

Design Beyond Walls



M. Garg

COPYRIGHT

Design Beyond Walls

1st edition 2015

Text by M. Garg

eISBN 978-1-63323-354-6

Published by BooksMango

E-mail: info@booksmango.com

Text & cover page Copyright© M. Garg

No part of this book may be reproduced, copied, stored or transmitted in any form without prior written permission from the publisher. This ebook is licensed for your personal enjoyment only. It may not be re-sold or given away to other people. If you would like to share this book with another person, please purchase an additional copy for each recipient. If you are reading this book and did not purchase it, or it was not purchased for your use only, then please purchase your own copy. Thank you for respecting the hard work of this author.

CONTEMPLATING ON THE WALL

This book is an absolute must-read for designers and all those interested in understanding Architecture and the design process. It is a bold exploration into the realm of architecture in terms of and beyond 'Walls'. Written succinctly, with hand drawn illustrations, the book analyses the wall on three levels- walls in physical space, in design and in theory. Reading this book will revolutionize the reader's viewpoint about architecture and provide new insights into the design process.

THANKS

A word of thanks to....

My mentor Mrs. Ranjana Mital, for encouraging me to explore and express.

And to those who pack their bags and must leave..

The nomadic tribe of the gaduliyas.

To Piyush, for taking care of all my woes.

To all the people whose brains I picked during the course of writing this book.

To my family, mama and papa for their support, and Surbhi, Sakshi and Avnish for being there when I needed them.

INTRODUCTION

A disclaimer for readers, who pick up this book and skim through its contents- It is simple to follow the line of thought of this piece once you accept that it does not deal with the physical wall. It does not grapple with questions that have confronted minds such as ours, in lectures on structural mechanics and architecture, like how to make a wall stand, such that it may support the load of the roof and its own. It does not attempt to state the obvious; that the advancement of technology and the science of building have almost always determined the properties of the physical wall.

It is not a codebook, which reveals the secrets of the human mind, that have resulted in the architecture deemed as great in the past. It digresses from the physical wall at the nascent stage; it does not cover the physical wall in its entity or its evolution chronologically. It does not try to pin point any one factor that has created what is called the 'essence of architecture.'

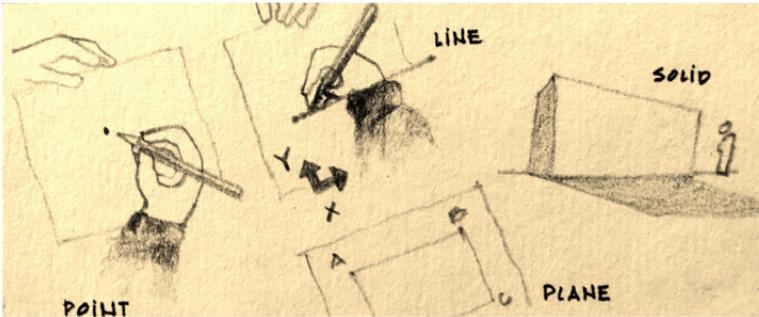
It sheds no light on what the nature of walls in the future must be. It establishes no ideas, no pointers towards a politically correct architecture of the future. This manuscript achieves nothing in concrete terms.

It does not try to increase our knowledge of the wall; it only works at improving our understanding of it. It wonders at the wall. What is it, after all? Does it hide, as much as it reveals? What lies beyond the functional wall?

To commence the discussion, let us focus on-

THE POINT OF ORIGIN....FROM WHICH THE WALL ORIGINATES.

Geometrically speaking, a point moves to generate a line, which expands to form a plane. This on acquiring the third dimension becomes a wall: “*A summary of the kinetic energies which move the point into a line, the line into a plane and the plane into a spatial dimension.*” Hence, the simplest form of the wall which can be described as a three-dimensional solid, capable of defining space.



Along with the horizontal planes, the ceiling and the floor, walls provide **enclosure**. This is one of the primary accomplishments of the built form. Within this enclosure, humanity has survived the vagaries of nature, the torment of an ever-changing external environment. Within walls, man performs the complex task of living, shielded from intruding eyes. They are the surface on which man expresses, the results ranging from cave murals to profane graffiti. The functional aspect of walls that of security, demarcation, territorial markers, protection, segregation and articulation is well understood and exploited. In fact, “*the box formed by the walls has been subject of more thought and labor than the architectural space itself.*”

Each day, on sites, we see old walls being razed and