TWO REST STOPS
ALONG THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL

by

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ABSTRACT

Within the next decade an inter provincial trail, called the Trans Canada Trail, will be developed to accommodate non-motorized traffic such as hikers, skiers, horsemen, and cyclists. Anticipating the need for rest stop facilities, this thesis seeks to explore the design potential of two isolated facilities. The focus of this exploration is the impact of landscape on the development of architectural form.

While existing conditions found in each site were recorded and considered throughout the design process, a conscious effort was also made to build a site rather than site plan. This position, first articulated by William Rees Morrish in his book Civilizing Terrain, acknowledges that not every piece of land can become an urban place. Instead, place-making often requires willful acts of change in order to enhance or more effectively reveal its existing qualities. This position opposes the current attitude fostered by the environmental movement that all landscapes should remain untouched.

The two sites selected were both located in western Canada: one on the eastern shore of Lake in southern British Columbia and the other in a farmer's field near Milk River in southern Alberta.

This thesis traces the discoveries and attempts made to locate a center, develop an arrival sequence and insert an architectural form into the experience of the landscape. Both sites were explored simultaneously, reaching a similar level of resolution, at which point the British Columbia site was dropped and the prairie site was developed further. The Alberta site then became the developed body of the thesis.
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View looking north/east toward the Rocky Mountains
British Columbia Site - Texture of Landscape
Earth cut reveals composition of the soil
British Columbia Site - Texture of Landscape
Bark of coniferous tree
Alberta Site - Site Photo
View looking south west toward Sweetgrass Hills
Alberta Site - Texture of Landscape
Stacked hay bales
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To the extent that the following is a correct transcription of the document:

**SITE LOCATION**

The British Columbia Site and the Alberta Site are located on or near the proposed trail route, which cuts across the southern portions of British Columbia and Alberta.

**SITE DESCRIPTION**

- **View of dam and reservoir on the western shore of Lake Koocanusa**, a lake formed by damming a river for a hydroelectric dam in the United States.
- **Surrounded on the east by the Rocky Mountains and on the west by the Purcell Mountains.**
- **More or less marked only by the Sweetgrass Hills to the south and east, and a glimpse of the Milk River to the south and west.**

**PLACE MAKING PROCESS**

- **Site analysis and landscape description**
- **Site analysis and landscape description**
- **Site analysis and landscape description**

**SITE POTENTIAL RECONSIDERATION**

- **Layered landscape identified.**
- **Center of landscape redefined.**
- **Water markings reinterpreted by memory pools.**
- **Reciprocal relationship between sun and earth expressed in existing grid pattern.**
- **Time keeping possibilities explored.**
- **Center redefined as the trail itself.**

**REST STOP INTRODUCTION**

- **B.C. Scale of rest stop and landscape intervention readjusted.**
- **Sequence controlled by**
- **Ab. Rest stop conceived as**
- **Building considered another layer to landscape.**
- **Extended wall denies ultimate view until arrival point.**
- **Building across line of trail.**
- **Two separate events united by wall.**
- **Library discreetly inhabits bowl.**

**LANDSCAPE PALETTE EXPLORED**

- **Trees give cadence to trail, low level vegetation subtly defines space around facility.**
LANDSCAPE PALETTE EXPLORED

CHANGE IN IOVE VEGETATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO WATER LEVEL MARKINGS.

SPACE AROUND FACILITY.

DECENTRALIZATION ATTEMPTED

EOGE FOLLY ON PENINSULA REVEALS GREATER DEPTH CHANGE. MOVEMENT INTO LARGER LANOSCAPE MADE POSSIBLE BY STAIR INTRODUCTION AND PATH DEVELOPMENT. STABLE MOVED INTO BOWL.

CABINS INHABIT OVER EDGE OF LANOFORM. LANOFOHM EXTENDED TO BLOCK WIND AND FURTHER UNITE FACILITY. WATER CHANNEL CUTS LANOFORM. STABLE SEPARATED FROM EDITING AND MODIFICATION.

ENERGY RE CONSOLIDATED. USE OF NEW VEGETATION REDUCED. LANOFORM IS SIMPLIFIED.

SITE - SEEING

SITE - BUILDING

CREATING PLACE ON THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL

"AHONI STUK"
Detail View of A1 - BC Site Study Model #5
Context model
Detail View of A1-AB Site Study Model #2

Study of land form designed for time keeping and star gazing
Detail View of A1 - AB Site Study Model #3
Rest stop facility is introduced as counterpoint to star gazing bowl
BRITISH COLUMBIA SITE

SITE LOCATION
The site is located on the western shore of Lake K, a lake formed by damming a river for a hydroelectric dam in the United States. Bounded on the east by the Rocky Mountains and on the west by the Purge LL Mountains, the horizon is marked only by the Sweetgrass Hills to the south and east, and a meandering milk river to the south west.

SITE DESCRIPTION
B.C. site located on the western shore of Lake K, a lake formed by damming a river for a hydroelectric dam in the United States. Bounded on the east by the Rocky Mountains and on the west by the Purge LL Mountains, the horizon is marked only by the Sweetgrass Hills to the south and east, and a meandering milk river to the south west.

PLACE MAKING PROCESS
1. FROM DEFINITION TO LANDSCAPE - EXPRESSION MOVEMENT TO KIND
2. PLACE MAKING TO PLACE - EXPRESSION MOVEMENT TO KIND
3. CENTER OF LANDSCAPE REDEFINED
4. WATER MARKINGS REINTERPRETED BY MEMORY POOLS
5. AB. RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUN AND EARTH EXPRESSED IN EXISTING GRID PATTERN
6. TIME KEEPING POSSIBILITIES EXPLORER "CENTER" REDefined AS THE TRAIL ITSELF
7. REST STOP INTRODUCTION - SCALE OF REST STOP AND LANDSCAPE INTERVENTION READJUSTED
8. SEQUENCE OF ARRIVAL VIEWS CONTROLLED BY TREES
9. BUILDING CONSIDERED ANOTHER LAYER TO LANDSCAPE. EXTENDED WALL DENIES ULTIMATE VIEW UNTIL ARRIVAL POINT
10. BUILDING ACROSS LINE OF TRAIL. TWO SEPARATE EVENTS UNITED BY WALL
11. LIBRARY OR EXPLOITS INHIBITS BOWL
12. LANDSCAPE PALLET EXPLORED - CHANGE IN END VEGETATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO WATER LEVEL MARKINGS
13. TREES GIVE CADENCE TO TRAIL. LOW LEVEL VEGETATION SUBTLY DEFINES SPACE AROUND FACILITY.

ALBERTA SITE

SITE LOCATION
The site is located on the western shore of Lake K, a lake formed by damming a river for a hydroelectric dam in the United States. Bounded on the east by the Rocky Mountains and on the west by the Purge LL Mountains, the horizon is marked only by the Sweetgrass Hills to the south and east, and a meandering milk river to the south west.

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13. TREES GIVE CADENCE TO TRAIL. LOW LEVEL VEGETATION SUBTLY DEFINES SPACE AROUND FACILITY.
BRITISH COLUMBIA SITE

PLACE MAKING PROCESS

1. FIRST GESTURE IN LANDSCAPE
   B.C. RAVINE INHABITED (YIKSI) WATER LI

2. SITE LOCATION
   BRITISH COLUMBIA SITE
   ALBERTA SITE

3. SITE DESCRIPTION
   - B.C. SITE
     - LOCATED ON THE WESTERN SHORE OF LAKE KOOCANUSA
     - A LAKE FORMED BY DAMMING A RIVER, FOR A HYDROELECTRIC DAM
     - BOUNDED ON THE EAST BY THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS, AND ON THE WEST BY THE PURCELL MOUNTAINS.
     - MORRIS HORIZON MARKED ONLY BY THE SWEETGRASS KILLS TO THE SOUTH, EAST, AND A RAMP OF THE MIK RIVER
   - ALBERTA SITE

PLACE MAKING PROCESS

1. FIRST GESTURE IN LANDSCAPE
   B.C. RAVINE INHABITED (YIKSI) WATER LI

2. SITE LOCATION
   BRITISH COLUMBIA SITE
   ALBERTA SITE

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   - ALBERTA SITE

PLACE MAKING PROCESS

1. FIRST GESTURE IN LANDSCAPE
   B.C. RAVINE INHABITED (YIKSI) WATER LI
Perspective Sketch
View of land form looking south west from north entry
Perspective Sketch
View of star gazing bowl from wall walk
Perspective Sketch
Arrival arcade
Perspective Sketch
Cabin patio with moveable louvers
Alberta Rest Stop Model
Site Model
Alberta Rest Stop Model
View from star gazing bowl
Alberta Rest Stop Model
East elevation