

Studio Fixtures

Design / Build

date started: 10/17/06

date completed: 12/10/06

Introduction:

Victor has given each apprentice a budget of fifty dollars to procure our own studio desks and drawing tables. I have decided to use my fifty dollars and design and fabricate my own fixtures. My fixtures will be of a modest construction with recycled and sustainable materials (wherever possible). The fixtures: desk, drawing table, sun screen, and file storage will be a design of my proportions and a finish aligned with my style.

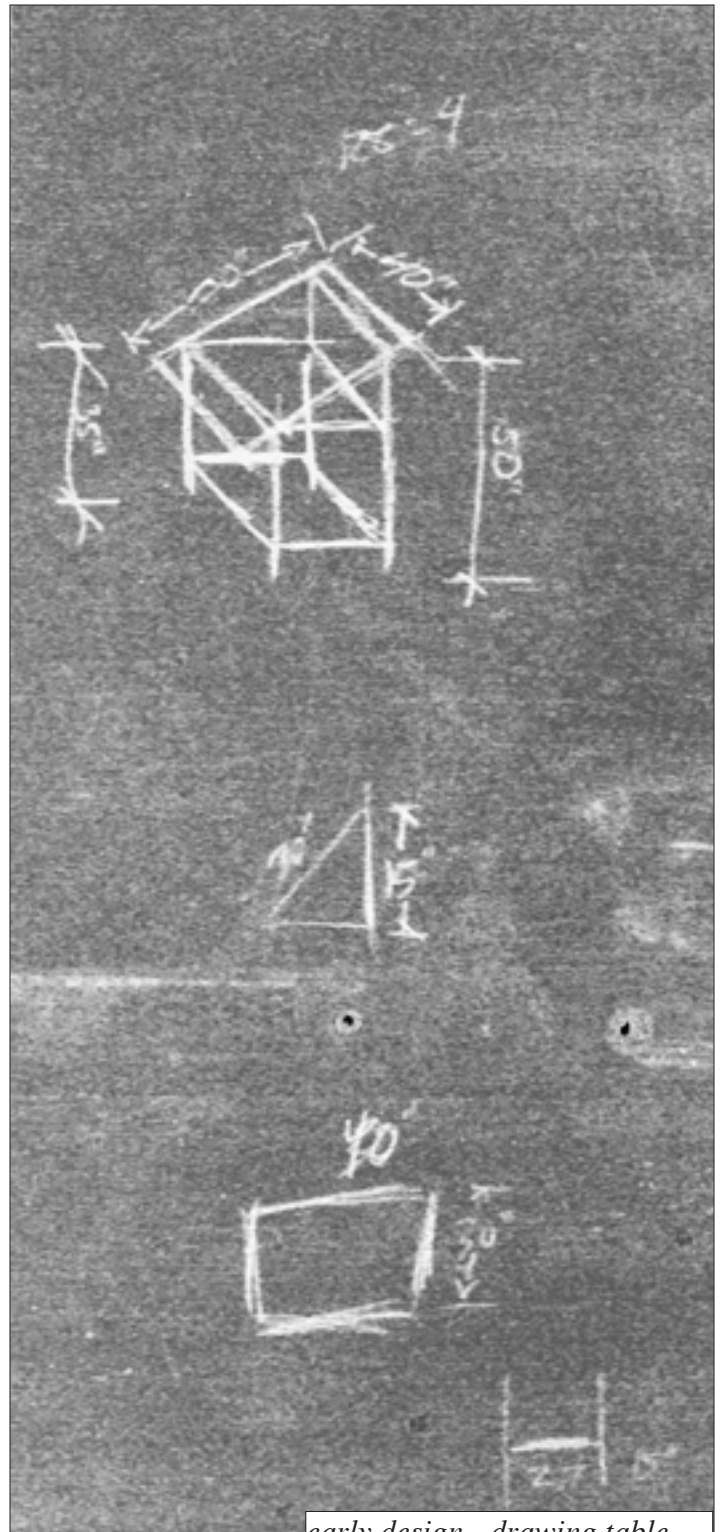
Process:

The process starts with a simple study of what I like in proportions. The desk should be slightly higher than a standard desk so it can be used for model making and layout. The drawing table should have multiple position angles to account for my different types of media (more upright for illustra-



detail - sunn screen

tions/lower for drafting). Drafting - I like to stand up so the table should be proportioned accordingly. The sun screen should be at a height to block the east sun. Next I study these proportions and start testing heights sizes according. In the case of the drafting table I made a full scale mock with scrap

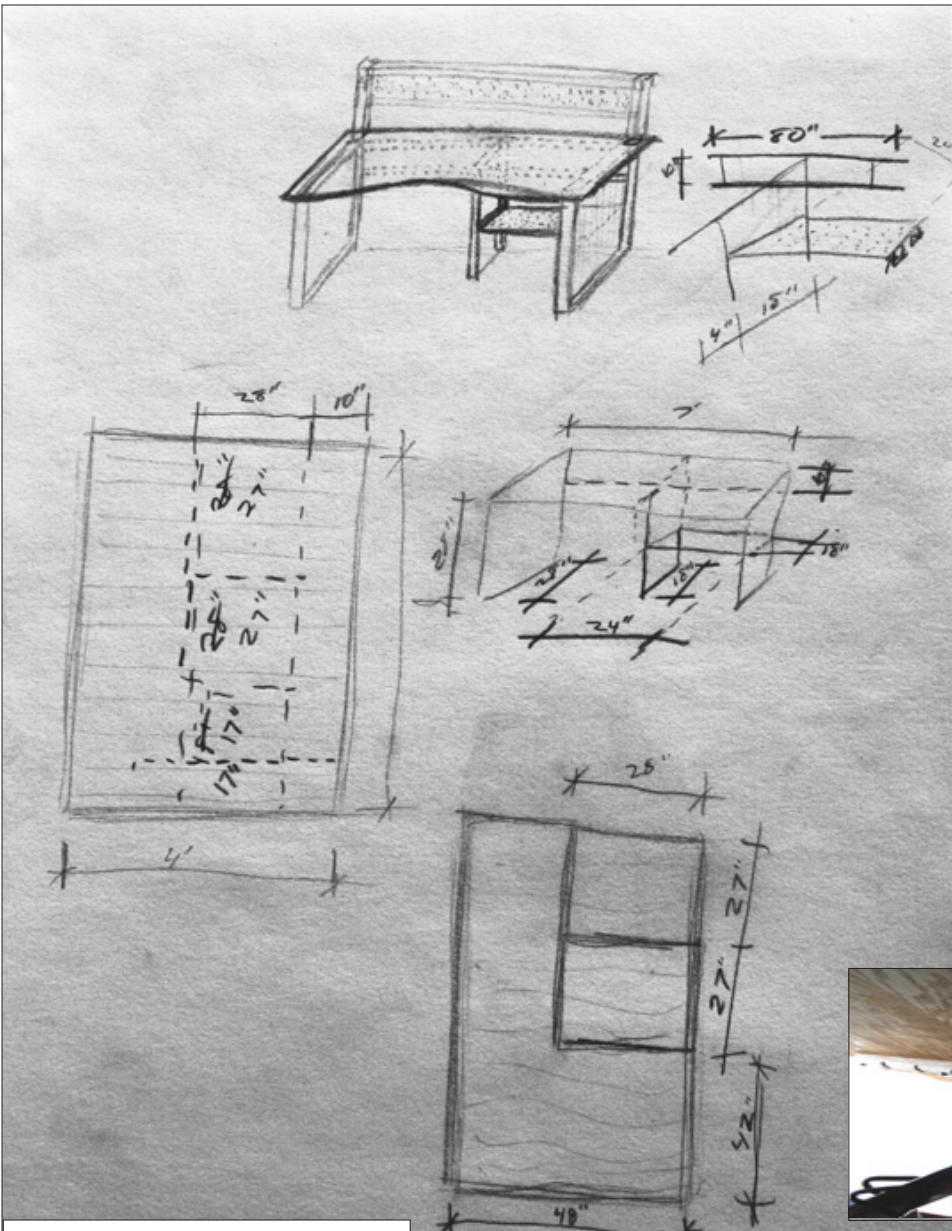


early design - drawing table

2x4s and a styrofoam top to make the proportions perfect. Once these final tweaks are finalized I can begin fabrication and procurement of the materials.

Materials:

Now that I know the dimensions and shapes that will be needed - I must choose materials. The materials for this project come from a few sources. The Taliesin West boneyard is used for much of the steel



the wood/metal finish) for the desk top were obtained from the Home Depot. The drawing table top was recycled from the existing studio drawing tables. The file cabinets were in the trash pile, in their former life they served the archives office for many years. These materials are in essence making the grounds for a sustainable platform.

Fabrication:

The most prevalent fabrication joinery techniques used is arc welding. The desk top composite is made from sandwiching eight layers of cardboard together with a top and bottom layer being three-sixteenths inch masonite. The total width of the desktop is one and half



early design - desk

detail - table angle adjust

for my frames as well Davis Salvage. The pallet wood was obtained through some warehouses by the Scottsdale airport. Masonite, cardboard, and poly acrylic (for a

inches thick and the sturdiness is extremely dense. The paint on the filing cabinets has been completely stripped using a grinder then I added a rusted finish. The rusted finish used on the studio suite is a combination of iodine, chlorine, and lemon. Apply the lemon on bare steel and instantly you see a color change later



stripping paint off file cabinets



detail - computer stand



detail - pallet wood shelf

apply a coat of chlorine and fish with a iodine (common salt) scrub. After everything has dried I applied a coat of poly-acrylic to lock in the color and prevent the color from coming off.

Summary:

The entire process took almost two months (breaks in between each piece) and about thirty man hours. The total cost is under one hundred dollars with the majority of the charges coming from poly-acrylic and the ma-



construction - desk frame

sonite surfaces. Now that I have occupied the space for over a month (finished) I can say the furniture is working very well and I have not yet encountered what I would have changed in the design.

- A. composite laminated desktop
- B. sun screen
- C. file cabinets with steel cable handles
- D. adjustable drafting table
- E. pallet wood shelf
- F. computer CPU shelf

