Dericytification of Bob. etc.

hols by Heed H.
"DEMYSTIFICATION OF TOOLS IN RELATION TO DESIGN"

KATRIN ADAM - "our leader"
MART EIMER
HEIDI HOFFMANN
DORIS KATZKIN
WENDY MORRISON
JANICE POWELL
HATTI RUSSELL
ELISA WILDER

"the group"

The opening session (which was taped) was a collective sharing of what brought us all to WSPT. Then each of us described our experience or lack of experience with tools. Most had used tools beforehand—mainly hand tools. Some expressed an intimidation & fear of the power tools. At any rate, the exposure had wetted our appetites to learn more.

I think the idea of working with tools appealed to the design instinct in all of us — we wanted the experience both as a personal satisfaction as well as a future tool in the design profession.

Bibliography on last page
open school session — few opening remarks on clothing & shoe coverage. A vast array of tools were set out & labeled on the tables for the students to investigate. Safety measures are a must! Which brings @ some J of years of certain tools, learning @ the tool & what it can do.

The faster the tool, the cleaner the cut: important in cutting wood. There are tools that are simple to use & can really help you cut, i.e. a stick door — the plane & sharpening tools.

Katrin's "Bible" is the Reader's Digest, Complete Do It Yourself Manual — clear & well illustrated. Good for working drawings — size & lengths of screws, nails, etc. Also has some projects to do.

Tapes — measuring, carpenter's wood ruler w/ a gadget that gives exact measurement, caliper scale for screws, etc.

Tri-squares; levels of various sizes — the longer, the better;

Supervision of work — if you know (the carpenter) he knows that you know what you are doing, then the quality of work will undoubtedly increase.

Discouragement in working w/ tools when the tools are of bad quality or don't work.
Open school session - Wed.

- Just a little practicing in using them.
  - Cross - cross-cut - for crossing across grain of wood
  - Rip saw - cutting in same direction (very rarely needed)
  - Demonstration on cutting a 2x4: a little class participation!
  - Back saw - wood joints + the outer bark (has a rigid back) ('s so good for finer work)
  - Sharpening is an art (!) stemming from the middle ages.

  - Keyhole saw - for an outlet; first: predrill 4 holes

  - Hack saw - for metal work, advantage of being adjustable
  - Vice - to hold wood
  - Coping saw - jigsaw for curves, etc., very thin blade that you can direct.

  - Saber saw
  - Hammers & Nails

- Keep your tools oiled! Especially if they are left outside.
open-school session

- onto hammering - let the weight of the head do the work!
- fasteners

THURSDAY “VISIT TO THE LUMBER YARD”

Videotaping session at Hardware store

Lumber comes in various grades & types. It all depends on what you are planning to build. If the work is finished interior work, then naturally you would go for the higher quality wood. Hardwoods (deciduous trees) are traditionally used for cabinets, flooring, & trim.

Softwoods are used more for framing. The grading process is rather arbitrary – as they come out of the mill a grader assigns them a letter - A for example. Has no imperfections (ie knots) & we would call this clear. If a piece of plywood is grade A-D, it means that one side has no imperfections & the other side... well you wouldn’t want it to be seen, so you might use it for soffits. Grading can also be done by machine which would test the bending stress of the piece & then give a #. I definitely got the feeling that if you get to know your people at the lumber yard, you can get good wood for a reasonable price. Go in yourself, walk around, shop around, & pick the pieces you plan to have used. I’m not sure I would entrust the choice of wood to someone else.
The following days were spent individually working on our projects. Some of us had definite ideas of what we wanted to do, others not so definite.

I went home for 2 days (to my parents' place in Norway) & went to the hometown lumberyard. I had an idea of what I wanted to build - drawing it up, figuring out the joints & measuring the board feet needed were the next steps. I decided on a Rod, Reel & Tackle Rack - something functional, so I could charge it at the yard. Picking out my materials took awhile - I learned a few more things at this lumberyard. Having an idea of the differences in wood & their respective applications helped immensely. I was able to get a very clear piece of lumber that had stain streaks in it. Because of the staining (here the wood was left to weather a bit out in the field), I was given a reduction, they also cut my plywood backing to order. It pays to do your shopping at off-hours - the salesmen have more time to help you. Initially it was hard for me to express what I wanted without knowing all the choices available.
Measuring & Cutting Wood

When measuring, allow for saw cut (@ 1/4") that would make 1/2" per piece. Also remember to allow that extra bit for the dovetail & mortise & tenon joints. In my case 3/4" - diagram from book. Go over all measurements just before sawing to make sure.

If your wood is rough, plane it till it is level; then measure. If ends are uneven, they should be cut, then measure in. A good hint - seen underside of wood before sawing - this helps make the final break clean (if it works). Be sure to clamp the pieces of wood by a protective block & try not to let the end piece fall to the floor. (If it will go into the scrap pile, I guess it doesn't really matter) When using the silver saw - let it do the cutting - a guide piece of wood helps immeasurably.

* Dvora sprang out & lip here in the shop - which also happens to house the piano. Really couldn't ask for a better setting
Dovetailing

"The strongest joint"
(also the hardest to do)

Mark the sides, right to left 1-1, 2-2, 3-3, 4-4
(do you don't mix them up). Then diagram & dovetail & pin (the sockets or mortise). Smallest side 1/6 pin 1/4". the less pins, the wider the dovetail. Say A dovetails = 5 pins. Use marking gauge for thickness - mark all around the piece of wood.

Mark by X-hatching the piece you want cut, so you don't get confused. 1" & 6" - Soft wood
1" & 8" - Hard wood

Keep marking in fact. Cut outside of line! Saw with a special dovetailsaw - then chisel. Use a sharp chisel that fits the dovetail. Keep sharpening as you go along. When sawing, make sure that flat piece is against the side you are sawing.

Place chisel up front side against main body hit quickly straight down, then chisel here to work piece out. Go bit by bit alternating. You want to undercut a bit.
Tuesday

Dowel Joints

Before doing joints mark all pieces like this:

so that you don't interchage them.
To make joint - score center of edge piece.
mark centers evenly along edge. Tap with an awl so that bit is started in the hole.
Drill 3/4" good to put tape in drill bit. Clean & take awl & centers insert in bore or tap into other piece. Take up & drill hole - repeat for rest of the holes. Try & make sure that you have a right angle! When making dowels cut 1/6" less so that they are recessed - make a glue cut along length of dowel - glue &

Wednesday

mortise & tenon

mark at least 1/3 the width drilling hole - be sure chisel is sharp, hammer down flat side along edge - then chisel along grain of wood - go halfway - start undercutting a bit so that there is a bit of hollow. Turn over & do the rest from the other side.
Drilling

Hole drill & blade drill

Curve using hf saber saw - go back and forth to make the curve. Then put piece in vice & start w/ flat rasp & brush. Then file, keep files separate as they are hard to keep sharp - best to hang.

Sharpening Chisels - use carbon block for wood tools.

Spread some "3in1" oil on rough side first. Take chisel & w/ flat side down, run chisel blade diagonally across stone to create a burr. Turn stone over (to smooth side), keep angle. Polish w/ stone & run diagonally again. You want to break off the burr. Turn to other side & repeat the process until the burr breaks off. Sharpened tools are essential - otherwise you just can't do the job.

(stutter to think how as little kids, my brothers & I used to use the chisels for everything except their intended use)

Observation from Dvora: "How I spent my summer vacation"
**Wednesday - contd.**

Observation - Charlotte - Feeling of selfishness in doing our projects by ourselves instead of by someone else. We want to have that feeling that we can do it & did it instead of saying "well I helped but so did so & so & so & so & so".

Feeling of frustration, times ready to quit - Donna Smiles when it hits her pride - really proud.

**Thursday**

Sanding - Infiltration - Use finish sander as camera after rasping & filing curved edges. Finishing sander best at very end - always sand along the grain. Take piece of sandpaper & do edges they should be broken & have a smooth quality @ them.

Fit together whole rack. Bevel bottom of rack with plane. Marked dovetails.
Katrin - going back over our applications in particular Wendy's backyard in Environmental Awareness with children. Said that we don't have time to see her slides & hear her talk about the experience (I saw & heard it last night - it was great).

Children learning @ their environment - man-made & natural - how they coexist; non-sexist learning of tools, crafts, experiences, etc. This could tie in possibly w/ future child-care.

Charlotte - isolated from other women - interested in the manual experience - the tools. Satisfied w/ course. Glad @ 3D project that was made. Both theoretical & the concrete experience now. Should be emphasized nine w/ WPFA. Good to have in a diff. place next year. Totally diff. environment. Same time - courses increased & changed.

Wendy - many ?'s answered! Really unique event: new women & their contribution. Use of women as resources, not just competing. Wanted feedback - kind of soaked up it. Back home maybe in better context? Continue - yes! Let's have an Environmental Awareness program for children w/ adults say helping the coordinator - really educational & could learn @ the local community - adults learning thru the children's experience.
I have been so afraid of being an architect. That's why I've pursued other branches like education. Examining the technical has given me a different approach. (practical)

Now I'm ready to deal with this mine - as opposed to just knowing the theoretical, inspirational - new start for me. My whole summer has been this way. I just need more confidence. I'm going to hate going home. It was wonderful working with my hands & forgetting everything else.

Heidi - it was nice that everyone helped each other, so we didn't have to bug Katrin all the time.

Char - we shared knowledge & made something.

Katrin - I learned from this course by watching you work. Wonderful opportunity for me.

Many - tremendous exposure to new ideas (I'm out of school & practicing). Feeling peaceful inside. I hope what is written is sensitive-like Ellen doing it. We need to push ahead but not destroy the common good among men.
Friday

Katrin - publicity issue. Hard to handle. It was sure we didn't want to disturb the group while in session.

Mary - I've had no previous experience planners & LA people. The film in Appalachia. It's happening in other places.

Dvora - Backpacking architecture. Wanted to meet women from other localities & their offering. Feminine intuition.

About child-care - thought more organized, that children be involved in projects.

Thought there'd be more children. So much talent should be expressed to children. Over here, there was a curiosity. At home, I will have the momentum going. I hope I can call you (Katrin). I'd like to have a storage place now for my tools.

Benefitted a lot. So much was happening. Men should be a part of it also. We are bag environments for men & women?

Children.

Katrin - great relief for me - not to be in that inherent role of being female. I really
Wendy: men in the other boat also - being condition

Katrin: Getting left out usually. Can't feel guilty now @ leaving men in.

Hewai: I don't want men here. But let's not be so bitter about it - we do have to go back & work with them. I'm glad for self in terms of my feminine awareness. I had the feeling at times at meetings, etc. that we all hated them

Elisa: Right but this was happening mostly in group discussions & a few individuals. Background in Rich. & we like to gather info from other women & like partic. on experiments, experiment yes. I would have come up more resources. I came along not really jumping in & adding to other's experiences. Didn't care for other's experiences.

Wendy: you can spread yourself too thin.

Char: exper. expanding - chose apple to sit down with & take with.
-5-

- keep it going. Enough time. Good to have a school like this for those who have been working awhile.

More comments: (from me unless noted)

- the school should maintain “currentness.”
- how about some emphasis on alternative technologies?
- enjoyed Katrin’s presentation on the kitchen & furniture design. There are certainly other paths to follow.
- am slowly (painfully) seeing the necessity of a female identity. I do want to be an architect & get licensed.
- I see many loose ends - can they be tied?
- heard things several times over.
- Some frustration about my project. I undertook too much. I definitely think doing a project is a great idea - maybe we should have done simpler ones.
- I saw new starts; approaches to problem solving here - block busting, ontological development. Maybe not new words - new context.
- I see Katrin’s initial point about how this course can relate to our jobs—architecture. Understanding the building process would free us to do other jobs like going to a jobsite.
- About how to change course - Katrin was too nice - helping us individually. I felt I was using her. We all realized her value - “she must be exhausted!” I had enough by the other demands in my time. I wanted to keep moving ahead in my project.
1. Reader’s Digest - Complete Do-it-yourself Manual
   Pleasantville, NY.

2. THE COMPLETE HOME HANDYMAN’S GUIDE, ED. BT
   Hubbard Cobb, Thomas T. Crowell Co., NY.

3. Walton, Harry, Home & Workshop Guide to Sharpening
   Barnes & Noble Books (Harper & Row)

4. How To Work with Tools & Wood, Ed. by Robert Campbell
   Pocket Books

5. Stet, John G, Woodworking for Everybody, Van Nostrand
   Reinhold Book

6. Hennessy & Papanek, Nomadic Furniture

7. Mari, Ennio, Proposta Per un’ Autoprogettazione
   xerox booklet handed out by katrin
FOLDING CHAIR FRAME

frame material:
1 x 2 pine

carriage bolt pivot

canvas fabric

cross pieces
dowel joint typ.
dowel typ.
mortises tenon joint

cross section thru
where canvas seat comes thru frame

DETAIL

BY: ELSA WILDER 5'7
STORAGE BOX

FOR DRAFTING

FRAME

1/4" PLASTIC
ROD, REEL & TACKLE RACK
HEIDI HOFFMANN

(MADE OF STAINED WHITE PINE)
 Pegboard backing
R&D TACKLE RACK
HEIDI HOFFMANN

24 1/2" x 36"

2 1/2" sides
3/4" bottom

1/8" plywood

Putting the pieces together