Example:

This example, drawn quickly in about 20 minutes, integrates ideas discussed in Establishing Longevity, Responding to Contex, and Suporting Activities and Purposes. It lacks further development at the site scale (outdoor rooms, edges, transitions, etc.). It also requires development inside: furniture, ceiling height variety, edges, etc. Your work must be far more inclusive and detailed. I include this example in order to show one transformation of the plan that maintains good room shapes and generous accommodation.

Please avoid creating stranges geometries or shapes, or stuffing the plan with too many small, compartmentalized spaces. Be sure to develop the exterior spaces and edges. Note what you cannot show. Draw furniture to scale, both inside and outside. Show floor patterns, changes of level, thick walls--in short, be sure to address all of the principles we have discussed to date (especially those outlined in Establishing Longevity).

Draw fearlessly and revise, revise, revise.







This project is about making lastingly meaningful spatial structure.

The house shown on the right and in the site plan above has little spatial variety and a disruptive circulation system: inside rooms are too small, boxy, dark, and disconnected; outside rooms lack definition and privacy; all paths are invasive. As a result, the house is limiting and coercive instead of accommodating and opportunity-rich.

Your job is to fix this. Retaind the general area and shape of the house. Include vertical support at least every 14 feet on beam lines 1, 2, 3, and 4. Use the small building as you wish.

Show your ideas in plan on a tracing paper overlay. Draw freehand. Show the ground floor only, but include a stairway to the basement and second floor.

Be sure to incorporate ideas about spatial dualities, in-between spaces, transitions, outdoor edges, outdoor rooms, and the careful placement of type "A" spaces.

Draw to scale and show major furniture arrangement. "...change and variety is as much a necessity to the human heart and brain in buildings as in books...there is no merit...in monotony; and...we must no more expect to derive pleasure from an architecture...of one pattern...than we should out of a universe in which the clouds were all of one shape, and the trees all of one size."

John Ruskin, 1853

