

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN I

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Introduction

In this project, students learn to apply analysis of design with the purpose of developing body, space, form, function and structure. The final task is to create an alternative model of the Denari project. Additionally, students also familiarize themselves with new software in order to create analogue model with detailed floor plans, sections and views. Ultimately, the goal is for students to apply critical thinking and enable them to be more creative with the design.

The task given was to replicate and renovate the construction in the Denari project. Initially, in the Denari project, a company called Details required a “wall” to separate a two-thousand square foot space in Soho, New York, into two discrete spaces with different functions, one works as an entry while the other is a design studio. The “wall” itself operates as storage for books and prototypes and a worktable.

Idea:

First time looking at the Denari project, I found it to be bulky, the space was narrow and did not have many other functions aside from being a wall and storage. So, my idea was to minimize the design using basic shape such as cube and expand the interior space in the construction to give it more function.

Inspiration:

The main concept behind the construction is minimization, I wanted to design a simple, non-cluttered area that people can feel peaceful and relaxed staying in. Given the inspiration from Japanese architecture, I wanted to minimize the design but at the same time keeping the original function as well as broadening its usage. For the space of the construction, I separated it into two sections, one is for storage/ exhibiting products, books and the other is for resting. The main feature that I have integrated into the construction is the cafeteria. The idea was inspired by the Triplex in Paris by Bertina Minel. In that construction, the architect gave a new layout to the kitchen and dining room by separating them with a wall and windows to give a sense of privacy while keeping the room spacious and interactive. In my project, the cafeteria was created for both the visitors and employees. It is offered to the visitors so they can have a private space to chat, relax or even read books. They can also see the view of the studio from inside the cafeteria. Aside from that, it is also a space for the employees during break to have a rest, eat lunch. There’s also a kitchen built in the construction for the employees to use. The other section is mainly for storage and exhibiting arts, products that were created in the design studio. In the original design, the two spaces were not completely separated, especially sound wise. Therefore, in the renovated design, the “wall” was built to be fully soundproof, isolating the design studio, creating a quiet environment.

Structural & material:

The whole construction was created with beams and walls. The outer surface remains constant throughout the length with a slight shift at the end to create a difference in space. Stone and concrete was used throughout the building with some wood furniture.

References:

Koya-no-sumika Japanese minimalist plywood extension by ma-style architects:

[Koya No Sumika Japanese Minimalist Plywood Extension by mA-style Architects - Homeli](#)

Triplex in Paris- Bertina Minel

[Triplex in Paris / Bertina Minel Architecture | ArchDaily](#)

Denari Project:

[1_Denari_Project.pdf \(roboticbuilding.eu\)](#)