



PORTFOLIO

architecture & mapmaking & photo & digital & handmade

Isabel Migoya
Los Angeles, CA

ABOUT

design interests

Built Environment: Affordable housing, multifamily & mixed-use, regenerative and sustainable design, public art & works, pedestrian infrastructure, public health in urban areas, play.

Art: Primary colors, composition, collage, found materials, spontaneity, play.

contact

[LinkedIn](#)

education

Associates in Arts and Science with High Distinction

Bellevue College | Sept 21 - June 23 | GPA 3.84

Bachelor of Architecture, minor in Urban and Regional Planning

Cal Poly Pomona | Aug 23 - May 28 | GPA 3.86

experience

Summer Design Intern

Rosan Bosch Studio | Copenhagen, DK | May 24 - July 24

Second Place @ 2025 Barbara G. Laurie Student Design Competition

CPP NOMAS | Pomona, CA | Feb 25- Oct 25

skills

- Rhino, Sketchup (Very Good)
- Enscape, Vray, Twinmotion (Good)
- Photoshop, Lightroom, Illustrator, Camera Raw, InDesign, Premiere Pro (Advanced)
- Revit (Good)
- ArcGis Pro (Good)
- Climate Consultant, Autodesk Forma (Very Good)

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MT WILSON OBSERVATORY

fall 2025 studio final

This project, located at the Mt Wilson Observatory, 5700 feet above sea level, on a fifth of an acre (small) separated into public facing programming -- research labs and offices -- a day room attached to earth-formed amphitheater seating, and detached private quarters for five scientists. Using the mild climate and shifting scientific role of Mt Wilson, this project rethinks the observatory as a place where research and public experience converge. By embracing the site's climate, modest scale, and evolving purpose, this retreat merges mountain hospitality with research utility.

Through a "little village" organization strategy, circulation is outdoors private residences, along with material choices rooted in the landscape, the design creates a retreat defined by utility, warmth, and carefully managed privacy. This observatory retreat is an environment where public visitors, researchers, and the mountain itself coexist, shaped by the belief that utility can create hospitality and that communal life can be carefully balanced with solitude.

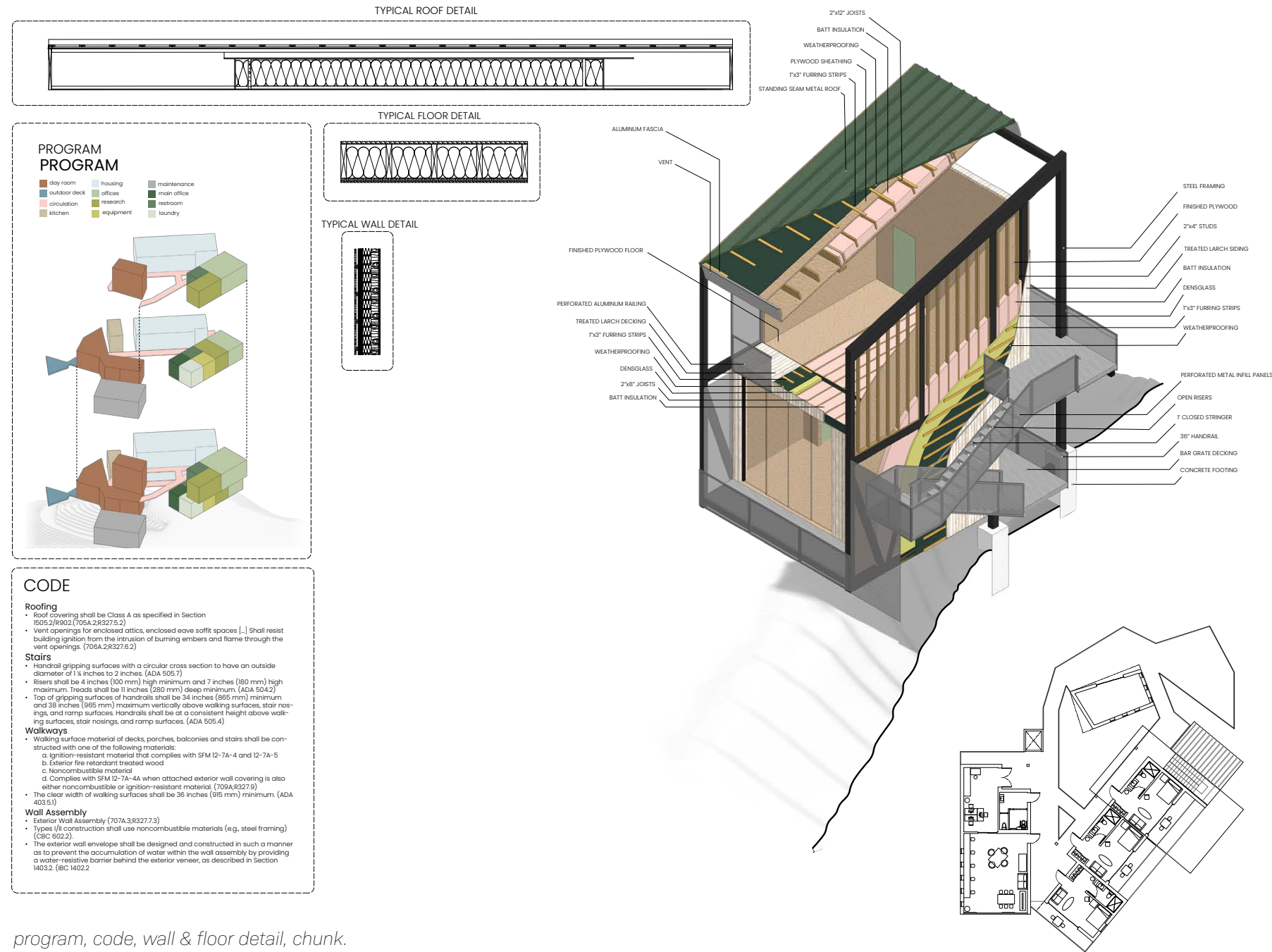


clockwise from top: aerial view of retreat. courtyard view. physical model.



left to right: plans. additional renderings.





program, code, wall & floor detail, chunk.



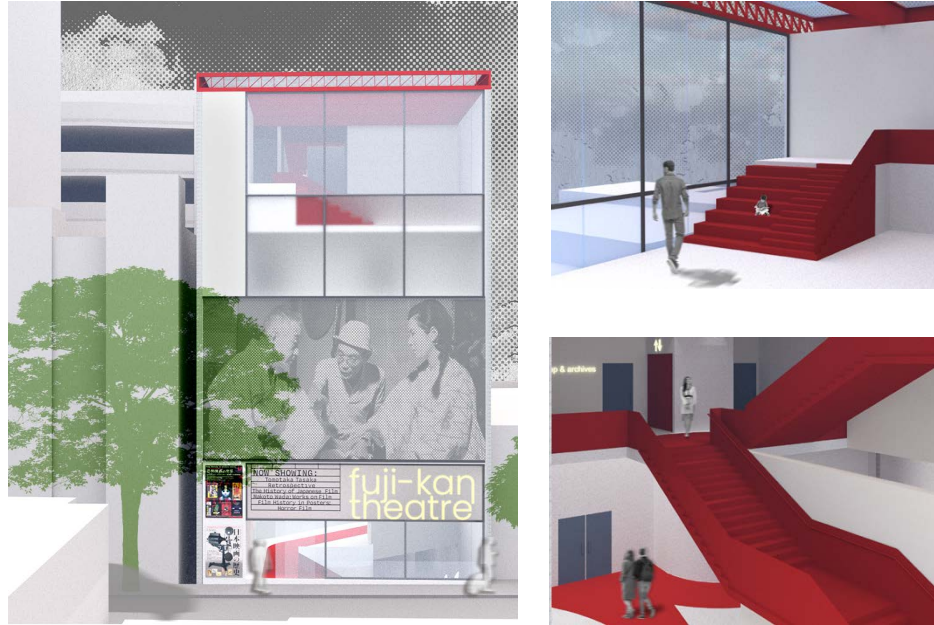
sections and elevations.

FUJIKAN THEATRE

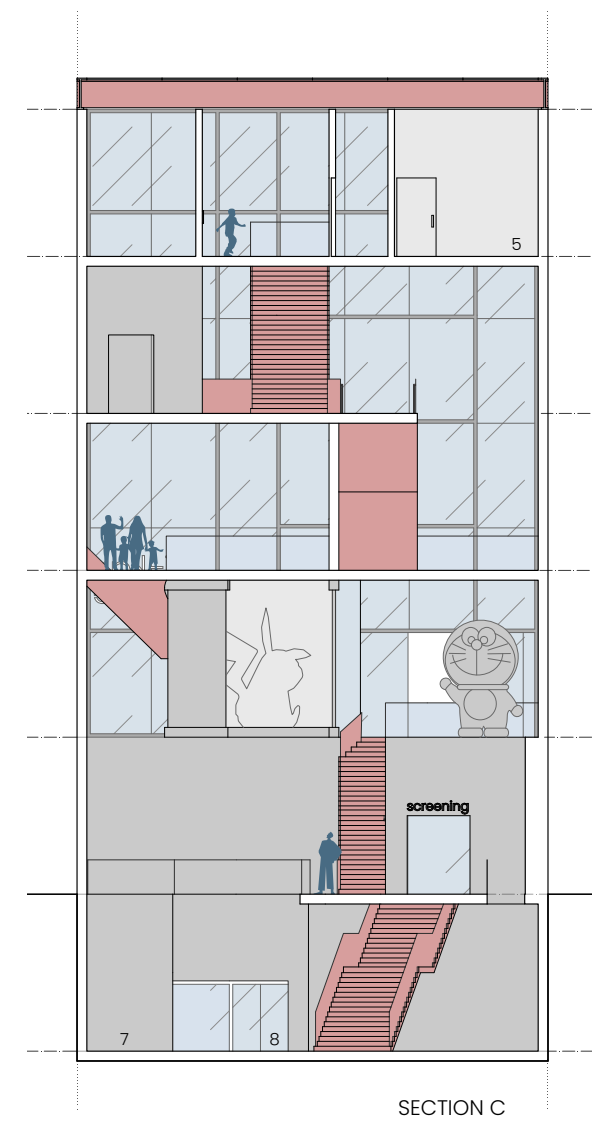
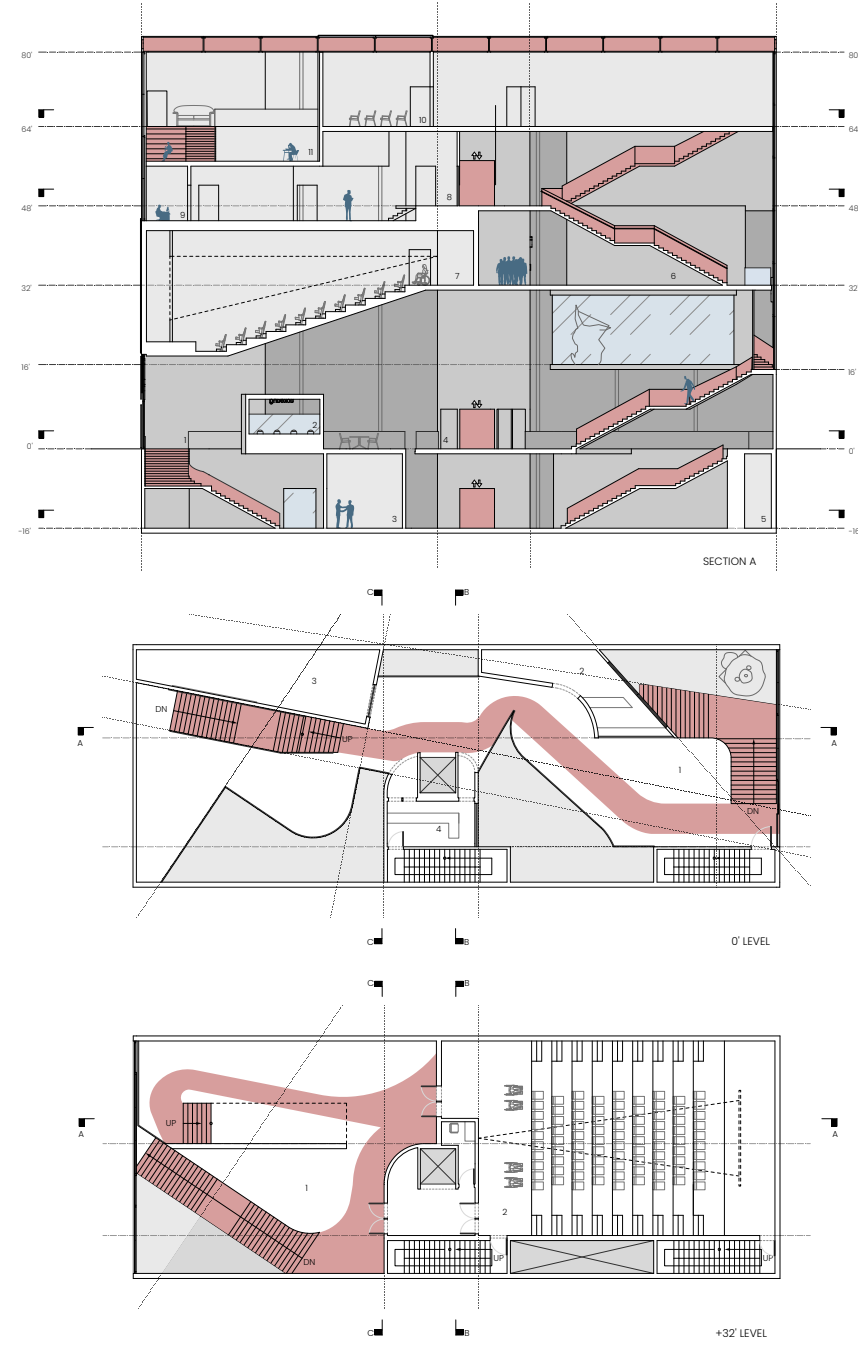
fall 2024 studio final

The Fujikan Theatre is located in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo neighborhood, where it stores archival materials, shows Japanese film and exhibitions, and puts on events. This project builds interest through narrow halls, tight corners, sweeping curved walls, and moments of compression and expansion. Simplicity, intention and legibility are foremost elements of the Fuji-Kan Cinematheque.

The building compresses from above similarly to the outside sidewalk, through a narrow hall that gracefully opens to an airy walkway area, inviting visitors to look down, creating an atrium space for this public half of the building's programming. A red, pigmented concrete path begins at the sliding front doors, inset to the floor – a contemporary red carpet, snaking its way through the promenade, upstairs and down.



left to right: front view, interior views longitudinal section & floor plans.



left to right: short side section, exploded axon.

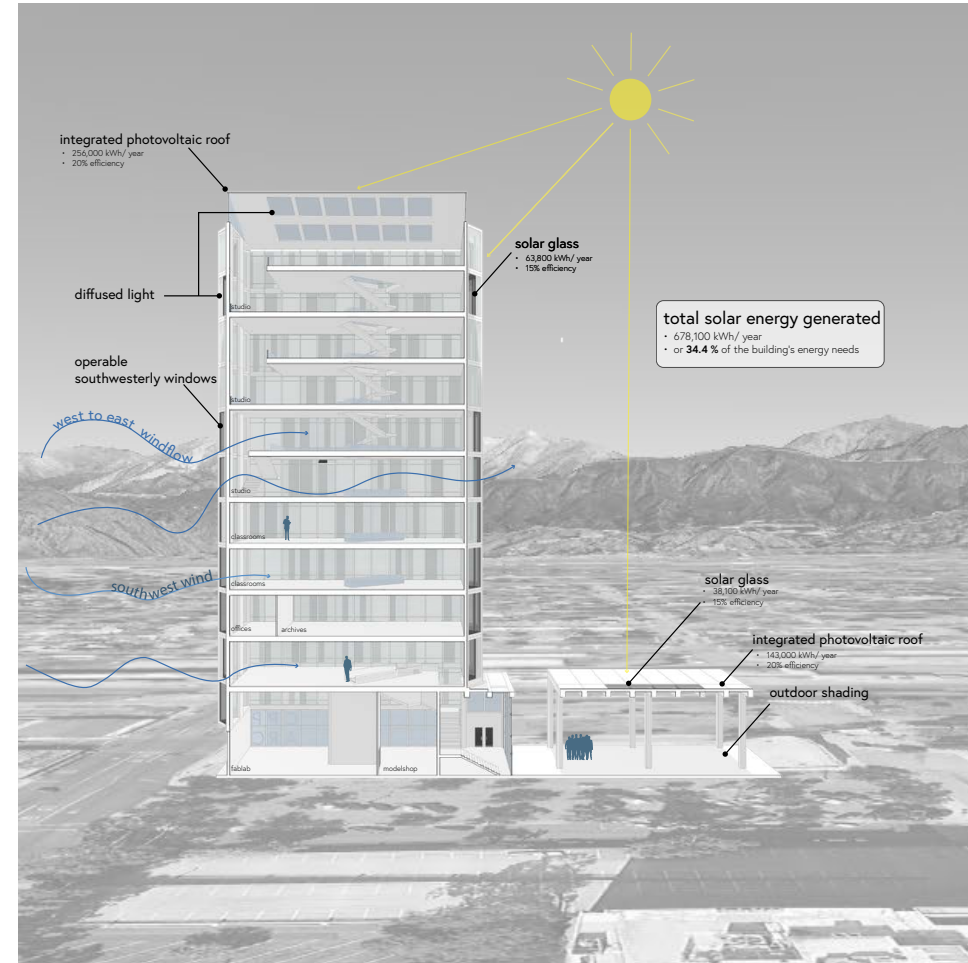
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

spring 2025 studio final

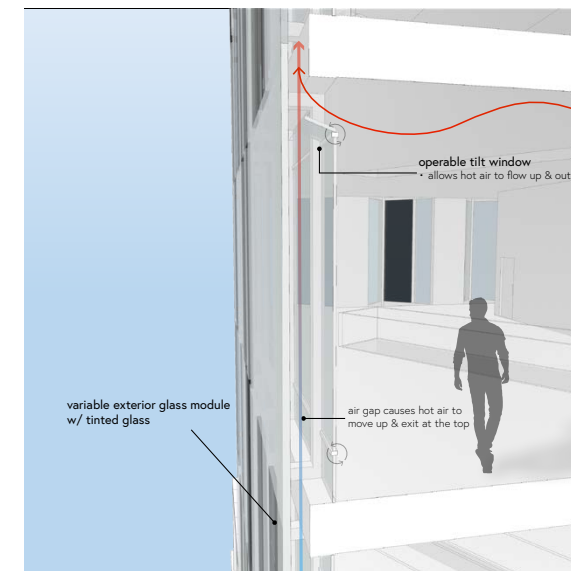
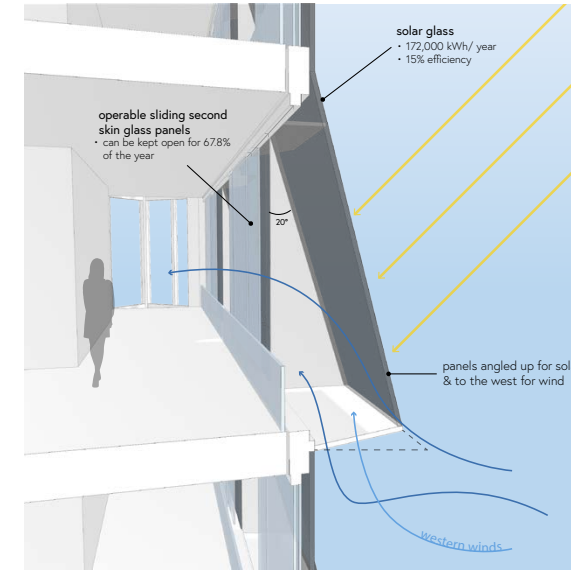
This semester, we were tasked with designing a new school of architecture for CPP on Pomona's 2nd Street.

Offices and studios that require limited public access go on the upper floors and to the west side of the site, with the public half of the solar paneled plinth facing the 2nd Street pedestrian mall.

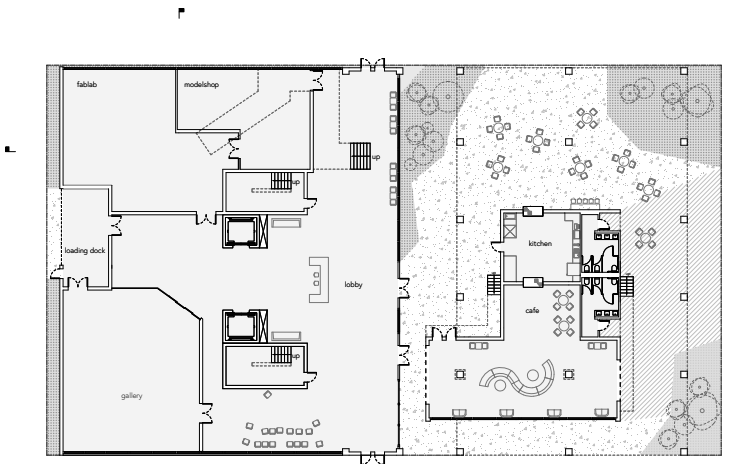
The tower and plinth use integrated photovoltaic roofs, which generate 408,000 kWh a year (Forma and PV Watts). The building can use solar energy to generate a third of its energy usage and duly provide shading for outdoor comfort. This table was devised by our professor, Pablo LaRoche. The cross-ventilation systems are usable for two thirds of (67.8%) of the year, reducing the need and use of mechanical AC (ClimaTool). The large, solar panel shaded outdoor plinth reduces energy consumption while providing permeable and flexible public space. The tower's atrium-like studios improve cross ventilation, daylighting and student connection.



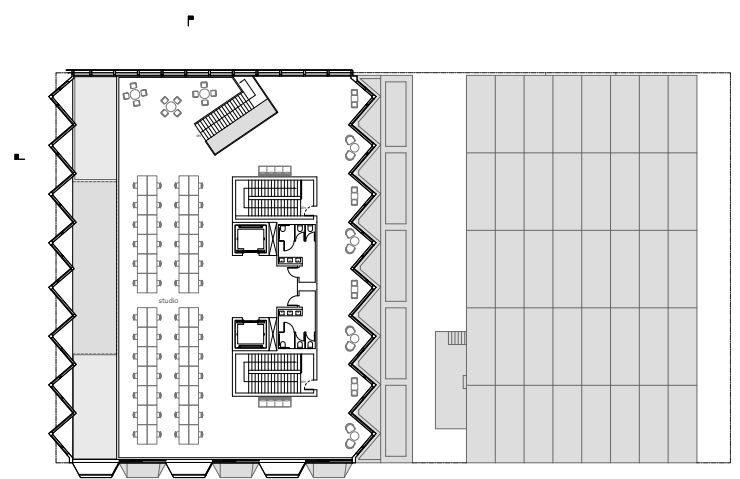
left to right: exterior courtyard view, longitudinal section with sustainable designs notated.



left to right: sustainability diagrams, floor plans.



ground floor plinth



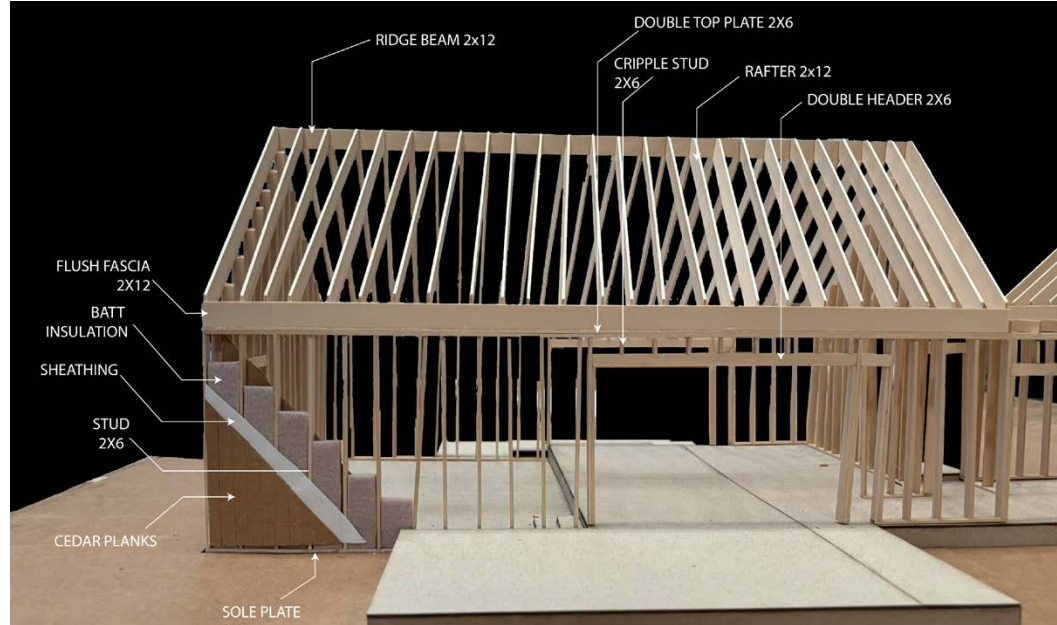
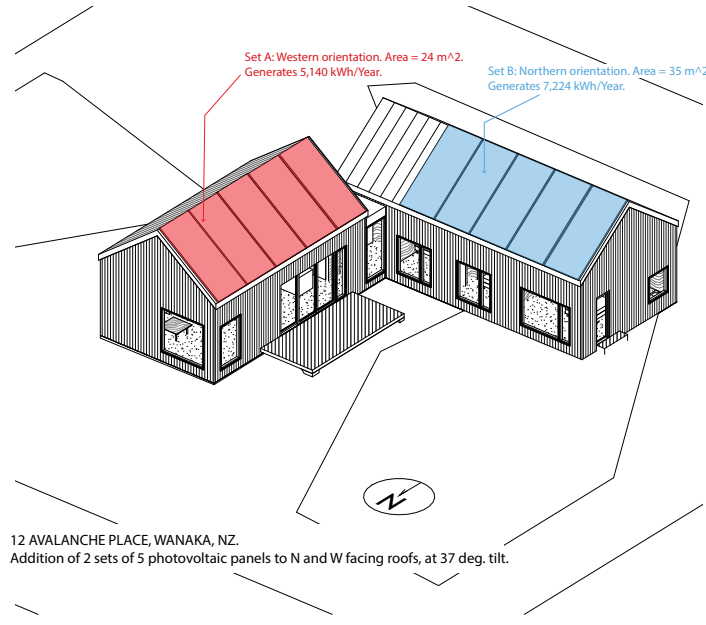
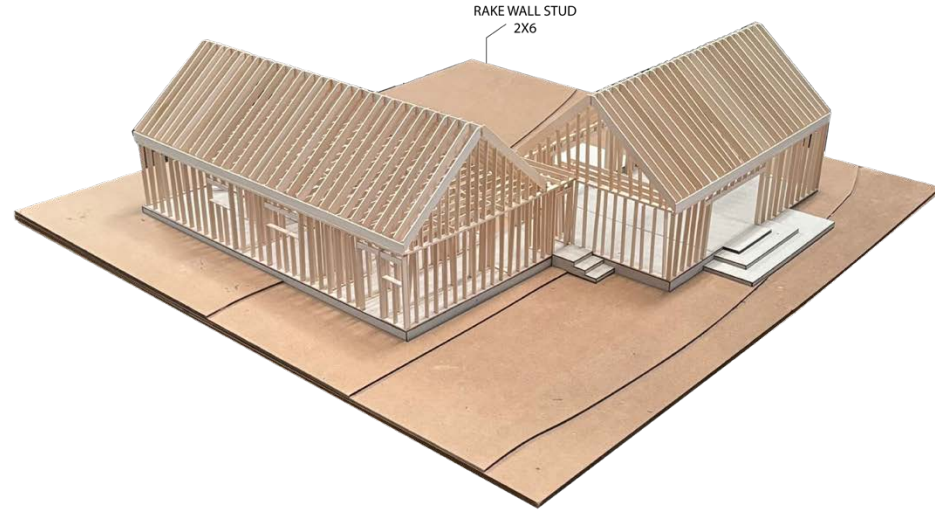
11th floor studio

AVALANCHE HOUSE

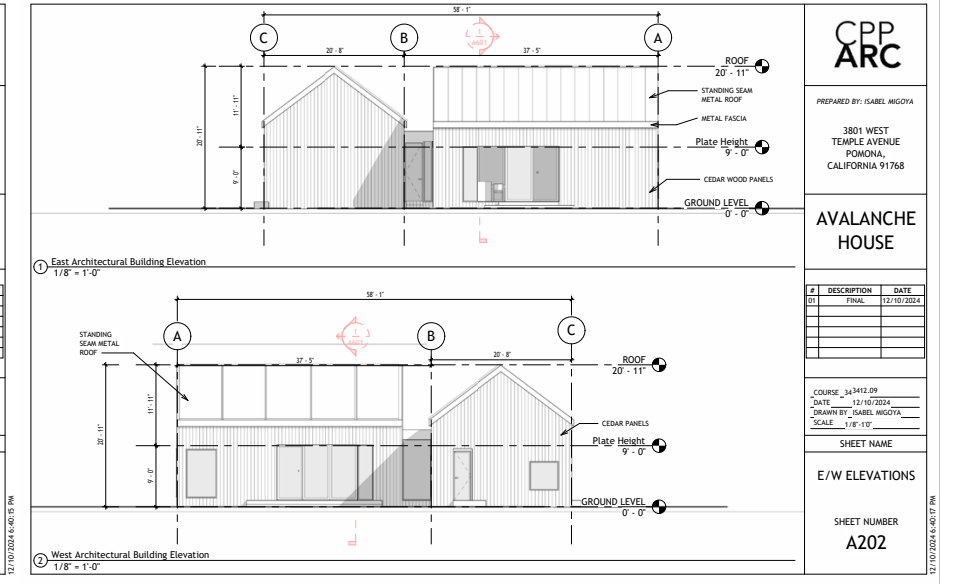
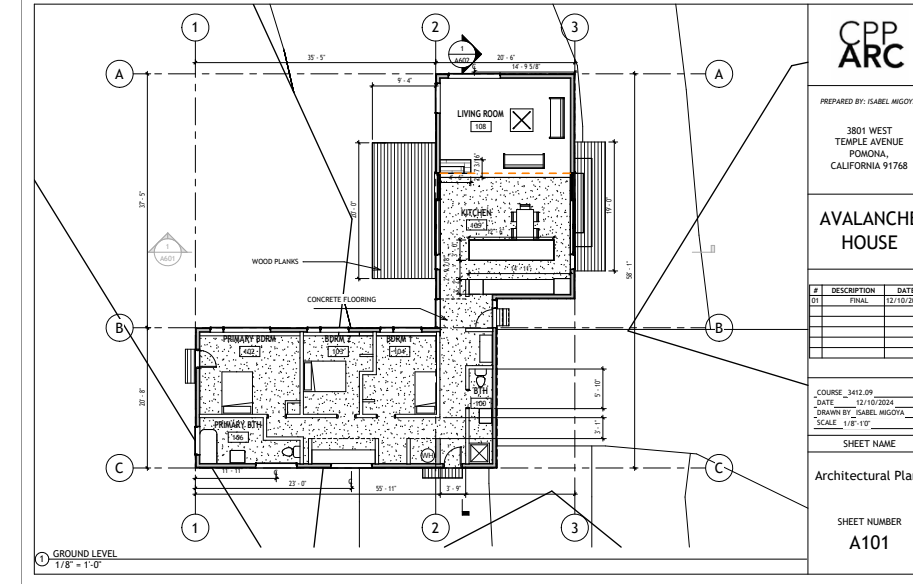
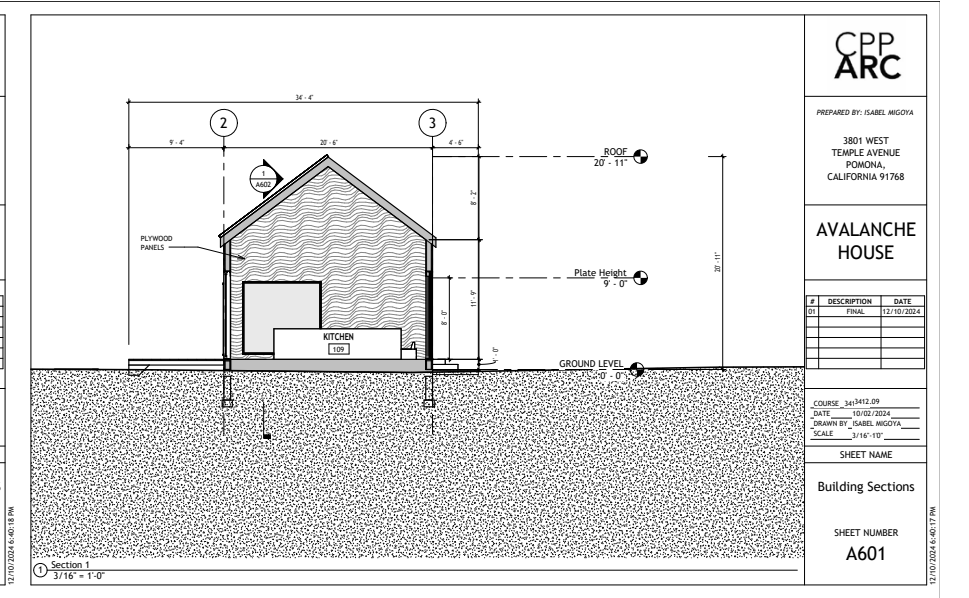
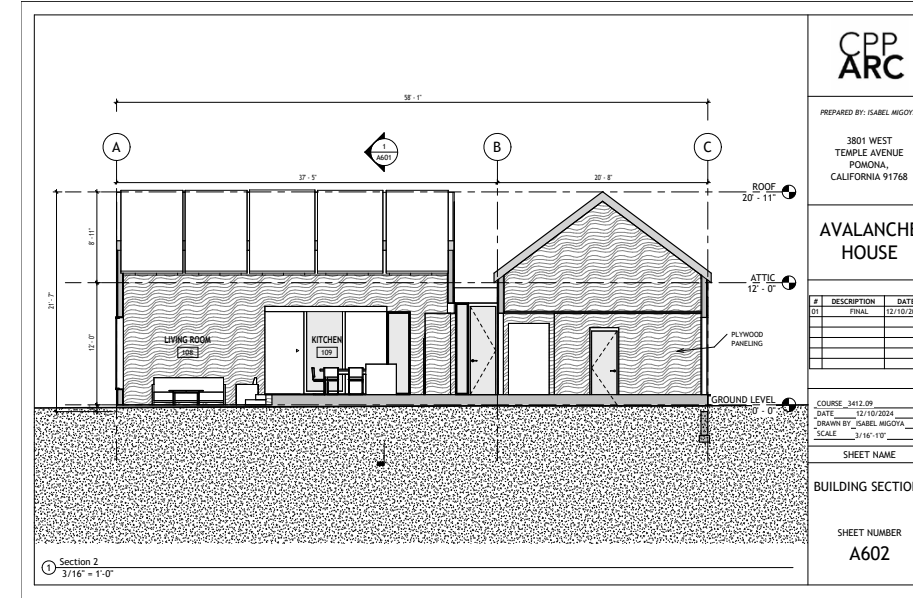
2024 construction I group final

Modeled after Intuitive Architect's Avalanche House in Central Otago, New Zealand. Made in conjunction with peers Emily Murray & Jasmine Wu.

I made the below diagram and the Revit sheets on page 10. Images to the right photographed and edited by me. Model done in collaboration with aforementioned classmates who drove the majority of its creation.



clockwise from top: full image of 1/4" scale physical model (it was huge!). labelled detail view, and possible solar panel additions with output estimates.



revit sheets of sections, elevations, and ground floor plan.

FIRST THREAD

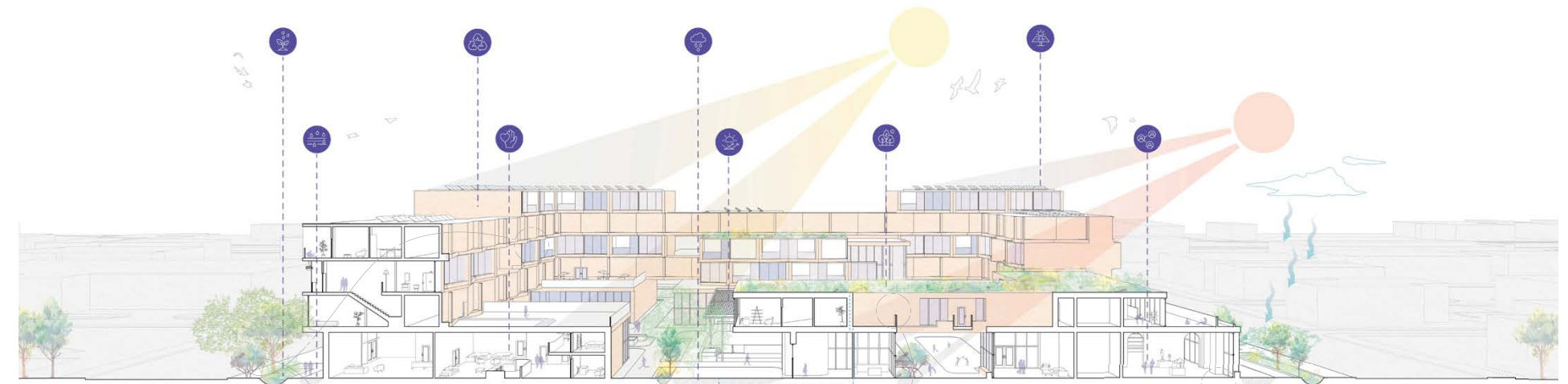
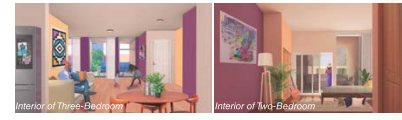
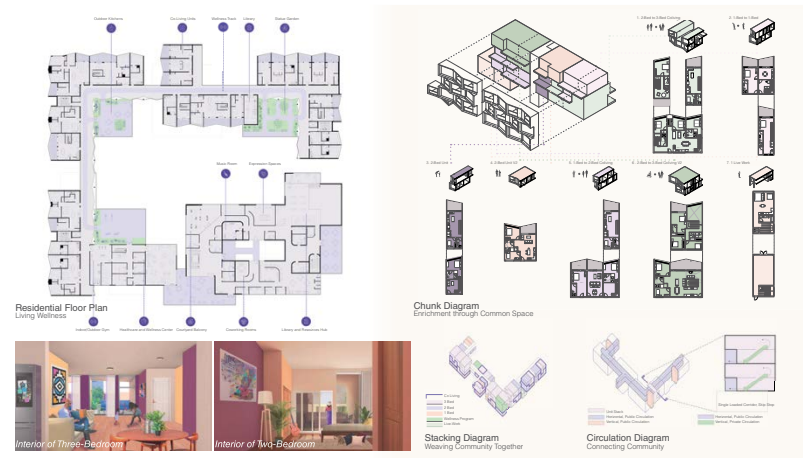
#2 at 2025 barbara g laurie noma student competition

The "First Thread" project, a submission to the NOMA BGL Competition, was completed by a group of my peers and I in Cal Poly Pomona's National Organization of Minority Architect Student Chapter (around fifteen) over the course of February 2025 to October 2025. After making it past the first round (60+ submissions), seven of us attended the NOMA conference in Kansas City to present it, where we placed second overall. I researched, presented data, designed spreadsheets to calculate water use and solar, made diagrams, and helped build the physical model. Here is an excerpt from the script I helped write:

Through our research into Kansas City, Missouri, and the Paseo West neighborhood, we set out to reweave the city's frayed tapestry, mending its threads back into the urban fabric. The result of our efforts is First Thread, an architectural quilt of residential, commercial, health, and recreational programs designed for all. Emerging from our mapping of nearby services, this strategy forms in the concept diagram and is further shown in the bottom-right Proximity Diagram. Recognizing that key medical, educational, and communal amenities lie beyond walking distance, First Thread consolidates these distant services to form an accessible hub for Paseo West residents.



left to right: 1/8" physical model (photo by NOMA), first three presentation sheets (CPP NOMAS).



Sustainability Section
Connecting Community and Nature

Design for Ecosystems
Native Plants and Creating Habitat

- Spring Blooms
- Hardy
- Partial/Full Shade
- Fruiting
- Winter Blooms
- Soil/Stratification
- Water-Loving

Design for Water
Bioswales and Urban Landscapes

- Roof Drain Pipe
- Mulch
- Engineered Soil
- Coarse Gravel
- Perforated Pipe

Weaving Wellness
Interlaced Spaces for Health and Equity

- Locally Sourced Grocery
- Community Kitchen
- Counseling and Therapy
- Gym
- Performance Space
- Library
- Teaching Clinic
- Community Garden
- Music Room
- Bike Storage and Repair

Material Palette
Local and Sustainable

- Limestone
- Green Roof
- Reclaimed Bricks
- Permeable Pavers

100% Increase in Sidewalk Width	75% Reduction in Distance of Public Amenities	74% Decreased Embodied Carbon Through Reclaimed Brick
54% Softscape Ratio to Site	702,198 Gallons of Rainwater Collected Year Round	242 Solar Panels Fitted to the Roof

fourth sheet with diagrams I made the majority of dot-outlined (CPP NOMAS). helped calculate rainwater and Water Usage Intensity, calculated solar output, advised healthcare additions & specific sustainability additions.

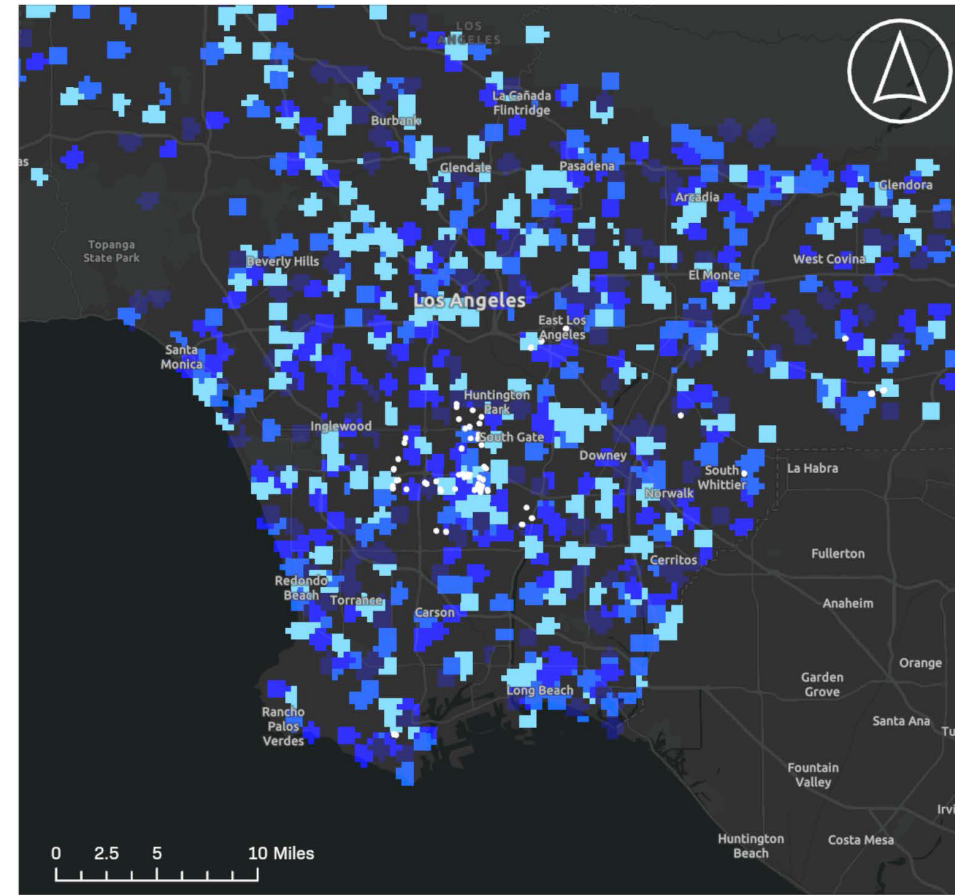
MAPS

selections from urban planning minor

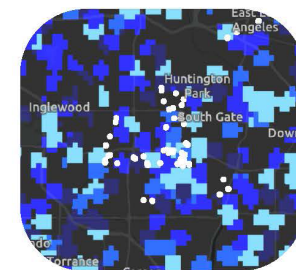
Mapping is a crucial, highly undervalued and underused tool for architects to better understand their role, and the role of a project. I like making maps about the real problems caused by our built environment, and what can be done. For example, Los Angeles: an exacerbated housing crisis and lack of greenspace. Maps can also provide more positive views: there is an excess of vacant parking lots ripe for building new housing,

(Right) The initial goal for my group was to examine the intersection of LA County parks and potential vacant development sites with housing zoning. By examining this intersection, an important factor in quality of life for possible housing projects, such as low-income housing or subsidized affordable housing.

To create this map, I did a many-to-many relate between the 0.5 mile radius of vacant, properly zoned potential sites and then the area of the surrounding parks (LA County GeoHub). I then performed a raster conversion that chose the nearest neighbor cell to refine the join, and show an overall graduated color park density that incorporated park area as a metric of density.



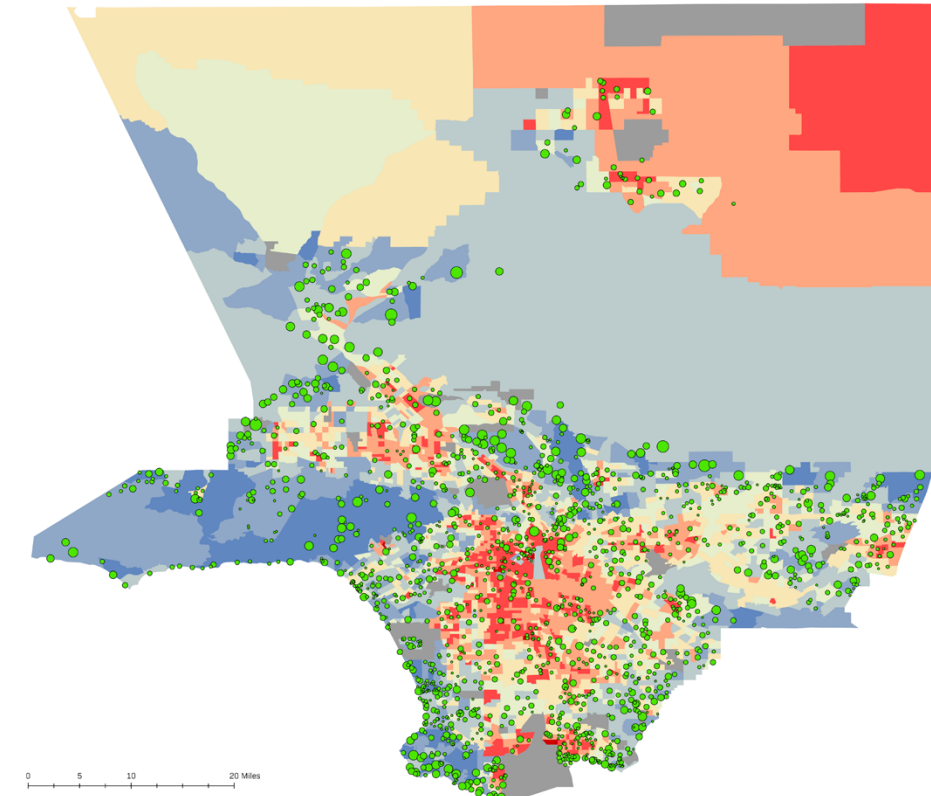
Vacant Properties Appropriately Zoned For Housing Developments And Their Proximity To Community Parks In LA County



- The lighter the blue, the more parks located within a 0.5 mile radius.
- Notice on the right; the white points indicate a vacant, properly zoned lot for housing developments.
- This data may be used to evaluate local amenities and quality of life indicators for possible affordable and public housing developments.

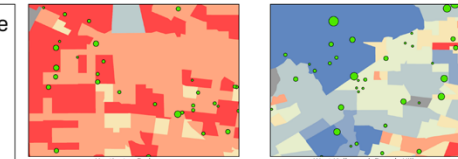
Parks and Paychecks

Comparing median household income and public park availability in Los Angeles County.



Parks and Median Household Income

Park Size (Acres)	Median Household Income
0.5 - 1	0 - 19,999
1 - 5	20,000 - 44,999
5 - 10	45,000 - 59,999
10 - 20	60,000 - 74,999
20 - 40	75,000 - 89,999
40 - 125	90,000 - 119,999
125 - 400	120,000 - 159,999
400 - 1,000	160,000 - 250,000
1,000 - 2,000	No Data

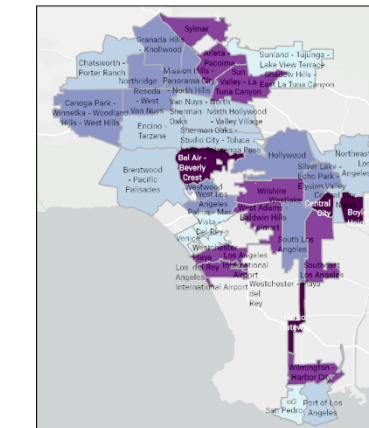
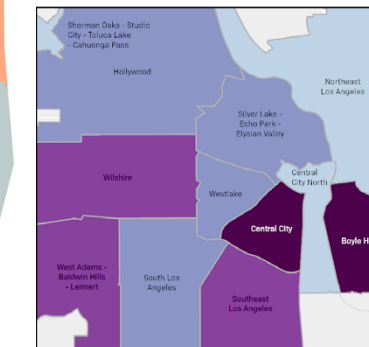


Park and Median Household data was obtained from the County of Los Angeles and both were updated May 2022.

In this context, a park is: managed by the city or county of Los Angeles, is not a golf course, not exclusive (such as a senior or youth center), and does not require a fee for admission. Playgrounds, recreation fields, and community centers, which generally contain public greenspace, are considered parks. Graduated XY points representing acreage was chosen as a means of scaling the park data to emphasize size in comparison to location.

CONCRETE JUNGLE: MAPPING PARKING LOT COVERAGE IN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOODS

% of Neighborhood Taken up by Parking Lots



Neighborhood	% of area occupied by parking lots
Arlota - Pacoima	8.18%
Bel Air - Beverly Crest	0.18%
Boyle Heights	8.47%
Brentwood - Pacific Palisades	1.06%
Canoga Park - Winnetka - Woodland Hills - West Hills	4.78%
Central City	23.89%
Central City North	21.13%
Chatsworth - Porter Ranch	8.01%
Encino - Tarzana	2.13%
Granada Hills - Knollwood	1.63%
Harbor Gateway	16.02%
Hollywood	3.23%
Los Angeles International Airport	12.5%
Mission Hills - Panorama City - North Hills	6.31%
North Hollywood - Valley Village	5.59%
Northeast Los Angeles	4.66%
Northridge	5.41%
Palme - Mar Vista - Del Rey	4.66%
Port of Los Angeles	28.25%
Reseda - West Van Nuys	6.74%
San Pedro	4.01%
Sherman Oaks - Studio City - Toluca Lake - Calhuenaga Pass	2.65%
Silver Lake - Echo Park - Elysian Valley	4.96%
South Los Angeles	4.59%
Southeast Los Angeles	6.47%
Sun Valley - La Tuna Canyon	8.89%
Sunland - Tujunga - Lake View Terrace - Shadow Hills - East La Tuna Canyon	0.81%
Sylmar	5.6%
Van Nuys - North Sherman Oaks	8.08%
Venice	4.34%
West Adams - Baldwin Hills - Leimert	4.14%
West Los Angeles	5.58%
Westchester - Playa del Rey	5.75%
Westlake	8.09%
Westwood	2.26%
Wilmington - Harbor City	10.76%
Wilshire	4.23%

Credits: Boundaries of parking lots in the County of Los Angeles 5,000 square feet and larger in 2014. This dataset is limited to commercial, industrial, and government properties. LARIAC.

left to right: bright green points denoting the acreage (and location) of a park on top of MHI by census tract in Los Angeles County, percentage of parking lot coverage in LA city neighborhoods, with darker color indicating higher coverage.

ART

I find my personal artistic exploration informs my design sensibilities, hence its inclusion in this portfolio.

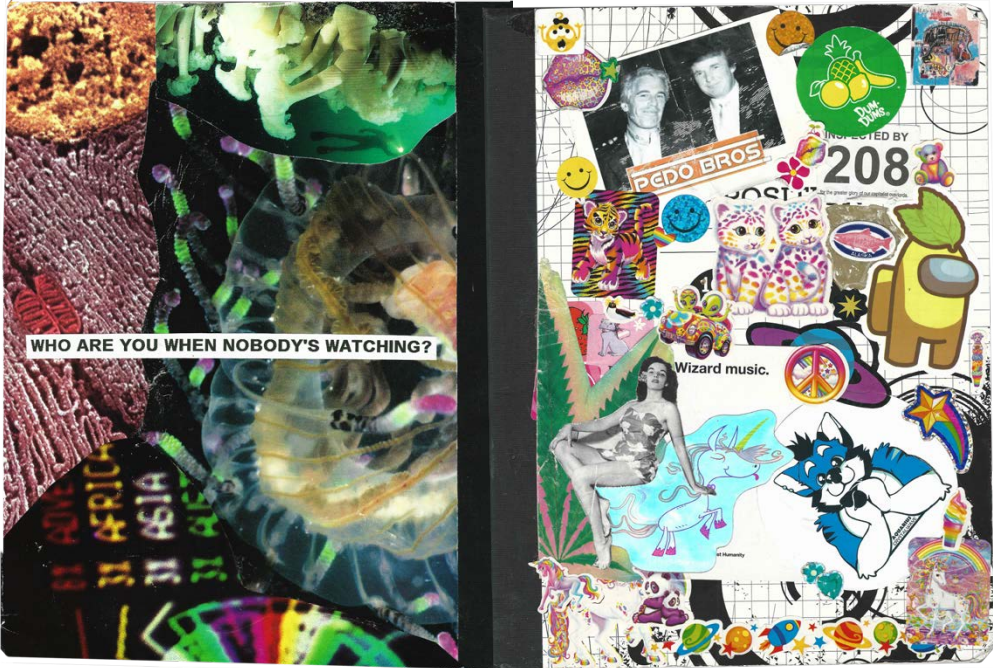


left to right: axonometric of the viso residence by hodgetts + fung. digital drawing.



clockwise from top: hand-painted pufferfish 'bone' earring (1 of 2). wirewrapped pufferfish 'bone' necklace. clamshell with image transfer. saab 900 pastel painting.

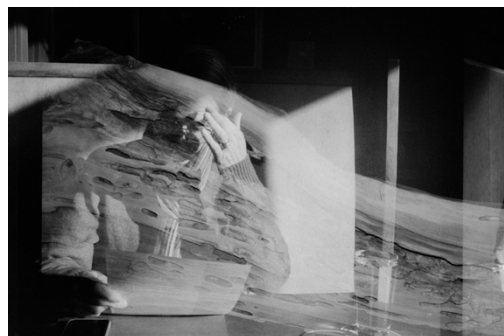
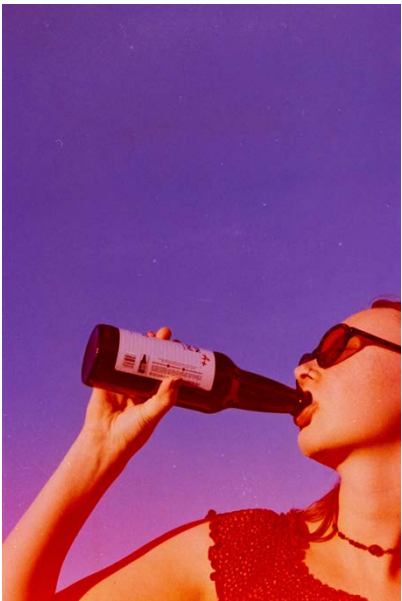
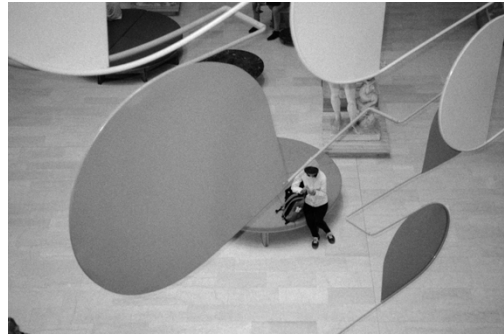
COLLAGE



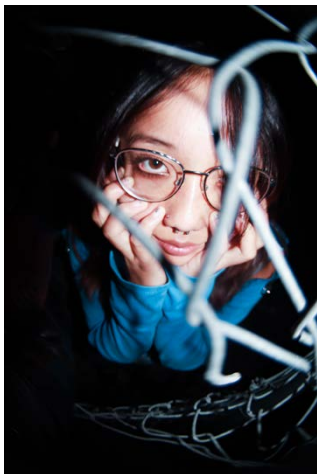
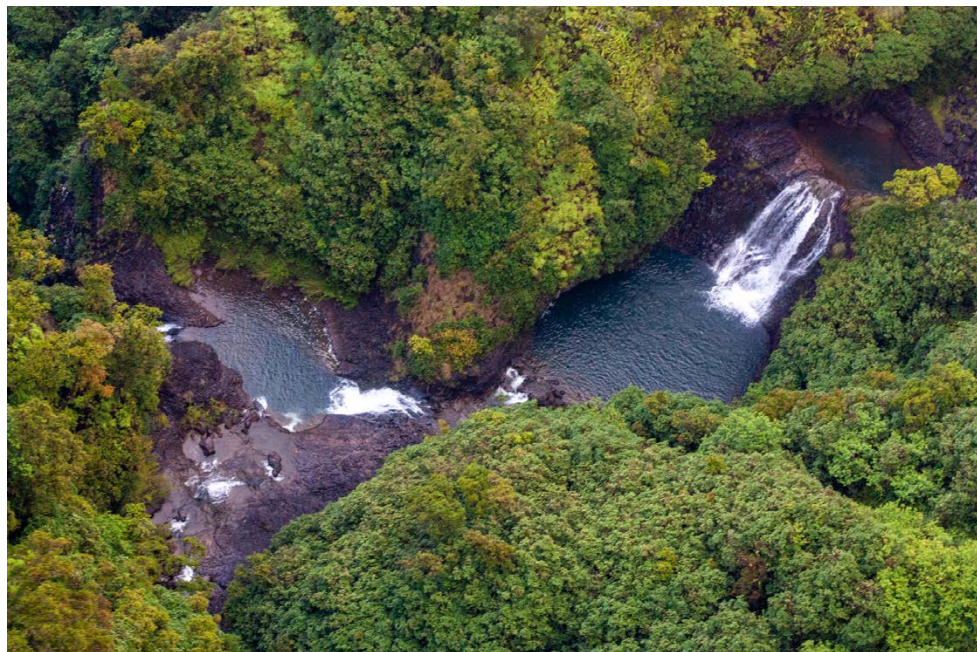
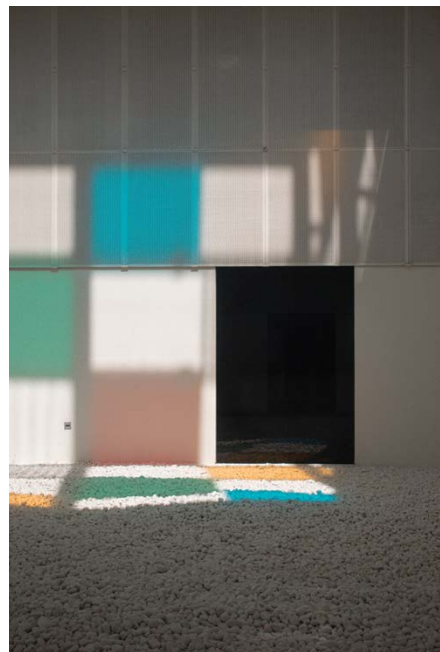
left to right: assemblage of tape, beads, lace, cloth, twine, receipts and my teeth. physical collage - "human condition". 4"x4" physical collage with threaded beads. digital assembly of scanned materials.

clockwise from top: physical assemblage for 2023-24 school year planner. "Strawberry Portals". "Growing Gardens". Handwoven paper strip collage.

FILM PHOTOGRAPHY



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY





Isabel Migoya, 2026.