

B.Arch 7th Semester (Part IV) Semester Examinations, December 2011
Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur
Architectural Design-V AR 705

Full Marks: 70

Time: 12 hours

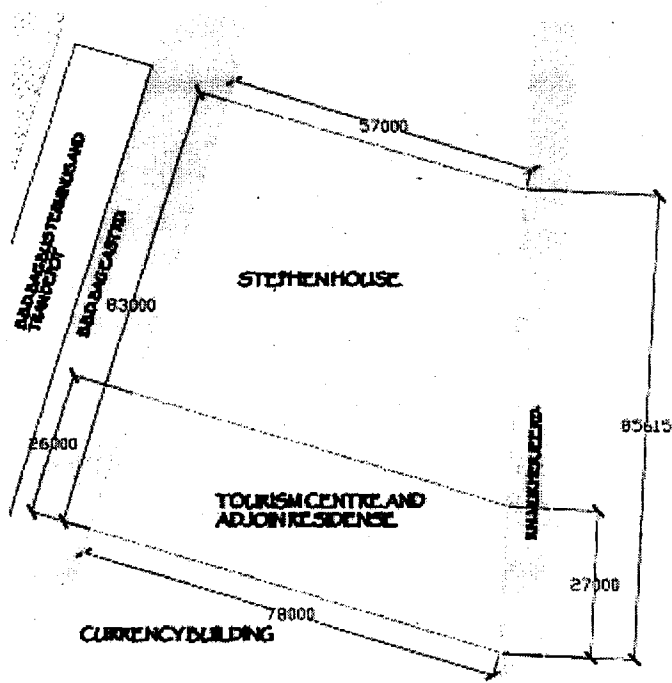
Urban Insertion in BBD Bagh

We are looking at designing within an urban context and examining relationships between buildings both within and beyond the confines of the site. In this design assignment, you will deal with the insertion of a relatively small architectural project into a strong architectural and urban fabric. It is felt that this fabric has deteriorated over time due to various factors, and the objective of the insertion is to ameliorate many of these shortcomings. It is also intended that the new intervention is able to re-imagine the existing context as a means of re-invigoration and re-invention.

A Children's Museum of Art is proposed as the insertion. The new 4,000 square-meter block will feature a main entrance lobby, exhibition spaces, art education areas as well as a restaurant and gift shop. But the connection of the proposed insertion with the unique environment, and how well the solution is in harmony with the environmental context shall be a key criterion for evaluation.

SITE

The site is behind the existing Tourism Building adjacent to Stephen House.



Design Brief: Childrens' Museum of Art

The purpose of the children's museum of art is to display children's artwork, promote children's art education and become the regional resource centre for children's art education. As the target users are children, the architecture shall reflect their innocence and energy in a colourful and diverse expression. Its spatial design shall also echo their bright, dynamic and multifarious attributes. Here, children are encouraged to learn about art and enhance their ability to perceive beauty in their lives, through games, exploration, observation, experimentation, imagination and creative work. The children's museum of art will consolidate art museum education and children's art education. By offering interactive exhibits and

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activities that promote art education, more enriched, interesting and animated educational displays are provided through thematic presentations. The spatial design of this contemporary children's art museum shall give considerations to the following objectives:

1. Creating a child-oriented learning environment
2. Providing diverse learning vehicles and an environment to learn in and learn from.
3. Providing an environment where children can freely explore art and immerse themselves in their creative world.
4. Designing activities geared to various on-going exhibits for children to "play" in – they will learn to appreciate art and beauty by actually experiencing and experimenting with art and coming in close contact with artwork.
5. Planning of all facilities (WCs, exhibit areas, public spaces, circulation, information centre, etc.) according to the scale of a child. The display heights, wall heights, lighting, wall colours, furniture, etc., as well as the way descriptions are written, shall all give priority to creating an environment conducive to children's learning.
6. Providing a multifunctional environment for art education to promote art appreciation and exploration (i.e., guided visual art displays, multimedia learning, information search, audio-guided tours, guided reading, games and creative work, stage performance, etc.).

In addition, the resource centre for children's art education must provide facilities for a library, audio-visual activities, discussions and research and teaching material displays. The children's museum of art itself is to become a source and resource for researches in art education, as well as a platform where art educators may observe and learn. Hence, the children's museum of art is positioned as an "education centre", with the target subjects being children, their parents, their teachers and other relevant individuals, as well as the general public. In other words, it will provide a platform to re-educate all citizens about art. This clear, well-defined mission for the children's museum of art shall inform all its planning, development and implementation. Adults will be educated here about how to identify children's creativity, code language and aesthetic taste. Exhibits and educational activities offered at the children's fine arts museum will be interactive and participatory.

The ultimate goal is not to teach children how to create artwork or make them into professional artists. Rather, the focus is to provide an interactive, experimental workspace where children can engage in creative work and to help them cultivate good knowledge, capacity, attitude and values towards art. The museum will provide children, as they grow up, with learning experiences in artistic creation, help them understand the true spirit of art, and unearth the precious ingenuity that all children are born with. Because children are restless by nature, the museum's design shall avoid hazardous sharp corners or easily overlooked dead spaces. The selection of building materials (especially walls and floors) must give priority to children's safety and be stain-resistant and easily cleanable.

Target users: children and youths aged 2-18.

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The Requirements		
Museum Spaces 3310 sqm		
Lobby	Total area of Lobby: 680 sqm Entrance Foyer: 500 sqm Information Centre: One of 50 sqm Personal Items Storage: 80 sqm Staff Lounge: 50 sqm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lobby shall provide ample space as the main entry and assembly area. It must also be able to accommodate at least 300 grade school students on field trip at one time. The lobby must also offer the flexibility to be combined with exhibit spaces for special presentations as required. Service spaces shall be provided for the following: information center, personal item storage, etc. As the lobby must accommodate a great number of grade school students, special attention must be paid to noise factors; noise-dampening materials are recommended for its interiors. Good ventilation and natural lighting must be provided.
Special Exhibit for Childrens' Art	Total: 925 sqm Thematic Special Exhibit Rms: 2 nos @ 300 sqm/each=700sqm Common Special Exhibit Room: 3 nos @ 125 sqm/each=375 sqm Resting areas: 2 nos @ 50 sqm each=100sqm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be subdivided into "rooms" devoted mainly to the display of children's paintings and craftwork. The rooms must be able to accommodate separate isolated exhibits while also offering the flexibility to be combined into greater spaces for larger-scaled exhibits. Capturing the essence of children, the rooms must offer a bright, dynamic and diverse environment that is conducive to their enjoyment of art.
Resource Center for Childrens' Art Education	Provides supportive spaces for children's art education including: Information center: 1@ 10 sqm Library: 1 @ 500 sqm Reading room: 1 @ 250 sqm Personal audiovisual booths: 6 @ 4 sqm=24 sqm Multimedia classroom: 1 @ 160 sqm Total; 944 sqm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The library will house book collections on art. Considerations shall be made for diverse media types and sizes and varying archive spaces shall be provided accordingly. The design of the reading room shall differ from conventional designs and shall strive to foster a relaxed, comfortable and "artful" reading environment. The multimedia classroom is for group viewing of multimedia films and must accommodate approximately 100 grade school students at one time. Avoiding conventional rowed seating arrangement, the multimedia classroom shall create a fun and relaxed learning environment.
Childrens' Arts	Total: 425 sqm with Childrens' Art Classrooms: 3 @	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide specialized spaces for art education of grade school students and supplement the

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	Classrooms	125sqm=375 sqm Parents' waiting area: 1 @ 50 sqm=50 sqm	<p>common deficiency of such spaces within grade schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must accommodate multimedia art education and provide workspaces for artistic creation (e.g. drawing, handicraft, etc.). • Include: teacher preparation room, teaching material storage, etc. • Must offer the flexibility to be combined into larger classroom spaces • Considerations shall be made to configure the classrooms so that joint teaching is possible. • Good ventilation and natural lighting must be provided; lighting levels must be adjustable to suit different teaching requirements. • The selection of building materials (especially walls and floors) must pay special attention to children's safety and be stain-resistant and easily cleanable.
	Audio Visual Room	1 @ 160 sqm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a space where facility guide, visitor orientation, exhibit interpretation and multimedia viewing may be conducted; must accommodate approximately 100 visitors at one time. • Conventional rowed seating arrangement shall be avoided, and an environment that fosters fun, relaxed family interaction shall be created. • The audiovisual room shall be located in close proximity with the lobby to facilitate visitors' convenient access and use.
	Art DIY Classroom	Provides a space for regular and occasional DIY activities related to ongoing exhibits with one classroom (125 sqm) and a parents' waiting area: 50 sqm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerations shall be given to accommodate family participation in activities. • A waiting area to accommodate parents during activities shall be provided. Good sightline to the classroom shall be ensured so that parents can observe on-going activities. • The classroom shall be located where visitor traffic is frequent and shall be readily accessible to parents and children to engage their involvement. • The classroom need not be confined to the conventional partitioned classroom typology and its form may be varied. As a general rule, its design should foster open and dynamic family interaction and participation.
PUBLIC AREAS		700 sqm	
Gift Shop		80 sqm	
Art bookstore		100 sqm	
Information Centre		20 sqm	
Restaurant with kitchen and storage		500 sqm	

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REGULATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

Kolkata Municipal Corporation Building Rules, 2010

DELIVERABLES

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| 1. Figure ground study showing the interaction between built form and positive outdoor spaces | 10 |
| 2. Ground floor plan showing connections and accessibility between the site and the surroundings showing all landscape features | 15 |
| 3. Floor plans showing circulation and furniture layout as applicable | 15 |
| 4. At least one elevation | 10 |
| 5. At least one section | 10 |
| 6. One three dimensional view | 10 |