

# P1.02

SITE  
Twin Lakes State  
Beach  
Santa Cruz, CA



## SCSR Santa Cruz Surf Rescue Headquarters

Arch 100a, Summer 2004

### Part 2

In coordination with the University of California, Berkeley the Santa Cruz Surf Rescue Service has proposed the development of a new operations and information facility at the Twin Lakes state beach. Through an agreement with the CED Department of Architecture, the SCSR service has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to the Arch100a studios as a means of exploring the potential of the project through a broad range of ideas from the best local design talent for the first phase of the project.

As such, you are asked to submit your proposal for the **SCSR Headquarters** for exhibition and public comment, by the end of semester (11<sup>th</sup> of August), at which time a public review will take place at the CED.

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**Site:**

The site is Twin Lakes State Beach in Santa Cruz. The beach is backed by a major vehicular artery and there is a lake on the western side of the road that links the beach to the center of Santa Cruz and down to Pleasure Point. There is a lake on the western side of the road which is part of the state beach site.

The building site is located in the area where the existing public showers and toilet facilities currently stand. You will need to decide exactly where in this area you locate your structure/s, although permanent structure will be permitted forward towards the water than the existing toilet/shower facilities. You should assume that all buildings would be demolished for your project. The site has an elevation change of between 5' and 20' from the waters edge to the roadway, mostly occurring at the roadway edge.

**Program:**

The proposed facility is considered a replacement and development of the existing services, equipment and facilities of the Santa Cruz area. These include:

- Meteorological Equipment and station room
- Coast Guard Radio Signal Relay Equipment
- Water craft and emergency equipment storage
- Public State park and beaches information services

In addition to the existing uses, which will be retained in the new proposal, the **SCSR Headquarters** proposes an expansion of service and facilities to accommodate the following:

- An expanded rescue operations headquarters, including a control and communication room, (150sqf min) a meeting room (200 sf min) and elevated observation points.
- Daily accommodation for five full time lifeguards and 45 seasonal lifeguards. This shall include locker room, male and female bathroom and shower facilities and changing areas, an indoor lounge and part time training room for 50 people (500 sf min), a small kitchen and wet bar area. There should also be provision for a "hot desk" working area for 5 people with laptops and a social outdoor space including bbq, with enough space to seat 60 people for SCSR functions and public rental.
- A public information office at ground level with space for two staff people 400sqf
- A small first aid room with supply cabinets and space for two patients
- External (outdoor) information display space (size unspecified but must be capable of handling 50 people at peak summer times and allow for a changing range of information)
- Upgraded public bathroom, and change amenities 2 x 400sqf
- Outdoor public showers for beach goers
- Storage area for the following equipment with immediate access to the beach and easy access to the public roadway, plus outdoor equipment wash down area. (must be at least 12' tall space with roller door access on one side). Equipment: 4 jet skis on trailers, 2 inflatable "zodiac" surf rescue boats, 4 x ATV (four wheel buggies), racks for storage of 8 x 14' surf ski's, 8 x 10' surf paddle boards, 10 surfboards, 20 movable signs (such as beach closed and surf flags), 20 x 2.5' rescue buoys, wetsuit storage and other miscellaneous equipment.
- Equipment repair space 100sqf
- Outdoor parking for three state park 4wd vehicles with access to public road and beach.

**Note:**

All specified sizes are to be treated as indications and may vary according to individual proposals.



### Special Considerations:

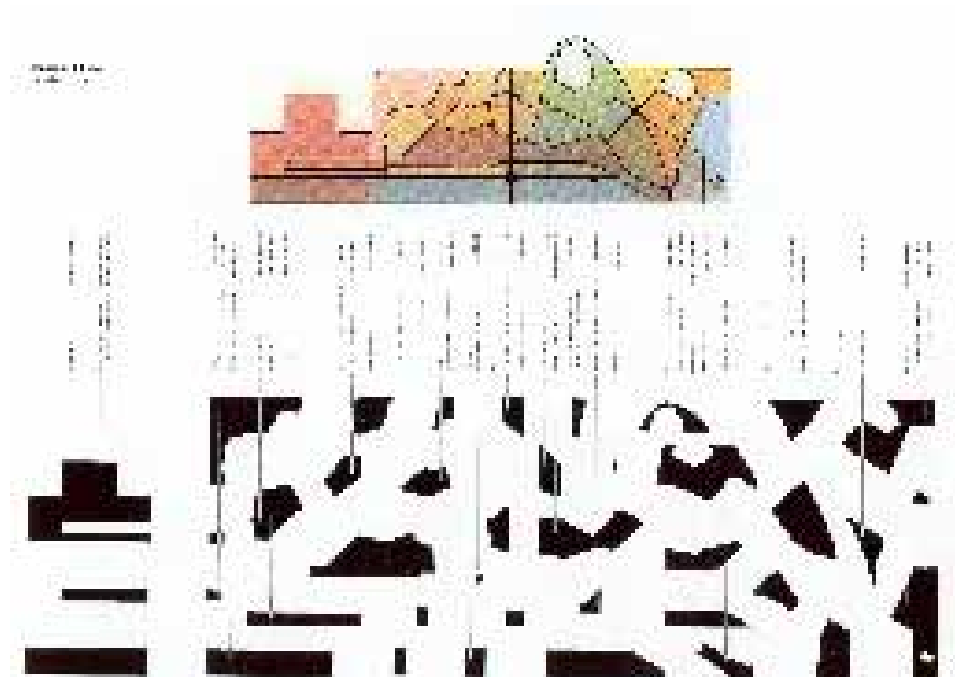
The site is in a State Park, and as such the relationship to the environment is of a critical nature, hence a respect for the site should be evident in the design proposal. As such there are several building restrictions that apply.

- Although there are no footprint size restrictions, every effort should be made to minimize the environmental effects of the structure on the landscape. Hence there is an emphasis on efficient planning and conservative use of built space (requiring a maximum use of borrowed space).
- All existing trees must be protected and may not be removed.
- All existing site structures **will** be removed
- You will need to consider the design of the landscape immediately adjacent to your proposal as an integral part of your attitude to the site and program. Any proposed landscaping however must be self-maintaining, and only locally indigenous plants, grasses, stone and other local materials may be used.

### Studio objectives:

One of the key objectives of this proposal will be the development and articulation of a structural and conceptual order that builds on the work you have begun with the watch tower and engages with the dynamic balances of this unique and challenging site. Your proposal should seek to integrate itself into the ongoing dialogue between

environmental conditions --the natural landforms, the prevalent winds of the area, the orientation of the sun, the variable tides, the wildlife --  
social aspects—activities such as surfing, sightseeing fishing, swimming, sunbathing, eating and etc.; different (patterns of) users such as the locals, officials, and visitors ; and the relationship between different users--  
soundscapes—environmental and social—



OMA program study for  
Seoul Airport

**SITE**  
**Twin Lakes State**  
**Beach**  
**Santa Cruz, CA**



The site research is crucial to elaborating the issues impacting the site, and formulating a way to act. We will commence a series of analytical and interpretive explorations at the site designed to help visualize these hidden forces which will be developed into further analytical diagrams, site documentation and models back in the studio.

A second but no less important ambition of the project is for you to develop to a high degree your design process and work flow from analysis and interpretation of site and program through the development of a strong conceptual (operational) framework to the completion of your proposal that is consistently considered in its detail, material and strategic scales. A research task will be required where you will be required to materially analyze a piece of the equipment used in the daily routine of the surf rescue staff (see below).

**Schedule:**

**Readings - Due Wednesday, July 7th**

You are expected to have done the readings by Stan Allen, Toyo Ito, and James Corner by July 7<sup>th</sup> and to have written 1 page responses to each individual piece.

### Program Device - Due Wednesday, July 7th

You are required to consider the **SCSR** program and its possibilities **before** visiting the site next Thursday. To do this you are required to make a small 3d "program" model that allows you to test various combinations of the outlined program requirements and their possible adjacencies and distributions, **and record (diagram, draw, photograph) three variations (or more) for presentation and discussion on Wednesday (following the long weekend)**. The model is intended to be a tool of your own invention that allows for flexible programming options to be explored. You might consider folding, weaving, knotting, mirroring, collapsing, and chance (game theory) as ways in which to make and test a range of unconventional ideas and their possibilities. There are no limitations to your imagination for this exercise, except that the model be digitally documented and not larger than 10" x 10" x 10". The model is not intended to be a labor-intensive exercise, but a quick tool for exploring and recording programmatic combinations, sketches and possibilities. You should present your device/model and the three options (or more) in a format that can be pinned up for discussion, one page per option, and as always all work should be aesthetically appealing and made with care.

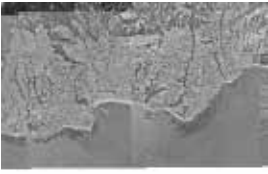
The readings will assist you in this exercise.

### Site visit - On Thursday, July 8th

You will receive a handout on the 7<sup>th</sup> with directions and an itinerary for the day. While we are at the site, you need to complete several tasks to map the site and its environmental and social conditions as well as your personal responses to the area. To do this you will be required to use a digital camera, sketchbook, digital video recorder (if you have one) and a set of measured drawings of the site that you can sketch over (a basic version will be provided).



View of existing buildings on site at Twin Lakes State beach



### **RE-Collection Task 1**

*Using digital photography, record sights and material details found in the area. You should focus on collecting at least 10 different found materials that interest you, as well as 10 different social conditions that you found while at the site or around the site. You should reproduce these for the first day back at class after the site visit (July 12)*

### **A view of the site: Movement image/time-image Task 2**

*Architectural representation is a constitutive part of architecture. Conventional representation has treated architecture as an object of knowledge that is static, immobile and silent; it has assumed the observing eye as equally bounded. Emergent technologies allow us to reinvent architecture as movement-image (movement taking place in space) or/and time-image (image that represents time). Our environment is in continuous change and motion; there are different scales and cycles to it: the day, the week, the month, the tide, the season, the year; the past and the future. Also, we are observing in (physical or mechanical) motion; and in time. Digital video and other time based recording and production can augment our perceptions and challenge established boundaries.*

*While at the site, working individually, listen to the sounds of the site; record them through an illustrated musical score or time based diagram in your sketch book. Sit alone. Listen to what you hear for 5 uninterrupted minutes without opening your eyes. After five minutes open your eyes and note down what you heard using your imagined annotation system as precisely as possible. [July 8] Re-produce this recording for the first day back at class after the site visit [July 12].*



View from existing buildings to ocean on site at Twin Lakes State beach

*Working in groups of two, consider how you might analyze the site through a short video clip. In your groups, collect footage or digital stills in order to construct a 30 sec digital video clip, using a video editing software (We will instruct you on how to use Adobe Premiere on July 7th .) You should focus on one or two aspects/details of the site that you are interested in--a conversation, a sand or rock form, the wave sounds, the activities of bathers or surfers, the type of light during the day, on the water on the sand, the elements left behind on the sand, the types of views... Because the video is short you should be precise in what it is you would like to explore. We will discuss this exercise in class the day before we go to the site. The 30 sec clips will be presented in the Lecture Hall or 801 on Wednesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. You will need to prepare group CDs for this presentation.*

### **Site analysis** Task 3

*Using your sketchbook, camera, and a tape measure, take note of where interesting views, level changes, materials are on the site. Note the sun position and prevalent wind direction for future reference as well as the main pedestrian and vehicular access points. Note where people gather and where they move on a plan. Note the high tide and low tide levels. Note where the surfers, the families, the bakers and the surf rescue people hang out. Take note of all the reference details you will need to understand the site when you are back in studio. We will use this information for discussion on Monday July 12 back in class.*

### **A view of the site: Movement image/time-image - Due Wednesday, July 14th**

See exercise description above. We will screen all these movies in 801 throughout the afternoon. Please bring a CD with your movie on it, (compressed) in quick time format.





### Research task - Due Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>

In groups of two, you are required to select from the list below a piece of equipment and analyze the materials used as well as the fabrication/assembly method for presentation to the studio. No two groups in each section can do the same piece of equipment. The presentation should take the form of a brief verbal and visual presentation, that clearly illustrates the individual pieces of the object, their material and how they assemble into a whole. You will be required to create an illustration that shows this information at a suitable scale. **8.5 x 11 printouts are not acceptable.** You should in your group take the time to draw, collage, montage etc information you have collected. Contacting the manufacturer is suggested, however no simple “reproduction” of existing information will be accepted as a level of analysis through presentation is required. You will be asked to explain the materials that are used and why they are used. You may choose from the following items.

1. Sea Kayak
2. Surf board
3. Wetsuit
4. Sun glasses
5. First Aid kit
6. Inflatable Surf rescue boat (zodiac)
7. Kite surfing gear
8. Swimming Fins

