

THE METHODOLOGY FOR THE REDESIGN
OF THE INTERIOR DESIGN RESOURCE ROOM

by

CHERYL MARSHALL GILLETTE

A. B., Marshall University, 1970

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Approved by:

Theresa A. Prenzler
Major Professor

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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

The concern was man as the organism which occupies an environment, and the potentially stressful conditions with which he must cope as a result of inadequate facilities. More specifically, the project that was undertaken examined the Interior Design Resource Room at Kansas State University and the environmental characteristics which were associated with the activities that occur within its immediate boundaries. The room is a complex environment, that is, it is used by a wide variety of individuals who perform a diverse set of tasks.

The Resource Room merited a thorough investigation for several reasons. The room was used only sporadically throughout the day yet had the potential to serve as additional class-space. The organization of the room and its different work stations presented ineffective situations for students and faculty who utilized the room. Finally, the Resource Room did not project an image, either aesthetically or functionally coherent with the goals or image of the Clothing, Textiles and Interior Design Department.

The purpose of the following report was to verify the conviction that competent design can only take place and result from "disciplined imagination" which is based on

an understanding of man and his needs (Neutra, 1969). The main objective was to examine, analyze and synthesize the common interrelationships between research of related disciplines and design application for the Interior Design Resource Room.

This report had a two-fold purpose. As stated by Jones (1970) it is the belief of many individuals that the necessity for design based on man's needs is invalid and/or unnecessary. The intent of this report was to refute that belief. The discussions purposely attempted to prove this intent and show that a design decision-making rationale should and can be used. Such a rationale can order, filter, and evaluate research material into applicable guidelines, parameters, and criteria (Bloomfield and Hays, 1970). The report was also an attempt to prove that proper design thinking, identification, and use of research material can lead to a workable solution to any problem (Koberg and Bagnall, 1974). The goal of this report was to identify and review a rational method by which a designer can interpret and apply research information into decision-making data.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The study, theoretical in that it may not be implemented completely, involved the work of two design students and so is presented in two parts. Part I is the collection of data on psychological and physiological affects of environmental factors upon man. This is the research information