interventions/interpretations on xijie: scenarios for reuse
(a community resource center)

design proposals on a street in quanzhou, fujian province, china
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summer 2005: xijie design consultation activity

- University of Washington students + faculty, WuHe design professionals, Quanzhou planning officials

- using design to assist city planners in negotiation with property owners differences between resident hopes for modernization and government goals for tourism and heritage preservation
summer 2005: xijie design consultation

- community resource center and design clinic
- focus on design clinic as a tool to assist with ongoing change in a historic neighborhood
- community space that also accommodates tourists

photo courtesy WuHe

ktv site
**ktv site: location + components**

- located on XiJie, directly across from east pagoda of KaiYuan Si

- three major site components: abandoned ktv + restaurant, traditional style courtyard house, two-story villa

- components have different ages, functions, materials
physical site design guidelines

- Structurally rehabilitate and/or restore brick facade and villa.
- Preserve courtyard and tree intact.
- Use shophouse and courtyard buildings to accommodate program elements or demonstrations of building technology or reuse.
- Maintain rhythm of bays of shophouse.
- Maintain solid-void relationship of courtyard house to surrounding buildings.
- Maintain relationship of shophouse to the street.
social site design guidelines

- common ground for meeting + working
- repository of knowledge for community reference
- public open space
- engaging destination for both locals + tourists
three scenarios: site design alternatives

scenario 1: gallery + performance space

scenario 2: traveller’s hostel + residence

scenario 3: workshop + design clinic
scenario 1: gallery + performance space

new performance and gallery spaces
existing concrete frame/new infill;
frame defines outdoor gallery

villa reused as guest residence
brick facade restored
scenario 1: gallery + performance space

- accommodates both locals + tourists
- traditional art gallery, but also presents the building itself as a gallery of materials and construction methods
- exhibition of local building craft and traditions
scenario 2: traveller’s hostel + residence

- Villa restored as rental housing
- Courtyard house partially reused
- Old concrete frame/new infill
- New workshop and residential building
- Brick bay and facade restored
scenario 2: traveller’s hostel + residence

- site as a residential complex
- example of how modern residential programs can be accommodated in the reuse of an existing building
- various degrees of privacy within the site
scenario 3: workshop + design clinic

new workshop and gallery spaces

existing concrete frame/new infill

villa under restoration

brick bay and facade restored
scenario 3: workshop + design clinic

- celebration of building process + local craft traditions
- demonstrations + examples of different types/stages of building + re-building
- workshop as a performance activity + tourist attraction
scenario 3: workshop + design clinic

The goal of the community resource center is to serve the various members of the community in different ways:

- place for tourists to learn about local building traditions
- meeting + socializing space for neighborhoods residents
- discussion + consultation space for city planning officials
- gathering place for upgrading resources for residents
reflections + conclusions

- this design project is intended as a demonstration of future possibilities for this and other sites on XiJie

- at a broader scale, this project also addresses issues of ongoing change and transformation in Chinese cities