ARCH 102 (Architectural Design I)

Spring Semester 2015-2016

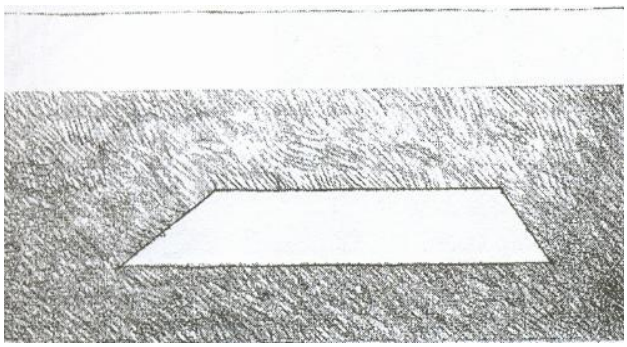
Assist.Prof.Dr.Reyhan Sabri / Instructors: Ayşe Gertik, Vedia Akansu, Emir Kasım, Atiye Bıçak, İpek Yaralıoğlu, Yasemin Akkar

TOPIC: Horizontal Space Defining Elements

1. Base plane
2. Elevated base plane
3. Depressed base plane
4. Overhead plane

1. Base plane:

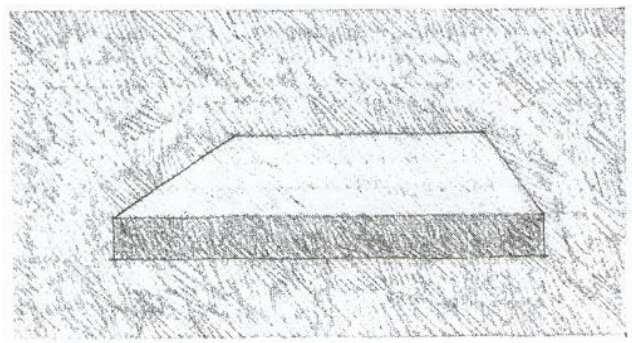
It is a horizontal plane lying on a floor. It is the base itself, known also as the ±0.00 elevation. It defines a simple field of space. In order for a horizontal plane to be seen as a figure, there should be a perceptible difference of colour or texture between the plane and the surface it lies on. The stronger the edge definition of a horizontal plane is the more distinct will be its field. Framing the plane will help its perception

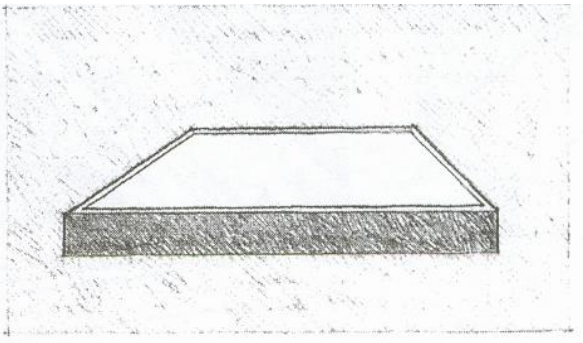


2. Elevated Base Plane

It's a horizontal plane elevated above the ground plane. It also establishes vertical surfaces along its edges that reinforce the visual separation between its field and the surrounding ground. If the surface characteristics of a base plane continue up and across the elevated plane, then the field of the elevated plane will appear to be a part of the environment. If the edge condition is articulated by a change in form, colour or texture, then the field will become a plateau that is separate and distinct from the surroundings.

The edge of an elevated base plane may be well defined; visual and spatial continuity is maintained; physical access is easily accommodated. Or, visual continuity may be maintained; spatial continuity is interrupted; physical access requires the use of stairs or ramps.

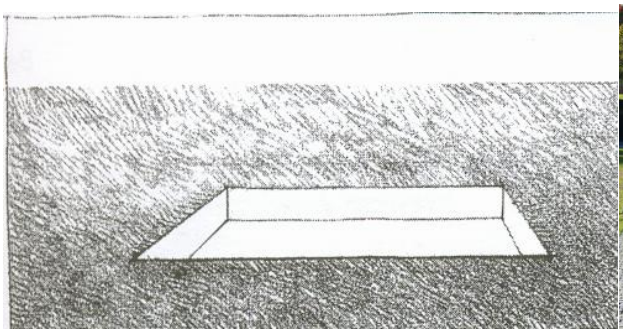


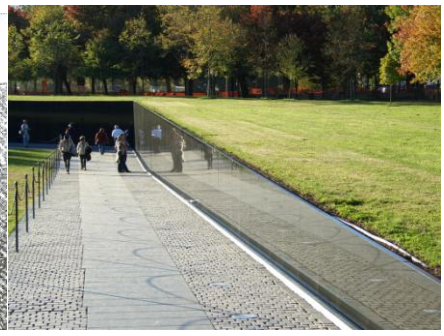


3. Depressed plane

It is a horizontal plane, which is depressed or immersed into the ground plane. It also utilizes the vertical surfaces of the lowered area to define a volume of space. Lowering a portion of the base plane isolates a field of space from a larger context. The vertical surfaces of the depression establish the boundaries of the field. These boundaries are not implied as in the case of an elevated plane; but visible edges begin to form the walls of the space.

The field of space can be articulated by contrasting the surface of the lowered area and the surrounding base plane. A contrast in form, geometry, or orientation can also visually reinforce the identity and independence of the sunken field from its larger spatial context.



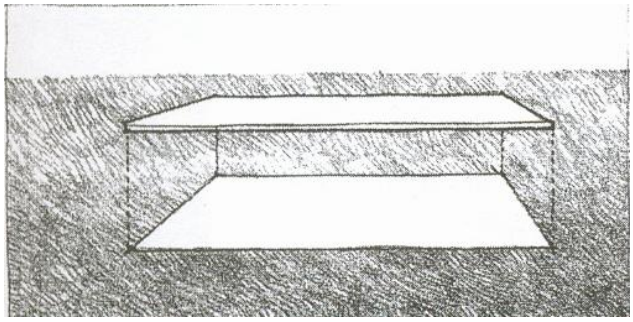


4. Overhead plane

It is a plane, located overhead or above the ground level. It defines a volume of space between itself and the ground plane. An overhead plane defines a field of space between itself and the ground plane as a tree or an umbrella. Since the edges of the overhead plane form the boundaries of this field, its shape, size and height above the ground determines the formal qualities of space.

Contrary to base plane or elevated base plane, an overhead plane has the ability to define a discrete volume of space virtually by itself. If vertical linear elements such as columns or posts are used to support the overhead plane, they will aid in visually establishing the limits of the defined space without disturbing the flow of space through the field.

Similarly if the edges of the overhead plane are turned downward, or if the base plane beneath it is articulated by a change in level, the boundaries of the defined volume of space will be visually reinforced.



Asignment 1

Studio work on the initial concepts and conceptual development: 8/02/2016. Submission Date: 11/02/ 2016 at 13.00

Project brief

You will design an abstract 3-Dimensional composition utilizing horizontal planes including base planes, depressed based planes, elevated base planes, and overhead planes. Following the initiation and the development of concept through sketch drawings and working models, the final composition should be installed on an A3 base with your own material choices. The maximum height of the installment should not exceed 20 cm.