Hybridization between Nature and Culture

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Introduction

The word "Hybridization" refers to cross species.

Concepts described crossing species in biology, chemistry, at the DNA level. We are also interested in the processes of crossing in the architectural design, urbanism, philosophy, art, etc. I feel closer to the architectural design, so crossing species in this area and will be devoted to this study.

In our case, the hybridization between Nature and Culture, means that crossing is not within the same species but between species. The aim of any crossing is to get a new species or giving one of the types of some new qualities.

To say that Nature and Culture are not the same, but a different species, is also very difficult. Everything depends on the circumstances. For example, in the field of architectural design, Nature appears as a material component (topography, trees, buildings, etc.). Culture also appears in the form of material objects (churches, clubs, libraries, theaters, etc.). In case of architectural design process can be likened to the process of crossing within the same species.

In another case, in the case of the use or adaptations of natural objects or devices (such as caves or landscape) the word Nature will mean the material components of this concept. And the word Culture, we will consider intangible, spiritual, cultural function space, its functional purpose. In such a case, it would be a crossing between species, hybridization between the material and spiritual species.

There is a third option. The adaptation of artificial caves or mines. Can they be considered as a part of Nature? No fear. But, you see, this is a special case, not like the traditional approach of the architectural design. I was trying to determine the fundamental difference between the existing artificially created Void in the rock, for example, and reshaping of the existing Void of any object. If we consider the problem from the point of view of the notion that any object is the sum of the Masses and Voids, the fundamental difference is that in one case the Mass is natural, and in the other artificial.

On this basis, the caves and mines of artificial origin can be attributed to the concept of Nature in the present world context.

But even apart is the fourth option. This is a case where the artificially created Void in the natural object is the result of designing a specific cultural object. This can be attributed to a variation of the third embodiment, or by selecting as the third embodiment and the third embodiment attributed to its variants. However, in both these cases, we can...
talk about crossing different species, material species with the spiritual.

Occurs even fifth option. Hybridization between three components. Two of them are the same as in the previously discussed embodiments, the third object is a traditional architectural building or part of it.

Now, try to consider the above options with specific examples.

The first option. Hybridization within the same species (material).

In this case, the Nature appears, as we have said, in the form of the physical environment, in the form of the surrounding buildings, streets and trees. The object of Culture - Library - is the same material object. Cross-breeding of the two members of the same species gives us the result as a Mass and Void changes in this particular place. Increases the material part (Mass) and decreases immaterial (Void).

Option Two. The adaptation of existing natural features (caves, landscapes, etc.) for the function of Culture.

“Cultural and Natural Reservation Orheiul Vechi.

“CLAPHAM LIBRARY At Clapham One, our fundamental objective is to bring the community together and to empower individuals. To help themselves, whether it is learning to read, pursuing hobbies, expanding their knowledge or seeking a job. To achieve this the library needs to be more than a place full of books. It has to be playful in the sense that it doesn’t feel like home. We have designed the library as a very public building with a distinct identity that sits underneath a very private building full of the most desirable homes...”


Gustar Festival, 4th edition, invites the citizen of Moldova and foreign tourists to a multicultural dialogue. The event is taking place during the national holidays in the month of August. People call it gustar, archaic word that symbolizes the month when most of the fruits including grapes are ripe and are tasted.”


In this case, we observe Hibrydization between different species. On the one hand Nature in the form of the material landscape of the existing reserve, on the other hand in the form of Culture...
Festival Gustar being immaterial, the spiritual component of the hybrid.

**Option Three. Adjustment in natural objects (artificial caves, mines, etc.)**

“Underground galleries.

Milestii Mici. Excursion. http:alorda.livejournal.com

... The excursion itinerary may be passed by car, but it is more pleasant to go for a walk through the small streets shaded by street lights, with such names as Cabernet, Aligote, Feteasca, which make us imagine that we are in a real underground wine city.

Milestii Mici. travellmd.wordpress.com.

Total length of galleries is 200 km, of which cca 55 km (an area of 182 thousand m²) is used for technological purposes. The width of layer to surface varies from 30 to 85 m. Big oak barrels were assembled at the enterprise in 70-80’s, the wood was imported from Russia and Ukraine. Their capacity varies from 600 to 2000 wine decaliters.

Cascade dug in stone and great oak buts mysteriously reflects an atmosphere of magic, fairytale. The fresco of a bottle with glass of champagne and divine aroma of wine leave you speechless.”


In this case, one of the participants of hybridization are galleries, where stone was quarried. They are a part of Nature artificially altered.

Another participant is the Culture in the form of Tasting complex conducting all sorts of cultural activities in the form of tours for visitors to the complex, receptions guests of all levels.

**Option Four. Creation in material objects of Nature artificial Voids predetermined functionality for objects of Culture. Hybridization between the two species, the material and spiritual**

Milestii Mici. travellmd.wordpress.com.

Orheiul Vechi. Hermitage. oldchisinau_com-11.JPG
“...Old Orhei is famous for the cave monasteries located there. This zone was ideal for the primary monasticism of early Christian community. It was isolated from the outer world. At the time when Christians came here there should have been smaller and bigger caves in the calcareous rocks cut by prehistoric tribes living on this territory.

The Christians probably used existing caves and penetrated “inside the rocks” in order to “become a rock”. Christian life in the Old Orhei caves became eternal and saint. In the medieval period monastery life intensification made monks to deepen the caves. There also appeared new caves. Nowadays some caves are preserved well. Others were damaged, mainly by earthquakes which are frequent in this area...”


It is easy to notice that the presented Voids were performed in the existing object of Nature by artificial means. Moreover, it was not an adaptation of existing caves, as we see, and systematic work to create a certain type of Voids corresponding to the planned functional purpose. In this case for the function of the monastic cells and hermitages.

As a result of hybridization of the material part of Nature and the spiritual function appears the object of Culture.

Finally, the fifth embodiment. Crossing the three species.

"... For more than 6 km along the river Raut more than 30 caves carved into the cliffs. In ancient times they were used for a variety of pagan worship needs. In the Bronze Age in this place was equipped necropolis, and later, with the advent of Christians - rock temples.

In the original form is preserved monastic complex next to the cross under the two-tier stone bell tower dating from the XIII - XIV century.

The monastery is not big. It is designed only for 10-12 monks. At first, the entrance was made from the Reut side. In 1820, to the monastery of the village was broken twenty-meter tunnel and constructed a new entrance, which is decorated by the portal.

Much later, in 1890, small elegant bell tower was erected at the entrance, made in the style of late classicism. As such, the church has survived to the
present day, and today it has attracted the attention of many fans of Moldova antiquity.

... The original entrance to the cave monastery looks like a narrow slit, punched in a huge body of rock. Major steps lead deep into the rock, low round shaped room. On the walls - deep niches separated by partitions left in the rock. This - cells. Uneven, hewn ceilings and walls are covered with a layer of soot. Weak light penetrates through small holes punched in the walls...

In this case, the crossing objects of the fourth embodiment complemented the traditional elements of architectural design. In the case of rock monastery in the Old Orhei is the bell tower. In the rock churches in Saharna, it’s outer wall.
Summary and Conclusions.

This paper is not intended to be a full investigation. I would say the essay, the first attempt to classify the process of hybridization between Nature and Culture. With that, it should be noted only in the field of architectural design.

Comparing Urban Hybridization and Urban Pores / Porosity, in most cases, Hybridization between Nature and Culture in the field of architectural design, we can speak about Natural Pores / Porosity.

This topic is worthy of further consideration and deepening, which would require much more time and attention.

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