

## **Boat Building as a Tectonic / Material Transformation:**

*Prof: Paul Lukez*

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### **Assignment: Developing a Tectonic Language for an Entrance Hall / Pavilion**

#### **Program:**

Design a pavilion, whose primary purpose is to exhibit a 1/6<sup>th</sup> scale replica of the Reliance, the 1903 America's Cup defender. The model is approximately 33 ft long and 33 feet tall. The space (approximating 2000 SF) should also include visitor information, a ticket counter, and a reception / sitting area. The museum has a collection of flags and banners representing international participants in the America's cup. You have the option of integrating the display of these banners if you so choose.

#### **Pedagogical Goals:**

This initial exercise is designed to provide you with an introductory exploration of a wide array of issues associated with this project and the studio. The lessons you will learn through this exercise can be leveraged as you design the entire museum. Your pavilion may end up being integrated fully into your final project, or you may choose to carry over certain themes, and ideas as needed.

#### *Urban Design / Siting the building*

While the program is relatively small, its impact on the waterfront and roadway can be powerful. Where will you locate your pavilion? What is its relationship to the site's prominent features and landscape? How does it relate to the existing urban fabric? What types of spaces will be created by the placement of this object on the site?

#### *Architectural / Conceptual / Spatial issues*

The program asks you to create a place for viewing a model representing a racing boat of gargantuan proportions. This manipulation of scale, raises difficult questions about the nature of representation, and its relationship to perceptual as well as technical / cultural frames of reference. The Reliance was known as much for its enormous size as it was for defending the cup. What happens when the scale is downsized? What is its significance now, and how might the design of the exhibit begin to address these issues.

As in the design of any exhibit, it is essential to consider the nature of the objects being exhibited, their content, history, and visual attributes. How can you design a space, which begins to heighten visitor's awareness of those attributes, which you wish to highlight? How are they to be revealed to the visitor as they move through the space? And how are they viewed in relationship to other spaces, surfaces, buildings, and landscapes, which may be visible?

#### *Tectonic Issues*

As a central studio theme, we are interested in exploring how one can begin to translate our understanding and awareness of boat building as a craft, into the beginnings of a tectonic / architectural language. What is it about boat building, its processes of construction, types of systems deployed, materials utilized, and their many phenomenal attributes that can be transformed into a generative tectonic / architectural language?

Your task is to be cognizant of this issue, as you develop your own proposal for not only the structure, but also the processes that generate its configuration.

**Process:**

This exercise will be fast paced, and as such you are encouraged to think and explore freely ideas, materials and their assembly. We will start by using drawing as the primary tool to investigate the transformation of materials, tectonic assemblies and the spaces they create. These initial drawings will serve as a vehicle to investigate multiple ideas about tectonic assemblies and the types of spaces they can create. From there, we will move towards building in the studio and shop, larger representations of your design, and the processes that generate your tectonic language.

**Suggested Schedule:**

*Thursday, Oct. 9*

Lecture by Tri-Pyramid  
In- class Drawing exercise

*Friday, Oct. 10*

Site Visit to Goetz Boat Builders (leave at 11:30 AM)  
Second visit to Herreshoff Museum

*Tuesday, Oct. 14*

Mini-Pin-ups  
Review of Drawings / Models

*Thursday, Oct. 16*

Studio / Shop time (PL in thesis reviews)

*Friday, Oct, 17*

Studio / Shop time (PL in thesis reviews)

**Products:**

*By Oct. 14, 03*

Charcoal / Pastel Drawings (36 x 48 min) which describes your concept, site strategies, tectonic language and the types of spaces that will be generated. These drawings may be accompanied by a model(s).

*By Oct. 21, 03*

A mock-up, model (at approx 1"= 1'-0" (scale can vary depending on your scheme)). This construction should depict the construction of your design, as well its spatial organization. Supplement the presentation with any drawings (site, sections etc), which are sufficient to describe your project.

**Due:**

**By Oct. 21, 03**