DIAZ SERRANO, GUADALUPE ELIZABETH M.F.A. A Mixed-Use Facility For Migrants From Mexico: A Research-Based Design Thesis. (2023)
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This thesis aims to explore the residential needs of recent Mexican immigrants in the United States, focusing on the state of North Carolina. Mexican immigrants face unique challenges such as migration, post-traumatic stress, and depression during their journey to the United States. It is crucial to understand their needs and create a safe space where they can improve their mental and physical health. Architecture plays a significant role in providing shelter and reflecting the aesthetics and cultural features of its inhabitants. Additionally, architecture defines physical boundaries and influences cultural, gender, economic, and social dynamics. This study also considers the cultural values and traditions attached to Mexican immigrants, particularly the multigenerational living arrangements commonly seen within their community. By repurposing abandoned buildings, such as malls or box stores, into multi-use spaces, the thesis proposes enhancing the neighborhood, community, and sustainability. Furthermore, the research explores the potential for a larger project that caters to the specific requirements of men, women, the elderly, and children within a multi-generational home setting. By blending Mexican architectural traditions with innovative design principles, this study seeks to create a new residential design proposal that preserves Mexican culture for future generations and fosters cultural exchange in North Carolina.

A MIXED-USE FACILITY FOR MIGRANTS FROM MEXICO:

A RESEARCH-BASED THESIS

by

Guadalupe Elizabeth Diaz Serrano

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Approved by

Dr. Asha Kutty
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DEDICATION

To all Mexican migrants and my son.

APPROVAL PAGE

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CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

Migration is a human phenomenon based on extreme weather events, economic hardship, or any kind of distress a group of people is experiencing in the place where they live. This thesis is based on a particular migrant group, recent Mexican migrants in North Carolina and the various facilities they require, particularly in terms of housing, as they assimilate into their new country.

Understanding Mexican migrants' residential needs is crucial to make their housing process more tolerable after the hardship of the unique challenges of migration, including post-traumatic stress and depression from their journey to the United States. There is a need for spaces where they can feel safe and improve their mental and physical health.

According to studies, Mexican immigrants have been ignored for a long time (Hondagneu- Sotelo, 1994) (Gonzales and Fernandez, 2003). Death, tragedy, and trauma are the first things Mexican immigrants have to face to pursue the American Dream, and after getting into a new culture and country, they have to adapt and immerse themselves.

The increasing Mexican population in the United States, has attracted the attention of scholars, trying to predict their trajectory (Ochoa, 2009). If the violence in Mexico continues rising as it has been in the past years, more migration is expected. Therefore, as designers of the built world, we must consider the Mexican migrants personal, familiar, social and psychological needs and create built environments that cater to these unique needs. (Abrego, 2006).

Mexicans usually live in a multigenerational home, sometimes with language barriers among the family, sometimes they come from an indigenous group and speak a different language, or after a while living in the US the generations after them do not speak Spanish. I would like to study the culture, tradition, the family values, that migrants carry with them, and

design the safe place for them to come to, after all the sacrifices and obstacles they have faced. Finding a location to call home that has the features of the Mexican culture here in Greensboro North Carolina will allow them to embrace their culture and with time, adapt to their new country.

For this thesis, I will repurpose an abandoned box store to create a place to call 'an initial home' for Mexican migrants. This abandoned store is situated in a thriving commercial corridor that has several Latin American stores. Creating the multipurpose facility here will not only increase the activity in the growing Latin American hub but will also be a good sustainable solution. Creative reuse of abandoned buildings to benefit a migrant society is a good way to promote socially and environmentally responsive architecture.

Overall Research and Design Objectives

This thesis consists of two parts: A research part and a design part. The research collected and analyzed is used to inform the design. The research purpose of this thesis proposal is to understand and learn about the needs around housing for recent Mexican migrants who come to the United States.

As an insider of the Mexican community, I had access to a few recent migrants and interviewed them at length about the migration journey, their home in Mexico, their thoughts about their current living situations and what they aspired to in terms of housing and migrant supportive facilities. In addition to these interviews, spatial research was also conducted around Greensboro to find an optimum site to use for the housing facility.

Interviewees all mentioned an affinity to local shopping districts that catered to Latin American food and house supplies, and therefore, a site was chosen along West Gate City

Boulevard where a commercial Mexican hub exists. An abandoned box store, Toys R Us, within this vicinity was chosen to be rehabilitated and redesigned for the migrant facility.

Major architectural themes included: homes should target both families and individuals, including men and women with human-centered design. Facilities should include legal advice, daycare, healthcare, and large amounts of landscaping. The feel of community should be apparent everywhere, as interviewees stressed on their interdependence with one another as they assimilated into their new country.

Theoretical Framework

Mexicans and Other Latin American in North Carolina

North Carolina has close to 900,000 residents with Latin American ancestry. Of those, two-thirds trace their roots to Mexico, followed by El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Costa Rica. These numbers include immigrants, naturalized, and native-born citizens, categories that include people born in Latin America and people born in the United States with Latin American ancestry.

Despite the strong presence of Mexico in the state, North Carolinians with Latin American ancestry reflects a diversity of national, socioeconomic, and linguistic backgrounds from 33 different countries in the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. In the past decade, more immigrants are arriving from Central American countries and Asia than Mexico.

A growing number of North Carolina communities have initiated programs and policies to improve communications, services, civic engagement, and leadership opportunities for immigrant and refugee residents. These efforts acknowledge the reality of demographic change and affirm that North Carolinians with immigrant ancestry form an important part of the state's

heritage. They also address the critical need for more educational opportunities for youth from immigrant families, who face the highest rates of poverty statewide.

As we create policies and programs that deal with the challenges and opportunities of migration, we must seek out a global understanding of the forces behind migration that compel people to risk their lives for the opportunity to work in the United States.

https://uncnews.unc.edu/2019/09/10/qa-north-carolinas-history-of-latin-american-migration/

Cultural heritage. According to the interviewees, I found out that sometimes it is hard to keep up with culture and tradition due to the lack of opportunities to express their heritage and talk about it. Mexican holidays and traditions are a big part of the community, and we need to provide space to keep them alive.

CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW AND CASE STUDIES

Mexican Migration Into the Triad Area and Greensboro, N.C.

"I was just coming for a year and I have been living for 21 years here" - Señora G (Interviewee)

North Carolina´s Hispanic population is now greater than one million people, with 1,026,000 residents in 2019. The states Hispanic/Latino population grew from just over 75,000 to 800,000 over the course of 20 years from 1990 to 2010. Between 2010 and 2019, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that North Carolinas Hispanic population grew by 226,000 new residents, an increase of 28.3 % faster than the growth of this population nationwide (19.6%) (Ordoñez, E., 2020).

The states of Guanajuato and Guerrero from Mexico have the most presence in Greensboro. Most of the immigrants come from rural areas in Mexico, which mean they had less educational opportunities, but their farming and living stock knowledge is immense.

The father comes first looking for a better income to support his family and home in Mexico. Men usually share an apartment or a house. Some stay with family members or very close friends. Sometimes they have to stay with people they do not know and confront a new language, culture, or way of life that has never been part of them. They often have to live in harsh conditions, sharing apartments or very small dwellings with more than 25 other men. In addition to living with family members of close friends, recent migrants also live in mobile homes.

They eventually look for ways to be reunited with their wife and kids, they may also want to bring the grandparents in the best and safest way. They support each other on a daily basis,

from grandparents taking care of the grandchildren, parents supporting the home and family, children becoming translators between their parents and the services they require.

These are some of the mobile home parks with Mexican or Latin presence in the Triad:

- Oakwood Forest
- Willow Mobile Home Park
- Village Park
- Cedar Creek Mobile Home
- Parliament Houses, Burlington
- Waughtown Winston-Salem

Cases Studies

Refugio Para Mujeres Víctimas De La Violencia

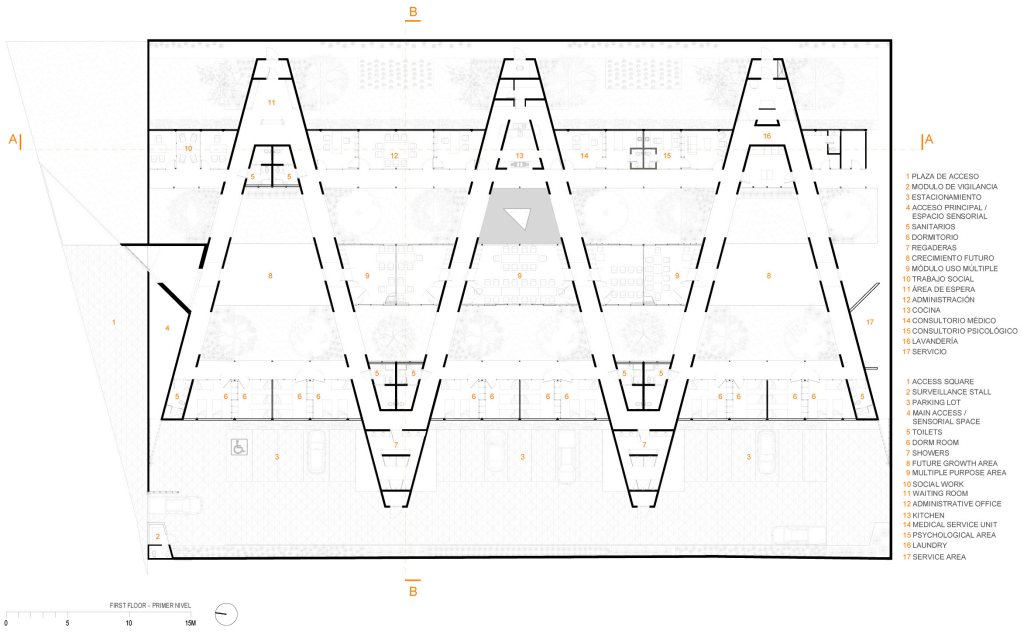
Origen 19º41'53'' N | Omar González Pérez y Hugo González Pérez. Michoacán, México.

Figure 1. Refugio Para Victimas de Violencia

Refugio Para Mujeres Víctimas de la Violencia is a humanitarian social assistance building designed to help women who have experienced or at some point in their lives suffered from domestic and gender violence. This is a one-story building with a closed courtyard,

specially structured so that the windows only face the inside of the structure, establishing its primary function, which is to provide protection for its inhabitants.

Figure 2. Refugio Para Victimas de Violencia



"She was leaving the state to be away from her ex-boyfriend, he found where she was, hid behind a trash bin, and shot her to death in front of her daughter". – Tia (Interviewee)

More than one of every tree woman suffers from violence. In 2021, almost one in every 5 women from 20 to 24 years old got married before 18. Less than 40 % of women who suffered from violence looked for any kind of help. *(Ending violence against women https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women)*

Intimate partner violence against immigrant women has reached epidemic proportions, yet research has only recently begun to address this concern. A review of the legal, medical, and social science research literature reveals limited data, but the available evidence demonstrates that immigrant women's cultures, contexts, and legal status (a) increase vulnerability to abuse,

(b) are used by batterers to control and abuse immigrant women, and (c) create barriers to women seeking and receiving help. Data also reveal that immigrant culture and context offer resilience factors that can inform programs and policies aimed at better serving these populations (Raj, A., Silverman, J., 2002).

The violence against women, the patriarchal culture they come from, their migratory status, and their financial disadvantage make them more vulnerable to abuses and less able to seek help, as they often depend on their partners entirely. The women's shelter proposed in my design aims to assist them and shed light on the conditions and obstacles they face.

Raising awareness about this gender problem and presenting a potential solution is a social responsibility both as a woman and as an architect. The women's shelter has been designed to provide security for everyone involved, including the women using it, the employees managing the facility, and other families and men who should remain at a distance to ensure the safety of the women.

The shelter space has the function of keeping women separated from the rest of the population. It features neutral, organic elements, calming colors, and a clustered layout, with shared washrooms to encourage a supportive network at all times. The women's shelter includes an indoor garden with a playground for mothers with their children. It also features a concealed emergency exit. The landscape and color choices are deliberately less culturally specific to avoid triggering anxiety and depression.

Via Verde, Dattner Architects

Figure 3. Via Verde, New York

Via Verde—The Green Way is an affordable, sustainable residential development that offers healthy, urban living in the South Bronx. It emerged as the winning entry in the New Housing New York Legacy Competition, reflecting a public commitment to creating the next generation of social housing.

The apartments are arranged in three distinct building types: a 20-story tower at the north end of the site, a 6 to 13-story mid-rise duplex apartment component, and 2 to 4-story townhouses to the south, surrounded by a series of gardens. The various apartments offer flexible layouts tailored to the residents' needs.

This building serves as an example of how social housing, design, and green spaces can coexist harmoniously. The design revolves around gardens, featuring multiple terraced gardens and being enveloped by green areas, thus creating well-being spaces for the inhabitants.

Duvall Decker Architects, Jackson Housing Authority Midtown Housing, Jackson, Mississippi 2013

Figure 4. Jackson Housing Authority Midtown Housing, Jackson, Mississippi

Jackson Housing Authority Midtown Housing, Jackson

In each of these federally funded wood-frame duplexes, there are two three-bedroom units, which have been set back from the street to create open space and enhance privacy between the apartments.

Operating within a neighborhood where poverty affects 50 percent of the population, Duvall Decker's office encompasses not only an architectural practice but also a real estate development company and a building management division. The duplex design and shared community areas offer residents an opportunity to socialize with one another, fostering important

interactions for improved mental health. The two-story design reduces the amount of land space required, with landscaping repurposing this area for well-being purposes.

Figure 5 Jackson Housing Authority Midtown Housing, Jackson

Guadalupe 440, Aguacalientes, Mexico

Guadalupe 440 is a unique residence originally designed and built by the renowned architect Refugio Reyes Rivas in Aguascalientes. Located in downtown Aguascalientes, it stands as a historical landmark with ample space for a multi-family building project adjacent to the main house. The property features a courtyard that provides both an outdoor feel and security while connecting the existing house to the new development.

The courtyard is a traditional architectural feature found in Mexican homes, spanning from colonial to contemporary times. Its characteristics include linking the house's various sections, serving as a social area, offering an outdoor but private space, providing natural light and ventilation throughout the entire house, and adding an aesthetic charm to the property.

This unique design exemplifies how historic properties can seamlessly integrate into modern developments with diverse user needs. Preserving the old structure adds a captivating aesthetic dimension to this housing project."

Figure 6. Guadalupe 440, Aguascalientes, Mexico

CHAPTER III: FIELD RESEARCH

Qualitative Methodology

Interviews were conducted with newly arrived migrants from Mexico who were residing in various locations in Greensboro, with a particular focus on the Oakland area. A total of 10 interviews were conducted, which utilized a semi-structured interview format. The interviews covered topics such as the interviewees' homes in Mexico, their journeys to the US, their families, their current living situations in Greensboro, and their aspirations regarding ideal living conditions.

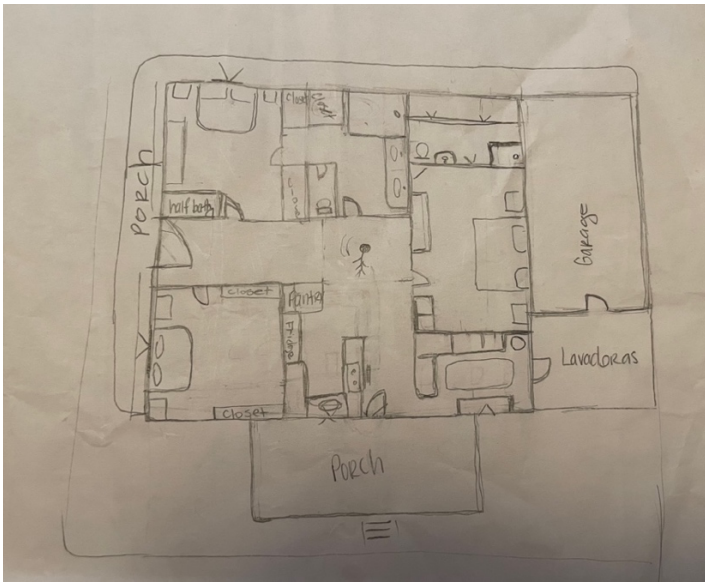
The semi-structured interview consisted of several sections:

1. The first section, 'Getting to Know You,' included questions about their age, the duration of their stay in Greensboro, with whom they spend their time, and their living arrangements, all aimed at understanding their spatial needs.
2. The second section focused on the physical specifics of their current residences, including the number of bedrooms and bathrooms, how different spaces were utilized, who used them and how frequently, as well as specific activities carried out in each space.
3. In the third section, participants were asked about their homes in rural Mexico, exploring the living conditions, the layout of spaces, daily activities, cohabitants, and preferred activities back in Mexico.
4. The fourth section centered on residential goals and aspirations in Greensboro, taking a cultural approach to architecture and interior design.
5. The fifth section delved into adaptations made to their current homes in Greensboro to better meet their needs, as well as improvements they would like to make. This section provided insights into their design preferences.
6. The sixth section aimed to understand their favorite features from their ideal homes, including surroundings, preferred locations, people they wished to share the premises with, layout preferences, cultural elements they valued, and the possibility of including pets for emotional support.

In addition to the interviews, both exterior and interior architectural spatial layouts were observed and documented.

This documentation included drawing floor plans and photographing decor, furniture, and, when permitted, activities taking place. (Please refer to the Appendix for the interview instrument and field drawings and photographs). Participants for the study were selected through the snowballing process, which began with my own personal connections."

Figure 7. Paloma´s Ideal Home Sketch



Findings

Interviewees

The design process could not begin until I understood the needs of my users. Design skills alone were insufficient to create an appropriate space for recent Mexican immigrants. I conducted interviews to gain a deeper understanding of them and to determine their requirements upon their arrival in the country.

Crossing Mexican territory is extremely perilous, with cartels controlling all the roads, paths, and any movement in the country's interior or near the border. Below are summaries of the

interviews with Mexican immigrants. Their migration experiences had a profound impact on their lives.

Interview 1. Alejandra

Alejandra's house in Mexico never felt like a home to her. She never felt at home in Mexico because her mom left, and her dad was in the United States. She lived in her aunt's house, which was in a rural area near the beach, and she was required to take care of her siblings. Alejandra, like so many others, can tell you how the experience of migration changed her forever.

Alejandra's journey was not optional for her. Her family told her she was going on a trip for her quinceañera. However, when she looked at the people traveling with them, she noticed they did not have the usual belongings for a vacation. Her grandfather and uncle talked to the individuals in the same van about their wishes to work in the U.S.

After some time, she realized she had crossed the border. As a child who had never traveled so far, she couldn't understand what was going on. Alejandra went through many changes in a short period of time—different country, language, family, and home.

She couldn't go back because she had nothing left in Mexico. Her aunt, with whom she had been living, died from leukemia, which was the reason she was brought to the United States. She was far from what she knew; her father and the family members she lived with here in the United States were complete strangers.

She had a hard time adapting to everything and felt very anxious and depressed about the whole situation. When Alejandra got married, she moved into a mobile home, had a son, and got a job cleaning houses. She and her husband saved money from both his construction job and her cleaning job, so they could buy a house. Unfortunately, this house was in a bad neighborhood, so

they decided to move to a bigger house where Mexicans were the majority demographic. They liked the neighborhood because they found it walkable to all the Mexican businesses. They gave away the mobile home to another Mexican family in need so that they could improve their lives.

The new household is an old property that required many improvements and space redesigns, personalized features, and other choices they considered would work for them. The renovations of the house were ongoing during the time of the interview. The outdoor space is probably the most social area; they set up a fire pit, cook out, gather to talk, or receive random visits. They grow flowers, have a couple of workshops, storage, and accommodate tables, chairs, and other objects for parties here.

The house has four bedrooms, one bathroom, a large living room, a kitchen with a dining area, a covered front porch, laundry, and outdoor access through a temporary kitchen area in the floor plan layout. Although it may seem insufficient for their growing family, who now have three kids.

Alejandra's brother lives there too, and sometimes his kid is also there for the weekends, which can make the house crowded, especially with all the friends and family who visit them or attend social events. The family has also provided shelter on their property to family members who have had problems in their own homes and, looking for emotional and housing support, have turned to them.

Figure 8. Alejandra´s Behavioral Mapping

Interview 2. Misses G

Misses G. lived forty-eight years in Mexico. She was orphaned at a very young age and was raised by her grandparents, and an aunt who used to beat her and her siblings as kids. For these circumstances all the siblings ended up getting married as soon as they could, this led to awful marriages.

Figure 9. Outdoors Kitchen

Misses G.'s sister committed suicide, and she also considered it after her husband left her due to the immense pressure of taking care of the kids with no money, education, or opportunities. She believed it might be the best choice, but fortunately, she realized it was not the right option for her and her family. To support her family, she used to do hand wash laundry for people, earning only a small amount of money. One of her sons came to the USA to work so he could help her. Bringing his mom and siblings was necessary for him to keep the family together.

During her journey to the US, Misses G. had to walk days and nights with a chipped bone, sustained while crossing the border. She did not want to be left behind because she was with her three young kids, and she genuinely wanted to provide them with a better life. She was scared to go to the hospital, as she didn't know if she could receive medical attention given her immigration status. She preferred to stay at her brother-in-law's home until she felt better.

Fortunately, her brother-in-law managed to obtain some medicine and helped her, but this was under desperate circumstances. Later, she and the kids made their way to her older son, who was waiting for them in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The house in Mexico holds many painful and sad memories for her. It was in a state of decay and lacked basic amenities. Despite all these years, Misses G. still wishes to return to Mexico, even though she had a difficult and impoverished life there.

Over the years, the family has worked together to establish a stable situation. Her children are now bilingual and have had fairly good job opportunities, which they have pursued. Misses G. saved money to build a house in Mexico, but the family has grown, and she prefers to stay with them, even though she longs for Mexico.

Mexican cuisine has been a way for her to maintain her culture and community. She offers Mexican dishes on the weekends, and family and friends attend to purchase food. During

family reunions or holidays, Misses G. prepares all the Mexican dishes with the help of her daughters-in-law for the entire family. She believes that home is where the family is."

Figure 10. Misses G Behavioral Mapping

Interview 3. Ana M.

During her interview, she was living with her long-term boyfriend who eventually broke up with her. By the time I finished my fieldwork, he asked her to leave the house and the car behind. She was one of the women from the interviews who made me think about a women's shelter and how migrant women are often at a greater financial disadvantage than men.

She came from Mexico fourteen years ago, leaving behind her two daughters in search of a better life. She met her ex-boyfriend and lived together for ten years in a two-bedroom house.

He works in construction, and she works at a well-known Mexican store for a low salary. She is passionate about social media and mentioned that she would eventually like to become an

influencer. When she's at home, she cooks most of the time in her kitchen for herself and her now ex-boyfriend, and she takes care of the house.

She dreams of having a dedicated social media streaming room in the house, where she can work more professionally on her social media content.

After her breakup, she moved to an apartment complex that may not look very fancy but has all the necessary amenities. The apartment has two bedrooms, one bathroom, a small kitchen, a modest dining area, and a living space. She is sharing it with another woman with whom she splits the rent.

Figure 11. Cooking Process Example

Interview 4. Carmona

Las familias se estan rompiendo por la epidemia de drogas y la prescencia de los carteles."

"Families are turning apart for the drugs epidemic and the presence of cartels."

Carmona- Interviewee

Figure 12. Rural Home at Mexico

Carmona is a recent Mexican immigrant who arrived in 2016. He migrated due to conditions in his hometown caused by cartels and a growing epidemic of drug addiction. Additionally, there was a lack of good job opportunities. According to Carmona, the dangerous threats by the cartel have changed the way people connect with each other. Families have drug addicts, members affiliated with the cartel, and all of this has torn families apart.

However, despite these situations, he has fond memories of his Mexican home. It was located on a mountain range where there was farming, livestock, and many fruit trees. The house

had a central courtyard with a concrete floor, and the family gathered there for parties and reunions. The courtyard was always well-maintained, cleaned, and beautifully decorated. The kitchen was custom-made, and family members would help fix anything that was out of order and needed for cooking or harvesting.

He likes the house where he is currently living in Greensboro. He has enough space for personal rest, it is in a good location, and it is quiet. He would like to make changes to the bathrooms, paint color, and window orientation. He appreciates his neighborhood and how safe he feels there but would like to have more green elements and landscapes that remind him of his home in Mexico.

The dream house would have clean finishes and materials, easy maintenance, and be a single-family unit with natural, cultural, and minimalistic elements. These elements would include spaces such as a courtyard, a porch, a large yard with native plant species.

Interview 5. Raul

Raul is in his forties and has been in the United States for about 25 years. He migrated because he wanted to send money to his family to improve their household. They had only one dirt floor room, consisting of four walls functioning as both a bedroom for the whole family and a living room. The kitchen was a fireplace located outside in the front courtyard, where the family cooked and prepared meals.

Despite the physical poverty in which he lived, he fondly remembers his closely-knit family and the warmth within the one-room house. The property was in a rural area with trees, hens, roosters, and a front yard enclosed by a wired fence. Sometimes, cattle would trespass and eat the plants. The community was very social and embracing, and they all lived under the same

conditions. During the late afternoons after work, his front yard would host many neighbors who'd come to rest and relax after working in the fields all day.

In Greensboro, North Carolina, he works on framing buildings and lives with two nephews in a three-bedroom, one-and-a-half-bathroom dwelling. The men try to get together to have at least dinner during the week and meals on weekends as a family. They enjoy watching TV together, and in the backyard, they have barbecues, enjoy drinks, and engage in conversations.

They have more family in Greensboro with whom they reunite for holidays, parties, or just to share a meal. Raul preserves his culture through the outfits and accessories he wears, the food he enjoys cooking and eating, and Mexican music. He plays in a band that performs during local Mexican celebrations. He misses Mexico the most during the holidays. However, during Mexican festivals, he gets together with local Mexican neighbors to celebrate.

Raul would ideally like to have a house near a river or a creek, with walnut trees to remind him of his rural roots. He wants to eventually build his own house, incorporating some Mexican design elements such as traditional furniture and décor. He envisions a kitchen similar to the outdoor Mexican rural kitchens. Pets are a must for him, as they alleviate his feelings of loneliness.

Raul thinks of his home and family in Mexico with nostalgia, affectionately calling it his 'poor house.' He would like to bring several elements from that home here, such as nature, animals, and outdoor cooking and living.

Figure 13. Example Of Rural Home With Courtyard

Figure 14. Raul´s Home Behavioral Mapping

Figure 15. Example Of Mexican Home In Greensboro

Interview 6. David A.

David lived in Ciudad de Mexico with his mother and sister in a simple brick house with a tin roof. The kitchen setup was small and simple, consisting of just a fridge, a stove, and a table with three chairs. The dwelling had an outdoor bathroom, a patio, a small living room, and a bedroom. The house was very basic, but he lived happily with his family. The only detail he didn't like was the noisy roof material. The neighborhood where he lived was hostile and insecure, and neighbors didn't socialize much. His house was robbed three times when he lived there.

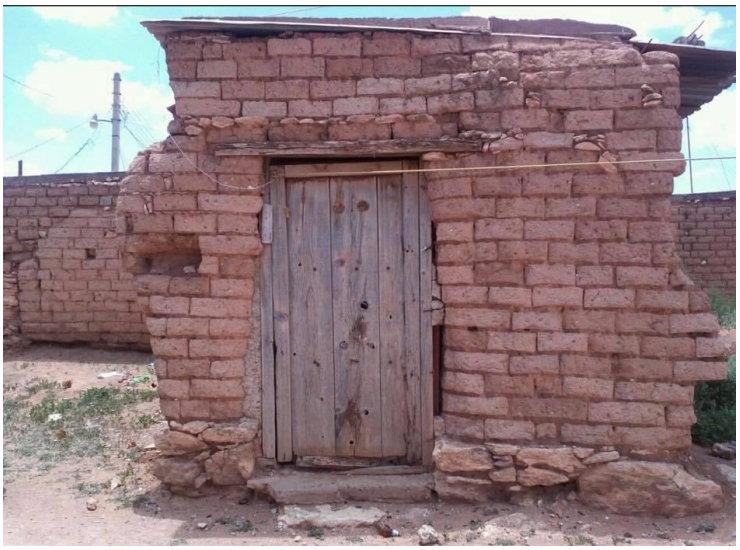
David has been in this country for three years. He is 26 years old and feels lonely, so he tries to make friends with other Mexican people. He lives with three more friends outside of Greensboro, and the only complaint about the four-bedroom, two-bathroom home is that it's too far from Mexican stores or restaurants.

Being far from Mexican culture is inconvenient for him. When David arrived, he had to share an apartment with nine other men, which only had one bathroom and no privacy at all. Adapting to the new place, living with strangers, and missing his family caused him a lot of initial stress.

Currently, all the roommates cook for each other and try to eat together. They have a living room where they socialize, drink, and play games during their free time. The secondary living room has access to the back porch.There's a sitting area outside, a deck, and two covered porches that they often use to cook, drink, and eat. Another outdoor activity they engage in is planting fruit trees and flowers. These activities remind them of how they used to live in Mexico, with access to natural resources and organic food they could harvest themselves.

Here in Greensboro, he tries to maintain his culture as he did in Mexico. This includes celebrating the same holidays, listening to Mexican music, and enjoying the same food. His ideal home would be a space with a focus on outdoor activities, such as outdoor cooking, socializing with friends, planting trees and flowers, and taking care of pets."

Figure 16. Example Of Rural Home At Mexico



Interview 7. Tia

Tia is in her fifties and has been in Greensboro for about 23 years. In Mexico, she lived in a house owned by her mother, who eventually kicked her out when she wanted to get divorced from an abusive husband. Due to moral differences, her family turned their back on her. Her mother's house was a big colonial house with one large bedroom, a spacious kitchen-dining area, and in the back was a multipurpose space.

The house did not have a bathroom, so later, a bathroom was added in the courtyard. The floors were made of brick and stone, the walls and roof were made from brick and pink local stone, and the doors were tall and wooden. The access to the street or public area seemed close, but the "zaguan" provided a barrier from it, along with the thick walls.

After a very difficult journey, she arrived in Greensboro, where she lived with some people who were from the same city in Mexico. It was very hard for her because they did not want to teach her how to be independent, taking her to stores or activities she did not enjoy, and charging expensive rent. One night, she was kicked out from where they were staying and had to sleep on the street without knowing the language or where to go. Eventually, a man told her he was leaving his apartment to go back to Mexico, and he asked her to stay there as a paying guest.

It took her a couple of years to figure out how to do everything independently, but she eventually did. Now she lives in a good-sized home with three bedrooms and two bathrooms for herself, her husband, her brother-in-law, and her three kids. The main activity for Tia is cooking and preparing meals almost every day of the week.

The kitchen is always a hub of activity, with family members either helping her out, socializing, or doing homework. All activities seem to take place during cooking and eating! Gardening and drinking outdoors are also popular activities. She has kept the family together by

celebrating Mexican holidays, speaking Spanish, cooking Mexican food, spending time together after school, and trying to eat together at least once a week.

Figure 17. Tia´s Home In Mexico

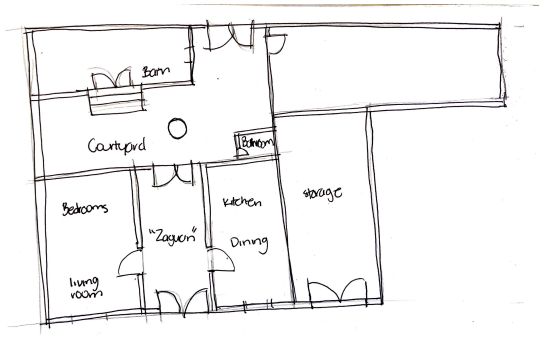


Figure 18. Mexican Food Being Cooked Outdoors

Interview 8. Compadre

Compadre lived in a family dwelling, an old house which was built and added on to by his father, mother, and siblings. The family was extremely Catholic, the house was in a street which led to a creek. It was close to the main church, vegetables and fruit orchards, schools and the main plazas. The floor plan layout had a kitchen with a large dining area with a large bench

where all the family will sit together to eat every day, everybody would be talking at the same time. The courtyard was in the center with many flowers, a well, and a hand-wash laundry area.

The sense of security from the architectural components made them feel good inside the house but also had the sense of being connected with the nature and family. All the family members worked to clean, and keep up the house, which was a lot of work because of the size of it.

Figure 19. Main Plaza Rural Mexico

He and his family were a very active part of the community and the church. Involved in school, social, and religious projects. All the catholic community lived close; everybody would take care of each other with eyes on the street. The good memories are greater in number than bad ones.

He cannot forget where he comes from, the holidays, the Mexican food, he keeps speaking Spanish, and having Mexican food here at Greensboro. For him is kind of sad his kids,

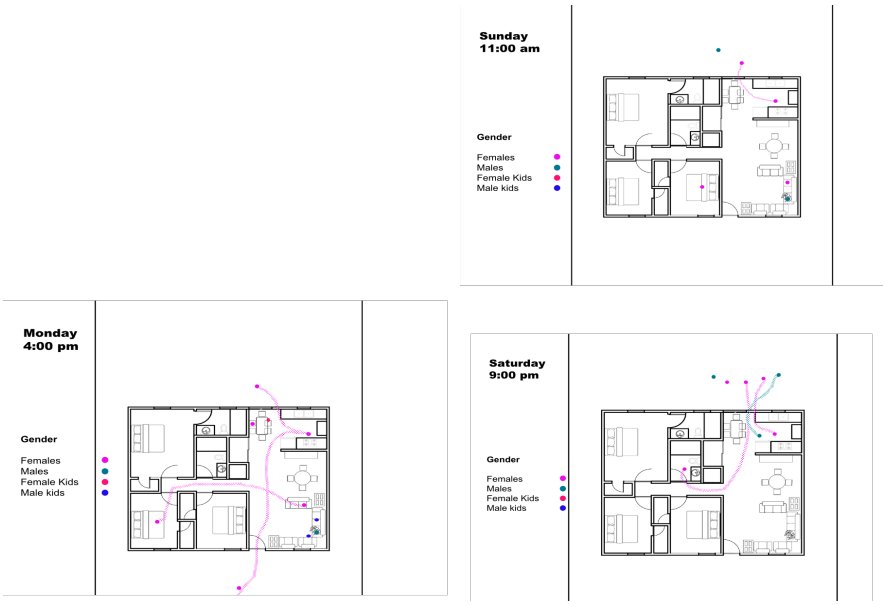
and grandkids are more attached to the American culture and speak more English than Spanish, makes him feel like a stranger to his own family, the situation isolate him from the coexistence.

What he wants in a house is to have the basic needs, bathroom, kitchen, bedroom. He would like a small house, nothing extra like a pool or a chimney. He would enjoy a nice bedroom, nice views, a large living room where he could watch Mexican music videos, soccer, or movies.

Landscape projects are something he is very interested about. He has all his tools and season furniture in a bigger organized storage. Safety is a very important requirement, and the lack of it would be a factor to make him move from his neighborhood. The urban landscape aesthetic is essential to him, keeping the houses, trees, and the yards in good condition.

Figure 20. Mexican Cook Out

Figure 21. Compadre's Behavioral Mapping



Interview 9. Paloma

Paloma got pregnant when she was fifteen years old, only two years after arriving in Greensboro. In Mexican Catholic culture, this is viewed negatively by society, which is why she had to move in with the father of the baby to be socially accepted.

Her home in Mexico was very different from here. She used to live with her grandmother while her mother was in the US. That house was large, with five bedrooms and two bathrooms in a two-story dwelling. There was a spacious courtyard in the back with fruit trees and a brick oven for cooking rural meals. When she came to Greensboro, she found it very difficult to adapt to life here.

They currently live in a mobile home while they save money for a family house. This mobile home has three bedrooms, a combined kitchen and living room, and two bathrooms. The couple shares the mobile home with one of the boyfriend's family members.

Paloma is a stay-at-home mom, and her boyfriend works in construction. Living a bit far from her family makes her feel somewhat sad and isolated, but people tell her this is part of marriage.

Paloma doesn't enjoy doing housework, but due to her circumstances and according to Mexican patriarchy, she feels the pressure to be a good wife and mother. She spends most of her time alone or running errands. They receive visits in their home only on weekends, with close family members bringing their kids along. They spend most of their time outside, watching their kids play, talking, having cookouts, and enjoying drinks.

She wants to go back to school and eventually have her own house designed by her, where she can choose all the decorations and materials to be used. I observed that she has design skills and a clear idea of how she envisions the layout of her future home. Paloma would like to have a large house near New Garden Road to reunite with her family, as she used to in Mexico with her grandmother. She misses the traditions and celebrations from her childhood with her family in Mexico, as she currently feels like a stranger here.

Figure 22. Paloma's Behavioral Mapping

Interview 10. Erica.

Erica lived in Mexico in a small city with her parents, her brother and sister. She liked how the house looked. It had a palm roof, a well, a patio and aesthetically tropical. In the patio they had palm trees, Tamarindo trees and gave this beach feature to the landscape. Because the extremely hot and humid weather, they used to gather in the covered garage to have cookouts and meetings with family and friends. She enjoyed the freedom she had playing in her family property and the neighborhood; she knew an adult as a neighbor or family member would be watching over the kids.

Erica arrived at the US 24 years ago. She spends more of her time with family members and close Mexican friends. She lives with her husband, her son, and her daughter in a three bedroom and two-bathroom house. Everybody uses the living room in leisure times, and to have family time together. Erica is the only one who cooks in the kitchen, and they eat in the dining because of the size of the kitchen.

Figure 23. Mexican Family Mobile Home

The family works in the yard, gather to cook, and have a nice time in the outdoors most of their free times. She and her husband have construction skills and have remodeled the whole property, painting the walls, changing doors, renovating the roof, and the bathrooms.

Erica ideal home would be in the countryside, she wants to have farm animals like ducks, pigs, and cows. She would like to live with her close family and have "Talavera" or ceramic tiles with Mexican motifs and brick. She has a conflictive relationship with her husband, although they are not very stable, they keep working on it. These circumstances mark the tendency to live far from the Mexican community to avoid more drama or misunderstandings.

Figure 24. Mexican Family Home in Greensboro

Note: Example of Religious Objects in a Mexican Home

Research Findings

The interviews were transcribed, and themes were noted down. Each interviewee used the interview as a sort of cathartic process to speak at length about their migration journeys and the psychological difficulties in settling into their new country. However, for the sake of this design-based thesis, I focused the themes on the ways in which spatiality affected or could affect their lives. Below are the themes I coded from the interviews:

Important Physical Spaces Discerned From the Interviews

For the purpose of this design-based thesis, I have elaborated on important physical spaces that were mentioned frequently in the interviews. These spaces are common features in Mexican domestic architecture.

Outdoor Cooking and Socialization

In Mexico, cooking is a communal and time-consuming activity. The woman of the house often spends countless hours in the kitchen preparing meals from scratch. Occasionally, she is joined by family members who either help her or gather around her to socialize. Cooking can also be a messy process and may produce pungent aromas. Because of this, homes often have a small outdoor stove with a table and a few chairs nearby.

Figure 25. Tia's Hand Draw Childhood Home

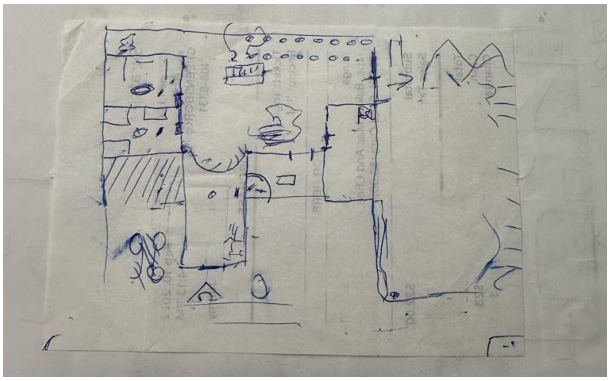


Figure 26. Mexican Outdoors Kitchen

Figure 27. Mexican Food Preparation

Courtyards

Courtyards have been integral in Mexican households for centuries, serving various social, environmental, and practical functions. Socially, they provide an informal space for the family to gather and commune. This space also enhances safety, which is particularly important in urban areas where crime rates can be high. Children can play in the courtyard, and parents do not have to worry about their safety. Additionally, courtyards offer a good source of ventilation.

During the summer months, sunlight entering the house can be cooled by the shade provided by surrounding hallways and the presence of plants in the courtyard. Courtyards also help dissipate strong cooking odors. Finally, they serve practical functions such as a place to store grains and a space for drying washed clothes.

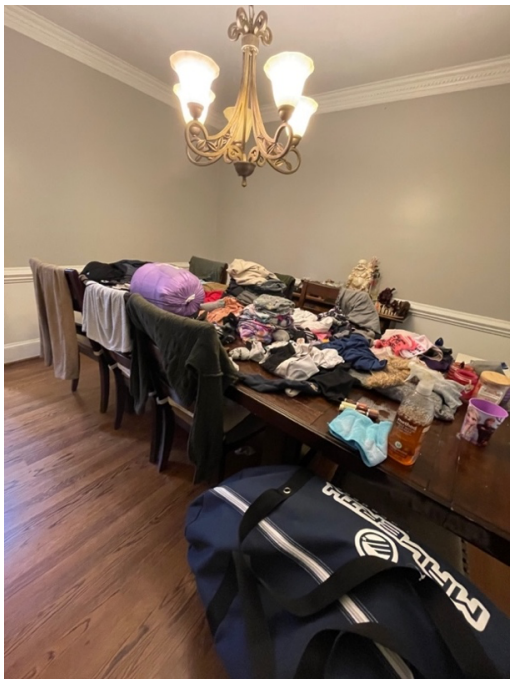
Figure 28. Mexican Home Courtyard

Multipurpose Dining Areas

In Mexico, formal dining areas are seldom solely used for eating. The large table often serves multiple purposes. Children frequently use it for doing homework. Sometimes, especially if the kitchen is small, a mother might bring over the preparation work required for cooking to the dining table.

Furthermore, the dining table often becomes a convenient place to 'dump' everyday necessities such as backpacks, toys, folders, cooking utensils, school books, and video games. It essentially becomes a multifunctional space for various family activities.

Figure 29. Dining Room in a Greensboro Mexican Home

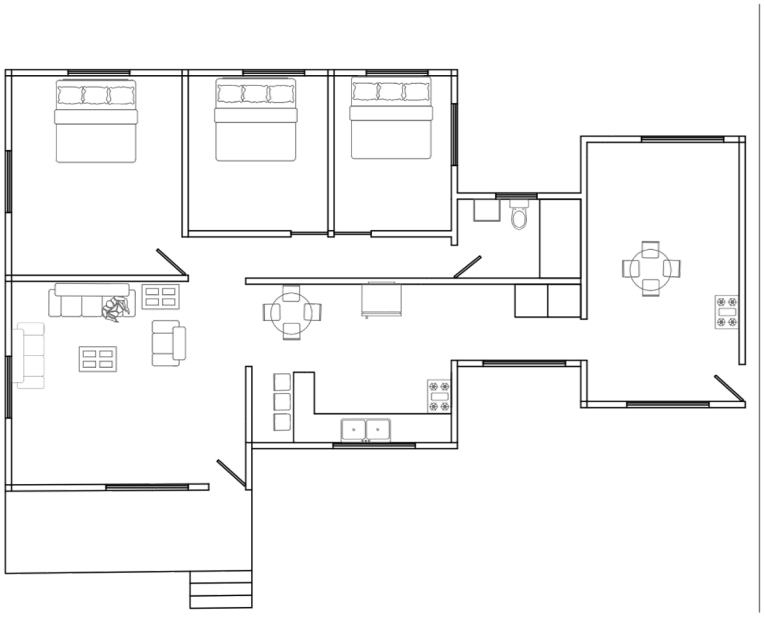


Adaptable Interiors

The family unit continually changes in Mexico. At times, the nuclear family is joined by elderly grandparents. At times, the nuclear family breaks up, and new friends come to stay. At times, there is no family per se, and the household consists of friends and relatives of these friends.

Because of these shifting dynamics, one often sees bedrooms being divided, living rooms functioning as sleeping rooms, and dining rooms being partitioned to create another bedroom. As family sizes increase, storage areas are also necessary, and outdoor patios often become used for storage.

Figure 30. Alejandra's Actual Home



Connections to Nature and Farm Animals

Rural homes in Mexico typically boast expansive backyards that seamlessly blend with the natural surroundings, featuring elements like rivers and rolling hills. In these backyards, one can often find freely roaming livestock, including chickens, pigs, and goats. These natural elements play a crucial role in enhancing the psychological well-being of the residents.

Beyond providing essential resources, the livestock also foster deep emotional connections with the people who care for them.

CHAPTER IV: DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

Design Concept and Connections to Research

The overall concept is to create a multipurpose space where recent Mexican immigrants can get the support, they need to build a new life, to be healthy and improve their life quality.

In addition, finding the best building for reuse, repurposing and rehabilitating an existing building, making this project sustainable, and environmentally friendly are also central to the design concept. Below, I have explained this concept in detail in three different scales: The architectural/The interior and the neighborhood scale.

Neighborhood and Landscape Scale

Interviewees mentioned that they enjoyed communal living that occurred naturally in Mexico. They mentioned taking care of each other's children, enjoying celebrations together and looking out for each other's safety. Interviewees also mentioned the need for accessibility to Mexican produce, stores and Mexican neighbors here in Greensboro. One interviewee mentioned the need for arrangements to sell items that she cooks in bulk to fellow Mexicans.

Considering these factors, a site on West Gate City Boulevard was chosen, 3728 W Gate City Blvd, Greensboro, NC 27407. A vacant Toys 'R Us building was chosen to be repurposed. The neighborhood has both Latin American commerce nearby and Mexican residents living nearby. The site is accessible to bus routes that can take folks to the downtown area. This is important as most migrants take several years to obtain a driver's license.

The area is also walkable to main Mexican business, like "Carniceria el Mercadito", "La Azteca", Walgreens, Walt-mart, laundromat, "La Michoacana", " El Rey Carniceria", Hair salons and "Li Ming Global Market", a little further 0.9 miles is Four Seasons Mall . In these business, people socialize and ask for information regarding to job opportunities and usually only Latin

American people work here. Spanish is the main language spoken and is a good place to start your social exploration and geographic recognition (please see appendix).

Repurposing this site will also help increase the LEED points for this building proposal design. Sustainability has three key points: economics, environment and, social responsibility. Investing in a low-income zone is a LEED feature to enhance forgotten or decaying neighborhoods to increase the quality of life of the people who live around there. Repurposing and reusing an existing building and infrastructure, construction is responsible for around 67 % of green grass emissions. A dense city area is great because already has the needed infrastructure. Protecting endangered zones. Reusing a constructed building assures that natural habitats are being protected because the urban sprawl has been contained.

Less use of virgin materials with an adaptive reuse, is the action of repurposing a building for another activity that was created. The greener building is the one already built. Not needing a big quantity of materials because is possible to reuse them is the best option to avoid waste. Acquiring environmentally responsible products, sustainable, and reuse them the environmental benefits from it are immense and future generations could have a better opportunity.

As many of the migrants interviewed came from rural areas in Mexico, they spoke fondly of natural features such as creeks/trees and mountains. In addition, they spoke of pets and livestock. Here in Greensboro and in Mexico, interviewees spoke of using backyards to cook and socialize. In the design more than half of the site has been given to landscaping. The landscaping includes parks, backyards, patios for cookouts, an area to rear small livestock such as chickens and goats, two courtyards and a street food plaza/community area. (Please see appendix).

Landscape and courtyards follow LEED recommendations in the design and arrangement of elements. Opportunity to regenerate green areas by the reduction of the parking lots, and

adding courtyards to the building will create a more dynamic space, including trees and plants would help to avoid rainwater runoff. A taco truck space that will share the space with the neighborhood in giving service to the community. Restoring natural areas with native and adaptive plants will require less irrigation and balance the ecosystem, with them would be possible to keep open areas that are better for people, in a sustainable and mental health approach.

The heat island effect will not be happening because of the reduction of the parking lot, with the actual material and parking set up makes the temperatures go higher and affect our building. Not having more buildings close, the air will circulate freely, and cooling costs will be lower. Other strategies are adding solar panels, open-grid paving, green roofs, and materials with high solar reflectance. A green roof is a great idea also for rainwater management and cooler naturally the building but needs more study and be sure the structure can hold it, also will give the building a better aesthetic.

Rainwater management would reuse rainwater and avoid rainwater runoff would work for the building. The parking must have permeable material to let the water be absorbed. Cisterns will collect and store the water for reuse as irrigation or maybe could be used for toilet flushing. Some rain gardens, bioswales, and dry ponds are recommended as well to avoid the rainwater running fast and erosion the soil.

Certified materials and equipment. Another option to keep a building cooler is a reflective roof or reflective materials used in roofs and hardscape. Reducing light pollution with the blacklight up light glare, BUG lights, and light control.

Walkability and less automobile usage with the location of this building is great because of the fact no urban sprawl will happen, the bus stops and main avenues are close, Mexican businesses are located within a walking distance, avoiding a heat island. Creating vibrant, equitable, mixed communities contribute to healthy and good neighborhoods, and promotes different services and business to be visited.

Preservation of natural landscape at north of the landmark. Keeping this natural area will preserve it and will improve the surroundings of the project. Xeriscaping and adding natural plants and irrigating with rainwater are recommended for this project.

Architectural Scale

From the interviewees it was clear that the design of the facility had to be based on different zones. Private, Semiprivate and Public zones: As there would be several migrants and migrant families living and using various provided facilities under one roof, privacy zones had to be demarcated. Considering the cultural norm of neighborliness and looking out for one another, the semi-private zone in the building is considerably large.

Places to gather informally and formally such as hallways, patios, courtyards, backyards, communal dining rooms, front stoops, parks, plazas have been provided. Private zones include eighteen number of housing units: twelve versatile/ roommate housing units and six family housing units.

Each roommate unit in average with 1184 square feet including the mezzanine bedrooms, and the family units with 921.17 square feet, in addition to a woman with kids units with 935 square feet and a women's shelter with 2719 square feet dormitory for women.

Family and Male vs Female Only Zones

Due to the trauma of sexual harassment faced by women migrants at various stages of their lives and during their journeys to the US, a women's only hotel has been provided in addition to general housing for men and families. The hotel has its own entrance, own kitchen and dining, a dormitory hall, and its own park. It is guarded from the rest of the facility while still being within the premise.

Housing, Institutional and Food and Dining and Entertainment Zones

Interviewees, either directly or indirectly, mentioned the need for healthcare (both mental and physical), legal services, and childcare. It is also clear that several are with a driver's license for several years. Because of this the facility a healthcare facility, a daycare center, an adult education center and small legal aid office. These facilities are accessed through a common front desk and separated from one another either through a courtyard or a hallway. The women's dorm has its own food and dining center. Housing units are accessed through a separate entry way from the reception area.

The Architectural Design Has Been Designed About the Structure

The envelope, columns, beams, and the concrete floor would not be affected by the design. Minimum demolition in the walls to open doors from every housing unit to bring sunlight and accessibility to outdoors, the spaces where the offices and storage used to be will be demolished, and open the roof for both of the courtyards are the only affectations to the actual building. Everything else has been considered in the proposal. Reusing the existing walls, floor, and structure, will decrease the natural resources exploitation and gas emictions.

Interior Scale

Many interviewees mentioned nostalgia towards Mexican décor and landscaping, and therefore, the design and décor of the interiors and semi outdoor areas have various refences to the homeland.

Furnishings, Fixtures and Materials

Incorporating natural pigments and artisanal painting techniques for the walls will add a unique and authentic touch to the space. Handmade ceramic tiles from Mexico will not only provide a beautiful aesthetic but also showcase the country's rich cultural heritage. Including different decorative objects such as planters, alebrijes (colorful Mexican folk-art sculptures), photographs of Mexican landscapes, and artwork from Mexican markets will further enhance the space with vibrant and diverse elements.

The use of vintage kitchen furniture will contribute to a charming and nostalgic atmosphere. Fabrics and textiles can be carefully chosen to complement the overall design, incorporating traditional Mexican patterns and colors. Additionally, artisan wool rugs will add warmth and texture to the floors.

The incorporation of a courtyard in the floorplan, inspired by colonial homes or haciendas, also adds to the nostalgic touch. This central space will provide natural light, ventilation, and serve as a social area, creating a pleasant and inviting atmosphere for the inhabitants. It will undoubtedly contribute to a sense of well-being and connection with nature. The earthy, natural, and warm colors chosen for the walls align perfectly with Mexican architecture and the goal of creating a relaxing and calming environment. These colors can evoke a sense of tranquility and harmony, enhancing the overall atmosphere of the space. Overall, the interior furnishings and finishes showcases a thoughtful blend of Mexican cultural elements, craftsmanship, and architectural principles. It promises to create a unique and inviting space that celebrates the beauty and spirit of Mexico.

Murals can also serve as powerful visual representations of culture and history, allowing users to connect with and appreciate the diverse indigenous art forms. These murals will create a sense of identity and cultural immersion, making users feel more connected to the space.

The choice of facade materials that transition between traditional Mexican materials such as pink stone, brick, and stone floors to wood and contemporary architecture is a thoughtful approach. It blends the old and the new, creating a harmonious integration of different styles.

Additionally, the thermal properties of the selected materials will contribute to improved building performance and energy efficiency, aligning with LEED standards and promoting sustainable design.

The varied heights, sun protection characteristics, and exposed structure in the facade design provide a sense of balance and movement, avoiding the perception of a rigid, box-like architecture. This dynamic quality adds visual interest to the building's exterior, making it more visually appealing and inviting.

Creating outdoor spaces that encourage socialization, sitting, and walking around while offering views of the surrounding landscape is an excellent way to emulate the vibrant atmosphere of a Mexican plaza. This design feature enhances the overall user experience, allowing individuals to engage with their surroundings and enjoy the outdoor environment.

By incorporating these elements, the design proposal not only provides a visually appealing and culturally immersive space but also prioritizes sustainable design principles and promotes an inviting and dynamic atmosphere for the users.

Living and Dining Areas

The living room serves as a versatile space in the housing units, allowing for various forms of entertainment and relaxation.

Whether it's watching Mexican music concerts, movies, sports, or spending time with family and friends, the living room accommodates these activities. It serves as a central gathering spot where people can unwind, enjoy each other's company, and make use of the TV for entertainment purposes. Additionally, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the living room has adapted to function as a workspace for individuals and children who need a designated area for studying or office work.

The dining room, in many cases, has transformed into a multipurpose space due to the lack of designated areas for homework or office work. Families have had to repurpose this area to create functional workspaces for themselves or their children. This shift highlights the importance of communal spaces and the need for social interaction, which is deeply ingrained in Mexican culture. The shared company and support while working or studying are highly valued and having a designated space for these activities fosters a sense of community and connection.

Kitchen

The kitchen holds significant importance in Mexican households. It is where traditional Mexican dishes, known for their complexity and time-consuming preparation, are cooked. The kitchen becomes a gathering place where family members and friends come together to socialize, help with cooking, and share in the communal experience. In many cases, the kitchen serves as the heart of the home, providing a space for eating, conversations, and various activities. Some interviewees even mentioned having outdoor kitchens and frequently eating outside, emphasizing the significance of shared meals and the enjoyment of the culinary experience.

The custom of having company and sharing meals together is deeply rooted in Mexican families. It is a cherished tradition that strengthens social bonds and fosters a sense of belonging.

The recognition of Mexican food as a cultural heritage of humanity further underscores its significance in Mexican culture.

By understanding these cultural nuances and incorporating spaces that facilitate communal activities, social interaction, and the preparation of traditional dishes, the design of each housing unit aligns well with the values and customs of Mexican families.

The Importance of Connecting to a 'Sense of Place Identity'

The emotional connection and nostalgia that interviewees feel towards their family homes in Mexico is a powerful testament to the importance of creating a sense of belonging in the design. While the houses may not have been extravagant or visually stunning, they hold deep sentimental value due to the memories, unique appearance, location, landscape, and craftsmanship associated with them.

Acknowledging and incorporating these elements into the design will help create a space that resonates with the users and fosters a feeling of home.

Integrating hobbies or cultural activities within the living environment can greatly contribute to a sense of belonging and purpose. This could involve providing spaces for gardening, allowing residents to grow their own food and experience the joy of nurturing plants. Setting and achieving personal goals related to the space can instill a sense of accomplishment and motivation.

Encouraging shared housing or roommates can provide individuals with social connections and companionship. Being able to engage in conversations and daily activities with others can positively impact mental health. Common spaces designed for two to four individuals can facilitate interaction and create opportunities for communication and support.

Outdoor seating and dining areas further promote socialization and communication with others. These spaces can facilitate gatherings and create opportunities for individuals to form support networks and establish meaningful connections. Having a dedicated space for friends to come together can lead to the formation of a support group, providing much-needed emotional support during challenging times.

By prioritizing social interaction, fostering a sense of purpose, and integrating spaces that promote communication and connection, the design proposal can contribute positively to the mental health and well-being of the residents.

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APPENDIX A. INTERVIEW INSTRUMENT

Interview Guide for Structured Interview English and Spanish

I am Elizabeth Diaz a graduate student in the School of Interior Architecture at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. I am doing research to understand what are the residential characteristics and future goals of low and moderate-income Mexicans around Oakwood forest, Greensboro.

It would be very helpful to me if you would share your thoughts with me in this interview so that I can better understand the choices that you, the Mexican Immigrant families make about your homes in Greensboro. This interview will take no more than half an hour to forty-five minutes.

I am planning to interview 15 Mexican individuals from families such as yours who live in Greensboro. I do not expect you will face any difficulties as a result of participating in this study. Who you are will remain private. Things you tell me in this interview will be associated only with a code number I give to the interview. In my report on this research, what I write will not be associated with your name or any other identifying characteristics. What I find out in my interviews will not be given to any organization or agency. The results of my research will just describe the characteristics and future goals of Mexican families. My report on this study may provide useful information for organizations that want to help immigrants with their housing problems. I also hope that my study will provide you, the Mexican Immigrant community information on how families feel about the homes owned or leased.

Taking part in this interview is completely your choice and you may stop the interview at any time and for any reason. Your decision of whether or not to take part in this interview will not affect your relationship with any housing program or the University of North Carolina Greensboro. If you decide to stop this interview before we are finished, any information that I have collected from you will be included in my study only with your consent.

Once the study is completed, I would be happy to share my report with you. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me or my instructor:

Elizabeth Diaz
School of Interior Architecture
University of North Carolina Greensboro
PO Box
Greensboro, NC

I have received an explanation of this study and agree to participate. I understand that my participation in this study is strictly voluntary.

Name
Date

Part 1 getting to know you

Interview Questions
Gender: M / F

1. What is your age? < 30 30-39 40-49 >50
   Qué edad tienes?

2. What year did you come to the United States?_____
   En qué año llego a los Estados Unidos?

3. How much time did you spend in Mexico before coming to the US? _____
Cuánto tiempo pasaste en México antes de venir a los Estados Unidos?

4. Where did you first live when you came to the United States? _____
Donde viviste cuando llegaste a los Estados unidos?

5. What year did you come to Greensboro to live? _____
En qué año vino a Greensboro a vivir?

6. When did you move into this home? year _____ month _____
Cuando se mudo a este hogar?

8. Who do you spend most of your leisure time with?
Con quien pasa su tiempo libre ?

_____ Close family members and relatives
Familiares cercanos y parientes

____Mexican people not relatives
Mexicanos no parientes

_____No Mexican people
Con gente no Mexicana

____Others
Otros

Relationship Relación	9. Please tell me about the other people who live in your home. What is the relationship to you?Por favor dígame acerca de la otra gente que vive en su casa. Qué tipo de relación tiene con ellos ?	10. Please tell me if you know any mexican who lives close by. Por favor dígame si conoce a algún mexicano que viva cerca.	14. Address. Dirección Neighborhood	Notes:
Husband/Wife Esposo/Esposa				
Mother Madre				
Father Padre				
Mother in law Suegra				
Father in law Suegro				
Daughter Hija				
Son Hijo				
Daughter in law Nuera				
Son in law Yerno				
Grandchildren Nietos				
Aunt Tía				
Uncle Tío				
Cousins Primos				
Niece(s) Sobrina(s)				
Nephew(s) Sobrino(s)				
Distant relatives Familiares lejanos				
Members of your community Miembros de tu comunidad				
Other Otros				

Part 2
Physical Specifics of the House

Especificaciones físicas de la casa

15. In your home, how many bedrooms are there?_____
Cuántas recamaras hay en su casa?

16. How many bathrooms?_____
Cuántos baños?

17. Please describe the rooms, other than bedrooms and bathrooms in your unit.
Por favor describa las habitaciones, ademas de las recamaras y baños en su unidad

Room Habitación	Living Room Sala	Kitchen Cocina	Dinning Room Comedor	Outdoor Space: Espacio Exterior	
Who uses the room? Quién usa la habitación?					
What activities take place there? Que actividades se realizan aqui ?					

18. Please describe in more detail outdoor spaces.
Por favor describa en más detalle sus espacios exteriores.

	Door1 Puerta 1	Door 2 Puerta 2	Door 3 Puerta 3	Door 4 Puerta 4
Off which room? De cuál habitación?				
Amount of use Cantidad de uso	Often/sometime/seldom/never	Often/sometime/seldom/never	Often/sometime/seldom/never	Often/sometime/seldom/never
Is there a porch/patio/deck outside the door? Hay un porche/patio/plataforma				
Is covered or uncovered? Esta cubierto o descubierto?	covered/ uncovered	Covered/ uncovered	covered/ uncovered	covered/ uncovered
Who uses this area? Quien usa esta area?				
Activities that take place there? Actividades sue se llevan a cabo ahí?				

19. What types of activities do you and your family use your yard for? (mark all that apply)
Que tipo de actividades tu y tu familia realizan en tu jardín ? selecciona todas .

___Growing flowers/ Planto Flores
___Growing food/ Cosecho comida
___Growing medicine and herbs/
Sembrar plantas medicinales y hierbas
___Growing fruit trees/
Plantar arboles frutales
___Sitting and talking/ sentarse y platicar
___Eating outside/ Comer afuera
___Children playing/ Niños juegan
___Storing things that don't fit in the house
Almacenar cosas que no caben en la casa
___Repairing cars/ Reparar Carros
____Other/ Otro

Part 3 Homes in Rural Mexico

Now I am going to ask you some questions about your home in your someplace in Mexico.
Ahora preguntaré acerca su casa en Mexico.

21a. What type of house was it? Apartment Duplex Single-family house
Que tipo de casa era? Apartamento Duplex Casa unifamiliar

21b. What type of area was the house in? Rural area Small town City Suburb
En qué tipo de zona estaba la casa? Area rural Ciudad pequeña Ciudad Suburbio

21c. Who lived in your home with you there.?
Quién vivía con usted en esa casa?
(Ask for each person listed in the table below and fill in the table as they give the information)

Relationship	Yes/No	Number	Notes:
Husband/ Wife Esposo/ esposa			
Mother/ Madre			
Father/ Padre			
Mother in law/ Suegra			
Father in law/ Suegro			
Daughter/ Hija			
Son/ Hijo			
Daughter in law/ Nuera			
Son in law/ Yerno			
Grandchildren/ Nietos			
Aunt(s)/ Tía(s)			
Uncle(s)/Tio(s)			
Cousin(s)/ Sobrino(s)			
Niece(s)/ Sobrina(s)			
Nephew(s)/ Sobrino(s)			

Distant relatives/ Parientes lejanos			
Members of your community/ Miembros de tu comunidad			
Siblings			

21d. Now I am going to read you a list of 12 things that could be the reasons why someone might like or dislike a home that they lived in. When you think about the home that you said most influenced you, please tell me if the thing I mention is something that made you like this home, something that made you dislike this home, or something that did not incline the way you felt about the home (read the follow-ups for likes and dislikes as you go through the list and fill in notes about what they say).
Ahora voy a leerle una lista de 12 cosas que pueden ser razones para que alguien le guste o no le guste la casa donde vive. Cuando piensa en la casa que menciono lo/la influencio más para comprar una casa, por favor dígame si algo de lo que menciono le gusta de esta casa, algo que no le haya gustado o algo que lo incline emocionalmente a la casa.

Item Number	Item/ Cosa	Liked/Disliked/ NA Le gusto/ No le gusto/ ND	Follow-up question/ clarification Seguimiento	Notes: Which home are they talking about?
1	The way the home looked. Como se veía la casa		What did you like/dislike about the way the home looked? (inside, outside) Qué le gusta o no le gusta de la la apariencia de la casa? lo físico sí le gusta los recuerdos no.	
2	The way the surroundings looked and felt of the area. Cómo se ven los alrededores y cómo se sentía de esta area.		What did you like/ dislike about the way the surrounding homes looked? Que le gusto y no de la apariencia de las casas alrededor	
3	The way the kitchen was set up. La manera en que la cocina estaba instalada.		Describe what do you like/ dislike about the maintenance and upkeep of the home. Describe el mantenimiento de esta casa	
4	Size of the home/ tamaño de la casa		What aspects size were important/ Que aspectos era mas importante	

5	Aspects of the courtyard. Aspectos del patio.			
7	Safety of you and your family Seguiridad para la familia		How did safety influence how you felt about the home ?	
8	The way you fit in socially there Manera en que eres aceptado socialmente		What about the way you fit socially made you like it or not? Que pasa con la manera de encajar socialmente?	
9	Other Mexican families/ Otras families Mexicans		About how many mexican families lived there? Cuantas otras familias mexicanas vivían ahi?	
10	Community members/ Miembros de tu comunidad		Why? Which community members lived nearby	
11	Your relatives Familiares		What about your relative made you like/ no like the house.	
12	Is there anything about this home that you felt a strong like/ dislike for?		Specify	

Part 4 Residential Goals and aspirations in Greensboro

22. What things do you do in your house that preserve Mexican culture?/ Que cosas haces para preservar la cultura Mexicana?

23. How do you preserve Mexican culture?/ Como conservas la cultura mexicana?

24. What is it that you want to preserve but have been unable to do so in your current house.?/ Qué es lo que quieres conservar, pero no ha sido posible en tú actual casa?

25. (Important question) Did you want your home to be in a certain part of Greensboro?Y/N
Querías que tu casa estuviera en cierto parte de Greensboro?
If yes, describe the location, why do you like this location?:

26. When a family is looking for a place to live, usually have a list of things they want the house to have, and other one about the things they don't want. Cuando una familia esta buscando en un lugar para vivir, usualmente tienen una lista de cosas que quieren que la casa tenga y una lista de las que no.

27. Please tell me two or three things your house has to have.
Por favor dígame dos o tres cosas que tu hogar debe de tener.

28. Please tell me two or three things that you don't want your house to have. Por favor dígame dos o tres cosas que no quiere tener en su casa.

29. Have you ever helped a friend o relative to do maintenance or renovation work done on a house? Has ayudado a un amigo o pariente a hacer el mantenimiento o remodelación en una casa?

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Part 5 Current Adaptations

31. In the next group of questions I am going to ask you about changes you have already made to this home, things you like most about your home, things that you would like to change, and things that would cause you to move. En el siguiente grupo de preguntas le pediré que me conteste acerca de los combos que le ha hecho a esta casa, que es lo que más le gusta, cosas que quisiera cambiar, y que lo haría mudarse de aquí.

31a. Describe for me the 2 or 3more substantial (biggest) changes you have made to your house . Describa dos o tres cambios grandes que haya hecho en su casa.	30b. Tell me the 2 or 3 things you like best about your house, and why. Digame las dos o tres cosas que le gustan más en su casa.	30c. Tell me the 2 or 3 things you most like to change about your house and why. Digame dos o tres cosas que le gustaría cambiar de su casa y por qué.	30d. Tell me 2 or 3 things that would cause you to move from this house, and why. Dígame dos o tres cosas que lo harían mudarse de aquí y por qué.
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3

31a. Tell me the 2 or 3 things you like best about your neighborhood. Dígame dos o tres cosas que le gustan de su vecindario.	31b. Tell me 2 or 3 things you most like to change about your neighborhood. Dígame dos o tres cosas que le gustaría cambiar de su vecindario.	31c. Tel me 2 or 3 things that would cause you to move from this neighborhood. Dígame dos o tres cosas que le harían mudarse de vecindario.
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3

Part 6 Drawing

32. In the final part of this interview I will ask you to draw for me.
Please close your eyes for a few minutes. Imagine you could live in your ideal home, with any people that you wanted. Imagine the house, the surrounding houses, the people who would live with you and near you. En la parte final le pediré que dibuje para mi. Por favor cierre los ojos por unos minutos. Imagine que vive en su casa ideal, con la gente que quiera. Imagine la casa, las casas de alrededor, la gente que podría vivir cerca de usted.

On the piece of paper I have given you, please draw a picture of the house, nearby houses, and surroundings that you are seeing as you imagine this ideal place. Please take about 10 minutes to do the drawing. When you are finished, I will ask you to tell me about your drawing. You may also want to add details to the drawing as we talk. It does not matter if you do not think that you draw well. We will talk about it when you are finished and that will help me understand what you have drawn.
(Wait for 10 minutes. Check over previous questions for blanks and observe the house).
En la hoja de papel que le he dado, por favor dibuje la casa, las casas de cercanas y los alrededores que vio mientras imaginaba su casa ideal. Por favor tómese 10 minutos para hacer el dibujo. Cuando termine, le pediré que me describa el dibujo. Tal vez quiera agregar detalles al dibujo mientras hablamos. No importa si piensa que no dibuja bien. Hablaremos sobre eso cuando haya terminado y esto me ayudara a entender lo que dibujo.

Please tell me about the picture you have drawn.
Por favor dígame sobre la imagen que dibujo.

33. (Prompts- Physical:)
Specifics of location (Urban/ Suburban/Rural). Ubicación especifica (Urbana/ Suburbana/Rural).
Location of the house in drawing. Ubicación de la casa en el dibujo.
Orientation (Front, direction it faces). Orientación (Frente, dirección donde se encuentra)
Size (relative overall, number of rooms). Tamaño (relativo,total , numero de habitaciones).
Interior layout- fill chart (rooms- where, what activities, who). Disposición interior (habitaciones- donde, que actividades, quien).
Doors (Number, location). Puertas (Numero, ubicación).
Relationship to surroundings. Relación con los alrededores.
Buildings (homes, others, distance to). Edificaciones (casas, otros, distancia).
Trees, plants. Arboles, plantas.
Terrain (Mountains/hills around, house placement on slope) Terreno (Montañas/ colinas alrededor, colocación de casa en pendiente).
Water (type, location, purpose). Agua (tipo, ubicación, propósito).
Exterior layout. (Disposición exterior).
Orientation to the streets. (Ubicación con respecto a las calles).
Gardens (location, type, purpose). Jardines (ubicación, tipo, propósito).
Animals (location, type, purpose). Animales (ubicación, tipo, propósito).

Roof form (simple gable, complex gable, other). Forma del tech (simple techo a dos aguas, o techo complejo de dos aguas, otro).
Construction materials . Materiales de construcción.

Room/ Habitación	habitaciones	cocina	
Number			
Location notes			
Activities that take place there. Who uses it? Actividades que se realizan ahí, quien lo usa			

34. (Prompts- Social/ Emotional:)
People in the house- fill chart (number, relationship, leadership/decision making). Gente en la casa, llenar la tabla (numero, relación, liderazgo/ toma de decisiones).

People in adjacent houses (relacion, mexican/ non mexican).
Gente en las casas adyacentes (relacion, mexicanos/ no mexicanos).
People in cluster (mexican/ non mexican).
Grupo de gente (mexicana/ no mexicana).
Age of house (new, old, years). Antigüedad de la casa (nueva, vieja, años).

Who/ Quien	In the house/ Dentro de la casa	In adjacent houses/ Casas cercanas	In cluster/ en grupo	Notes:
Mother/ Madre				
Father/ Padre				
Mother in law/ Suegra				
Father in law/ Suegro				
Daughter/Hija				
Son/ Hijo				
Daughter in law/ Nuera				

Son in law/ Yerno				
Grandchildren/ Nietos				
Aunt/ Tía				
Uncle/ Tío				
Cousins/ Primos				
Niece/ Sobrina				
Nephew/Sobrino				
Distant relatives/ Familiares lejanos				
Members of your community/ Miembros de su comunidad				
Mexican/Mexicanos				
Non Mexican/ No mexicanos				
Other/Otros Let them describe				

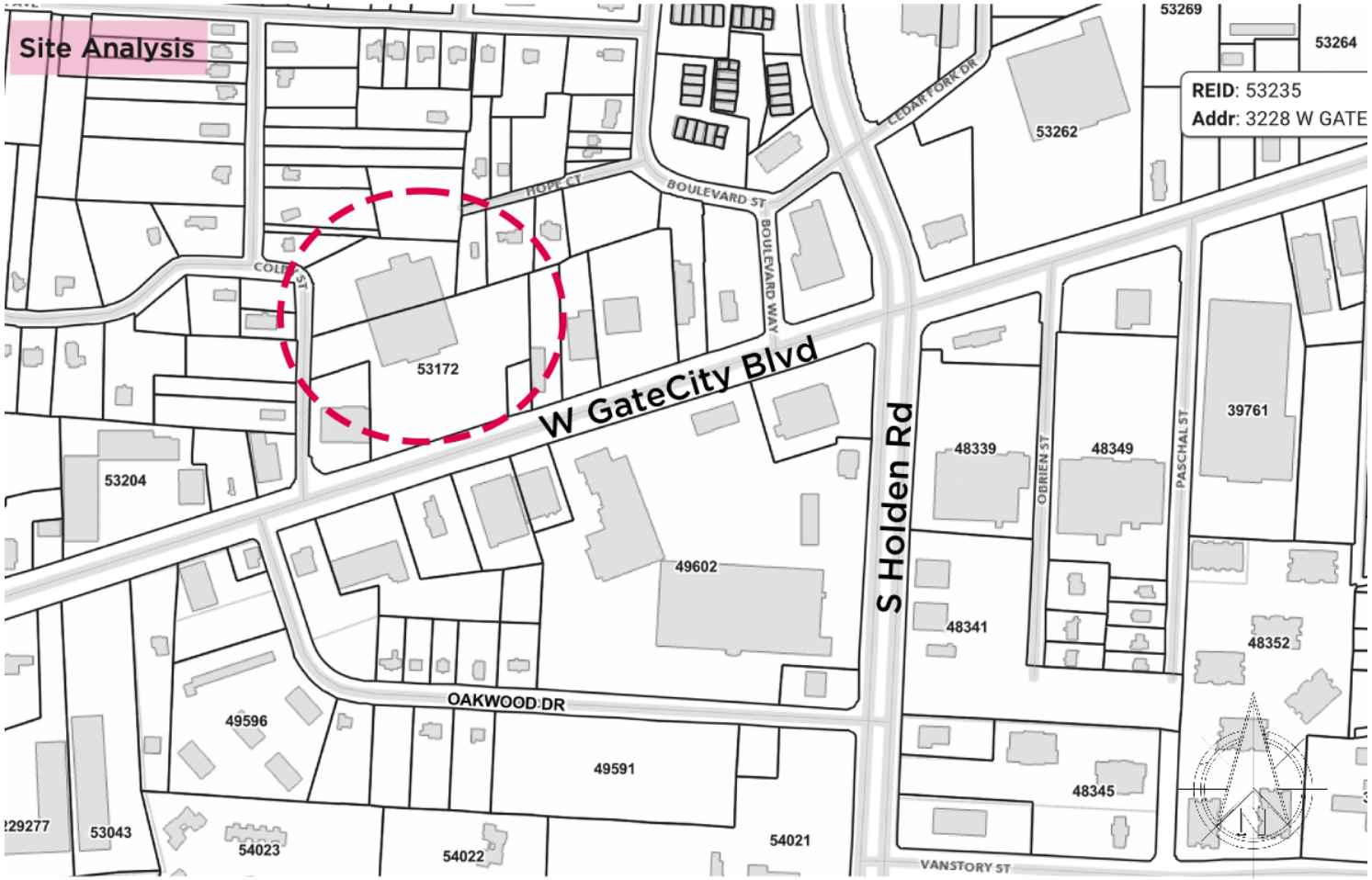
35. Would you like a single-family dwelling? Would you like to live in an apartment complex with other Mexicans? Te gustaría vivir en una casa familiar? O te gustaría vivir en un complejo de departamentos con otros mexicanos?

36. Do you know about construction? do you have building skills? do you know about repairs?

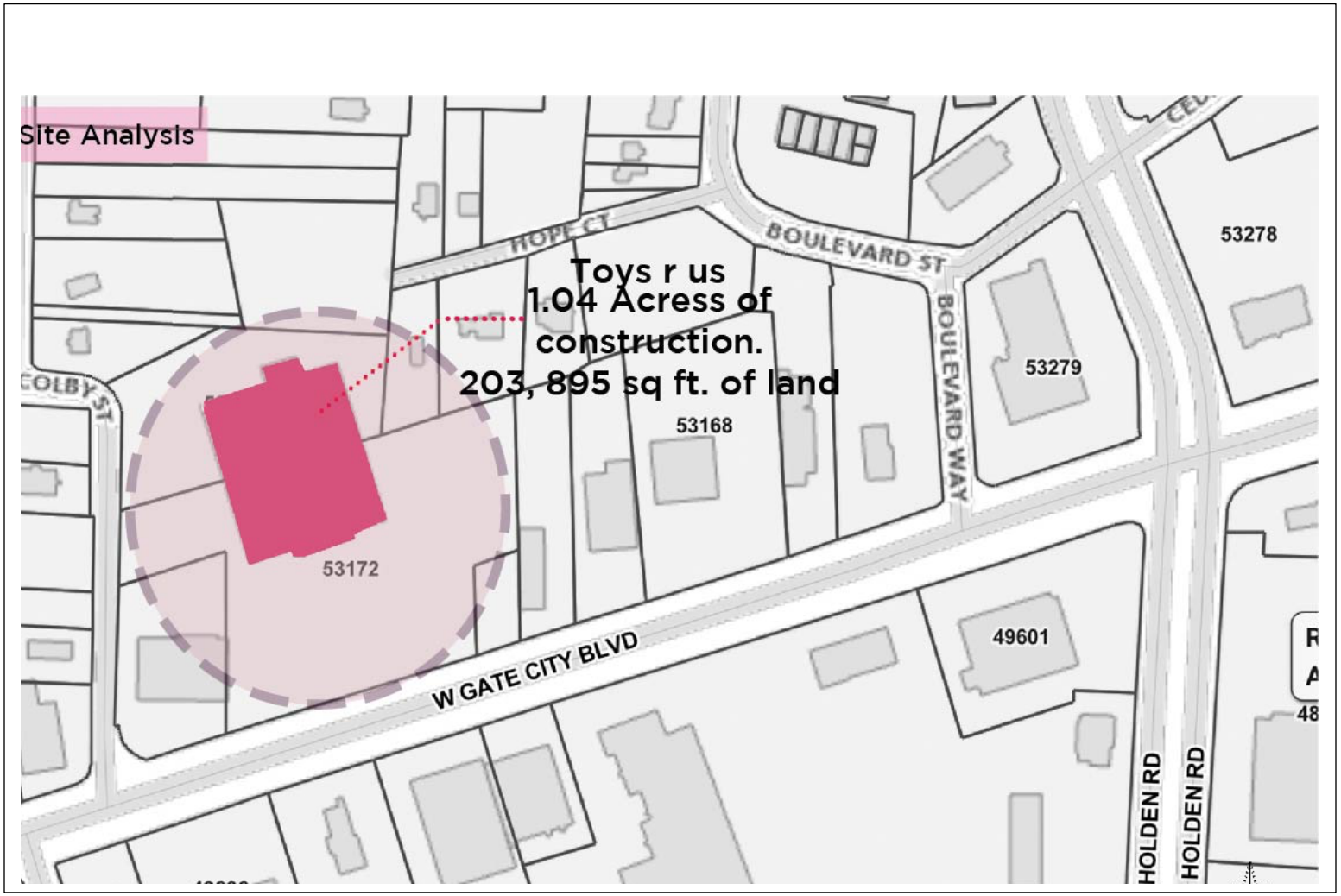
37. Si hubiera la posibilidad de agregar elementos constructivos como en México aquí los usaría y cómo?

Thank you very much for answering my questions and for sharing this information about your home and the places you have lived with me. If there is anything else about your home, neighborhood, or living in Greensboro that you would like to tell me about or show me, I would enjoy hearing about it. Muchas gracias por contestar mis preguntas y compartir la información acerca de su casa y lugares donde ha vivido conmigo. Si tiene algo más que quiera compartir o mostrarme acerca de su casa, vecindario o vivir en Greensboro, disfrutaría escucharlo.

Site Analysis

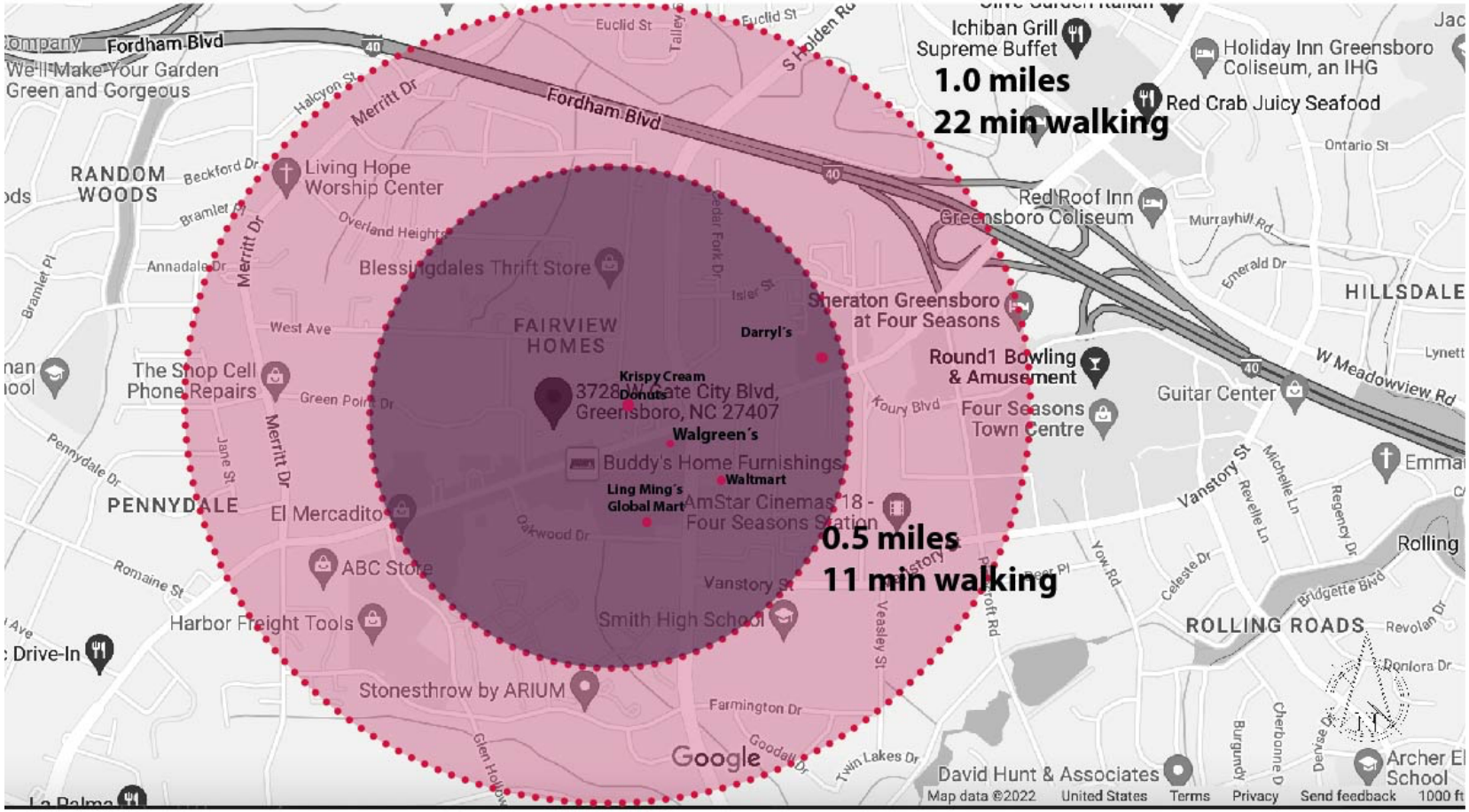


Building and Land Square Footage

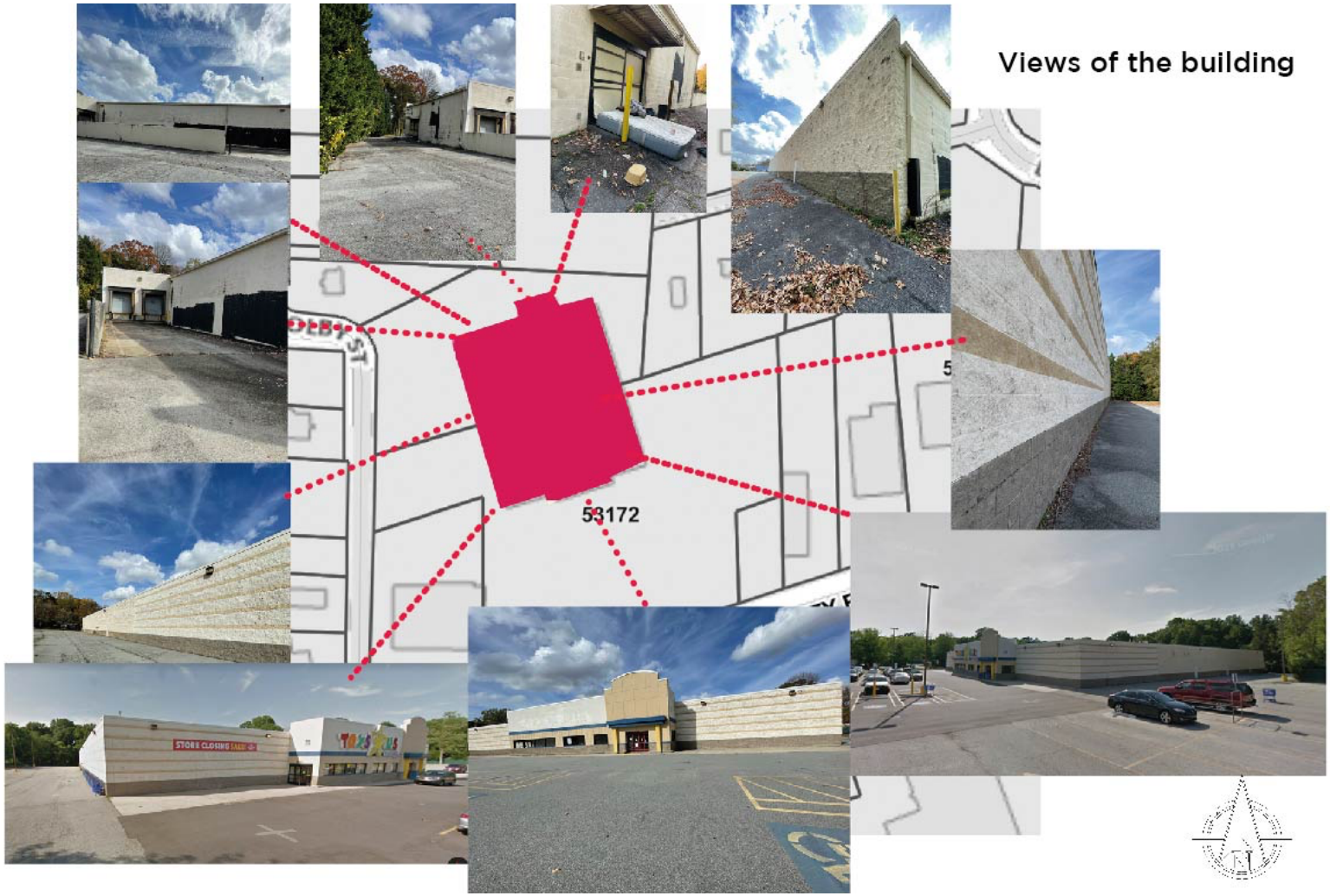


Walkability

Walkability

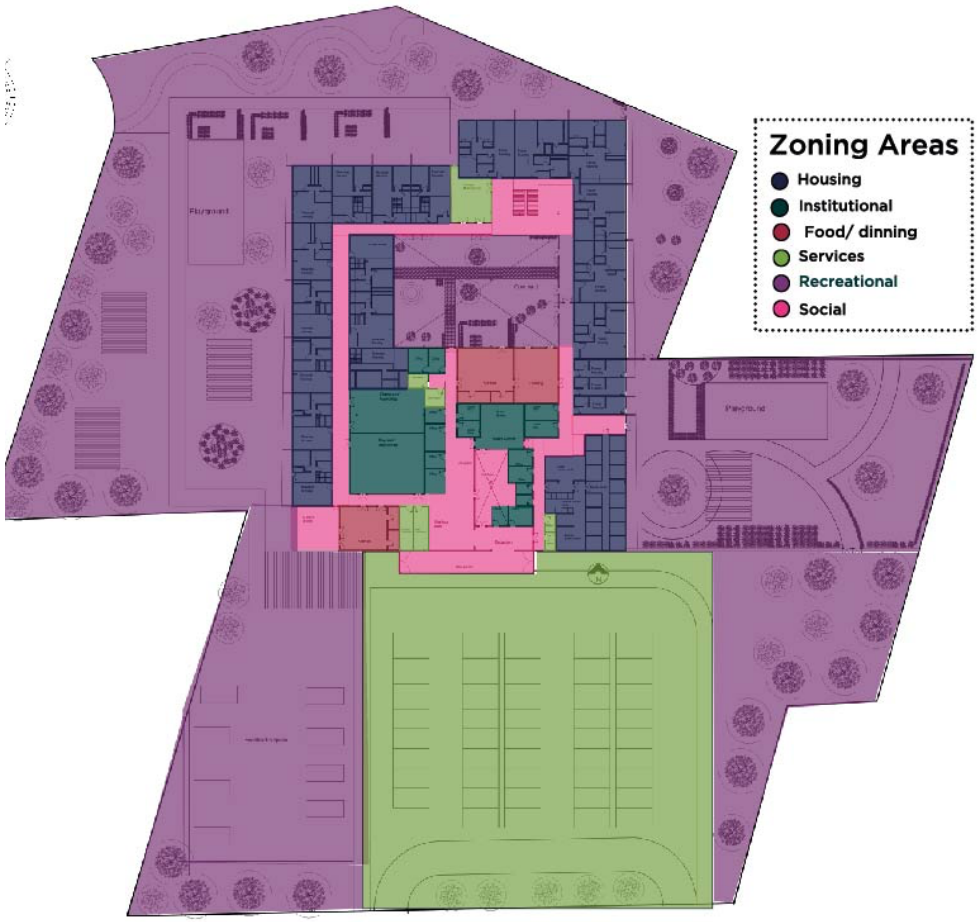


Different Views of the Building

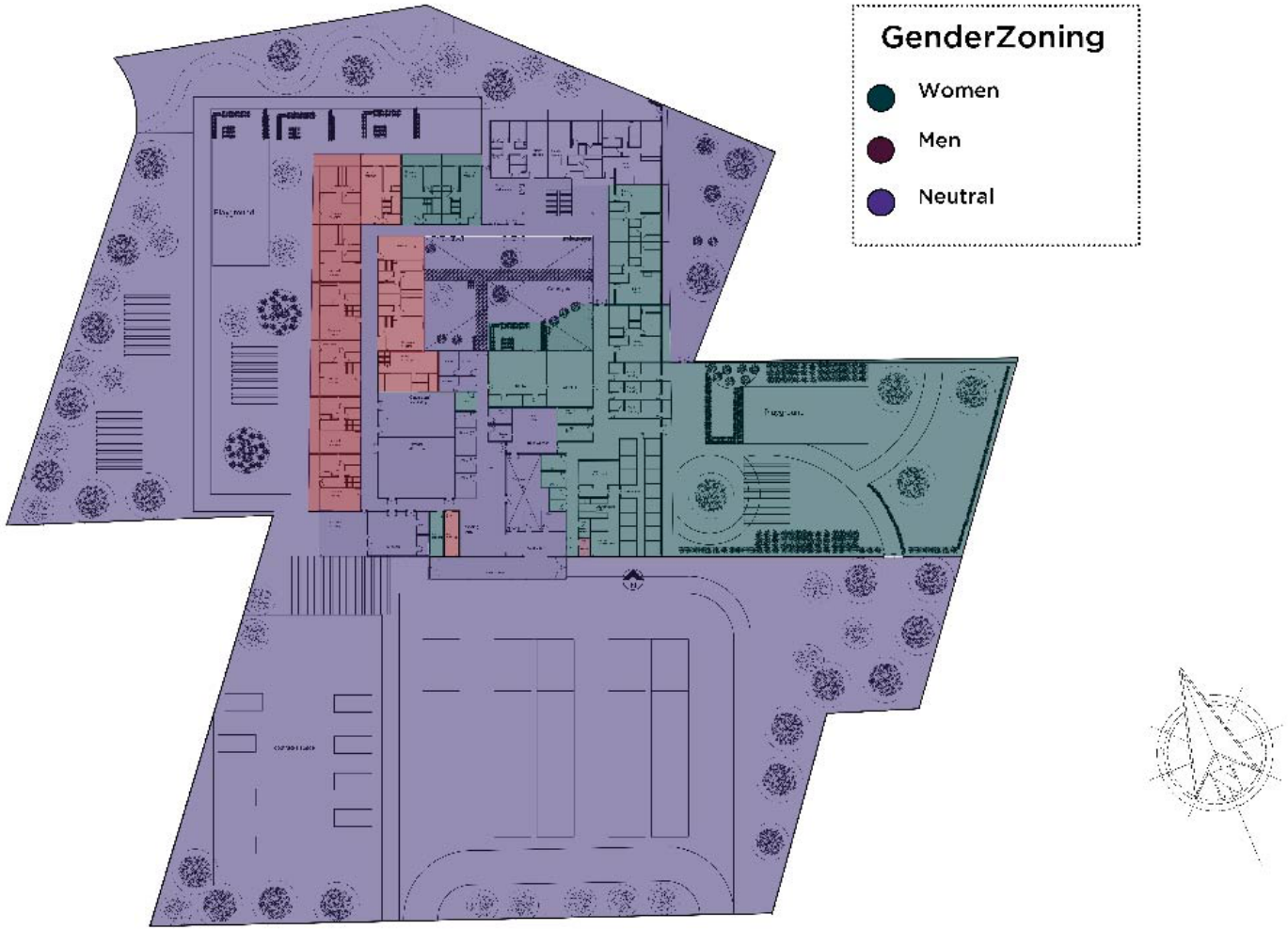


Different Views from the Building

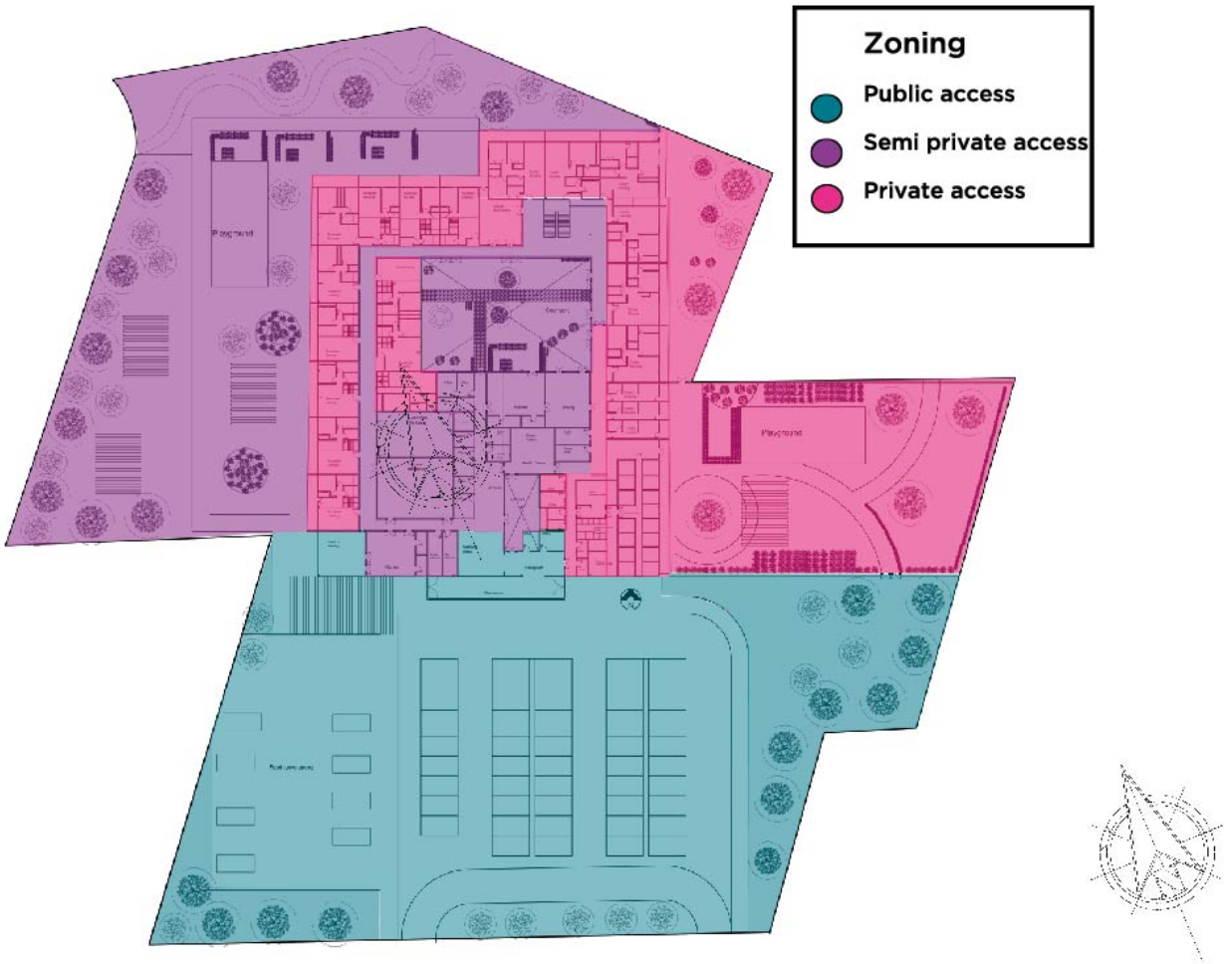
Multipurpose Spaces Plan



Gender Zoning Plan

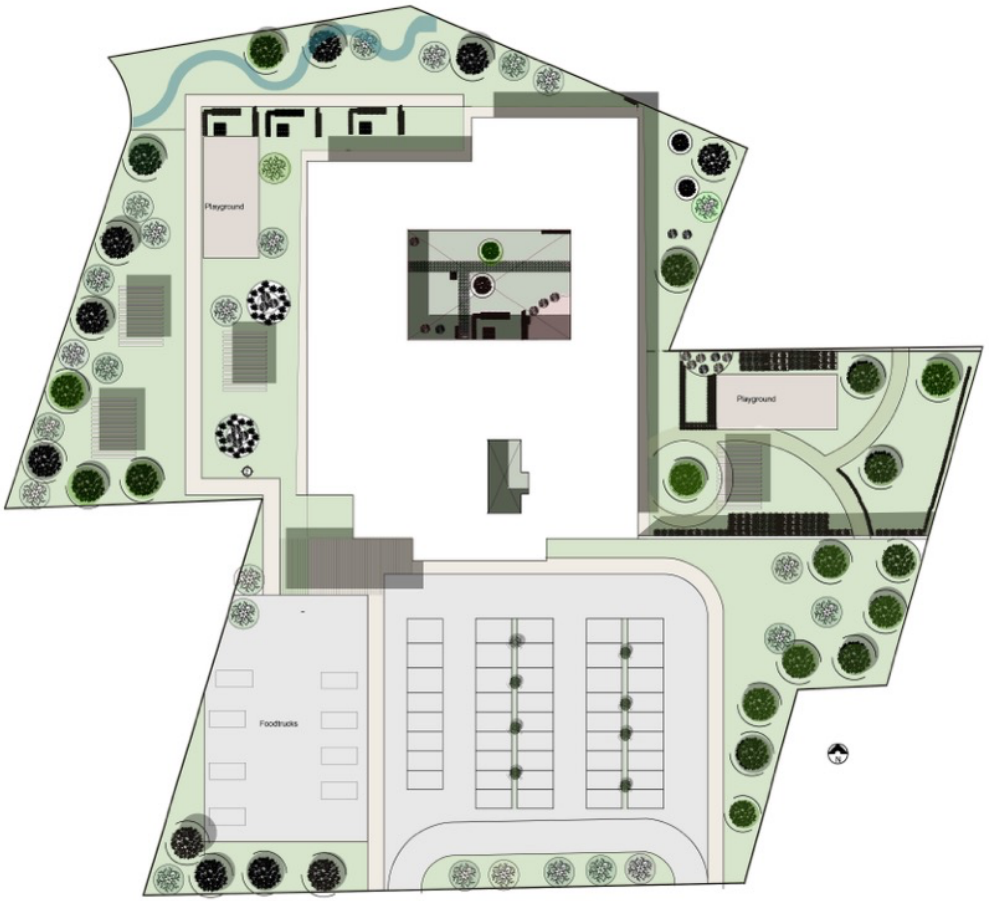


Accessibility Floor Plan

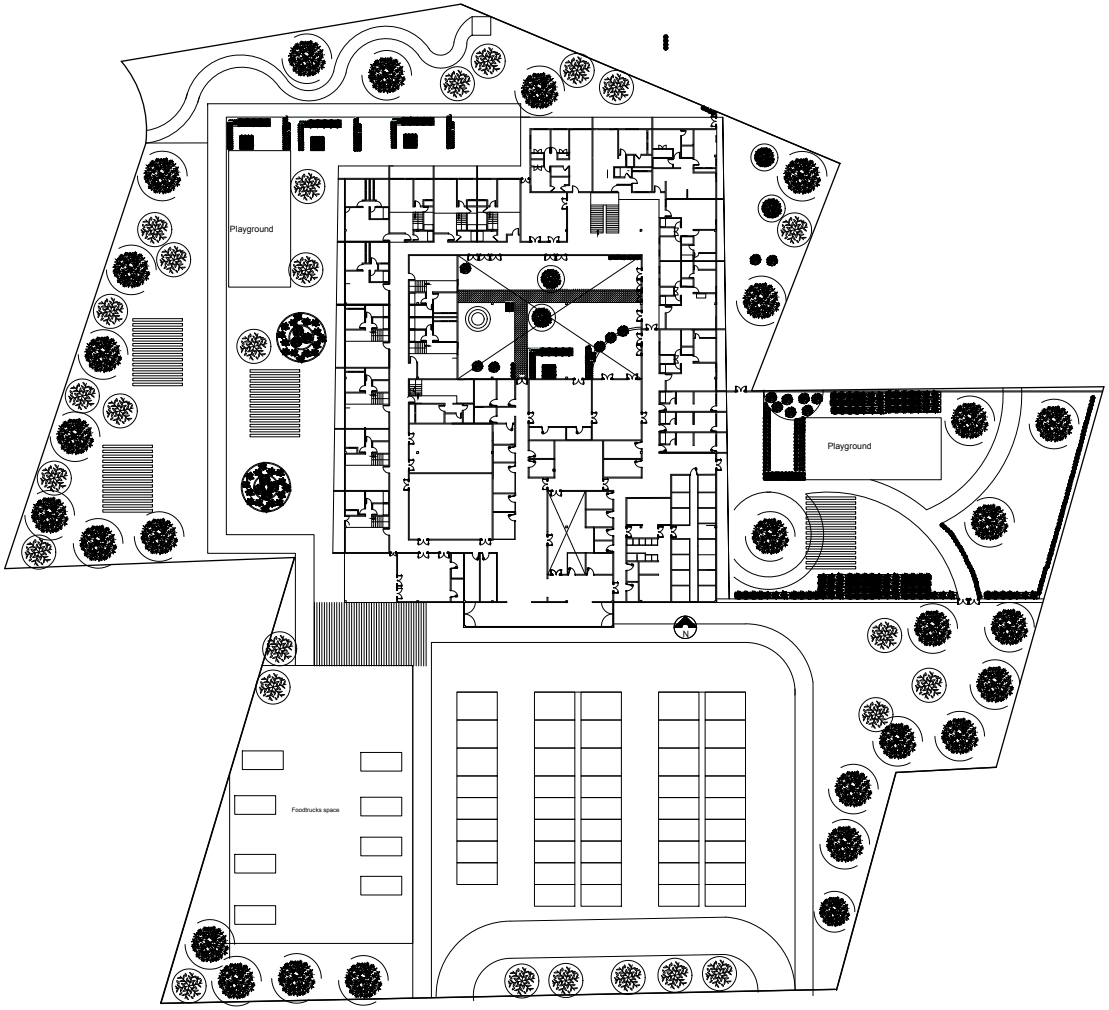


Floor plans

Site Map



Architectural Floor Plan and Landscape



Architectural Floor Plan

Elevations

Principal Facade

Women´s Shelter and Playground

Renderings

Facade with Native Plants

Women's Shelter Elevation

Interior Courtyard

Interior Courtyard Proposal

Green Roof Proposal

Shared Bachelor's Unit

Shared Bachelor's Unit

Bedroom Bachelor's Unit

Bedroom Family Unit

Outdoor Dining

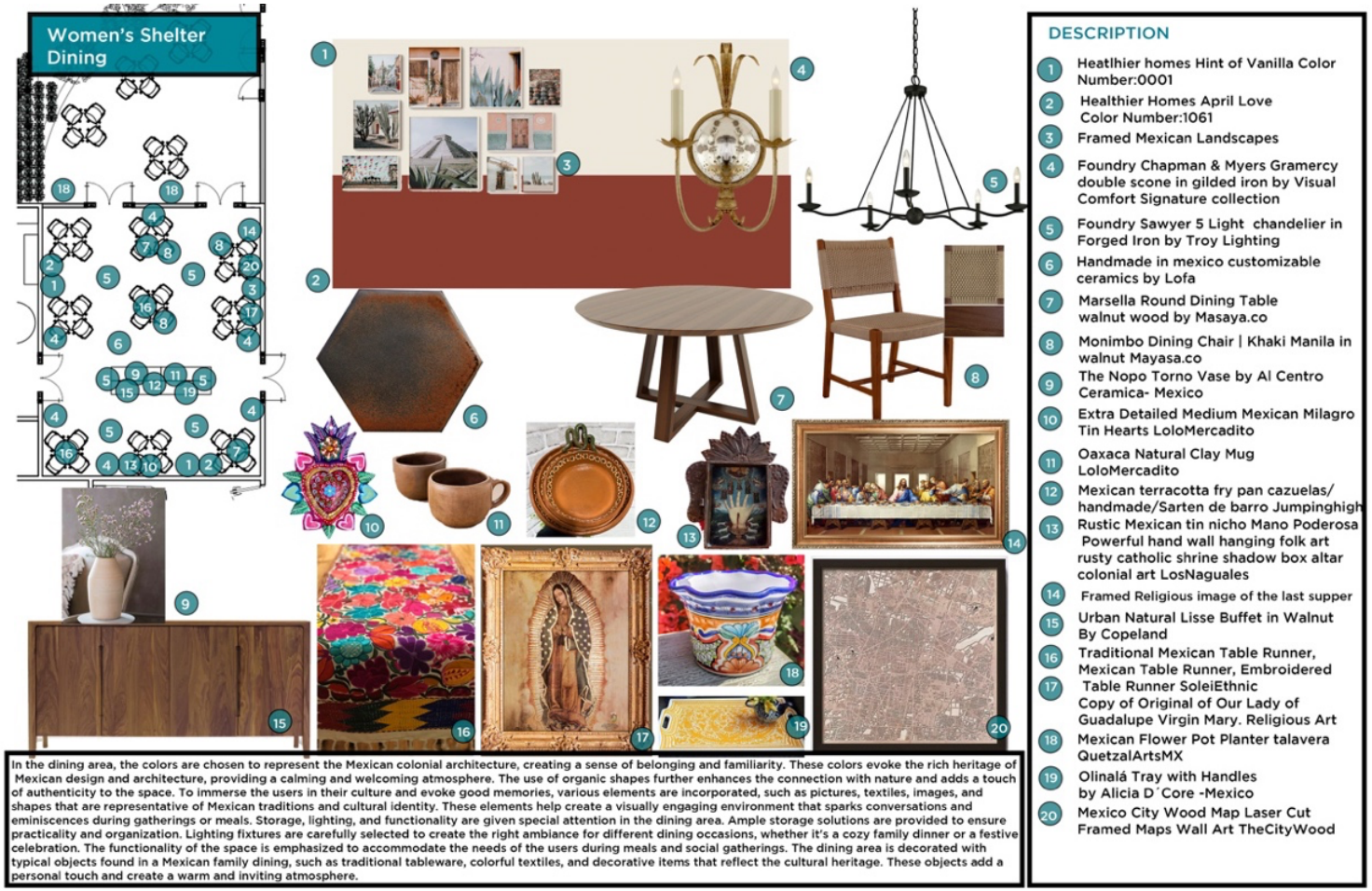
Taco Truck Parking

Principal Facade

Women's Shelter Facade

APPENDIX C. FURNITURE, FIXTURE AND EQUIPMENT

Women's Shelter Dining

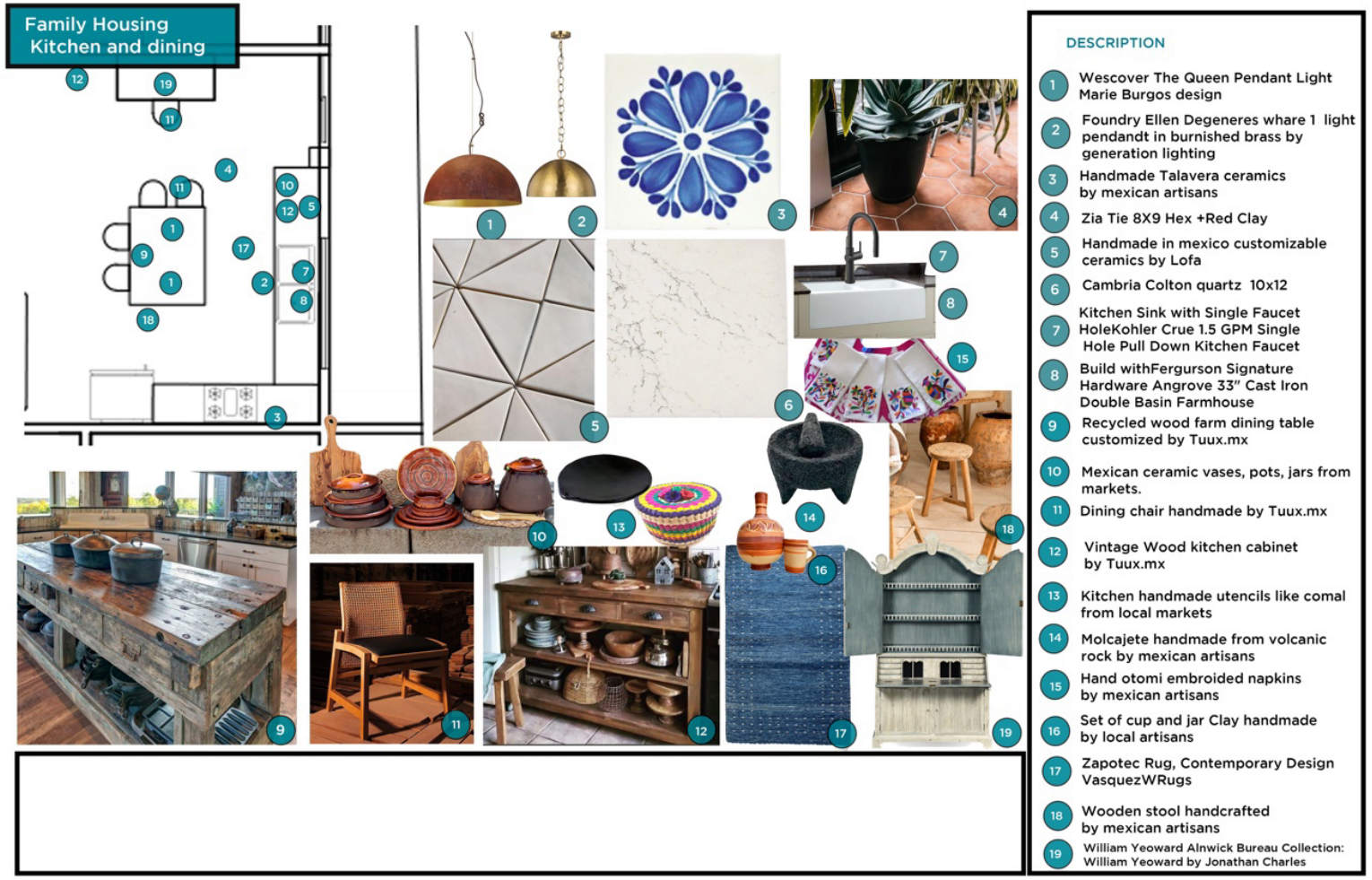


Common Kitchen

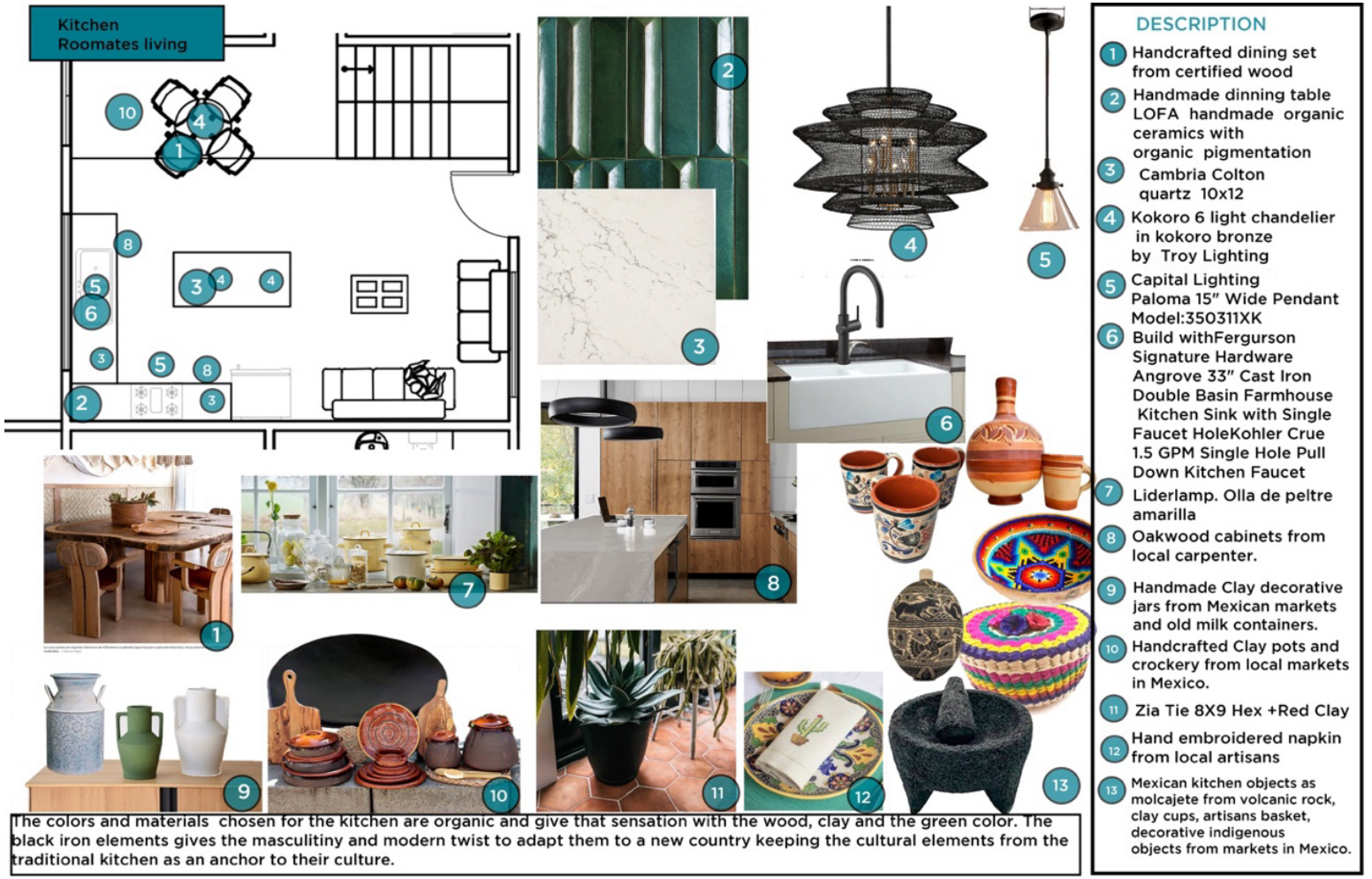
DESCRIPTION

1. Handmade in mexico customizable ceramics by Lofa
2. Urban Natural Beaker Lamp
3. Cambria Colton quartz 10x12
4. Heatlhier homes Hint of Vanilla Color Number:0001
5. Foundry Sawyer 5 Light chandelier in Forged Iron by Troy Lighting
6. Handmade in mexico customizable ceramics by Lofa
7. Customized Walnut Wood kitchen cabinets
8. Dining chair handmade by Tuux.mx
9. Mexican ceramic vases, pots, jars from markets.
10. Handcrafted customized comal by mexican artisans
11. Kraus 32-3/4" Double Basin 16 Gauge Stainless Steel Kitchen Sink for Undermount Installations with 50/50 Split - Basin Racks and Basket Strainers Included Model:KHU102-33
12. William Yeoward Alnwick Bureau Collection: William Yeoward by Jonathan Charles
13. Vintage Wood kitchen cabinet by Tuux.mx
14. Cupboard by Tuux.mx or the red collection
15. Mexican ceramic vases, pots, jars from markets.
16. Liderlamp. pewter pot.
17. Recycled wood farm dining table customized by Tuux.mx

Family Housing Unit Kitchen



Shared Men Unit Kitchen



Bedroom Family Housing Unit

Well being: neutral, wood in light tones such as oak and white colors on the walls and bedding will help to calm the users and bring more light to the bedrooms. Indoor plants for biophilia experience and views to the project landscape.
In the cultural aspect we have a handmade wool rug from a mexican company with typical colors and patterns, embroided cushions, macrame , mexican landscapes in vintage wood frames. Woven closet doors and night table to give a little nostalgia elements from grandparents, soft colors to help the user to low stress levels.

DESCRIPTION

1. Healthier Homes Bannister White Color Number:0028
2. West elm Sculptural Faceted Sconce
3. Wescover Wooden Ceiling Lamps ' Roberto 005' - Pendants
4. The Nopo by Nana Manos artesanas - Mexico cross cushion cover
5. Urban Natural queen size Canterbury Panel Bed
6. Otomi Lampshade | Special Order | Custom colorsArteOtomi
7. Nierika Yarn Huichol Art Painting - Xukuri - 200 x 200 cm. - 80 x 80 in. ArteMarakame
8. Ye´ii YOOKO "tigre" coleccion etnia 2.0 x2.0 m
9. Westelm Yvette Woven Nightstand (20")
10. Framed Mexican Landscapes
11. Custom made closet doors local carpenter.
12. Kirkland´s Maria Metal Black Arch Full Length Mirror
13. Dressing table from antique or pre loved stores like the red collection
14. The Nopo by Ameyalli studio - Mexico Luisa Wall Hanging
15. 1stdib Colima Low Chair Solid Wood and Wicker Back, Contemporary Mexican Design
16. Cotton wood & co Woodweave Blinds
17. Curtarra Elma Soft Blackout Velvet Curtains
18. The Nopo bY Holba - Mexico Ameli Planter

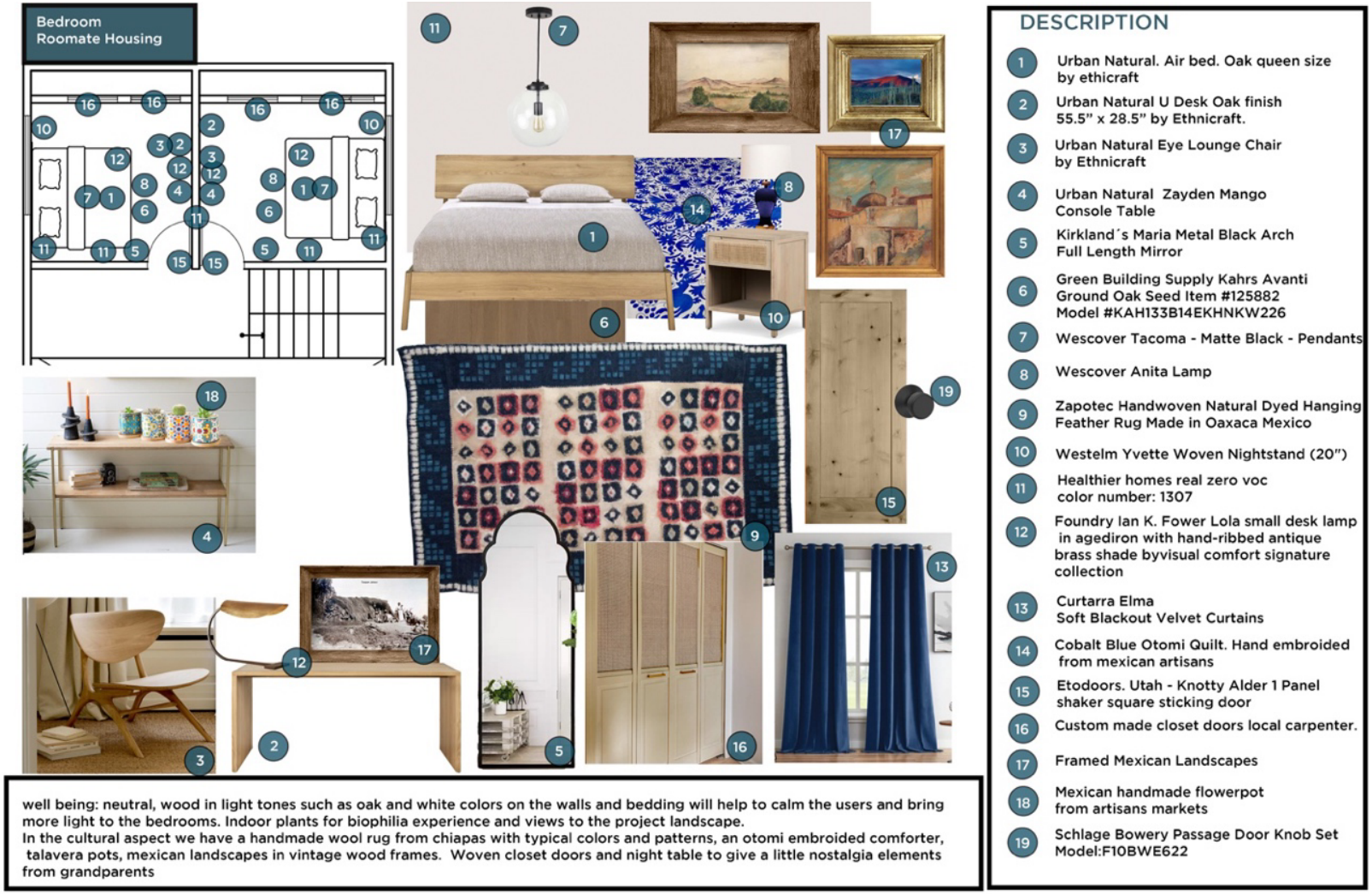
Family Unit Living Room

Bathroom Housing Unit

DESCRIPTION

1. West elm Sculptural 3-Light Geo Sconce
2. Quoizel Trilogy 3 Light 16" Wide Semi-Flush Ceiling Fixture. Model: TRG1716OZ
3. Talavera ceramics handpainted from artisansin Puebla.
4. James Allan Randolph 8" Wide LED Flush Mount Ceiling Fixture. Model: OST1708EK
5. West Mirrors Marco Moroccan Black arch decorative wall mirror.
6. Moen Weymouth Single Handle Posi-Temp Pressure Balanced Multi-Function Shower Trim with Shower Head (Less Valve) Model: TS32102BL
7. LOFA mexican ceramics handmade with natural pigments
8. Anzzi Madam 76" High x 48" Wide Sliding Frameless Shower Door with Clear Glass
9. Faucet Direct. Signature Hardware Aliso 72" Free Standing Double Basin Vanity Set with Teak Cabinet, Marble Vanity Top, and Rectangular Porcelain Undermount Sink
10. Faucet Direct. Delta Cassidy Single Hole Bathroom Faucet with Pop-Up Drain A ssembly - Includes.
11. Ginger Surface Quadruple Robe Hook Rack Model: 2810Q/PC
12. Moen Doux Wall Mounted Double Post Toilet Paper HolderModel: YB0208BL
13. Toilet watersense Kohler Santa Rosa One-Piece Compact Elongated 1.28 GPF Toilet with Revolution 360 Swirl Flushing Technology
14. All Modern. 5 Gallons Waste Bin
15. Kohler Memoirs Stately 17" Drop In Bathroom Sink with 1 Hole Drilled and Overflow Model: K-2337-1-0
16. Cambria Colton quartz 10x12
16. Werts Handmade Tufted Farmhouse Jute Brown Rug by Bay Isle Home™

Bachelor’s Housing Unit Bedroom



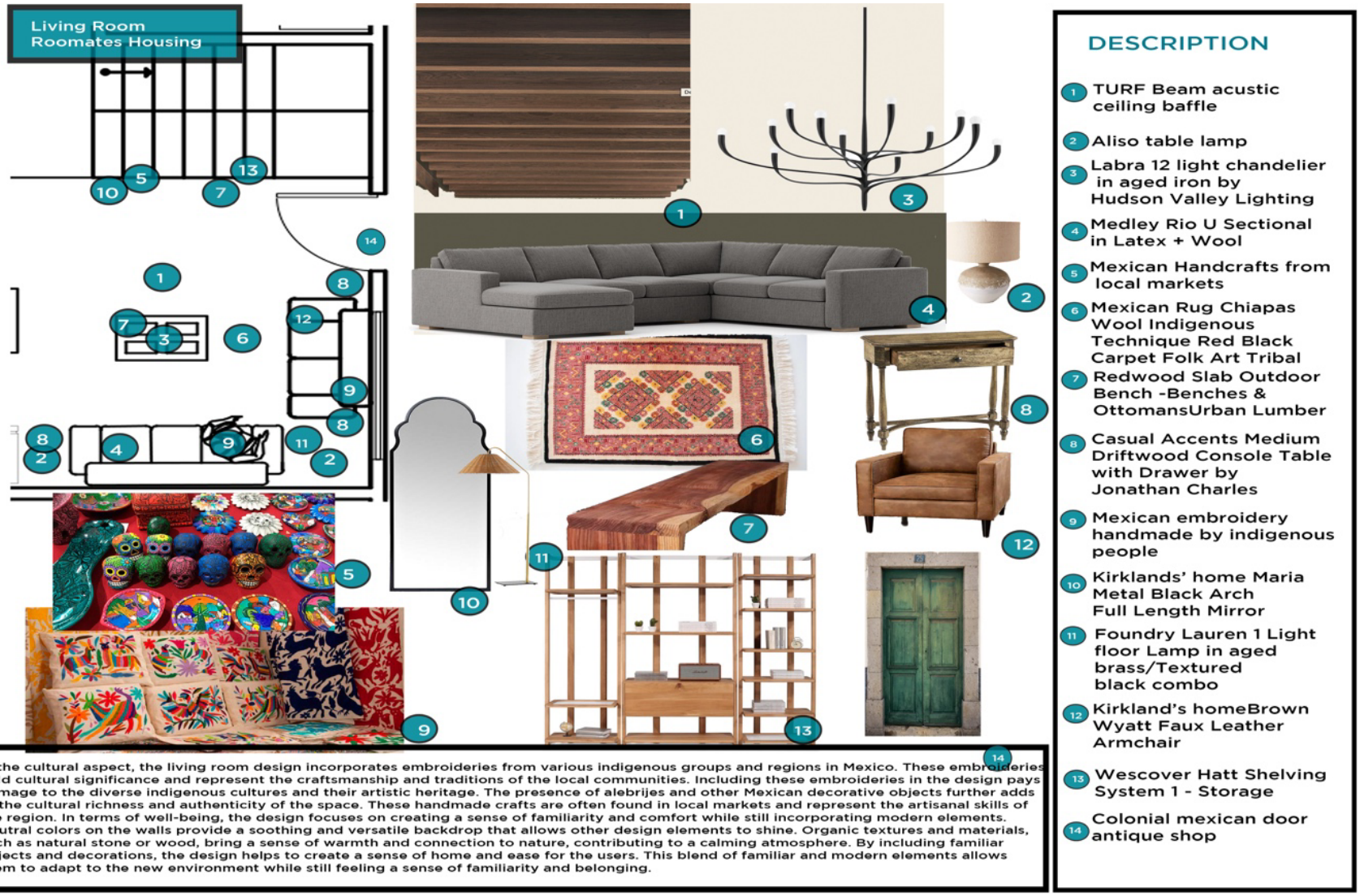
well being: neutral, wood in light tones such as oak and white colors on the walls and bedding will help to calm the users and bring more light to the bedrooms. Indoor plants for biophilia experience and views to the project landscape.
In the cultural aspect we have a handmade wool rug from chiapas with typical colors and patterns, an otomi embroided comforter, talavera pots, mexican landscapes in vintage wood frames. Woven closet doors and night table to give a little nostalgia elements from grandparents

Outdoors

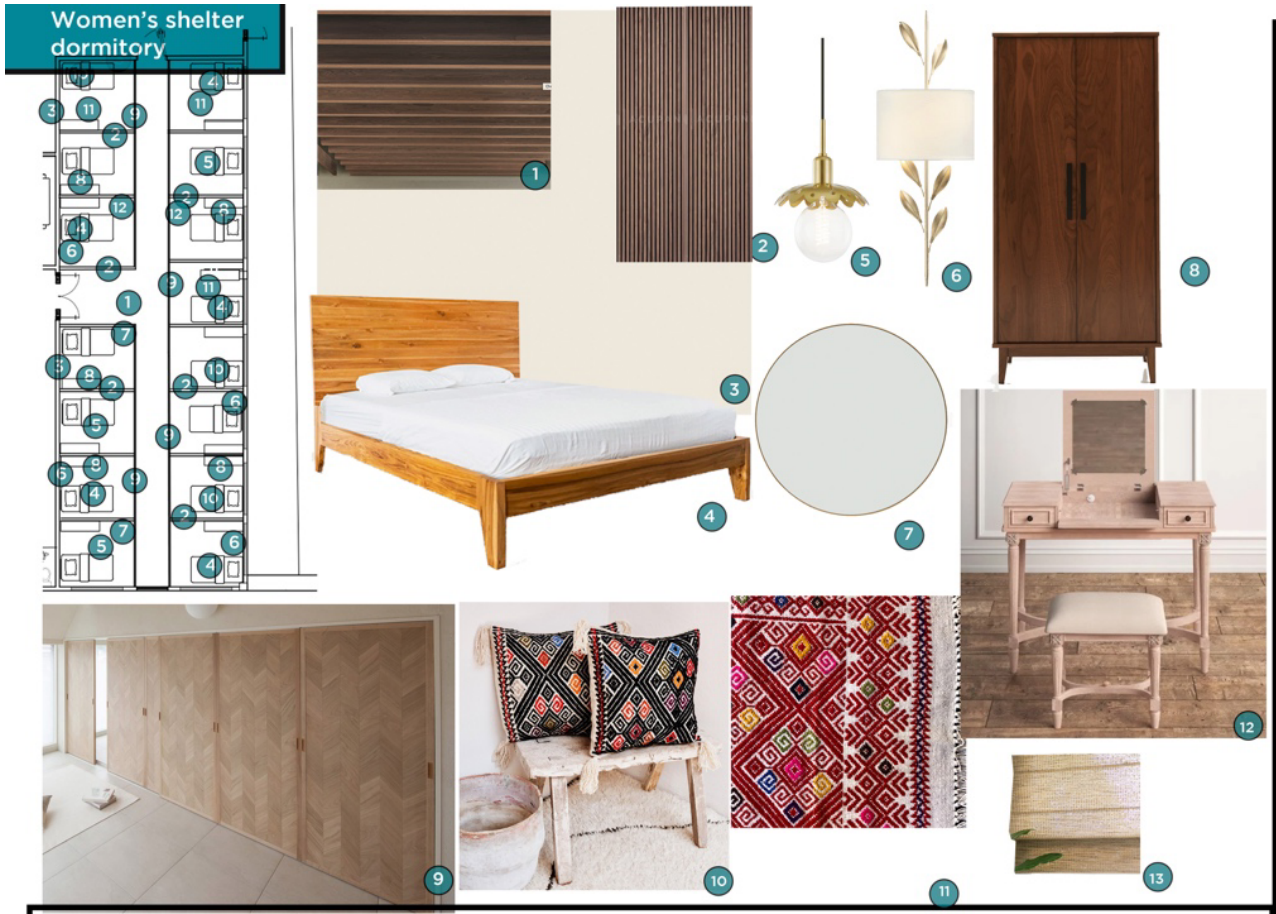
DESCRIPTION

1. Craftsman Woven palm roof.
2. Pottery Barn Malibu Metal Round Outdoor Dining Table
3. Pottery barn Flora Outdoor All-Weather Wicker Pendant 22"
4. Outdoor living.mx Breeze Chair, Stackable
5. Woven palm mat by mexican artisans
6. Red Brick floor
7. Milgard C650 Ultra series windows
8. Wood crafted lattice.
9. Milgard AX550 Bi- fold glass walls

Bachelor's Housing Unit Living Room



Women’s Shelter Dormitory

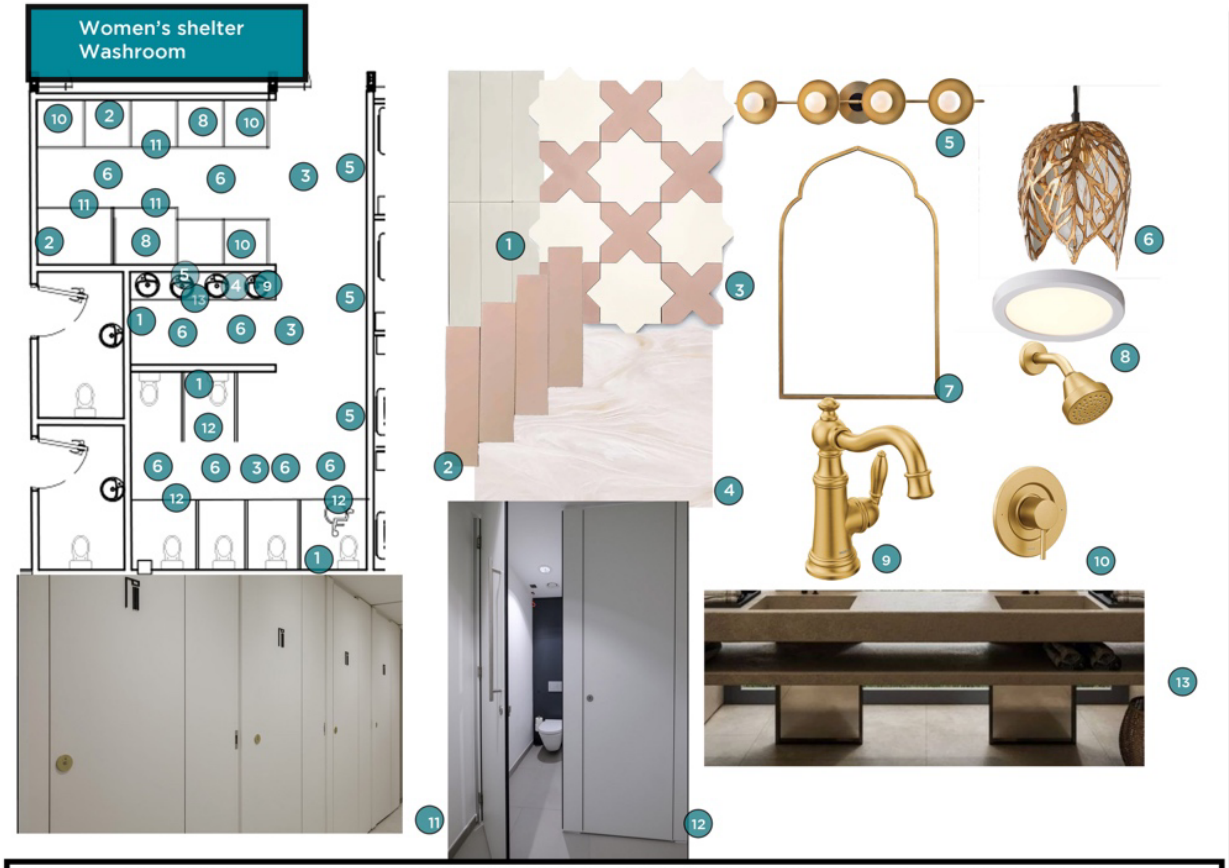


DESCRIPTION

1. TURF Beam acustic ceiling baffle
2. Luxury American Oak | Grey Felt | Acoustic Slat Wood Wall Panels | Original Slatpanel® by The Wood Veneer Hub
3. Healthier Homes Bannister White Color Number:0028
4. Mayasa co Gavilana Bed twin size
5. Foundry Broche 2 light antique gold scone by Crystorama
6. Alyssa 1 Light pendant in aged brass by Mitzi by Hudson Valley Lighting
7. Urban Natural Layers Wall Mirror
8. Custom Made Wooden Armoire, Handcrafted Armoire with Walnut, Handmade Armoire, Solid Wood Dresser BrickMillCo
9. Tuux.mx Customized Walnut hiding sliding doors
10. San Andres wool pillow cover, Made in Mexico ProjectArtefakto
11. San Andres wool rug, Made in Mexico ProjectArtefakto
12. Vanity Table, Vanity Set with Stool and Mirror, Makeup Table, Dressing Table, Vanity Mirror, Bedroom Furniture, Organizational Furniture YourFaceOn
13. Cotton wood & co Woodweave Blinds

To promote well-being in the women's shelter dormitory, a combination of neutral tones and light wood materials is being used. Light tones of wood, such as oak, bring a sense of warmth and tranquility to the space. White colors on the walls and bedding create an airy and bright atmosphere, enhancing the overall sense of calmness. In terms of cultural features, a handmade wool rug from Chiapas with typical colors and patterns adds a touch of local culture and craftsmanship to the dormitory. Embroidered pillowcases and feminine shapes in the design elements contribute to creating a sense of aesthetic appeal and personalization. These cultural features celebrate the local heritage and add a unique character to the space.To address storage needs and promote a sense of belonging, a small vanity and wardrobe are included. These elements provide practical storage solutions while also allowing the users to personalize their space and create a sense of ownership and comfort.

Women’s Shelter Washroom



DESCRIPTION

1. Zia Tile Bone 2X8
2. Zia Tile Jaipur Pink 2X8
3. Zia Tile Stars & Cross Bone/ Jaipur
4. Red Granite Countertops
5. Foundry Julien 4 Light bath and vanity in aged brass by Hudson Valley Lighting
6. Shades of Light Gilded Leaves Pendant SKU PE19185
7. West Mirrors Marco Moroccan Gold Arch Decorative Wall Mirror 39”x24”
8. Shades of Light 9″ LED Simple Round Low profile ceiling light
9. Moen - S42107BG - Weymouth One-Handle Single Hole Traditional Bathroom Sink Faucet with Drain Assembly, Brushed Gold
10. Moen Single Handle Posi-Temp Pressure Balanced Shower Trim with 2.5 GPM Shower Head from the Align Collection (Less Valve) Model:T2192BG
11. Marcato Fenix customized Shower cubicle
12. Marcato Fenix customized Toilet Cubicle
13. Customized vanity Sink

To enhance a sense of relaxation and create a safe space for women, neutral light colors and organic materials are being washroom design. Neutral light colors, such as soft whites, creams, or light grays, can create a calm and soothing atmosphere. Organic materials, like wood and natural stone, add warmth and a touch of nature to the space, contributing to a relaxed ambiance.. Feminine shapes are incorporated to add a sense of elegance and softness to the kitchen. These shapes can be seen in the design of furniture, cabinetry, and decorative elements. Minimalistic surfaces help maintain a clean and uncluttered look, promoting a sense of serenity and simplicity. Golden elements, such as fixtures and accents, bring a touch of luxury and brightness to the space, adding an elegant flair. In terms of cultural elements, the faucet and mirrors have characteristics inspired by vintage Mexican architecture. This incorporation of traditional design elements pays homage to the cultural heritage and adds a unique touch to the overall aesthetic. Additionally, the minimalistic interpretation of ceramics for the floor and walls, reminiscent of talavera, and previous bathroom designs, combines traditional influences with modern design principles. By blending modern interpretations of cultural elements with feminine shapes, minimalistic surfaces, golden accents, and detailed light fixtures, the kitchen design creates an environment that is both elegant and inviting. It aims to provide a safe and relaxing space for women while embracing cultural influences and maintaining a sense of modernity.

Waiting Lounge

DESCRIPTION

1. TURF Beam acustic ceiling baffle
2. Mexican portraits
3. Matluxe COSIMA pure white 139 cm
4. Steelecase Paste Lounge Chair by Boila
5. Military Canvas & Antique Brass Bench Save to project by Stephen Kenn
6. Vintage Salvatore Leone Boho Bentwood and Cane Rocking Chair from Italy KCUsedFurniture
7. Urban Natural Mantis Floor Lamp with Rectangle Base
8. Arhaus Hollis Pendant in Black and Natural
9. Sereno - Mexican Rug (Oaxaca) casaventosa
10. Handwoven colorful wool hallway runner rug from Teotitlan del Valle, Oaxaca, Mexico with geometric designs—bright sunset desert colors CasaNisia
11. Overhead Tent by Steelcase
12. Savina sofa composition Steelcase
13. By la cosita chula - Mexico Ceramic Mezcal Calaverita Kit
14. Hand painted rounded ceramic skull from Mexico CasaNisia
15. Urban Natural Slice Coffee Table
16. Mexican 100% cotton pillow cover, with falcon design ProjectArtefakto
17. Large Otomi pillow cover -Fuchsia ProjectArtefakto
18. Urban Natural RO Table Lamp
19. Talavera flower pot MexicanTalavera