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# MASS TIMBER

in multi-family Housing, Is it a good fit?

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*Disclaimer: This presentation was developed by a third party and is not funded by WoodWorks or the Softwood Lumber Board*

## PROJECT SUMMARY

### TYPE

Urban Infill – Residential

### Type III-B

### SCALE

5 stories Existing / 4 stories New Construction

60 units (33 units Existing / 27 units New Construction)

68,400 square feet (33,000 sf Existing / 35,400 sf New Construction)

### FEATURES

Ground-floor retail space – 4,000 square feet

## PROJECT TEAM

Developer:	Pieper Properties LLC
Contractor:	Catalyst Construction
Historical Consultant:	MacRostie Historic Advisors LLC
Structural:	Pierce Engineering
CLT supplier:	KLH
Civil:	The Sigma Group
Lighting Consultant:	Spectrum Lighting & Controls
Envelope Consultant:	Brandt Enclosure Consulting Inc.
Architects:	Engberg Anderson



The Louis Bass Building is Historically significant because it is a contributing member to the Florida and Third Industrial Historic District as an Industrial Loft type building. The Industrial Loft is an important building type in Milwaukee's history and is distinguished by its long, narrow, multi-story load bearing brick exterior with heavy timber framing. **Designed by Otto Strack and constructed in 1891**, the building was initially built as a rental for the Pabst Brewing Company but later was occupied, for a short term, by the Lindermann & Hoverson Company, which manufactured stoves, ranges, and other like products. After that, the longest tenant was by Louis Bass, from 1947 until 1982.



Pabst Theatre - WI  
Pabst Mansion - WI  
Pabst Brewing Campus - WI  
Borden's – New York  
E.W. Browning Company - Manhattan



OTTO STRACK.



Louis Bass Building + Architect

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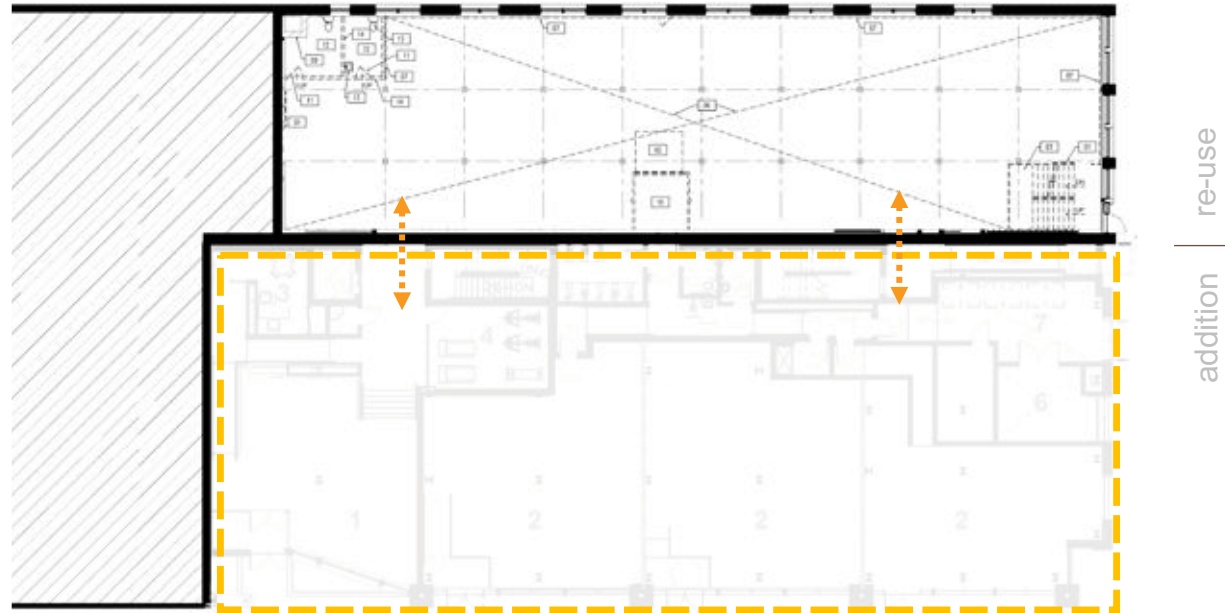
## EXISTING RE-USE + ADDITION



NPS Historic Tax Project requisite, one of which was the **Louis Bass ghost sign** dictated the height of the Addition as to not cover or obscure it.



EXISTING...



Lateral Addition + Continuity





EXISTING...





Extensively utilized in Milwaukee – made from local clay that yields a distinct texture and yellow/sepia color...



S t a b i l i z e . . .



Preservation of Original Arched Window



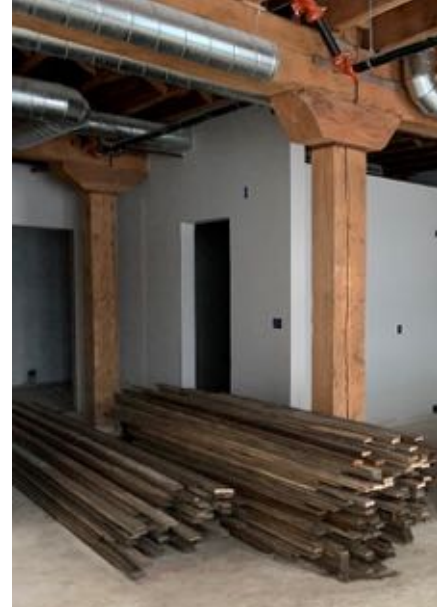
E X I S T I N G . . .





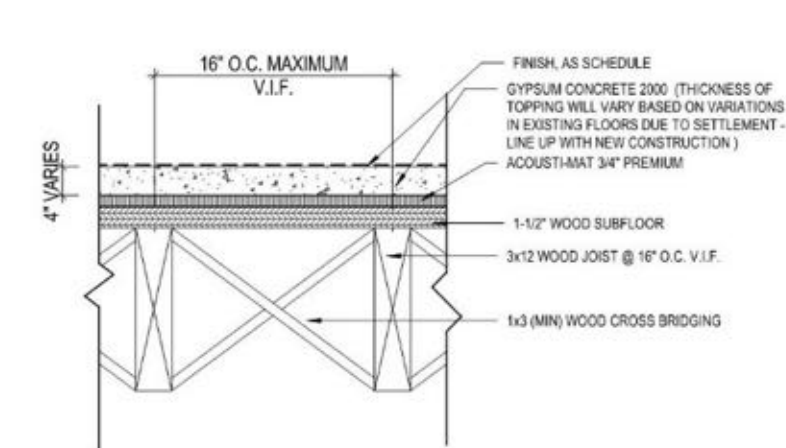
EXISTING...





EXISTING...





EXISTING FLOOR/CEILING ASSEMBLY



The existing Louis Bass building consisted of **load bearing brick exterior walls** and wood framing on the interior. The framing employed here was **12x12 heavy timber columns** and mostly typically **3"x12" floor joists** with the exception of one floor that used 2"x12" framing. The floor system is 3/4" t&g over a 2"x t&g sub-floor. Not meeting the dimensional requisites of HT and considering the existing with the new construction, **construction type III-B** was the best selection to code the project as a whole.

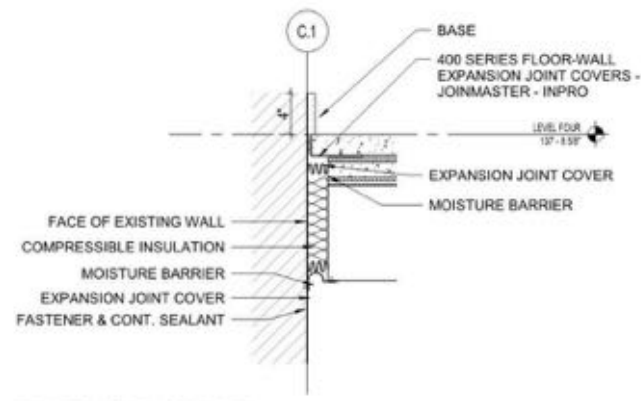
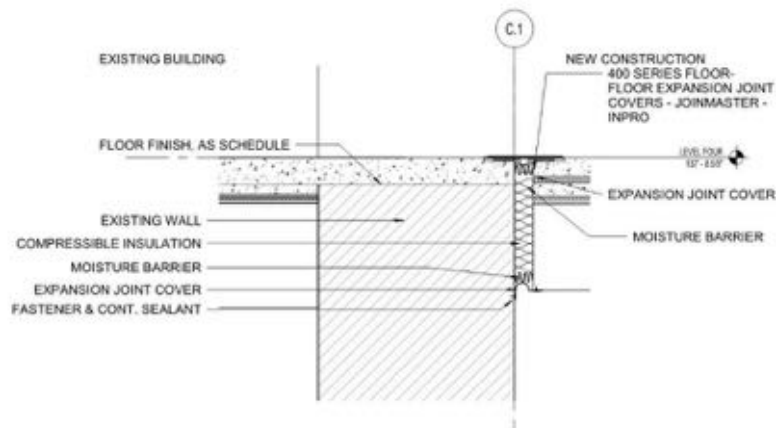
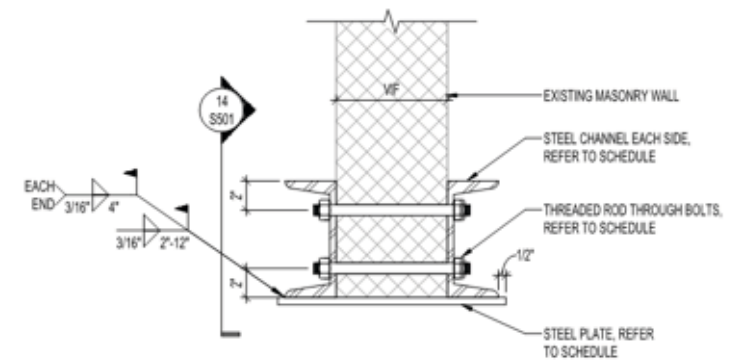
Due **the historic nature of the building**, we were allowed to keep the wood structure exposed because the historic finishes and the use of sprinklers.

#### IEBC 2015 - 1203.5 Interior Finishes

The existing finishes of walls and ceilings shall be accepted when it is demonstrated that they are the historic finishes.

#### IEBC 2015 - 1203.12 Automatic Fire-Extinguishing Systems

Every historical building that cannot be made to conform to the construction requirements specified in the International Building Code for the occupancy or use and that constitutes a distinct fire hazard shall be deemed to be in compliance if provided with an approved automatic fire-extinguishing system.



PROVIDED FOR JOINT DETAIL

EXISTING - Lateral Addition + Continuity

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EXISTING RE-USE + **ADDITION**





LEVEL THREE



LEVEL ONE

- 1. LOBBY
- 2. RETAIL
- 3. LEASING
- 4. FITNESS
- 5. UNITS
- 6. ELEC. VAULT
- 7. REFUSE





CLT



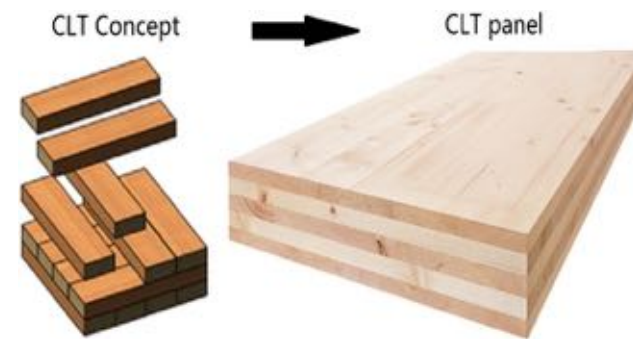
GLT



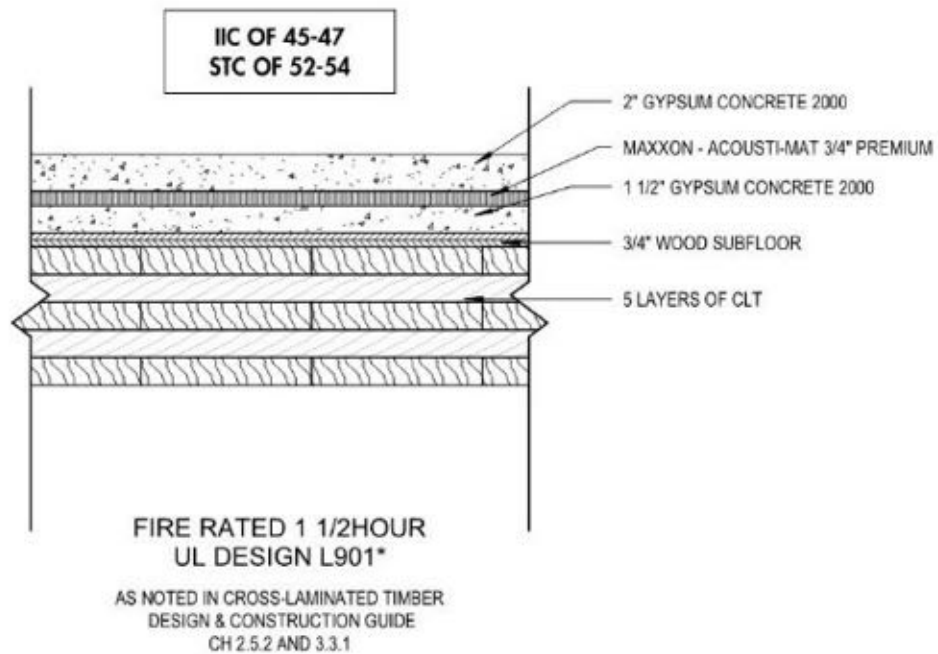
NLT



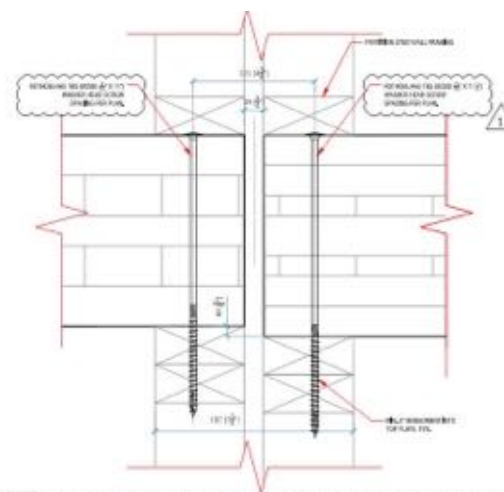
DLT



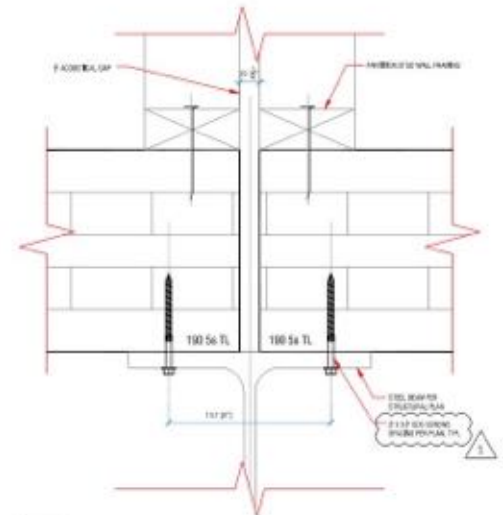
DLT + NLT + CLT



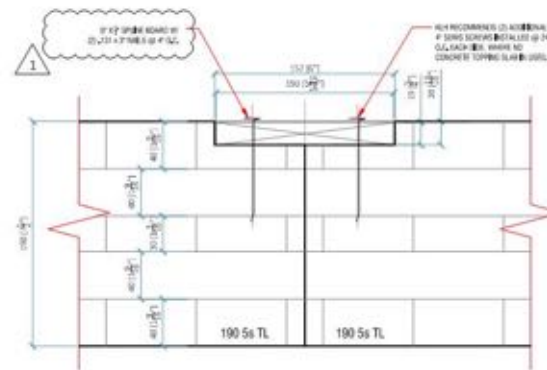
## NEW CONSTRUCTION FLOOR/CEILING ASSEMBLY



**8 THICKNESS TRANSITION @ PARTITION WALL**  
CLT-002 SCALE: 3" = 1'-0"

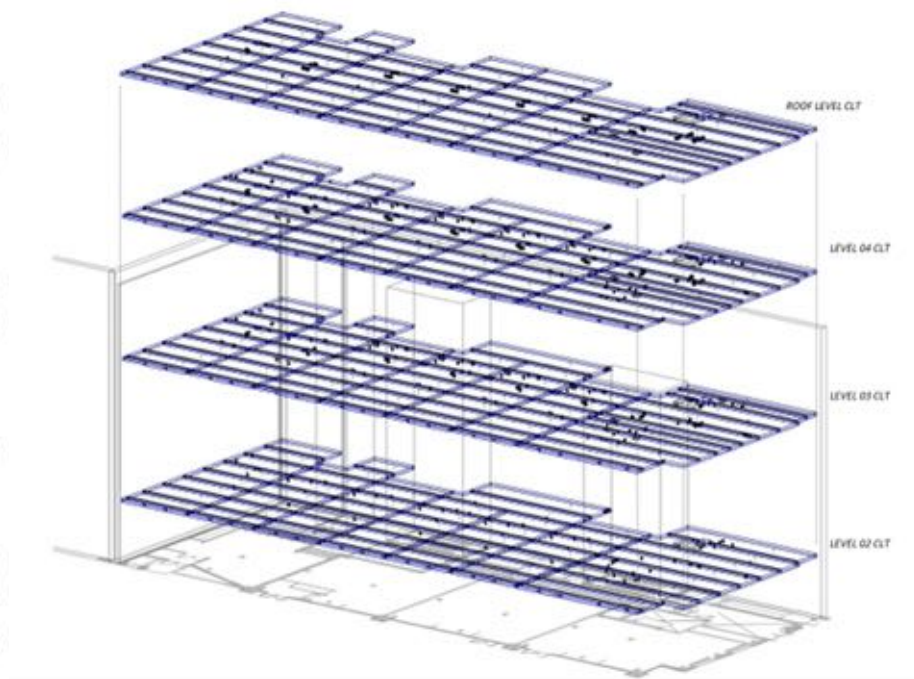
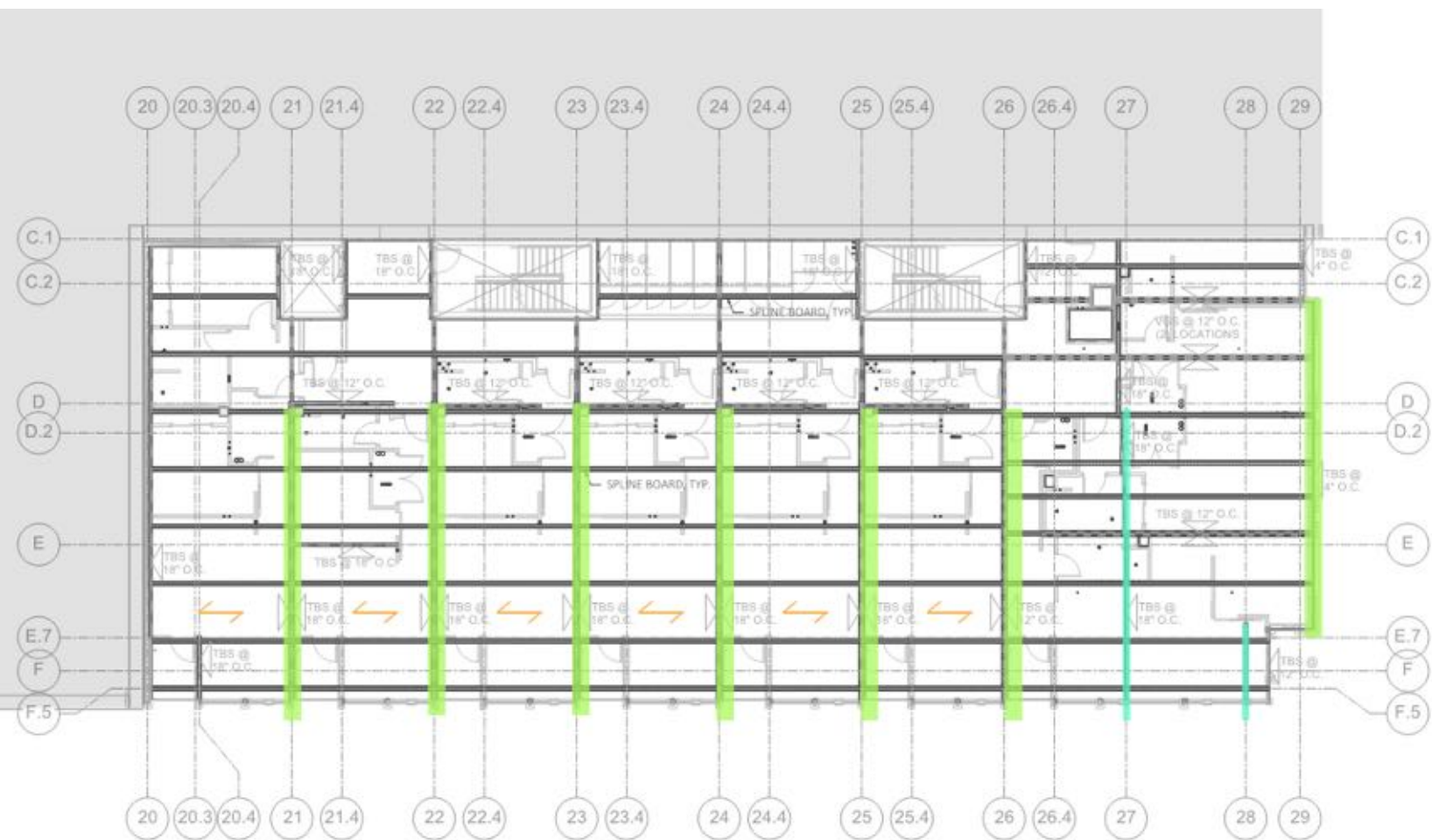


**2 PARTITION GAP @ STEEL**  
CLT-002 SCALE: 3" = 1'-0"



**1 TYP. 190 5s SPLINE JOINT**  
CLT-002 SCALE: 3" = 1'-0"





ADDITION... structure+module





ADDITION ...





ADDITION ...



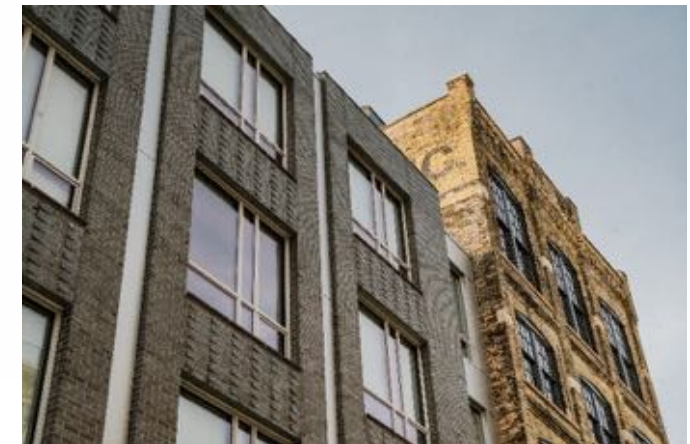
# Proportion + Rhythm + Texture/Motif + Tone



## Massing + Aesthetic NPS Coordinated & Approved...

Historic Tax Credits: Historic tax credits are available for Historically designated buildings that are rehabilitated according to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The Historic Tax Credit process is a three-part application process to garner the subsidy/income tax credit.

- Part I: Presents information about the significance and appearance of the building.
- Part II: Describes the condition of the building and the planned rehabilitation work.
- Part III: Submitted after the project is completed and documents that the work was completed as proposed.



ADDITION + EXISTING



re-use



**Vision of Ownership.** Sustainability was a key consideration and it started with the **recycling/adaptive re-use** of the Louis Bass building. Continuing that theme, the Owner was well versed in the **advantages** of **CLT/Mass Timber** and selected this as a system early on, not only for sustainability, but also because it offered **aesthetic continuity** of the interior structure from existing to new.

Aesthetic Continuity

addition



ADDITION + EXISTING





ADDITION ...





ADDITION ...





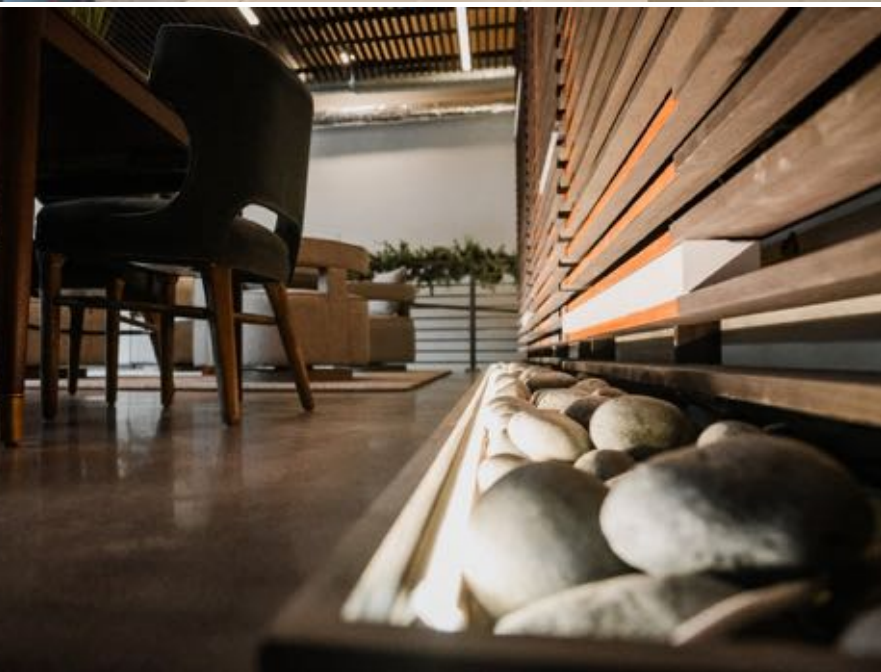
ADDITION ...





EXISTING...





ADDITION + EXISTING





ADDITION + EXISTING



ADDITION + EXISTING



- Questions?
- This concludes the American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System Course
- Contact Information:

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# Mass Timber in Multi-Family Housing: Is It a Good Fit for Your Project?

Ricky McLain, PE, SE  
WoodWorks

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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.





# Course Description

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Mass timber is often attached to the stigma of being more expensive than other building materials. Because of this, some people assume it only makes sense for one-off projects where innovation is celebrated but repeatability is not. Is this true, or do its other benefits result in overall cost efficiency? If it is true, how can we expect to build the number of new housing units needed across our country in a sustainable and affordable manner? Typical multi-family housing developments are in the range of 4-6 stories, often utilizing podium or pedestal construction with 1-2 stories of steel and concrete topped with 3-5 stories of light wood framing. Beyond these heights, building codes have historically required steel or concrete framing and, to justify the added costs of these materials, projects often go much taller. This has created a critical gap in housing developments in the range of 6-12 stories. Can mass timber multi-family projects make financial sense in the 4-6 story range, used in conjunction with light wood-frame systems? What new opportunities will the 2021 International Building Code create for mass timber housing in the 6-18 story range? This presentation will answer these questions and much more.

# Learning Objectives

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1. Evaluate the code opportunities for mass timber structures in residential mid-rise projects.
2. Discuss code-compliant options for exposing mass timber, where up to 2-hour fire-resistance ratings are required, and demonstrate design methodologies for achieving these ratings.
3. Review code requirements unique to hybrid mass timber and light-frame housing projects, and emphasize solutions for criteria such as construction type, fire-resistance ratings and acoustics design.
4. Highlight the unique benefits of using exposed mass timber in taller multi-family buildings.



# Is Mass Timber a Good Fit for Your Multi-Family Project?



Ascent, Milwaukee, WI  
Source: Korb & Associates Architects



Glue Laminated Timber (Glulam)  
Beams & columns



Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT)  
Solid sawn laminations



Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT)  
SCL laminations



Photo: Freres Lumber



Photo: StructureCraft



Photo: LendLease



Photo: LEVER Architecture



Dowel-Laminated Timber (DLT)



Photo: StructureCraft

Nail-Laminated Timber (NLT)



Photo: Think Wood

Glue-Laminated Timber (GLT)  
Plank orientation



Photo: StructureCraft



Photo: StructureCraft



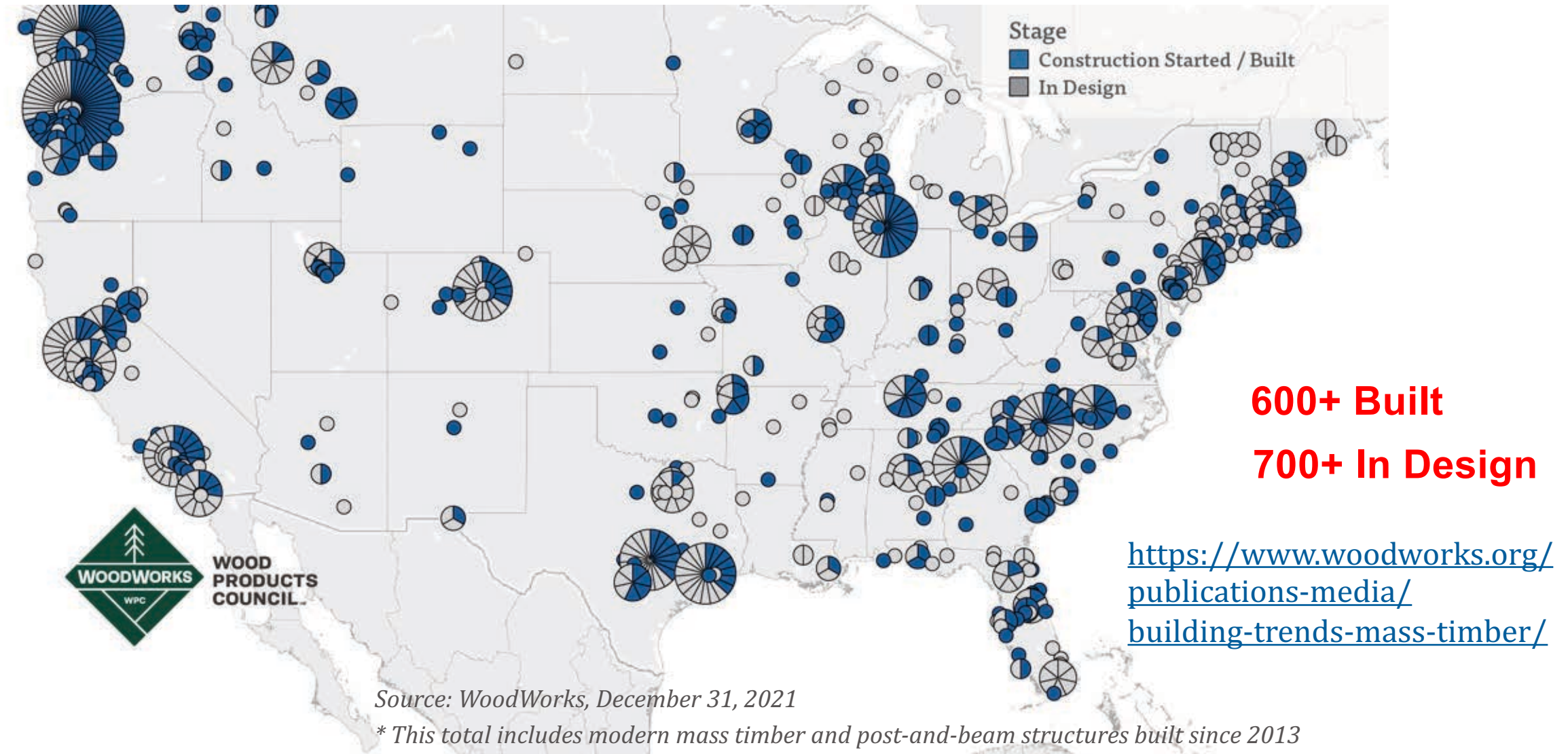
Photo: Ema Peter



Photo: Manasc Isaac  
Architects/Fast + Epp

# Current State of Mass Timber Projects

As of March 2022, in the US, **1,384** multi-family, commercial, or institutional projects have been constructed with, or are in design with, mass timber.





# Multi-Housing Typologies

## MT Floors & Roofs on LWF Bearing Walls



Credit: KL&A Engineers & Builders

## MT Floors & Roofs on Post & Beam Framing



Credit: ADX Creative and Engberg Anderson

## MT Floors & Roofs on MT Bearing Walls



Credit: Grey Organschi Architecture and Spiritos Properties

# Low- and Mid-Rise Multi-Family



Credit: AEX Creative and Engberg Anderson





Photo: John Klein

**HYBRID LIGHT-FRAME + MASS TIMBER**



# THE KIND PROJECT, SACRAMENTO, CA



Credit: Kalesnikoff Mass Timber



# CIRRUS, DENVER, CO



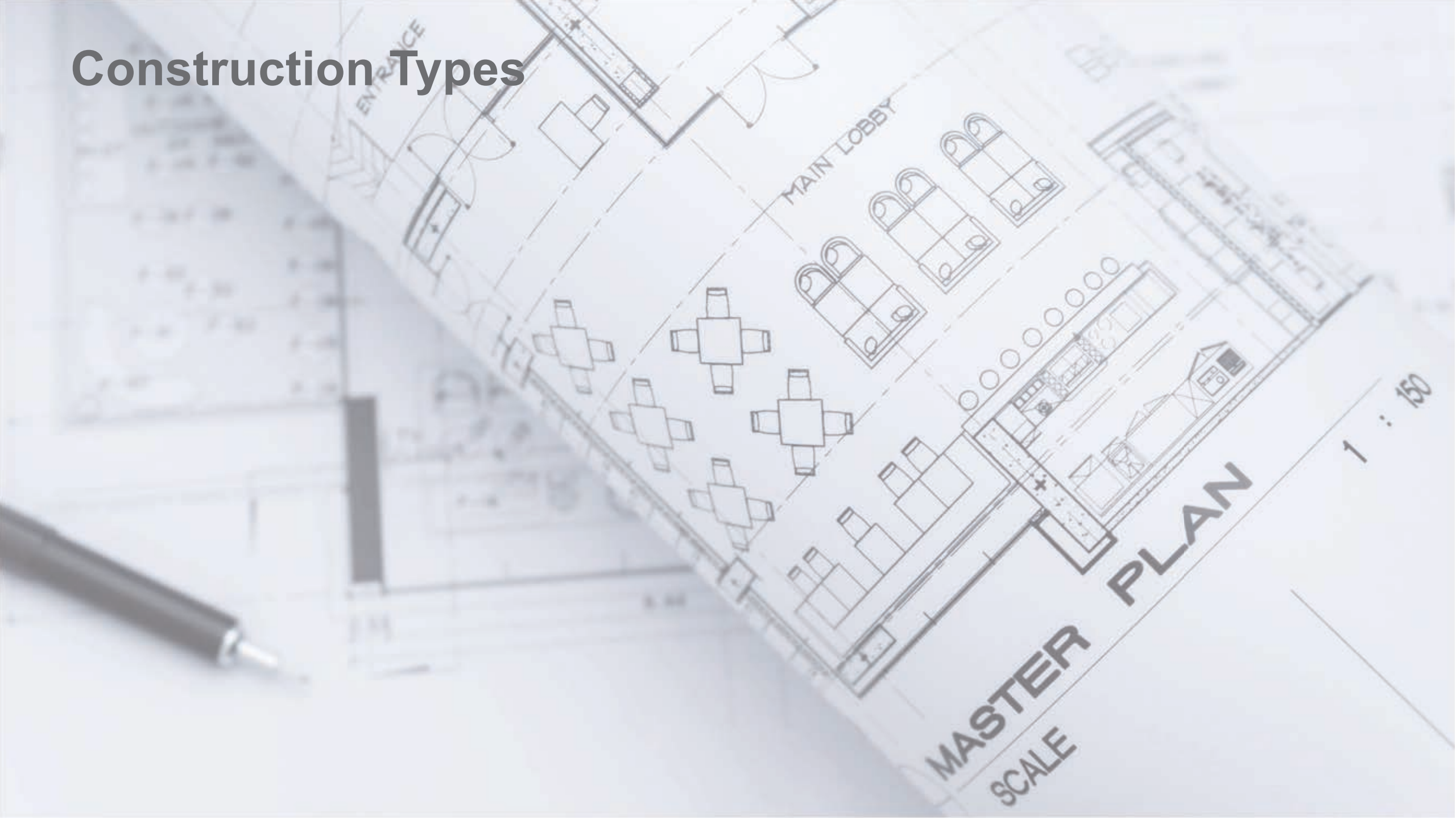


# THE DUKE, AUSTIN, TX





# Construction Types



# Construction Types

**When does the code allow mass timber to be used in low- and mid-rise multi-family projects?**

IBC defines mass timber systems in IBC Chapter 2 and notes their acceptance and manufacturing standards in IBC Chapter 23

Permitted anywhere that combustible materials and heavy timber are allowed, plus more





# Construction Types

All wood framed building options:

## **Type III**

Exterior walls non-combustible (may be FRTW)

Interior elements any allowed by code, including mass timber

## **Type V**

All building elements are any allowed by code, including mass timber

Types III and V are subdivided to A (protected) and B (unprotected)

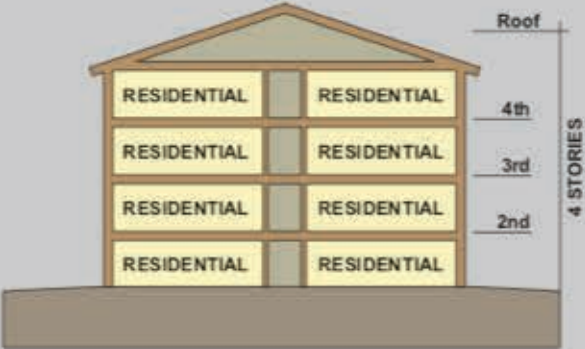
## **Type IV (Heavy Timber)**

Exterior walls non-combustible (may be FRTW OR CLT)

Interior elements qualify as Heavy Timber (min. sizes, no concealed spaces except in 2021 IBC)

# PRESCRIPTIVE BUILDING CODES

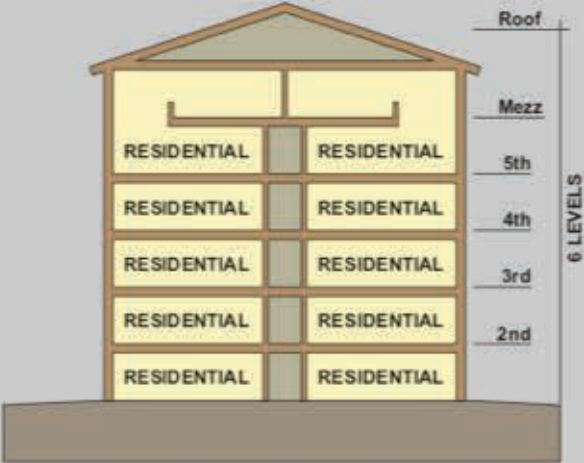
IBC Table 503: Base Height



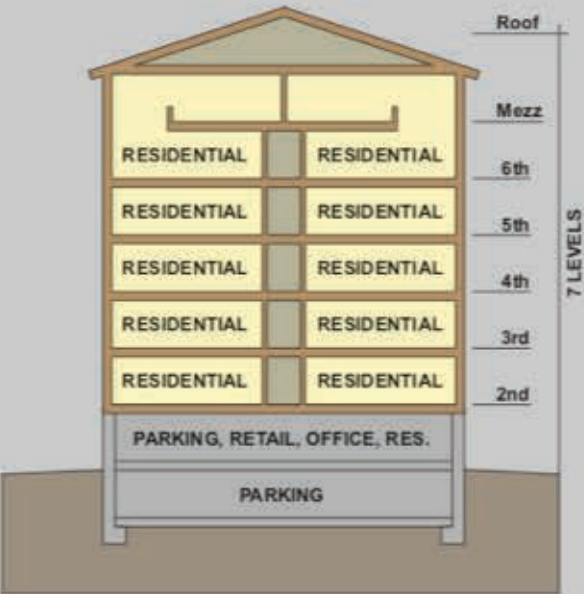
IBC Section 504: NFPA 13-Compliant Sprinkler System



IBC Section 505: Mezzanine

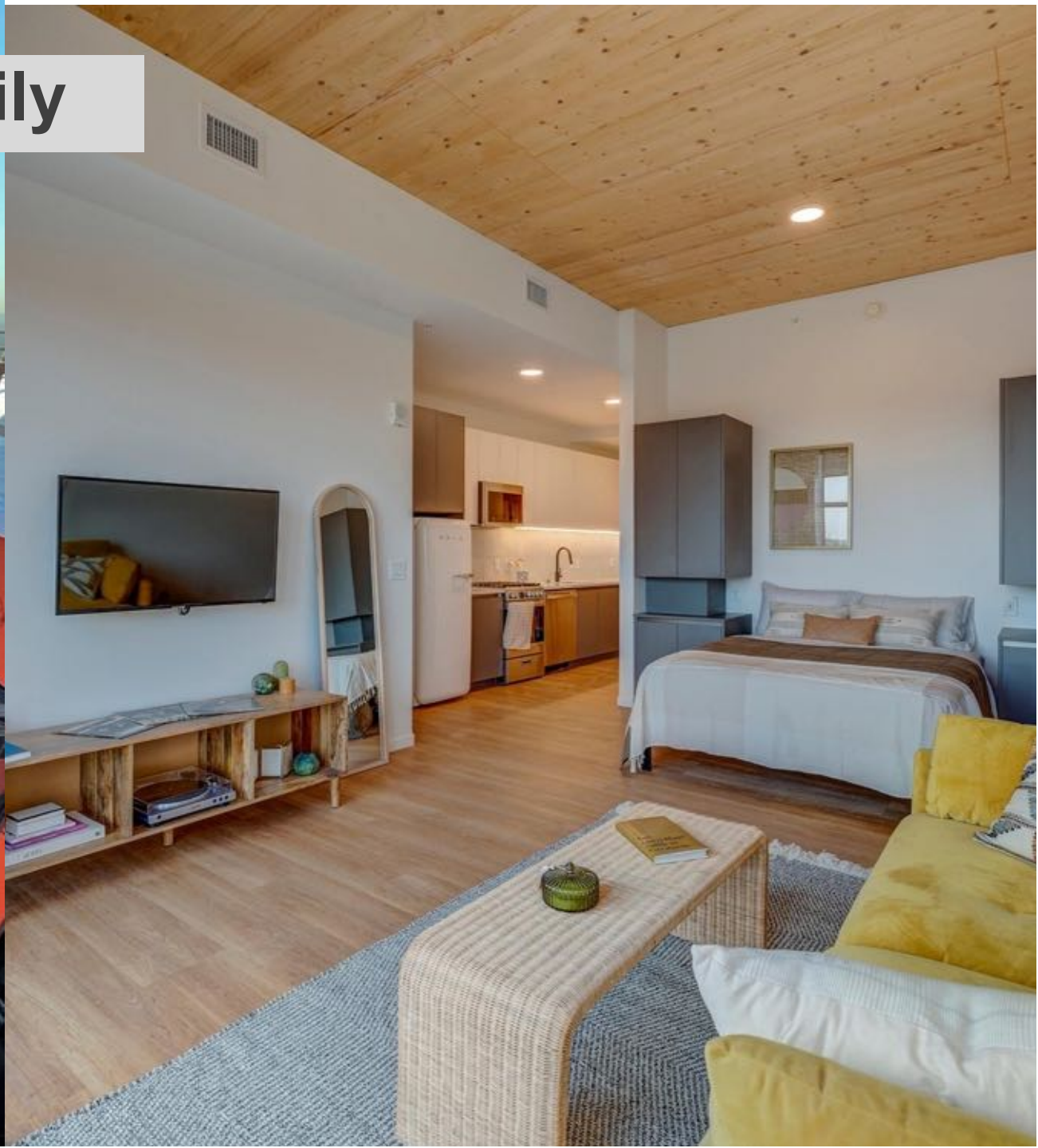


IBC Section 510.2: Podium





# Tall Mass Timber Multi-Family



Credit: Harbor Bay Real Estate Advisors, Purple Film, INTRO, Cleveland, OH



# 11 E LENOX, BOSTON, MA

# 7 STORIES

70 FT

Passive House  
Multi-Family



Credit: H + O Structural Engineering

Credit: Monte French Design Studio



# INTRO, CLEVELAND

9 Stories | 115 ft  
8 Timber Over 1 Podium

512,000 SF  
297 Apartments, Mixed-Use

Photo: Harbor Bay Real Estate Advisors, Purple Film | Architect: Hartshorne Plunkard Architecture



# ASCENT, MILWAUKEE

Tallest Mass Timber Building in the World



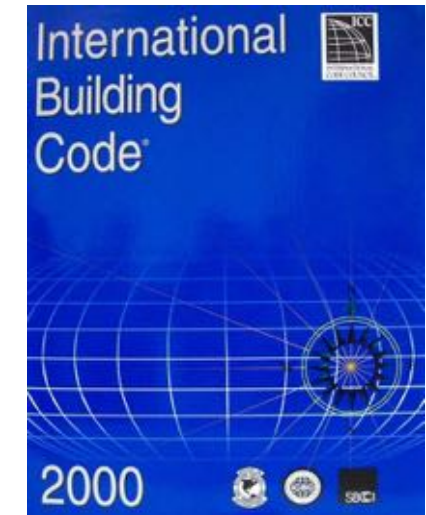
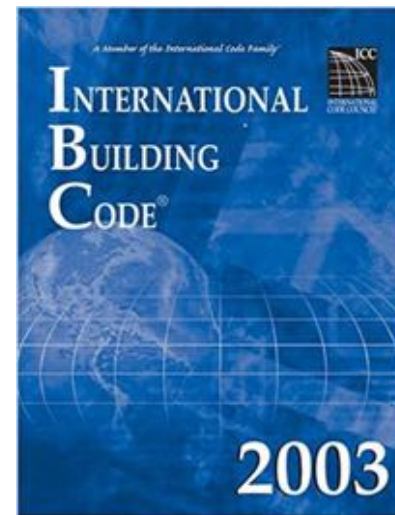
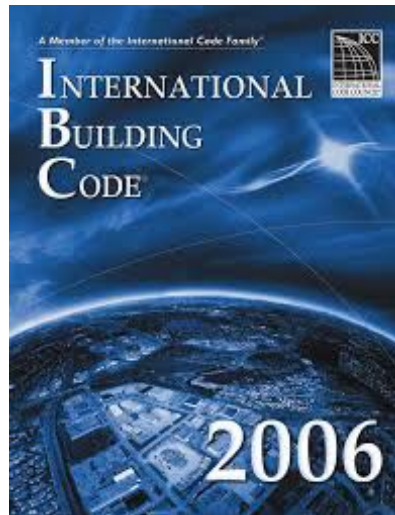
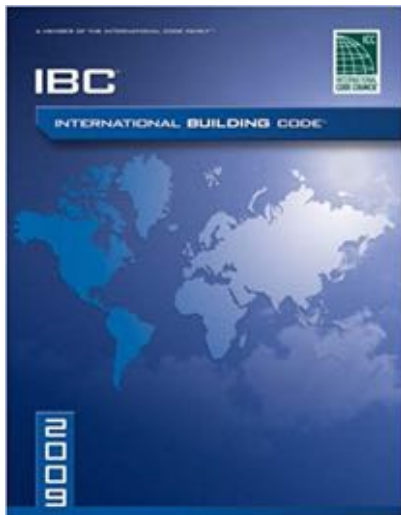
25 STORIES

19 TIMBER OVER 6 PODIUM

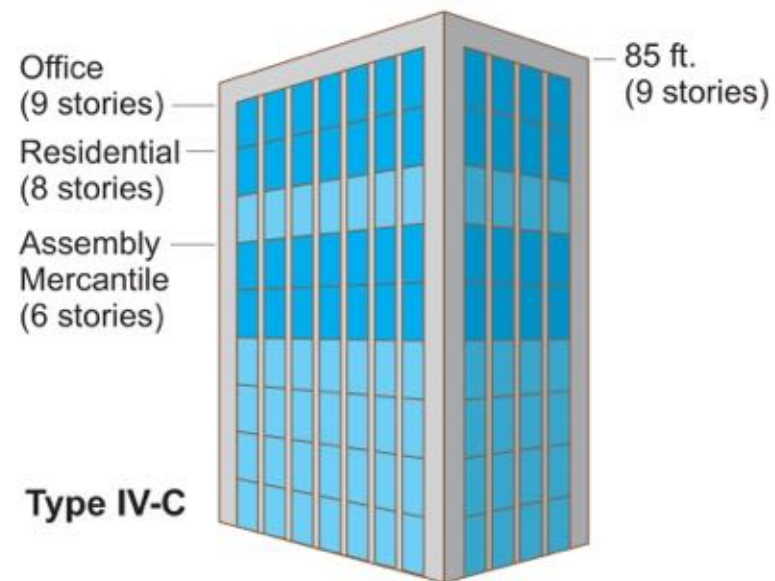
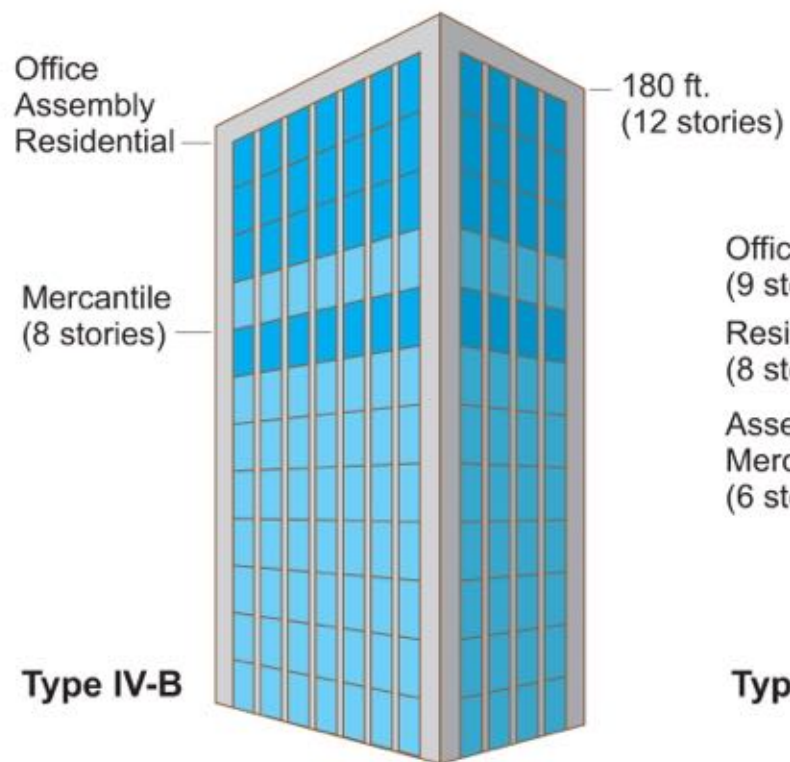
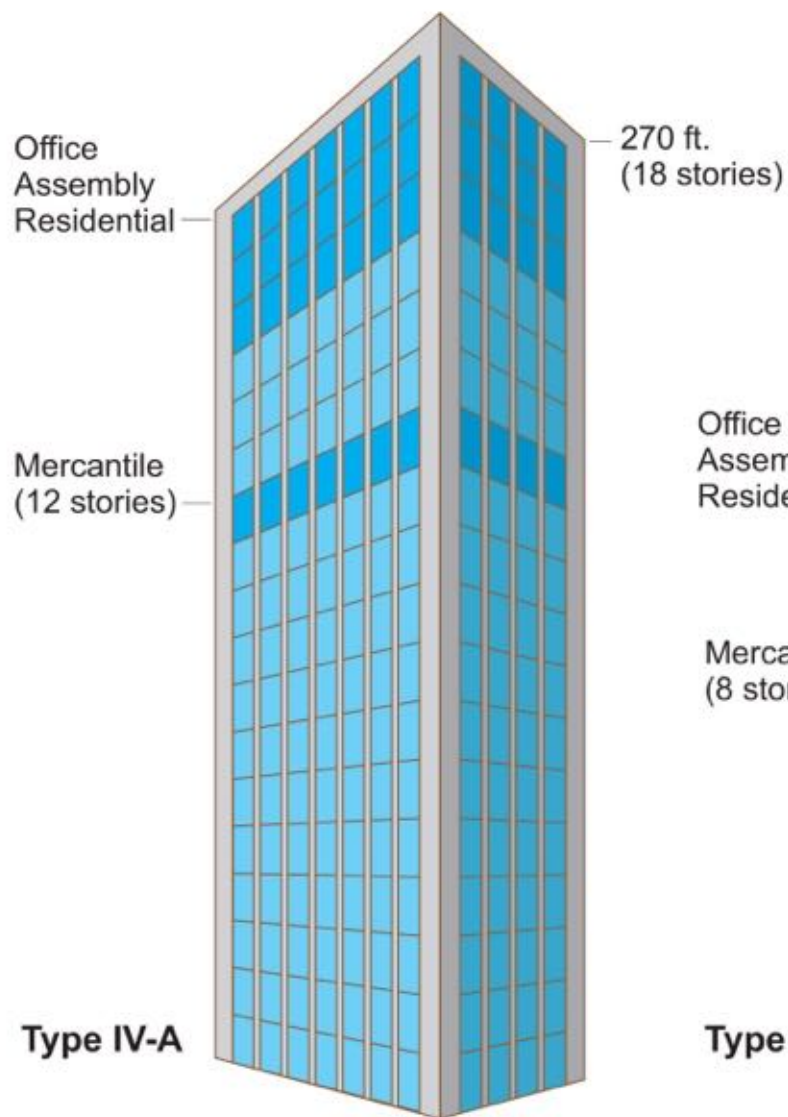
284 FT



## 3 YEAR CODE CYCLE



# PRESCRIPTIVE BUILDING CODES





# Type IV-C



9 STORIES  
BUILDING HEIGHT 85'  
ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 405,000 SF  
AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 45,000 SF

TYPE IV-C

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones



Photos: Baumberger Studio/PATH  
Architecture/Marcus Kauffman



# IV-C

## Type IV-C Protection vs. Exposed



9 STORIES  
BUILDING HEIGHT 85'  
ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 405,000 SF  
AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 45,000 SF

TYPE IV-C

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones



Credit: Kaiser+Path, Ema Peter

**All Mass Timber surfaces may be exposed**

**Exceptions: Shafts, concealed spaces, outside face of exterior walls**



# Type IV-B



12 STORIES  
BUILDING HEIGHT 180 FT  
ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 648,000 SF  
AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 54,000SF

TYPE IV-B

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones



Credit: LEVER Architecture



# IV-B

## Type IV-B Protection vs. Exposed



12 STORIES  
BUILDING HEIGHT 180 FT  
ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 648,000 SF  
AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 54,000SF

### TYPE IV-B

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones



Credit: Kaiser+Path

**NC protection on all surfaces of Mass Timber except limited exposed areas**

**~20% of Ceiling or ~40% of Wall can be exposed**



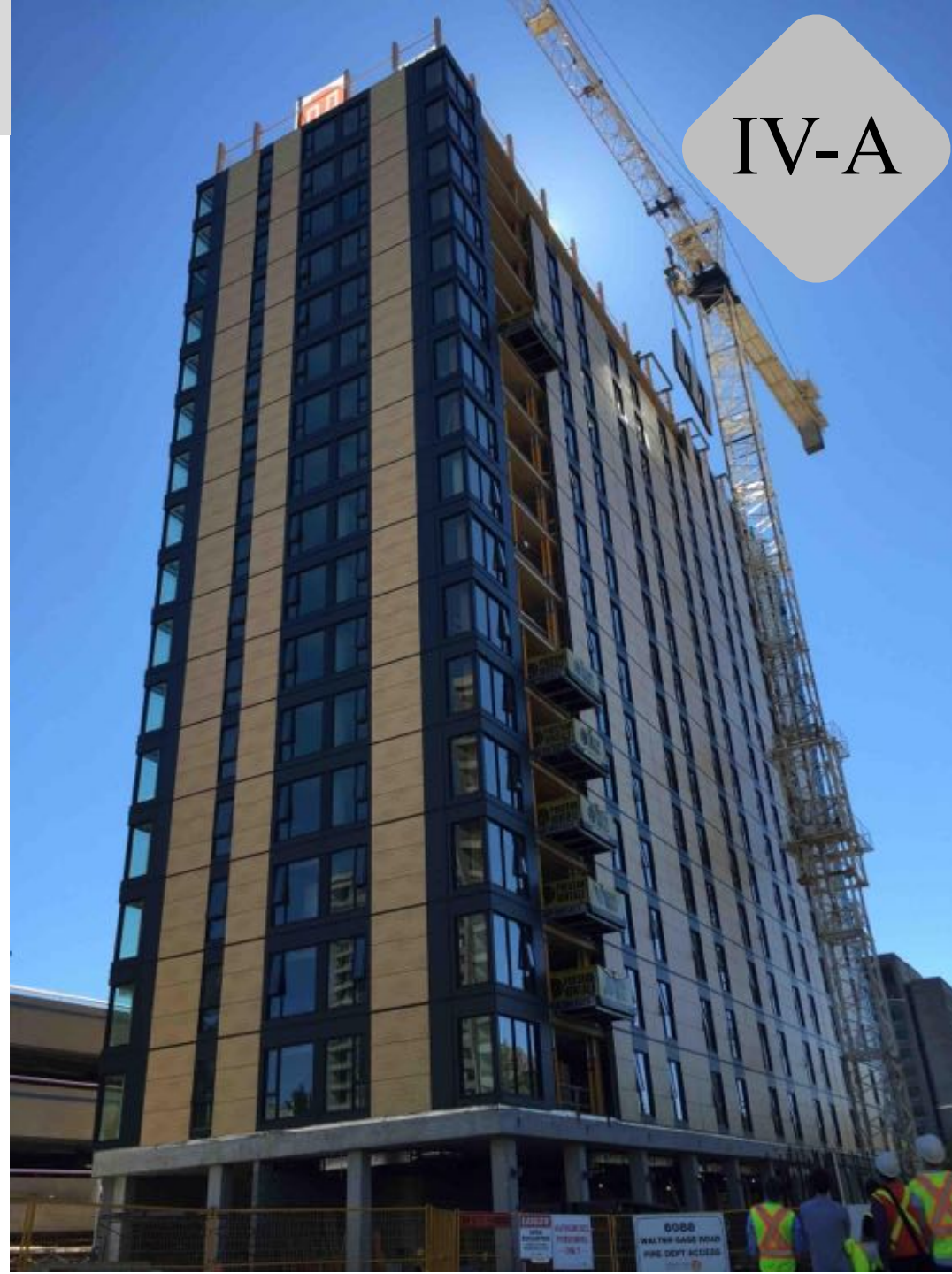
# Type IV-A



18 STORIES  
BUILDING HEIGHT 270'  
ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 972,000 SF  
AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 54,000SF

## TYPE IV-A

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones



Photos: Structurlam, naturally:wood,  
Fast + Epp



IV-A

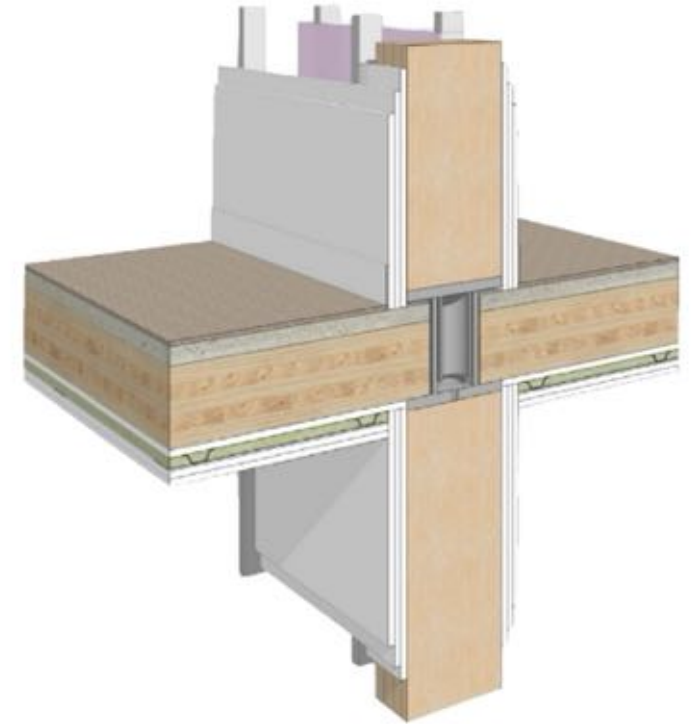
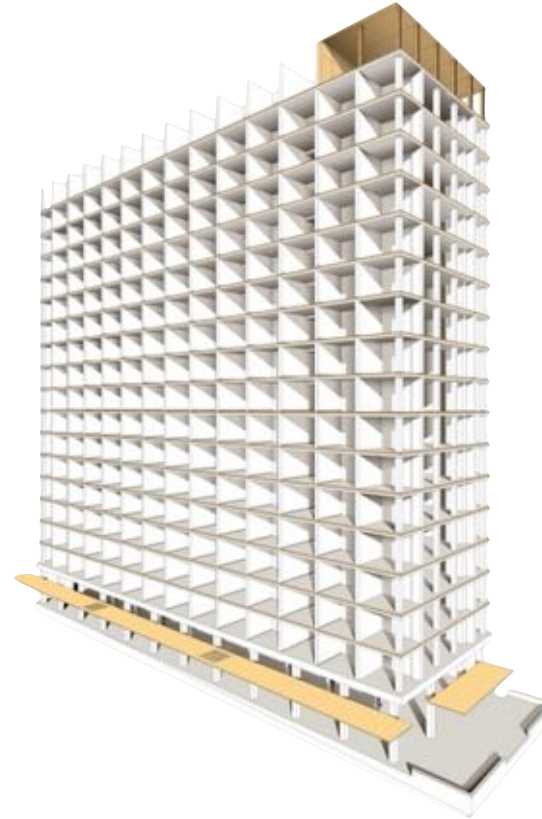
# Type IV-A Protection vs. Exposed



18 STORIES  
BUILDING HEIGHT 270'  
ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA 972,000 SF  
AVERAGE AREA PER STORY 54,000SF

TYPE IV-A

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones



## 100% NC protection on all surfaces of Mass Timber

Credit: Acton Ostry Architects, Fast + Epp



# 2024 IBC Changes



RISE Tests, 2020  
Photo: RISE



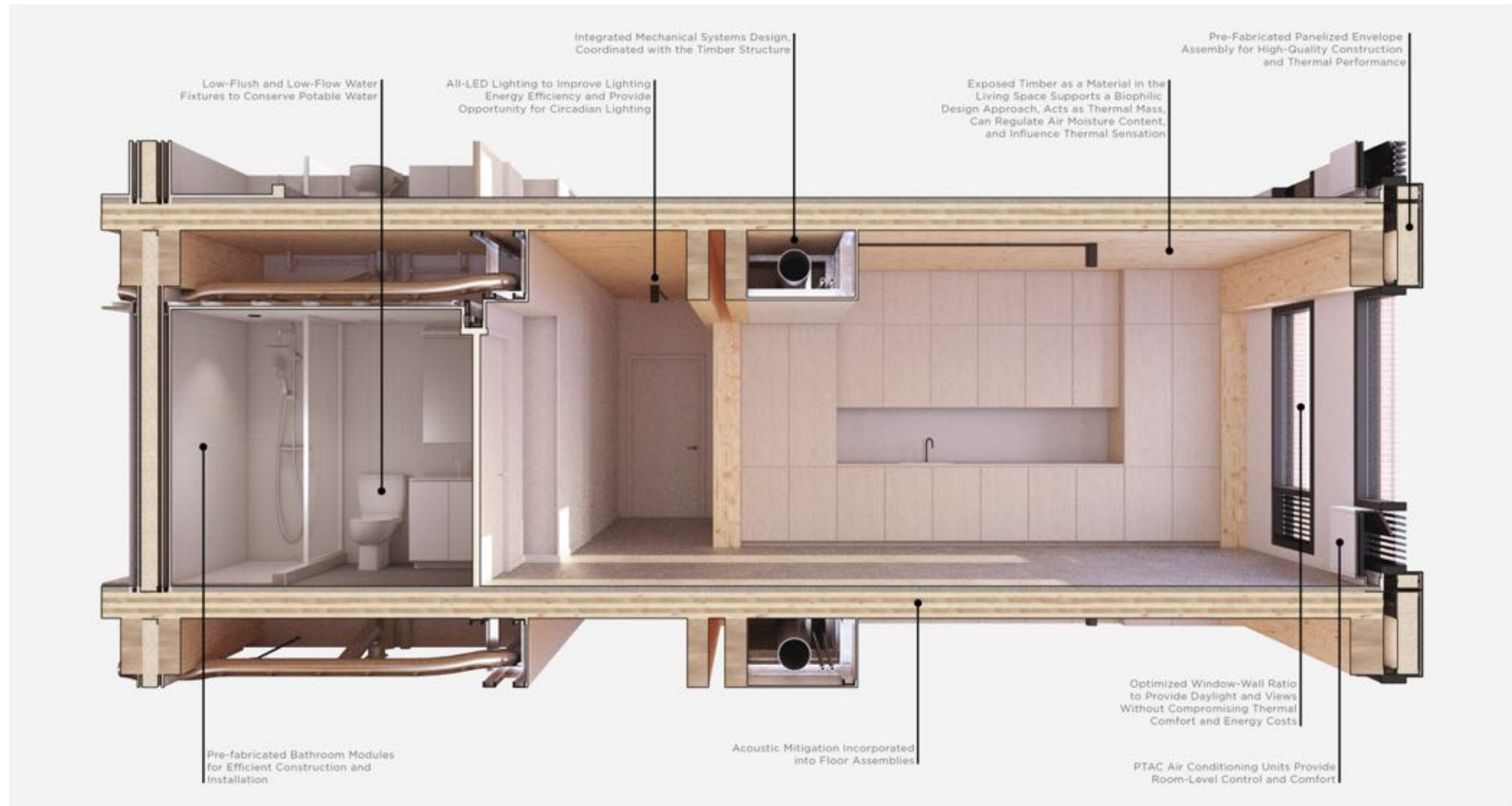
# KEY DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



INTRO, Cleveland, OH. Credit: Harbor Bay Real Estate Advisors



# MEP SYSTEMS, ROUTING, INTEGRATION



## INTEGRATED SYSTEMS

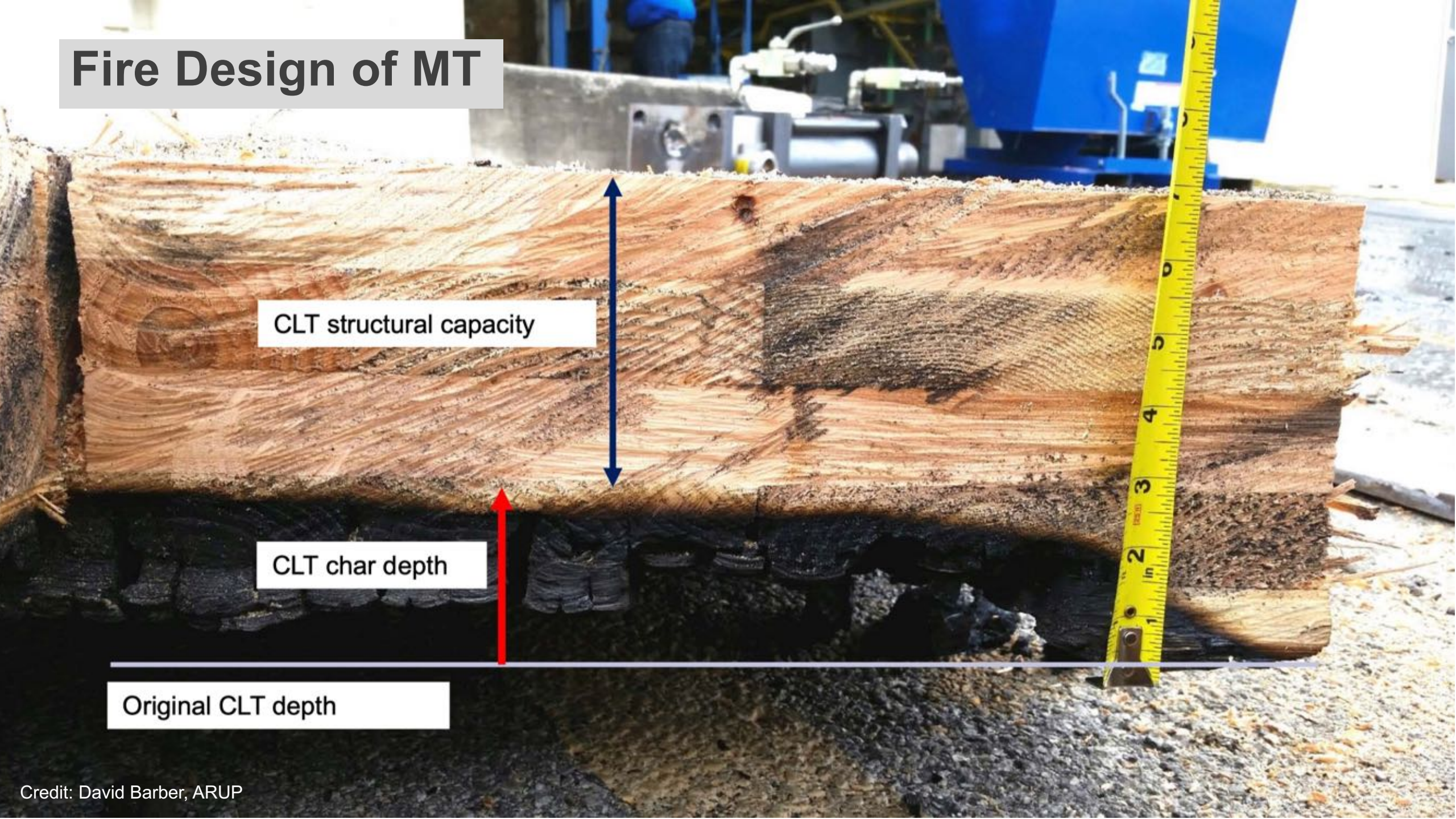
Credit: John Klein, Generate Architecture

The Tallhouse building system prioritizes the integration of design, engineering, and construction. This results in a high performance building finely tuned to meet energy, comfort, acoustic, and design criteria that has been vetted by constructability experts to ensure fast, efficient production.

Utilizing Pre-Fabricated Facade Panels and Bathroom Modules that are manufactured off-site in factories allows for reducing construction time on-site, higher quality control practices, and safer labor conditions for construction workers. Efficient routing of duct-work conserves material, and associated embodied carbon, allowing more exposed timber all while providing the air quality needed for healthy living. Water conserving fixtures reduce potable water use as a precious resource, while maintaining reliable performance.



# Fire Design of MT



CLT structural capacity

CLT char depth

Original CLT depth



# Key Early Design Decisions

## Fire-Resistance Ratings (FRR)

- Thinner panels (i.e. 3-ply) generally difficult to achieve a 1+ hour FRR
- 5-ply CLT / 2x6 NLT & DLT panels can usually achieve a 1- or 2-hour FRR
- Construction Type | FRR | Member Size | Grid (or re-arrange that process but follow how one impacts the others)

Panel	Example Floor Span Ranges
3-ply CLT (4-1/8" thick)	Up to 12 ft
5-ply CLT (6-7/8" thick)	14 to 17 ft
7-ply CLT (9-5/8")	17 to 21 ft
2x4 NLT	Up to 12 ft
2x6 NLT	10 to 17 ft
2x8 NLT	14 to 21 ft
5" MPP	10 to 15 ft



# FRR Design of MT

## WoodWorks Inventory of Fire Tested MT Assemblies

**Table 1: North American Fire Resistance Tests of Mass Timber Floor / Roof Assemblies**



CLT Panel	Manufacturer	CLT Grade or Major x Minor Grade	Ceiling Protection	Panel Connection in Test	Floor Topping	Load Rating	Fire Resistance Achieved (Hours)	Source	Testing Lab
3-ply CLT (114mm 4.488 in)	Nordic	SPF 1650 Fb 1.5 EMSR x SPF #3	2 layers 1/2" Type X gypsum	Half-Lap	None	Reduced 36% Moment Capacity	1	1 (Test 1)	NRC Fire Laboratory
3-ply CLT (105mm 4.133 in)	Structurlam	SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2	1 layer 5/8" Type X gypsum	Half-Lap	None	Reduced 75% Moment Capacity	1	1 (Test 5)	NRC Fire Laboratory
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	EI	None	Topside Spline	2 staggered layers of 1/2" cement boards	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	2	NRC Fire Laboratory March 2016
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	EI	1 layer of 5/8" Type X gypsum under Z-channels and furring strips with 3 5/8" fibrous lath	Topside Spline	2 staggered layers of 1/2" cement boards	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	5	NRC Fire Laboratory Nov 2014
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	EI	None	Topside Spline	3/4 in. proprietary gypcrete over Maxxon acoustical mat	Reduced 50% Moment Capacity	1.5	3	UL
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	EI	1 layer 5/8" normal gypsum	Topside Spline	3/4 in. proprietary gypcrete over Maxxon acoustical mat or proprietary sound board	Reduced 50% Moment Capacity	2	4	UL
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	EI	1 layer 5/8" Type X Gyp under Resilient Channel under 7 7/8" J-Joints with 3 1/2" Mineral Wool between Joints	Half-Lap	None	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	21	Intertek 8/24/2012
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Structurlam	EI MS MSR 2100 x SPF #2	None	Topside Spline	1-1/2" Maxxon Cyp-Grete 2000 over Maxxon Reinforcing Mesh	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2.5	6	Intertek, 2/22/2016
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	DR Johnson	VI	None	Half-Lap & Topside Spline	2" gypsum topping	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	7	SwRI (May 2016)
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	SPF 1950 Fb MSR x SPF #3	None	Half-Lap	None	Reduced 59% Moment Capacity	1.5	1 (Test 3)	NRC Fire Laboratory
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Structurlam	SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2	1 layer 5/8" Type X gypsum	Half-Lap	None	Unreduced 101% Moment Capacity	2	1 (Test 6)	NRC Fire Laboratory
7-ply CLT (245mm 9.65")	Structurlam	SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2	None	Half-Lap	None	Unreduced 101% Moment Capacity	2.5	1 (Test 7)	NRC Fire Laboratory
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	SmartLam	SL-V4	None	Half-Lap	nominal 1/2" plywood with 8d nails.	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	12 (Test 4)	Western Fire Center 10/26/2016
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	SmartLam	VI	None	Half-Lap	nominal 1/2" plywood with 8d nails.	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	12 (Test 5)	Western Fire Center 10/28/2016
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	DR Johnson	VI	None	Half-Lap	nominal 1/2" plywood with 8d nails.	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	12 (Test 6)	Western Fire Center 11/01/2016
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	KLH	CV3M1	None	Half-Lap & Topside Spline	None	Loaded, See Manufacturer	1	18	SwRI 11/10/2016

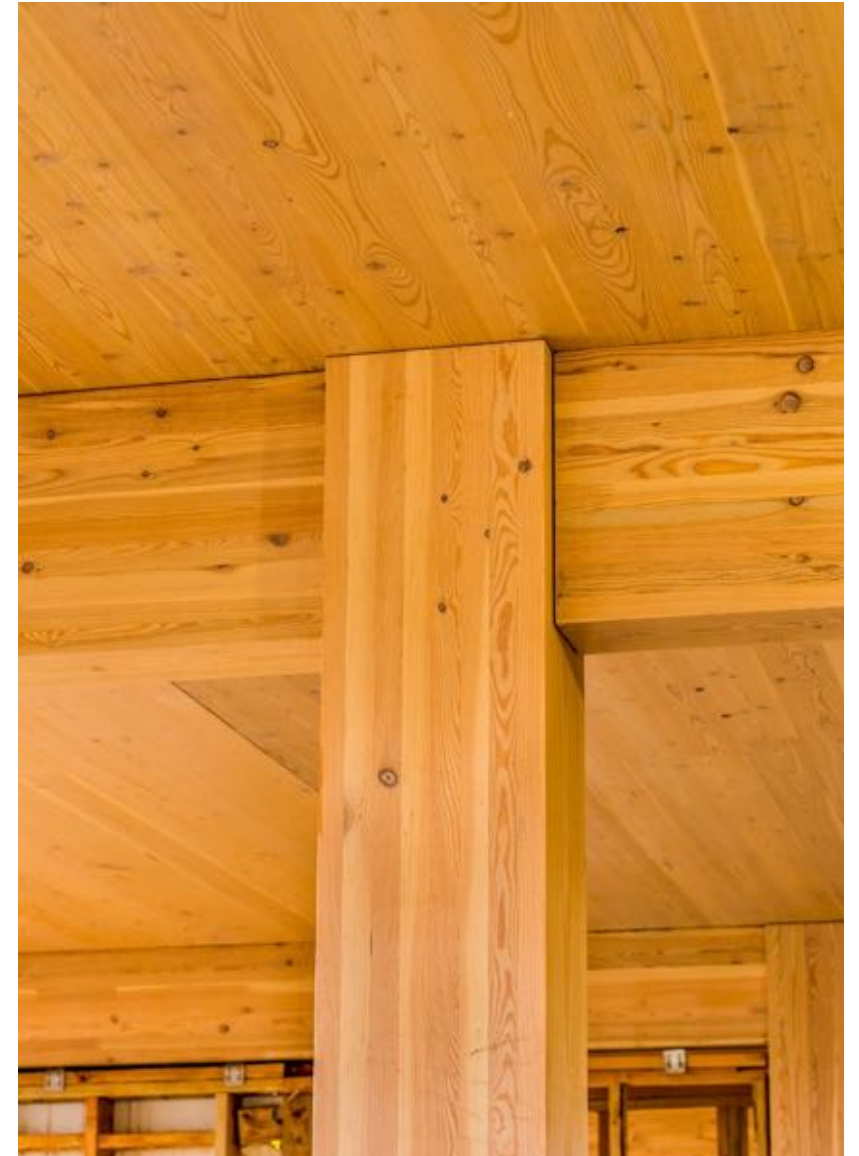


# Acoustics & Sound Control



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MT: Structure Often is Finish



Photos: Baumberger Studio/PATH Architecture/Marcus Kauffman | Architect: Kaiser + PATH



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But by Itself, Not Adequate for Acoustics



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**TABLE 1:**  
**Examples of Acoustically-Tested Mass Timber Panels**

Mass Timber Panel	Thickness	STC Rating	IIC Rating
3-ply CLT wall <sup>4</sup>	3.07"	33	N/A
5-ply CLT wall <sup>4</sup>	6.875"	38	N/A
5-ply CLT floor <sup>5</sup>	5.1875"	39	22
5-ply CLT floor <sup>4</sup>	6.875"	41	25
7-ply CLT floor <sup>4</sup>	9.65"	44	30
2x4 NLT wall <sup>6</sup>	3-1/2" bare NLT 4-1/4" with 3/4" plywood	24 bare NLT 29 with 3/4" plywood	N/A
2x6 NLT wall <sup>6</sup>	5-1/2" bare NLT 6-1/4" with 3/4" plywood	22 bare NLT 31 with 3/4" plywood	N/A
2x6 NLT floor + 1/2" plywood <sup>2</sup>	6" with 1/2" plywood	34	33

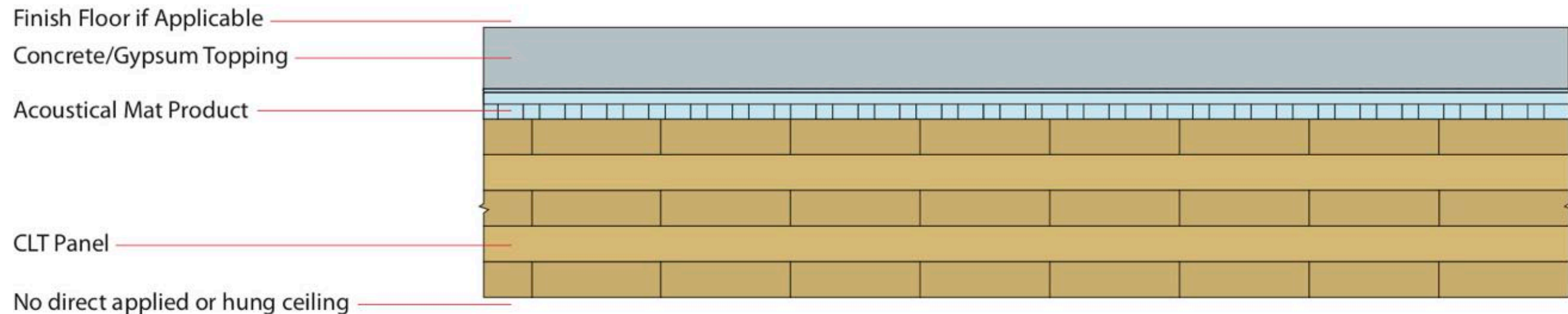
Source: Inventory of Acoustically-Tested Mass Timber Assemblies, WoodWorks<sup>7</sup>



# Acoustics & Sound Control

There are three main ways to improve an assembly's acoustical performance:

- 1. Add mass
- 2. Add noise barriers
- 3. Add decouplers



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## Inventory of Tested Assemblies

**Table 1: CLT Floor Assemblies with Concrete/Gypsum Topping, Ceiling Side Exposed**



CLT Panel	Concrete/Gypsum Topping	Acoustical Mat Product Between CLT and Topping	Finish Floor	STC <sup>1</sup>	IIC <sup>1</sup>	Source
CLT 5-ply (6.875")	1-1/2" Gyp-Crete®	Maxxon Acousti-Mat® 3/4	None	47 <sup>2</sup> ASTC	47 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	1
			LVT	-	49 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	
			Carpet + Pad	-	75 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	
			LVT on Acousti-Top®	-	52 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	
			Eng Wood on Acousti-Top®	-	51 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	
		Maxxon Acousti-Mat® ¾ Premium	None	49 <sup>2</sup> ASTC	45 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	
			LVT	-	47 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	
	1-1/2" Levelrock®	USG SAM N25 Ultra	LVT on Acousti-Top®	-	49 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	
			None	45 <sup>6</sup>	39 <sup>6</sup>	15
			LVT	48 <sup>6</sup>	47 <sup>6</sup>	16
			LVT Plus	48 <sup>6</sup>	49 <sup>6</sup>	58
			Eng Wood	47 <sup>6</sup>	47 <sup>6</sup>	59
			Carpet + Pad	45 <sup>6</sup>	67 <sup>6</sup>	60
			Ceramic Tile	50 <sup>6</sup>	46 <sup>6</sup>	61
		None	None	45 <sup>6</sup>	42 <sup>6</sup>	15
			LVT	48 <sup>6</sup>	44 <sup>6</sup>	16



# Questions?



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Leap!Structures, photo Casey Dunn



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