information is then passed onto the public through digital media located in the public sector of the building. This filtering ensures that client sensitive information is processed discretely and wasteful information does not cloud the public's view on the issues at hand.

One space folds onto another; here is always visible from there. These two fundamental qualities formed the basis for the circulation design within the facility. At no point except within the self-realization chamber do you question where you have been. The path is always evident. This circulation pattern forces the user to reflect upon the path they have chosen to take.

each space supports the others; similar to the neural flow model. The adjacencies diagram shows importance based relationships. Areas of high importance are located in close proximity as relational importance dies off. The massing decreases.

Community involvement can suppress the evil within itself to initiate this. A large portion of the facility is dedicated to informing the public. Still, video and digital displays will invoke humanity to correct itself.

As much as the public sector is expected to participate, there are certain issues too sensitive for public display. As the neural flow model illustrates, data is collected, interpreted, and distributed from this region of the facility.

The public and private zones together bond each with the other; those taking part in client sensitive research can witness the results of their efforts in the public sector. Community participants understand the importance of the issues at hand. By the simple segregation of themselves from the rest of the building.
biochemical

This change is affecting the intrinsic activity of the subject. The mind is still asking why. A phobia is developed associating the biochemical event with the events of the physical world.

procedural

The viewer is curious as to why the form evolved as it did. Inherent is the knowledge that "the architect designed it that way," still the user questions the validity of the design. This presses the mind of the citizen [each passing recalls the question. Visual reference is made with an action. A message is conveyed and the emotional flux is rationalized.

fabrication

To help the user associate form and meaning, techniques for mass media display are utilized. Externally, a blatant broadcasting of data informs passersby. Large LCD screens affixed to the exterior of the facility provide a means of information transference. The information is anonymous, but influential nonetheless. Specific types of data include: the classification of incoming calls [i.e. drug/alcohol : sexual abuse/disorders : social/cultural issues : physical/psychological issues], the rate of incoming calls, the percentage of virtual therapy connections in use, and updates on national facts and figures related with the above stated categories. Interior associations are made through the use of still images [representing conflict in time and space, a story is told and retold] each time in the voice of a different individual. The final association device is the self realization chamber. An interactive space developed to dissolve the barrier between victim and volunteer. Intense use of mass media [audio, video, and sensual] will alter the psyche of the participant.
Digital displays convey statistical information, the displays are updated regularly to show the increase or decrease in humanistic activity, these displays are the associative link to the psyche.
warning:

the following is a manipulation of your psyche, the images presented here may be offensive to some. Proceed with caution.

the self realization chamber is an attempt to bring individuals to a conscious understanding of the world around them by subjecting an individual to a barrage of vivid imagery. the subject is brought to a realization of truth; they see the act of unkindness as the horror that it is. through my research in psychobiology similar experiments were found to adjust the behavior of the subject. if a subject is injected with adrenaline or ephedrine, they will experience certain physical symptoms. if, at the same time, the subject is exposed to a specific set of stimuli, he or she will associate the physical symptoms with the sensory experience. acting on this same premise, the self realization chamber is used to ensure that the volunteers who will be working with the victims of certain types of abuse are well versed in the experiences of their clients.
a realization of truth...

of the issues at hand the user's world

interrupted for a glimpse of reality
the building is simply a host to the design method in this case secondary an experiment in design with results predicted yet
unexpected technology arose from the folds of humanity, but did not hover above it in dictatorship. Rather, one aided the
other in an attempt to improve society. a message to us as individuals.
REFERENCES:


DEDICATION:

"I spit on your grave"