

Fig. 43



Fig. 44

Cardboard Church, Kobe, Japan
Shigeru Ban

After the earthquake of 1995, this singularly exquisite Roman Catholic Church was built by Ban and volunteers from the congregation. The plan consists of an outer rectangular envelope of corrugated polycarbonate sheeting supported by an inner ellipse consisting of 58 cardboard tubes. The roof acts as the tie between the two forms. The gentle handling of space and light creates a sacred space sensitive to the disaster. The spacing of the cardboard tubes indicates direction of worship and entry. The difference between the two forms creates a servant space around the inner sanctum (Davey 1999, p.71). With the minimum use of material and a vrrugal plan, Shigeru Ban created a church of immense emotional value by combining the peotic with the purly functional and a clear understanding of space.

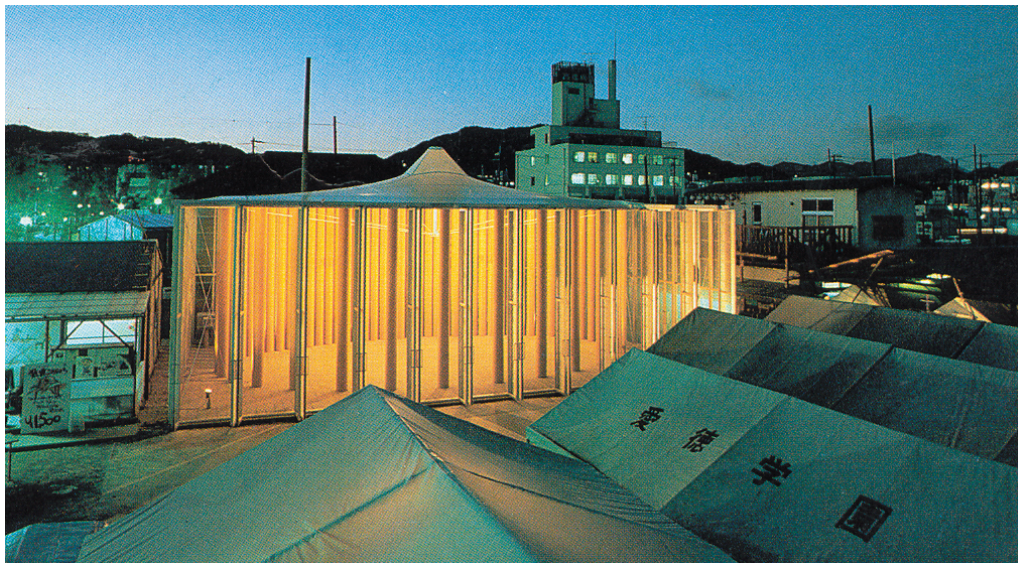


Fig. 45

Church, Matlala, Groblersdal Anton du Toit

This is a small church designed for a rural congregation. The whole facility was self built by the local pastor, who was a skilled carpenter. Careful design minimized the cost of church. Cost calculations indicated that three large steel roof trusses were more economical than a larger amount of small trusses. Reusing building elements to fulfill more than one function further reduces cost. An example of this philosophy is the bell tower, which is formed by extending the parapet walls of the church vertically. (du Toit 2004) The buildings are carefully placed to allow for intimate outdoor spaces to be created. The transition from public to sacred, indoor and outdoor are gracefully executed

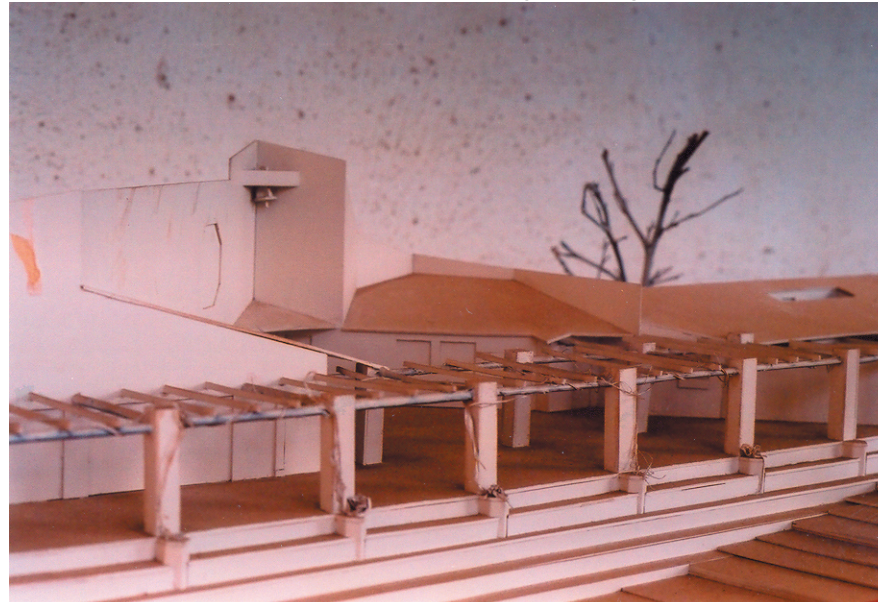


Fig. 46

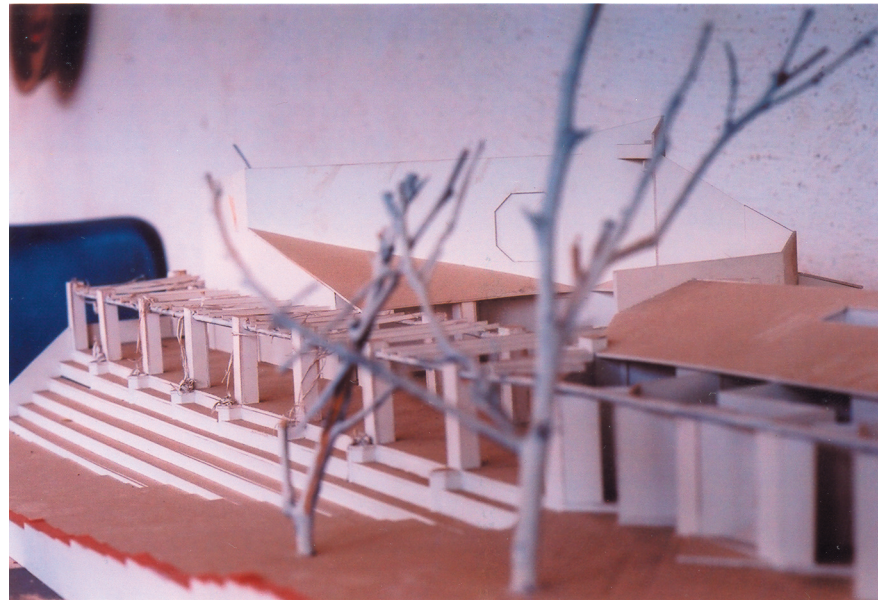


Fig. 47