

Façades in Architecture: History and Development

Arch 173: Building Construction 2

Façade – definition

Noun:

The face of a building, especially the principal front that looks onto a street or open space

Your choice of skin/ façade will be CLIMATE
DEPENDENT

The type of building – commercial,
institutional, residential matters

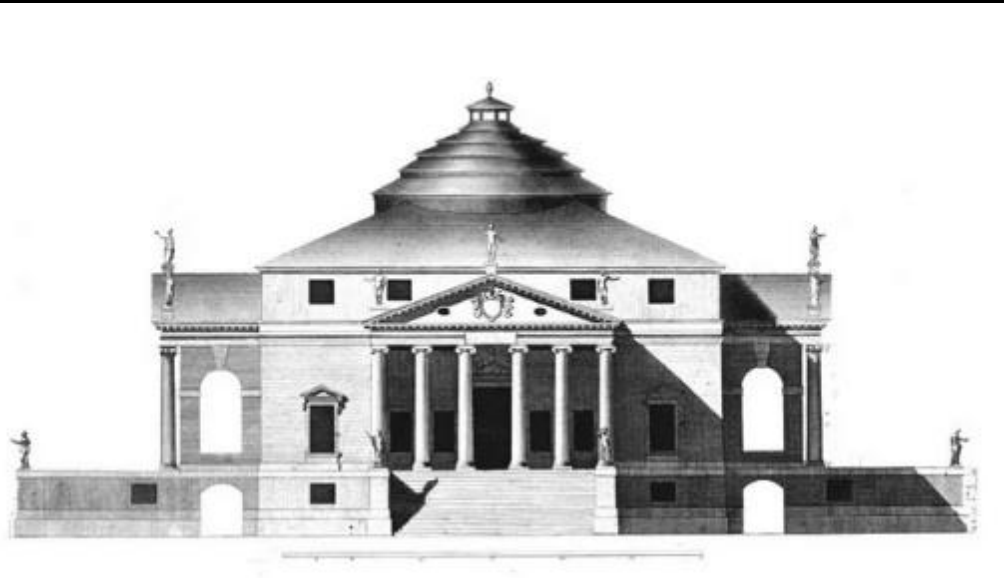
The amount of insulation needed responds to
both climate and building use

The façade or skin is a huge part of the budget

Every façade we will look at, think about:

1. Composition
2. Performance
3. Light Control or Enhancement

Composition



More formal to less formal

Performance



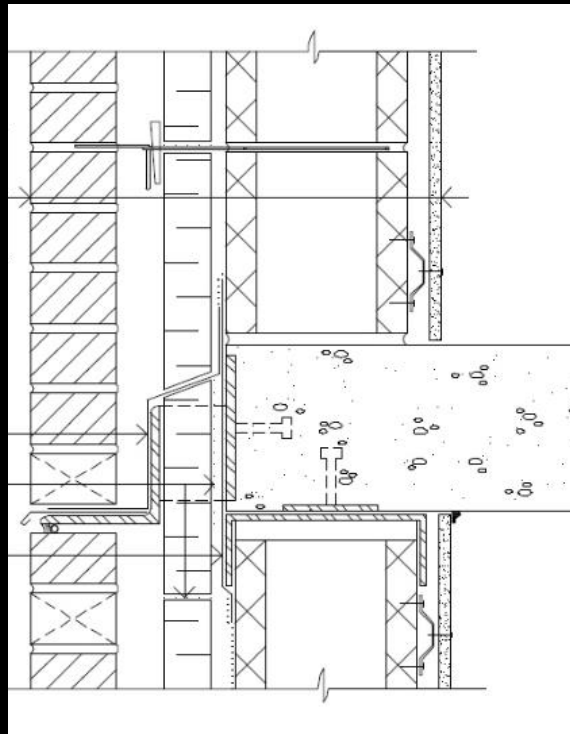
From defence to energy

Light



More light a function of separation of structure and envelope
Cost of glass goes down dramatically over time

Façade vs. Enclosure??



Appearance vs. Performance

Questions to ask:

1. What does your building want to say (human)?
2. What does your building need to DO (technical)?
3. Where do you want light & views, solid, privacy"
4. What existing technologies will fit these needs"

In Architecture and Engineering

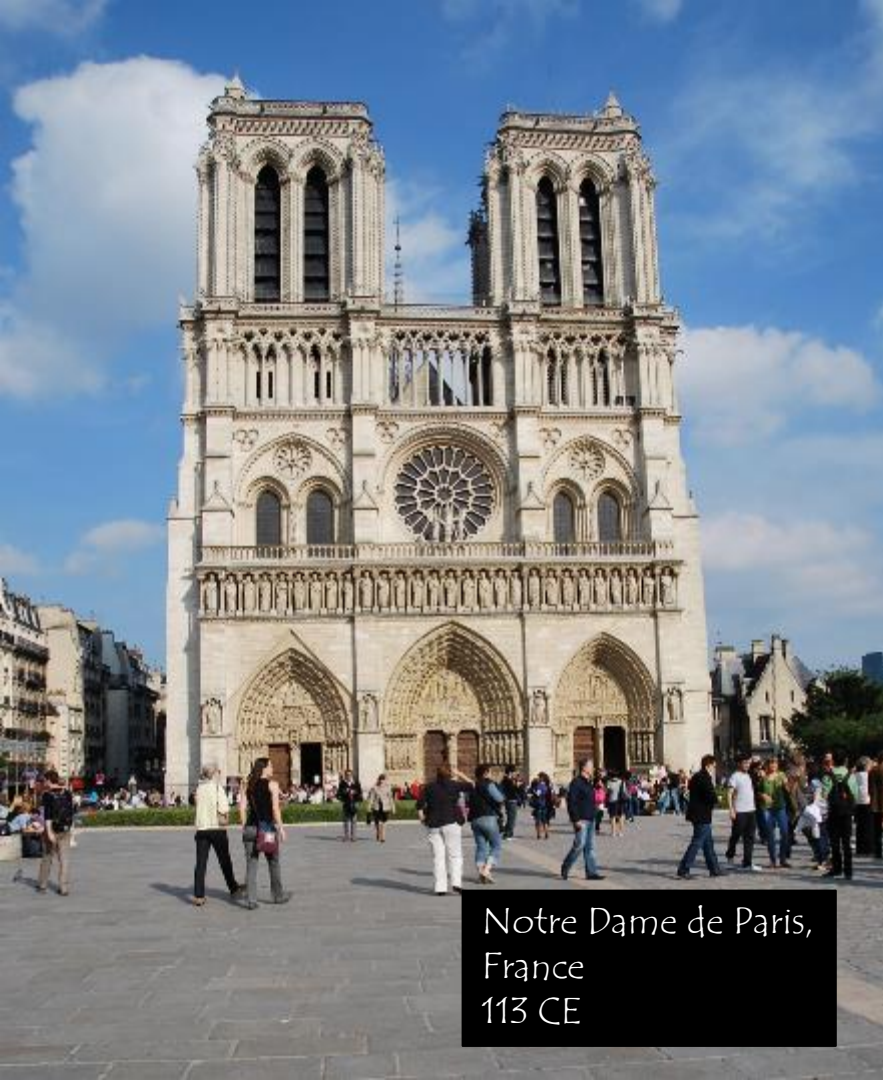
PERFORMANCE is the goal!

- Climate responsive
- Energy efficient
- Durable
- Low carbon
- And yes, aesthetically pleasing



For early stone and masonry buildings the load bearing, solid walls of the building also presented the appearance or façade of the building.

The style and the structural system were joined.




Notre Dame de Paris,
France
113 CE





Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève
Paris, France
Henri Labrouste
1835-1851

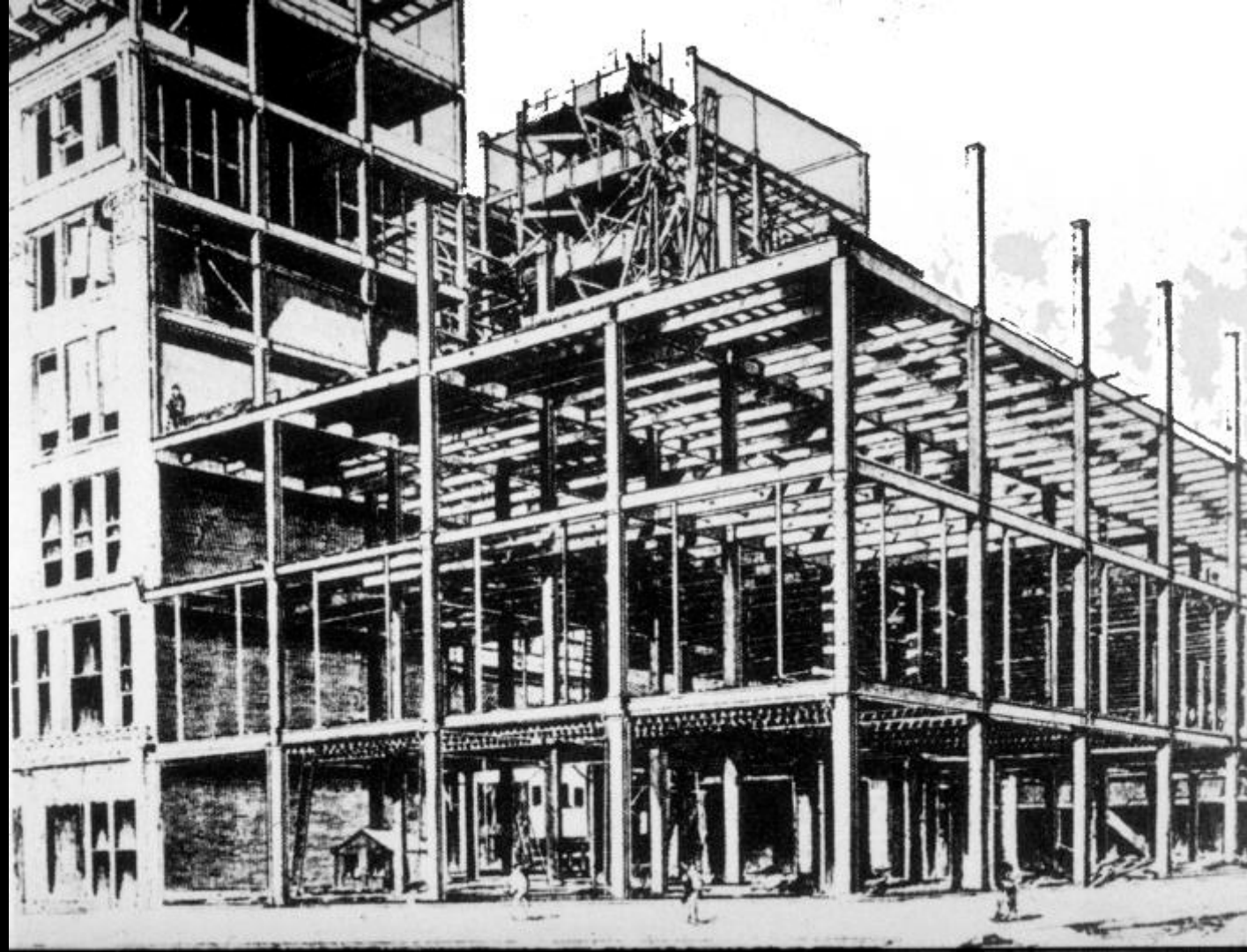




Monadnock Building (north half)
Chicago, Illinois
Burnham and Root
1891

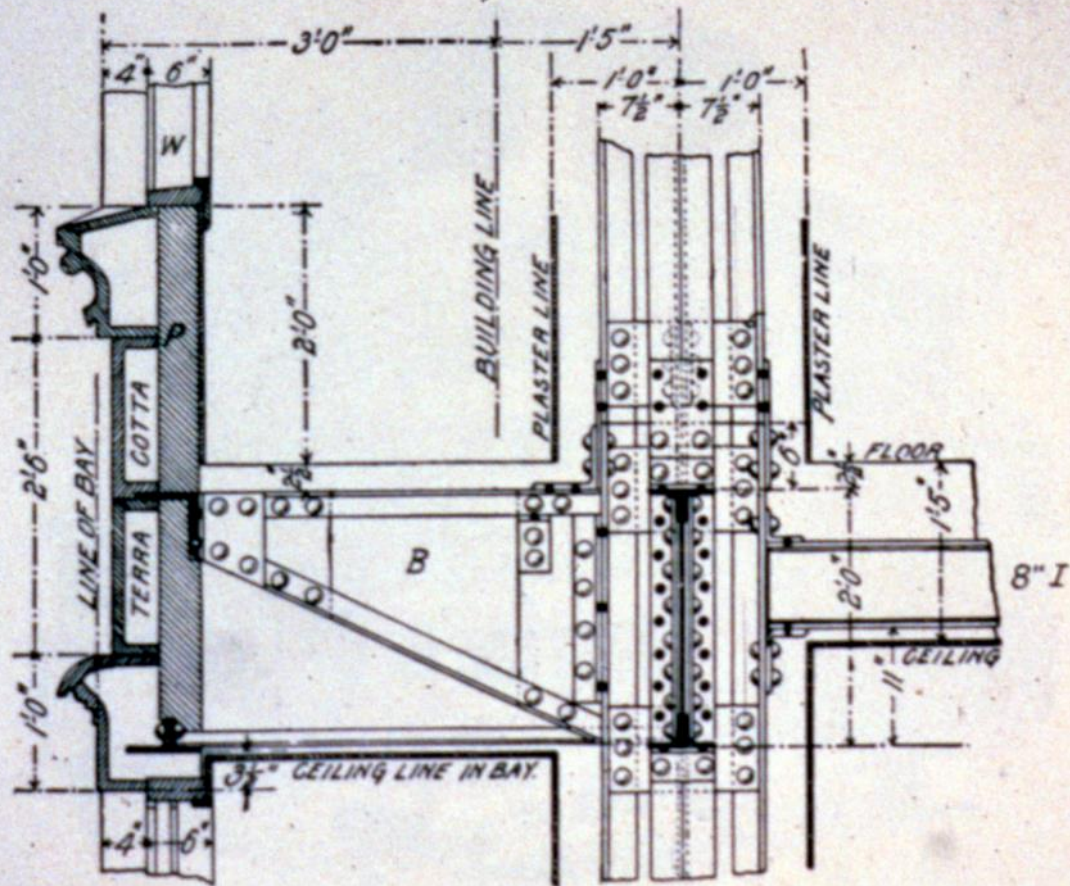
The invention of the skeleton steel frame at the end of the 1800s separated the roles of the structure and enclosure system.

The enclosure system took on the role of façade and had much more freedom of expression as it did not have to also support the loads of the building.





Reliance Building
Chicago, Illinois
Burnham, Root and Atwood
1895
First real skyscraper



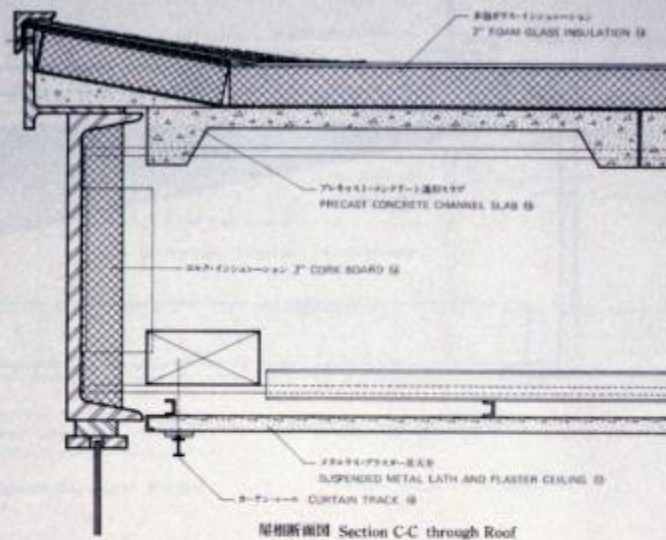
27 Atwood and Burnham, Reliance Building,
Chicago, 1890/94-95. Cross section of window bay.

Where projects such as this aligned the structure and the glass, we now know this is extremely incorrect

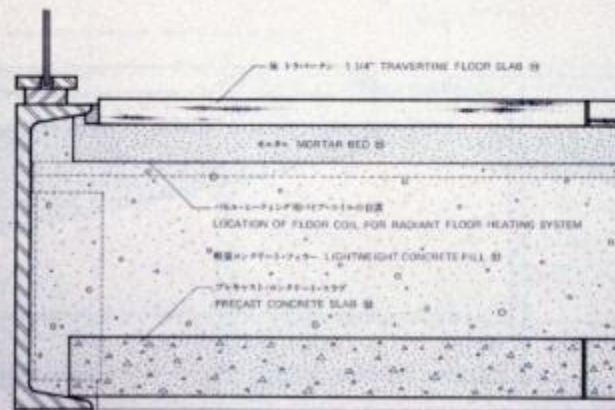


Farnsworth House
Ludwig Mies van der Rohe
Plano, Illinois
1951

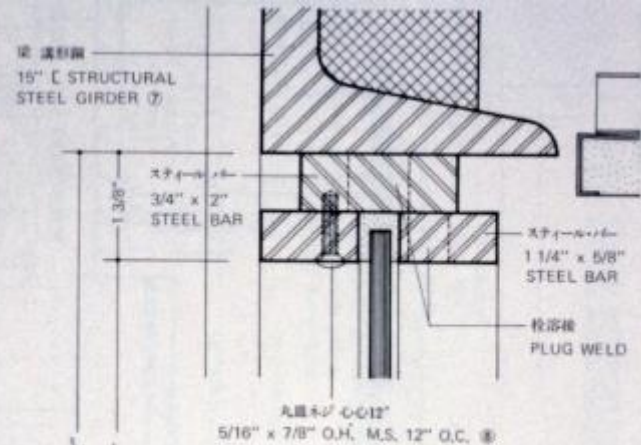




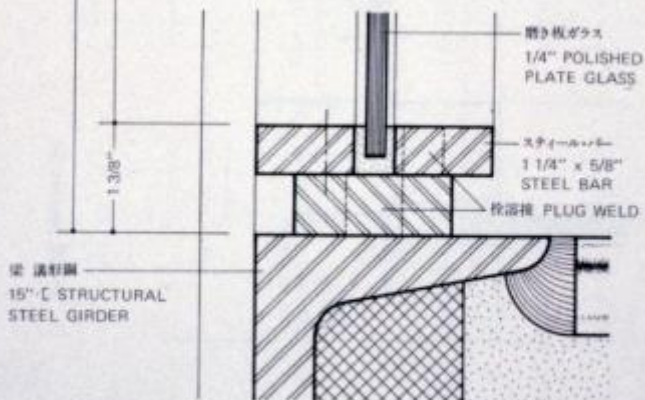
屋根断面図 Section C-C through Roof



床断面図 Section C-C through Floor



断面図 Section 109



断面図 Section 110

Tall Buildings and Curtainwall:

In the 1950s a new curtainwall enclosure system was developed based on a modular system of aluminum components that allowed large expanses of glazing.



Lever House, NYC

Different approaches to the construction of the enclosures for tall vs mid-rise vs low-rise *commercial* buildings

Tall = curtain wall

Mid-rise = less use of aluminum curtain wall and more composite layered systems with insulation

Low-rise = composite layered systems with more insulation requirements

Low-rise (mostly residential)

- Load bearing framed walls
- Insulation contained between the studs
- Glazed openings punched in the wall

Exterior cladding is a “veneer” that keeps out the weather but does not support the floors and roof

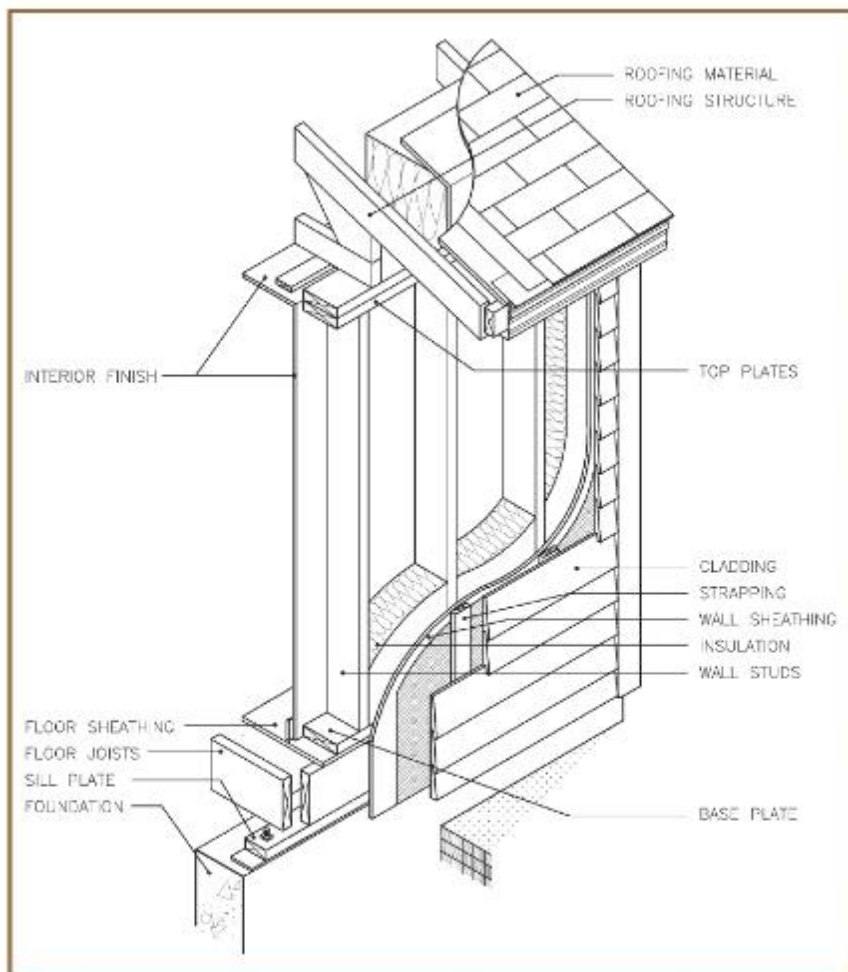
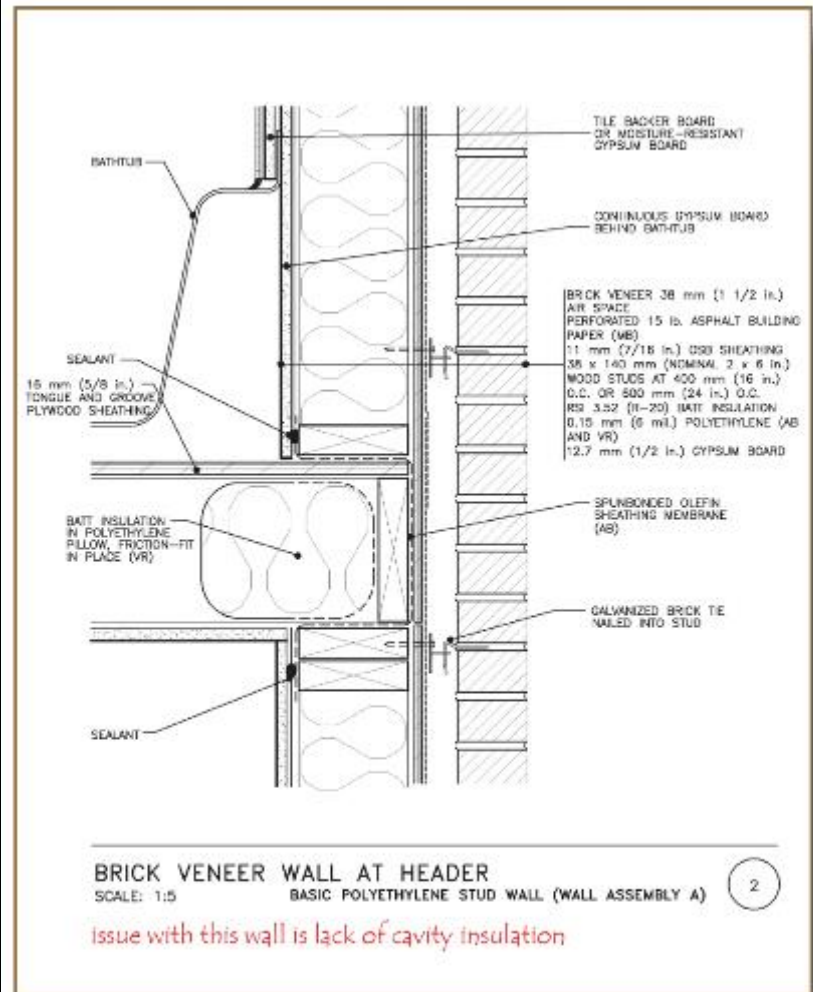


Figure 2.6: Components of a wood frame structure



Detail 2: Brick Veneer Wall at Header

Rain Screen:

In the 1960s an improved wall system was developed that placed an air space behind the outermost layer of the envelope system.

This equalized the pressure on either side of this "veneer" and prevented rain from penetrating to the interior part of the wall.

For **column and beam** type structures (non load bearing walls) it doesn't matter if the material is steel, concrete or heavy timber, the structure gets erected first, then the curtain wall/window wall is installed.


















A photograph of a building under construction. On the left, a curved glass curtain wall is visible. To its right, a concrete structure features a series of horizontal slabs. A black text box in the upper right corner contains the text: "The curtain wall connects to the slab edge NOT the columns".

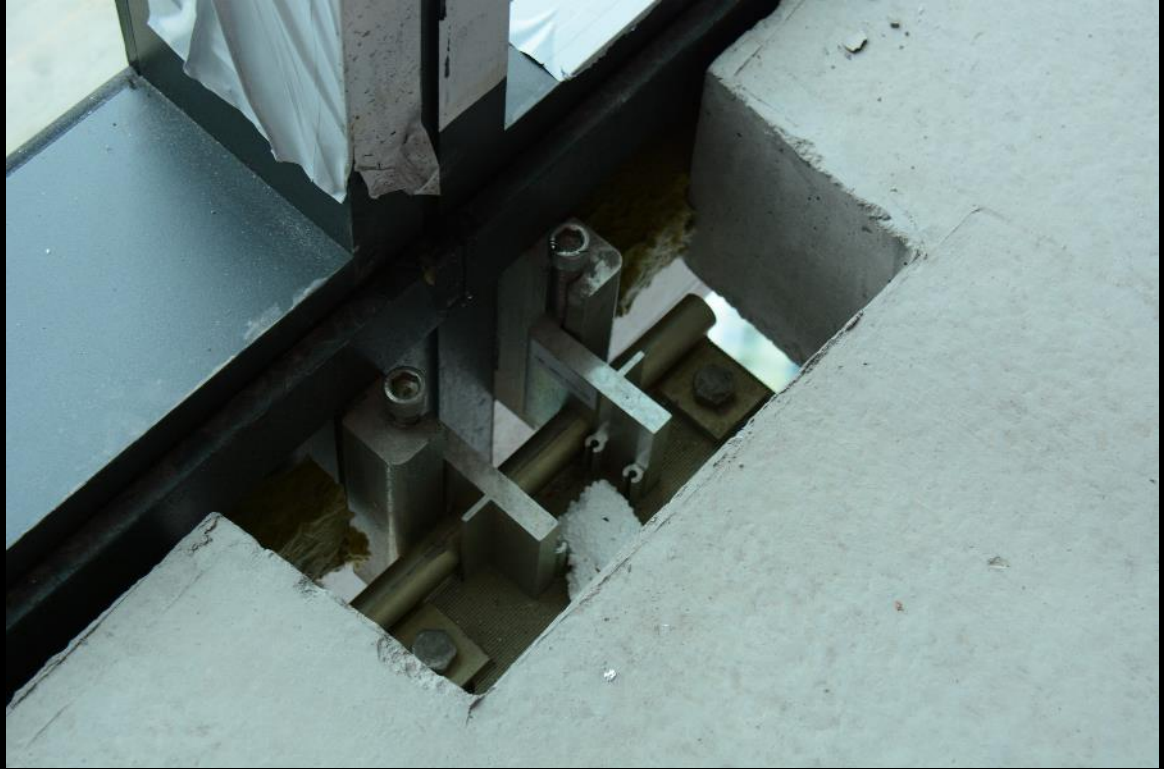
The curtain wall connects to the slab edge NOT the columns



Residential Tower
Melbourne, Australia









CCTV Tower
Beijing, China
OMA/Rem Koolhaas
2013









Pearl River Tower
Guangzhou, China
SOM
2013











20 Fenchurch Street
Aka The Walkie Talkie Building
London, England
Rafael Vinoly Architects
2014







Typical curtain wall systems for commercial buildings were always sealed
– no operable windows

Due to interest in sustainability, now looking for ways to include access to fresh air into the envelope design, while maintaining safety from falling.





Window Wall:

This type of enclosure for high rise buildings does not use an expansive grid of aluminum frames.

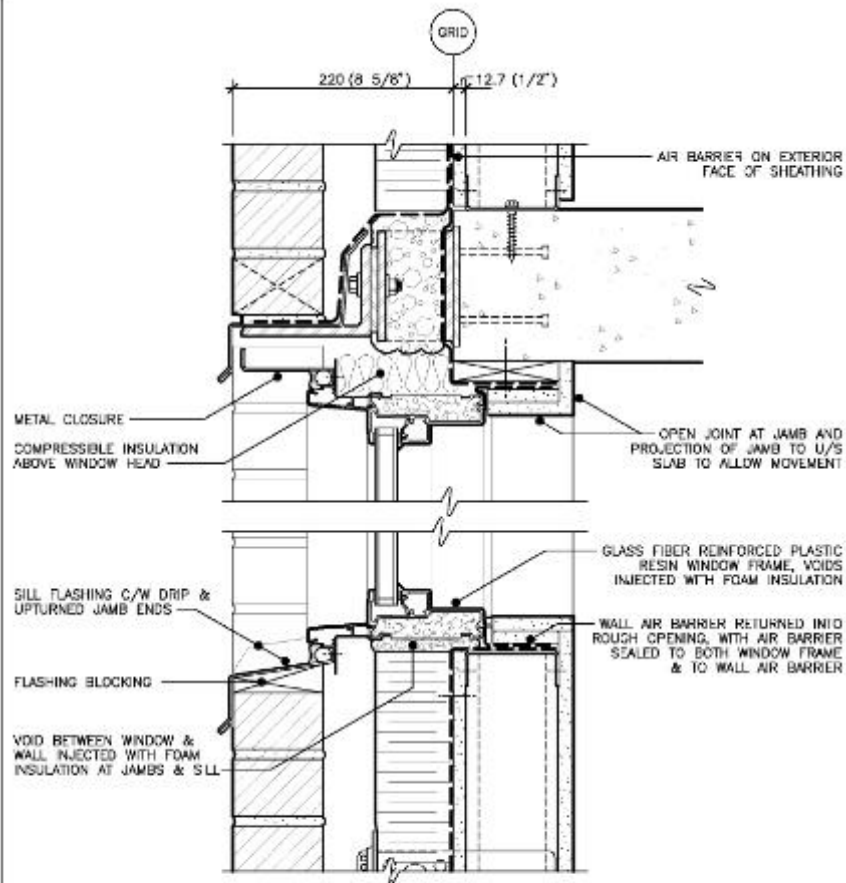
Typically has horizontal bands of windows supported by bands of precast concrete, stone, masonry or metal cladding panels.

In **window wall** construction the infill opaque wall sits (bears) on the edge of the concrete floor slab

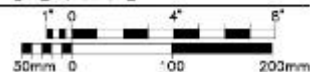
It extends to the underside of the next floor, with a small space to allow for slab edge deflections.

This technical drawing shows a cross-section of a wall assembly. From left to right, it includes: a brickwork section with diagonal hatching; a vertical drainage channel with a sloped bottom and a pipe connection; a central structural layer with horizontal hatching; and an outer cladding layer with a cross-hatch pattern. A horizontal line with a vertical tick mark is labeled 'it' on the left. The drawing uses standard architectural conventions for materials and components.

This technical drawing shows a cross-section of a door assembly. On the left, a door with a diagonal hatching pattern is shown. It is positioned above a threshold. The threshold is a horizontal structure that the door sits on. Below the threshold, there is a floor assembly consisting of a concrete slab and a layer of insulation. The drawing includes various lines and hatching to represent different materials and the assembly's structure.



WINDOW AT U/S SLAB DETAIL



Which to use?

CURTAIN WALL

- Regular geometry
- Large expanses of glazing
- Limited use of opaque elements
- Typical aluminum frame systems spanning one to two floors height
- Lower insulation values achieved

WINDOW WALL

- Any kind of geometry
- Limited glazing
- Glazing often as punched or strip windows
- Large opaque portions
- Better insulation levels required

Thermal Bridge

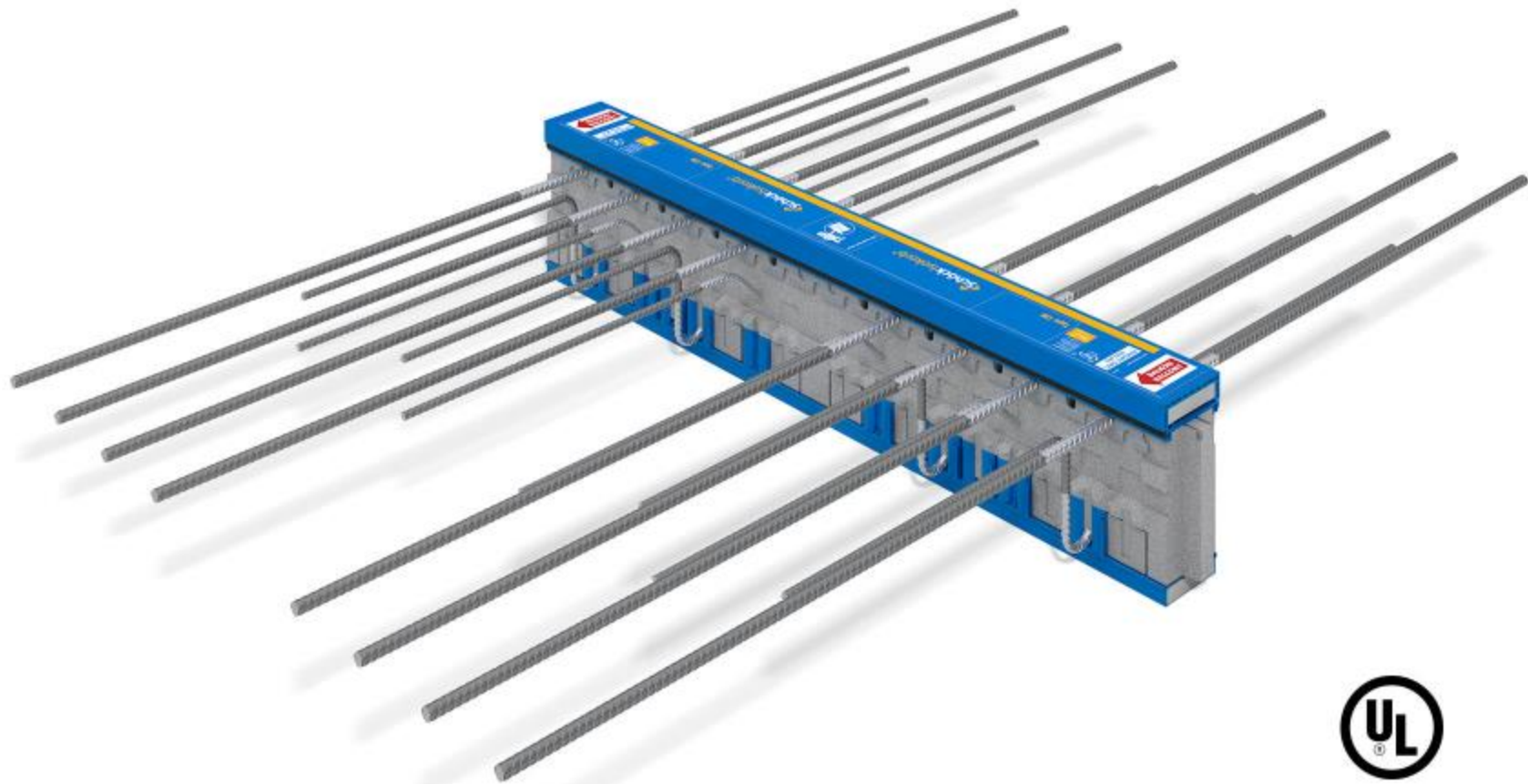
A VERY BAD place in the building envelope that allows HEAT to ESCAPE

No insulation layer preventing heat flow

Usually happens at concrete slab edges



















56 Leonard Street
New York City
Herzog & deMeuron





Vancouver House
Vancouver, BC
Bjarke Ingles Group







Thin Metal Cladding / Veneer



Chrysler Building
NYC 1930



Frank Gehry...





Residential Building
Berlin, Germany
Zaha Hadid










Linked Hybrid
Beijing, China
Steven Holl Associates
2009









Galaxy Soho
Beijing, China
Zaha Hadid









北京市京畿道律师事务所

华远房产

华远房产

华远房产

华远房产

PLAZA 8









Conrad Hotel
MAD Architects
Beijing, China











Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto
Studio Libeskind



Shading Motivated Systems



Le Corbusier and the Brise Soliel



Veer Towers
Las Vegas, Nevada
Murphy Jahn Architects
2010



























TESCO *express*















Al Bahar Towers
Abu Dhabi, UAE
Aedas Architects
2012











Al Noor Butterfly Pavilion
Sharjah, UAE
3deluxe Architects
2015













Doha Tower
Doha, Qatar
Jean Nouvel
2012









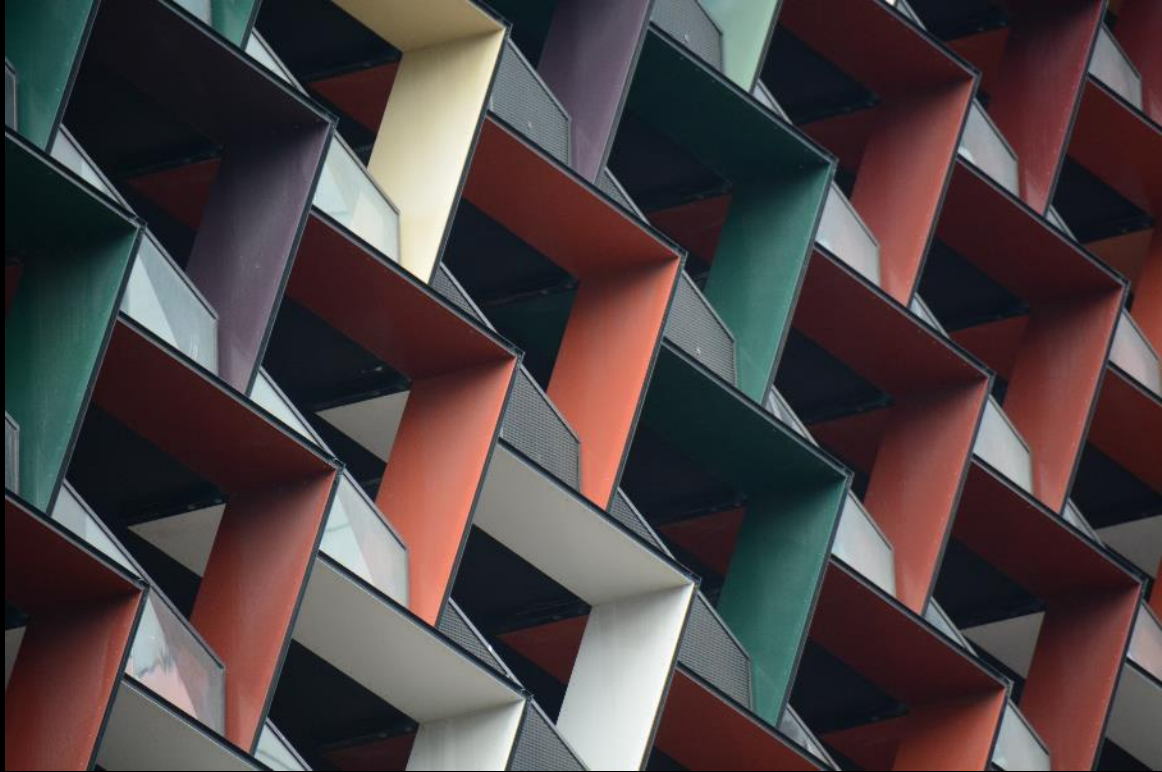














The Index
Dubai, UAE
Foster and Partners
2010



















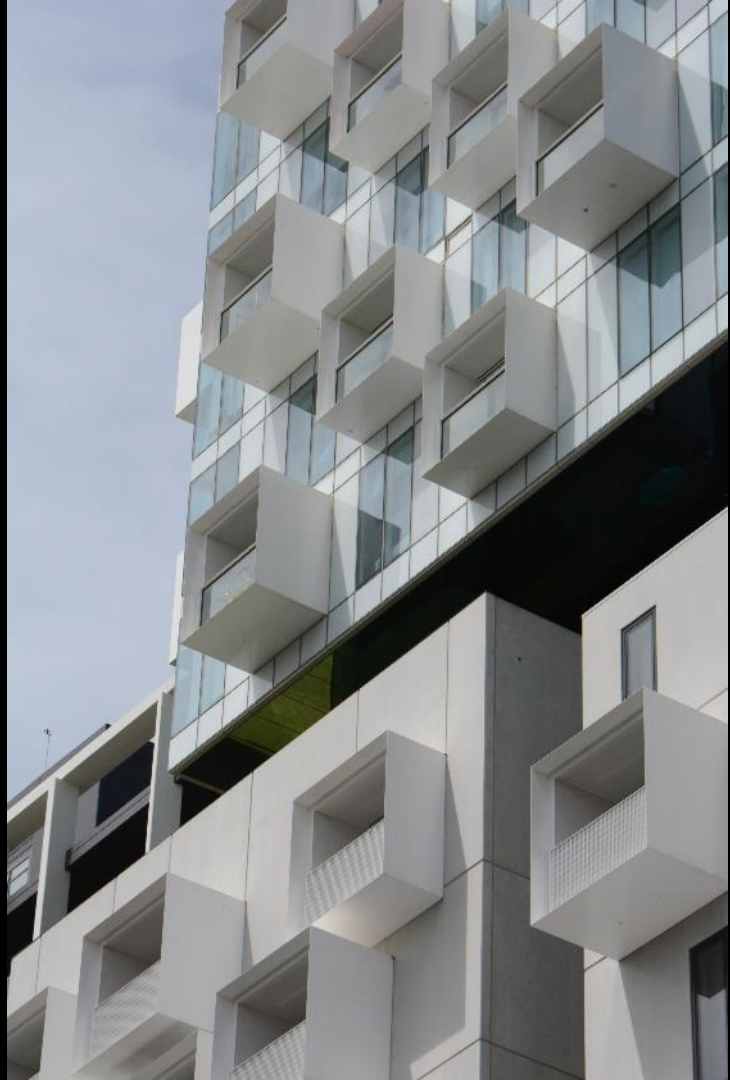




Various
Melbourne, Australia

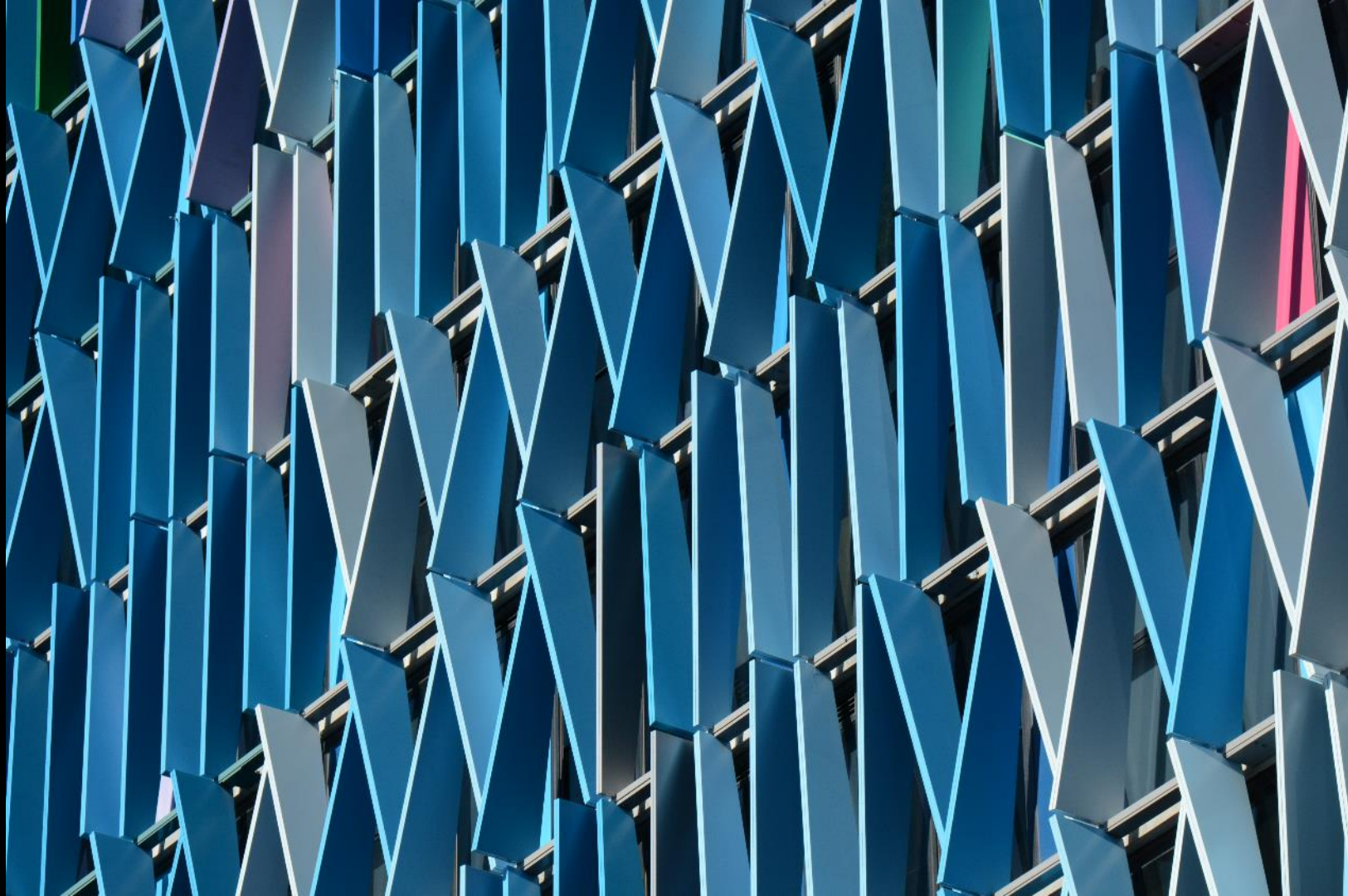




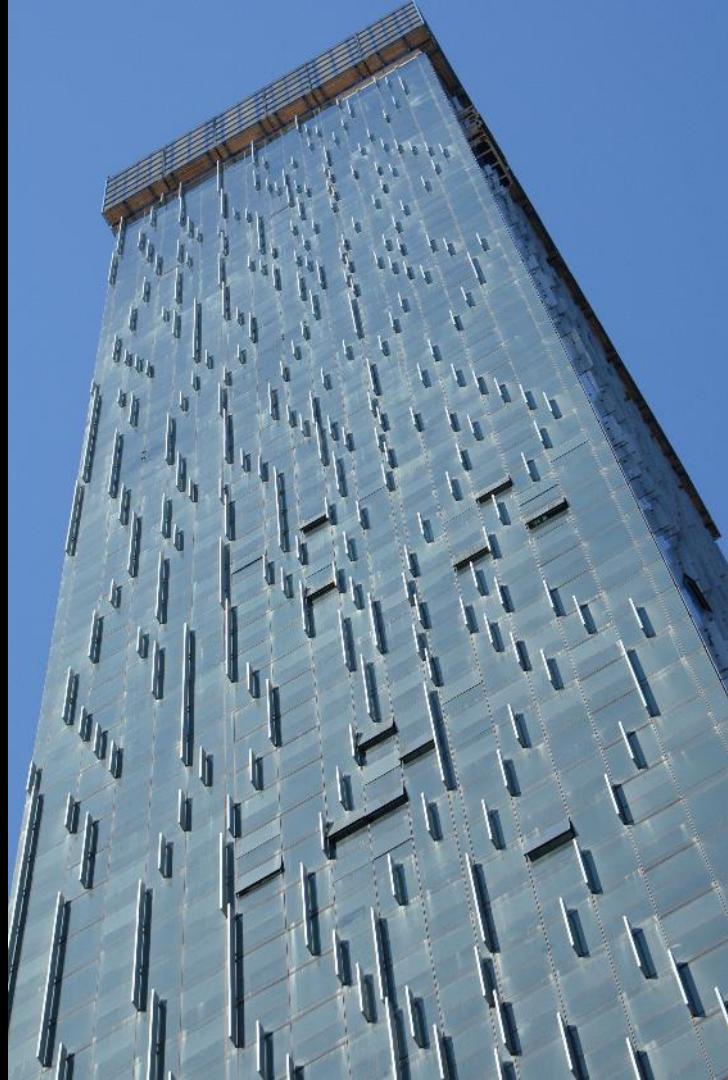


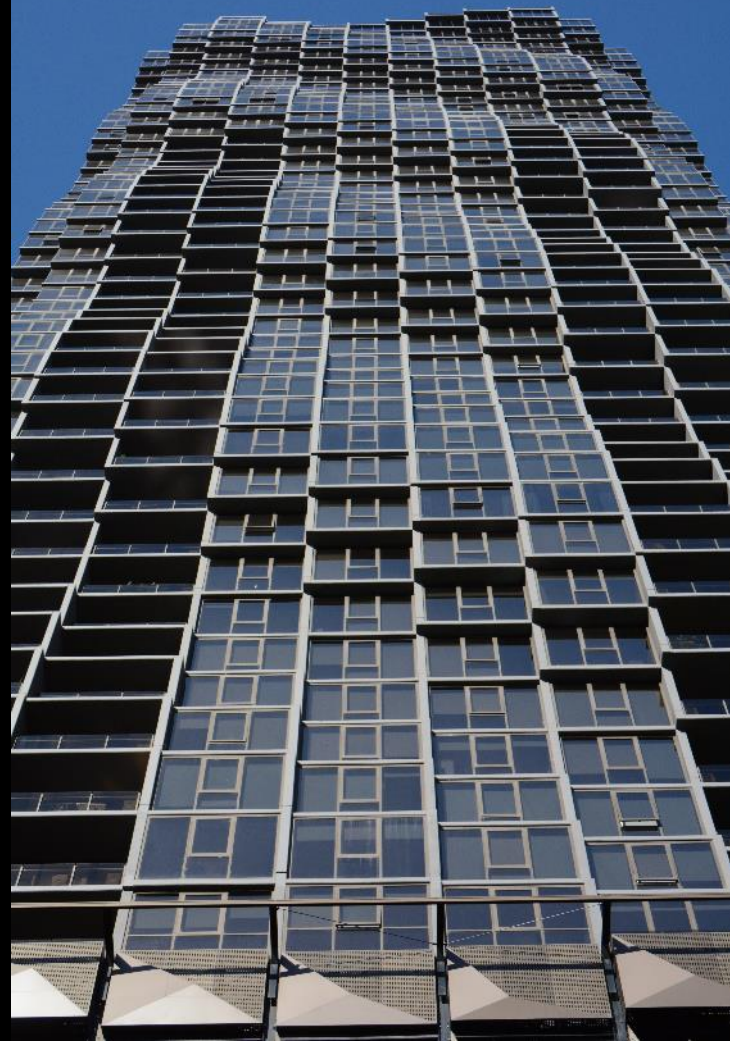


















Pixel Building
Melbourne, Australia
Studio 505





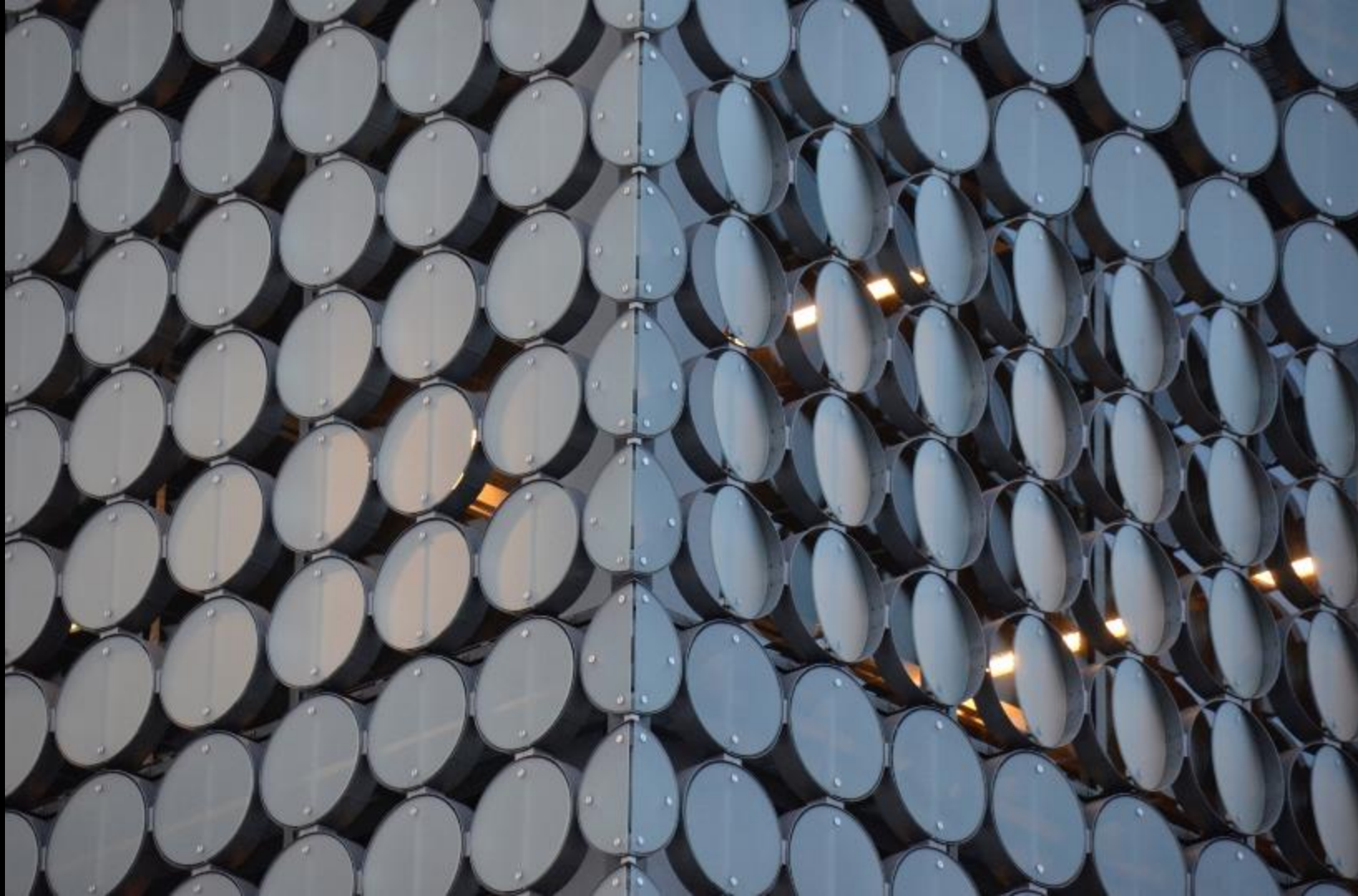




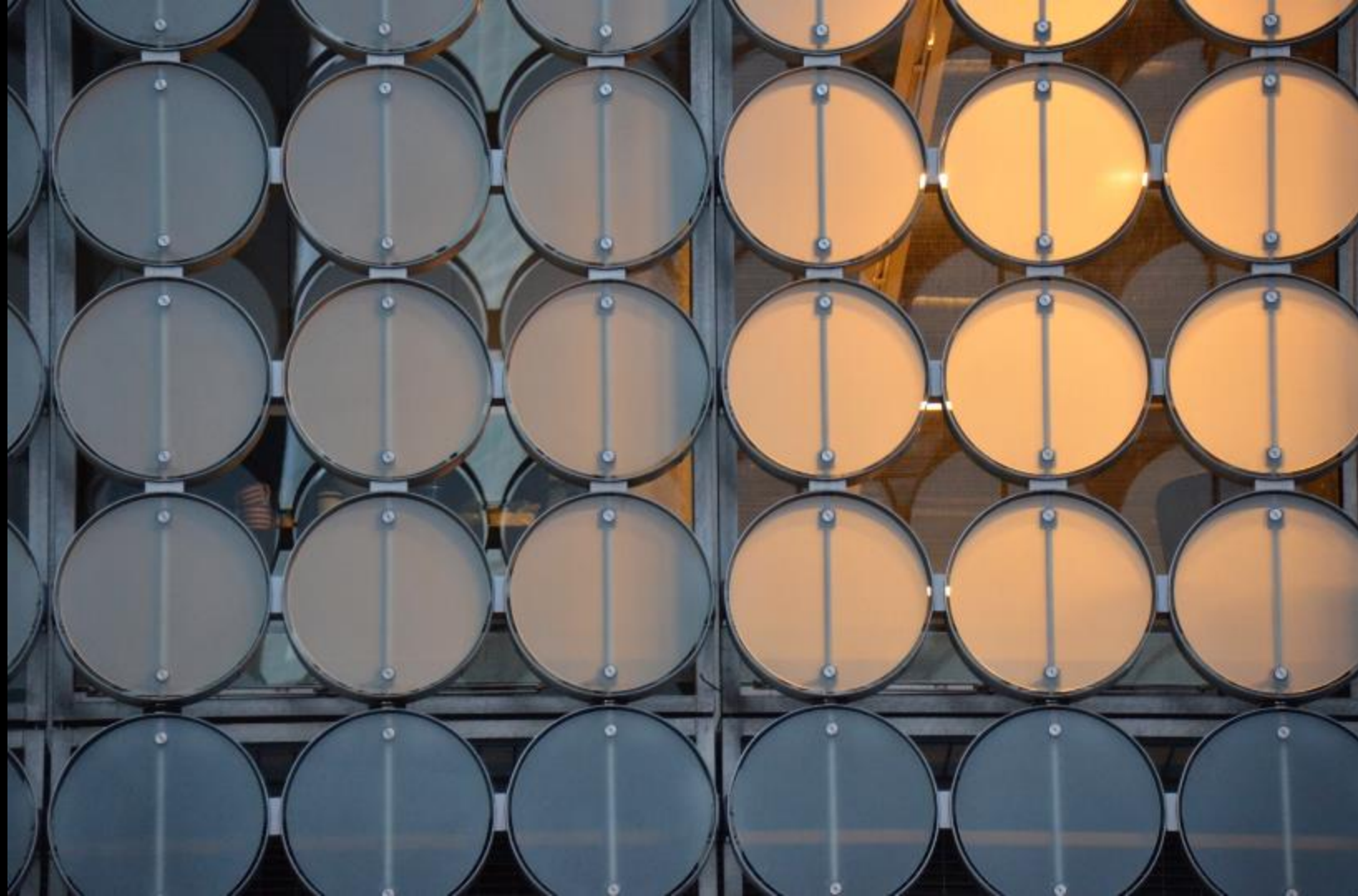




RMIT Design Hub
Melbourne, Australia
Peddle Thorp Architects











Stone and Terracotta Veneer Systems



Guangzhou Opera House
Guangzhou, China
Zaha Hadid Architects
2010














A few from the
Potsdamer area of
Berlin, Germany













St. Giles Complex
London, England
Renzo Piano





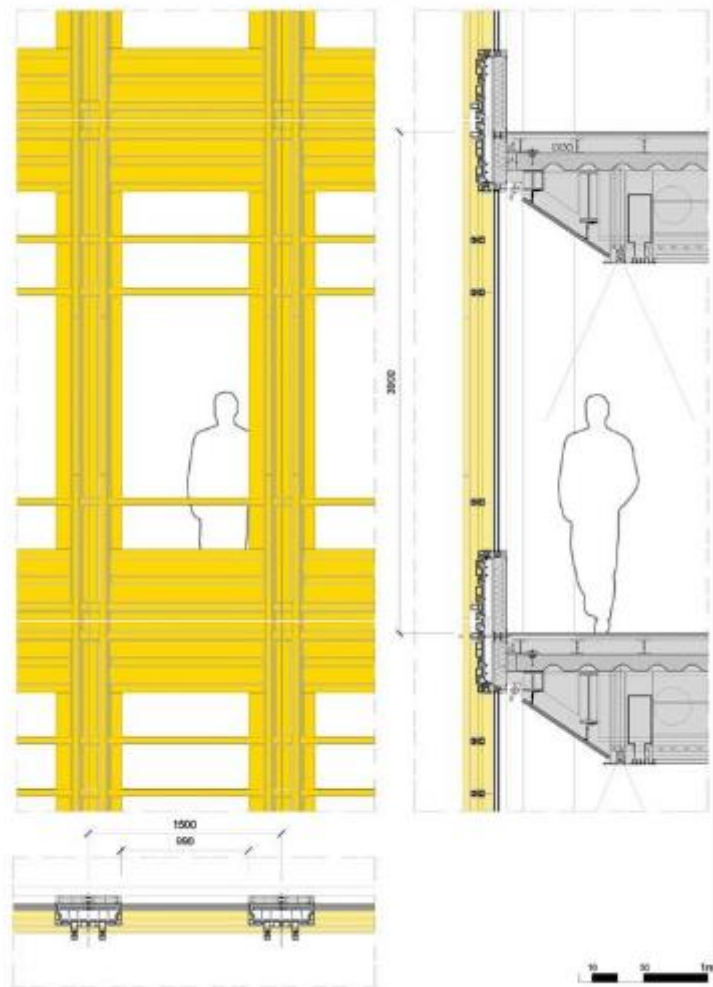












Fibre Reinforced Concrete

Fibre reinforced concrete is a type of concrete that includes fibrous substances that increase its structural strength and cohesion.

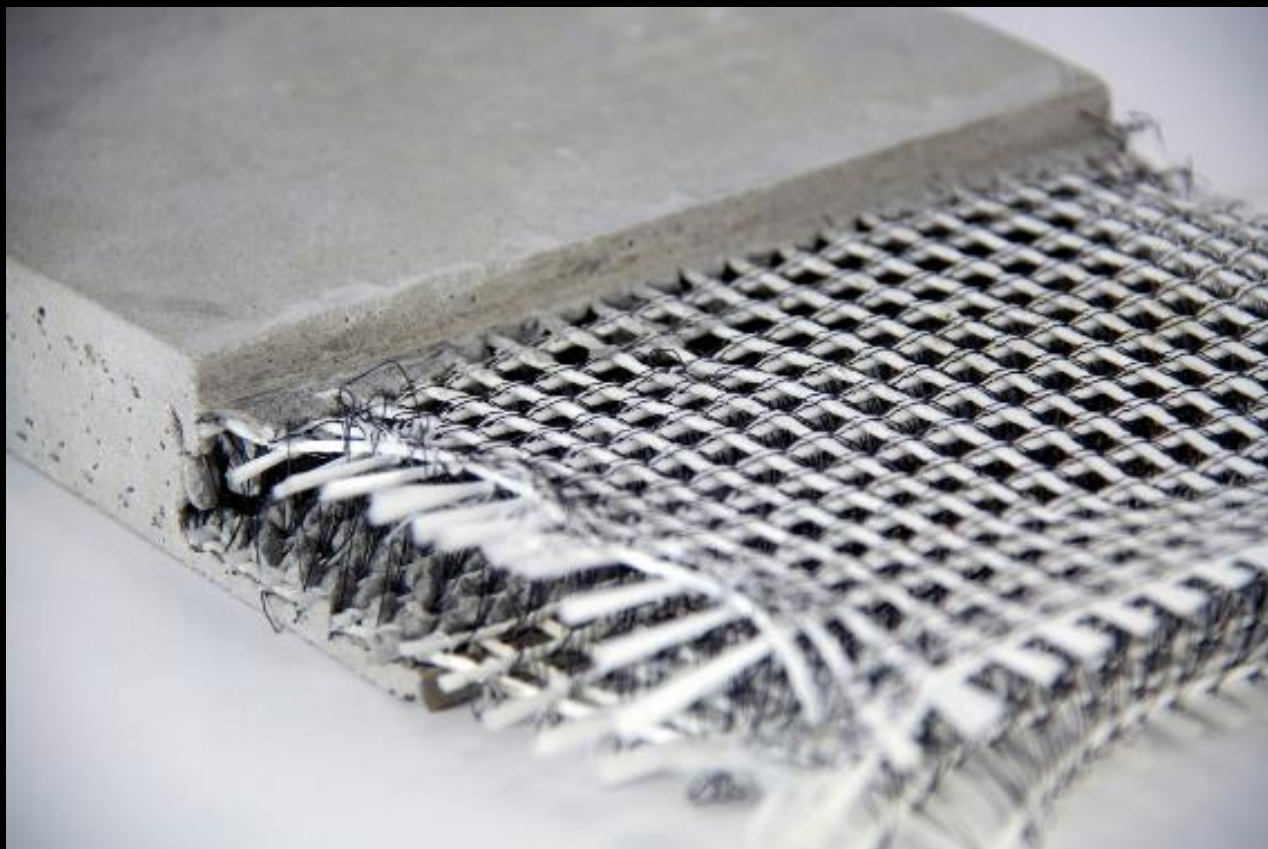
Fibre reinforced concrete has small distinct fibers that are homogeneously dispersed and oriented haphazardly.

Fibres used are steel fibers, synthetic fibres, glass fibres and natural fibres.



1 in. Crack
Opening







ROYAL ROSE



الروز



ROYAL ROSE 1901



The FRP (fibre reinforced panels) are pretty thin, unlike precast concrete, and are often supported behind by a steel frame which is then attached to the building structure behind.



Academic Bridge Program
Education City
Doha, Qatar



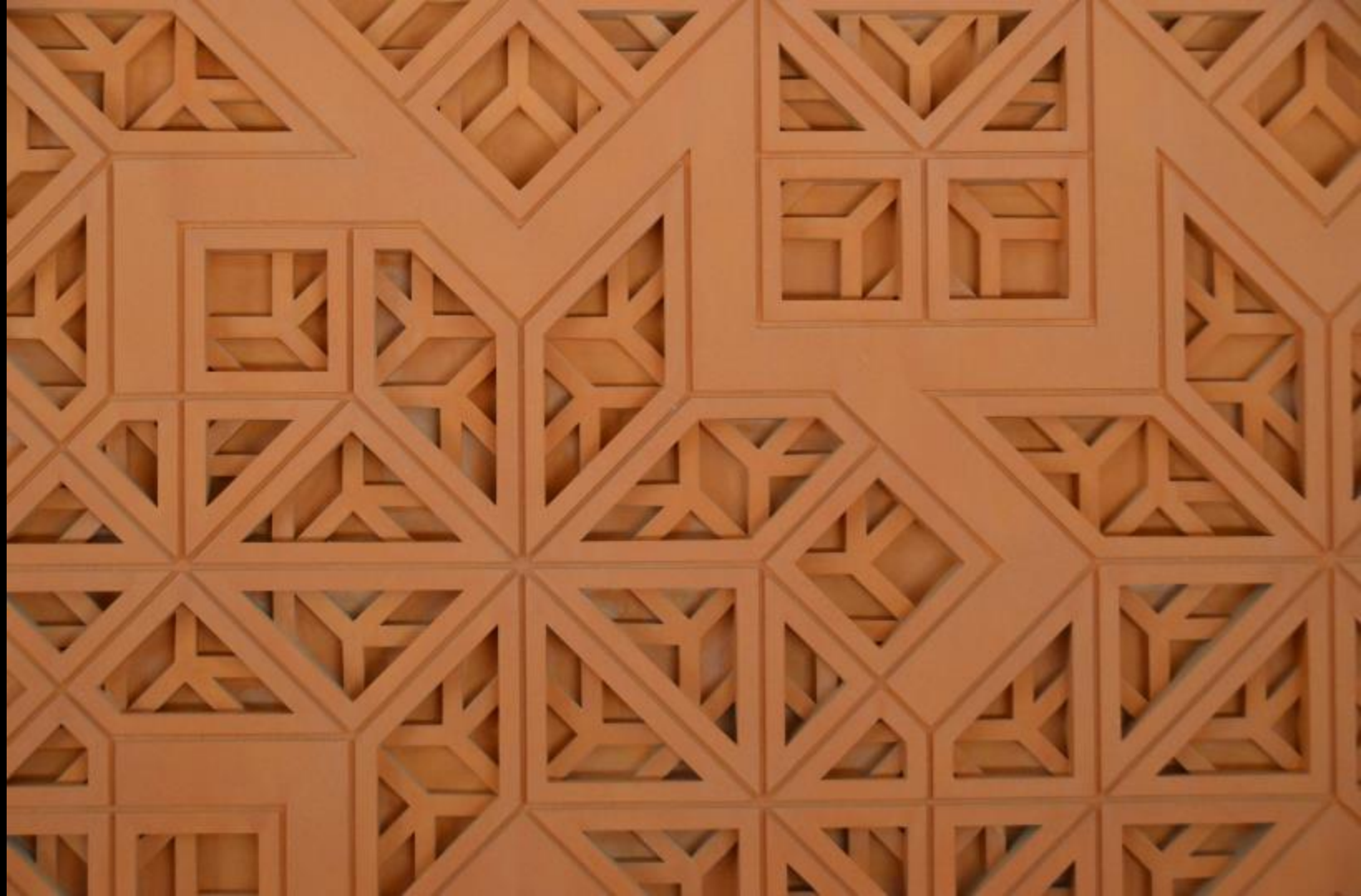


Masdar Institute
Foster and Partners
Abu Dhabi, UAE
2010







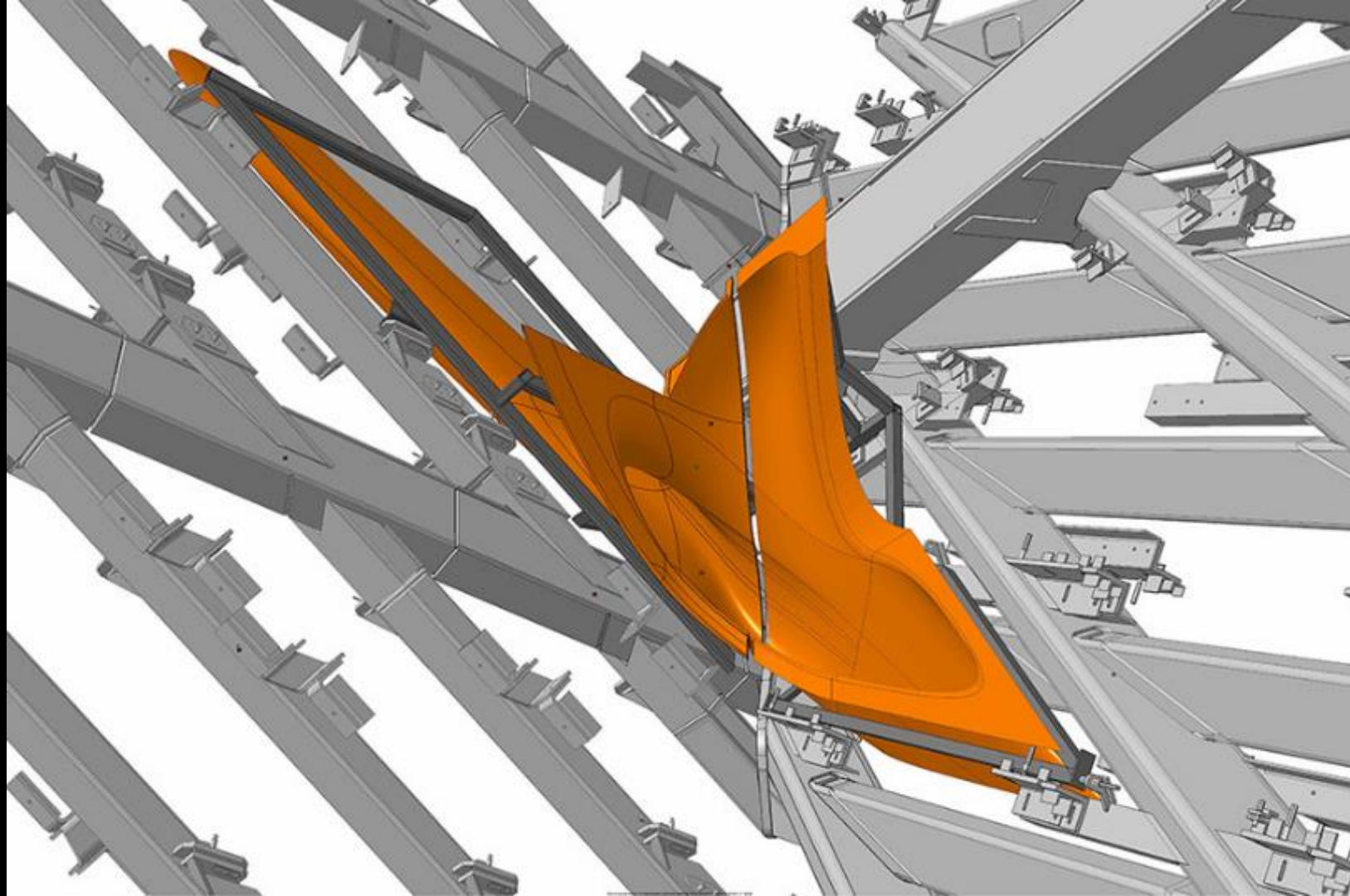




The Broad Museum
Los Angeles, California
Diller Scofidì + Renfro
2015







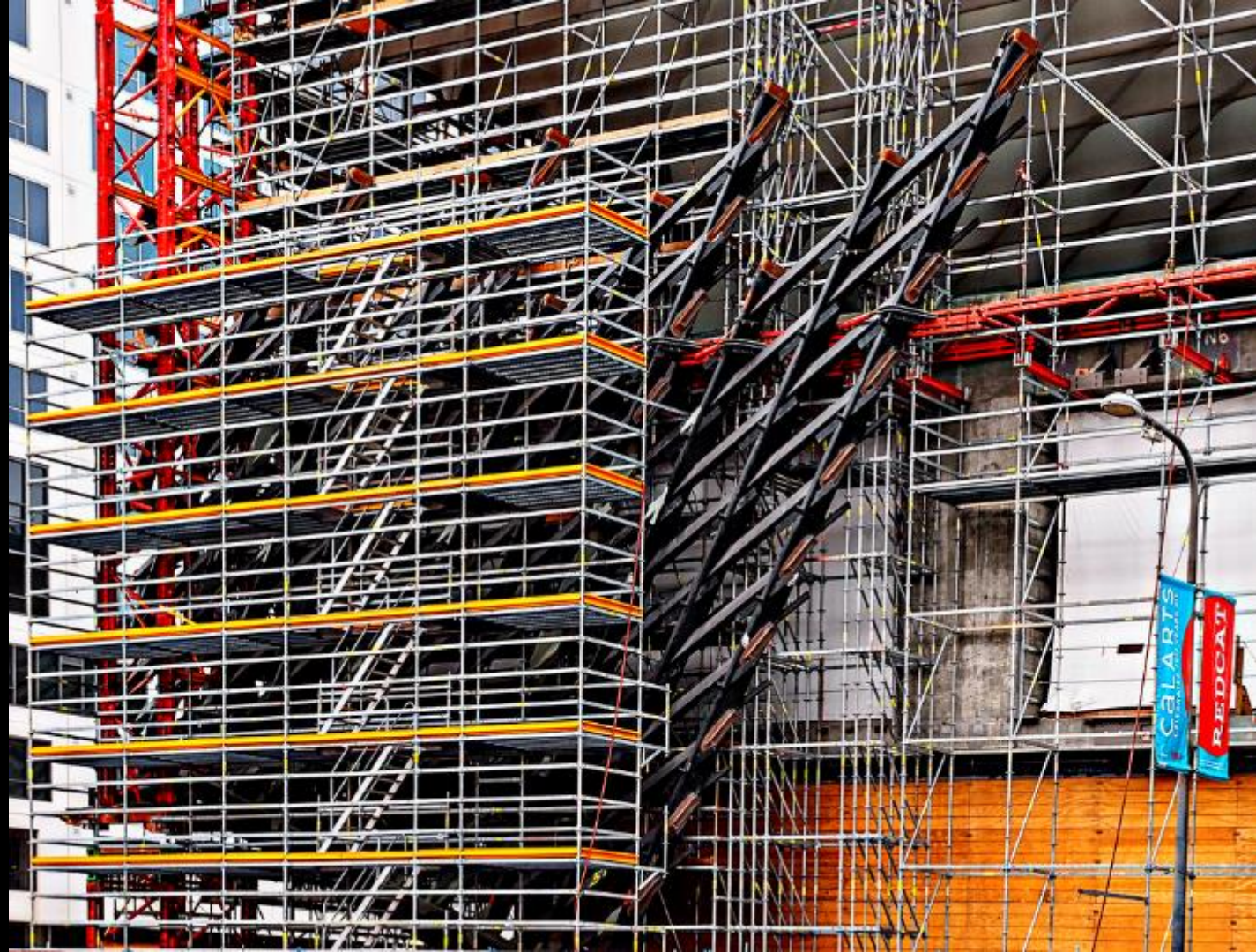




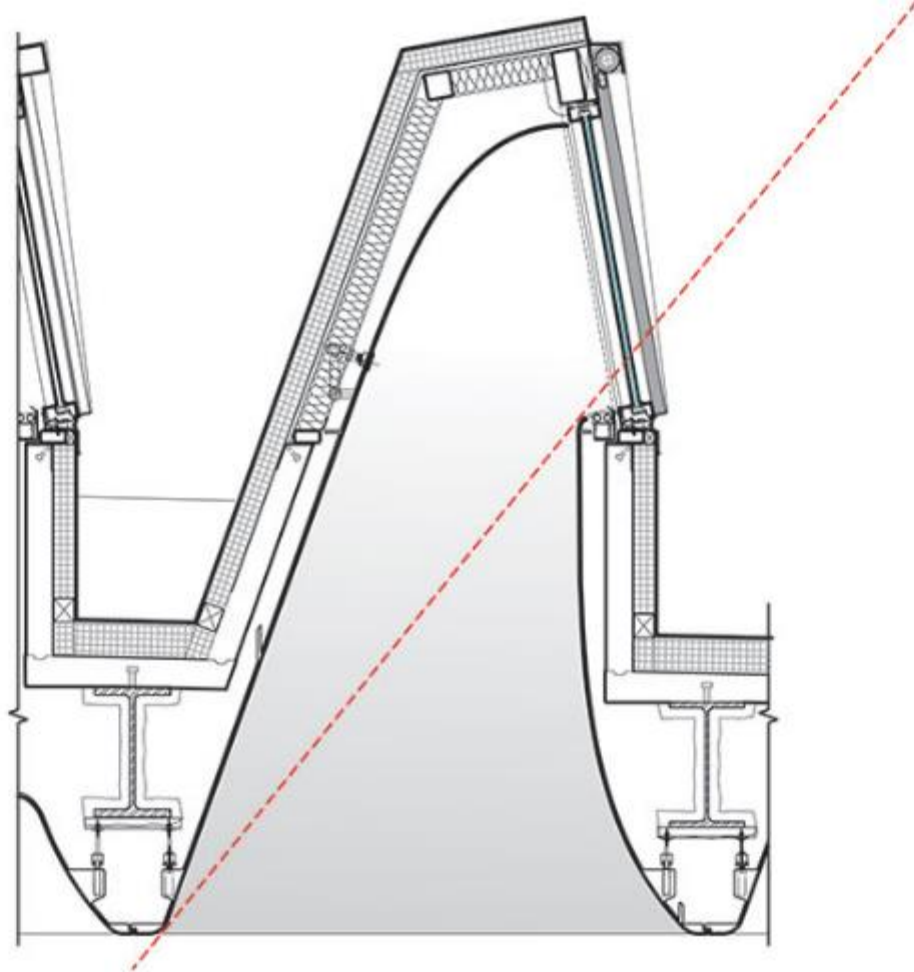


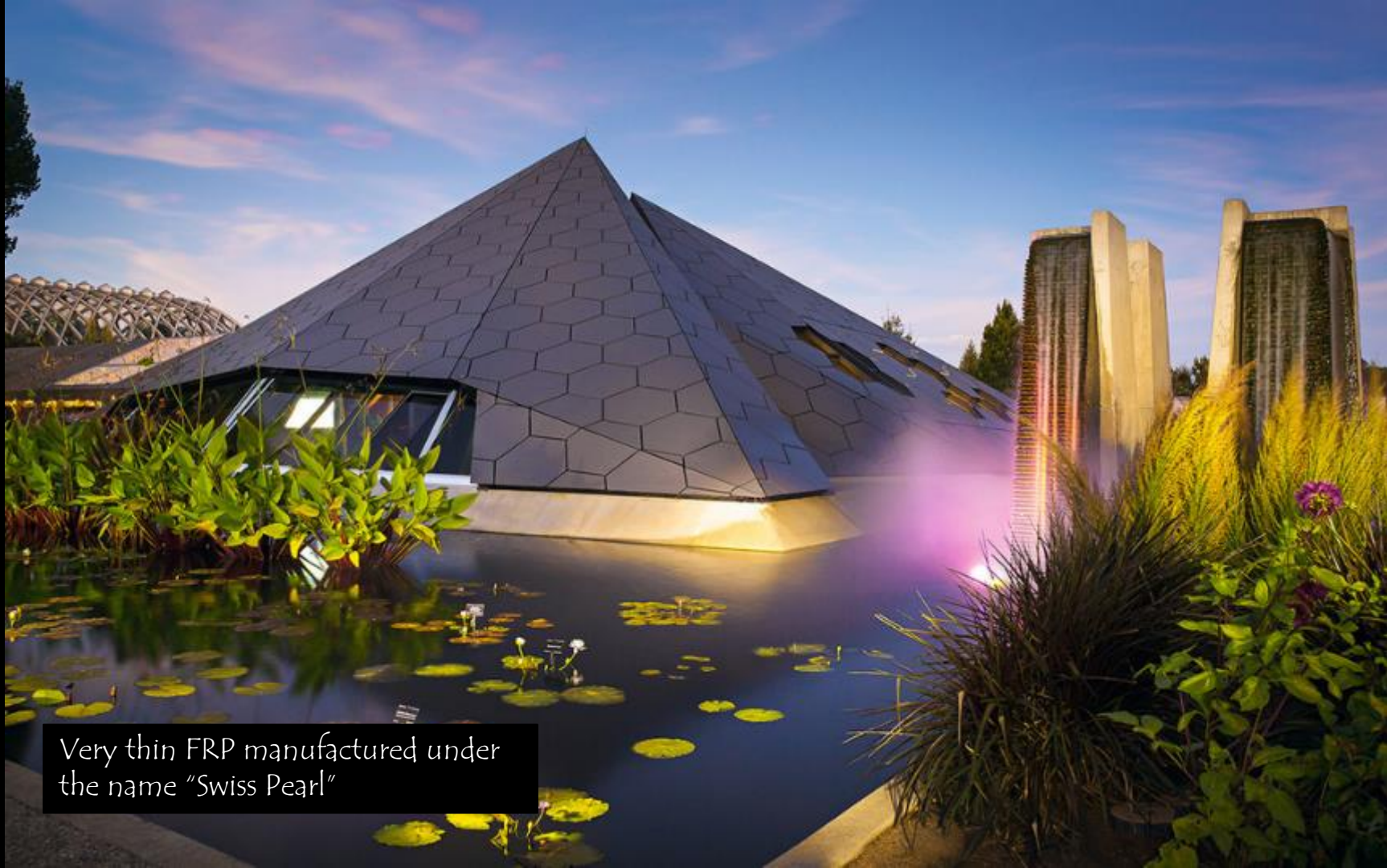












Very thin FRP manufactured under
the name "Swiss Pearl"













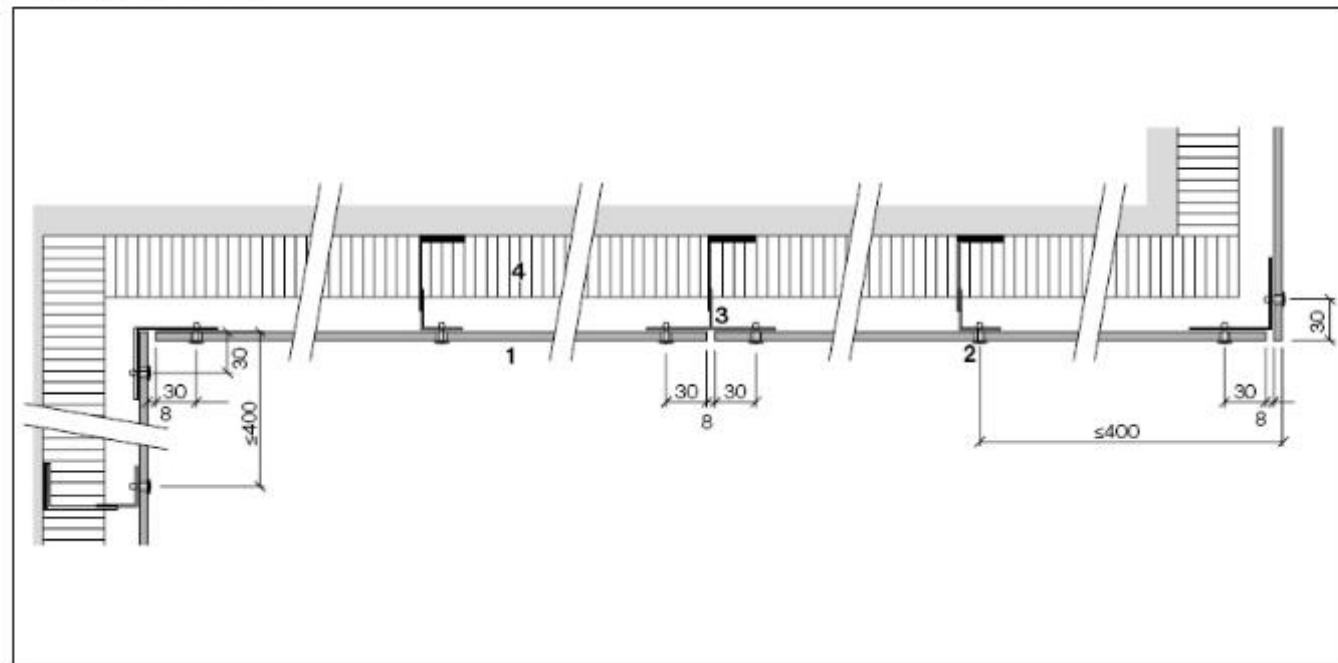








Horizontal section

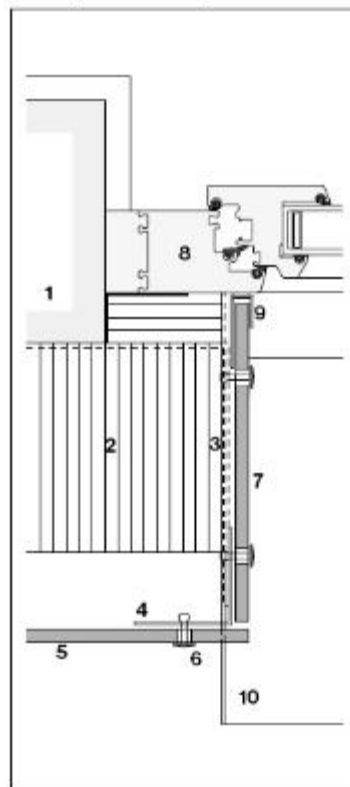


Panel may be cantilevered max.
400 mm.

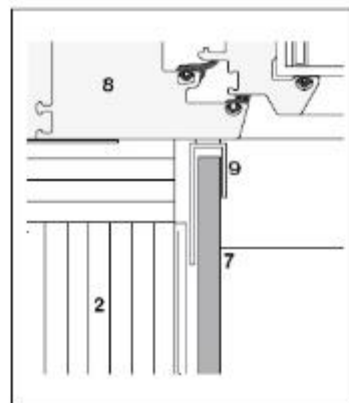
- 1 Swisspearl panel 8 mm
- 2 Rivet
- 3 Aluminum profile
- 4 Thermal insulation

Design | Metal supports

Example window jamb



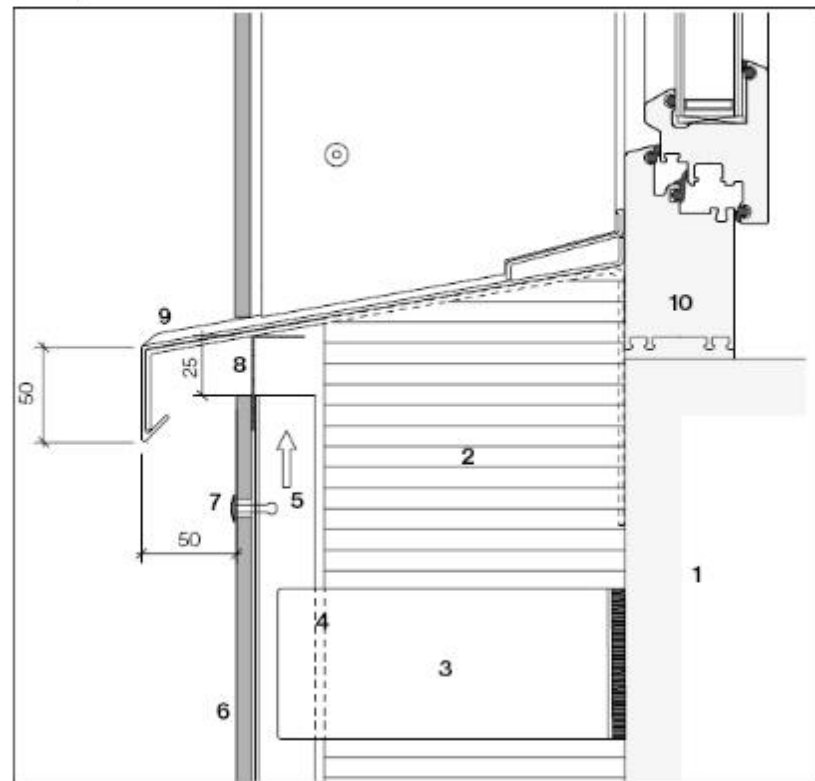
Jamb with 8 mm panel



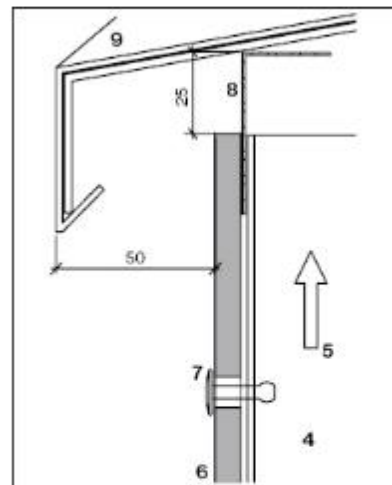
Window jamb with metal frame

- 1 Exterior wall
- 2 Thermal insulation
- 3 Horizontal support
- 4 Vertical support
- 5 Swisspearl panel 8 mm
- 6 Rivet 4.5x18 K15
- 7 Swisspearl jamb board 8 mm
- 8 Window frame
- 9 U or F-profile with sealant
- 10 Window sill

Example window sill



Window sill made of metal



Sill detail

- 1 Exterior wall
- 2 Thermal insulation
- 3 Bracket
- 4 Vertical support
- 5 Ventilation cavity
- 6 Swisspearl panel 8 mm
- 7 Rivet 4.0×18-K15
- 8 Perforated angle
- 9 Window sill
- 10 Window frame

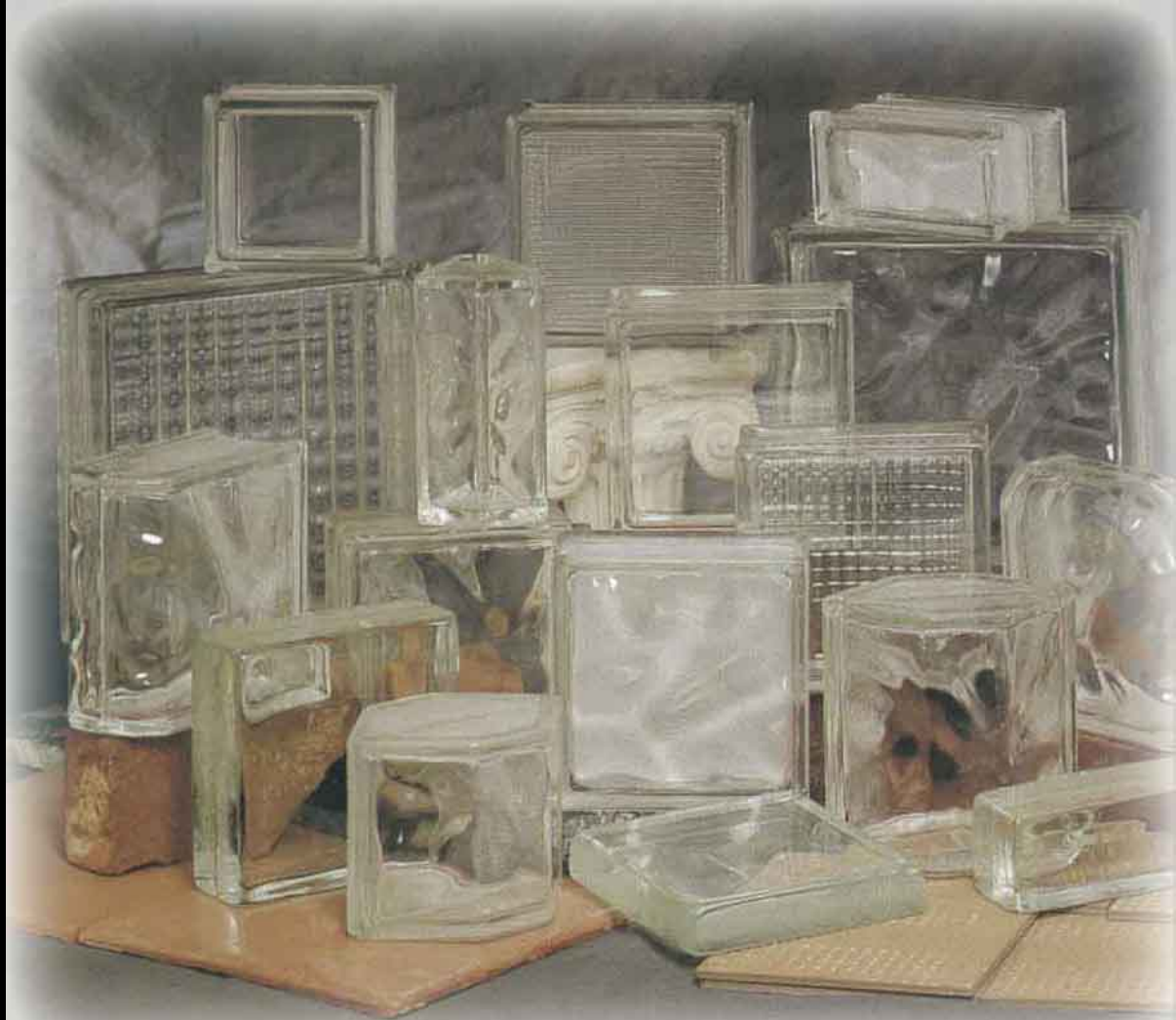
Glass Block



Maison de Verre, Paris



All of the schools built in the 1950s and 1960s

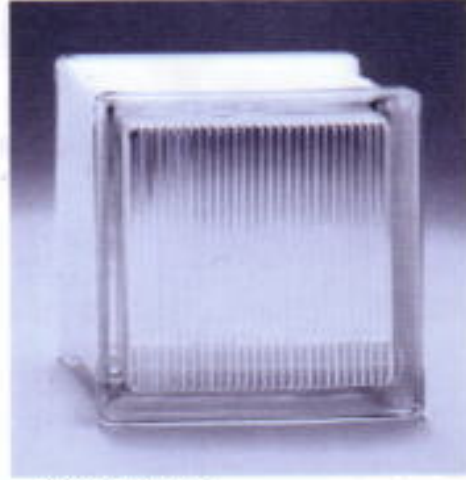




Lattice Pattern



Mist Pattern



Ribbed Pattern



Corona Pattern



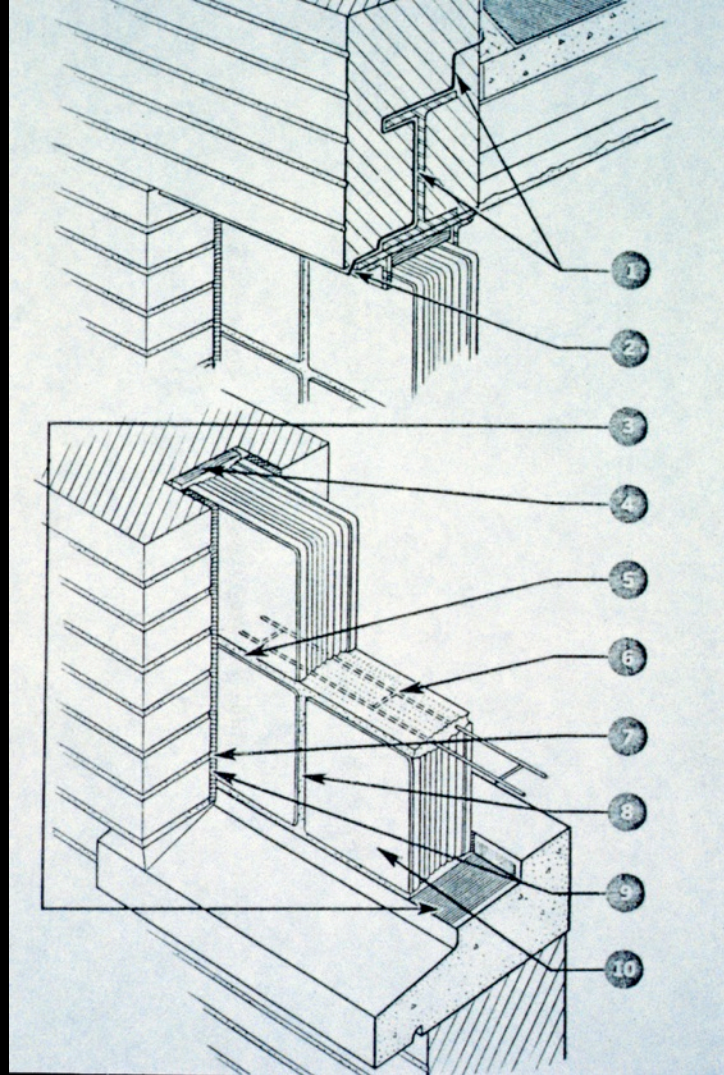
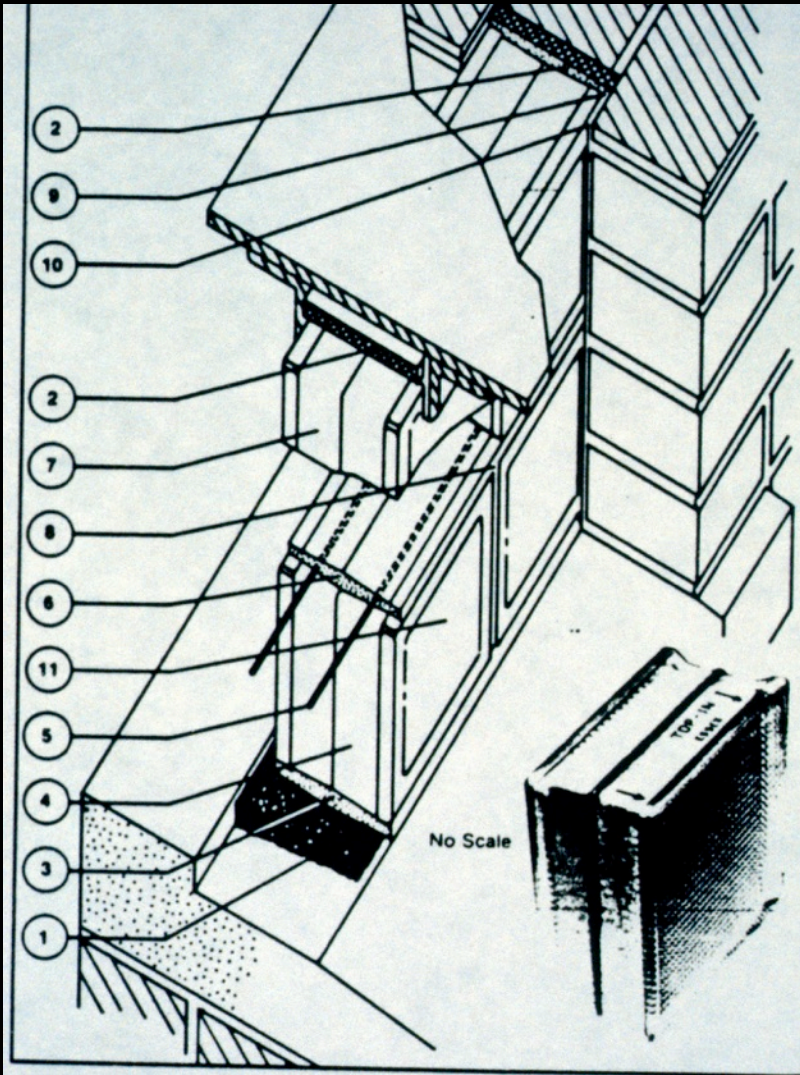
Double Star Pattern

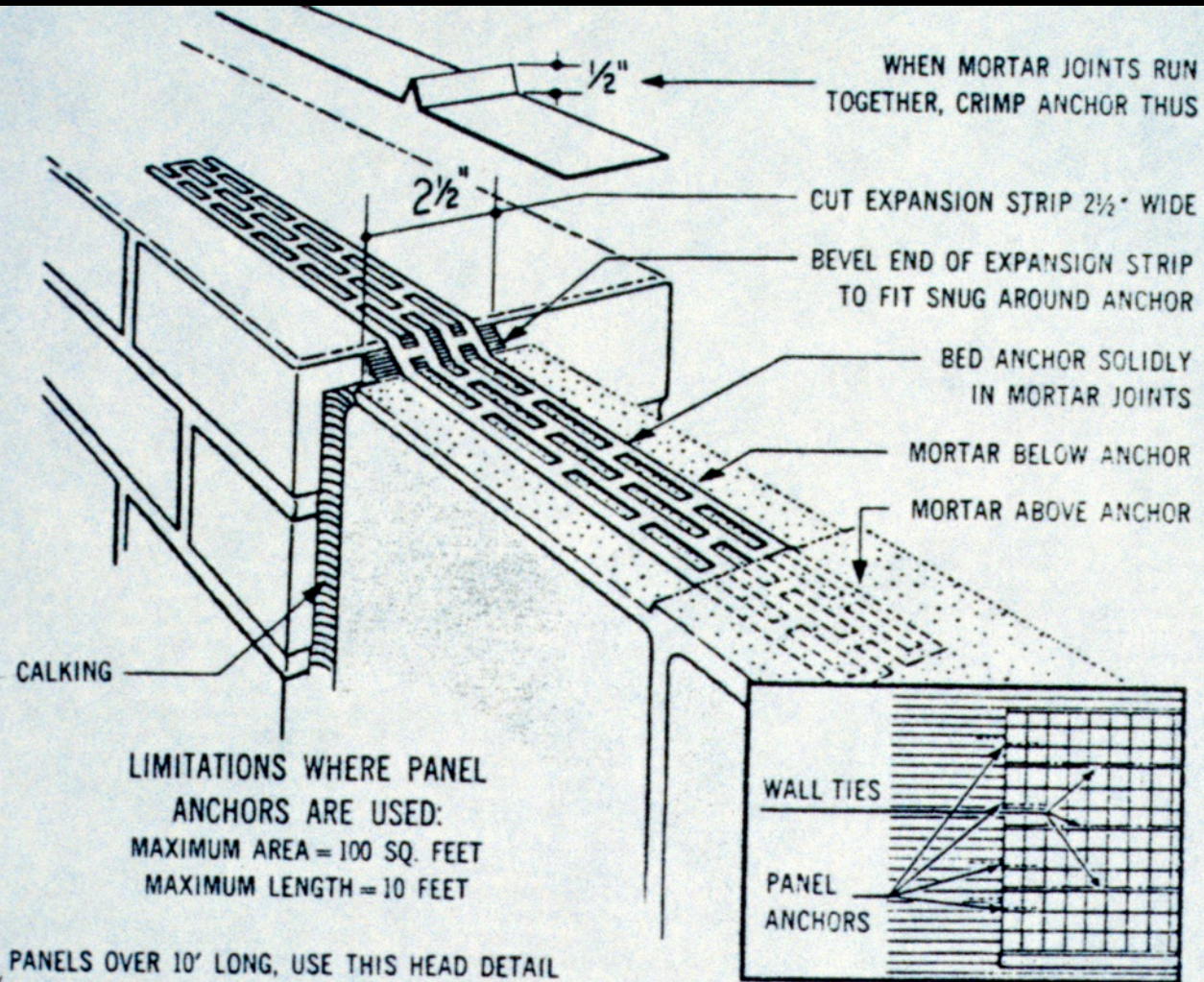


Well Shape Pattern

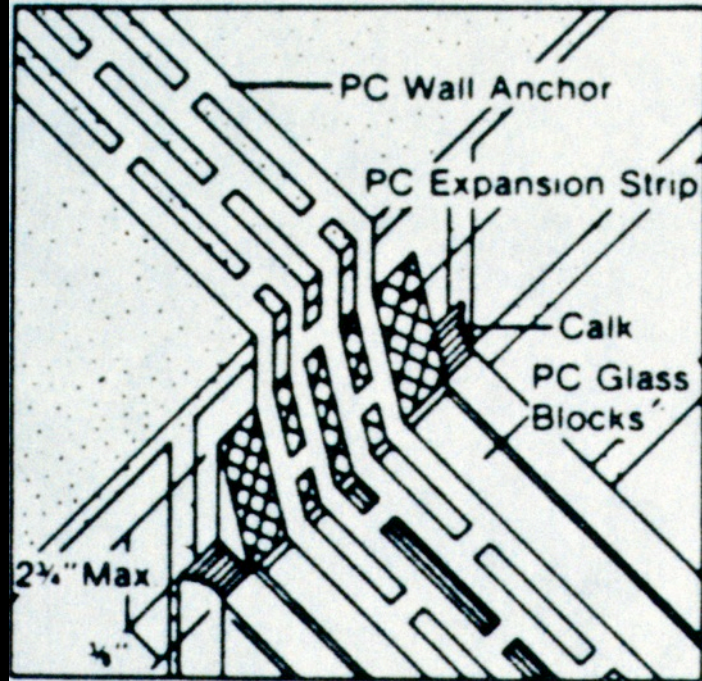




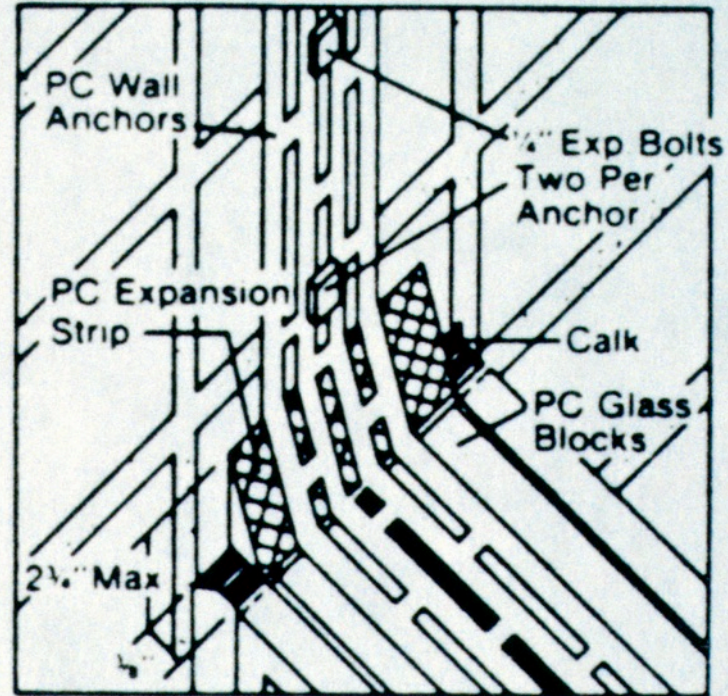




Panel Anchors

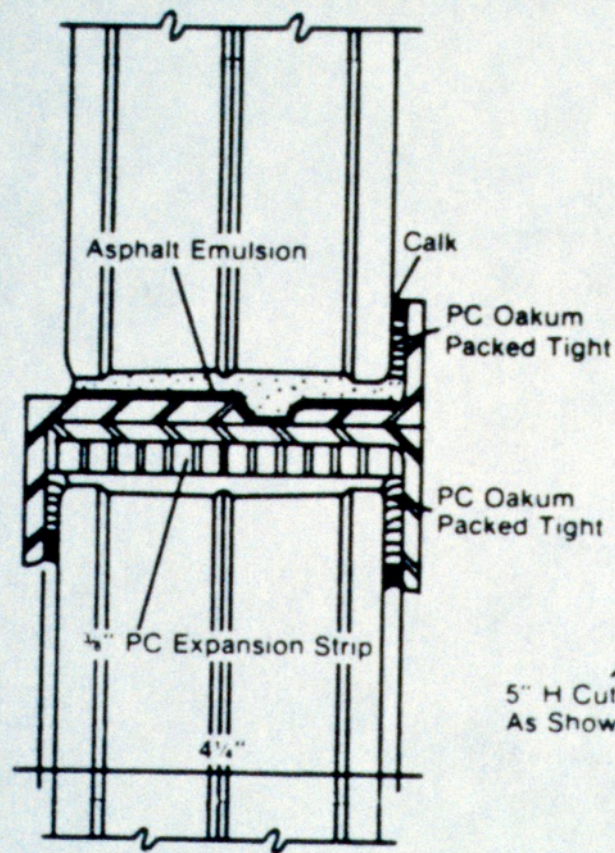


NEW CONSTRUCTION

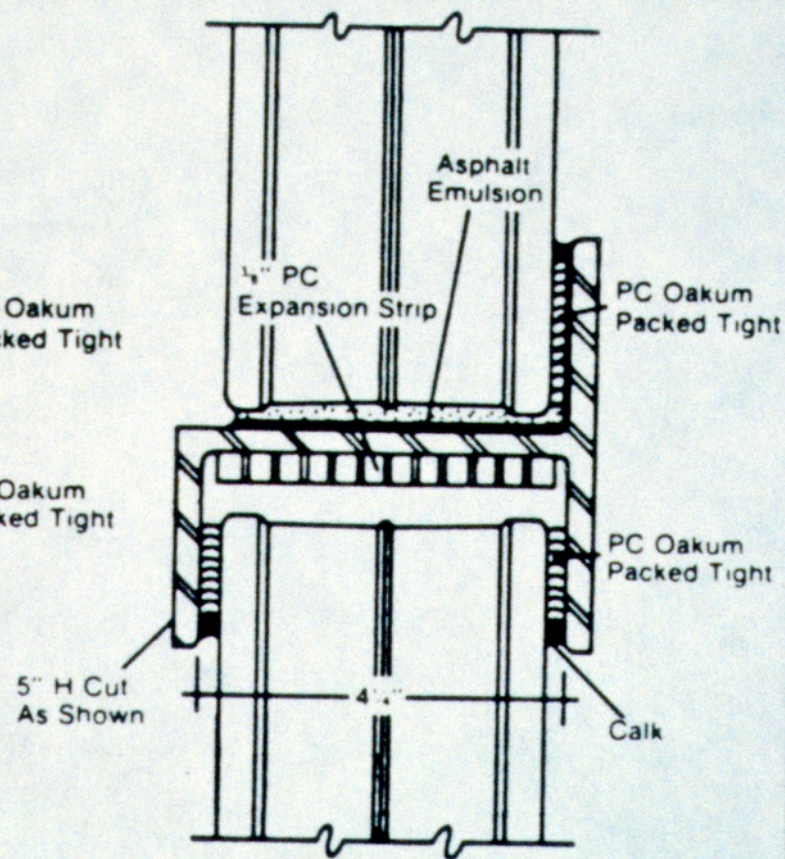


EXISTING CONSTRUCTION

Shelves



SECTION "E"



SECTION "E-1"











For interior applications the weight of the glass block must be considered

ETFE

Ethylene tetrafluoroethylene (ETFE) is a fluorine-based plastic. It was designed to have high corrosion resistance and strength over a wide temperature range. ... ETFE has a relatively high melting temperature and excellent chemical, electrical and high-energy radiation resistance properties.



The Water Cube
2008 Beijing Olympics





Eden Project
St. Austell, England
Nicholas Grimshaw



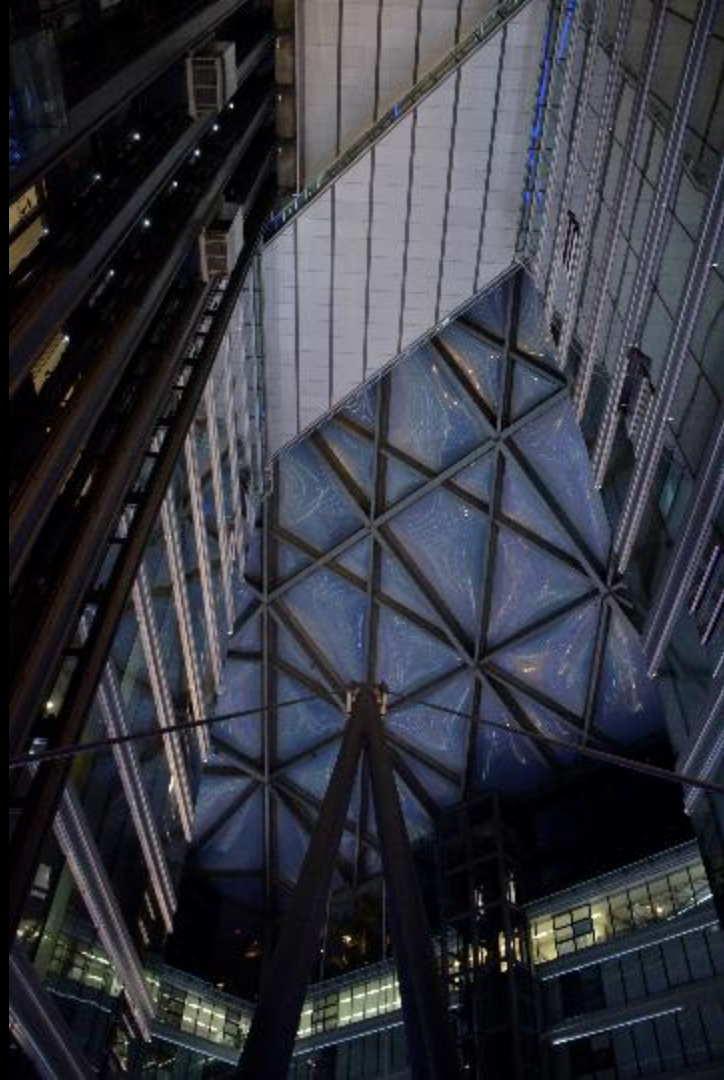


Japan National Pavilion
Shanghai Expo 2010





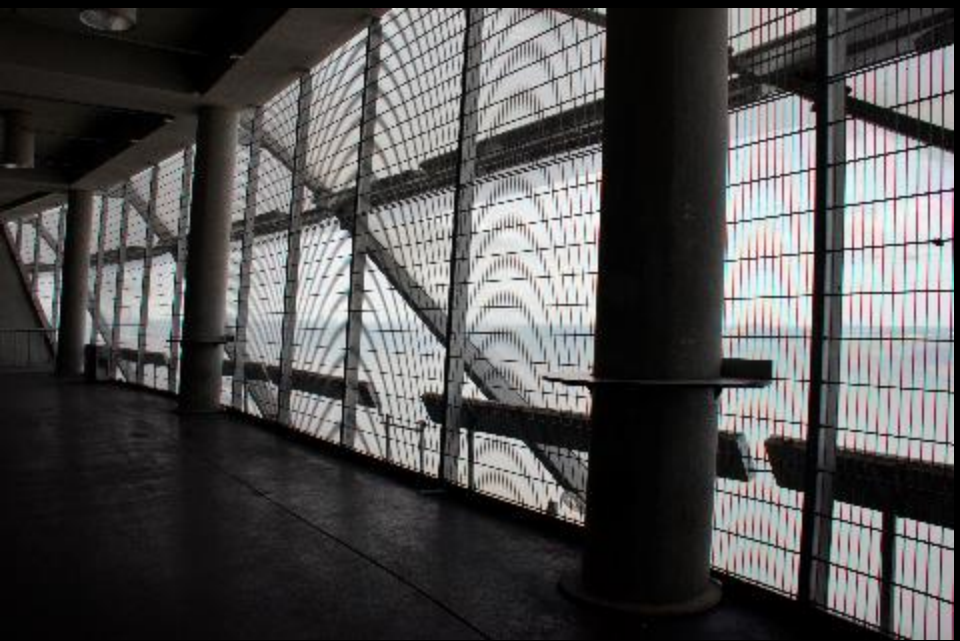
Parkview Green
Beijing, China

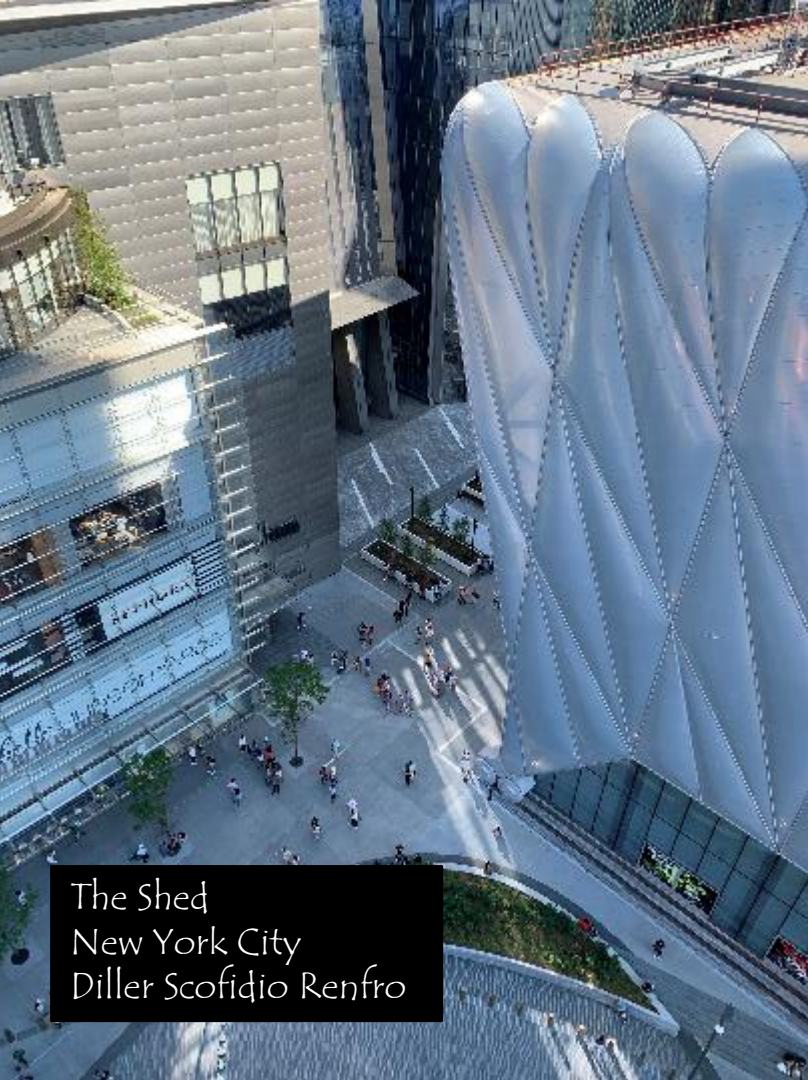






Allianz Arena
Munich, Germany





The Shed
New York City
Diller Scofidio Renfro





Generally the façade has evolved towards systems that are:

- Durable
- Lighter – so less mass, weight on foundations, carbon
- Higher R-values
- Made of multiple layers
- Using a rain screen/drainage plane
- External to the structural system to keep the structure at a constant temperature