



DataCAD Boston Users Group

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A Committee of the Boston Society of Architects

DBUG Meeting Notes

January 20, 2010

Host: *Manny Snyderman, Tom Rosa*
Milford High School, Milford, Mass.

DBUG renewed its acquaintance with the CAD lab at Milford High School for its 3rd Annual Meeting at this location as hosted by Manny Snyderman and Tom Rosa who teach CAD drafting there. It is a first class setup with some 20 workstations all equipped with DataCAD 12. The meeting was attended by 15 architects and designers along with 7 bright CAD students and several very interested parents. One long distance visitor was Gayle Pickering from Sag Harbor, New York who hopes to set up a similar course for high school students in her area.

Greenhouse Design Project. The first presentation of the evening were the designs of the students (all first year) who were asked to design a greenhouse enclosure for an existing school balcony terrace that currently gets little use. Each student was asked to give a 2 minute presentation, while their designs were displayed on screen in full rendered animation. Each presentation was followed by questions and comments by the architects.

We saw the design presentations by Kaila, Anthony, Dillon, Joel, Courtney, William, and Keith. While the designs

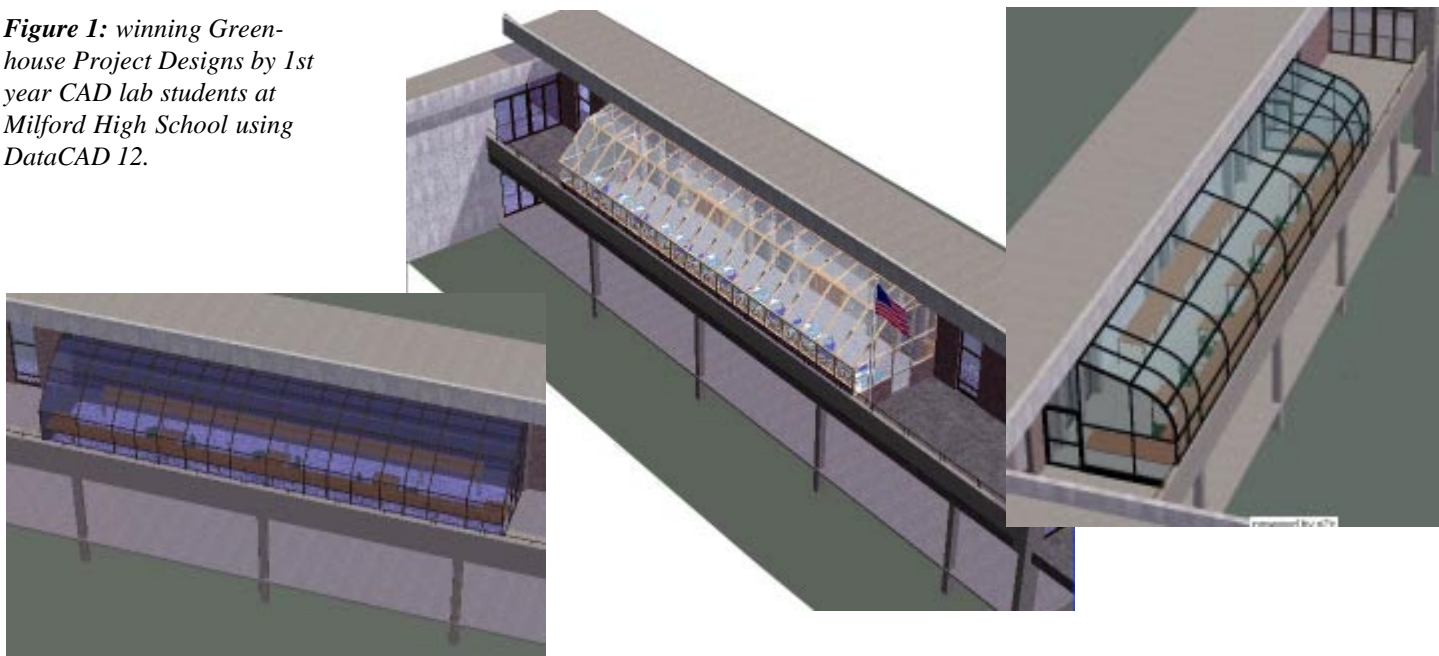
themselves were good for beginning level design students, what was really eye-opening to the architects viewing the presentation was that they were all done in 3D modeling fully rendered with materials and including niceties like furniture, building materials, and even an American flag thrown in for one design. The architects then filled out evaluation forms for each of the designs, which were tabulated to award first place to Courtney, second place to Kaila, and third place to Keith (*right to left, see Figure 1 below*).



Worcester Neighborhood Stabilization Program

<www.buyworcesternow.com>. The next presentation was by Bob Shaw, who this past year took a job with the City of Worcester as a "Rehab. Specialist" to help administer their Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The purpose

Figure 1: winning Greenhouse Project Designs by 1st year CAD lab students at Milford High School using DataCAD 12.





Funded projects		Grant amounts	Lead funding	Weatherization funding	Owner occupied	Est. completion date
1	5 Quincy St.	\$90,000	\$20,000	\$5,000		June 2010
2	114 Austin St.	\$320,000	\$40,000	\$10,000		Dec. 2010
3	25 Preston St.	\$180,000				Spring 2010
4	5 Preston St.	\$125,000	\$10,000	\$5,000		June 2010
5	9 LaGrange St.	\$120,000				Oct. 2010
6	5 May St.	\$400,000	\$30,000			Oct. 2010
7	189 Beacon St.	\$60,000				Spring 2010
8	15 Kilby St.	\$180,000				Oct. 2010
9	23 Wyman St.	\$180,000	\$30,000			Spring 2010
10	43 Gates St.	\$77,000				Oct. 2010
Properties not on map						
11	67 Southgate St.	\$60,000				June 2010
12	58 Ames St.	\$80,000	\$20,000	\$10,000		Oct. 2010
13	Southgate Place	\$300,000				Spring 2010
14	65 Providence St.	\$125,000				June 2010

Source: City of Worcester
T&G Staff/DON LANGREN JR

Figure 2: Projects currently being funded by the Worcester NSP.

of this program is to work with buyers and developers to renovate existing foreclosed or vacant properties and offer substantial financing in the form of zero interest forgivable loans — if property is kept a certain number of years.

The current Phase I program has 4.78 million dollars of funding to distribute in specific target neighborhoods of Worcester, with a potential Phase II program to follow with an additional 10 million of funding (see Figure 2 above).

He took us through a number of these projects in which target properties are identified, evaluated, and proposed developments are reviewed by Rehab. Specialists, such as Bob. These projects might range from triple deckers to old, dilapidated, mansions to abandoned condo projects. He showed us an article from the *Worcester Telegram* (Jan 19, 2010) “House Raising” that showed one of their projects in which a triple decker was bought for \$135,000 and is being renovated by the new owner-resident, who will live on the first floor and rent the rest of the house once finished. Of course, these renovations must be done to meet the new codes for energy efficiency, lead removal, and accessibility.

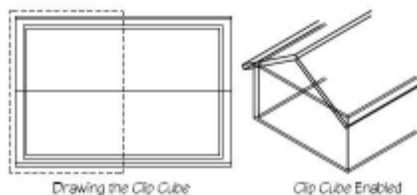
Polylines: “They’re not just for hatching anymore!”

said Manny Snyderman in the evening’s final presentation in showing how DataCAD can use polylines in 3D modeling work. He demonstrated how 3D covered polylines offer opportunities to model complex shapes. Manny took the group through the modeling of some custom millwork pieces in a reception desk. His technique utilized the ability to create covered polylines in the X-Y plane (Z-height used for millwork thickness) and then either XREF (or Self-XREF) the piece into a 3D view for placement. In this process, Manny proclaimed that he has become a believer in 3D modeling as a presentation and design tool.

In an extension of this presentation, DATACAD President and CEO Mark Madura took over to present some additional 3D modeling techniques. DATACAD has been running Advanced Productivity Seminars for the past year and has documented many of these techniques in their coursebook. In particular, he demonstrated that *GoTo Views* save *Clip Cube* settings. So a particular elevation or modeling entity can be isolated with a Clip Cube for easier editing and viewing, then saved in a *GoTo View* so that you can easily return to that isolated view at any time.

It was another full night of education (lasting until 10:00pm) as DBUG returned to the classroom at Milford High School

Figure 3: Clip Cube of 3D model can be saved in Go To View.



-- Meeting Notes by Evan H. Shu, FAIA