

SEMESTER 6 Design Process Module AR0602

COURSE OBJECTIVE

Understanding the holistic theory to conceptualize larger goals and work out details. The relationship between parts and the whole they make, in the design process will be shared with students by studying the role of details in the architecture of repute. They will, for an example, create diagrams and posters to appreciate the works of Kahn, Fathy, Zumthor etc.

CONTENT FOR THE MODULE

Study details in nature and traditional architecture and that of master designers. And learn how to develop their own design as narratives.

LEARNING OUTCOME

Students will have a fresh approach for detailing of a previous design.

REFERENCES

Books:

1. McKay's Building Construction, William Barr McKay
2. Building Construction Illustrated, Francis, Ching, D K

EXERCISE 1.

Tutorial based learning of how to make excellent presentation views/panels on ArchiCAD and how to utilize the maximum capacity of the software.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

These softwares not only enable students to explore finer technical detail, also simultaneously develop creative representation skills.

Methodology :

Students picked up a tutorial where all possibilities of exploring the software were engaged. Modelling, material application, rendering, sciography etc. were explored in detail and through the tutorial they learned how to refine their approach.

STUDENT'S WORK



EXERCISE 2.

Writeup on 'Experience' based on the visits to Architectural examples from Auroville.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Narration is an integral part of design experience. The students were asked to write about their architectural experience from a building they visited during visit to Auroville. This exercise would enhance their writing skills, narration and more importantly to improve upon architectural vocabulary.

METHODOLOGY :

The students were asked to explain their experience of two buildings from Auroville, and write about it .

STUDENT'S WORK

Nandanam School

The building stands out with its sober elegance and has a clear distinguishable entrance. The size and scale of the entrance seems appropriate for the building. As I move further in the building, space is talking more of in and outside of the building. It is perceived because of the existence of light. The day lighting draws my attention to the texture and color. Also it lit up the entire space where the sense of openness awakens in my mind. The courtyard is soothing and calm. Listening to the music of nature includes the chirping of birds and rustling of leaves which have a profound effect on me. It means that there is a great involvement of nature in the building. Apart from material, day lighting and space designing there comes an integral element known as color. The role of color on the columns is not for aesthetic purpose but it generates sensory perception. Human emotions are reflected on the kind of the color we use.

Cottage Restaurant

The building is blended with the busy road and introduces itself with modern materials and construction. With the uniform facade, there is an absence of visible light from where we enter. Apart from quality and quantity of light there also exist degree of depth of shadow. The courtyard usually makes the space lit but there is lack of day lighting because of the bamboo grown in the middle of the courtyard. The ray of light falling on staircase guides me to go upstairs. On the upper floor, the grid of vertical and horizontal members, the kind of openness and the scale of courtyard emphasize the height of the building and peace takes place. The use of concrete adds depth and contrast to the space. The design is focused more on functionality rather than giving importance to aesthetics.

EXERCISE 3.

Taking the exercise 2 further ahead, the students were asked to prepare sketches showing Spatial Perception of the buildings they have explained in the previous exercise.

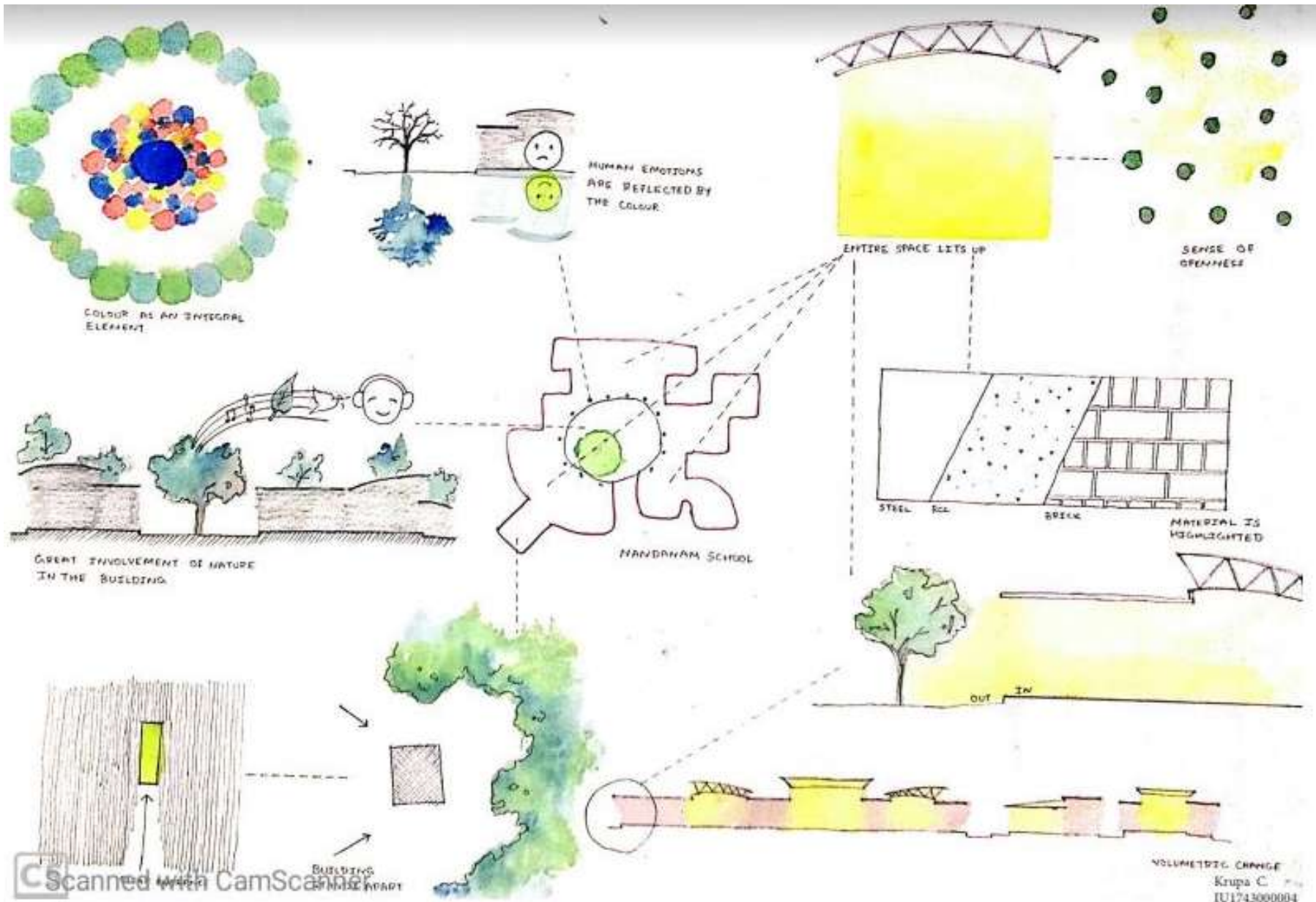
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Alongwith narratives, perceptive sketches and spatial experience play an important role for an architect to explain their designs. This exercise taking ahead the idea from the previous one would complement to the narrative.

METHODOLOGY :

The students were asked to draw spatial experience perceptive sketches to depict what they experienced in a particular space. This could be abstract, or combination of realistic space definition with experience illustrated in the best medium possible.

STUDENT'S WORK: Exercise 3



EXERCISE 4.

Developing final design brief and project proposal.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Based on their experience and understandings from the case studies and site visits, the students explored possibilities of different programmatic functions that could be inserted in Auroville. Here the main takeaway was to respond to immediate site and overall context of Auroville and to come up with an idea of a building which blends in with the environment.

METHODOLOGY :

Based on their experience in Auroville, the students were asked to come up with programs that should complement and blend in with the lifestyle of Auroville. The case studies and the previous exercises became an important tool to achieve the same.

STUDENT'S WORK: Exercise 4

STUDIO 6- Auroville

CAFE & FARM

Latitude: 12° 0' 27.9714"
Longitude: 79° 48' 13.2178"

- Auroville, a township established by Shri Aurobindo and The Mother to create a place where citizens of all countries could come and live together in harmony.
- The township is divided into zones like the Peace area that has the Matrimandir, the parks, and the lake which will be built in the future as per the plan by the chief planner and architect of the township, Roger Anger.
- This is followed by the Residential Zone, International Zone, Industrial Zone, Cultural Zone, and the Green Belt. My site is located in the International Zone alongside the Savitri Bhavan and Unity Pavilion near the crown road.



Legend

- International zone
- Green belt
- Residential zone
- Cultural zone
- Peace zone
- Matrimandir

PROJECT BRIEF & TYPOLOGY

As the site is in the International zone, there are several International pavilions and community centers like the Savitri Bhavan and the Unity Pavilion that attracts several visitors thus, making this a prime location for a cafe. My cafe takes inspiration from the Sustenance Farm and Cafe located on the outskirts of the township. It's predominantly a farm with a small cafe that has a limited menu and serves approximately 80 people a day. But the ingredients for food that they serve is procured from the farm itself. They also change their menu with dishes and accompaniments that use seasonal crops. So the cafe that I envision will also follow the idea of growing the food on the farm and using its produce in the dishes that will be served by the cafe. But this project will have a relatively bigger scale and the number of people it will be catering to and the variety of dishes served will be more than Sustenance as this project is predominantly a cafe.

The edges of the site have thick bushes and trees that give it an inherent enclosure and give it a serene atmosphere. The cafe will be placed on the edge of a water body in such a way that it seems as if it is floating. The slenderness of wood that will be used in halving the roof and the floor above will further enhance it by making it feel lighter. The spaces will be arranged and designed in such a manner that it creates a space within a space. This would let the customer choose a place as per his or her character and preferred mood, which would enhance their experience and make their day. A part of the area that is being used as the farm will be interspersed and the activities can flow into that space as well, giving the user the experience of dining in the open. A part of the furniture of the cafe can be made using the same materials that are being used as walls like C.S.E.S and rammed earth, to make fluid furniture and outdoor sitting.

The cafe would not just become a place to relax and unwind but can also become a place where there can be an exchange of knowledge. Since the cafe will be built in the international zone there will be several outsiders visiting throughout the day, and its proximity with the crown will also attract the residents of the township. This will lead to interaction between the two and their conversation can inspire the outsiders and influence them to become a part of the township. And this would contribute to the overall development and growth of the township.

ENQUIRES RELATED TO THE PROJECT

1. Who is the targeted audience of this project?
2. Why do we need a cafe in Auroville, and is it appropriate for this particular site?
3. What will the relationship between the service and the service space be?
4. Is this cafe going to be different from other cafes in Auroville? Why and how?
5. What are the kinds of food and beverage this cafe going to provide? And why?

ENQUIRES THAT GO BEYOND PURVIEW OF THE PROJECT

1. What is a cafe and why do you need one?
2. How should the nature of a cafe in Auroville be? Should it be any different than the ones that we usually visit?
3. How does one design to give its user multiple experiences in the same building?
4. Is it necessary for a building to have a close relation to the "outside"? And how does one define what is inside and what is outside?
5. Will this project contribute to what Auroville has been trying to achieve over the years? How and why?



Section AA'



Section BB'

