Bully Pulpit Clubhouse and Retreat

Medora, North Dakota

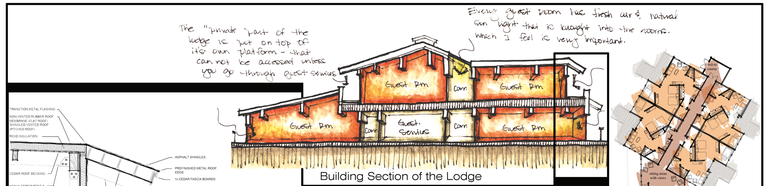
Historic Medora is a unique mix of spectacular scenery, wildlife, outdoor adventure, entertainment, dining and shopping nestled in the beautiful North Dakota Badlands. Located just 3 miles south of Medora lies Bully Pulpit Golf Course. Bully Pulpit was designed by golf course architect, Michael Hurdzan. The course is surrounded by the dramatic landscape and is golf the way nature intended. Some holes play meadows, some in woodlands, and others follow the meandering Little Missouri River.

The Bully Pulpit Golf Course was designed in the spirit of Theodore Roosevelt. He often used the word "bully" and so the term "Bully Pulpit" stems from Roosevelt's reference to the White House as a terrific platform from which to advocate an agenda persuasively.

To keep Medora awake by introducing Bully Pulpit Clubhouse & Retreat became an excellent opportunity for that place to become much more than just a golf facility. One focus was to develop a regionally sensitive, "resort type" facility located on a magnificent parcel of landscape. This project has complemented the golf course by adding amenities including a clubhouse, lobby, and lodge that acts as a corporate retreat for business and social events.

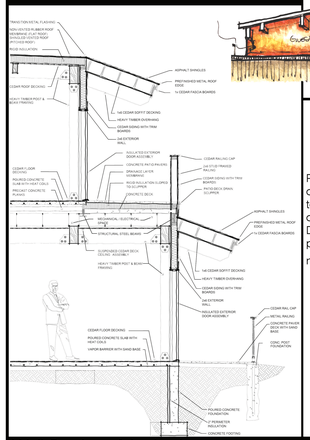
To complete a top notch golf experience in rural North Dakota I introduced a golf clubhouse, lobby, and lodge as a final component to the gem of the Upper Midwest known as Bully Pulpit Golf Course.

Entrance To Bully Pulpit Clubhouse & Retreat



Building Section of the Lodge

Not to scale

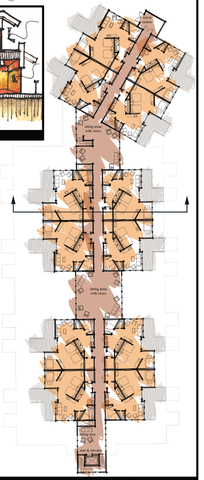


Wall Section of the Lodge

Scale 1/2" = 1'-0"

Design Process:

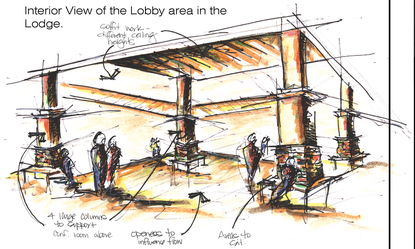
People look to architects to sort through complicated and often conflicting information to clarify and resolve. This thesis project is the culmination of my design explorations . Designing from schematics and space planning, down to how the structure and materials define the quality of the spaces.



Lodge 2nd Floor

Scale 1/16" = 1'-0"

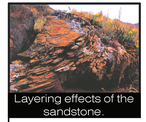
Lodge Entrance Elevation



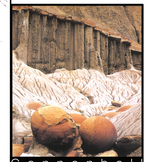
Materials:

In order to harmonize with the natural beauty of the area, native materials should be employed as much as possible. Scoria, a local material is useful for carrying light loads due to its composition and for architectrual treatment. Since this resort is to have a rough, western atmosphere, native-like materials are exposed and used in a rustic manner.

Interior View of the Clubhouse



Layering effects of the sandstone.



Cannonball concrections that appear in the Badlands.

Maltese Cross Cabin with a shingled roof, cedar floors and loft.

View from second overlook to hole #17.

View from second overlook to hole #18.

View from first overlook to hole #9.

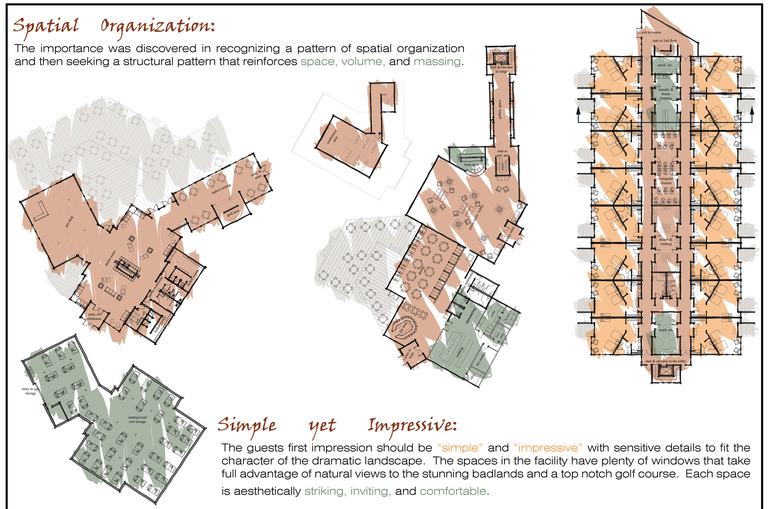
View from first overlook to hole #1.

Site Plan

Scale 1/64" = 1'- 0"

Spatial Organization:

The importance was discovered in recognizing a pattern of spatial organization and then seeking a structural pattern that reinforces space, volume, and massing.



Clubhouse & Cart Storage Plan

Scale 1/16" = 1'-0"

Lodge Conference Room & Lobby

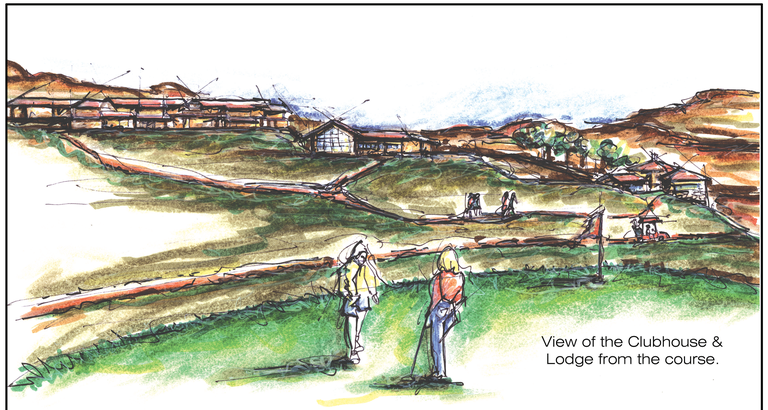
Scale 1/16" = 1'-0"

Lodge 1st Floor Plan

Scale 1/16" = 1'-0"

Simple yet Impressive:

The guests first impression should be "simple" and "impressive" with sensitive details to fit the character of the dramatic landscape. The spaces in the facility have plenty of windows that take full advantage of natural views to the stunning badlands and a top notch golf course. Each space is aesthetically striking, inviting, and comfortable.



View of the Clubhouse & Lodge from the course.