

Assembly One Pavilion: Post-Digital Fabrication

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The Yale 'Assembly One' pavilion is the younger, more carefree sister to Yale's building project—the 40-year old tradition in which first-year students design and build a house. Designed as the information center for New Haven's summer International Festival of Arts and Ideas, the pavilion was developed with several characteristics in mind:

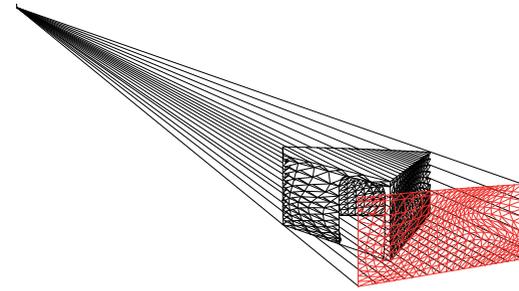
Dynamism: the structure is suited to a performance festival - solid and massive from one angle, lightweight and almost entirely porous from another, it alternately hides and reveals its contents.

Visual Transparency: Constructed from thin aluminum sheets, the pavilion opens up on two sides for ventilation and security, focusing views toward the festival's main stage.

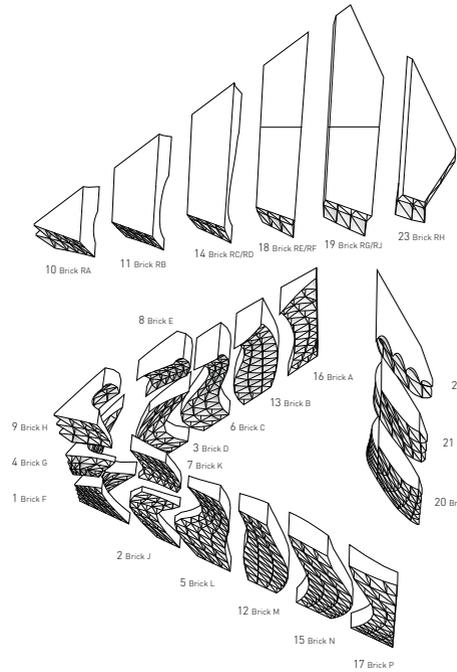
Visual Density: over 1,000 panels create shifting effects of reflection and color as visitors move around the pavilion, creating less of a timeless image of shelter than an unstable, engaging heart of the festival.

A seminar students took in addition to design studio, the class focused on the changing ways that contemporary buildings come together and the potential architectural effects those computational and material techniques open up. We treated the tenets of digital fabrication as basic assumptions—our ability to efficiently produce variable and unique components and the cultural implications of moving beyond standardized manufacturing. But we were less concerned with the uniqueness of the objects we created than on the novel types of tectonic expression they allowed.

The Festival Pavilion was designed and built by Yale School of Architecture students. Generous support was provided by Assa Abloy, the Yale Graduate and Professional Student Senate, and the Yale School of Architecture. The structure was on view on the New Haven Green in June 2012.



1400 Surfaces converge to a single point



Pavilion assembled as 23 units on site

