Cultivating the Community Commons:
Climate, Culture, and Craft

Scan I Design Master Studio, Autumn 2015 [Larch 501/Arch503]

Project 05: Schematic Design / Mid-term Guidance

Schematic Design Peer Reviews	**Oct. 26/28/30**
Storyboard for Mid-term	**Friday, Oct. 30**
Human/Species Scale Details	**Monday, Nov. 2**
Mid-Term Review	**Friday, Nov. 6**

Overview

In the next sequence of assignments you will develop your preferred site concepts into a schematic design, working in your small teams or individually. To help you develop your programmatic concepts, you participated in the "Life, Space, Building" workshop. You have been basing your design thinking on what you've learned about the site from our site visit, guest panelists, and analyses at the district/city, and site scales. You will present this work in the context of your developed schematic design at the mid-term review to get feedback from professionals and design educators.

Initial Schematic Design

Begin to develop your design at the schematic level and graphically represent it in illustrative drawings and models. Consider the design as the result of strategies at nested scales. Test and develop your selected site concept into a **spatial schematic in plan and section**, considering both site and context. For example, your spatial response might consider:

- Movement and stasis, Flow and eddy
- Public Life and Recreation, education, exchange
- Scale, human, site, district, region
- Time (past, present and future), night/day summer/winter,
- Equitable access
- Ecology (human and natural)
- Prospect and refuge
- Sun and shadow, wind, rain
- Metaphor, poetics, politics, narrative
- Public / Private
- Daily / Event
- Porosity / Transparency

A schematic design shows the size, location, and general qualities of a space, in plan and section, at a scale that allows viewers to project themselves into the drawing, moving through the designed spaces
Typical schematic scales are 1" = 20', 1/16" = 1' 0", 1" = 10', and 1/8" = 1'0". The scale you select will relate to the size of your project site.

Due for peer review, at the beginning of class

Monday, Oct. 26 — **Refined Models**
Whole site final model at 1" = 100'
Identification of refined program elements and locations
Team schematic drawing of whole-site proposal at 1" = 30'
Essential spatial diagrams

Wednesday Oct. 28 — **Scaling Up**
A base model at 1" = 20'
Models of your individual/smaller portion at 1"= 20' that fits together with the rest of your team

Friday Oct. 30 — **Schematic Drawings and support**
• Region/City/District Scale diagrams to show your design's relationships to the surrounding district and city
• Site Scale Schematic Drawings of your Site Design in Plan and Section at an appropriate scale, depending on your site and program. Drawings can be on trace.
• Storyboard of drawings you will use at your mid-term review.

Continue to conduct site analyses as needed, and integrate to support your schematic design.

Some things to consider:

- Think out of the box. Use what you know about the district, its history, current use, and future potential, to inspire lateral and big thinking. Constraints are opportunities.
- Test multiple media to communicate your ideas with clarity, fluidity and efficiency.
- You have found the best place to start -- not the final solution, but describe the project as completely as possible so that you can begin iterative improvement
- Develop several solutions quickly, early. Do not settle on the first -- you are looking for the best place to start, not the final solution.
- Show your proposal's relationships with the surrounding context.
- **Label all your sketches and drawings.**

Monday, Nov. 2 Schematic Design with Human/Species Scale Details

Select two species for whom to develop details.
Show these in detailed study sections and plans, at minimum 1/4" = 1' 0"
Relate these details to your overall schematic design.

Due: Thursday Nov. 4 All printed materials complete and printed

Due: Friday, Nov. 6: Mid-Term Review

Your full presentation drawing set would include:

- Your group's analyses and visions (use your existing work as much as possible)
- Diagrams of your site's relationship to region/city/district analyses and vision
- Diagrams that interpret and convey essences of your schematic design, e.g. flows, relationships
- Existing site conditions, constraints and opportunities
- Your site goals and themes
- Your program
- Precedents and best practices- photographs and diagrams of inspirational precedents
- Your Concept diagram(s)
- Schematic site plans and sections at appropriate scale(s)
- Detail plans and sections showing human/species scale
- Perspective views and collages showing character and material
- All drawings labeled with text, titles, scales, and names
- Your model(s)

Your drawing set should tell a story. The narrative should be clear enough for reviewers to understand what you are trying to accomplish so that they can help you, and help you to ask the questions that are important to you. You set the topic for your review.

Consider these questions when developing your design:

-How does it address the Living Community Challenge goals and criteria, including environmental, cultural and social function?
-How does it satisfy the 12 -15 Quality Criteria for good public space?
-How does your design relate to the district, the larger city and regional context and authenticity?
-Who are the partners who could implement your proposal?
-How is your project inclusive of the many Publics that would use it, currently and in the future?
-How does the human scale register in your design?
-What other species are invited into your design?
-How do details help to develop the concept?

Schematic drawings convey a sense of the real place -- e.g. accurate scale, line hierarchy used for legibility, surfaces rendered, shadows convey depth and light quality, color and inclusion of active figures bring it to life. Your drawings can be digital or hand-drawn but should be professionally presented. **Label all drawings, include people in all drawings**, and show topography, drainage, planting, structures, walls, edges, entrances, covered space, groundscape, lighting, furniture and amenities.

Remember that the more work you show, the more feedback you will get. Practice your verbal presentation to be brief, and save time for hearing feedback and comments. Your responses to comments can be an opportunity to understand the critique, rather than solely a defense of your design decisions.