



VIEW OF MULTI-PURPOSE DINNING HALL, LOOKING WEST AT BDE MAKA SKA

DAKOTA DIRECTIONS

Bde Maka Ska has historically been a meeting place for people to gather around food and nature. Heyate Oturjwe was an agricultural village on the shores of Bde Maka Ska founded in 1829 by Mahpiya Wicasta, also known as Cloud Man. After taking refuge at the lake for three days during a snowstorm, Cloud Man decided to build a more permanent community at Bde Maka Ska. Heyate Oturjwe soon became a meeting place for Cloud man and the new settlers arriving from Europe, where knowledge of the Dakota way of life was shared with others. The proposal for the new building at Bde Maka Ska takes this history of a cultural meeting place and Dakota traditions to create a contemporary space for the communities around Bde Maka Ska.

HARDSHIP, CLEANSING, WINTER/COLD.

SOURCE OF WATER, NEW DAY, COMING WEATHER, VI-TALITY, REMEMBRANCE. WISDOM.

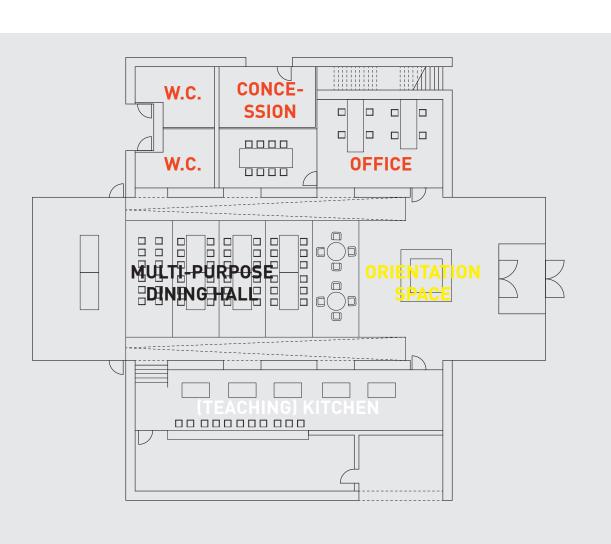
NEW DAY, SUNRISE, UNDERSTANDING, WISDOM.

WARMTH, GROWING, BRINGS LIFE TO EARTH, SUMMER.

DIRECTION SYMBOLISM

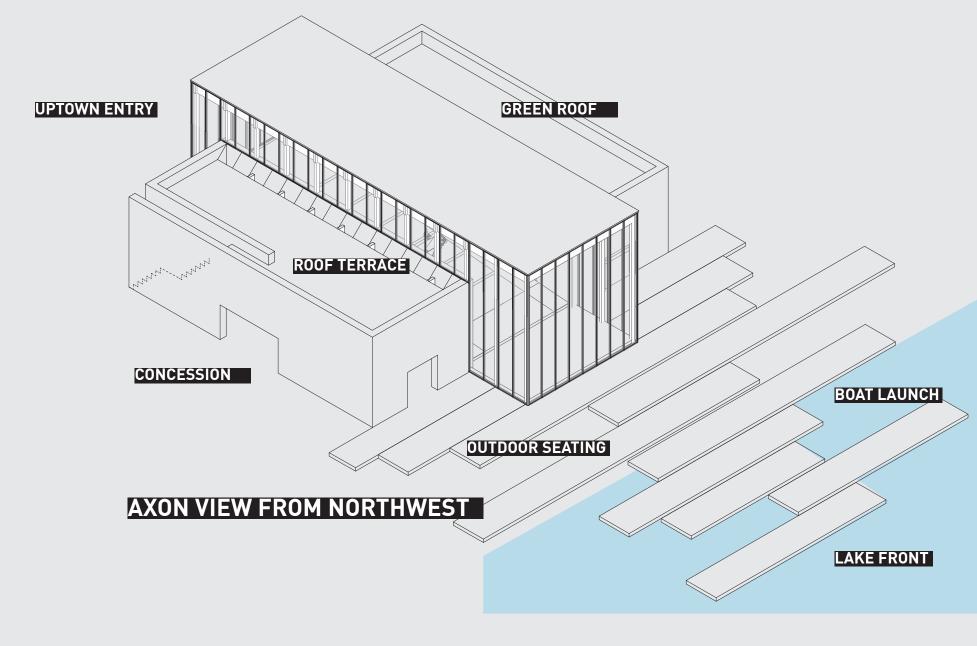
The architectural experience of the building is organized around the Dakota people's symbolism of the cardinal directions. Each cardinal direction has a specific meaning tied to the natural and spiritual world, which divides the building into 4 simple programmatic blocks. The experience of the building also comes through it's materiality and use of natural light. Using rammed earth as a primary building method gives is a strong sense of place and connection to the site. In contrast, the main hall is composed of a taller glass box pinned by the north and south rammed earth volumes. The transparency of the main hall establishes a connection to the sky, and acts as visual gateway from the city corner to the lakefront.

VIEW OF TEACHING KITCHEN



PLAN DIAGRAM

The buidling's program, like the architectural expression, aims to celebrate Dakota values in a contemporary time and space. A historical preface to the site is placed at the entry to the main hall, where people can learn about Heyate Oturjwe and Dakota culture through artifacts, craft, and art. The kitchen, which serves the main hall and outdoor seating areas also doubles as a teaching space, where food traditions can be taught to younger generations. The main hall is a flexible space that can be used for a variety of programs like, public meetings, talks, and as a rentable venue. The main hall steps down toward the lake level which gives unobstructed views of the lake through out the hall. This dissolves the boundary between interior and exterior space, enhancing the experience of nature at Bde Maka Ska.



2020 RALPH RAPSON TRAVELING STUDY FELLOWSHIP COMPETITION





VIEW FROM ON THE WATER - LOOKING THROUGH THE DINING HALL, AND OUTDOOR SPACES AT THE WATERFRONT

VIEW OF LAKE BDE MAKA SKA FROM ROOFTOP TERRACE





SECTION VIEW OF MULTI-PURPOSE DINING HALL