

JENNIFER MORLOCK Undergraduate Design Work University of California, Berkeley

1992 - 1996



An Adult School, San Francisco

Fall 1994 - UC Berkeley Critic: William Williams

An Adult Education Center



AN ADULT SCHOOL:

The site is located in the heart of San Francisco with close proximity to the cultural center of the city. In an empty fifty foot wide parcel, the typical lot module for San Francisco, the site represents one of the last open lots in the densely-packed urban environment. An adult school could present an additional lure to the area, encouraging further growth of its cultural character. An adult school can be seen differently from the traditional view of education. It is not a mandatory or obligatory regimen, but a place for personal growth by the choice of the attendees. As a result, this school attempts to represent independence of thought and expression of ideas. An open plan based on a flexible grid, the objective of the design is to suggest spaces of program without restrictions. This allowance for change and freedom represents the ideal of education.





GRID AND FLEXIBILITY:

The structural grid acts to define areas of use while also allowing the flow of activities between one space and another. Classrooms are open to art studios and offices are across from the main access to the higher levels. An adult expecting to gain knowledge in one specific area may leave having experienced a broader spectrum than once hoped for. However, privacy can be also achieved in this environment when needed and desired.





WALLS OF LIGHT:

The three concrete walls act to define the front and rear entries and to create a directional flow of traffic through the building. They are also the locations of the stairway and elevators calling attention to the passage upward to the rest of the facility. The walls are analogous to the freedom of expression of ideas that can occur in a learning environment. In addition, light accents these vertical planes, bringing light into the interior and also defining the path of vertical movement through the three levels of the structure.





A Transit Terminal, Berkeley, CA

Spring 1995 - UC Berkeley Critic: Emily Moss 2

A Transit Terminal



A TRANSIT TERMINAL:

In this course, we investigated the downtown commercial district of the city of Berkeley for the entire semester. Transportation is the focus with cars, buses and the BART subway trains running underneath through the heart of Berkeley. Downtown Berkeley is shaped by its major artery, Shattuck Avenue. Tracking the history of the city, a major train route ran through the downtown Berkeley area connecting the town to Oakland and other areas to the north. After the coming of the automobile, the train tracks gave way to pavement and Shattuck Avenue. As a result of the original configuration of the tracks, Shattuck Avenue today is very wide for a street of its type and use. Instead of binding the area together, the street splits the two sides apart. In addition, Shattuck splits into two separate streets creating two conflicting grids disturbing the organization of the City. As a result, the downtown area suffers,

lacking a sense of place or unity. It is not a center for the city as it should be, but instead is a wayside for those traveling through, not a destination. The preliminary study of the transit terminal was spent in groups of three. In this design, Shattuck Avenue was reorganized by widening the central median, breaking up the width of the street. The bus stops are brought to the center and are connected to a covered walkway and waiting area that runs the length of the center medians. In addition, the main BART station entry is also moved to the central space. Every attempt is made to encourage pedestrian traffic to the center of the street and thereby increase the vitality of the area. A sculptural focal point was created at the intersection of the two grids north of Center Street, in view of those exiting the BART station.



FINAL INVESTIGATION:

Following the group study of downtown Berkeley, we continued the investigation individually. The central issue of this project has been to create unity in the commercial district of Berkeley and to create a focal point of interest that will encourage people to the area. The design attempts to produce a sense of place in the Shattuck district as well as to present a link to other areas such as the UC Berkeley campus.





DIRECTIONAL WALLS:

The walls that are central to this design are derived from the geometry of the site; the intersection of the two grids of Shattuck Avenue. The intersection of the two grids form a natural focal point near the intersection of Center Street and Shattuck Avenue. The walls act as directional devices representative of the constant movement of people into and out of downtown Berkeley. The vertical planes act to pull you into the site as well as push you out to the rest of Berkeley. As a result of the intersection of the two grids, the walls create a sense of convergence and a sense of divergence simultaneously.







SECTION 2





Multi-Family Housing, San Jose, CA

Spring 1996 - UC Berkeley Critic: Daniel Solomon

Communications Hill



COMMUNICATIONS HILL:

The site is located on Communications Hill in San Jose, CA two to three miles from the downtown area. It is one of the few undeveloped areas in the valley and it also plays a prominent role in the landscape. In contrast to the decentralizing force of suburban sprawl that is plaguing San Jose and much of California, Communications Hill is an attempt to create a dense urban neighborhood full of vitality and community spirit. A rectilinear grid of streets is the organizing force behind the general plan. The interaction between this grid and the hilly terrain will give the area its character much like existing neighborhoods such as Telegraph Hill in San Francisco.





THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

The focus of this study is the Curtner Neighborhood, a small portion of the eventual 60 acre development. Focusing on one prototypical block, we studied the possibilities for two rows of townhouses with a common alleyway on a cross-sloping site.





TYPICAL SECOND FLOOR PLAN (9 UNITS)

THE BUILDING TYPE:

There are a total of four building types in this typical block of Curtner neighborhood. The goal was to allow a variety of building types in order to appeal to a greater number of people. The two corner housetypes were designed by my partner, Misun Lim. Both are three stories in height, one is a two bedroom accommodation and the other has four bedrooms. These two buildings form a single building on the ends of the block, acting as anchors in the sloping street.

There are two midblock building types that were my focus. Both are two story, three bedroom dwellings, one with the bedrooms above and living below, and the other with the living above and the bedrooms below. Both midblock housing types make use of a tan





SECOND FLOOR



THIRD FLOOR













LONGITUDINAL SECTION

CROSS SECTION

