

Framing a Landscape__

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I want to explore architecture in its relationship to nature and how this relationship informs how we visualize landscapes. How does the mind perceive moments that formulate observations for creating place in space? What processes may evolve to assert a set of ideals in the way we inform the conditions around us (landscape)? How do those processes differ from conditional thinking? For me, these questions relate to the core focus of a single point: How can architecture start to inform the way we develop these perceptions, so it actually becomes integral to its place in the world?

There is a direct correlation between landscape and therapeutic elements that come to mind by observing various works. In *Recovering Landscape* by James Corner it's apparent there are two aspects of landscape development that have shaped our way of thinking; the first includes a recovery of the landscape or its reappearance in the cultural sphere, that is, its recollection. The second is the revisions of the nature of landscape itself; that is, the rethinking of what landscape actually is and may become.

I chose a natural site, (in particular the observation mound in the Assiniboine Forest) that I am interested in developing an architecture (a commune gathering place for public shared with inhabitable dwelling space) that could emulate the landscape in a unique way, but will still preserve the essence of the history and culture that it provides to its place in time. I have nostalgia for the site that I must pass on to other people to experience without being too controlling. The experience shall be mediating and simple but powerful.

Assiniboine Forest, locate on the corner of grant and Chalfont provides a rustic, natural experience in an urban presence. It is a short distance getaway to a scenic heart of wildlife and vegetation. It offers a great range of exploratory walking and a chance to spy fauna that is specific to Winnipeg. More specifically, I selected a point on the site that is scenic. In beginning to interpret the site intimately and through careful observation, I will start to develop points of interest that may catalyze integral moments in the process of the making, and constructing. All spaces and views will be a product of a modeling of a series of episodes on the site for people to experience (this will result most likely in simple and powerful gestures). Through the perspective of certain vantage points as a means of viewing particular parts, frames are constructed. Depending on the views, and natural changes on site this may result in a need for different frames. The idea is to embrace/capture landscape at a level that is therapeutic, appreciated for its scale, power and beauty. Defined by the geological lines, underlying grid work of topography will unfold.



An exploration of framed units providing views for experience.