

Assignment 1: UTOPIAN DREAM PLACE

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN – ENVISIONING THE FUTURE Eugene | Fall ARCH 584 Gloria



This proposal calls for a cluster of many tall towers

The main problem that our group considered urban development is facing should be “overpopulation”. To solve this problem, let’s take a look at SOM&SANAA’s proposal for the new WTC competition held in 2002. The project they designed was called “A Vertical City in Lower Manhattan”.

1. Describe the vision or ethos.

Vision of this building is to build a place that can make full use of the land source and create a public space that benefit both New Yorkers and tourists, meanwhile showing respect to the historical site of past WTC.

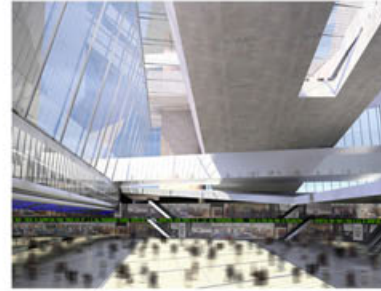
2. Diagram the most useful relationship in plan and section.

~ Relationship to nature.



The initial design purpose of rebuilding the place is to form a “undisturbed memorial park”.

A transit station is built between Greenwich and Church Streets, which forms a place full of sunshine in the corner of the site.



A reflecting pool was built on the site of former building, to show respect, also provide light into underground space.



At night, light underground reveals from glassy pool and add interaction between park and station.

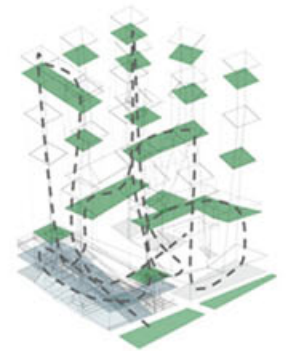


Park on the top of building collection forms a mark of Lower Manhattan’s skyline and provide a place for public.



~ How interaction is encouraged and privacy is maintained.

“The vertical city” is aiming at building a place not only for community and tourists, but also for New Yorkers, it’s forming a circulation for tourists without disturbing office workers inside while provides green space for multiple use.



~ Project Source.

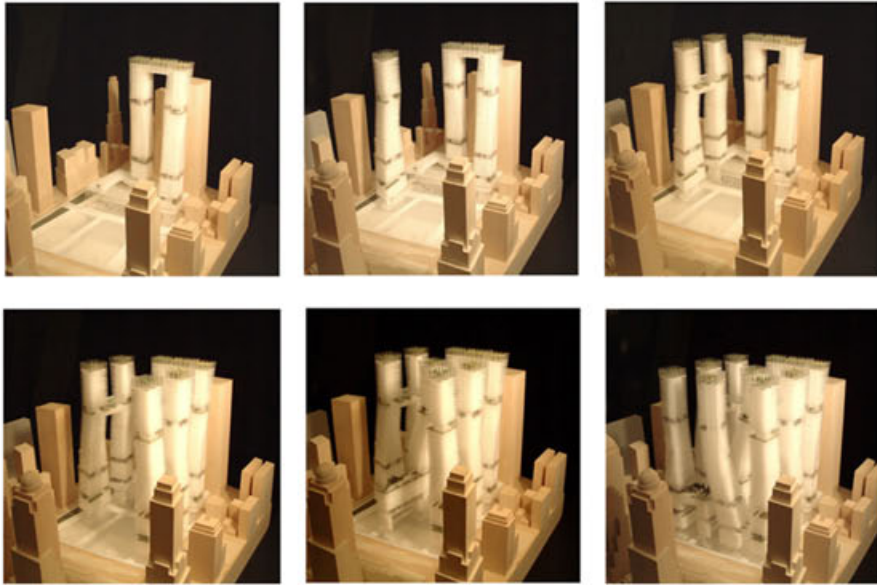
The city, as one finds on history, is the point of maximum concentration for the power and culture of a community.

---Lewis Mumford.



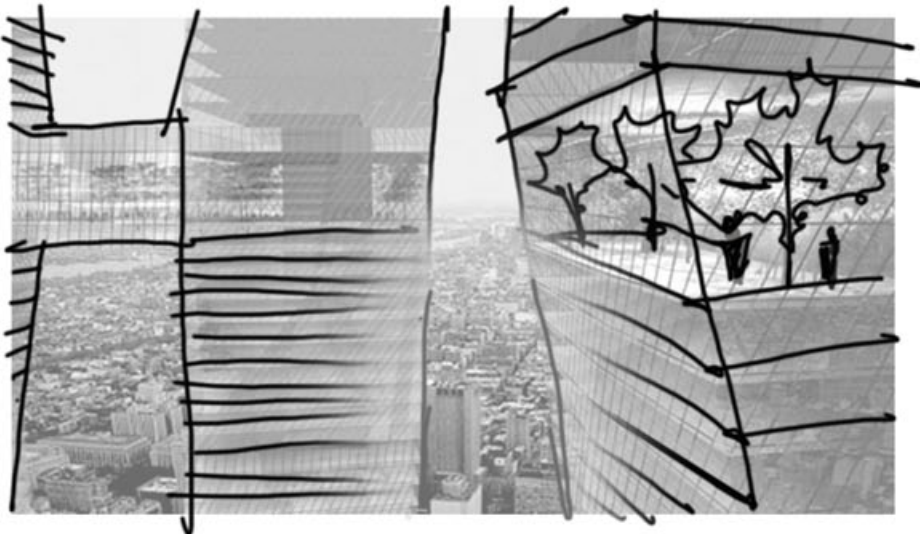
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To really form a place for public and make full use of the site, a collection of skyscrapers are designed to be built on the ground. It is a city complex made of sky gardens, museums, libraries, and other cultural spaces. There are also horizontal connections between each tower, complete by bridges and outdoor terraces.

3. Is there one really great space? Draw it to scale to understand how to built and vegetative is maintained.



4. In the language of the Evolo competition, can you identify a way that the community responds or adapts to its natural environment? If not, how could it be changed to do so?

Yes, the community is responding to its natural environment.

Although the New WTC is built to face the problem of high density in the whole area, designers are also considering about adding sustainable factors to the building and make it adapt to surrounding area-- not only to natural factors, but also human society.

"The main idea is that the architecture supports public and cultural space, the specific shapes are works in progress. All buildings are shaped for the greatest public good, each dynamically enhances views, connections, light, and seeks to lessen the impact of wind and sound."---SOM

The proposal of SOM tried to reach a purpose of double the area of the site-- they use the land to build, and return them twice to public. These land can not only be used for commercial uses, but also can be places that hold cultural activities. It does this with the greatest efficiency, economically and environmentally. Retail for public, green spaces for public, the New WTC provides more than adequate for public good.

"The green spaces at the various public strata act as natural systems promoting the exchange of carbon for oxygen. The program as a whole, by virtue of its water feature, is self-reliant, recycling the precious resources of water as well as functioning as heat exchanger diminishing energy costs throughout the project as well as moving beyond 'sustainability' and will be a power contributor to the city. This is a paradigm for the future, and has never really been done on this scale before."---SOM

When the New WTC come to real, it is going to be another land mark and be one part of the skyline in lower Manhattan. What we can learn from this project is the idea of "Vertical City" and the way SOM consider for public good also the way they show respect to nature and also the way they try to bring people as close as possible to nature.

REFERENCES

<http://www.thecityreview.com/wtcnew2.html>

http://www.renewnyc.com/plan_des_dev/wtc_site/new_design_plans/firm_c