ARCH 484/584, Architectural Design

Summer Quarter – 2014
University of Oregon, Portland
70 NW Couch Street
Portland, Oregon

Instructor: James Cutler, FAIA
The summer Design Studio and Design Seminar will examine and test whether architecture in an urban context can be used as a vehicle to connect humans to the living world that sustains us. Our intentions are to generate an architecture in which all of the forces of nature are revealed while still incorporating strategies that will make the building “sustainable.”

By the use of the word “sustainable,” we mean not only the minimization of energy use, but also the revelation of our connection to the living world. “Sustainable” cannot be sustained if we are not led to love the natural world around us. In our increasingly urban society, that connection, if not broken, is simply absent.

Our goal with this Design Studio is to present a typical urban program on a typical Portland downtown lot and see what we can do to generate an architecture that fulfills all of the aspirations delineated above.

The Design Seminar, which will be led by Lisa Petterson, will be used to reinforce the design endeavor by reviewing design tools and technologies that foster a healthier relationship between people and this planet.
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Summer Quarter – 2014
University of Oregon, Portland
Instructor: James Cutler, FAIA
Format: Lecture, Discussion, Lab work

Subject: The Stark Street Building
This design studio will focus on methodologies of making an urban building both technically sustainable while making sure that that technical reality is not just visually understood but emotionally felt. The project will be studied at the scale of the city, the scale of the street, and the scale of a human. It will be drawn to reveal the nature of its place in which it will be constructed, the nature of the institutions which it shelters, and the nature of the materials with which it is built. It is expected that the students will draw the building in its urban context and will draw details in the human context.

The Land:
The land in downtown Portland is situated on the north side of SW Stark Street between SW 3rd & 4th Avenue. It is a full ‘half block’. The context is multi-story office buildings of various ages. Please note that the street grid of Portland is rotated from true North so that the land gets solar radiation in a pattern that is non-axial to the boundary lines.

The Program:
This will be a mixed-use building.
The ground level will incorporate an entry to an office component and a separate entry to a residential component. Much of the street level will be for retail use. The remaining ground level space will be used for parking access and a service/loading dock function.

The upper levels will have an office component, a residential component and a health club. Also there will need to be at least one mechanical space.

The below grade levels will also have a mechanical space.

Area requirements:
Retail ....... 12,000 sq. ft.
Loading/service/access ....... 5,000 sq. ft.
Lobbies ................. 5,000 sq. ft.
Mechanical ............. 20,000 sq. ft.
Parking ............... 60,000 sq. ft. (as required by code)
Residential (including circulation) .... 130,000 sq. ft. (80 apartments from 1600 to 550 sq. ft.)
Office (including circulation) ........ 20,000 sq. ft.
Health Club ........ 10,000 sq. ft.

Elevators: Number per code
Stairs: Number per code
Height: Per code limit
CX (Central Commercial) zone
The Central Commercial (CX) zone is intended to provide for commercial development within Portland's most urban and intense areas. A broad range of uses is allowed to reflect Portland's role as a commercial, cultural and governmental center. Development is intended to be very intense with high building coverage, large buildings, and buildings placed close together. Development is intended to be pedestrian-oriented with a strong emphasis on a safe and attractive streetscape.
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Deliverables: Street Elevation @ 1/8", Site Base Model @ 3/32", Code Research (including parking), Sun Study and Weather Data.
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