2011

Design Build

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Design Build

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The 2011 Design/Build Studio included 13 undergraduate architects, 2 graduate architects, 6 landscape architects, and 1 interior designer. Under the careful supervision and guidance of Bruce Bassler, this team worked to design and deliver a complete sleeping cabin to the Scenic Park campground in South Sioux City, Nebraska. After three weeks of intensive full-class design, studio representatives traveled to South Sioux City and presented a condensed conceptual design to members of the City Council, the City Manager, and other members of the community in a bid to secure funding for the semester. After a successful presentation, the City agreed to give this group of design students $30,000 to construct the agreed upon design.

The studio decided to go with a hybrid concrete and steel structure, flushed out with wood paneling and metal scaling on the exterior to minimize maintenance. The material palette was extremely diverse, and included Polygal ribbed plastic paneling, cribbing and Plexiglas walls, precast concrete columns and beams, welded steel columns, and wooden ribs for interior structure. Teams from studio regularly traveled to South Sioux City for the last two months of the semester for two to four day periods, staying over-night and starting work early in the morning in order to complete the complex structure. As much as possible, student assembled components in Ames, including the concrete structure, steel members, and wood and metal panel systems, and then loaded them onto a trailer to transport to the build site. Studio members completed all prefab, on-site, and construction work with the assistance of Jim Howe's welding shop and a Sioux City native.