

STUDENT PORTFOLIO

LIAM HARTIGAN



As a recent graduate of the University of Kansas Architecture Program my work is a testament to my passion for community focused architecture. I explored the dynamic between human interaction and the built environment with a strong foundation in conceptual design and digital modeling. My focus is on creating sustainable and context aware projects. My portfolio showcases my academic work, including my contributions to the Studio 804 Master's program where we built a LEED Platinum home from the ground up. A project that truly embodies my belief in using architecture as a means of connecting communities.

LIAM HARTIGAN

Masters Graduate of Architecture

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Objective

Recent Master of Architecture graduate with hands-on experience in design-build project execution, lighting coordination, site construction, and owner documentation. Seeking a Project Engineer or Management role to bring my experience in project coordination, construction documentation, and collaborative fieldwork to the successful delivery of complex architectural projects.

Education

Master of Architecture · 2025
University of Kansas, School of Architecture & Design

High School Diploma · 2015
Bishop DuBourg High School, St. Louis, MO

Professional Experience

Lighting & Documentation Lead – Studio 804 (Design-Build)
Lawrence, KS · Aug 2024 – Present

- Oversaw lighting design and procurement for a LEED-platinum residential build; collaborated with suppliers and contractors to secure and install high-efficiency systems.
- Managed construction photo/video library, drone footage, and donor documentation for marketing and archival use.
- Authored the homeowner operations and maintenance manual, including all installed systems, warranties, and best practices
- Participated in all phases of construction: framing, electrical, finish work, and inspections, ensuring alignment with code and project schedule
- Reviewed shop drawings and submittals, assisted in resolving site coordination issues with trades and manufacturers

Retail & Service Industry Roles (Various)
2012 – 2019

- Developed team leadership, logistics management, and guest service skills in high-volume environments
- Managed inventory, coordinated events, and led shifts while balancing multiple responsibilities and deadlines

Community Involvement

Habitat for Humanity
Lawrence, KS · May 2013 - Dec 2014
Building homes for those impacted by natural disasters.

Core Skills & Tools

- Project Coordination: RFIs, submittals, as-builts, vendor collaboration
- Design & Documentation: Revit, Bluebeam AutoCAD, SketchUp, Rhino, Blender, Lumion, Enscape
- Construction Methods: Field supervision, constructability review, site inspection support
- Technical Proficiencies: Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Creative Cloud, Physical Model Building
- Communication: Stakeholder coordination, documentation, scheduling, report writing

References

Marie-Alice L'Heureux · Studio Professor at the University of Architecture and Design
malheur@ku.edu

Kurt Hong · Studio Professor at the University of Architecture and Design
kurt.hong@ku.edu

Nilou Vakil · Studio Professor at the University of Architecture and Design
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

STUDIO804



5

SCHOOL OF ARTS & MAKING



11

ADOBE VISTA PLAZA



15

SPHERICAL NATURE



19

EXTRACURRICULARS



20

STUDIO 804

DESIGN BUILD



DESCRIPTION

Studio 804 is a year-long comprehensive design-build program at the University of Kansas School of Architecture & Design.

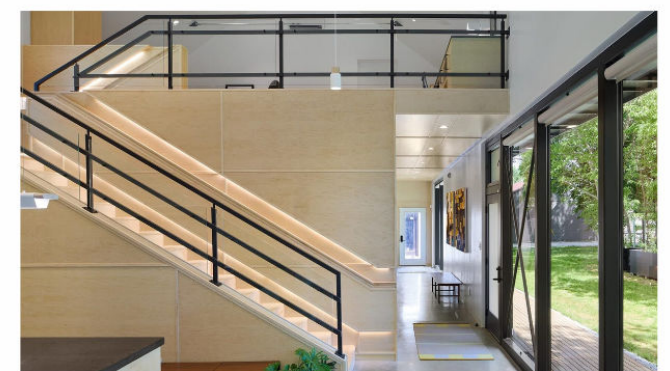
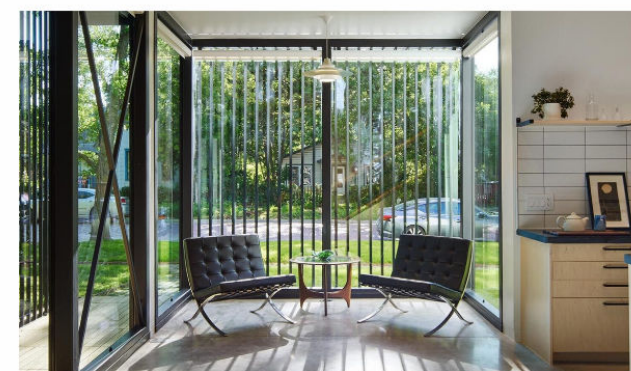
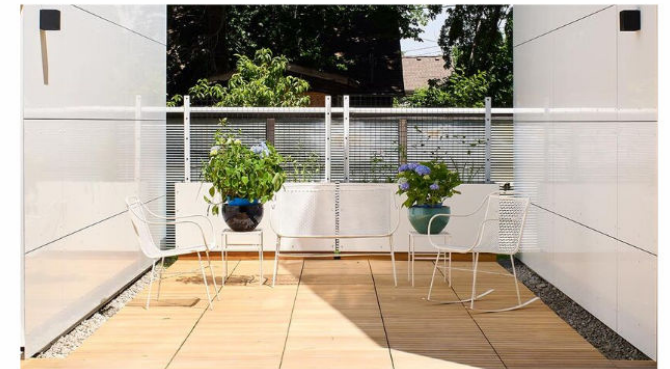
Each year, graduate students are tasked with conceiving, designing, and constructing a LEED-Platinum certified building in Lawrence, KS. This immersive process begins with conceptual design and progresses through construction documents, permitting, and full-scale construction.

The program emphasizes sustainable design, community engagement, and the integration of contemporary architectural technologies.

By managing every phase of the project, we gained firsthand experience in the responsibilities and challenges of professional practice while delivering a permanent contribution to the community.

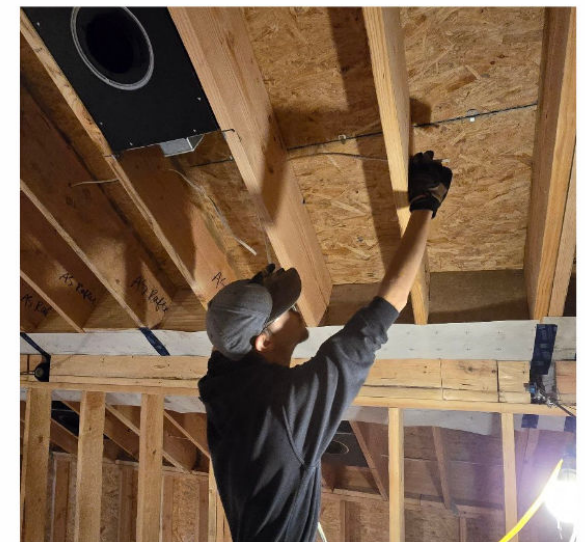
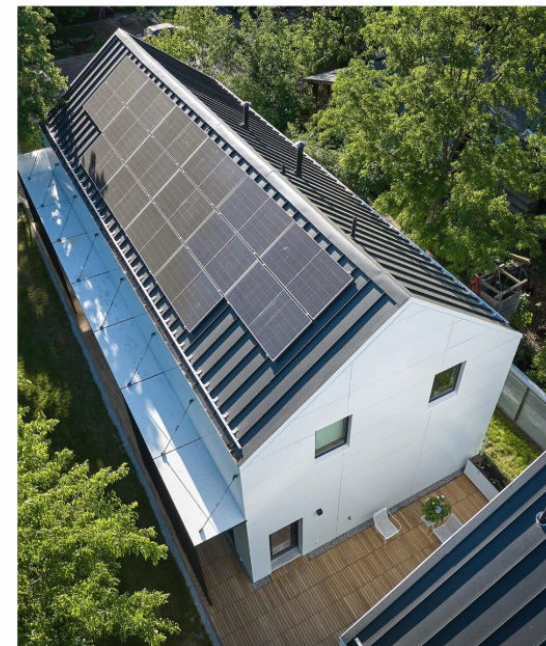
KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through Studio 804, we developed a deeper understanding of sustainable building practices, including strategies for energy efficiency, water conservation, and responsible material selection. The program required us to collaborate in real time with consultants, manufacturers, and contractors, strengthening our ability to communicate across disciplines. In addition, the hands-on nature of construction reinforced the importance of precision, constructability, and safety on-site. By completing every stage from schematic design through occupancy, we demonstrated the capacity to carry architectural ideas from concept to reality while prioritizing performance, equity, and long-term community value.



STUDIO 804

Studio 804 offers students a rare opportunity to experience the full architectural process from concept through completion. Unlike traditional studio courses that end at the design phase, this program demands that students navigate every step of delivery, including permitting, budgeting, material procurement, scheduling, and on-site construction. This immersion blurs the line between academia and practice, giving students the chance to engage directly with consultants, manufacturers, and trades while taking responsibility for real-world decisions. The result is an education grounded not only in design excellence but also in constructability, sustainability, and professional collaboration skills that are immediately applicable in practice and invaluable to shaping well-rounded architects.





In Studio 804, I served as lead for lighting, photography/videography, and the homeowner's manual. For lighting, I developed the overall strategy, revised plans and schedules, detailed sections, and sourced fixtures that balanced design intent, energy performance, and occupant comfort. I worked directly with manufacturers and teammates to integrate selections into the project while aligning with LEED standards.

As photography and videography lead, I organized and cataloged project documentation, produced media for social platforms and collaborators, and ensured Studio 804's work was represented with clarity and professionalism. This role strengthened both technical skills and public-facing communication. Additionally, I authored the homeowner's manual, consolidating information on systems, maintenance, and sustainability features. This emphasized client communication and the long-term performance of the building.

These responsibilities required leadership, collaboration, and attention to detail across multiple scales of practice. By bridging technical design, hands-on construction, and community storytelling, I contributed to Studio 804's mission of delivering sustainable architecture with lasting impact.

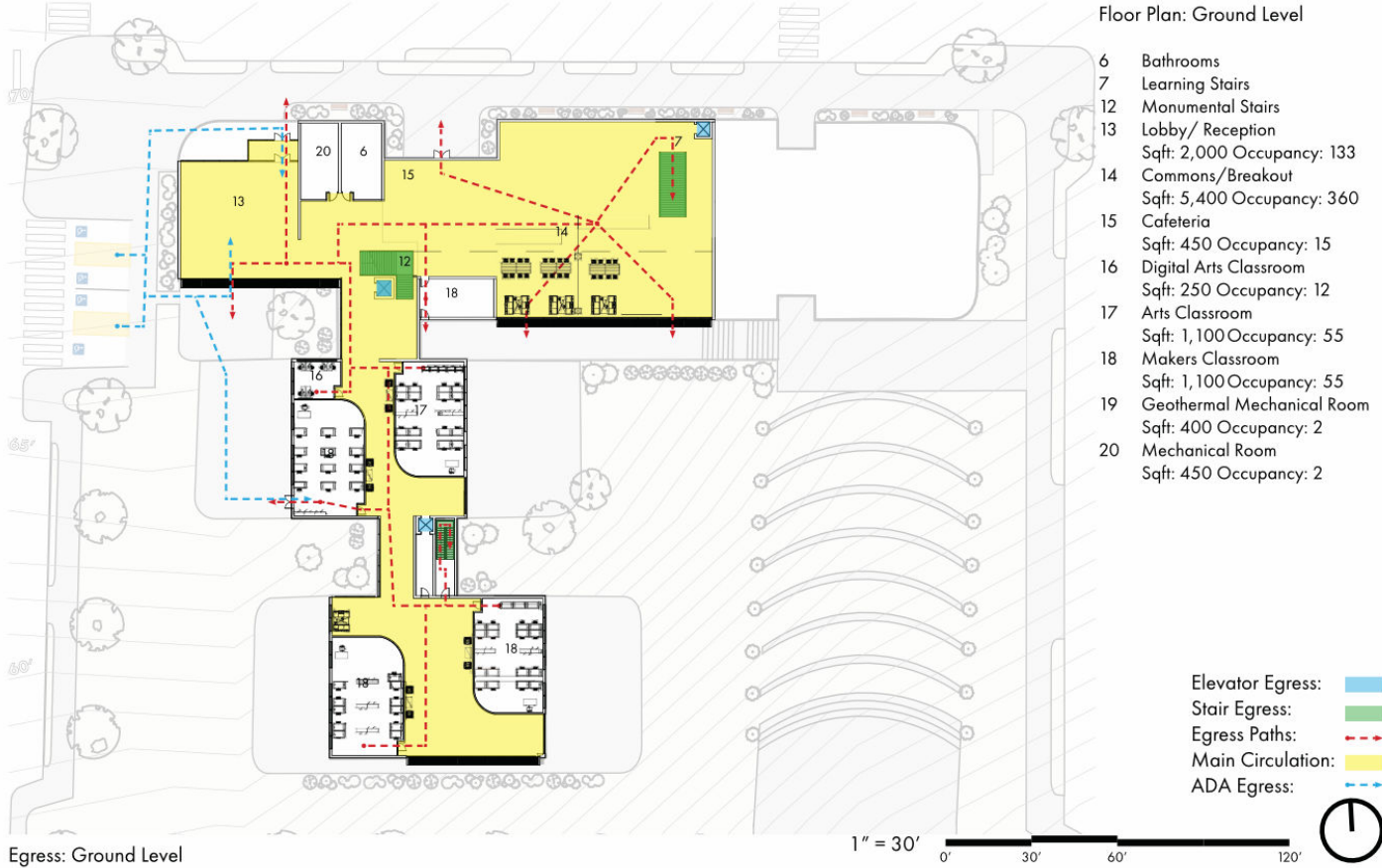
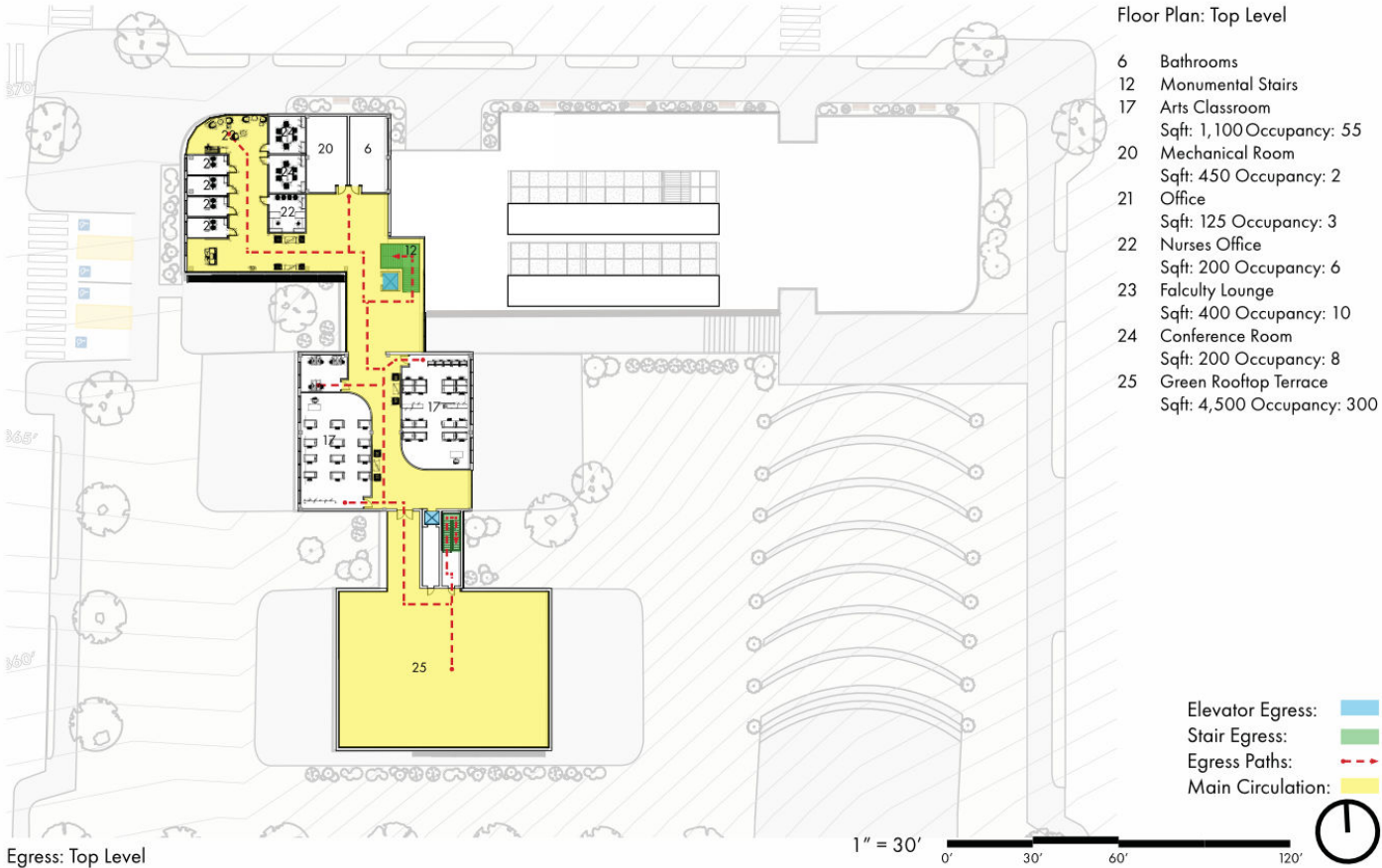
PROJECT 2
HARMONICS
PROJECT OVERVIEW

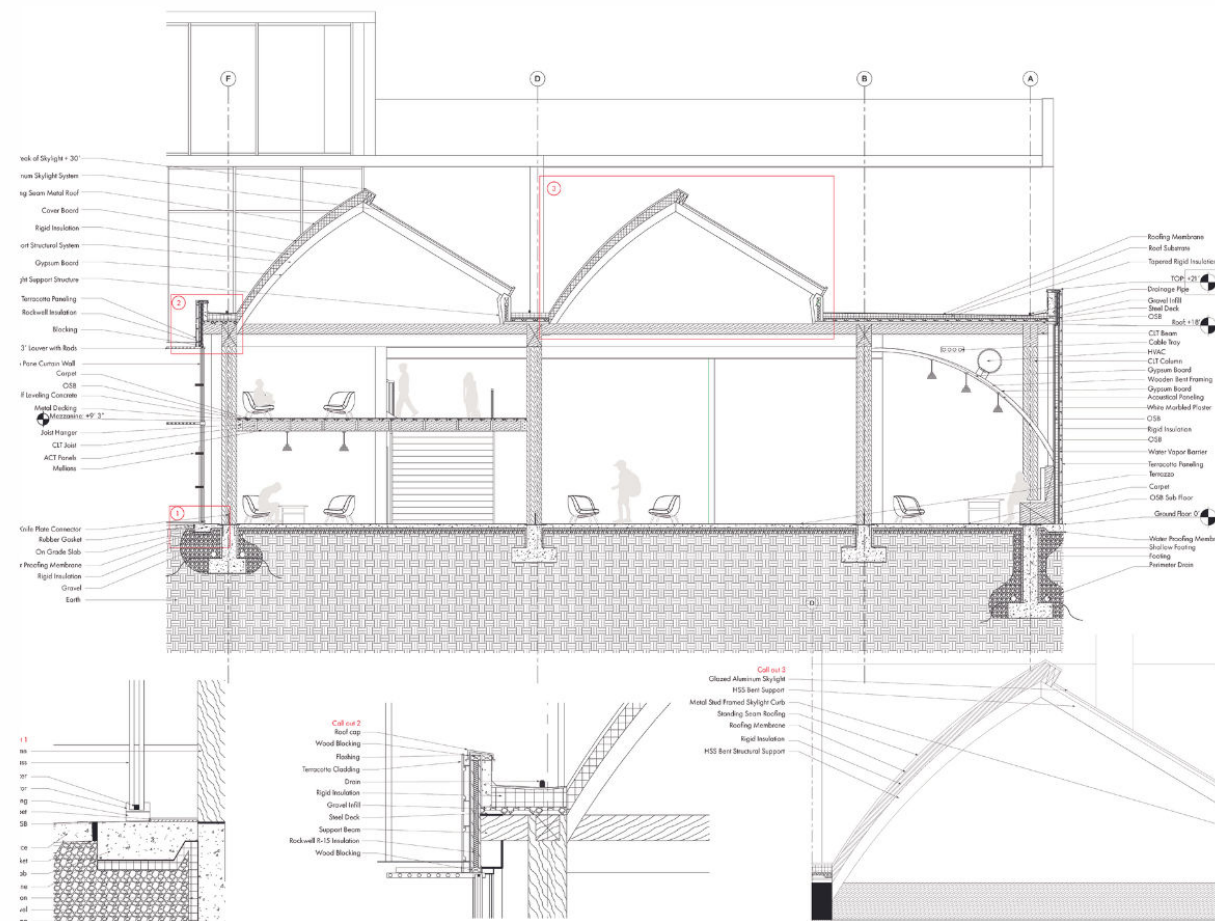
PROF. NILOU VAKHIL, SPRING 2024
SCHOOL OF MUSIC, ARTS, AND MAKING
KANSAS CITY, MO
36,000 SQ FT



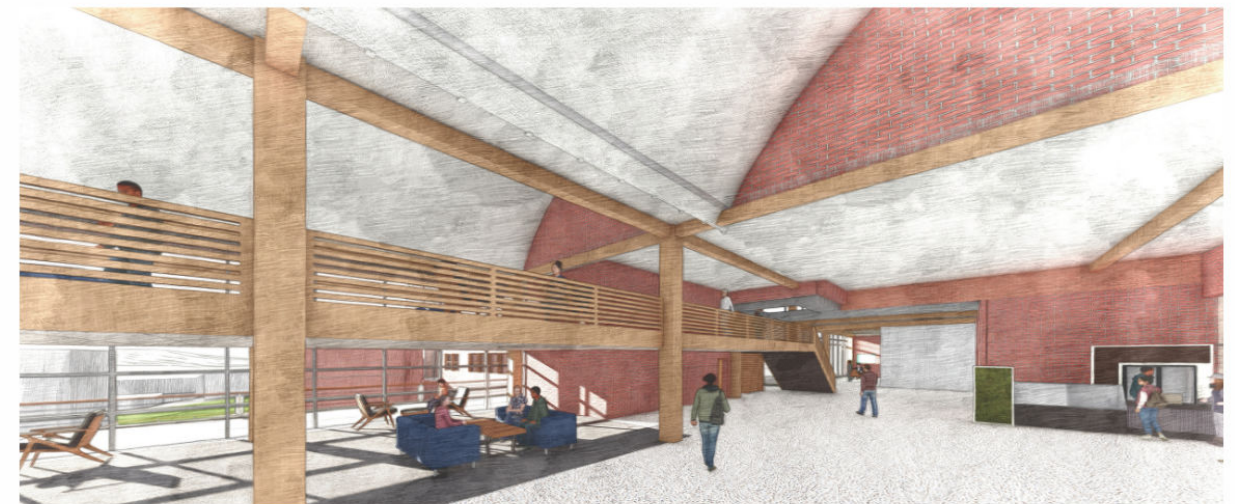
DESCRIPTION
Harmonics: School of Music, Arts, and Making was envisioned as a multidisciplinary hub where performance, craft, and creative exploration intersect. The design combines rehearsal and performance halls, studio spaces, and fabrication workshops into a single environment that fosters collaboration across disciplines. Drawing inspiration from the principles of rhythm and harmony, the project sought to create spatial sequences that echo the flow of music while remaining flexible to the diverse needs of students, faculty, and the broader community. By blending education, public engagement, and cultural

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES
Through the development of Harmonics, we explored the challenges of designing for multiple modes of creativity within one framework. The project highlighted how architecture can support both the technical demands of acoustics and the openness required for interdisciplinary collaboration. We gained experience balancing transparency with privacy, circulation with performance, and inclusivity with specialized needs. The process reinforced how architectural design can shape not only individual learning experiences but also broader cultural connections, positioning the built environment as a catalyst for innovation, exchange, and community.





This course required us to synthesize the full scope of our architectural education in alignment with NAAB student performance criteria. The design process emphasized creating meaningful architecture that responds to both students and the broader community, enhancing the downtown experience through ADA-compliant layouts, educationally supportive environments, and environmentally responsible landscape strategies. We were tasked with producing construction documentation at a level consistent with professional practice, ensuring technical accuracy and clarity. Physical modeling was used to test constructability and to study the experiential qualities of light, materiality, and space in three dimensions. As a culminating capstone, the project demanded a high degree of complexity and integration, demonstrating our ability to meet professional standards while prioritizing the lived experience of architecture.



PROJECT 3

ADOBE VISTA PLAZA

PROJECT OVERVIEW

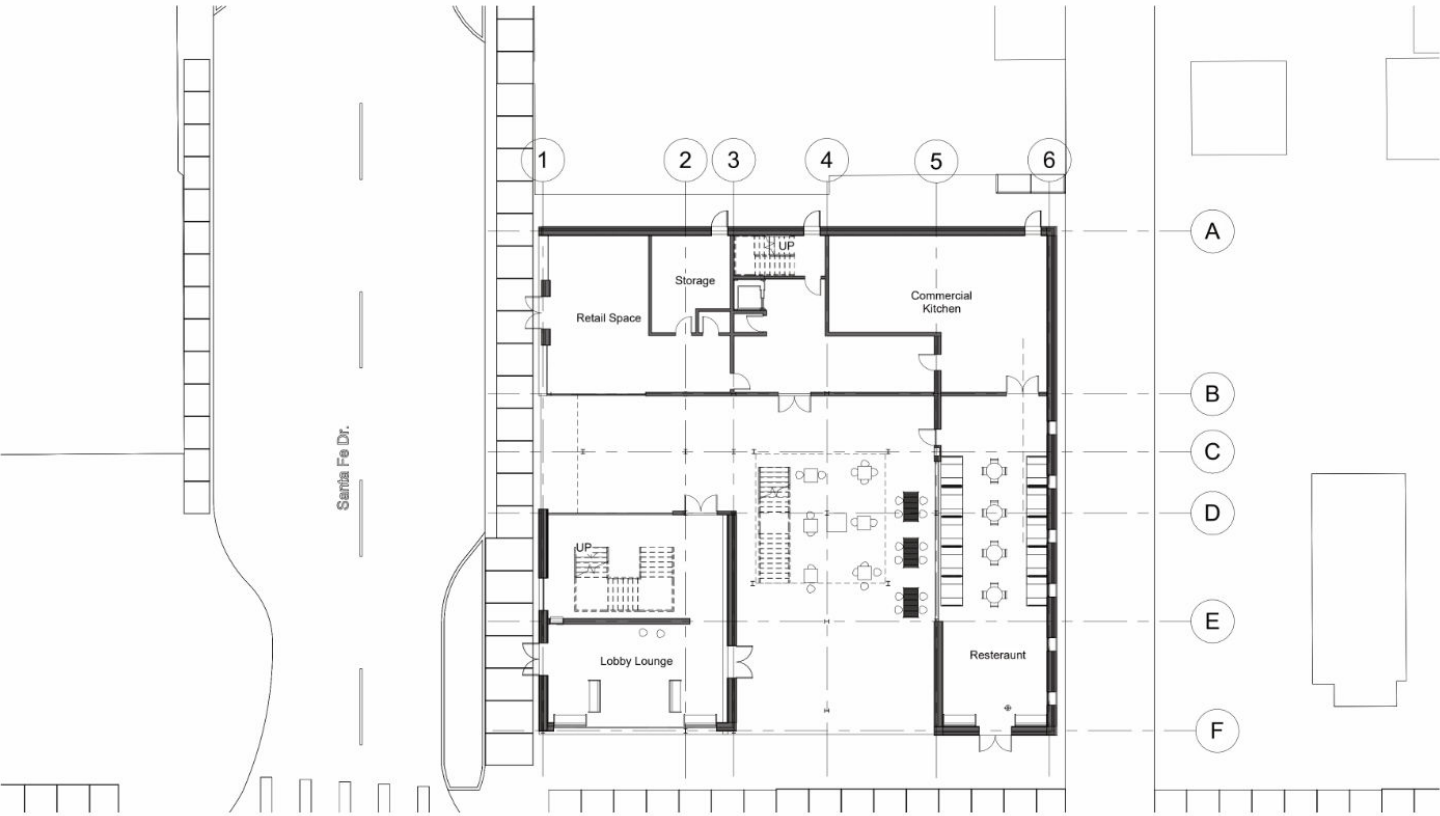
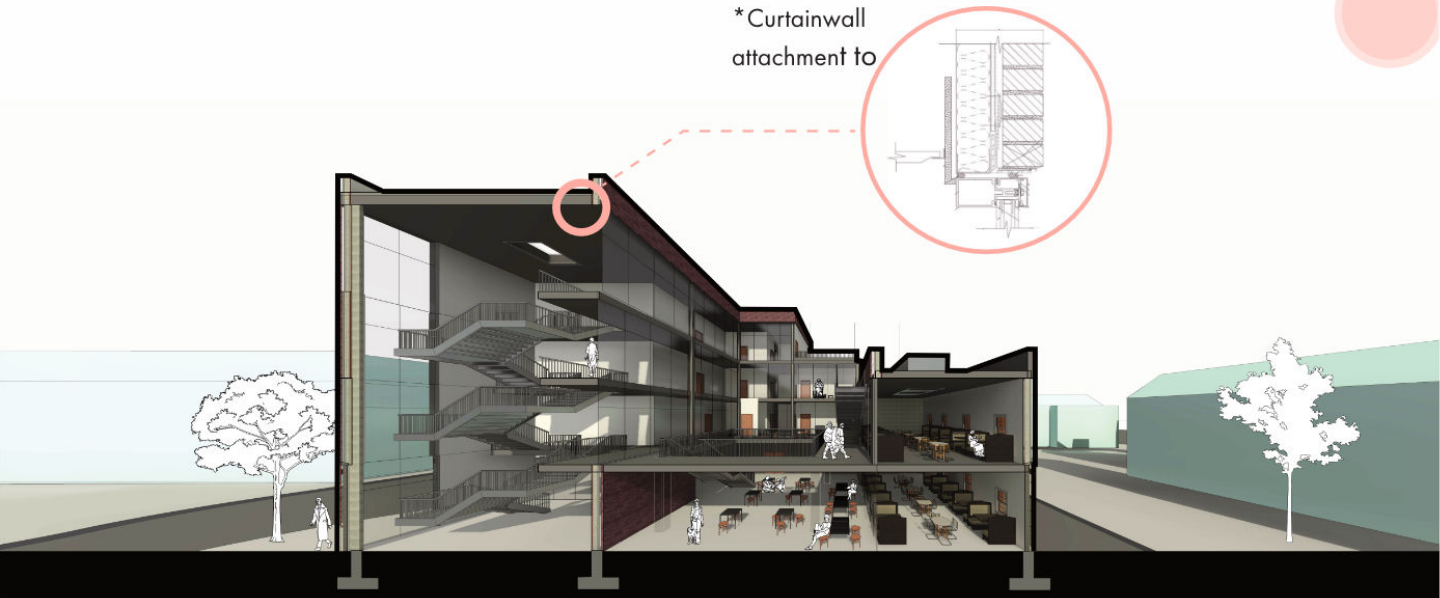
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PROJECT 4

SPHERICAL NATURE

PROJECT OVERVIEW

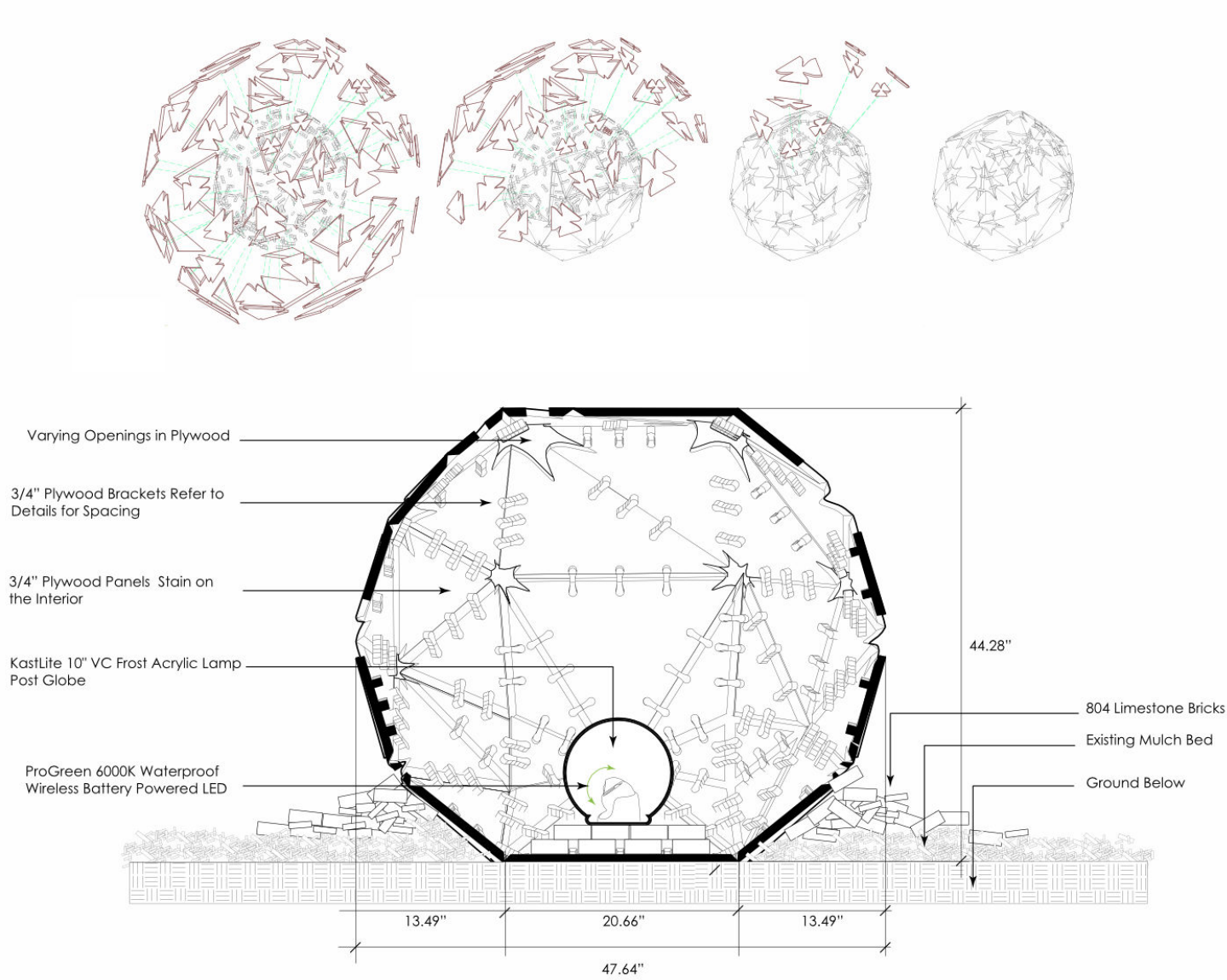


DESCRIPTION

This project was the culmination of an in-depth understanding of the site and context there-in. With a basis of a detailed site-analysis of the local terrain, as well as an in-depth study of the cultural, historical, and ecological needs of the campuses residences we were to develop a welcome center that served multiple purposes. This program required a structure that serves as an administration space, a community space for daily use and banquet settings, and a lecture hall. This was requested due to a need for such spaces as there are either currently none available or the current spaces are not meeting the demands of the students and faculty. This welcome center would also serve as a source of cultural representation, drawing on the traditions of the First Nations people who attend the university. The project also required a net-zero carbon footprint that had to be acknowledged in passive energy solutions and the materiality of the structure. These sustainability factors had to be represented in the final renderings.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

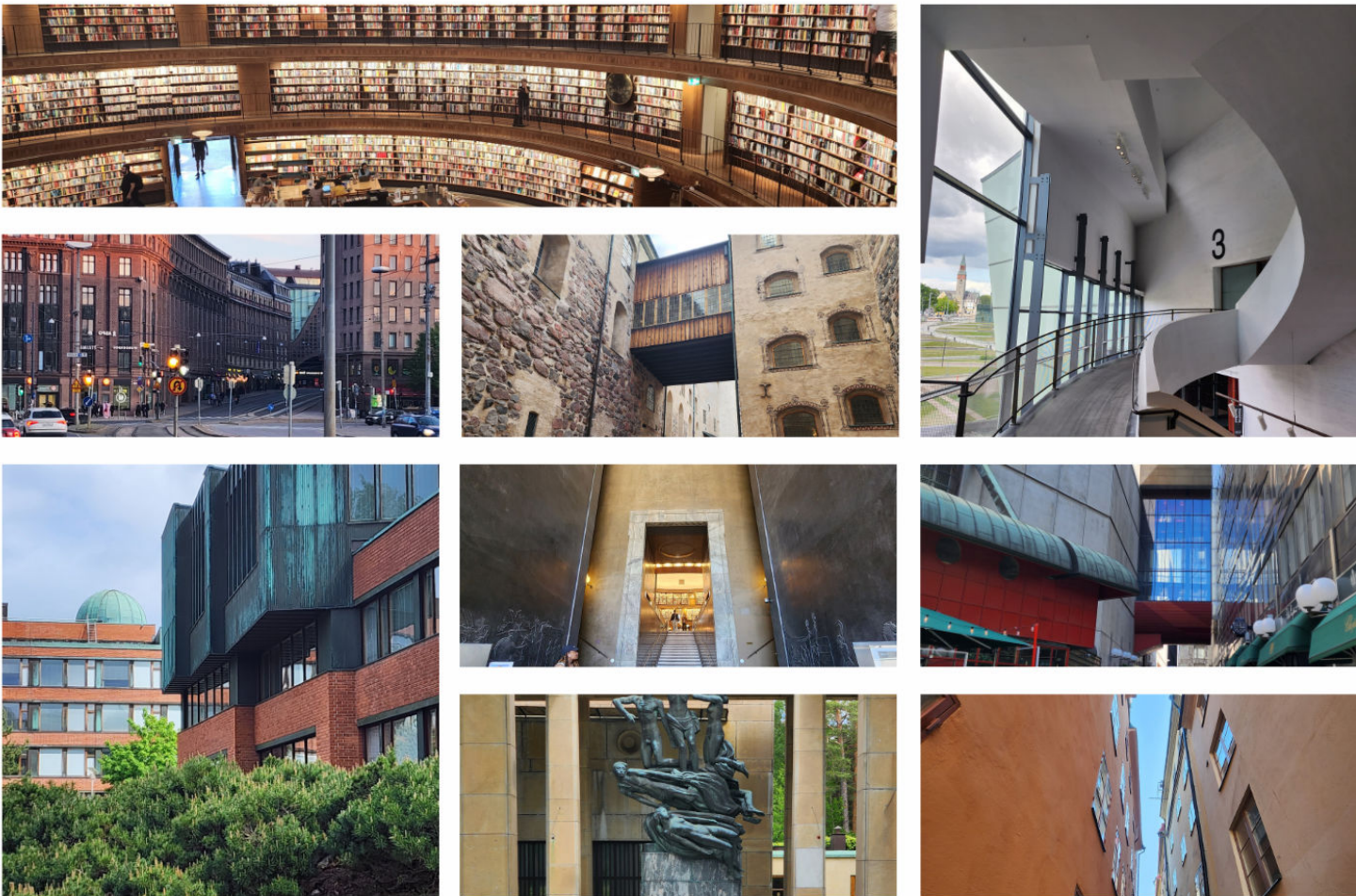
Understanding ways to manipulate the landscape to feature and develop new infrastructure, relating existing structures and creating a cohesive experience for the visitors as well as developing a concept around contextual elements through careful research and extensive iterative processes.



EXTRACURRICULARS

STUDY ABROAD

SCANDINAVIA
SUMMER 2023

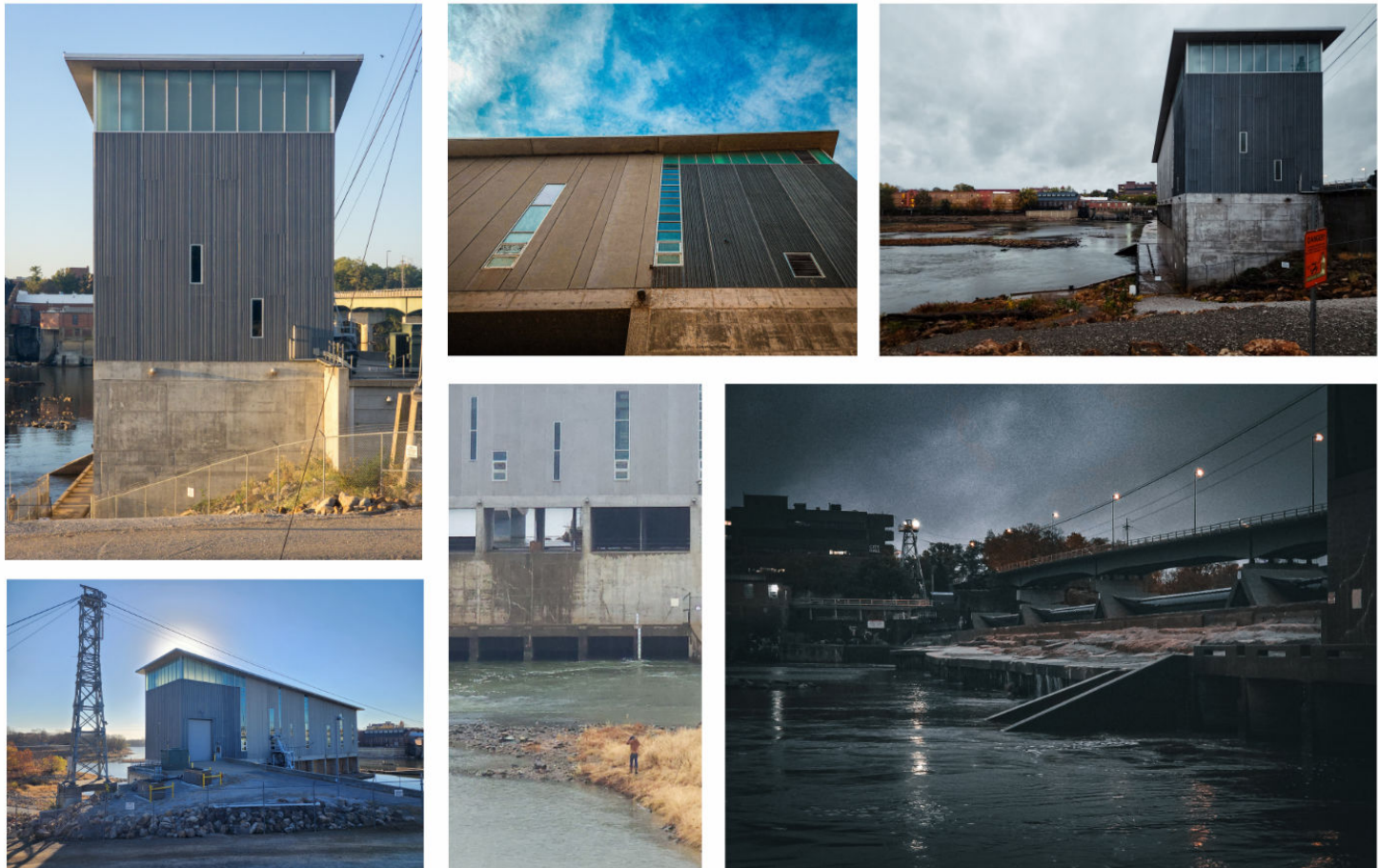


During the summer between my third and fourth year of university, I embarked on a transformative journey through Scandinavia, exploring the architectural wonders of Finland, Sweden, and Denmark. With a profound admiration for the contemporary stylings of architects like Alvar Aalto and a fascination with the historical uniqueness of Western European architecture, I immersed myself in a 200-mile trek on foot. This experience deepened my understanding of architectural styles, particularly in terms of sustainability and design aesthetics. I've since been actively seeking ways to integrate these insights into my work. I believe this journey has enriched my overall comprehension of architecture and will undoubtedly shape me into a better architect in the future.

EXTRACURRICULARS

ARCHITECTURE PHOTOGRAPHY

A STUDY OF THE LAWRENCE HYDRO-ELECTRIC PLAN



As part of my architectural education, I've prioritized enhancing my visual acuity in presenting design concepts. In my fourth year, I enrolled in an architecture photography course. For my final project, I conducted an in-depth exploration of a local hydroelectric plant in Lawrence, KS. Initially unremarkable, the plant's design intrigued me. Throughout the semester, I delved into its depth, character, and warmth. By highlighting its interaction with light, materiality, function, and human engagement, I uncovered its broader significance to the public. This endeavor sharpened my ability to perceive and communicate architectural nuances in compelling ways.

Contact



Thank you for viewing my portfolio. I am open to freelance projects, collaborations, and full-time opportunities.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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