Matilda’s House

Design Thesis

by

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How does one receive healing and comfort, that is, receive consolation or relief from sadness, sorrow, pain, or worry and receive the strength to hope and continue living? How can architecture respond to this?
Gift of Life Transplant House
Rochester, Minnesota
Connections

- Each other
- Higher Power
- Built Environment
- Nature
Ronald McDonald Houses

Austin, Texas
Transplant Friendly and LEED Platinum

Utrecht, Netherlands
Maggie’s Centre

Maggie’s Highlands
Page/Park

Maggie’s London Rogers Stirk
RIBA Stirling Award 2009

Maggie’s Dundee
Frank Gehry
Partí

Connections + Balance

Even in the heat of hardship
Movement
Feng Shui

- Inseparably linked to our environment

- Encourages the connection between the built and the natural environments
Feng Shui

• Spiral Movement
• Watch Symmetry
• Watch use of high/vaulted Ceilings
• Avoid Long Hallways
Feng Shui

- Critical of Stair Placement
- Low, Clear, Prominent Entry
- Clear Movement and Direction Throughout
Feng Shui

- Human Detail/Scale
- Use of Natural Lighting & Ventilation
- Avoid Irregular shapes and sharp corners
Feng Shui

• Strong, Clear Base or Foundation
• Lighter, smaller top
• Consider furniture placement and movement around
Layout and Development
Space Layout Investigation
Floor Plan Development
Midterm Floor Plans Illustrate Core Walls
Midterm Core Wall Sections

Section

Main Walls work with few small columns and joists.

Section

Light

Atrium w/ elevator & hearth

Ventilation

Main Wall = Thermal Mass

Operable Windows

Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing housed in main walls
Structural Exploration
Sections Revealing Core Walls
Floor 3
Living Room
Floor 1
Kitchen & Dining Room
Atrium Cut
Floor -1
Floor 2
Sections Revealing Core Walls
Malcolm Wells Green Roof Detail

- **Plants**
- **1/2" Plywood**
- **2x4 1-1/2" o.c. Parapet Wall**
- **2x4 Sleepers 1-1/2" o.c. adhered to roof membrane with roofing cement**
- **Roof membrane and root control layer**
- **Standard steel flashing**
- **Rigid insulation**
- **1-1/2" wide flange steel framing**
- **3/4" exterior grade plywood**
- **2" rigid insulation**
- **5-1/2" steel stud**
- **5-1/2" batt or soy-based foam insulation**
- **5/8" painted gypsum board**
- **5-1/2" steel stud**
- **Copper panel siding**
- **Window spacer**
- **Backer rod and seal**
- **Window frame**
Materials and Details
Living, Gathering, & Activity Spaces
Kitchen & Dining Spaces
Quiet & Meditation Spaces
Window Placement
And Design
Explorations
Matilda’s House