1. The new pair of buildings on the left, with the earlier Youl Ma Dang building on the right
2. Site plan
3. An interior of rooms without corridors
4. Study for brick and steel curtain facade

Beigel goes by the book

Forsin Beigel and the Arup Associates, London Metropolitan University project in South Korea, is a site near of Paju New City, north of the city of Seoul. The scheme is immediately next to a publishing house, which is why the latest project is for another publisher. Chul, who runs the Positive Pub, provides offices, storage and living at the point in Paju where the two buildings make a 45° turn towards the city.

Reflecting its pivotal place at Paju, one of the new buildings, the publishing street, while the other, towards the mixed-use premises, part of them—their transitional buildings engage in a subtle and stepped section and echoing with the main room on the floor, having it on the ground. As with building AJ 05.05.05, the determination and a predetermined but the building to the Beigel wanted a landmark, a rarity in a city of curtain wall bluish regulations in Korea in the storeroom, thinking of Bane and photographs of old industrial buildings. Precedents such as Miles’ cam of Technology, Beigel opted for a curtain wall, tied to an internal grid. Much attention has gone to the windows, so that their rhythm and steel and they are not uniform.

In tune with ARUP’s sporting project is part of an ongoing review of the way in which the spaces between them is a theme that he illustrates with Leverentz photograph of Tom's Way and a Montréal still life, in which the Beigel and ARUP’s scheme start for completion in summer 2007.

By Andrew Imlay
Beigel Goes by the Book in Korea

Florian Beigel and the Architecture Research Unit (ARU) of London Metropolitan University are working on a new project in South Korea, for a site on the reclaimed land of Paju Biff City, north of the capital, Seoul. The scheme is immediately next to the Youl Hwa Dong Publishing House, which they completed in 2004. This latest project is for another publisher — Chung Yong Chul, who runs the Pooet Publishing Co — and will provide office, storage and living space in two buildings at the point in Paju where the street of publishing houses makes a 45° turn towards a mixed-use area.

Reflecting its pivotal place in the overall plan of Paju, one of the new buildings aligns with those in the publishing street while the other makes a half-turn towards the mixed-use premises but doesn’t read as part of them — its transitional role is clear. The two buildings engage in a subtle give-and-take, each having a stepped section and echoing the other in form, but one with the main room on the first floor and the other having it on the ground. As with Beigel and ARU’s Paju building (AJ 05.05.05), the precise use of rooms is not predetermined but awaits inhabitation.

Beigel wanted a loadbearing brick structure — a rarity in a country of curtain walls — but new post-tsunami regulations in Korea rule this out above two storeys. Thinking of Benedict and Willa Becher’s photographs of old industrial buildings and later precedents such as Mies van der Rohe’s campus for Illinois Institute of Technology, Beigel opted instead for a steel and brick curtain, tied to an inner structural leaf of concrete. Much attention has gone to the placement of the windows, so that their rhythm is distinct from the steel’s and they are not “imprisoned” by it.

In tune with ARU’s emphasis on research, the project is part of an ongoing interest in what Beigel calls ensembles: the way in which separate elements and the spaces between them are made to cohere. It’s a theme that he illustrates with disparate references: a Lawerentz photograph of “tomb-temple” on the Apian Way and a Moravská Stíl life. In partnership with Korean architect Chul Jong Hoon of Network in Architecture, Beigel and ARU’s scheme starts on site this month, for completion in summer 2007.

By Andrew Mead

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