House Boat

Alex Olevitch
Iowa State University

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/datum

Part of the Architecture Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/datum/vol3/iss1/31

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Publications at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Datum: student journal of architecture by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
This project attempted to tie together two sets of contrasts—departure and return, temporary and permanent. As the project progressed, I realized how closely related these two really are. First, by creating one central enclosed space with various open spaces attached, the user of the boat (though it’s probably more appropriate to call it a raft) will always return to the initial space. By dictating this programmatic choice, the raft’s interior program highlights the idea of departure and return, where as the raft technically never docks at the same spot, never returning. Second, the concept of temporary versus permanent is evident in the materiality—wood and concrete. Using the concrete primarily in the enclosure, the space gives the feeling of permanence, while the wooden planes are more flexible in their lifespan. The concrete walls were made up of masonry units that I designed initially for boathouse project just before this one. They are small cubes with an interlocking peg and void system that leaves space between the units allowing light and wind to enter the space. Tying these two conceptual comparisons together was the framework for this project, which lead to an understanding of similarity within comparison.