

VALENTIN TORRES

MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE

Architecture • Design • Visualization

PORTFOLIO INTRODUCTION

This portfolio is a collection of selected architectural, academic, and creative work developed throughout my education and personal exploration of design. Each project represents a different stage of my development as a designer and reflects my interest in understanding how architecture can shape experiences, connect people to their surroundings, and give meaning to the spaces we inhabit.

My approach to architecture is rooted in the belief that design is more than the creation of buildings. It is a process of observation, research, experimentation, and communication. I am interested in exploring the relationship between space, materiality, light, context, and human experience, while considering how design can respond thoughtfully to the needs of a community and its environment. Through each project, I strive to balance creativity with functionality and develop ideas that are both visually compelling and purposeful.

I recently completed my Master of Architecture at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Throughout my academic experience, I developed skills in architectural design, representation, digital modeling, drafting, visualization, and presentation. My work with programs such as Revit and Adobe Creative Suite has allowed me to communicate ideas across different stages of the design process, from initial concepts and drawings to detailed architectural presentations.

Beyond architecture, my interests in art and photography have influenced the way I observe and understand the built environment. Photography, in particular, has taught me to pay attention to composition, atmosphere, light, and the details that can often go unnoticed. I bring these perspectives into my architectural work as I continue to explore new ways of representing and experiencing space.

As I begin my professional career, I am looking forward to expanding my experience within the architecture field, learning from other designers and professionals, and continuing to develop my own voice as an architect. This portfolio represents not only the work I have completed, but also the curiosity, creativity, and continued growth that I hope to bring into my future practice.



VALENTIN TORRES

MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE | ARCHITECTURE • DESIGN • VISUALIZATION

PROFILE

Master of Architecture — University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA)
Selected academic work • 2026

TOOLS

Revit • Adobe Creative Suite

AREAS OF INTEREST

Architectural design

Technical documentation

Environmental performance

Visualization

SELECTED WORK

01

H.I.V.E.

Highland Park • Community-centered urban intervention

02

URBAN EDEN

Mixed-use • community-focused design

03

EARTH TO MACHINE

San Jose Mission • library/archive + documentation

04

TEAM PROJECT

Collaborative design study • iterative formal exploration

DESIGN APPROACH

A selection of academic work exploring context, community, materiality, environmental performance, technical documentation. The sequence moves from urban/community work into architectural development, technical studies, environmental analysis, and collaborative experimentation.



H.I.V.E.

HIGHLAND PARK | INTERCONNECTED | VILLAGE | ECONOMY

TEAM PROJECT

Community-centered urban intervention

Phase 3 | ARC 6136

Instructors: C. Jones & L. Notestine

Kara Salinas | Valentin Torres | Kenneth Artola



02 | SITE + ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Nourishment • Community • Wind • Sun • Sound



03 | DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

Module studies • fabrication • biophilic strategies



04 | PROTOTYPE + ASSEMBLY

Hive module • construction sequence • details

SATELLITE LIBRARY / COFFEE SHOP



FARMERS MARKET



URBAN GARDEN



PARKLETS



PHASE 3 | INSTRUCTORS: C. JONES & L. NOTESTINE | ARC 6136 | KARA SALINAS, VALENTIN TORRES, KENNETH ARTOLA

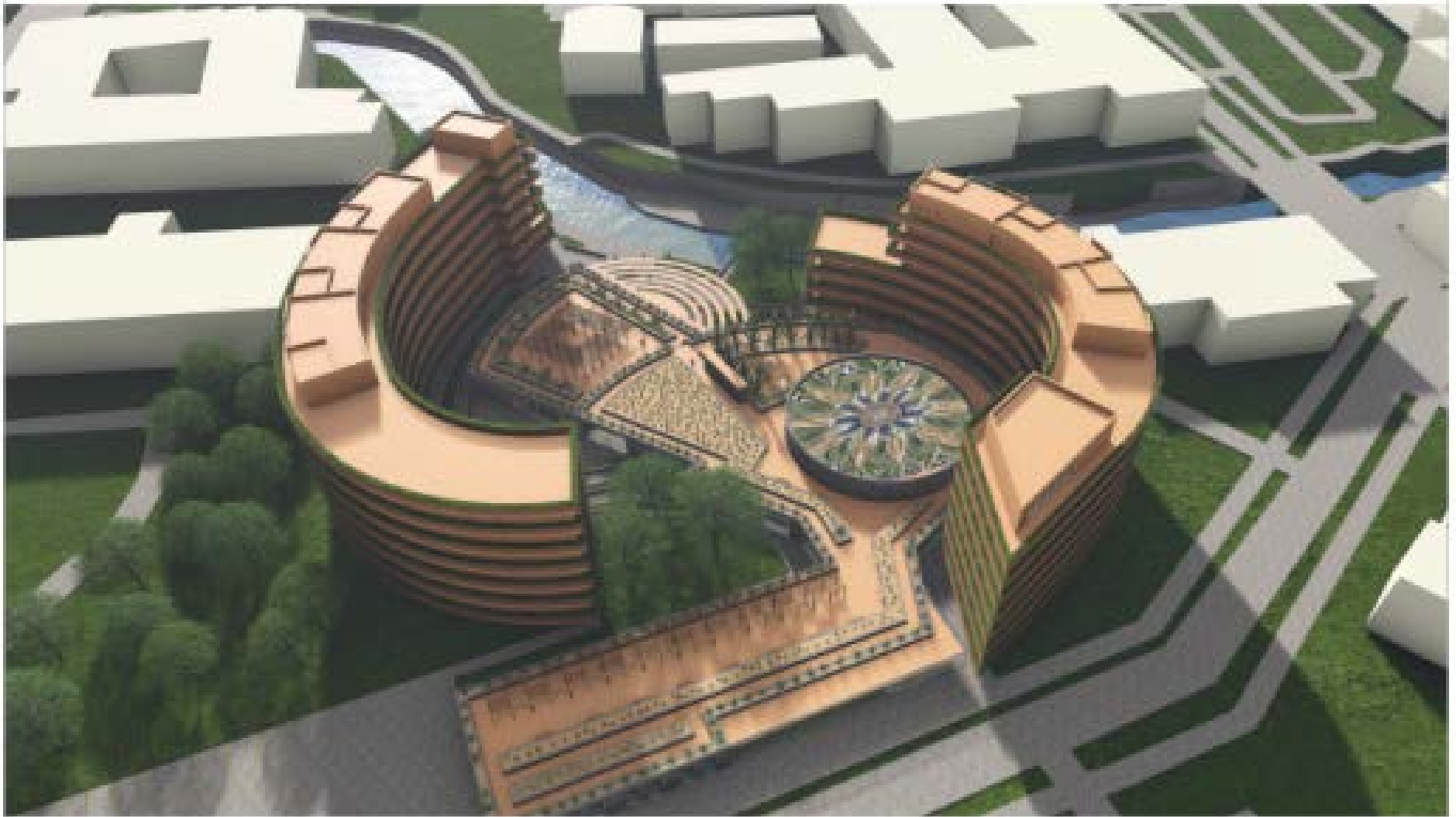
05 | SPATIAL EXPERIENCE

Selected perspectives



01 — URBAN EDEN

Exterior view • Selected academic project



EXTERIOR VIEW

URBAN EDEN — DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

Context, concept, massing, program, materials, and environmental strategy



ROOFTOP TERRACE

Landscape and communal space integrated with the building form



ROOFTOP TERRACE

GARDEN / COURTYARD

Pedestrian circulation and planted landscape



GARDEN/ COURTYARD

RESIDENTIAL UNIT

Interior visualization • natural materials and daylight



UNITS

GYM / COMMUNITY SPACE

Interior visualization



GYM

RIVER WALK CONNECTION

Landscape connection and public realm



RIVER WALK CONNECTION

San Jose Mission • architectural design and documentation

This architectural rendering shows a long, single-story building with a modern design. It features a series of windows along its side and a central entrance area. In front of the building is a paved plaza with some landscaping, including trees and a low wall. The rendering is in a light, sketchy style.

4. The proposed facility is a single story building with a total gross area of approximately 13,000 square feet. It is designed to house various storage areas, library, reading room, office, and support areas including restrooms, mechanical rooms, and break rooms. The building also accommodates parking for 70 vehicles and 10 bicycles. The design meets inspection safe and efficient requirements, accessibility, and fire protection, while providing flexible functional space for staff and policy areas. The project will comply with the 2021 International Building Code (IBC) and applicable referenced standards, including 2018 NFPA 70 National Electrical Code and 2018 NFPA 72 National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code.

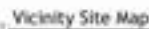
1. The library of 200 titles, reading room (2,000 sq. ft.), offices (1,000 sq. ft.) and meeting rooms (half of which are classified as Group II (Business), meeting room with lower than 90 accounts may also be classified as Group II per BS Section 102.1.2. Since the building contains multiple occupancy groups, it will be treated as a not-exempted mixed-use facility under BS Section 102.2, allowing shared spaces and fire protection systems, with fire-rated means of egresses applying across the entire.

3. The three (1,000 sq. ft., medium room; 1,000 sq. ft., office; and 1,000 sq. ft., meeting room) are classified as Group II (electronic, assembly areas with fewer than 50 occupants may also be classified as Group II per IRC Section 103.1.2). Since the building contains multiple occupant groups, it will be treated as a fire-separated mixed-use facility under IRC Section 103.2, allowing shared egress and fire protection systems, with fire-rated walls for fire protection separating where necessary.

5. The choice of construction type will affect fire-resistance ratings, agency requirements, and integration of the protection systems. A fully protected column per NFPA section 901.2.1 will reduce the required agency travel distances and may influence fire separation and structural assembly requirements.

4. **Symptoms:** in-built storage and occupied areas enhance occupant safety, reduce abnormal travel distances, and may allow certain reductions in rated separation between occupancies. The design ensures firelight access, temperature/pressure, and life safety compliance in accordance with both NFPA 2001 and the City of San Antonio's guidelines.

10. The library (1,500 sq. ft.), reading room (1,000 sq. ft.), offices (1,100 sq. ft.), and meeting rooms (400 sq. ft.) are classified as Group B (Business Assembly areas with Group II use). No occupants may also be classified as Group B per IRC Section 103.1.2. Since the building contains multiple occupancy groups, it will be treated as a non-separated tenant use facility under IBC Section 103.1, allowing shared signs and fire protection systems, with the most restrictive provisions applying where necessary.



These measures ensure compliance with both SEC 302A (Chapter 44) and local Texas accessibility requirements, providing accessible access for all users.

The club accommodates 10 automobile guests and 10 bicycle guests, with an automobile vehicle space positioned nearest to the main entrance.

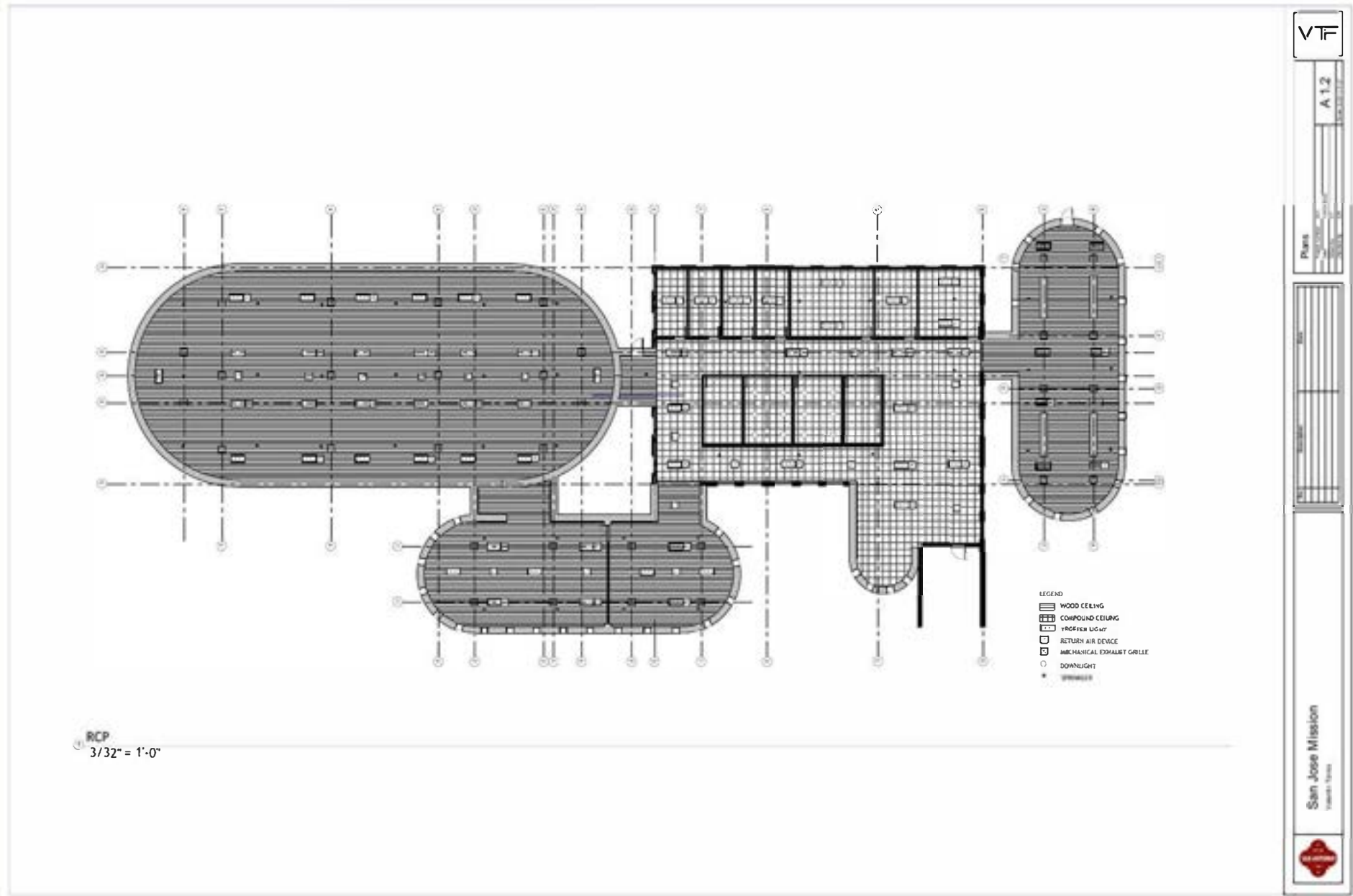
Vehicle parking is encouraged to be covered or shaded to protect automobile longevity and occupant convenience. The parking design integrates with the building layout while maximizing landscape surface and automobile safety.

The building is constructed as follows:
 Gable: 20' x 40'
 Occupancy: 8 (Business) + 0.2 (Low-Mixed Storage)
 Construction Type: II or IV
 Stories: 1 (Height: 1 story to 10,000 sq ft)
 Assembly System: Full coverage (RPM 110)
 Fire Separation: One separated (RPM 110)
 Total Occupied Load: ~120 occupants
 Required Exits: 2 (minimum)
 Egress Travel Distance: ~100 ft (approximately)
 egress door: 10' x 10' (minimum)
 Egress: 10 doors, 10 (minimum) (approximately)

Performance code research confirms that this proposed facility aligns with ICC 2003 requirements for a 2-story non-building containing 1.5 acreage and 20 occupants. A streamlined Type III or IIIA construction allows design flexibility while maintaining the safety, accessibility, and fire protection compliance. Final verification will be coordinated during the Construction Document phase with structural, fire protection, and accessibility consultants to ensure full regulatory compliance.

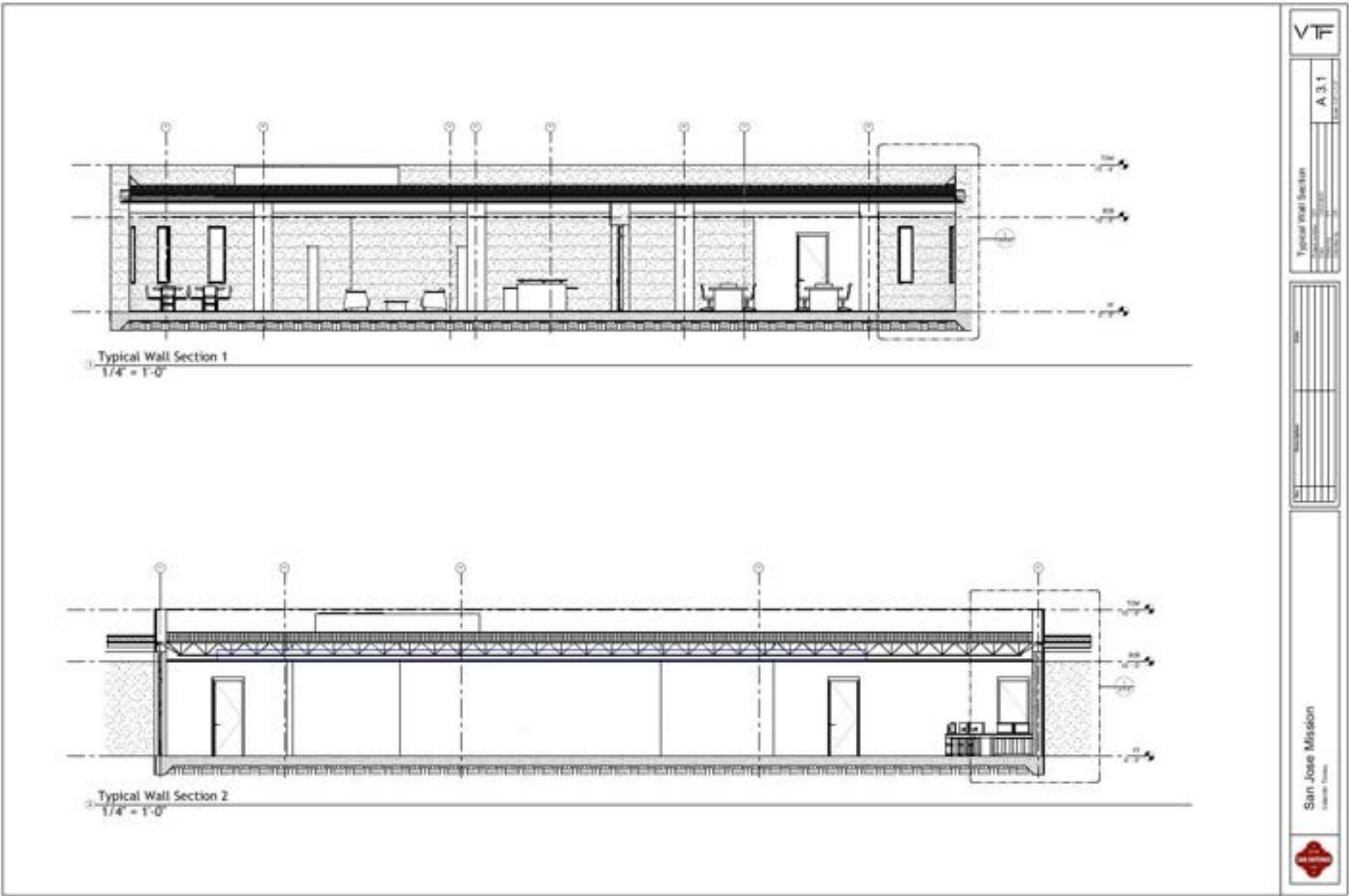
PLAN + SITE ORGANIZATION

Selected plan documentation



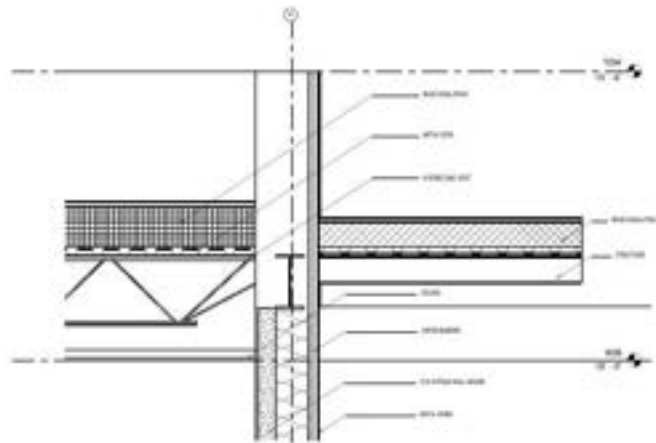
BUILDING SECTIONS

Selected building sections

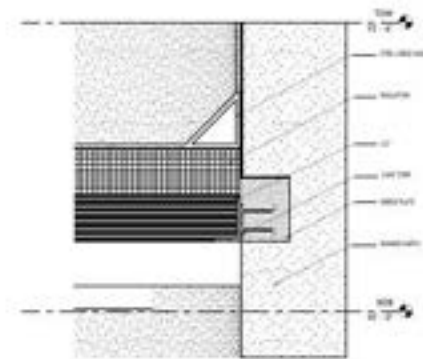


TECHNICAL DETAILS

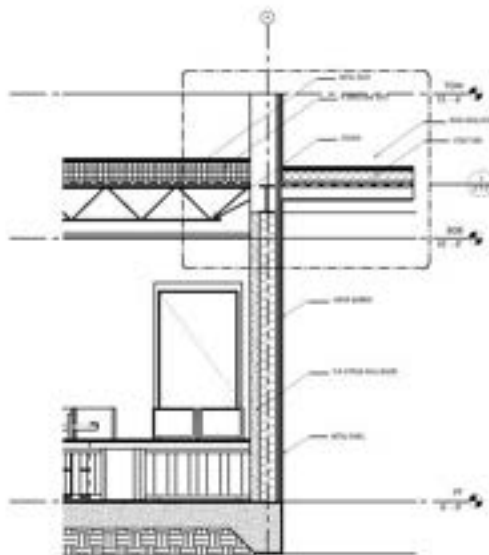
Envelope and construction details



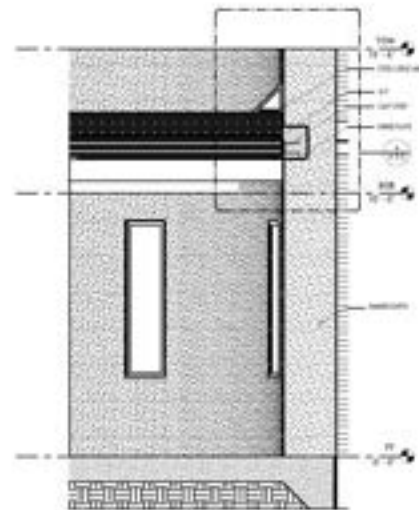
Detail 1
1" = 1'-0"



Detail 2
1" = 1'-0"



Enlarge Wall Section
1/2" = 1'-0"



Enlarge Wall Section 2
1/2" = 1'-0"

VTF

A 5.0

Details

Rev	Description	Date

San Jose Mission
Architect



Energy and embodied-carbon analysis



TEAM PROJECT

Collaborative Design Study

Selected diagrams • iterative development • spatial exploration

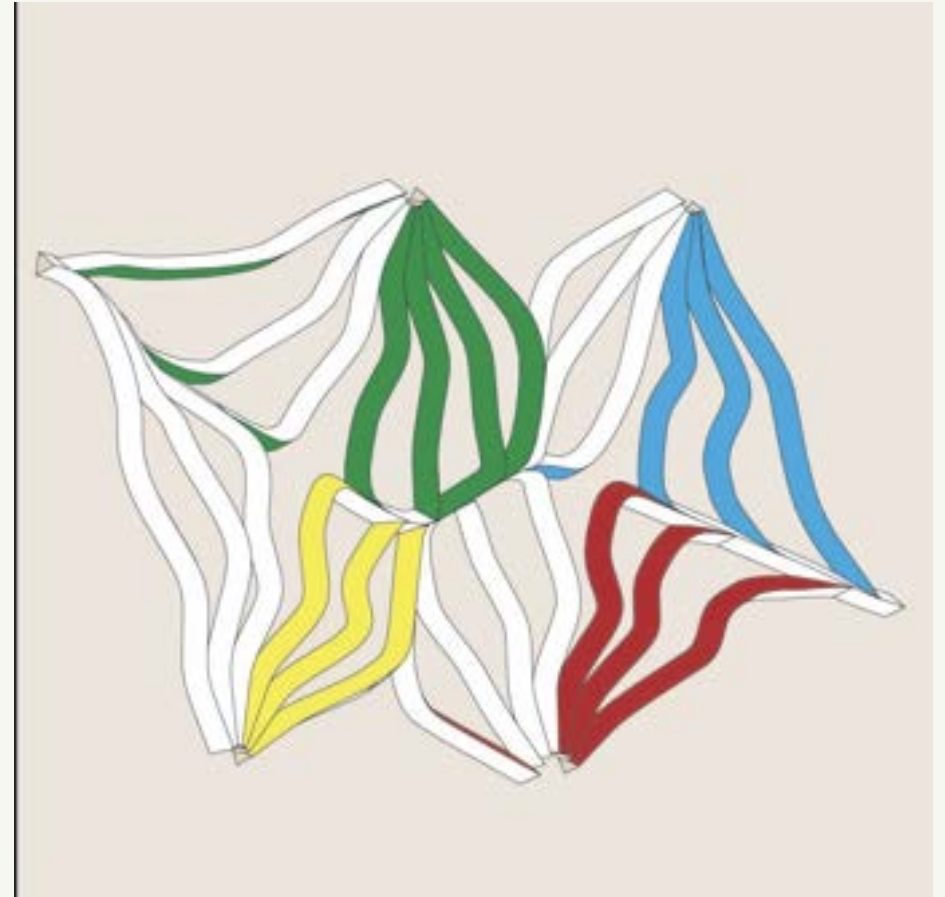
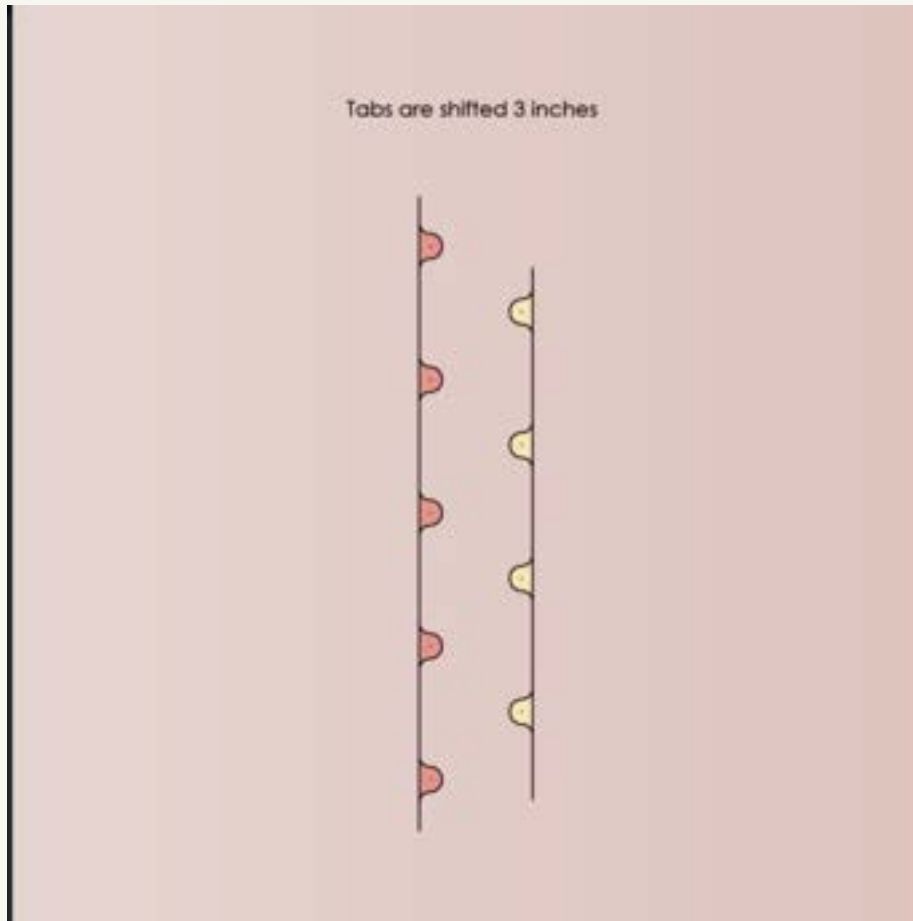


Included as collaborative academic work



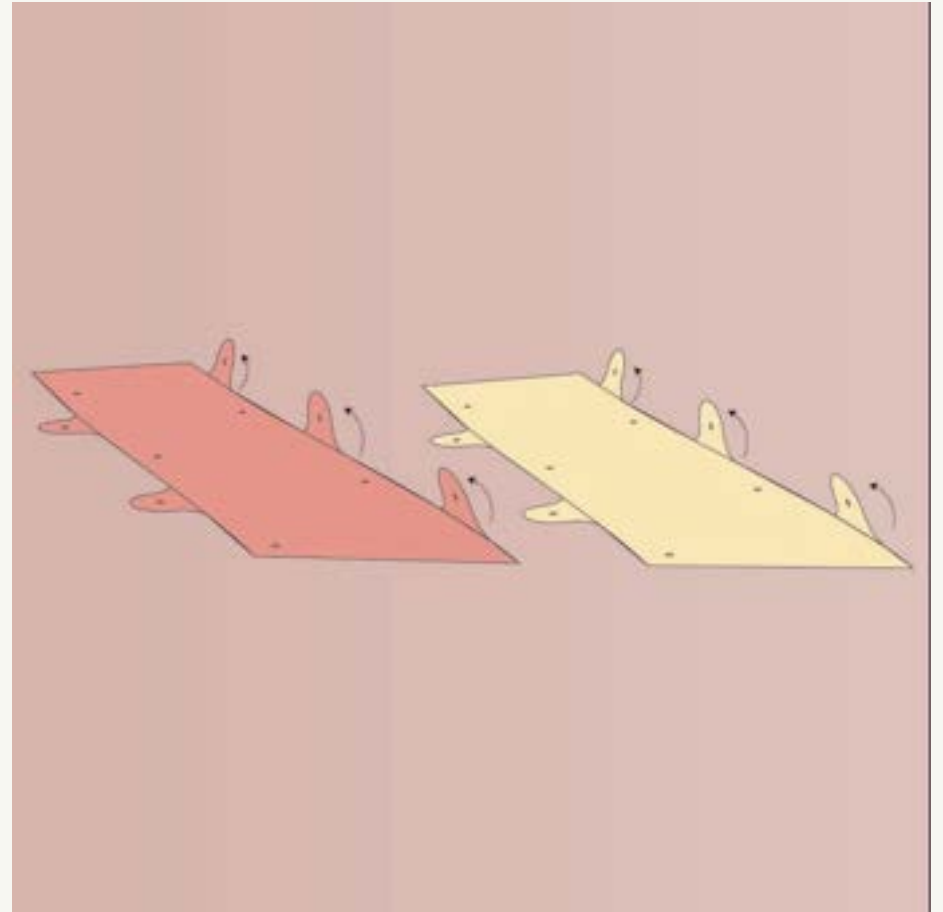
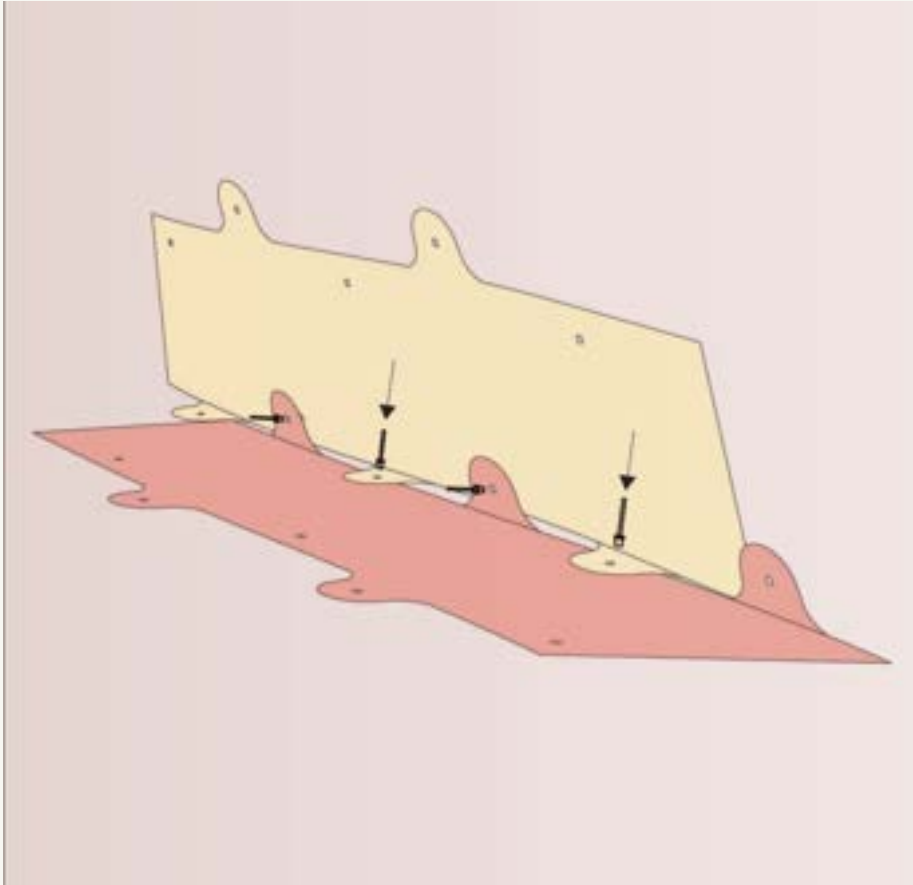
ITERATION + PARAMETRIC STUDY

Exploration of alternating tabs and modular relationships.



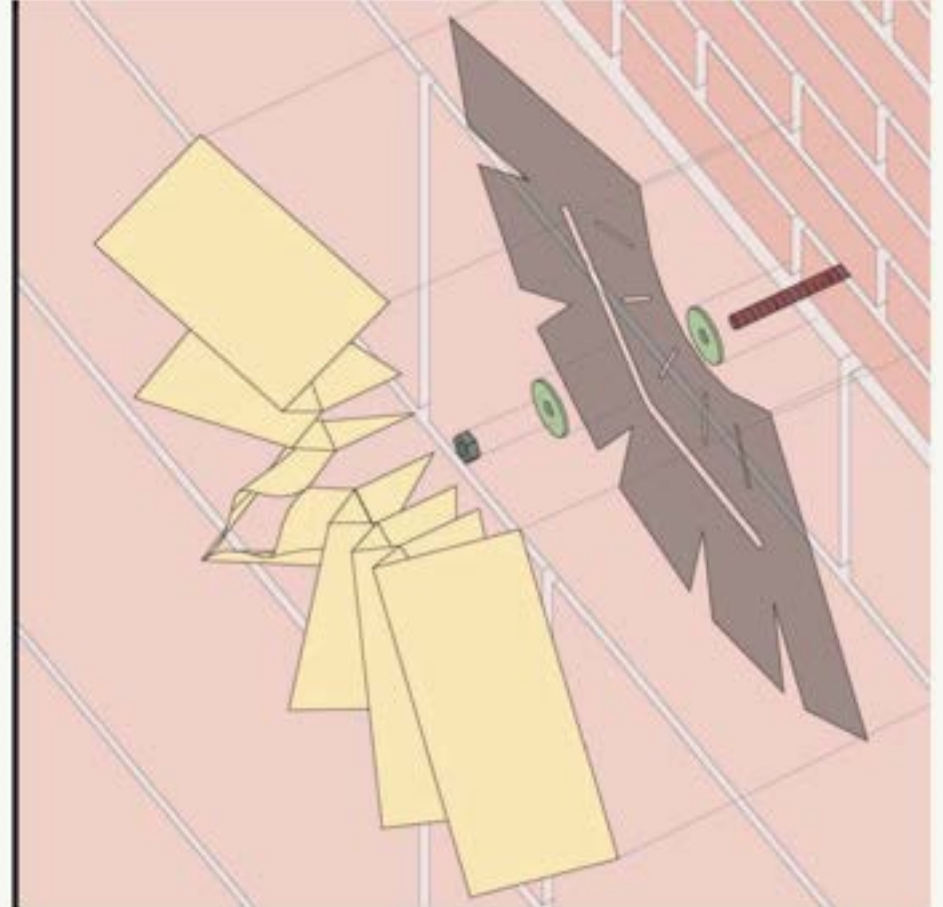
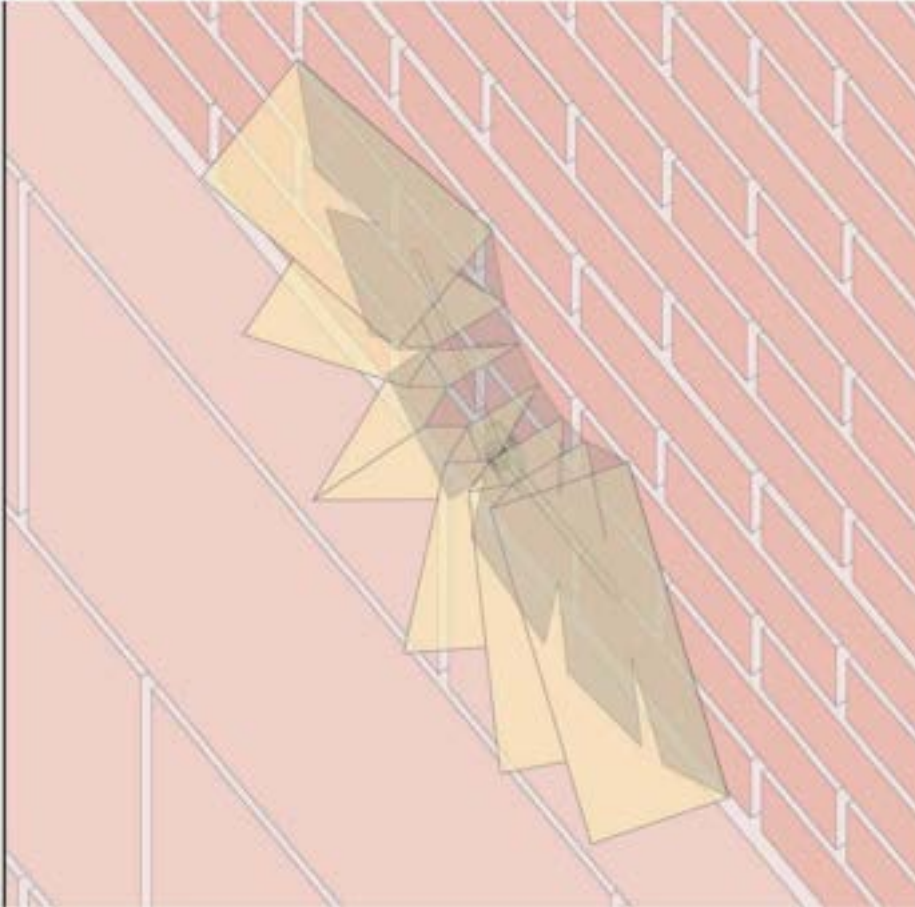
FORM + SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

Studies of folded, layered, and connected surface conditions.



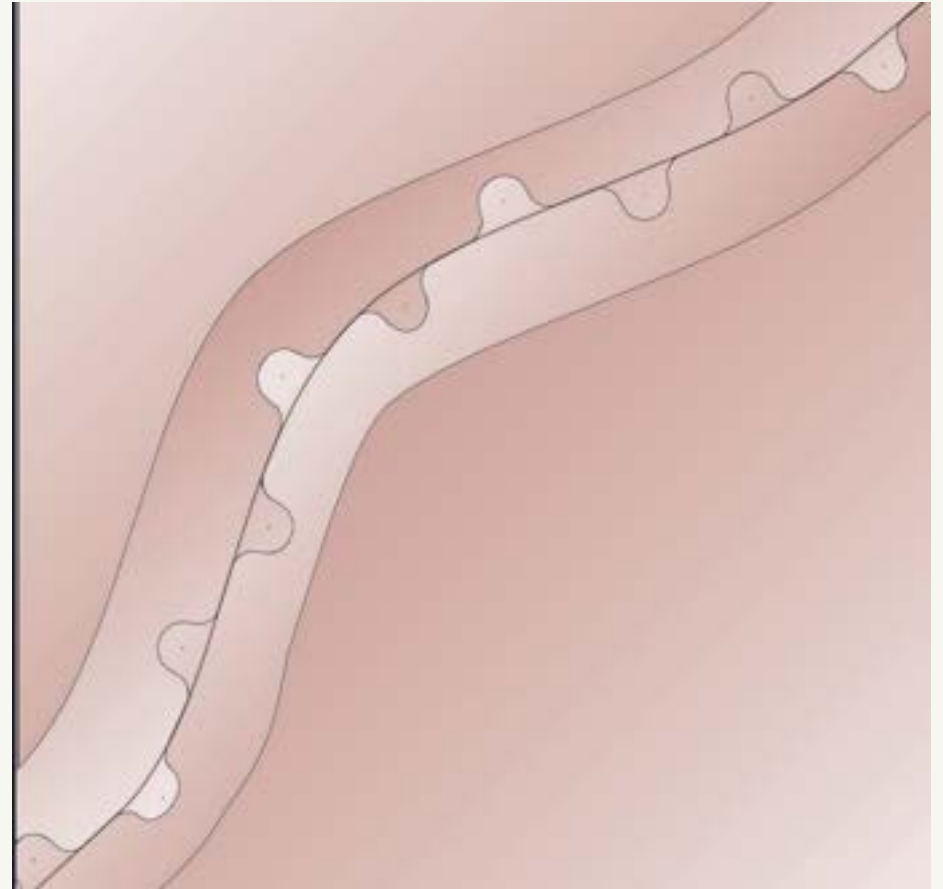
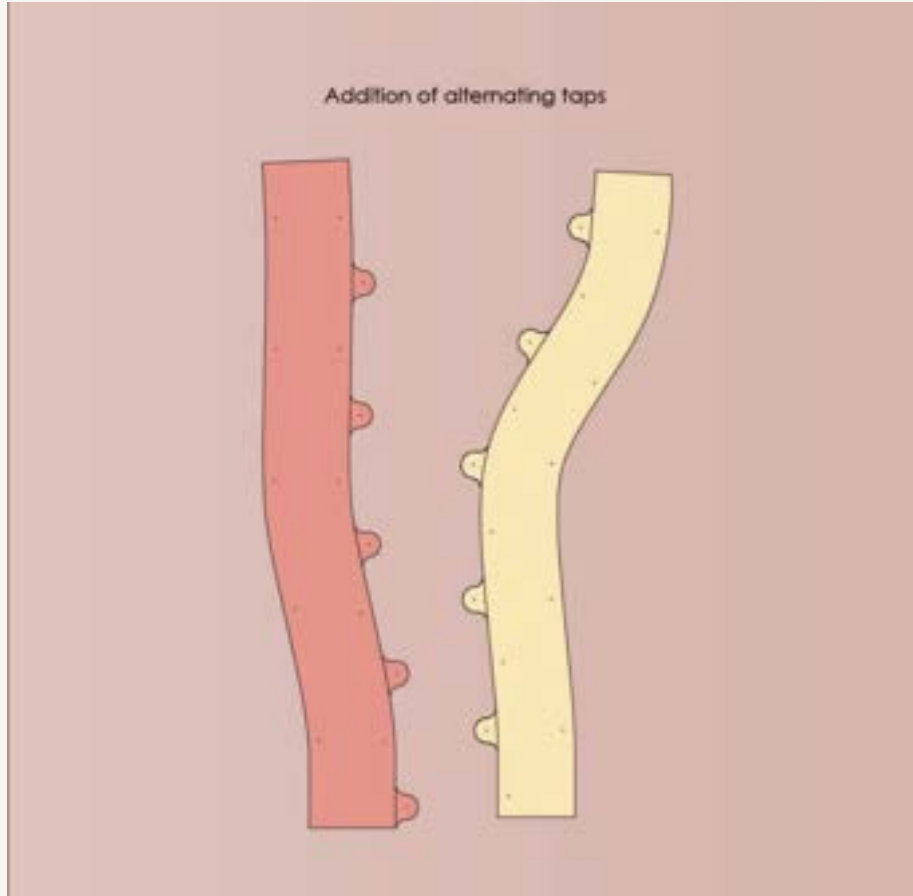
RIBBON STUDIES

Early formal studies investigating continuous ribbon pieces.



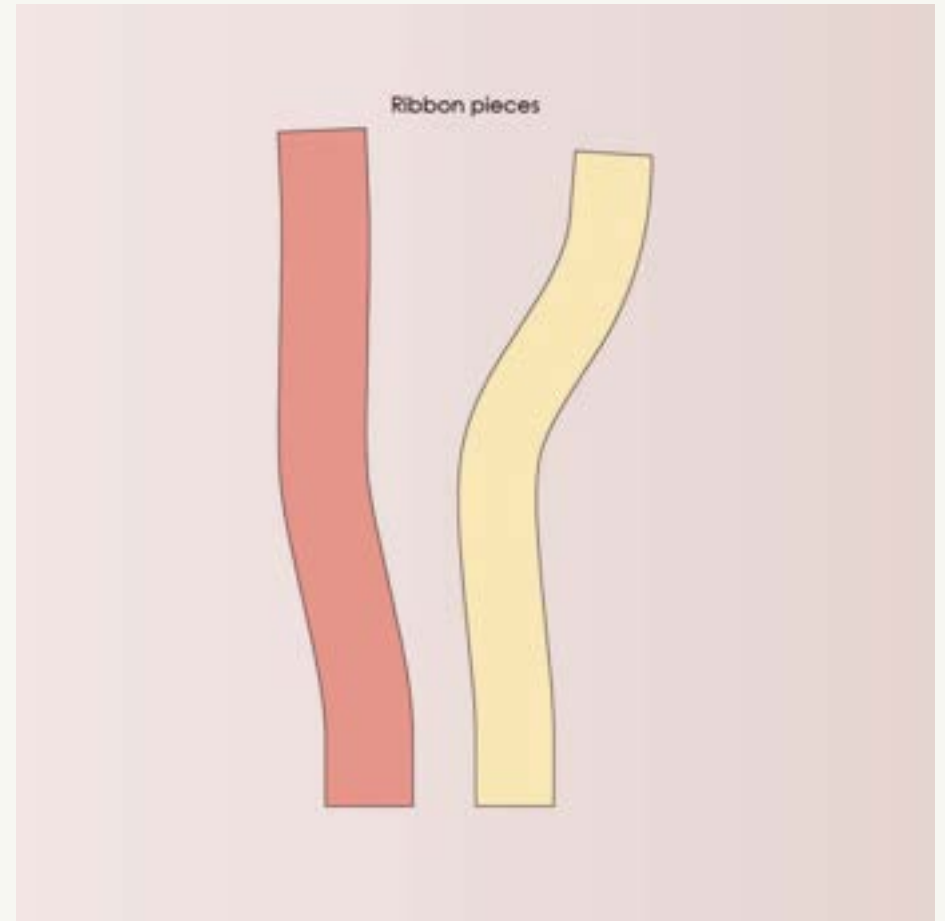
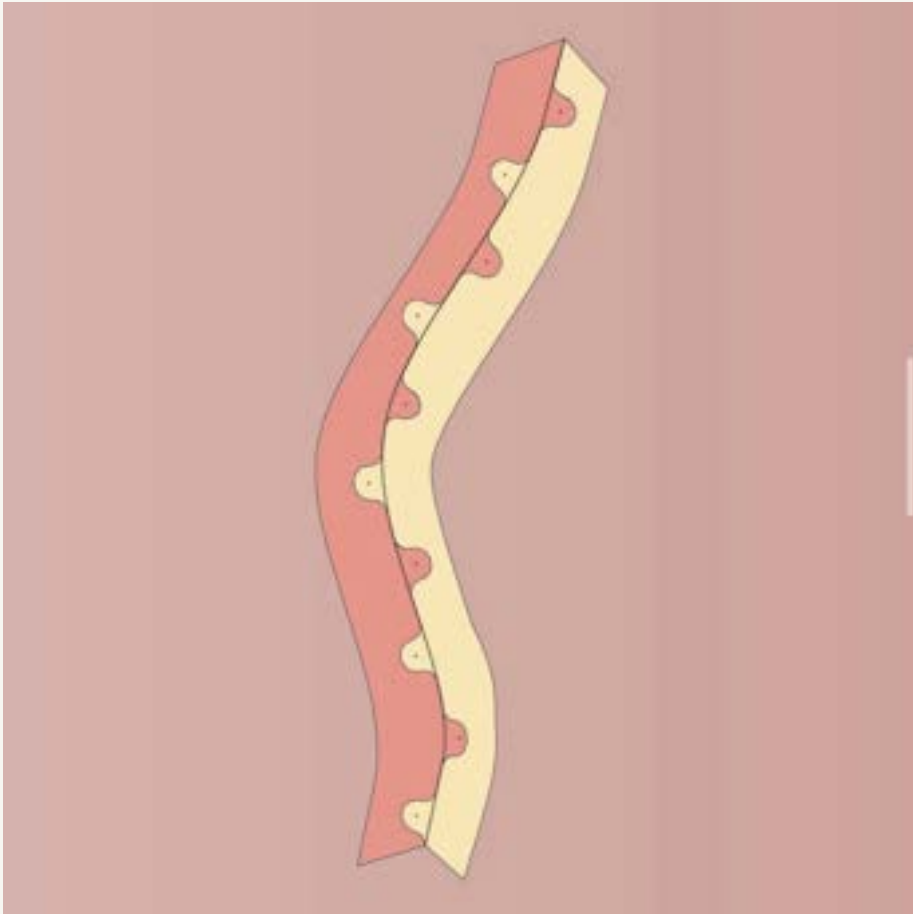
ASSEMBLY + SPATIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Layered components explored through physical and digital abstraction.



FINAL FORM EXPLORATION

Selected studies showing progression from simple ribbons to articulated systems.



PHOTOGRAPHY + ART

Visual studies exploring architecture, place, material, light, and composition.



VALENTIN TORRES / SELECTED CREATIVE WORK

ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Architecture observed through scale, rhythm, detail, and context.



MONUMENT + CONTEXT

Study of architectural detail, monumentality, and surrounding space.



COLOR + STREET DETAIL

Observation of color, texture, infrastructure, and the character of a narrow urban street.



phere.



OBJECT + LANDSCAPE



LANDSCAPE + ATMOSPHERE



LOOKING AT PLACE

Photography and art inform my architectural practice by training attention toward material, proportion, atmosphere, and the everyday built environment.

VALENTIN TORRES



THANK YOU

Valentin Torres

Master of Architecture • UTSA Alumni

Architecture portfolio • Selected academic work