

# Problem Statement

How can design facilitate and enhance learning for students with autism?



# 7 Principles of Universal Design:

Equitable use

Flexibility in use

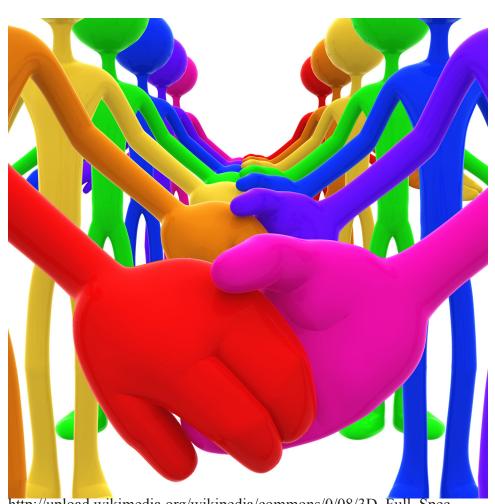
Simple and intuitive function

Perceptible information

Tolerance for errors

Low physical effort for all users

Appropriate size and space for approach, reach, manipulation and use



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/08/3D\_Full\_Spectrum Unity Holding Hands Concept.jpg



# Benefits of Play:

Collaborative skills

Confrontation and resolution

Moral understanding

Negotiation

Language and language comprehension

Experimentation

Problem solving

Creativity

Aesthetic appreciation

Fine and gross motor skills

design for children: a child's world







# Schools

"The school of tomorrow will be a garden city of children; that is to say a place of many shelters – a township, if you will, of small schools built as one community but with every shelter organized as a separate unit designed to meet the needs of children of specific age or stage of life"

- Margaret McMillan, a British pioneer of nursery education in 1928

Robert Owen - 1771-1858

Children as active participants of their education

Friedrich Froebel - 1782 - 1852

Naturphilosophie: stressed children's need to learn from nature

Froebel play system: embrace the "gifts and occupations of children"

Encourage children to see and create their own interpretations of the world artistically

Coined the term "kindergarten" - school as a metaphorical "garden"

Rachel and Margaret McMillan - 1859 - 1917, 1860 - 1931

Fundamental belief that children have a basic need for fresh air and physical games

Nature-based activities encourage socialization



http://www.lerarenblogs.be/



# Twentieth Century Tendencies

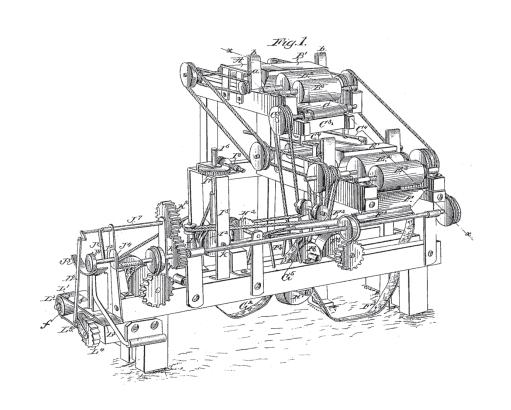
Industrialization - Efficiency and Machine Aesthetic

Mechanized place of learning

**Function** 

Large, impersonal schools were the standard

Experts believe large, factorystyle schools detract from a strong community and individual identity





Failure to develop normal socialization	Do not interact with others well or at all Difficulty understanding and expressing emotion Few or unusual signs of attachment "seem to live in a world of their own"
Disturbances in speech, language, and communication	40% do not speak at all Echolalia common: parrotlike repeating Little to no understanding of symbolic gestures May appear to have little control over pitch or volume Little understanding of social conventions Often become "stuck" on a topic or single-minded
Abnormal relationships to objects and events	"need for sameness" "predictability and routine" Unusual play Little imaginative play With time and treatment, children may learn to use toys or objects for their intended use
Abnormal responses to sensory stimulation	Tendency to "overattend to some stimuli and underattend to others"  Difficulty "filtering out" useless stimuli  Overstimulation or focus on certain stimuli may cause distress or behavioral issues  Fascination with lights, color patterns, logos, shapes, or configuration of letters and words  May be preoccupied scratching or rubbing certain surfaces  May furiously avoid certain textures or colors  May respond to motion or pressure in unusual ways  Appear to use taste and smell over hearing and vision to explore
Developmental delays and differences	75% score in the range of mental retardation  Poor generalization
Begins during infancy or childhood	Inherent lifelong disability

Social	Skills

Engagement, the ability to remain focused and responsive to a person or object

Asking peers for assistance

Waiting turns

Responding to peers when they initiate social interactions

Initiating social interactions

# Communication Skills

Using alternative communication systems i.e. sign language or pictures Using one-, two-, three-word sentences

Basic attending skills i.e. eye contact

Master concepts of recurrence, negation, and affirmation Using objects and/or action words

Imitating others' actions, words, sounds

### Self-Help Skills

Cooking and meal preparation Caring for one's belongings i.e. making the bed, washing clothes

Grooming and personal hygiene

Dressing and undressing

Using the toilet

### Motor Skills

Riding a tricycle

Cutting with scissors

Catching and throwing a ball

Balance

Tying shoes

Folding paper

# Issues to address

Unique responses to sensory stimulation - typically over-sensitivity

Poor generalization: the inability to use the same skills in different areas, places, situations or with different people

Poor communication and social skills

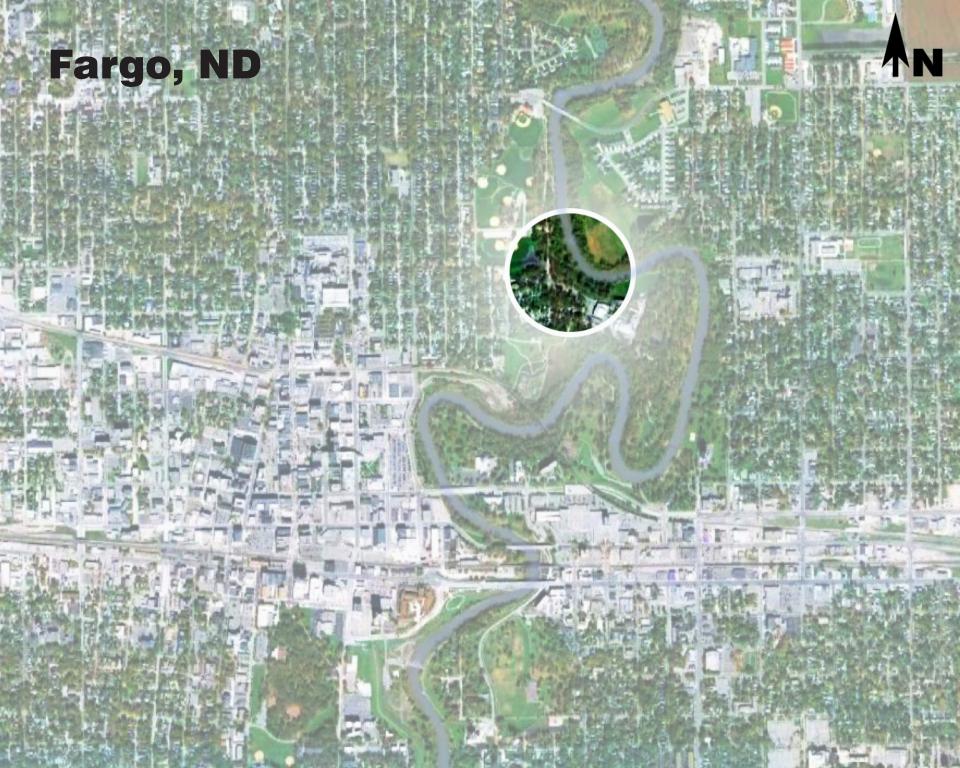




## Theories: Balance Neuro-Typical and Sensory-Sensitive



# Parti













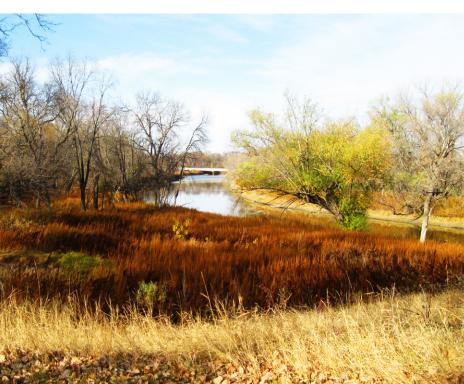




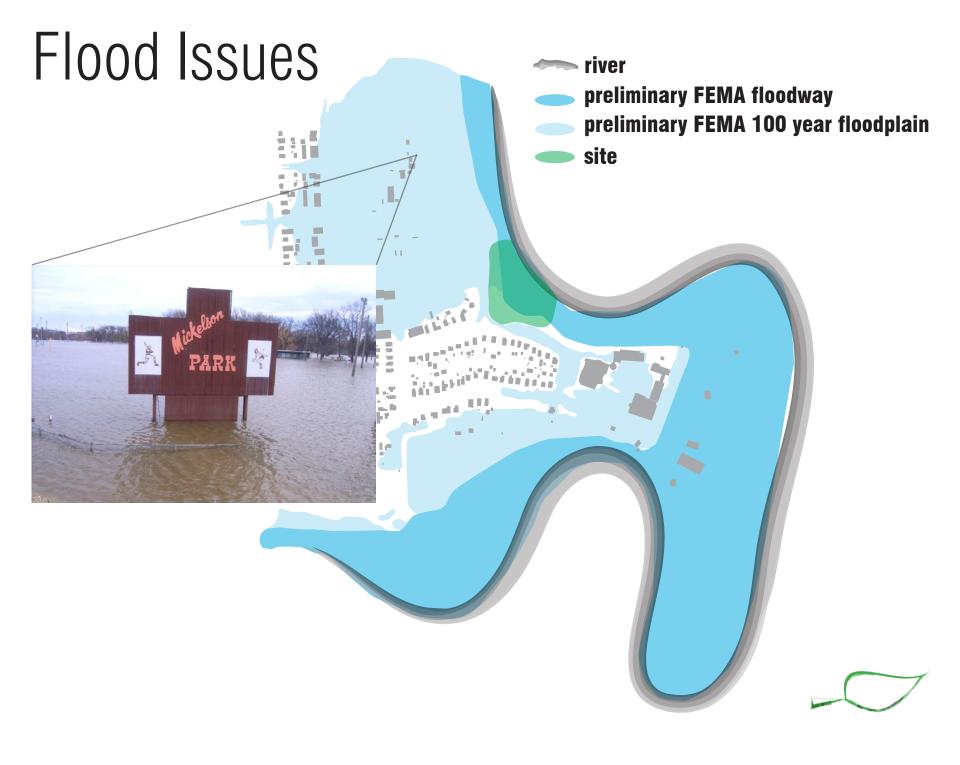


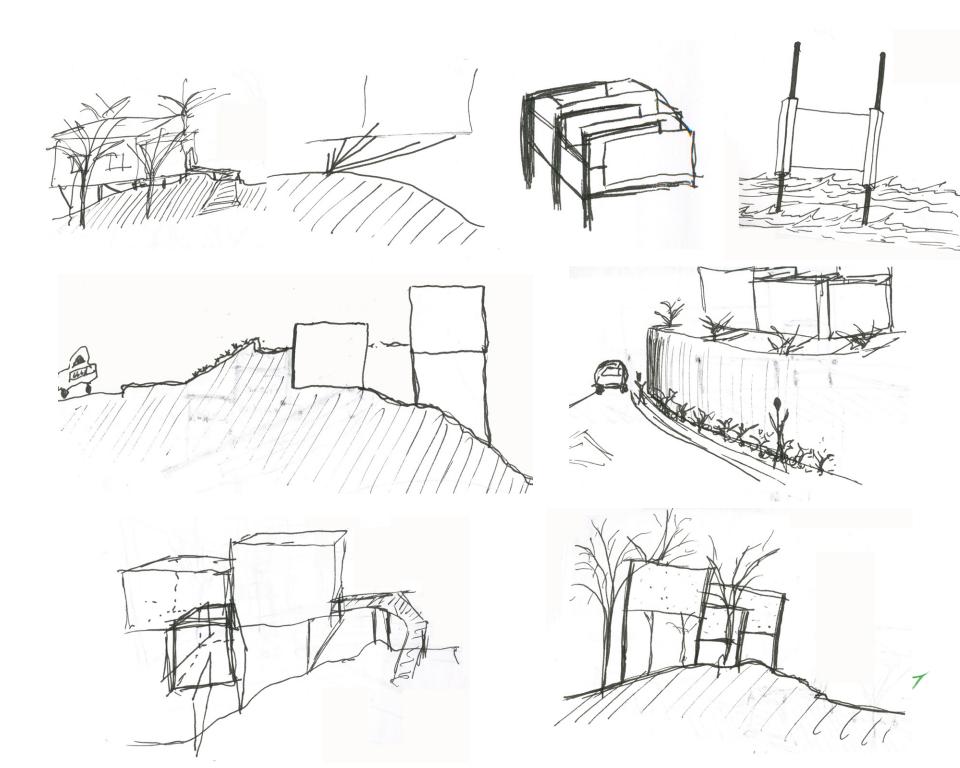


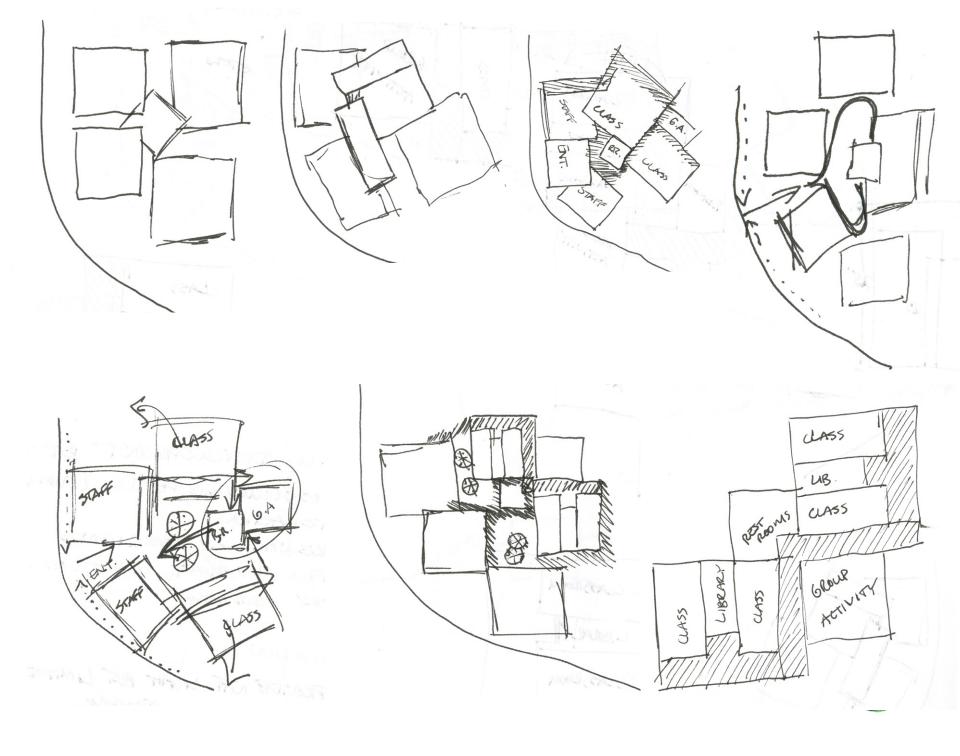


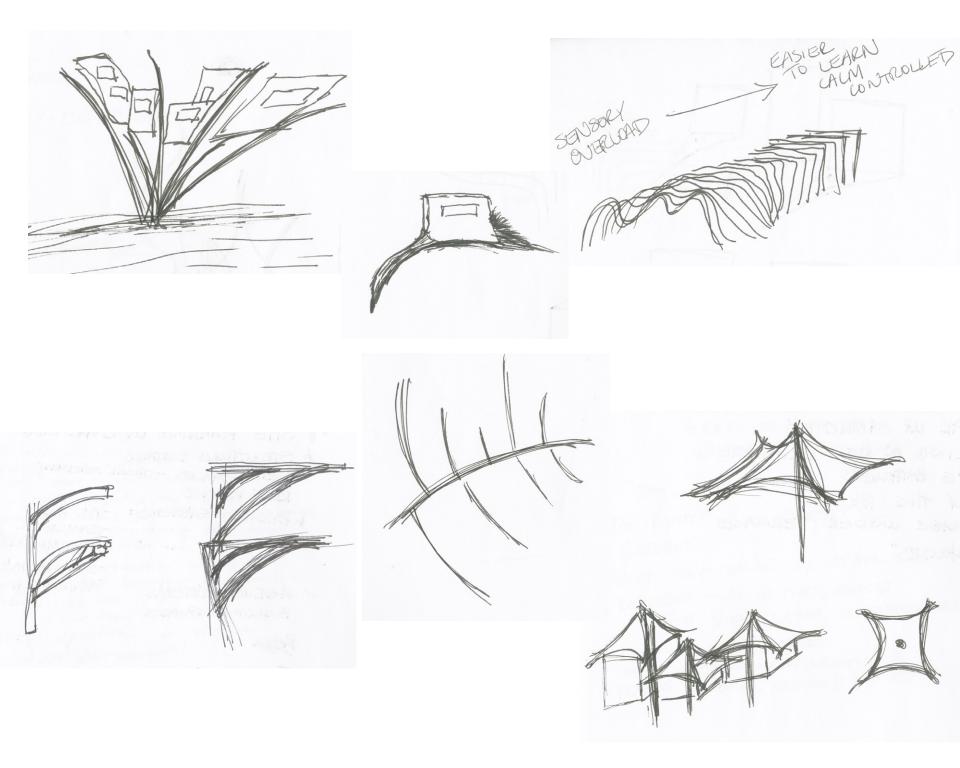


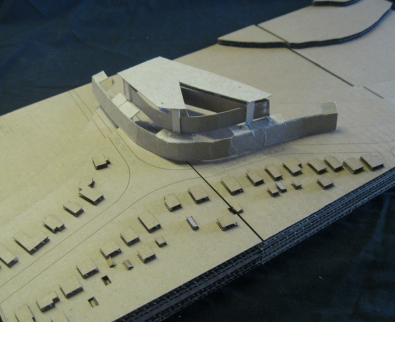


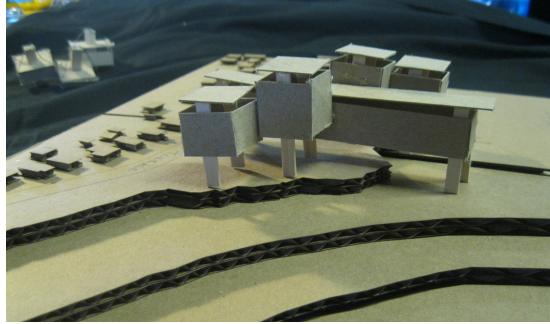


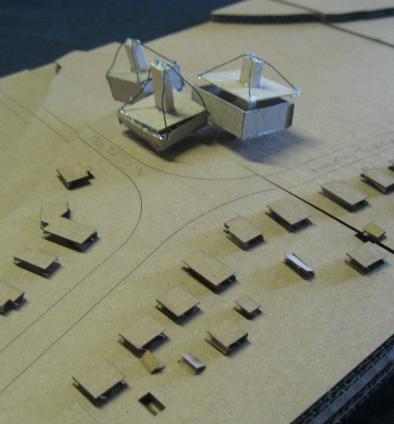


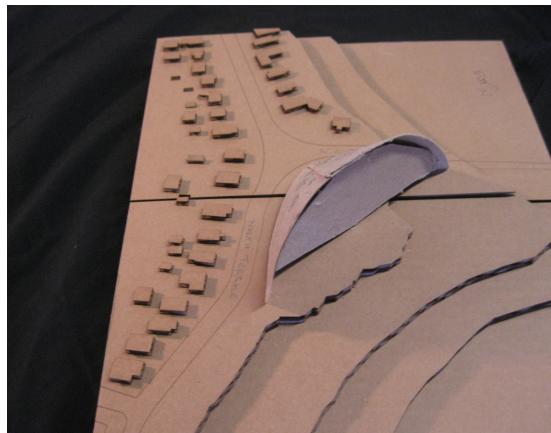


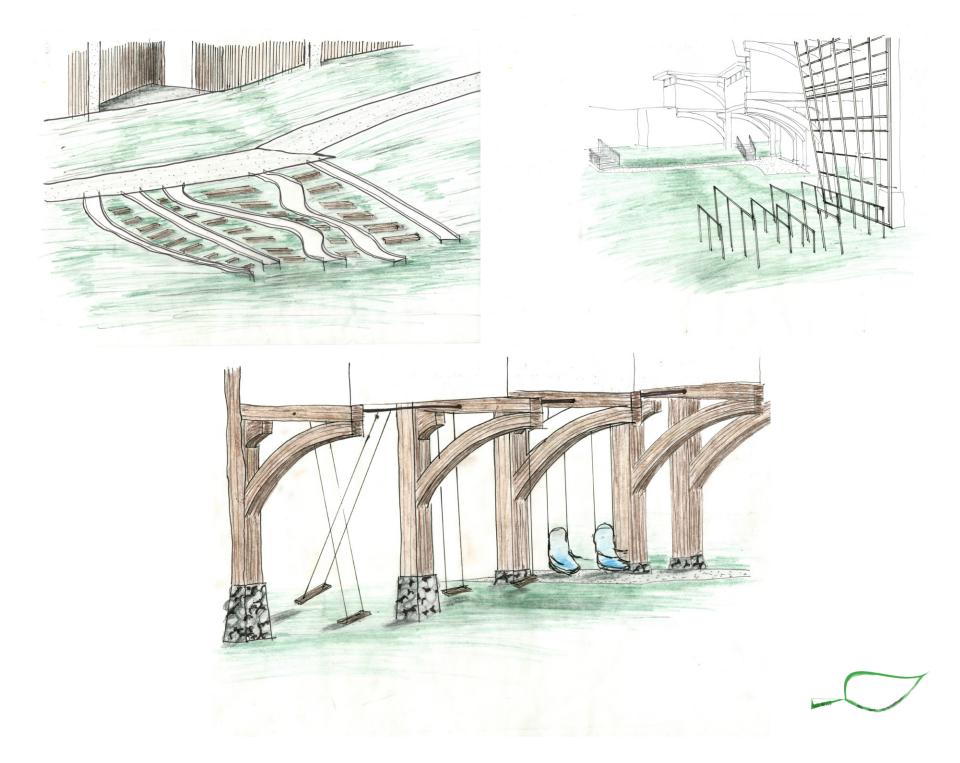


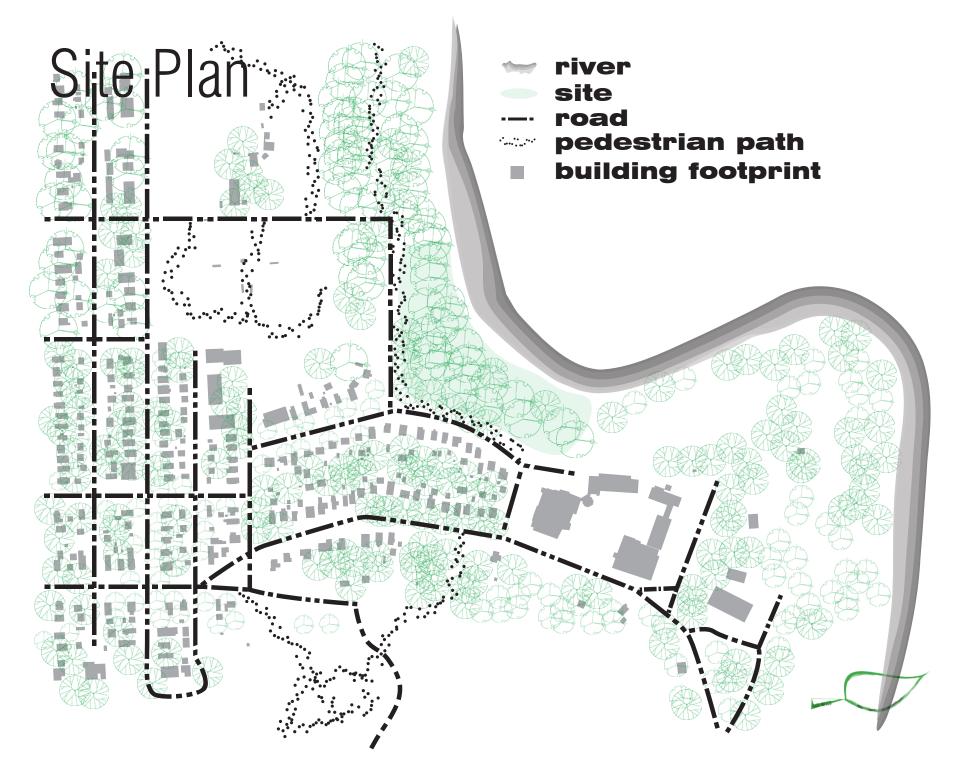








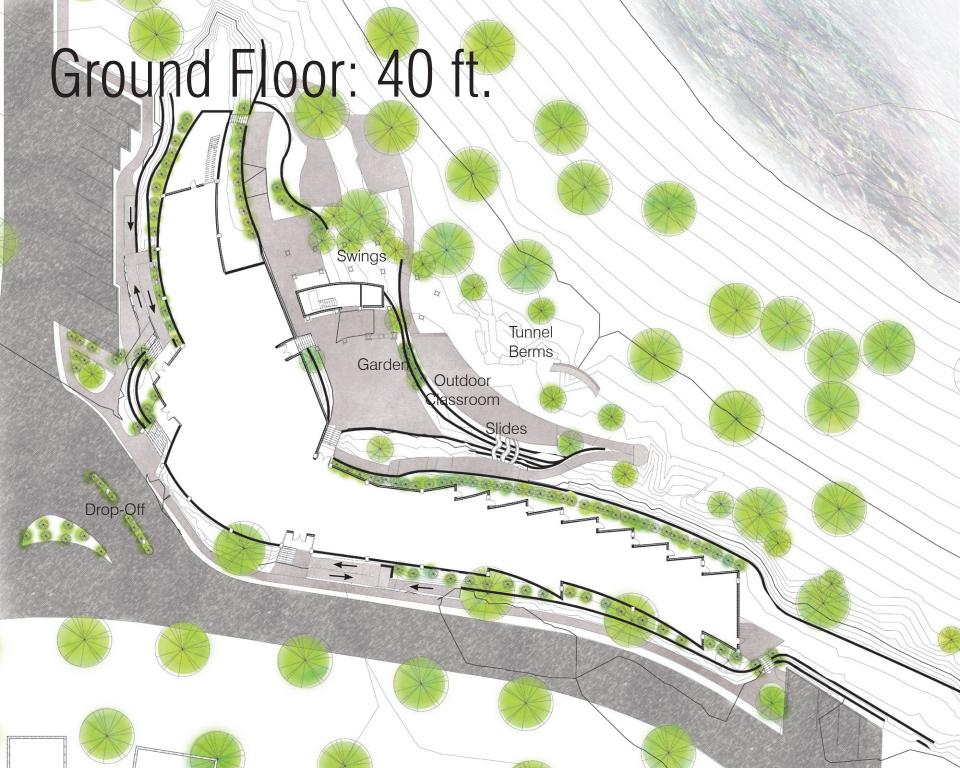




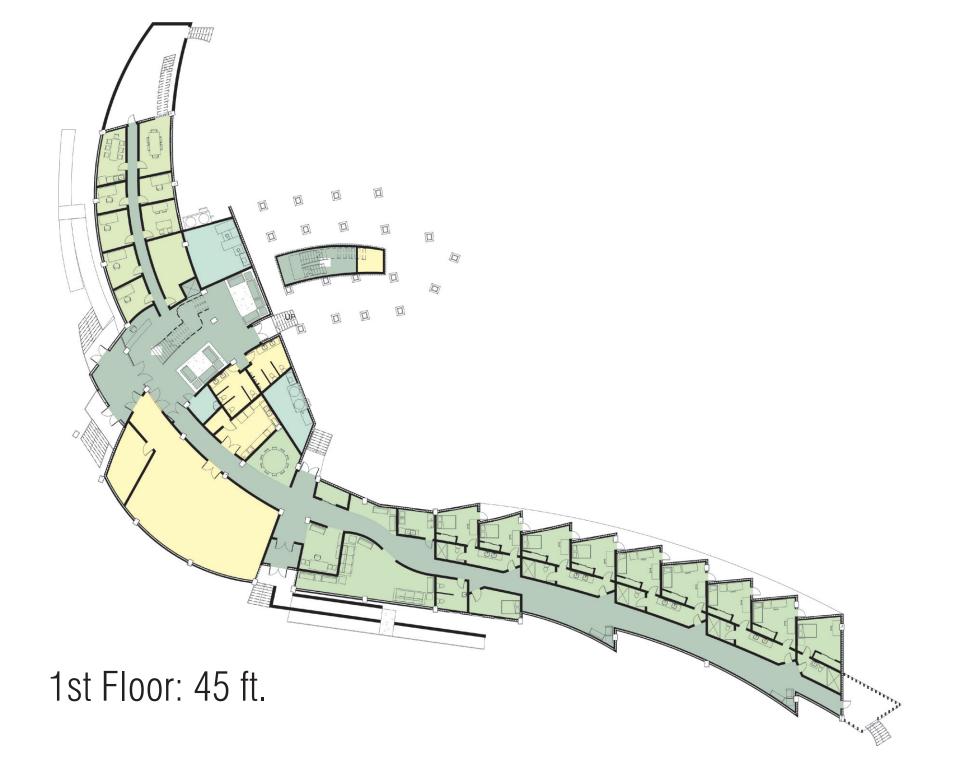


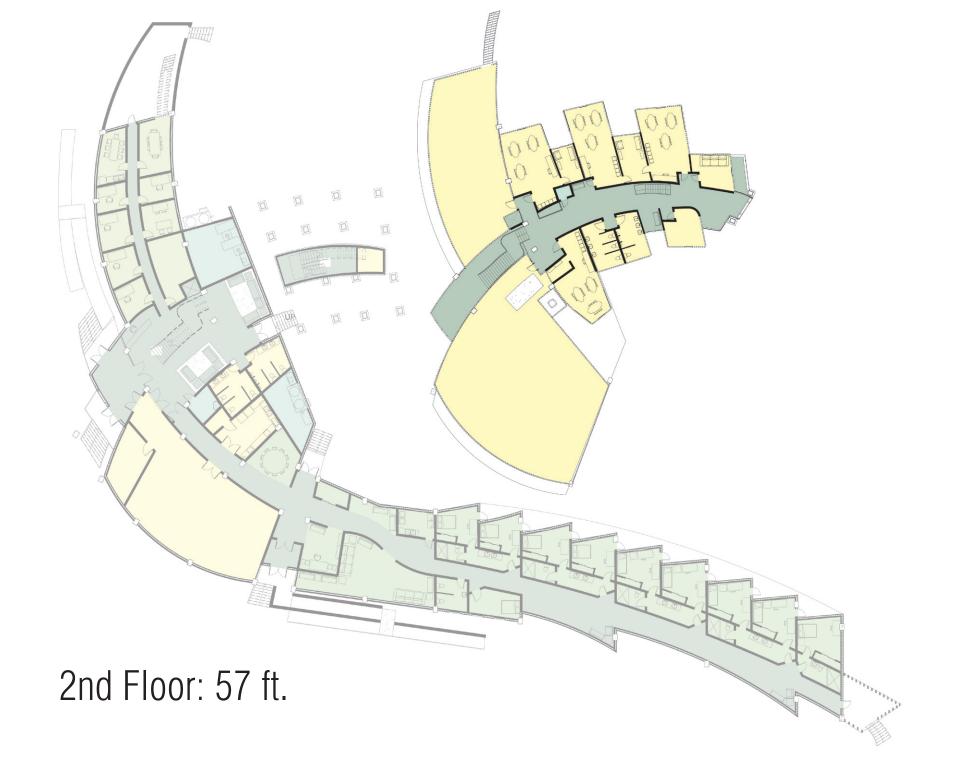
# Structure

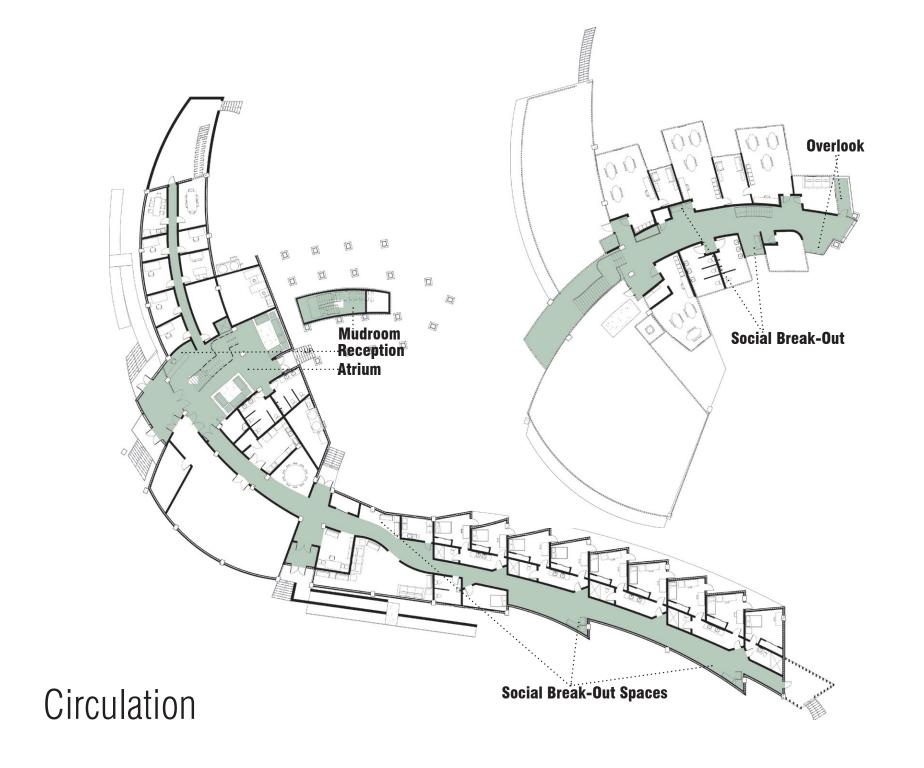


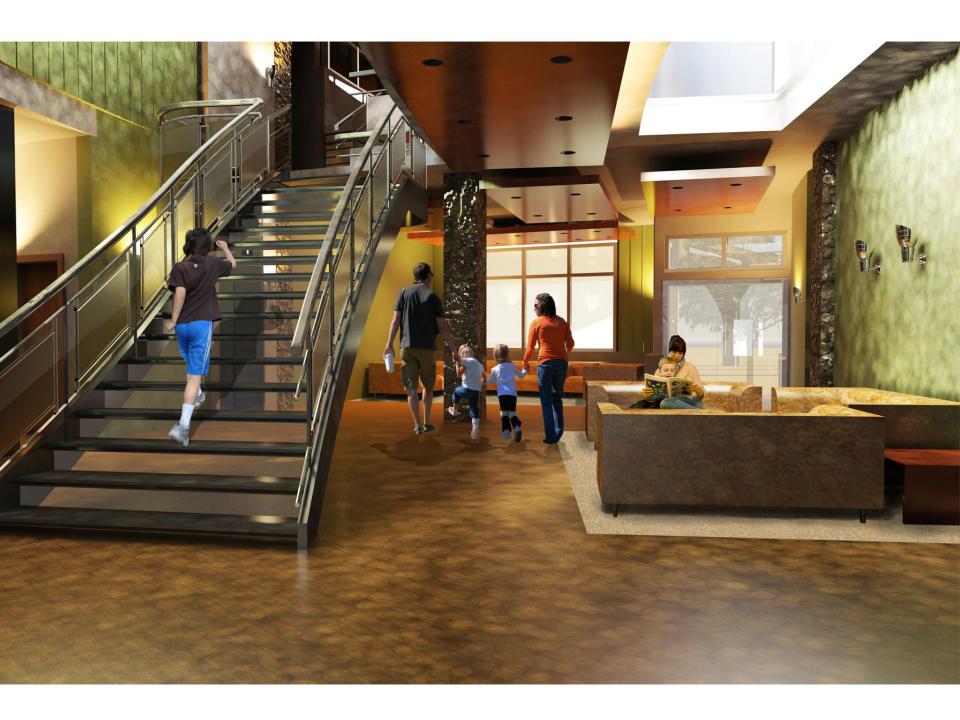


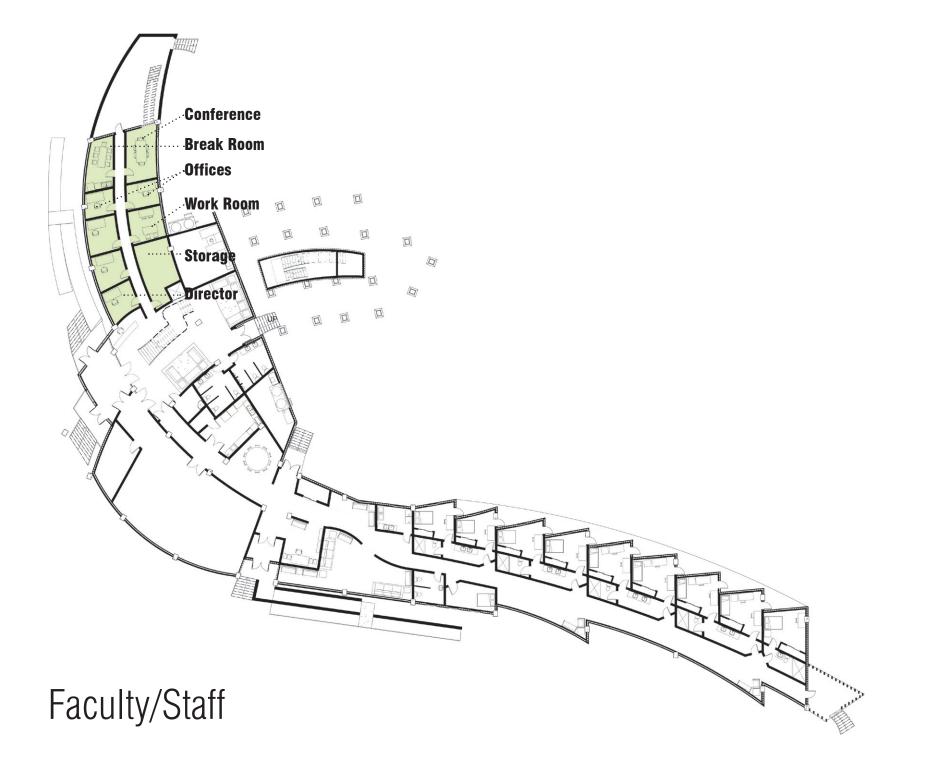




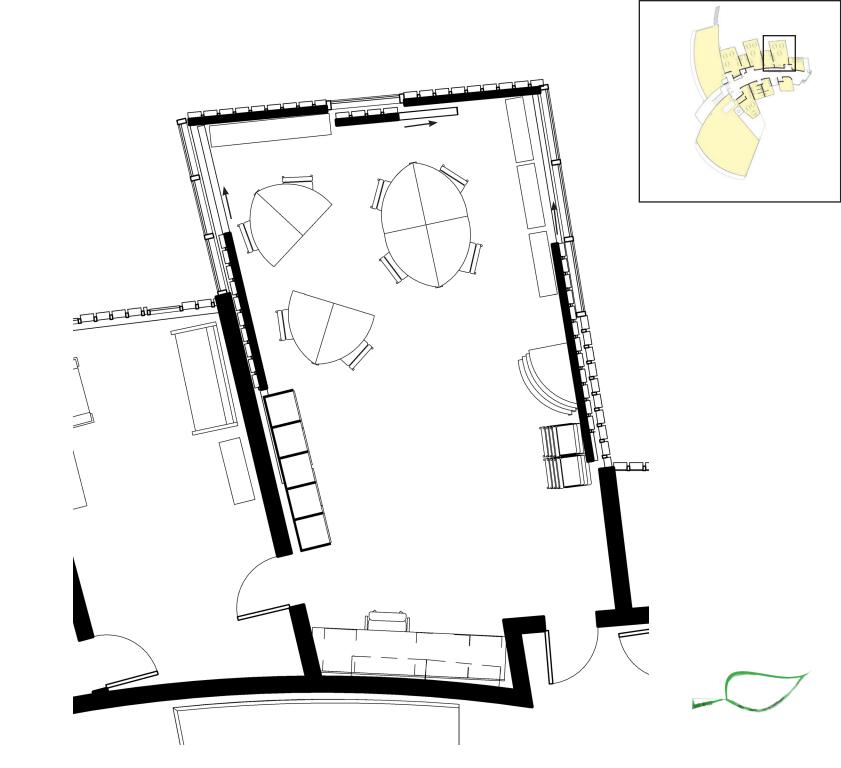






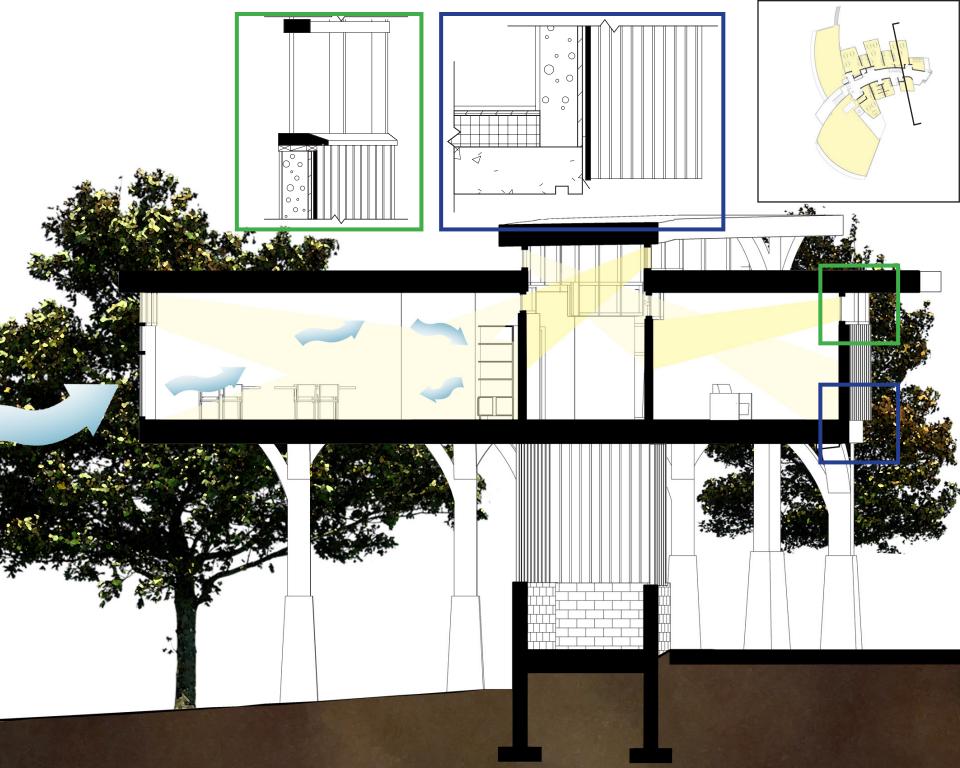








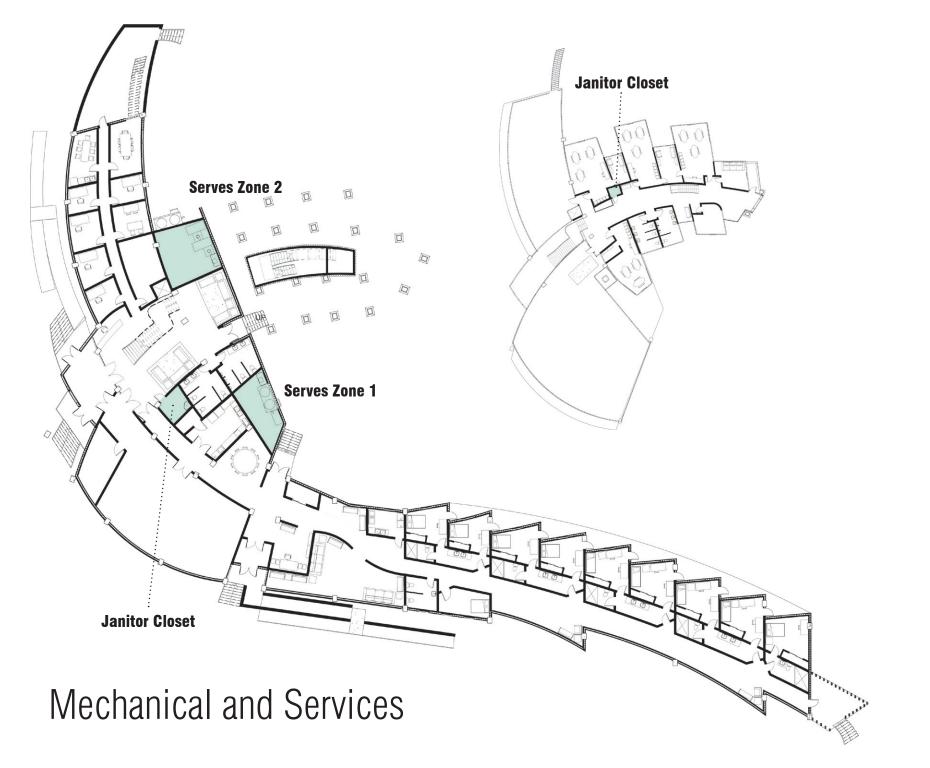


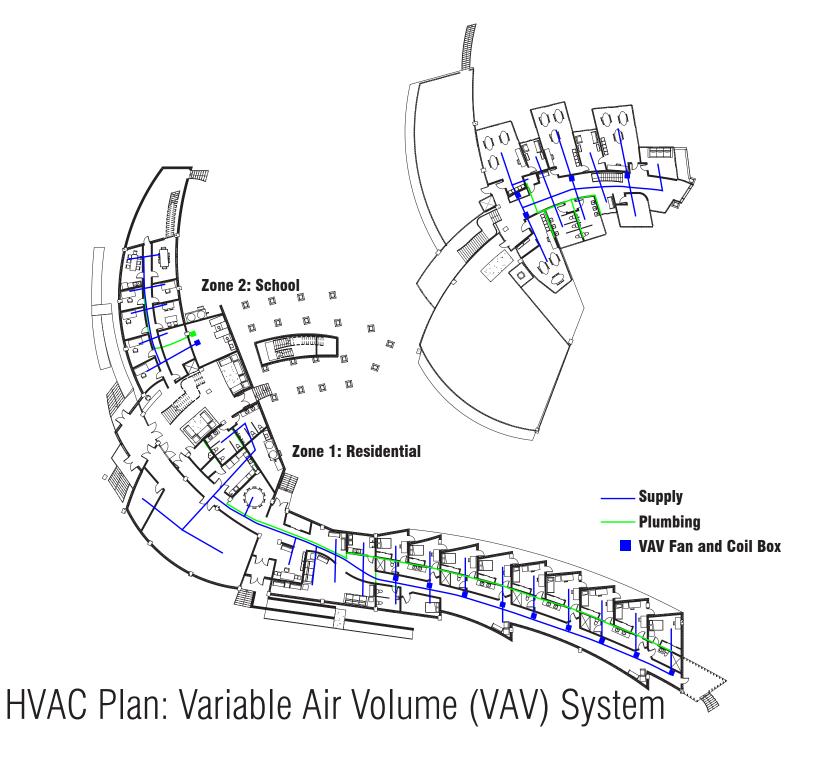




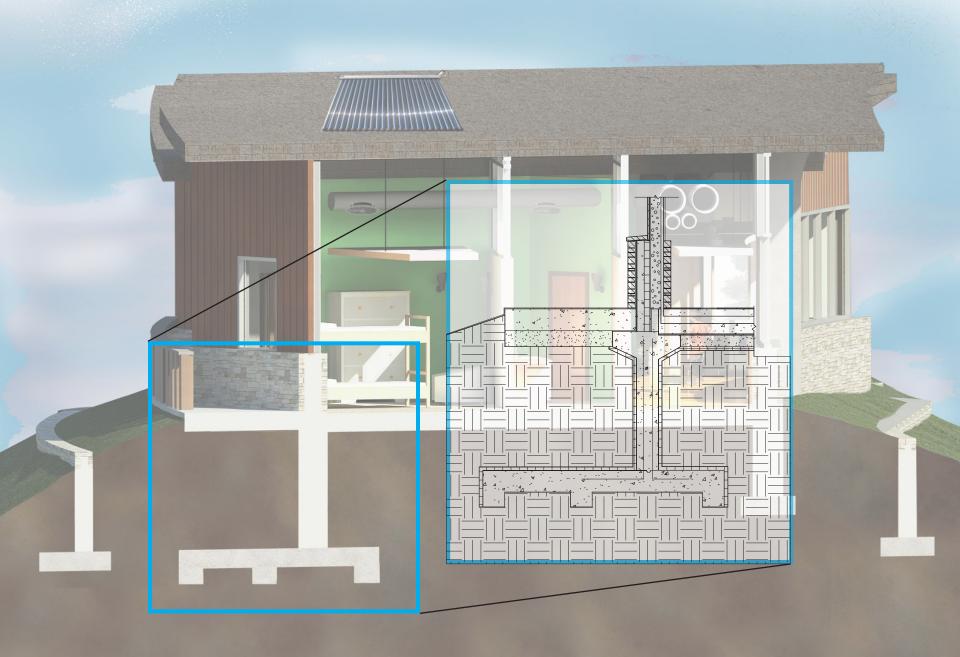












Flood Foundation

