

Winter 2026

PORTFOLIO

Liz Putnam

Selected Works



Let's Connect!

Liz Putnam



Designer

I grew up immersed in the visual arts, with both of my grandmothers being artists, which sparked my constant curiosity to explore different mediums. I've always been drawn to creating functional art—objects that are not only beautiful but serve a purpose. Over time, I've come to view architecture as another medium of functional art. I enjoy creating a story behind each design and telling that story throughout the process, allowing it to shape a unique sense of place. This artistic foundation has influenced my design approach, making me a confident, intuitive designer who continuously seeks to refine my technical skills.

Education

University of Kansas

Masters Degree // 4.0 GPA

Studio 804 Thesis

// Led the design and construction of a LEED Platinum-certified home, from site strategy to project completion.

Bachelors Degree // 3.95 GPA

Experience

Acoufelt - Regional Sales Manager

June 2025 - Present

// Lead New England regional sales efforts, increasing brand presence through relationship-driven specification strategies

// Manage and grow a multi-state New England territory by developing relationships with architects, designers, and industry partners

// Grow territory influence by executing firm presentations, dual Lunch & Learns, and targeted networking initiatives

The Beck Group - Architectural Designer I

July 2023 - May 2025

// Designed and coordinated concepts for residence halls, multifamily, hospitality, and K-12 projects

// Collaborated with cross-disciplinary teams to ensure design integrity on multifamily and faith-based projects.

// Contributed to adaptive reuse projects, transforming office buildings into educational spaces.

// Worked on massing studies and visualizations

// Contributed to project documentation through SD, DD and CA phase coordination.

Multistudio - Intern

May 2022 - August 2022

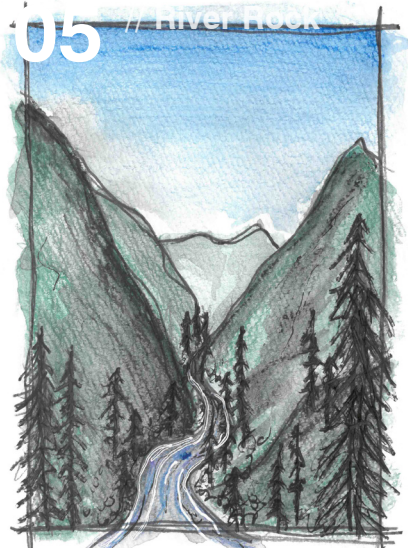
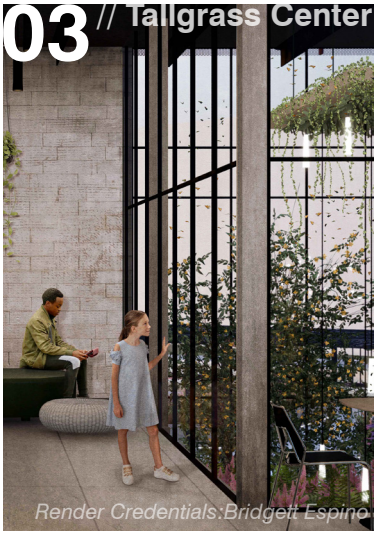
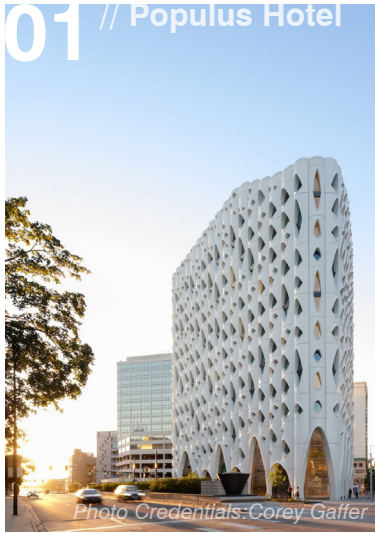
// Designed and coordinated concepts for residence halls, multifamily, hospitality, and K-12 projects through SD, DD, and CA phases.

BRR - Intern

May 2021 - August 2021

// Designed and coordinated concepts for residence halls, multifamily, hospitality, and K-12 projects through SD, DD, and CA phases.

Content



01

Populus Hotel

*240 14th Street
Denver, CO 80202*

*Designed by Studio Gang
Developed by Urban Villages
Built by The Beck Group*

Completed in October 2024



Role // Design Assist

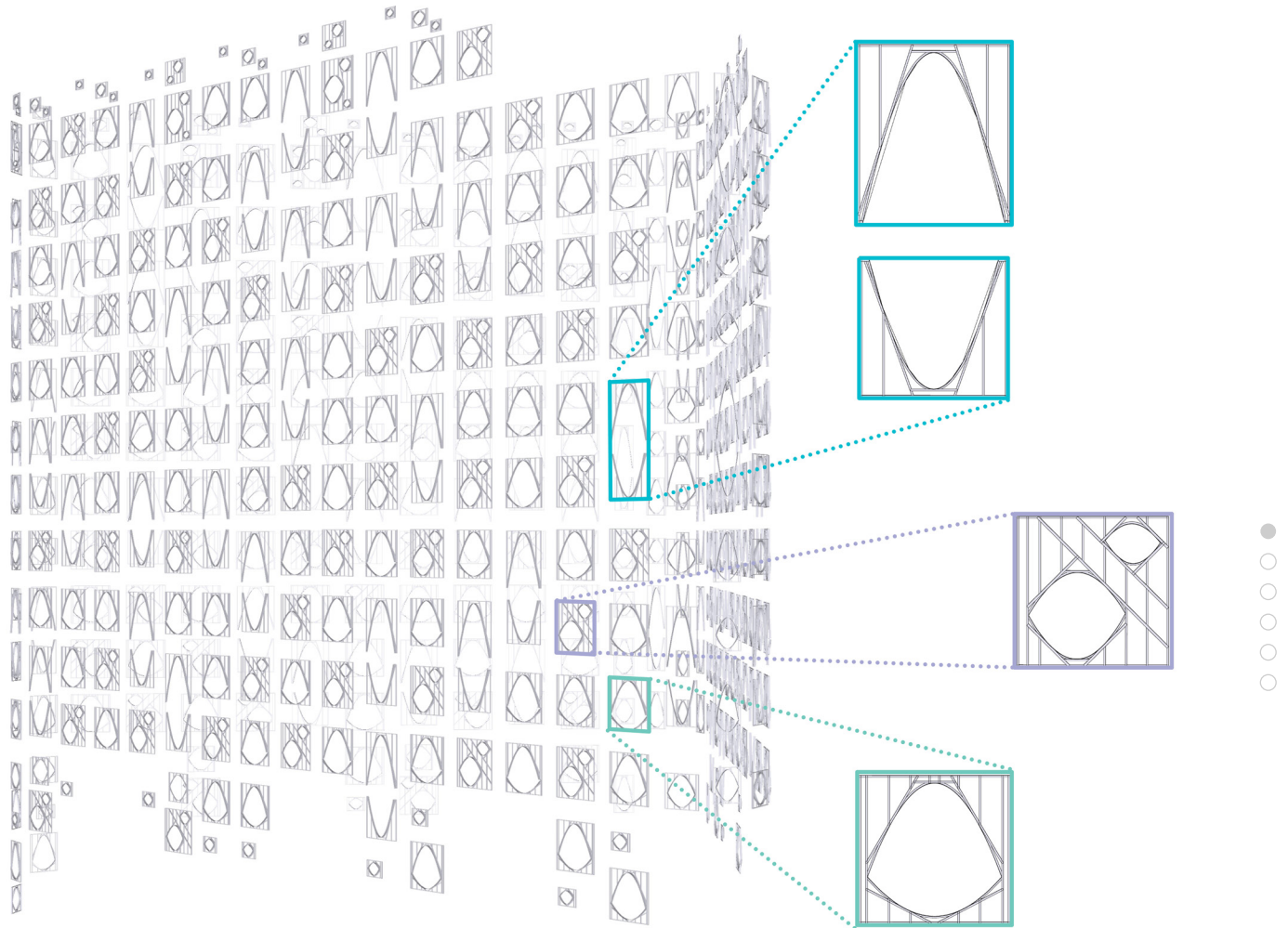
Populus is a 13-story, carbon-neutral hotel in downtown Denver, designed by Studio Gang and built by The Beck Group. Inspired by the patterns of Colorado's aspen trees, the building features a distinctive facade of sculptural, eye-shaped windows. It's designed to be a highly sustainable, iconic addition to Denver's skyline.

While at The Beck Group, I supported the Populus Hotel project in a design assist role focused on prefabricated framing. I worked closely with two other designers and the framing subcontractor to create detailed drawings for the interior framing panels, ensuring they could be prefabricated off-site for efficient installation.



02





Role // Design Assist

The Beck Group team utilized the Studio Gang Rhino model of the skin to align the geometries of the GFRC exterior panels with interior walls, floor systems, and critical framing details, helping ensure that the structure would remain hidden from view inside the guest rooms. This role strengthened my technical coordination skills and gave me valuable experience collaborating across design, fabrication, and construction teams.

03

“House of Mirrors”

*432 Indiana Street
Lawrence, KS 66044*

*Studio 804
Design Build Studio
Lead by Dan Rockhill*

Completed in May 2023



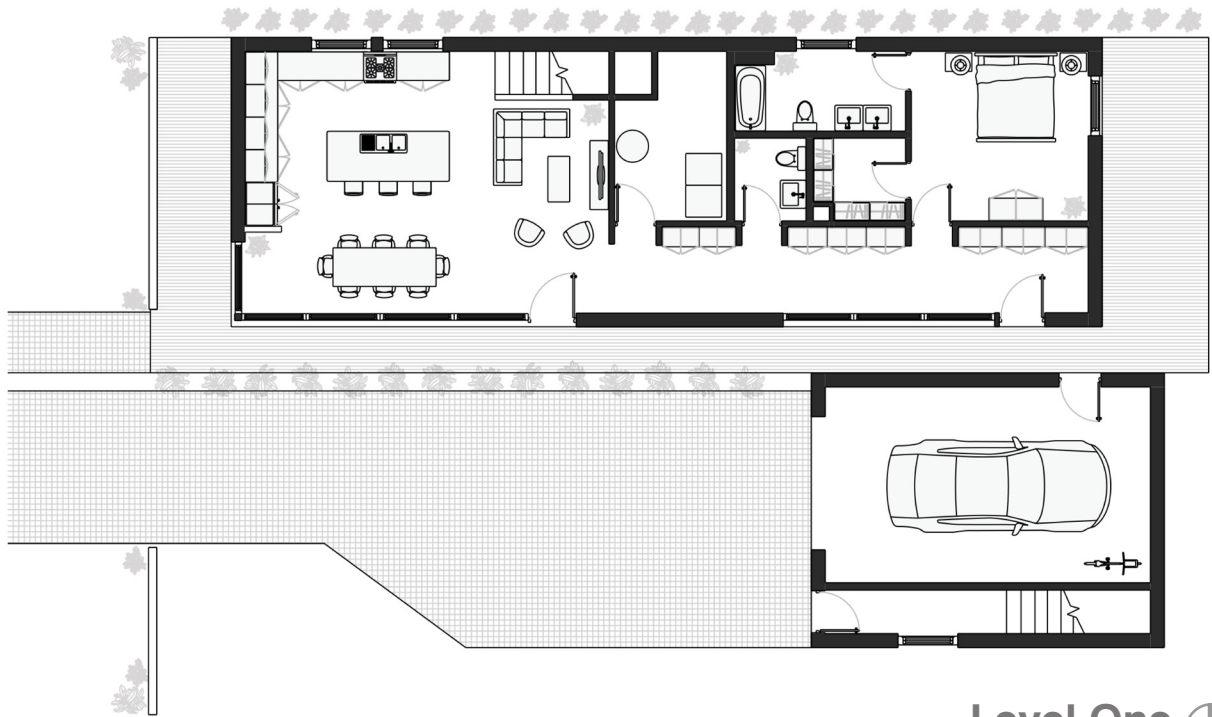
Role // Project Liaison

Leading this project from an overgrown lot to a LEED Platinum-certified home was a pivotal moment in my growth as a designer. As studio lead, I was involved at every step — from early site strategy and design development, to coordinating with city officials, manufacturers, and vendors, to working hands-on alongside my peers during construction. This experience strengthened both my project management and design skills, deepening my passion for creating thoughtful, lasting spaces that serve both people and place. I played an integral role in the daily operations, helping manage the schedule, track the budget, prepare accounting information, and coordinate material donations to ensure the project's success.

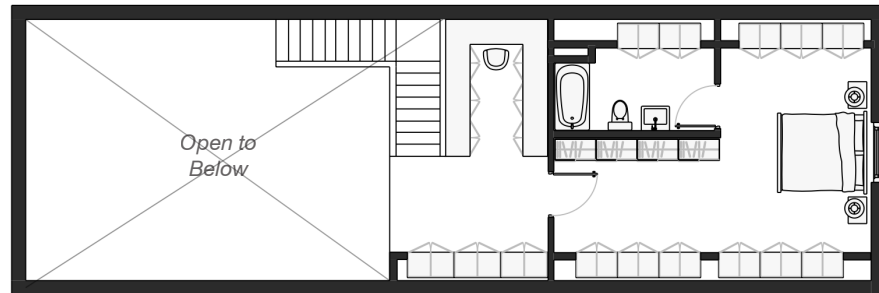


Photo Credentials: Corey Garfield

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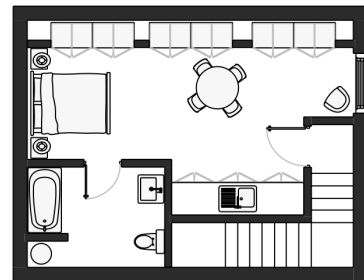


Level One 
Not to Scale



Design & Layout

The home's gabled form blends seamlessly into the neighborhood, designed with flexibility in mind. The main level features an open living, kitchen, and dining area, leading to a private bedroom suite overlooking the treetops. Upstairs, a cozy loft-style suite adapts to evolving needs, while a separate accessory dwelling above the garage offers space for guests, rental income, or multigenerational living.



Level Two 
Not to Scale

Building...



05



Complete!





Photo Credentials: Corey Gaffer

06

Tallgrass Center

10 E 6th Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

Studio 608 // Design Studio
Collaboration with Bridgett Espino
Studio Lead by Nilou Vakil



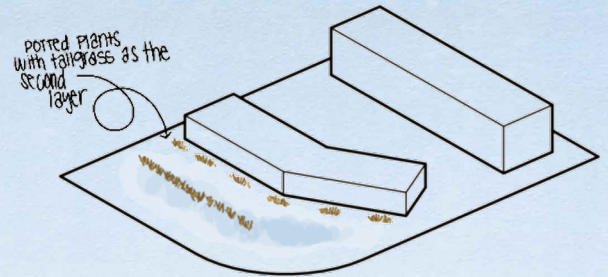
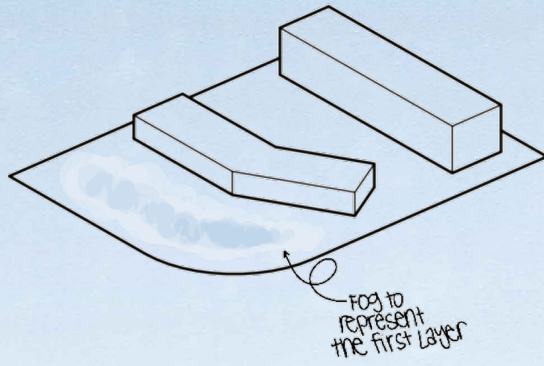
Role // Designer

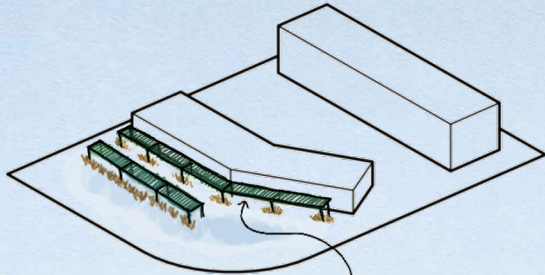
Inspired by Kansas's agricultural roots, we designed the Tallgrass Discovery Center to celebrate the natural elements that define the region. Located just south of downtown Lawrence, the nearby Baker Wetlands — with its winding trails, prairie wildlife, and rising morning fog — shaped our vision for the site. We created a layered landscape of prairie grasses, mist, and water features to evoke the feeling of being immersed in the fields at dawn. Rather than a traditional entry, visitors move through a soft, natural gateway — a sense of arrival defined not by walls or structures, but by atmosphere and sense of place.



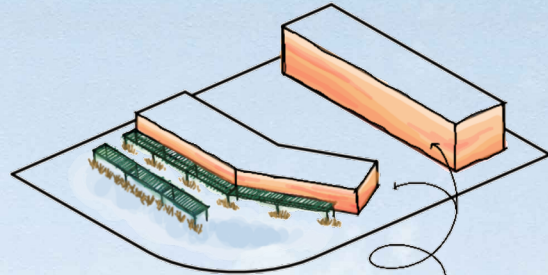


Render Credentials: Bridgett Espino





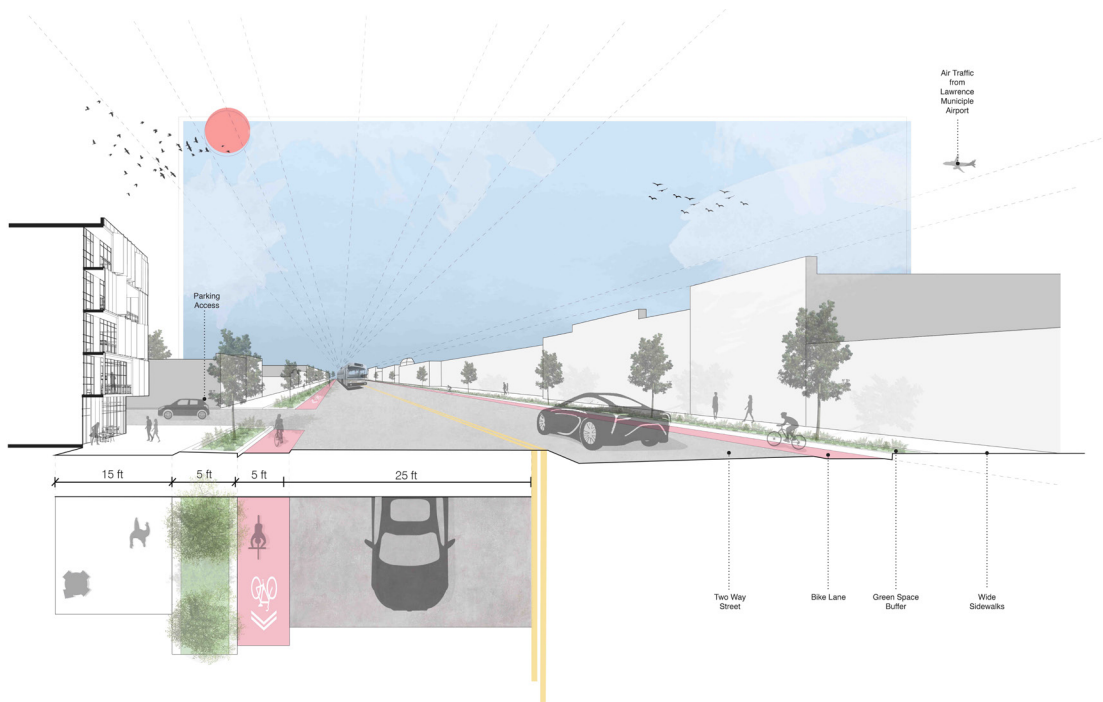
Pavilions with greenery to represent the trees



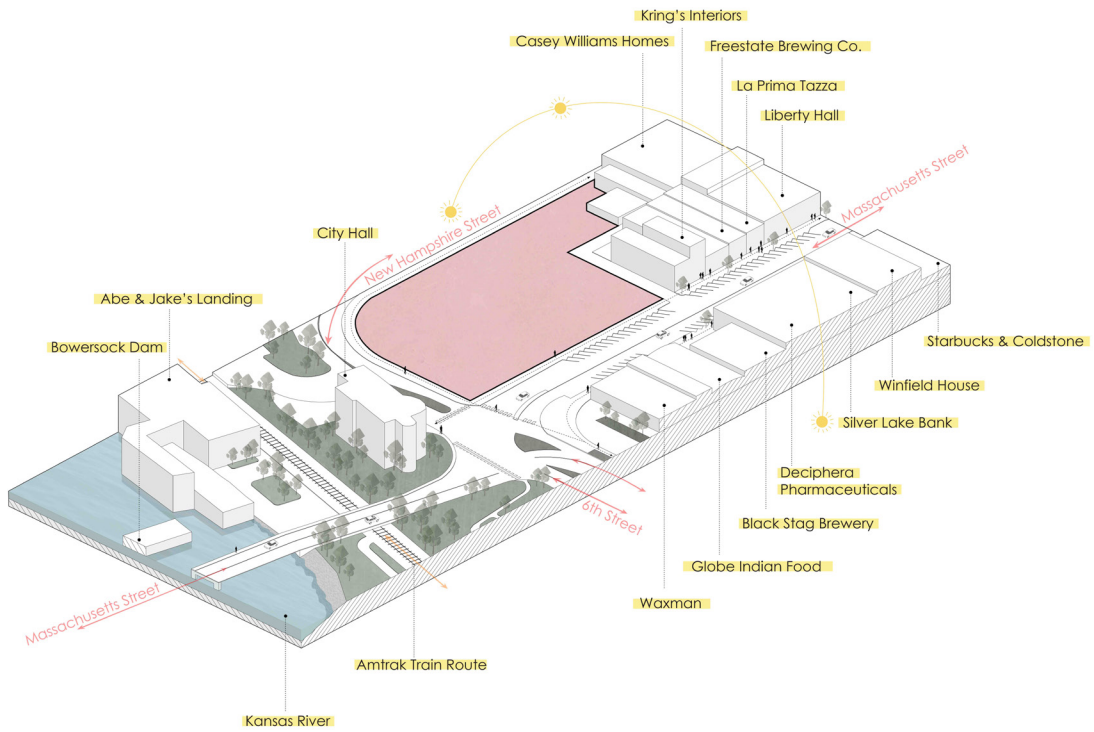
Corten rusted steel facade to represent the colorful sunrise



08



Street Section Study



Site Context Study

- Discovery Center:**
 1 - Cafe
 2 - Butterfly Garden
 3 - Greenhouse
 4 - Freezer Storage
 5 - Utility

- Residential Tower:**
 1 - Retail
 2 - Coffee Shop
 3 - Residential Lobby
 4 - Utility
 5 - Trash
 6 - Storage
 7 - Mail
 8 - Residence Storage



Level One 
 Not to Scale



- Discovery Center:**
 1 - Education Center
 2 - Greenhouse
 3 - Open Study Space

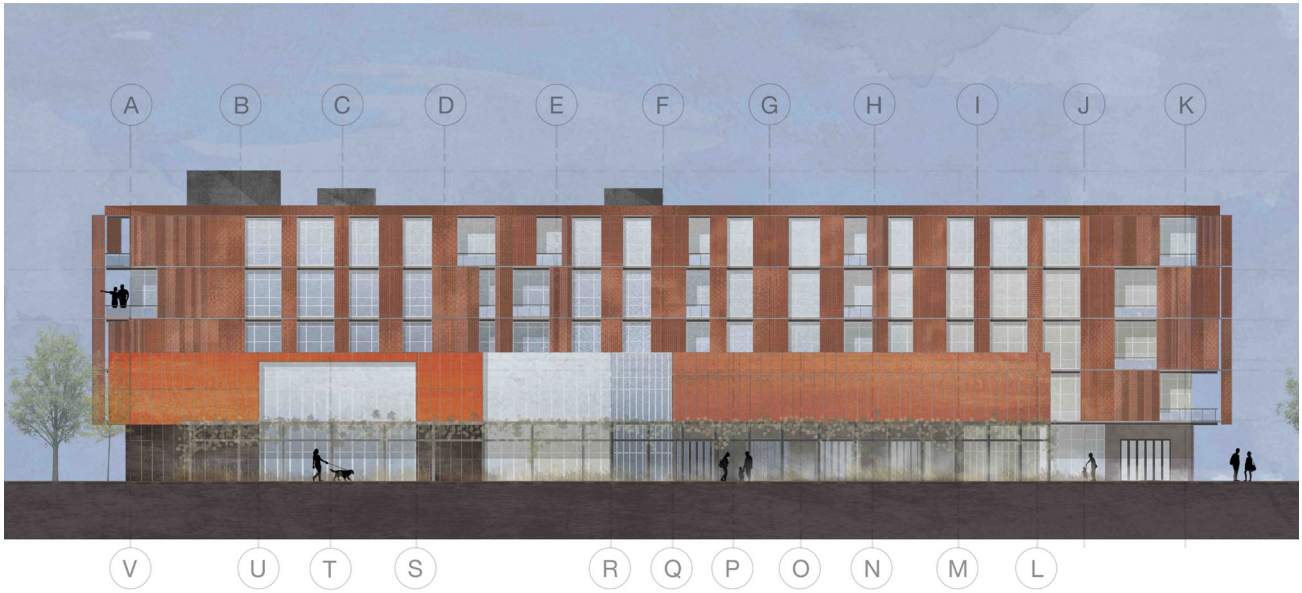
- Residential Tower:**
 4 - Residence Lounge Room
 5 - Individual Study Rooms
 6 - Trash
 7 - Gym
 8 - 1 Bed 1 Bath
 9 - 2 Bed 1 Bath
 10 - 2 Bed 2 Bath
 11 - 2 Bed 2.5 Bath
 12 - 3 Bed 3 Bath



Level Two // Typical Residential Plan 
 Not to Scale

North Elevation

Not to Scale



South Elevation

Not to Scale



East Elevation

Not to Scale 



West Elevation

Not to Scale 





Collaborative Design

Working with my studio partner, Bridgett Espino, on the Tallgrass Discovery Center was a truly rewarding experience. We had so much fun imagining how these spaces could become a meaningful addition to our town. The collaborative process allowed us to explore and refine our ideas together, and we were excited about the potential impact of the project.



Bikeshop

*Massachusetts Street
Lawrence, KS 66044*

*Studio 508 // Design Studio
Studio Lead by Gregory Crichlow*



Role // Designer

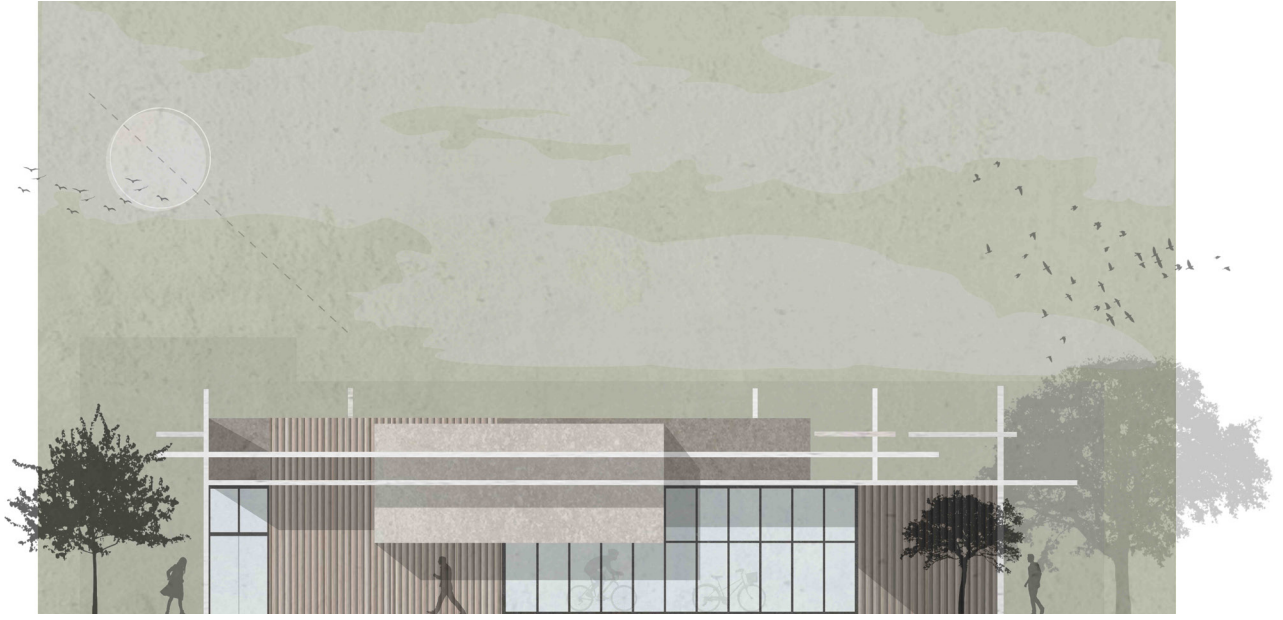
This project aimed to activate a downtown Lawrence lot and create a dynamic display that highlighted the craftsmen behind the scenes. The design focuses on visibility and interaction, placing large open windows at the 11th and Massachusetts intersection, allowing passersby to see bikes being made and tested in real-time. The layout balances public and private spaces: retail areas and more open spaces face the street, while private offices are tucked behind the bike shop. The building's form draws inspiration from the flow and movement found along historic Massachusetts Street, reflecting the pulse of transportation in the area.





West Elevation

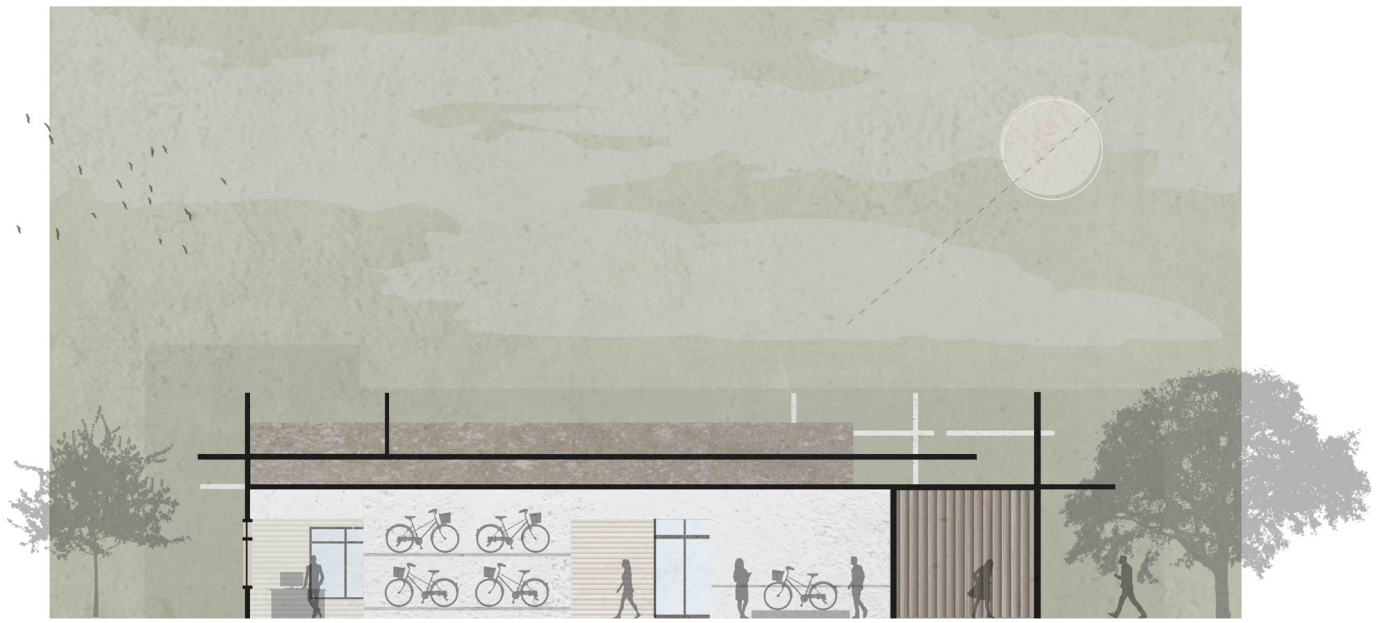
Not to Scale 



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West Section

Not to Scale 



North Elevation

Not to Scale



North Section

Not to Scale



13

River Rock Elementary

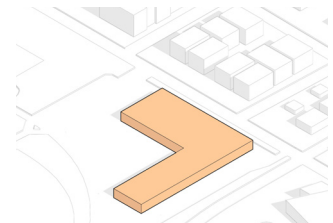
Central Park
Denver, CO 80207

Studio 609 // Design Studio
Collaboration with Bridgett Espino
Studio Lead by Nilou Vakil

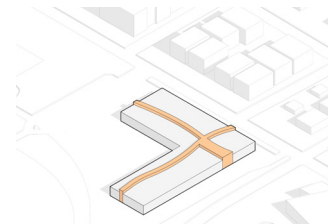


Role // Designer

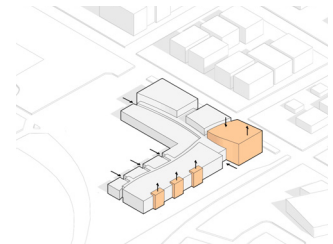
Inspired by Colorado's diverse and rugged landscape, this project explores the idea of overcoming obstacles — just as rivers carve paths through rock, the visually impaired navigate a world designed for the sighted. We designed a school that emphasizes reliance on senses other than sight, creating a space where students can thrive despite the challenges they face. The goal is to provide an enriching learning environment that acknowledges these unique challenges while fostering independence and strength, much like the natural pathways carved by the rivers of Colorado.



hold the corner



carving a corridor



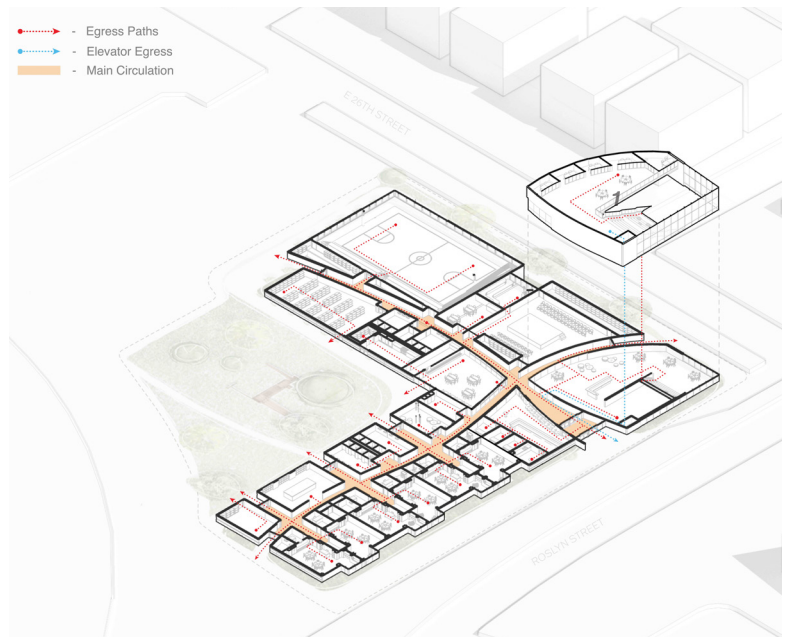
pushing & pulling



- 1 - Library
- 2 - Blackbox Theater
- 3 - Gym
- 4 - Storage
- 5 - Cafe
- 6 - Small Workroom
- 7 - Classroom



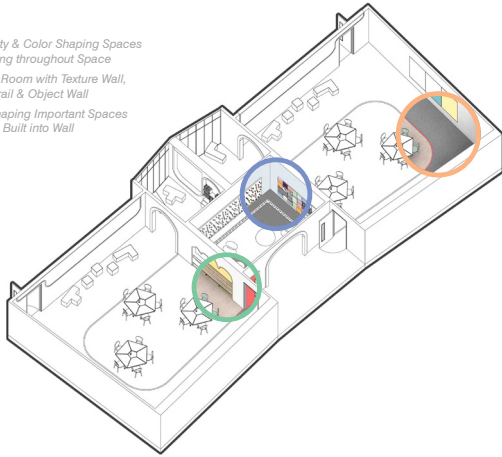
Level One



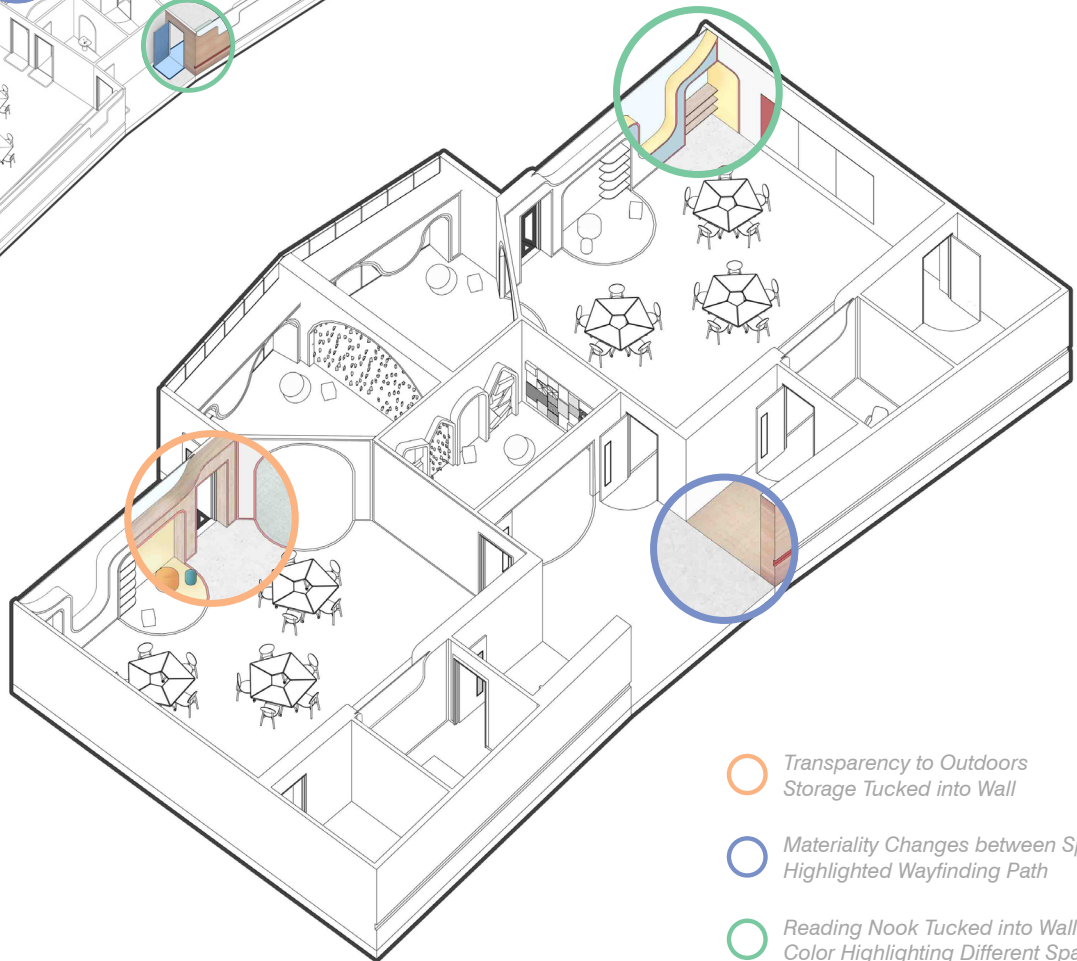
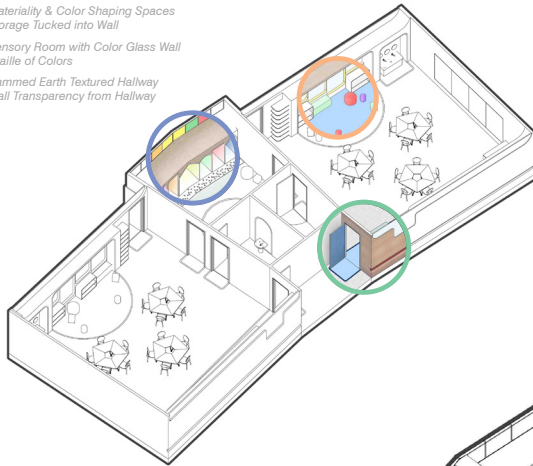
Circulation Diagram

The main corridor features a rammed earth tactile wall, designed to guide students seamlessly from room to room.

- Materiality & Color Shaping Spaces
Wayfinding throughout Space
- Sensory Room with Texture Wall,
Braille Trail & Object Wall
- Color Shaping Important Spaces
Cubbies Built into Wall



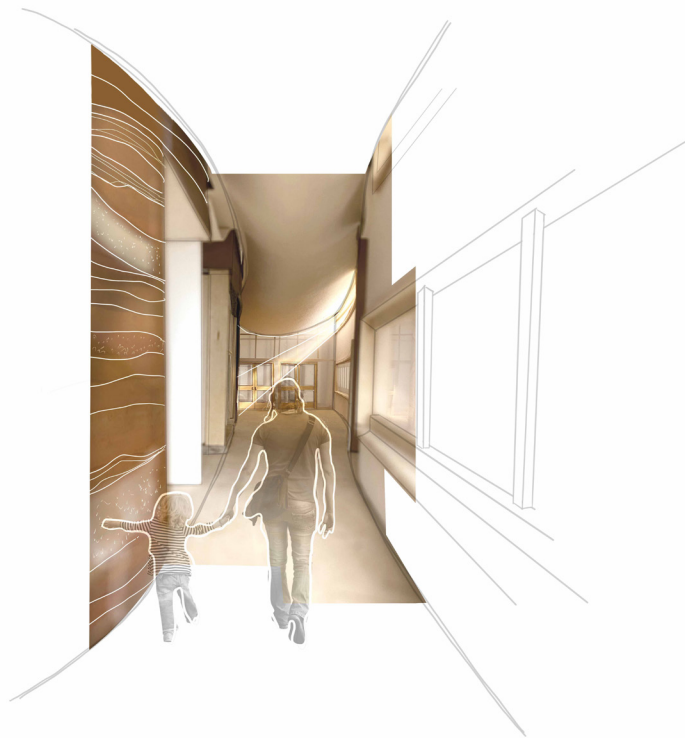
- Materiality & Color Shaping Spaces
Storage Tucked into Wall
- Sensory Room with Color Glass Wall
Braille of Colors
- Rammed Earth Textured Hallway
Wall Transparency from Hallway



- Transparency to Outdoors
Storage Tucked into Wall
- Materiality Changes between Spaces
Highlighted Wayfinding Path
- Reading Nook Tucked into Wall
Color Highlighting Different Spaces
and Entries



Theater



Corridor

Professional Work

Multidisciplinary Work done at The Beck Group in Denver, Colorado

July 2023 - Present



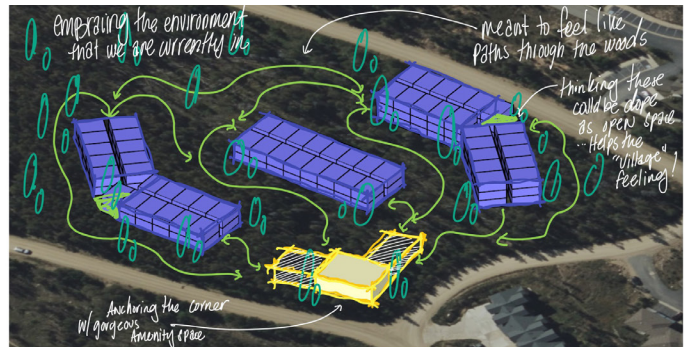
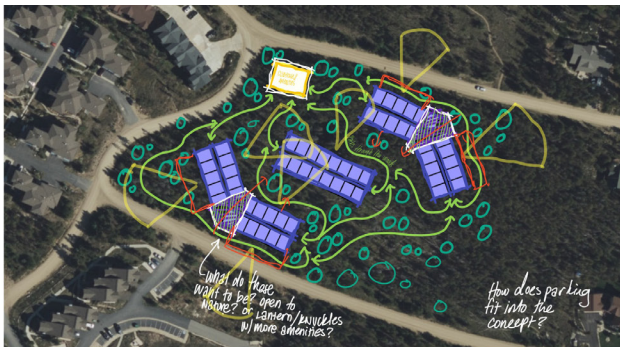
Role // Designer & Project Coordinator

During my time at The Beck Group, I contributed as both a designer and project coordinator, gaining experience across a variety of sectors, including residence halls, multifamily housing, hospitality, and K-12 education. I was involved in all stages of the design process, from high-level conceptual work to working through the SD, DD, and CA phases of faith-based and multifamily projects. My role included collaborating with diverse teams, coordinating with contractors and consultants, and ensuring that design intent was met throughout construction. This experience gave me a well-rounded foundation in project management, technical design, and client communication, helping me grow as a versatile and adaptable designer.

Winter Park Concepts

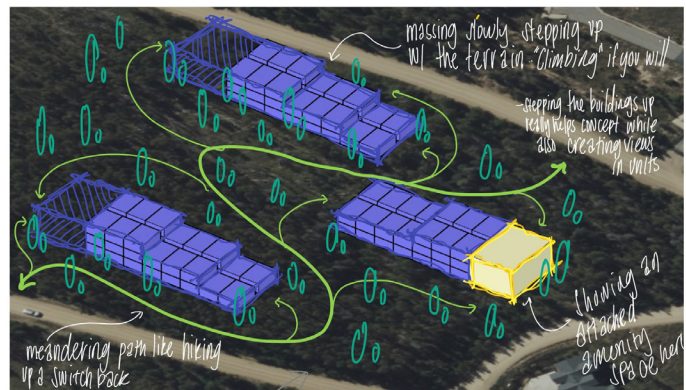
Village

Designed to evoke the feeling of staying in a cabin in the woods, the space features interconnecting paths that guide you through the forest, creating a seamless flow between each area.



Switchback

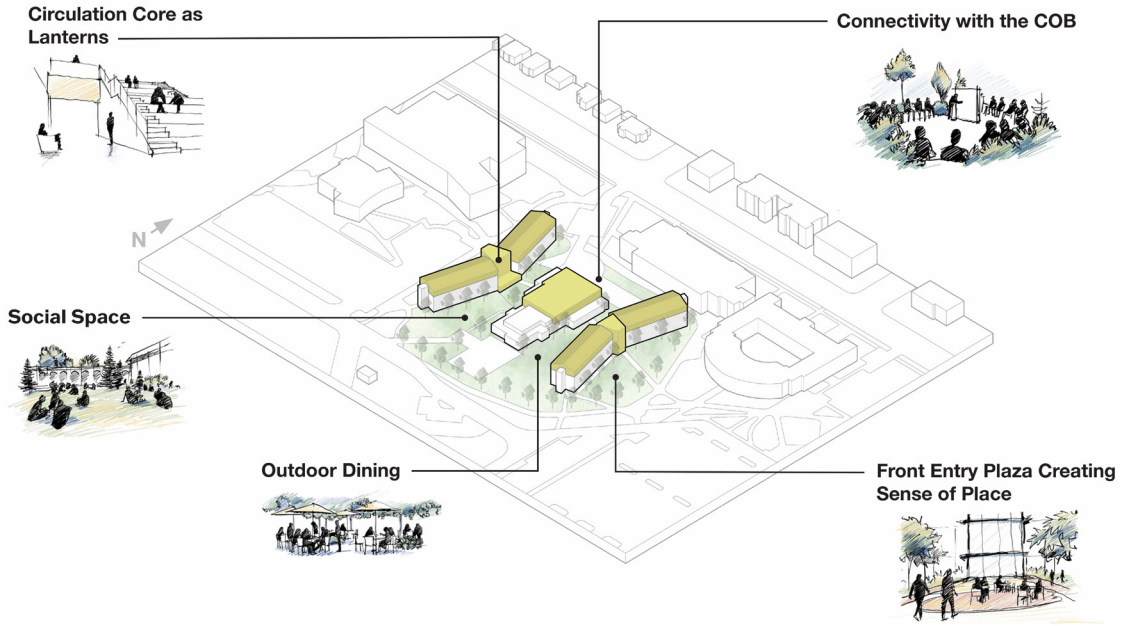
Designed to mimic the experience of climbing a mountain switchback, the paths wind around the three massings, with the buildings themselves starting the ascent up the terrain.



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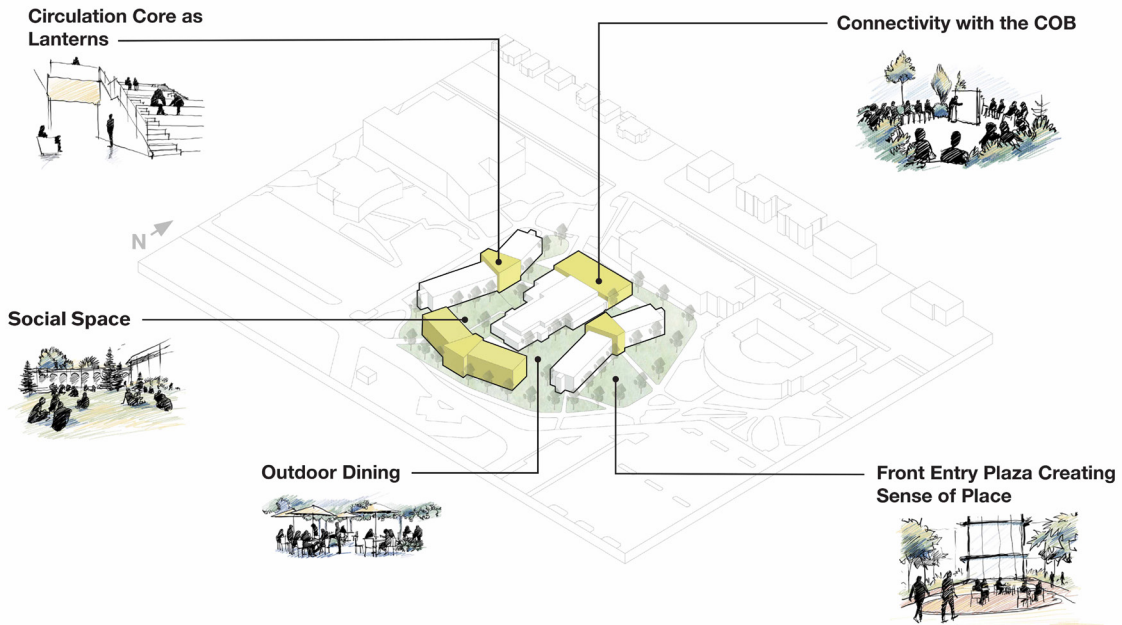
we really enjoy the idea of anchoring the site w/ a clubhouse/amenity space
min 1 use 20

CSU Residence Hall



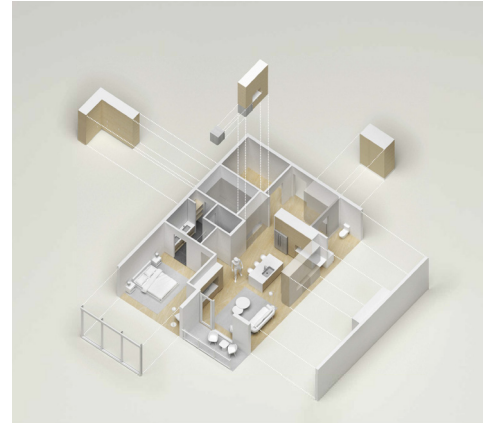
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Role // Design Assist



Role // Design Assist

Multi-family Unit Studies



1 Bedroom



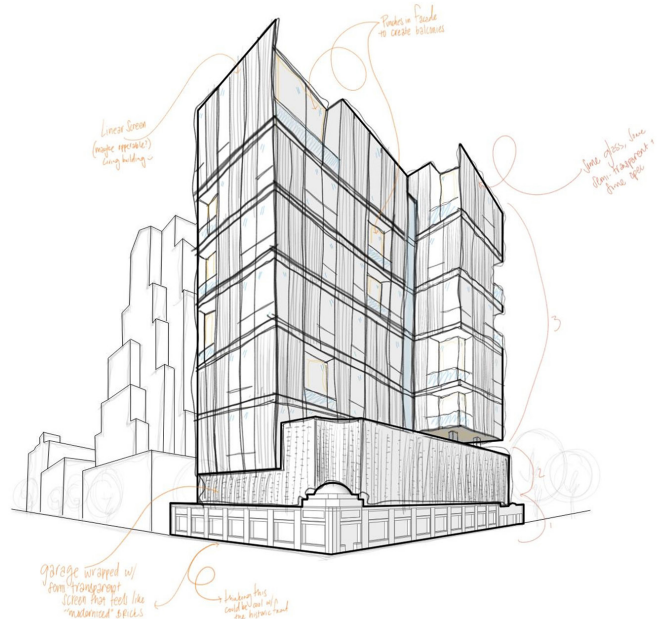
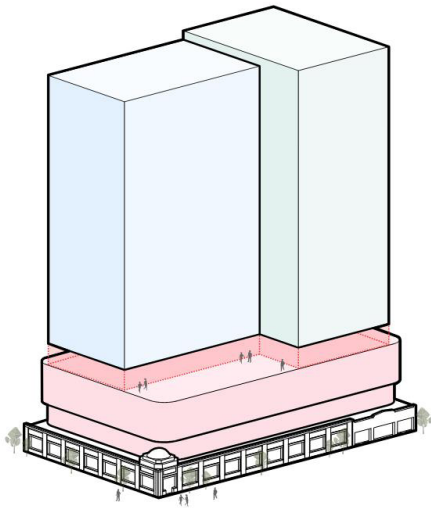
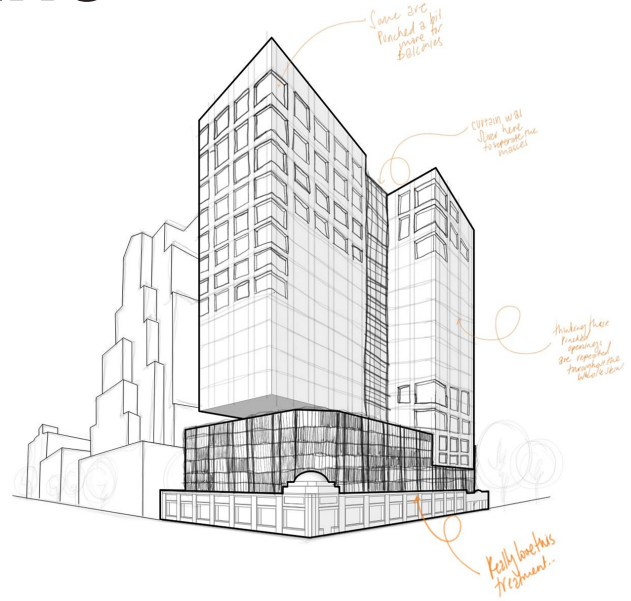
2 Bedroom



3 Bedroom



Apartments at the Banknote



In collaboration with two talented designers at The Beck Group, we designed an 18-story residential tower in the heart of downtown Denver. My role was to translate and communicate our design vision to the outsourced rendering company, ensuring alignment with our goals.



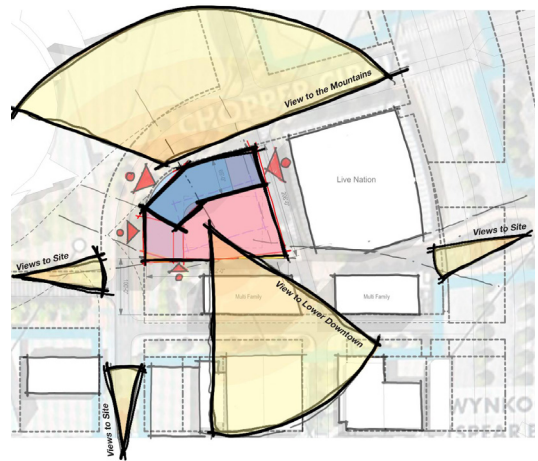
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Honorable Mentions!



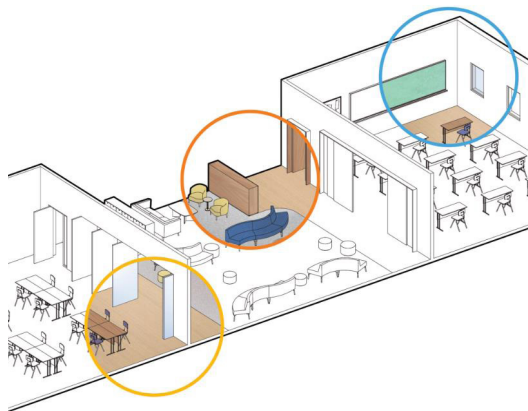
Beach40 Pavilions

Collaborating with a large team from the Beck Dallas office, I contributed to the design of several pavilions, as seen in the rendered images.



Omni Hotel Massing

Collaborated with the Beck Dallas team on massing studies for the Omni Hotel concept in downtown Denver, located next to the Nuggets stadium.



Classical Academy

Worked with the Denver office on an adaptive reuse project, transforming an office building into a preschool through high school classical academy in a neighborhood just outside of Denver.



Lone Tree Residences

Collaborated with the Denver team on exterior skin studies and visualizations for a MIHA project in Lone Tree, Colorado.

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Render, Credentials: Sara Rowley

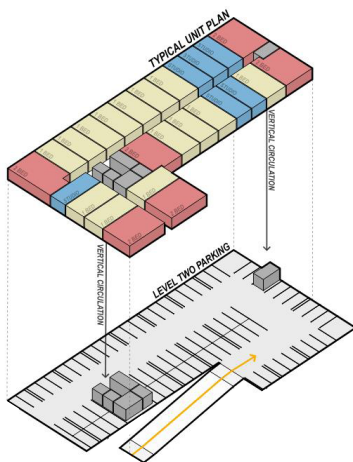
Riverside Preschool

Worked on CDs and through the CA process for this church preschool renovation, working closely with the Beck Construction team to ensure smooth project execution.



Storyline Rebrand

Worked on exploring new exterior skin designs for Storyline Church, helping to rebrand an old HyVee into a family-oriented church.



SoBo Yield Study

Yield studies for a client to assess the feasibility of a housing project off South Broadway, downtown Denver.

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First Baptist Visualization

Collaborated with the Dallas team on design visualizations and renders for the First Baptist Garland Church, and documenting through the SD and DD phases alongside the design team.



REFERENCES

David Morris

Office Director + Design Principal // HKS
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Dan Rockhill

Studio 804 // University of Kansas
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Studio Professor // University of Kansas
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Ann Hossler

Studio Professor // University of Kansas
ann.hossler@ku.edu