THE WALL

WENJIA WANG
MENTOR ROBERTO CAVALLO / HUBERT VAN DER MEEL

COMPLEX PROJECT CHICAGO GRADUATION STUDIO 2013-2014
P5 PRESENTATION
THE WALL
Complex Project Chicago Graduation Stúdio
Wenjia Wang 4244826
In 1994, all the properties were demolished & sold, with foundations of buildings remaining embedded in the ground.
The site has a good lakeside view and even the downtown view which is the only vacancy area in Chicago.
Lakeside

Biomedical/Biotechnical Cluster (Life Sciences)
Research Ability

Neighbourhood

Workforce Development
Attractive Wage

BIOMEDICAL/BIOTECHNICAL CLUSTER (LIFE SCIENCES) on site
Findings: Workforce of Biomedical/Biotechnical Cluster (Life Sciences) cluster, Chicago
Demand vs. Supply -- critical career shortages

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses</td>
<td>6595</td>
<td>1600</td>
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<td>4995</td>
<td>4630</td>
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<td>Licensed Practical Nurses</td>
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<td>Technicians &amp; Technologists</td>
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<td>583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Therapists</td>
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<td>590</td>
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<td>Medical Records</td>
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<td>Certified Nursing Assistants</td>
<td>2778</td>
<td>2726</td>
<td>4891</td>
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The second largest demand and shortage with a predictable larger shortage.

The largest demand and shortage.

Sources: Healthcare workforce - turning crisis into opportunity, Workforce boards of metropolitan Chicago
Low education + High unemployment + High crime rate → Poor Downtown Connection + Disconnection to Lakeside

Educa improvement + Professional training + Workforce development → Convenient Transportation + Downtown Lake View
You find Alcinda, a single mother of three, raising her children the best she can on her minimum wage job at a local supermarket. You also find the many impoverished, fatherless, curious, loving children that run and shout outside my apartment waving to me to come play and laugh with them. Pulling back the curtain and inoculating us against Sox Fever and misplaced emphasis reveals the teenage and young adult members of the Latin Kings who dwell in the criminal underworld since few other options remain in this once thriving neighborhood.

Pancho McFarland
On the west, it is a ‘WALL’, flat, solid, unify.

Programs to make a super campus:

Nursing school & Living city
Structure:

Black: permanent
The WALL,
Vertical shaft,
Adaptable units + central
public pivot

Red: permanent
Essential common space

Green: removable
Dormitory,
Special laboratory
Ground floor program

Previous scheme:
Blue: permanent structure, basement, public
Green: demolish, classroom and dormitory, units
Red: plug in, common space
On the other hand, this typology naturally provides quick movement on the huge flat level and efficient connection from one to another, making this building ‘one big functioning campus’

Ground level puts sports program with rehabilitation services as the most public; Essential common space (canteen, library, art, meeting, auditorium) is put as the ‘void’ on the level above the surrounding; Living space are put on top, its unit nature create the character of a city’s skyline.
These set of cross section were used to investigate the shape, proportion and quality of space inside the building. At this stage, the building was clearly divided in three vertically. And horizontally, it consists of a main volume on the east, a volume of wall on the west, and a space for the routing in the middle. But the definition of the space on the east and the west is still unclear. The dimension also need to be adjusted according to what’s happening in these space.
Section was the first design method I use in this project. After encountering the bottleneck, I came back to the sections. And this time, the routing, the composition of the program volume and their form along with structure were seldomly changed afterwards.
education platform
activity platform
healthcare experiencing platform
commercial platform
library platform

routing with different platforms

Company House   Exhibition House   Conference House   Institution House   Chapel

routing with entrance & special programs
when in short of large rooms

during events in special sections

function in small groups

larger rooms
smaller rooms
pavilions
semi climatical controlled

fully installed
I have never designed any project on such a scale before. And I doubt I will have the chance to do any in the future. I’m glad I have made such a choice in my graduation project. I always believe that to design is to choose value. A design reflects the values of its designer. Skill improving is not difficult. It takes time and experience. But it is hard to carry out a strong statement in a design and keep the process always in line with what is stated. In this procedure, designs have to know clearly what they want. But for me, I’m not always so sure about it, especially when it comes to issues on such a scale level, on such broad topics. Without this rare opportunity, I’ll probably never understand or even inquire the problem I encountered during this project.