AD HOC CONDITIONS

PART

JUNCTION

BY SJIM VAN BEIJSTERVELDT
“Practical adhocism requires paying perhaps undue attention to the parts as parts with consequent joints and connections.”

Charles Jencks & Nathan Silver
A junction can be defined as: "an act of joining: the state of being joined". This single definition already describes two modes of existence: one of becoming and another of being, one is dynamic the other is static. It implies a field of transition instead of isolation between parts. A junction as a constant act of joining, of colliding. The bringing into juxtaposition of elements can create a tension which could make a junction into a collision of parts opposed to a harmonic separation. A junction could also be smooth transitions from for example glass to metal to rubber, without any change of plane or articulated brake. However with this smoothness there coexists a tension formed by the ad hoc accumulation of parts. Instead of beauty and harmony ad hoc architecture is much more about that of collision. It doesn't deny the existence of impossible problems to which no perfect answer exists, on the contrary it articulates them. Collision becomes part of the design as it is part of life in general. Instead of trying to deny difficulties, it makes them subject to an architectural expression.

A joint being: "a space between the adjacent surfaces of two bodies joined and held together". Obviously it is an element connecting two parts. But by doing so it always forms an entity in itself, isolating the parts it is connecting, and keeping them at a safe distance from each other. The joint is a heritage from classical architecture, where it always favored beauty above truth and harmony above drama. By doing so it avoids the collision of parts and therefore it denies the very existence of the problem.

"I put the glass between the structure members and the members which are not of structure because the joint is the beginning of ornament. And that must be distinguished from decoration which is simply applied. Ornament is the adoration of the joint."

Louis I. Kahn

"his first practical step is retrospective. He has to turn back to an already existent set of made up tools and materials, to consider or reconsider what it contains and finally and above all, to engage in a sort of dialogue with it and, before choosing between them, to index the possible answers which the whole set can offer to this problem. He interrogates all heterogeneous object of which his treasury (of ideas) is composed to discover what each of them could signify and so contribute to the definition of a set which has yet to be materialized but which will ultimately differ from the instrumental set only in the internal disposition of its parts"

Claude Lévi-Strauss on the bricoleur

H1 horizontal detail shell 1:5

1 steel cable Ø 20mm
2 steel cable clamps
3 steel cable loop
4 secondary galvanized steel beam prefab shell 100x75mm
5 secondary galvanized steel beam construction Ø 150mm
6 cable conductors
7 primary steel column construction Ø 300mm
8 steel assembling element
9 clamping ring
10 clamping ring fixture
11 rivet for fixture mesh
12 primary steel beam construction 150x75mm
13 braided steel mesh 30x30x2mm
14 secondary galvanized steel beam prefab shell 100x75mm
15 secondary galvanized steel beam construction Ø 150mm
16 fixture clamping ring-prefab shell
17 steel UNP 150x30x4mm
18 fixture prefab shell-clamping ring
19 rivet
V1 vertical detail core 1:5

1 steel cable conductor Ø 50x5mm
2 steel cable Ø20mm
3 threaded end Ø10mm
4 2x fixture bolt
5 steel clamp
6 threaded end Ø10mm
7 steel fixture
8 fixture bolt
9 rotation point
10 fixture clamp-wall
11 empty puncture wall Ø 50mm
12 concrete wall sliding casted 300mm
13 steel spacer fixture
14 fixture bolt
15 steel rivet
16 2x fixture bolt
17 massive steel spacer Ø 45mm
V2 vertical detail balconies 1:5

1 steel spacer wire end Ø 40mm
2 laminated marble tile: glass 10mm - marble 5mm
3 aluminum lamp fixture
4 LED lamp
5 siding fixture
6 aluminum shelf construction 300x25x3mm
7 steel beam gangway HEA190
8 aluminum angular profile 40x60x6mm
9 siding fixture
10 siding hanging fixture
11 laminated marble tile: ceramic 15mm - marble 5mm
12 steel beam HEA200
13 rigid plate
14 steel cable Ø 20mm
15 steel cable clamps
16 marble tile click system
17 aluminum fixture flooring
18 galvanized steel flooring 30x30x3mm
19 combined profile 2x steel angular profile 100x50x5mm
20 steel angular profile 100x100x5mm
21 galvanized steel fencing 30 degree angle 20x10x2mm
"The elements which the 'bricoleur' collects and uses are 'pre-constrained' like the constrictive units of myth, the possible combinations of which are restricted by the fact that they are drawn from the language where they already posses a sense which sets a limit on their freedom of manoeuvre." *

Claude Lévi-Strauss

building choreography

1 excavation of the ruin
2 erection of the core
3 adding of the balconies
4 ensembling the shell
5 closing of the shell
6 completion of the tower