Catalyzing Tourism: Through Integration of Cultural Heritage

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Thesis Problem Statement

How can architecture reflect a region’s cultural heritage and work as a catalyst for tourism?
Resort-style Hotel and Spa
In today’s world people travel for many reasons. Whether they are traveling for business, family or pleasure, most will arrive at a type of lodging. Countless accommodations today are mass produced “cookie cutter” type buildings. These tend to have a large disconnect from the community and site, which suppress the local sense of place. One of the greatest aspects of traveling is the magic of discovering new places, cultures and creating memories.

Our built environment can play a pivotal role in how we experience and perceive a place. A well designed environment can create a unique user experience that opens up to the local heritage, culture, environment and activities. By doing this, the visitors are allowed to connect with the region and experience the city’s true essence.

Currently, an increase in tourism directly causes an increase in hotels. But this thesis explored how to reverse this role and use architecture as a catalyst for tourism. I developed an architectural model that works in tandem with the site and culture of the city in an effort to help stimulate local tourism.
Site Selection
Site-Photos
Local Building Materials
Structure and Material Pallet
Process
Section Cut of Falls

Process
Final Design
Resort Master Plan

1. Welcome Center
2. Restaurant
3. Wellness Center
4. Cabin Courtyard/Pool
5. Resort Pool
6. Bike Trail
7. Big Sioux River
8. Falls Park
9. Queen Bee Mill Ruins
10. Overlook Cafe
11. Falls Park Visitor Info Center
12. Resort Parking
Welcome Center-Floor Plan

Welcome Center Legend

1. Storage - 248 sq ft
3. Sundree - 929 sq ft
4. Lobby - 2011 sq ft
5. Front Office - 153 sq ft
6. Laundry - 201 sq ft
7. Housekeeping - 684 sq ft
8. Grounds/Maint. - 498 sq ft
1. Lobby/Waiting - 712 sq ft
2. Kitchen - 1044 sq ft
3. Mech. - 465 sq ft
4. Bar - 1042 sq ft
5. Banquet Room - 602 sq ft
6. Dining - 2092 sq ft
7. Enclosed Dining - 670 sq ft
8. Patio
Restaurant Legend

9. Conf. - 540 sq ft
10. Event Space - 1022 sq ft
11. Circulation - 1028 sq ft
12. Storage - 124 sq ft
Restaurant - Outdoor Patio
Wellness Center Legend

1. Lobby/Circulation - 2537 sq ft
2. Mech. - 869 sq ft
3. Sauna - 261 sq ft
4. Steam Room - 259 sq ft
5. Couple Massage - 232 sq ft
6. Massage - 170 sq ft
7. Pool Equip - 212 sq ft
8. Pool - 2278 sq ft
9. Fitness - 1658 sq ft
10. Bike Rental - 414 sq ft
11. Yoga - 852 sq ft
12. Racquetball - 864 sq ft
13. Salon - 273 sq ft
14. Circulation - 1038 sq ft
Wellness Center Legend

11. Yoga - 852 sq ft
12. Racquetball - 864 sq ft
13. Salon - 273 sq ft
14. Circulation - 1038 sq ft
Wellness Center-Resort Pool
One Bedroom One Bath Cabin - Floor Plan

1 Bed Cabin Legend

1. Living/Kitch. - 233 sq ft
2. Bedroom - 89 sq ft
3. Bathroom - 54 sq ft
2 Bed Cabin Legend

1. Living/Kitch. - 233 sq ft
2. Bedroom - 88 sq ft
3. Bedroom - 84 sq ft
3. Bathroom - 54 sq ft
Three Bed/Loft One Bath Cabin-Floor Plan

3 Bed Cabin Legend

1. Living/Kitch. - 384 sq ft
2. Bedroom - 88 sq ft
3. Bedroom - 85 sq ft
4. Bathroom - 55 sq ft
5. Loft/Bed - 108 sq ft
- Roof overhang allows low winter sun in and shades during the summer
- Southern exposure allows for solar gain and natural daylighting
- Operable clearstory windows provide natural ventilation
- Local quartzite wall provides thermal massing
- Radiant floor heating provides comfortable and evenly heated spaces
- Rainwater collection and storage
Typical Two Bedroom One Bath Cabin-Section

- Low Sedum roof provides good insulation in both summer and winter and helps filter rainwater
- 2 x 6 insulated exterior stud walls
- Natural wood siding
- Wood louvers provide shade, sheltered patio and privacy
- Local and natural quartzite walls and fireplace
- Glulam beams allow open spaces and provides main structural support
- 2 x 6 wood rafters
- Concrete foundation wall and footing
- Exterior Vertical Wood Siding
- Exterior Sheathing
- 2x6 Stud Wall
- Radiant Floor Heating Elements
- Reinforced Concrete Slab
- Compacted Granular Fill
- 2x6 Sill Plate
- Compacted Back Fill
- Foundation Water Proofing
- 8” Concrete Foundation Wall
- Concrete Footing w/3 #5 Cont. Rebar
- Perimeter Drain
Detail - Sedum Roof

- Sedum Roof Vegetation
- Green Roof Substrate
- Drainage Layer
- Vapor Control Layer
- Insulation
- Sub Roofing
- Rain Water Collection Gutter
- Glulam Roof Beam
- 2x8 Header
- 2x6 Top Plate
- Exterior Vertical Wood Siding
- Exterior Sheathing
- 2x6 Stud Wall
Typical One Bedroom Cabin
Typical Three Bedroom/Loft
Cabin Courtyard
Thank You

Questions, Comments?