

PASSIVE HOUSE CASE STUDIES:

**RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, AND
MANUFACTURING BUILDINGS
IN DULUTH**

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COULSON
ARCHITECTURE



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COMMON PASSIVE HOUSE FEATURES:

90% REDUCTION IN SPACE HEATING DEMAND

80-90% REDUCTION IN PRIMARY ENERGY DEMAND (w/o PV)

IDEAL INTERIOR COMFORT, NO DRAFTS, NO TEMPERATURE SWINGS

CONTINUOUS AIR-TIGHT SYSTEM

CONTINUOUS VENTILATION

ELIMINATION OF TRADITIONAL HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS

NO REQUIREMENT FOR HIGH-TECH OR UNCOMMON MATERIALS

THESE CASE STUDIES WILL SHOW
DESIGN DETAILS ARE FLEXIBLE
EVEN IN THIS COLD CLIMATE:

LOW COST AND VERY SMALL BUILDINGS ARE POSSIBLE

LARGER, MULTI-FAMILY BUILDINGS DON'T HAVE TO BE COMPACT IN
FORM

VARIETY OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND DETAILS CAN BE USED

BUILDINGS WITH LARGE EQUIPMENT INTERNAL HEAT GAINS CAN BE
UTILIZED IN WINTER AND CONTROLLED IN SUMMER

Specific Space Heat Demand

3.6 kBTU/(ft²·yr)

Pressurization Test Result

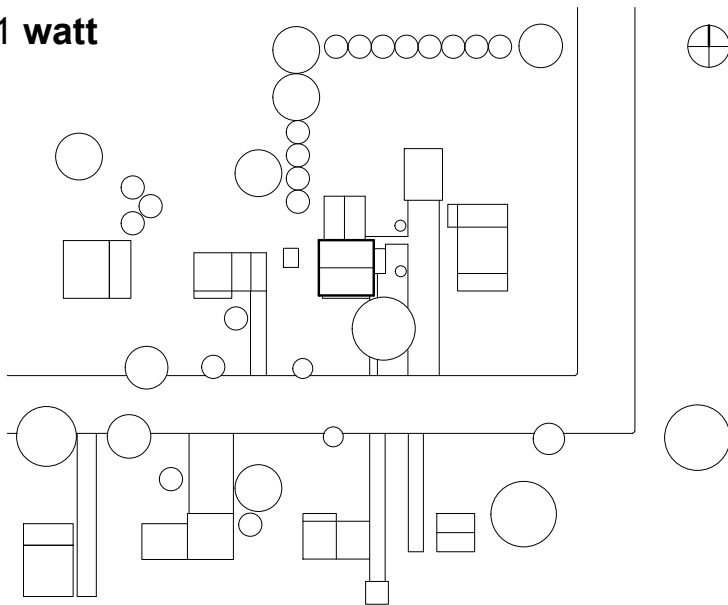
0.5 ACH50

Specific Primary Energy Demand (w/o PV)

33 kBTU/(ft²·yr)

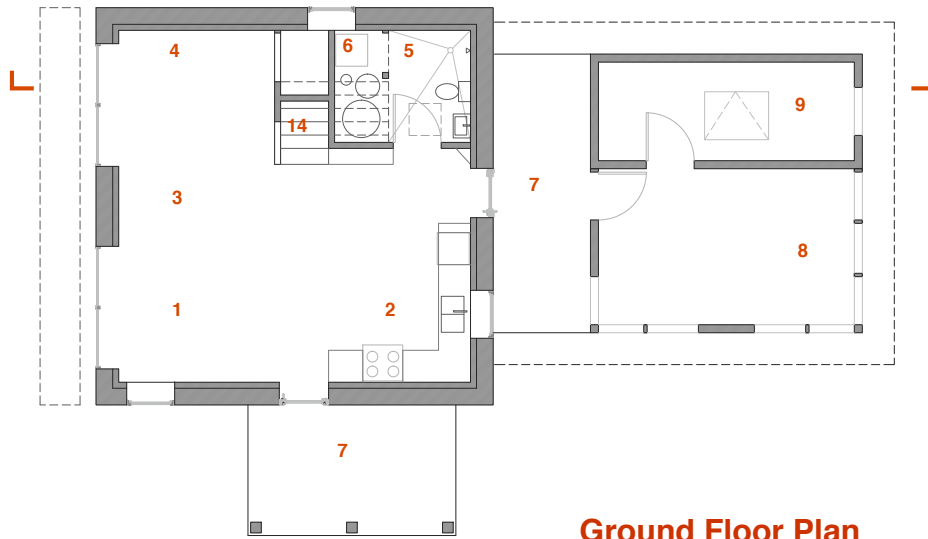
Peak Heating Load

1341 watt



CASE STUDY 1: NEWENHOUSE

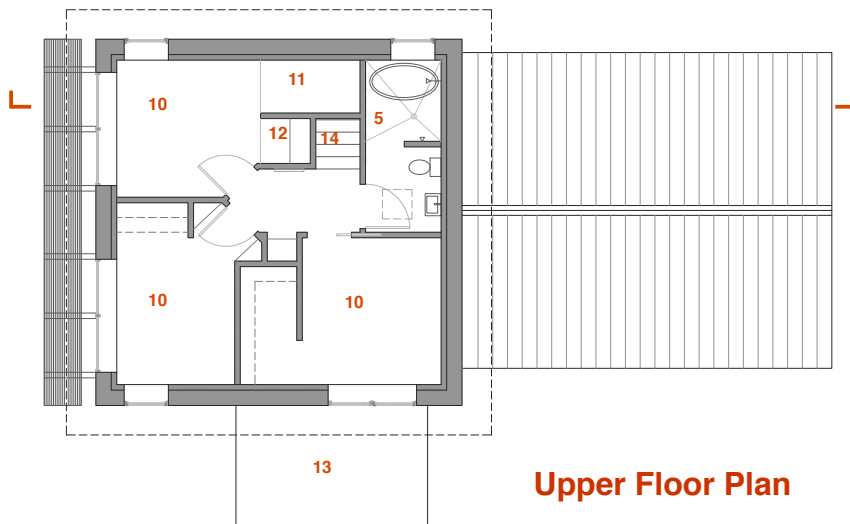
Single-family Home, New Construction



Ground Floor Plan

Project Features:

- affordable construction cost
- kit design, easy to execute
- designed for deconstruction
- very compact form
- no basement or attic



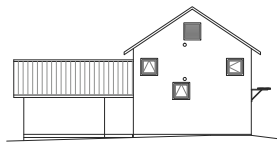
Upper Floor Plan

- | | |
|----|------------------------------|
| 1 | Dining room |
| 2 | Kitchen |
| 3 | Living room |
| 4 | Study |
| 5 | Bathroom |
| 6 | Laundry |
| 7 | Detached entry deck |
| 8 | Screen porch (unconditioned) |
| 9 | Storage room (unconditioned) |
| 10 | Bedroom |
| 11 | Sleeping loft |
| 12 | HRV |
| 13 | Vegetative roof |
| 14 | Stair |
| 15 | Root cellar (unconditioned) |
| 16 | Attic (unconditioned) |
| 17 | Photovoltaic panels |
| 18 | Solar hot water panels |

CASE STUDY 1 : NEWENHOUSE



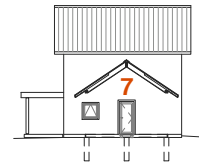
East Elevation



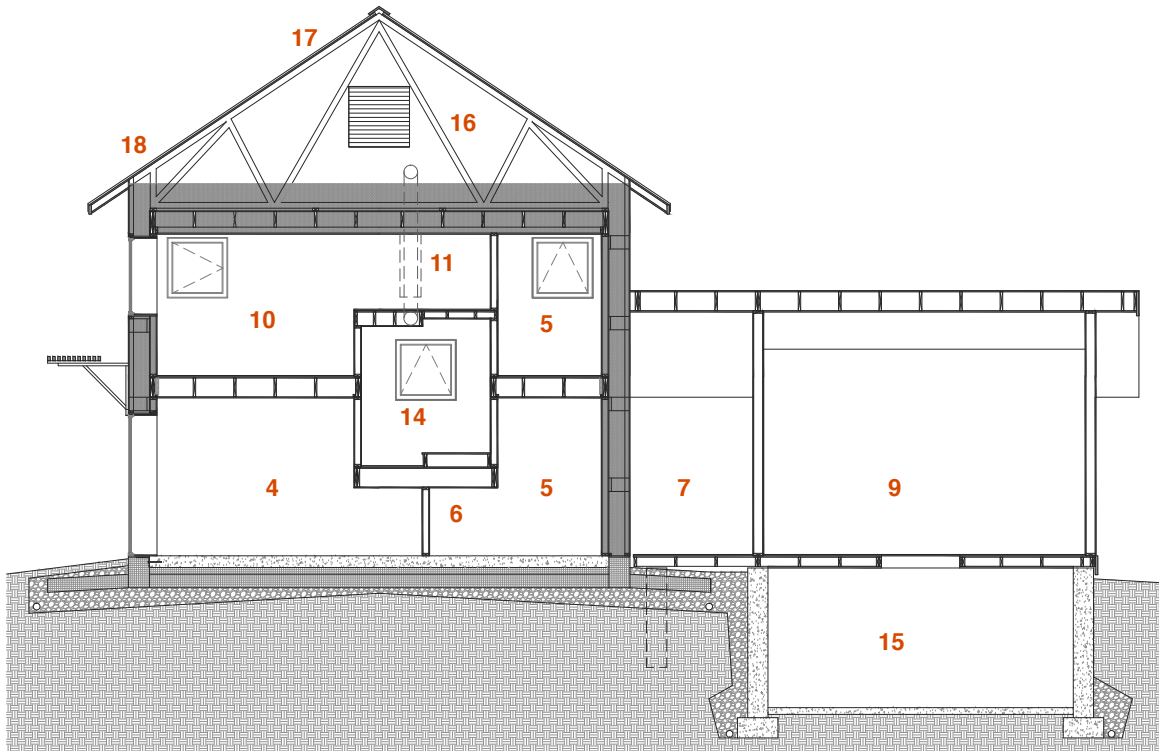
West Elevation



South Elevation



North Elevation

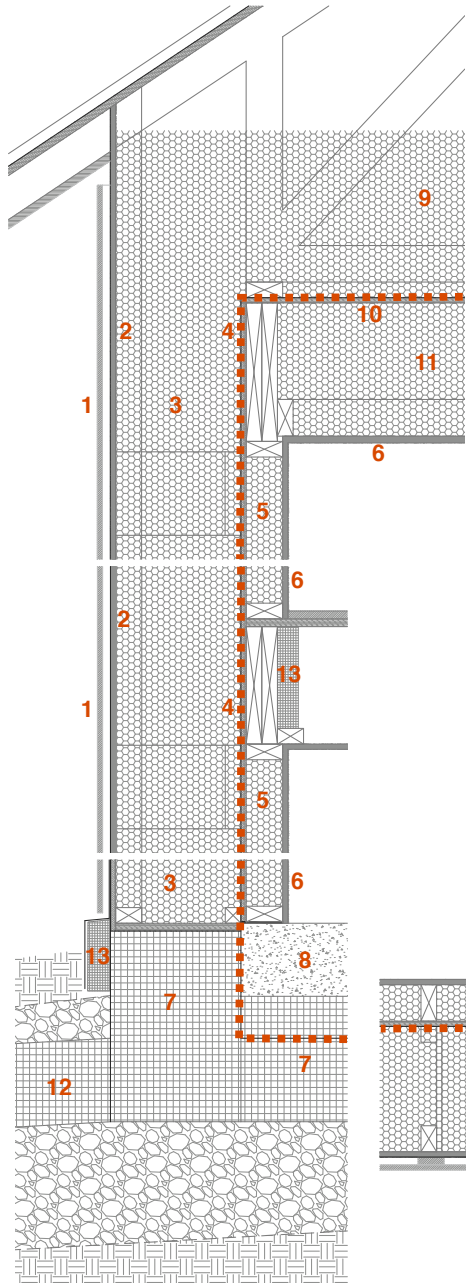


Building Section

- 1 Dining room
- 2 Kitchen
- 3 Living room
- 4 Study
- 5 Bathroom
- 6 Laundry
- 7 Detached entry deck
- 8 Screen porch (unconditioned)
- 9 Storage room (unconditioned)
- 10 Bedroom
- 11 Sleeping loft
- 12 HRV
- 13 Vegetative roof
- 14 Stair
- 15 Root cellar (unconditioned)
- 16 Attic (unconditioned)
- 17 Photovoltaic panels
- 18 Solar hot water panels

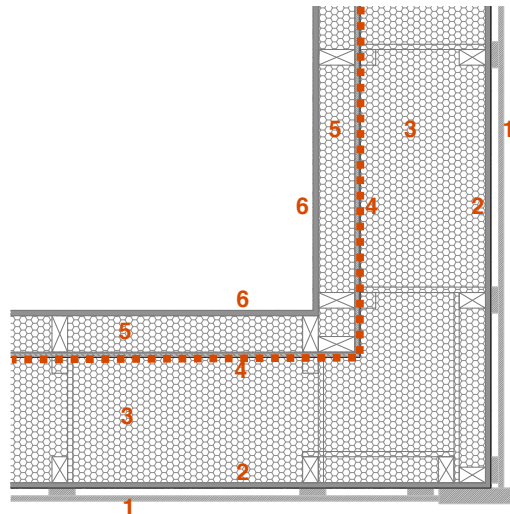
CASE STUDY 1 : NEWENHOUSE

Thermal & Air-Tight Details



..... continuous air tight layer

- 1 rainscreen cedar siding
- 2 fiberboard sheathing 13mm
- 3 dense packed cellulose in remote wall truss 305mm
- 4 osb air tight layer 13mm
- 5 dense packed cellulose in 2x4 structural wall 89mm
- 6 gypsum board 13mm
- 7 eps insulation 305mm
- 8 concrete slab 178mm
- 9 dense packed cellulose in attic truss 406mm
- 10 plywood air tight layer 13mm
- 11 dense packed cellulose in dropped ceiling 324mm
- 12 eps frost skirt
- 13 xps insulation



Continuous Air-Tight System

No Thermal Bridges

Traditional platform framed 2x4 wa

Modified Larsen Truss Design

Structural slab-on-grade

Roof R-value

94 hr.ft².F/BTU

Wall R-value

63 hr.ft².F/BTU

Slab R-value

57 hr.ft².F/BTU

Thermal & Air-Tight Details



12" EPS foam under and around 9" thick cast-in-place concrete slab

CASE STUDY 1 : NEWENHOUSE

Thermal & Air-Tight Details



Plywood roof air-tight layer, OSB wall air-tight layer, seams taped

CASE STUDY 1 : NEUENHOUSE

Thermal & Air-Tight Details



Modified Larsen Truss installed over OSB air-tight layer

Structural window boxes installed

CASE STUDY 1 : NEUENHOUSE

Thermal & Air-Tight Details



Dense-packed cellulose in all wall and roof cavities

CASE STUDY 1 : NEUENHOUSE

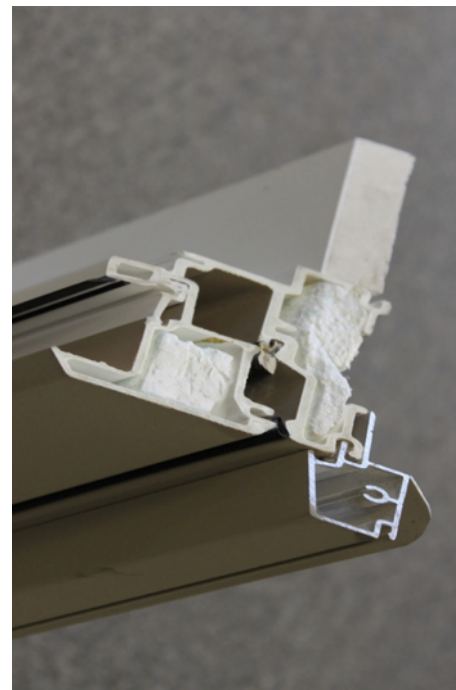
Glazing Details



Door Frame U-value
0.16 BTU/hr.ft².F

Door Glass U-value
0.09 BTU/hr.ft².F

Door Glass SHGC
50%



Window Frame U-value
0.22 BTU/hr.ft².F

Window Glass U-value
0.13 BTU/hr.ft².F

Window Glass SHGC
56%

Passive House Certified wood with aluminum cladding door frames

Low-profile fiberglass window frames with core insulation

Triple-pane glass with high SHGC for passive solar in winter

Over-insulated window frame on interior with polyiso insulation

No drafts or need for heating source at windows and doors

Super air-tight door construction

CASE STUDY 1 : NEWENHOUSE

HVAC Systems

Peak Heating Load
1341 watt



Low cost electric radiant panels in bathrooms and hallway provide heat

92% efficient HRV with internal defroster and summer by-pass mode

Active Solar Systems



3300 kWh/yr grid-connected, photovoltaic system, net zero site energy

284 liter solar hot water system with electric back-up

CASE STUDY 1 : NEUENHOUSE



Specific Space Heat Demand

3.5 kBtu/(ft²yr)

Pressurization Test

0.6 ACH50

Peak Heating Load

5.4 BTU/sf/hr

Peak Cooling Load

2.8 BTU/sf/hr

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| A Single-car garage (bicycle storage) | G Kitchen |
| B Vestibule with walk-off mat | H Open Dining/Living Room. |
| C Built-in Washer Dryer | I Bedroom |
| D Built-in Storage Cabinets | J Bathroom |
| E Gallery Space | K Mechanical Room |
| F Flex Space. Office, Bedroom, Workshop, Playroom. | |
-
- 1** Public Art & Community Green Space
 - 2** Vegetated Areas
 - 3** Permeable Paver Hardscape Area
 - 4** Setback Variance required at Sheridan Ave
 - 5** Concrete sidewalk.
 - 6** Private Courtyards increase access to passive heating, natural light, natural ventilation, and exterior views

CASE STUDY 2 : BEARDEN PLACE

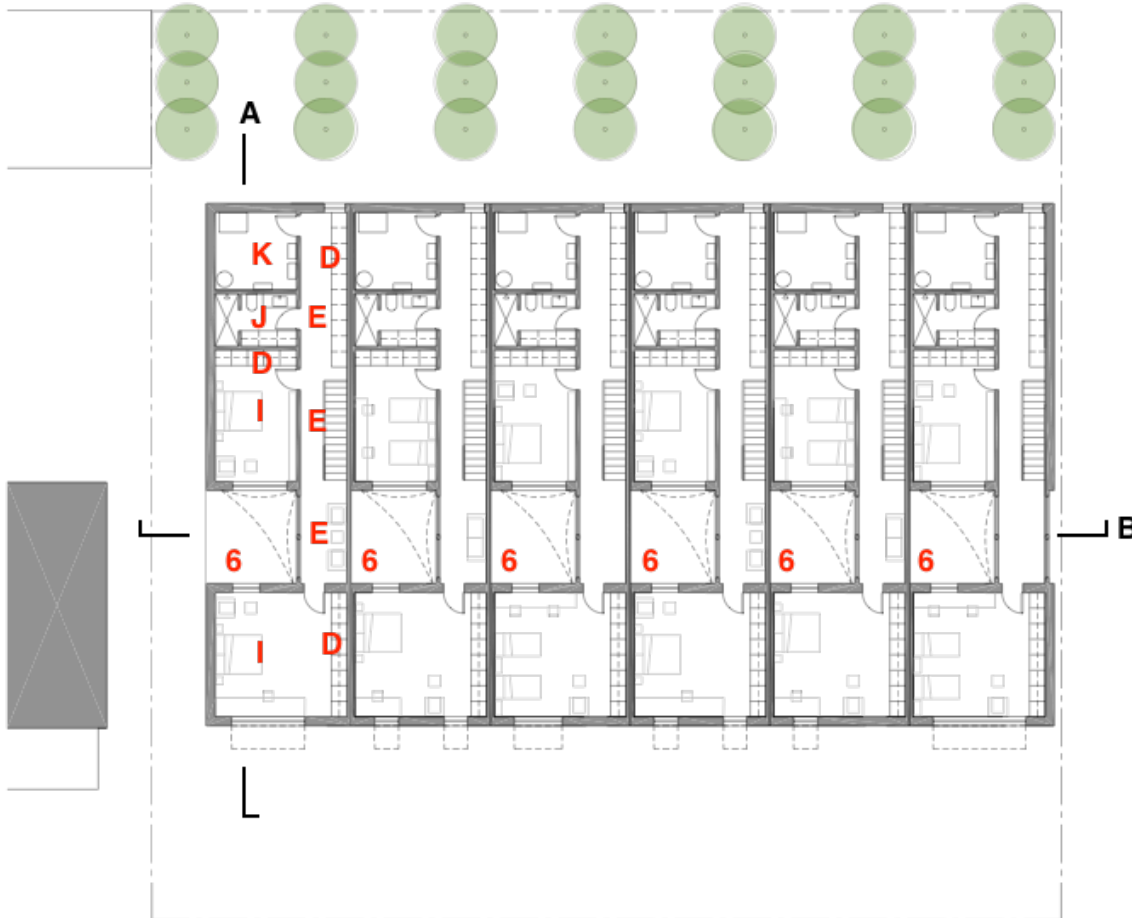
Multi-family Townhomes, New Construction

Project Features:

-passive solar and natural lighting to inner townhomes via courtyards

-secure and private courtyard green space

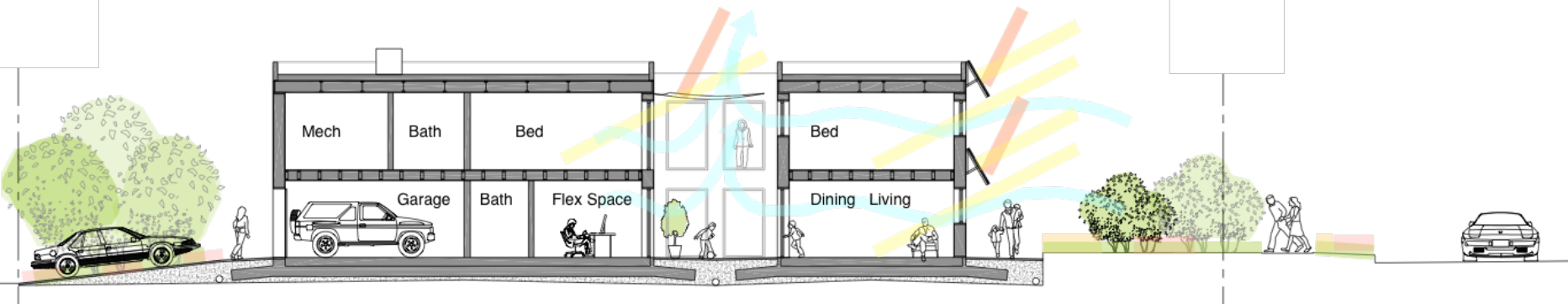
-larger building mass has less heat loss, thus, allows for courtyard cutouts without increasing insulation levels



- | | | | |
|----------|--|----------|--------------------------|
| A | Single-car garage (bicycle storage) | G | Kitchen |
| B | Vestibule with walk-off mat | H | Open Dining/Living Room. |
| C | Built-in Washer Dryer | I | Bedroom |
| D | Built-in Storage Cabinets | J | Bathroom |
| E | Gallery Space | K | Mechanical Room |
| F | Flex Space. Office, Bedroom, Workshop, Playroom. | | |

CASE STUDY 2 : BEARDEN PLACE

Thermal & Air-Tight Details



Section A Looking East 1/8" = 1'-0"

10" structural slab-on-grade with 12" structural EPS foam underneath and around perimeter

14" SIP roof with 5" tapered foam insulation above.

**Roof R-value
78 hr.ft².F/BTU**

14" SIP exterior walls

**Wall R-value
52 hr.ft².F/BTU**

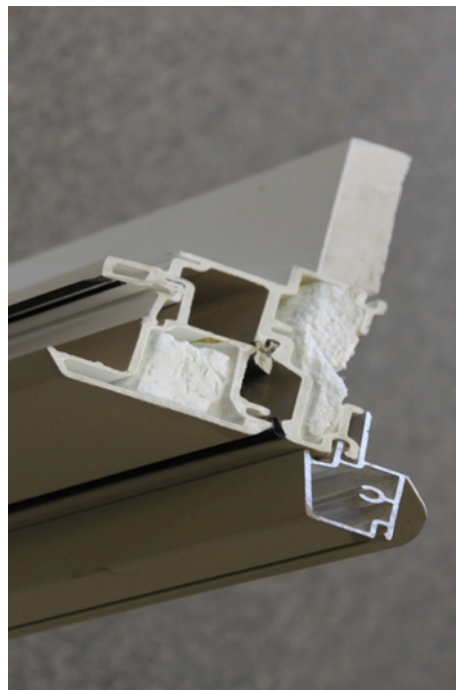
Windows and chimney effect of courtyard provides passive cooling

Slab R-value

Photovoltaic awnings provide summer shade

48 hr.ft².F/BTU

Glazing Details



**Window & Door Frame U-value
0.22 BTU/hr.ft².F**

**Window & Door Glass U-value
0.13 BTU/hr.ft².F**

**Window & Door Glass SHGC
56%**

Low-profile fiberglass window and door frames with core insulation

Triple-pane glass with high SHGC for passive solar in winter

Over-insulated window frame on interior with polyiso insulation

No drafts or need for heating source at windows and doors

Super air-tight door construction

HVAC System



Peak Heating Load

5.4 BTU/sf/hr

Peak Cooling Load

2.8 BTU/sf/hr

Small HRV in each townhome provides continuous ventilation with electric post-heater to provide all space heating. HRV is 92% efficient, passive house certified, with internal defrost, and summer by-pass mode.

No other heating system.

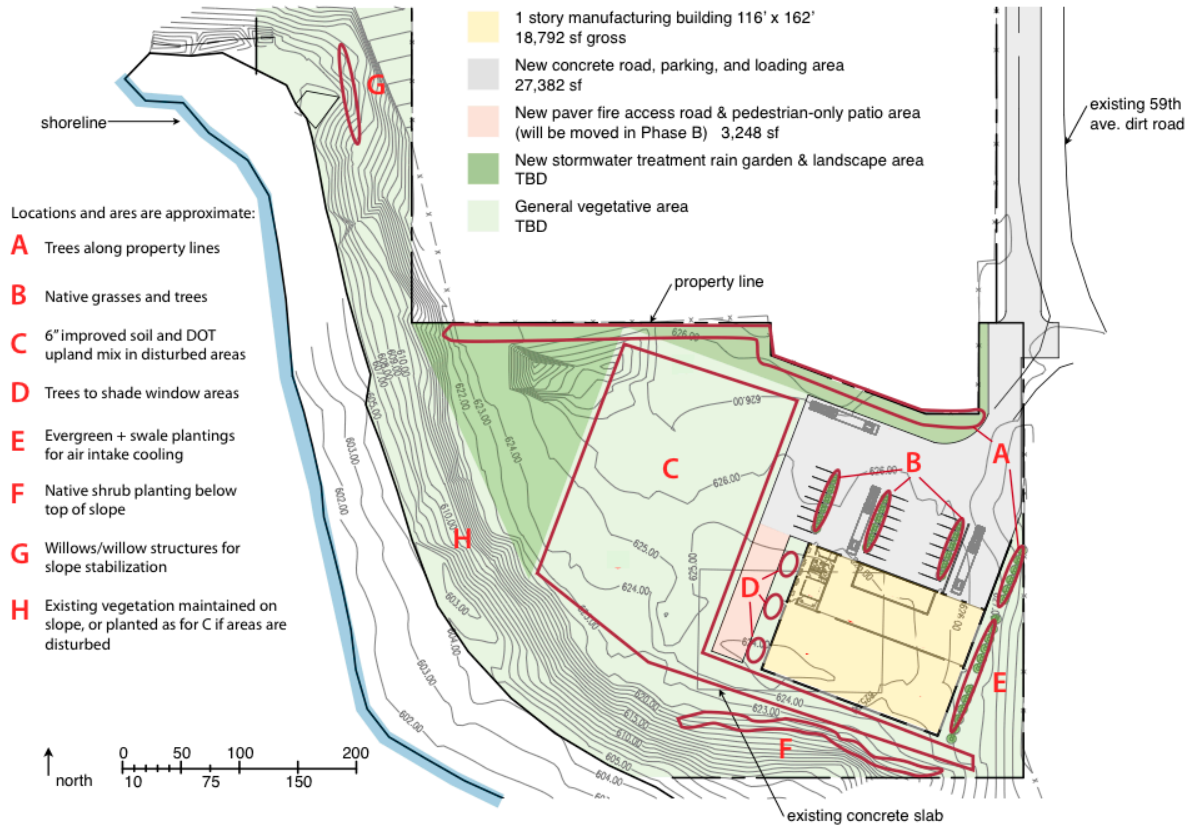
Cooling provided by one ductless mini-split unit

Active Solar Systems



3000 kWh/yr photovoltaic panel system per townhome to be Net Zero Source Energy. Mounted as awnings over windows and doors on south street elevation, integrated into the playful design aesthetic.

CASE STUDY 2 : BEARDEN PLACE



Specific Space Heat Demand

3.3 kBTU/(ft²yr)

Pressurization Test Result

0.6 ACH50

Peak Heating Load

6.6 BTU/sf/hr 116,000 BTU/hr

Peak Cooling Load

3.6 BTU/sf/hr 62,800 BTU/hr

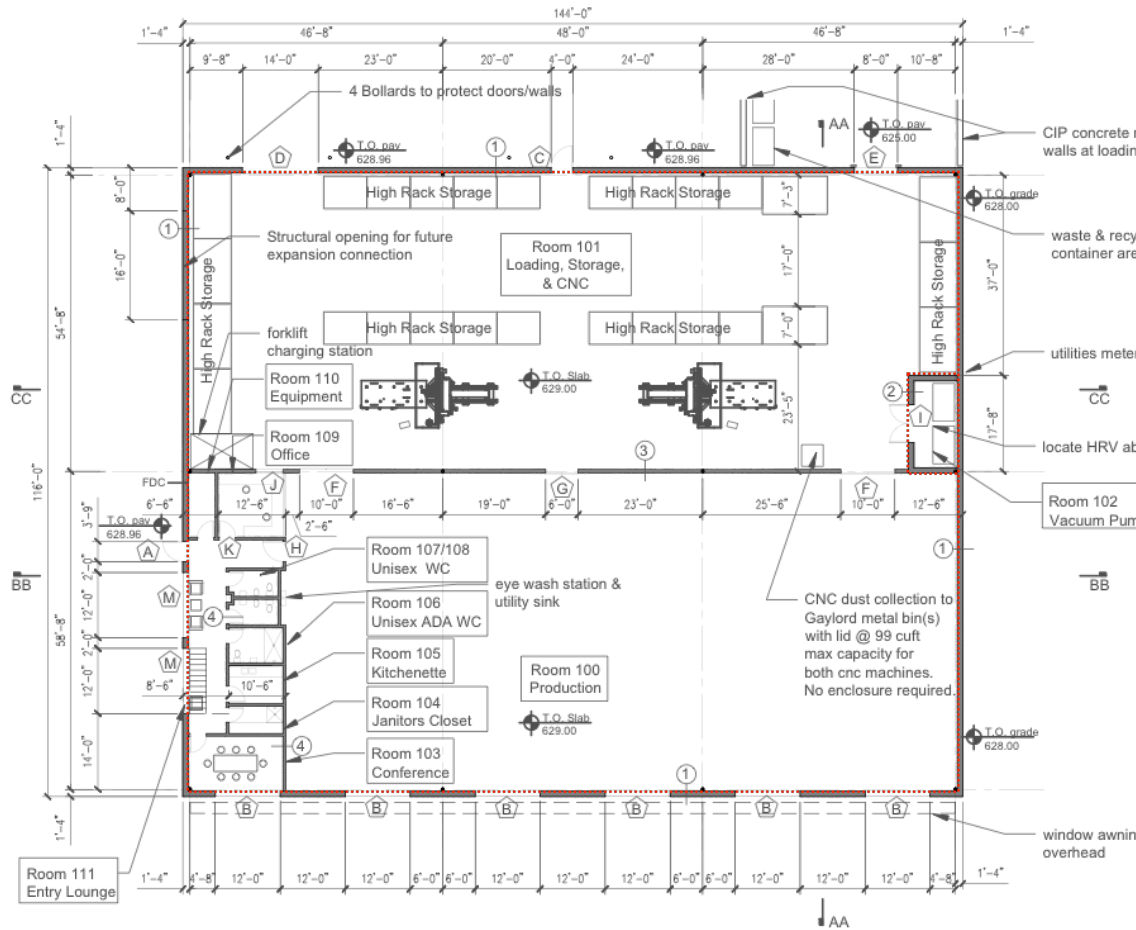
CASE STUDY 3 : STRYKER BAY FACTORY

Manufacturing Facility, New Construction

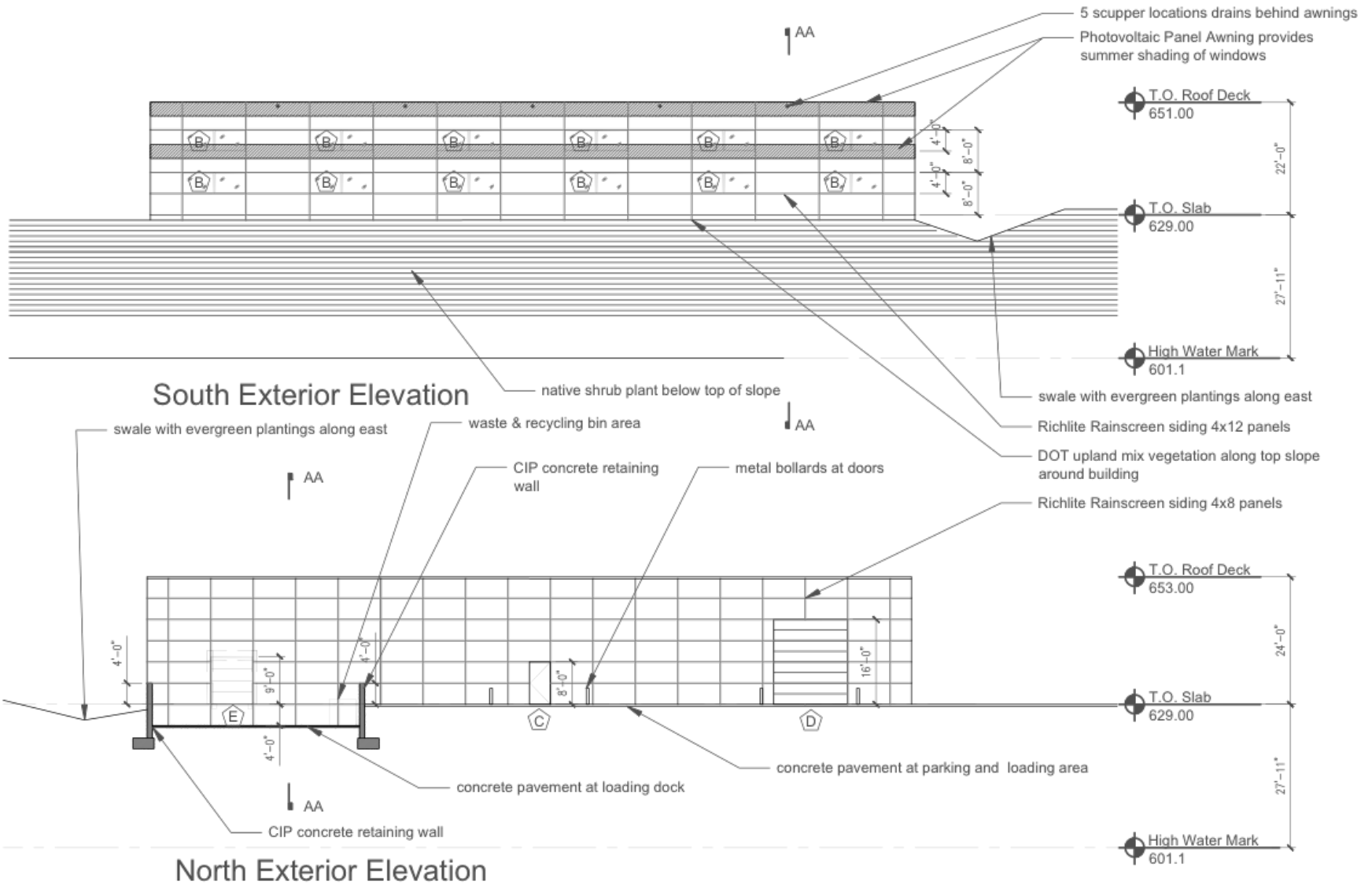
Project Features:

-isolating equipment internal heat gains, using for space heating in winter and exhausting in summer

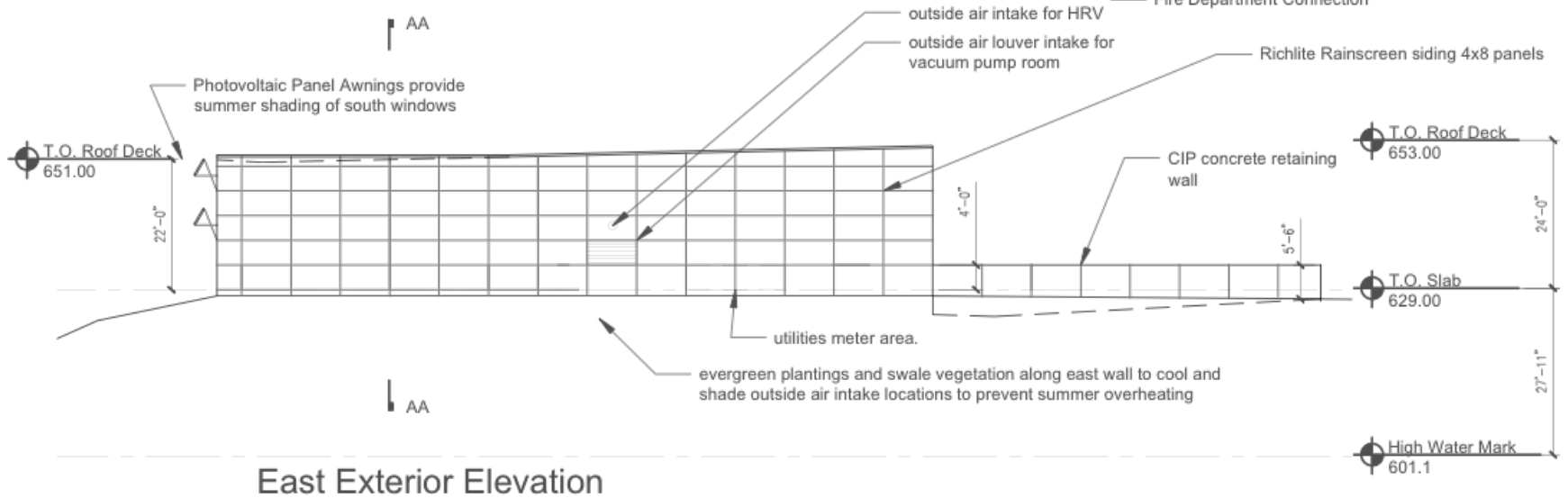
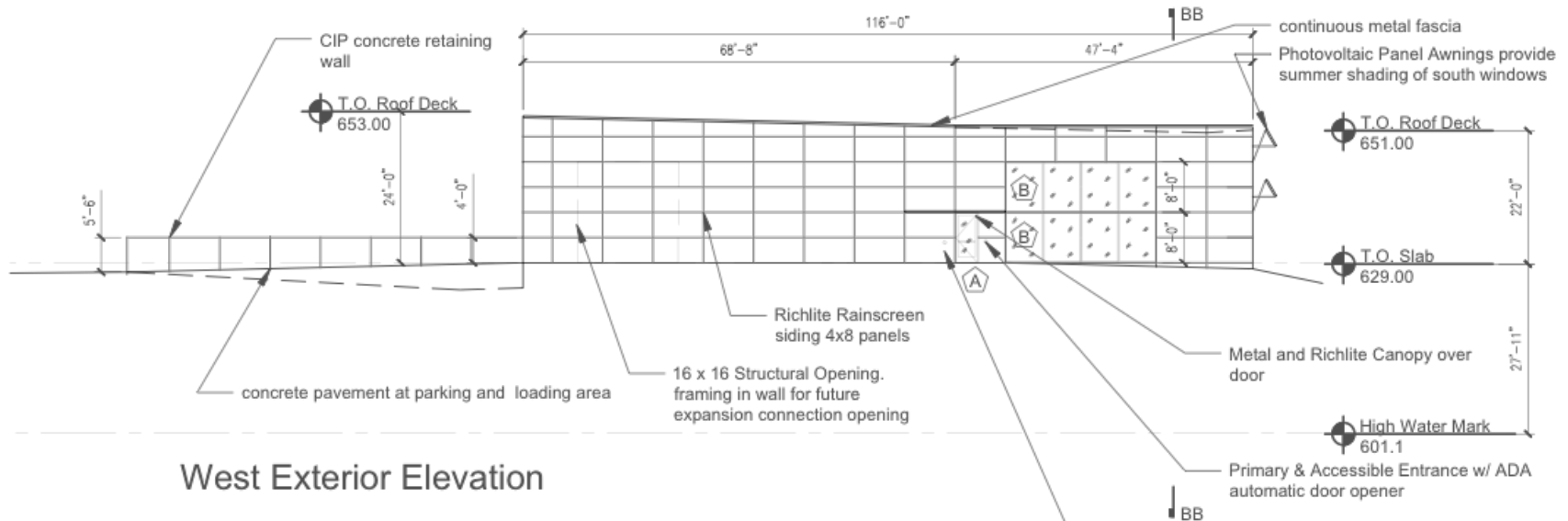
-dramatically reducing electrical loads where possible: lighting, hot water, office and kitchen equipment, because CNC equipment energy use cannot be reduced significantly. Use more PV to offset CNC use.



CASE STUDY 3 : STRYKER BAY FACTORY

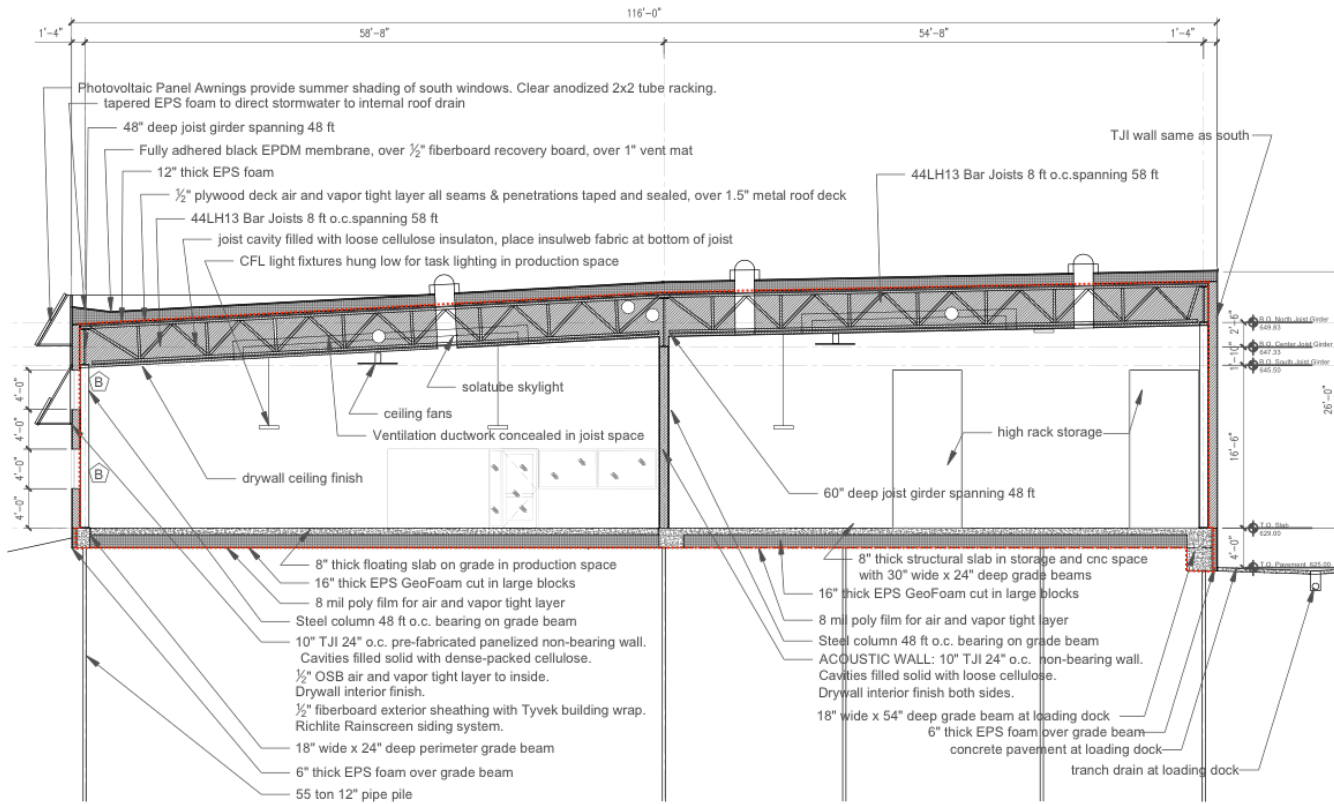


CASE STUDY 3 : STRYKER BAY FACTORY



CASE STUDY 3 : STRYKER BAY FACTORY

Thermal & Air-tight Details



Roof R-value
120 hr.ft².F/BTU

Wall R-value
49 hr.ft².F/BTU

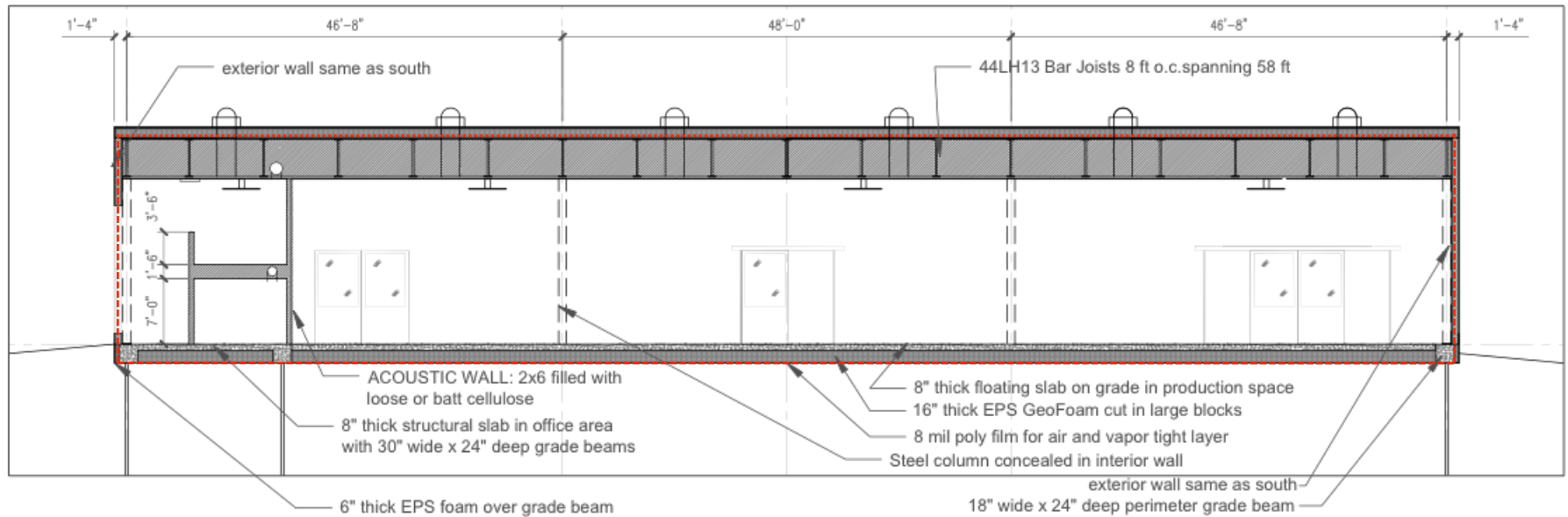
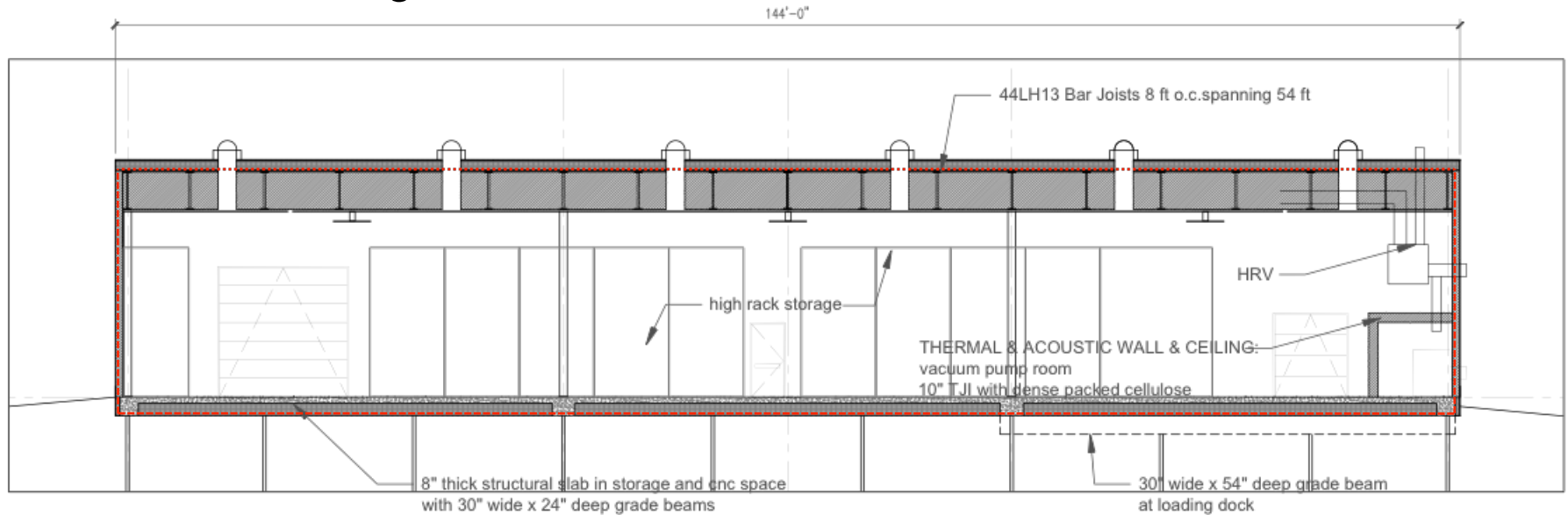
Slab R-value
49 hr.ft².F/BTU



**Continuous
Air-Tight System**

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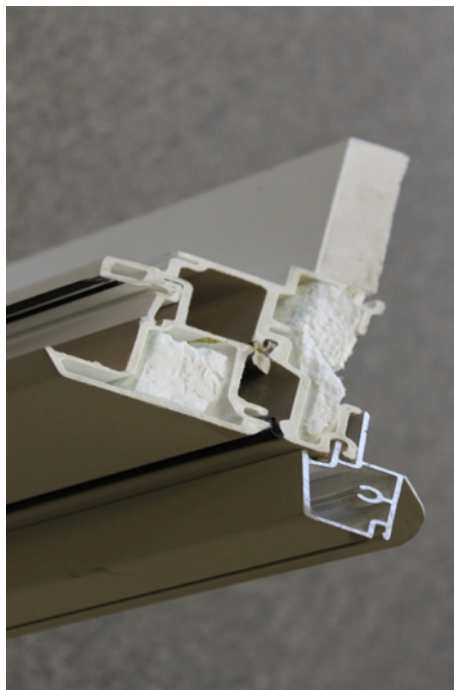
Thermal & Air-tight Details



**Continuous
Air-Tight System**

CASE STUDY 3 : STRYKER BAY FACTORY

Glazing Details



Window Frame U-value
0.22 BTU/hr.ft².F

Window Glass U-value
0.13 BTU/hr.ft².F

Window Glass SHGC
56%

Low-profile fiberglass window frames with core insulation

Triple-pane glass with high SHGC for passive solar in winter

Over-insulated window frame on interior with polyiso insulation

No drafts or need for heating source at windows

Super air-tight and high-insulation value overhead door construction

HVAC System

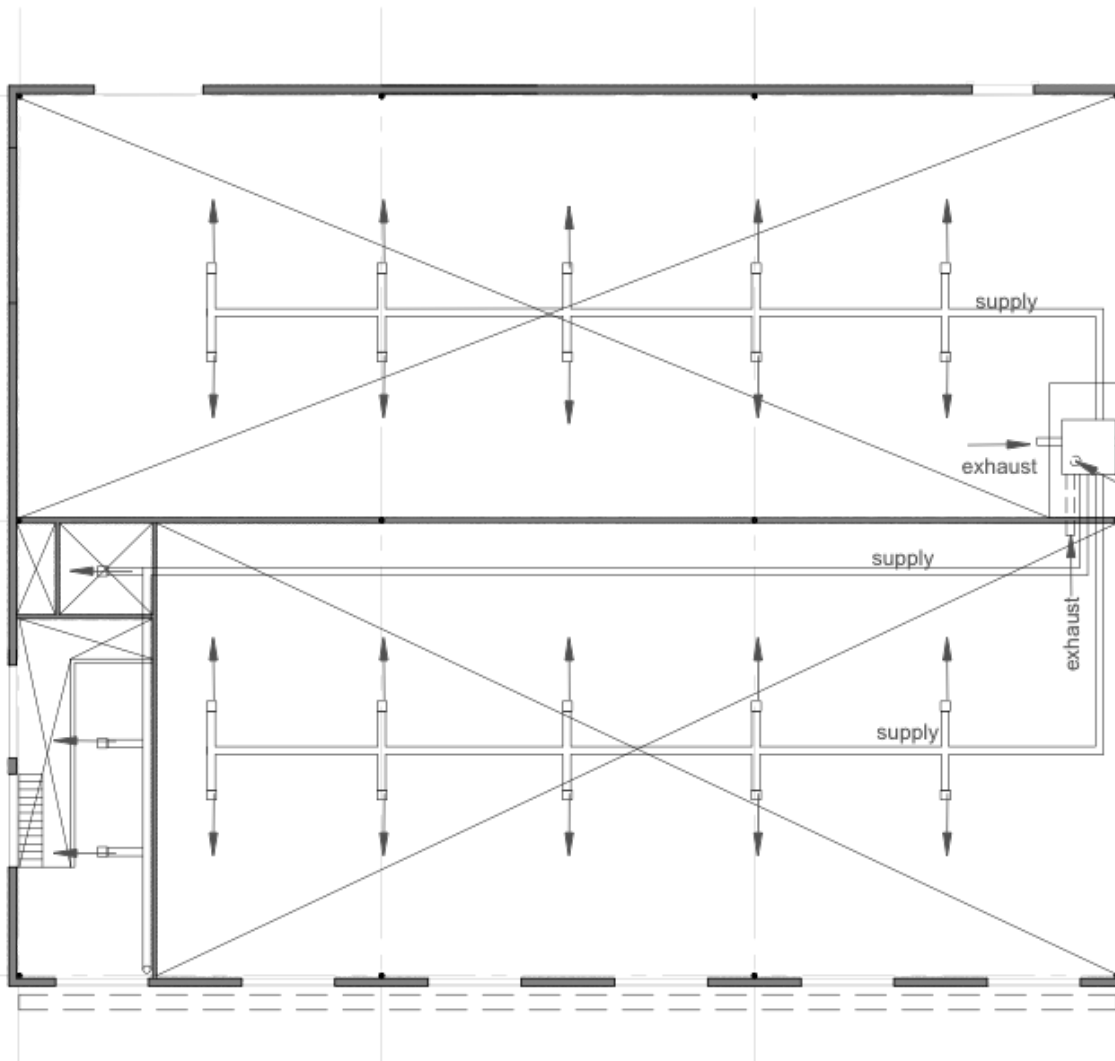
Peak Heating Load

6.6 BTU/sf/hr 116,000 BTU/hr

HVAC General Notes:

1. Ventilation: Variable Speed Heat Recovery Ventilation Unit. 90% heat recovery efficient. 700 normal air flow, 1300 maximum air flow. Winter operation at normal air flow 24 hours per day using heat from vacuum pump room as a pre-heat source, defrost option still required in case vacuum pumps are not operating. Summer operation at normal air flow during day with summer hx by-pass and at maximum air flow at night for night cooling of thermal mass. Acoustic mufflers provided between rooms. No fire dampers required. Merv 13 filter at supply air and Merv 7 filter at exhaust air of unit.

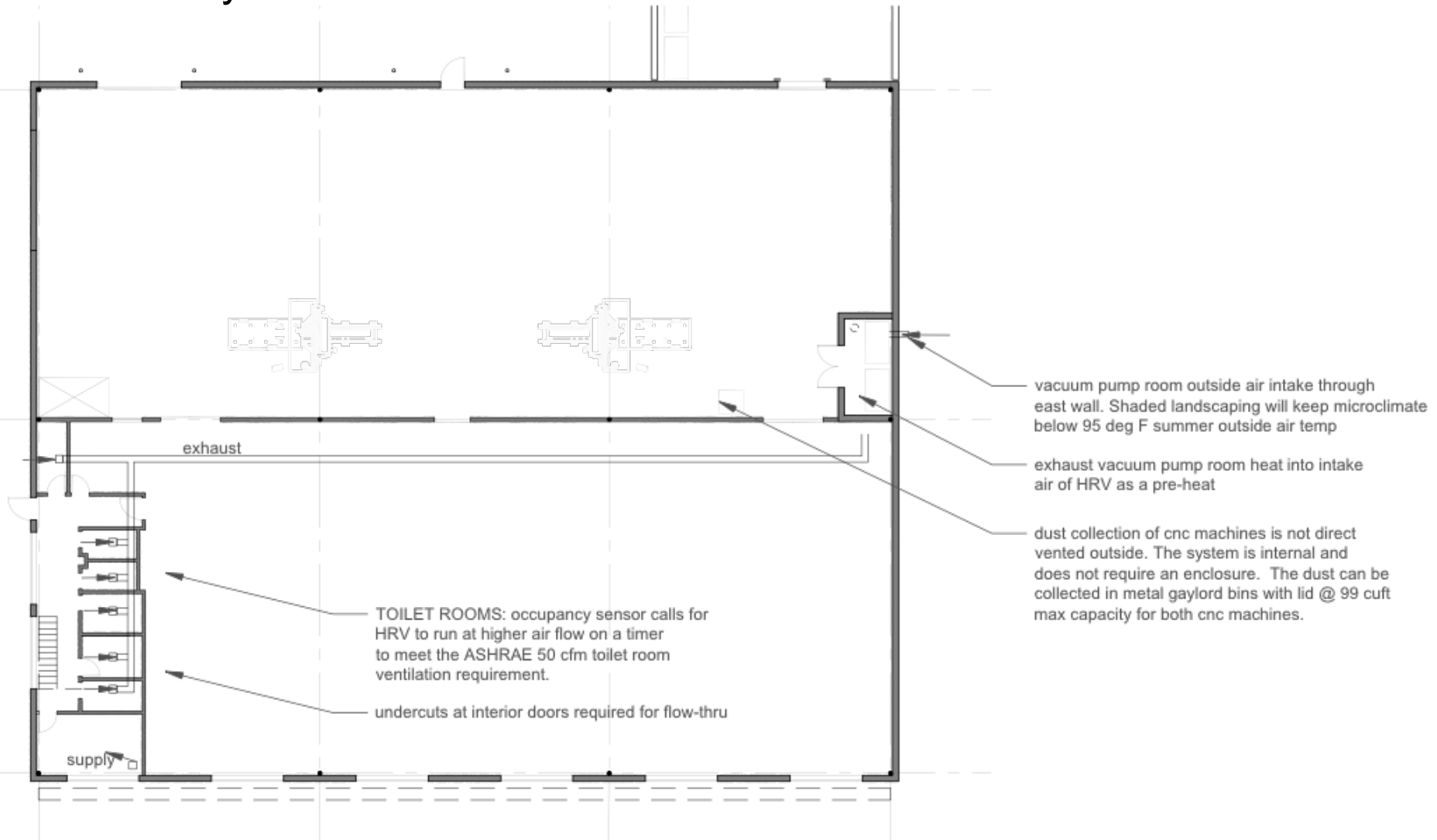
2. Space Heating. 40kw peak heat load. Supplied thru ventilation system with 40kw heat gain from vacuum pump room as primary heat source used as a pre-heat at the HRV intake and zoned electric duct coil post heater units as backup (3 zones)



- HRV outside air intake through east wall
- HRV unit over room below
- HRV outside air exhaust through roof

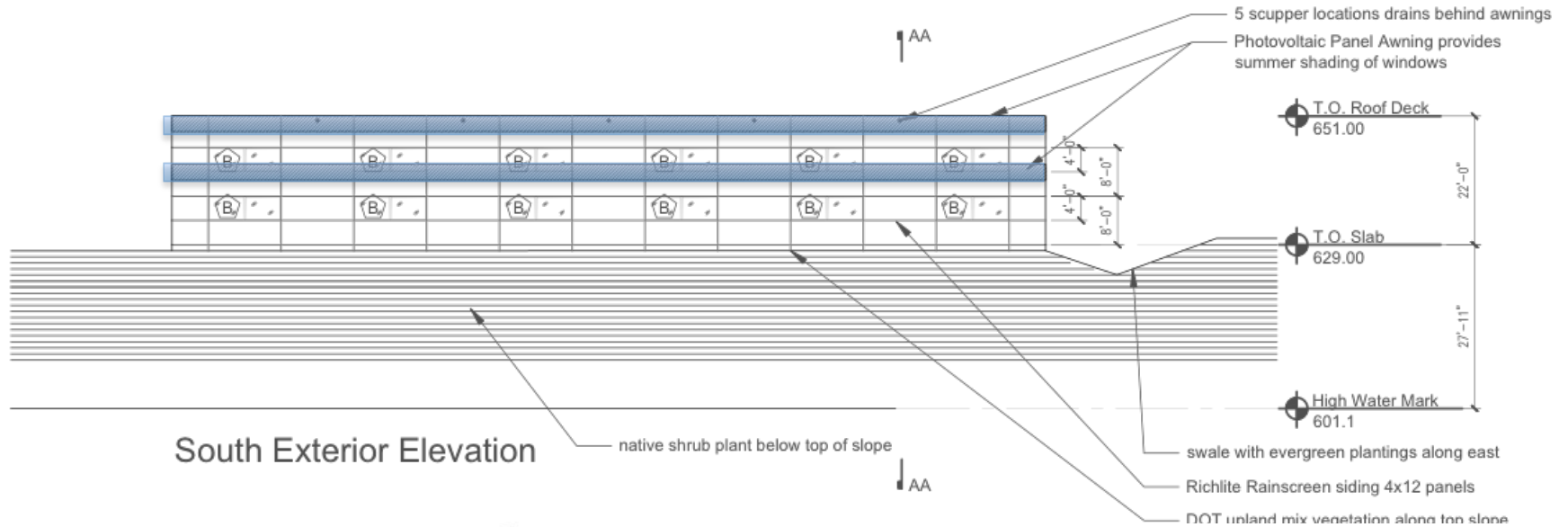


HVAC System



CASE STUDY 3 : STRYKER BAY FACTORY

Active Solar System



Grid-connected photovoltaic panels applied to south elevation of building above windows and used for summer shading



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80-90% REDUCTION IN PRIMARY ENERGY DEMAND (w/o PV)

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