“Hidatsa Ma-giguts-gi Adish”
Hidatsa Language Learning Lodge

Marita’s Spring 2010
Thesis Review
Language is something that defines all cultures around the world. It reveals the intimate connectivity among people, space and time. Architecture becomes the material – a transformation of the environment, whereas language presents the picture of reality. Architecture and speech however, are parallel, and within Hidatsa Language Learning Lodge, the Hidatsa culture is going to be an integral part of the building, especially the words of this nation being taught.
The gardens in the Language Lodge are a place that brings all generations together to learn the lyrics of the Hidatsa culture. Learning how to nurture seeds to a full harvest can be applied to sustainable living strategies for future generations. The gardens also create a sense of place around the Learning Lodge of *aliveness* and *tradition*.
Bridge
“kikomihe”
Connecting past traditional lessons with the present and future generations are the kind of spaces the Hidatsa Language Lodge provides the people of this community.
Materials
“o ptsa ti” (wood)

The Hidatsa Language Learning Lodge is made up of a frameworks system of traditional cottonwood trees. Insulated Concrete Forms made a path with the land and building.
Sustainability

“kitsakiki”

Learning from past traditional lessons of sustainable living will help improve the overall ecosystem of the Three Affiliated Tribes
Circle
“kidahpa”
Providing a space sacred to the Hidatsa tribe where the people would be able to reflect on lessons learned was important for the strength of this project. The circle is a unifying symbol that binds the people together through the use of language.
“Mah-zah-gih-dats”

Thank You