

Architectural Breadth Study (Miami, FL)

Description:

The relocation of the building to Miami, FL causes architectural concerns. The author wants the building to be representative of Miami, FL architecture. The author believes the exterior building architecture should include elements seen throughout Miami, FL. However, the building should also have a unique blend of exterior elements to produce an eye-pleasing design. This study will first include an architectural historical timeline of Miami, FL. Miami's architectural styles will be discussed in detail. The author will propose a new architectural appearance of the building exterior. The architecture chosen is intended to embody Miami architecture's past and present.

Images:

Below is a bulleted list explaining the images to follow, regarding this Miami, FL Architectural Breadth Study.

- Image 1: Freedom Tower – Miami, FL
 - Mediterranean Revival Style example of Miami, FL.
- Image 2: Park Central Hotel – Miami, FL
 - Art Deco Style example of Miami, FL.
- Image 3: US Bacardi Headquarter – Miami, FL
 - Streamline Modern Style example of Miami, FL.
- Images 4 & 5: Proposed North & South Architectural Facades
 - Redesign of exterior architecture of North and South facades along with author's discussion.
- Images 6 & 7: Proposed East & West Architectural Facades
 - Redesign of exterior architecture of East and West facades along with author's discussion.
- Images 8 & 9: 3-D Architecture Renderings
 - 3-D images of redesign of architectural appearance along with author's discussion.

Conclusions:

The architecture redesign implemented by the author provides a modern feel to the building, while still incorporating historical and currently seen Miami styles. The styles implemented into this redesign are Art Deco, Mediterranean Revival, and Streamline Modern. The following literature provides how the author developed the architectural image seen to the right.

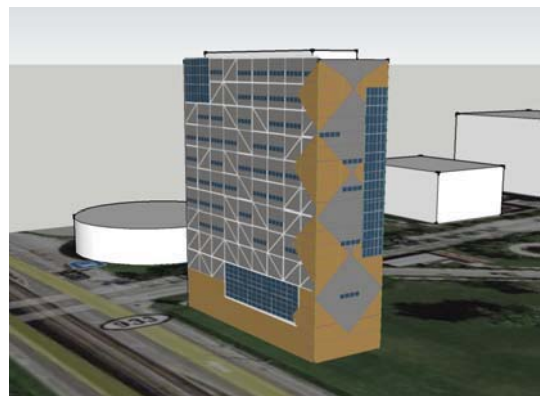


Image 8: South-West Architectural Rendering

Miami, FL Architectural Styles:

Three of Miami, FL architectural styles will be discussed below. These three styles are the most influential of Miami, FL and therefore can be seen throughout the city.

1. Mediterranean Revival Style of the 1910's - 1930's

This style was used greatly during Miami's Ocean Beach boom period. It is representative of Mediterranean resort architecture. Therefore, it is seen to contain Italian, Northern Africa, and Spanish themes. This style can be seen applied to hotels, apartment buildings, and commercial structures. Some of the main architectural elements include stucco walls, terra cotta roofs, and arches. The freedom tower shown below is a good representation of this architectural style.

Image 1: Freedom Tower – Miami, FL



Image supplied by www.historicpreservationmiami.com

This building was originally named the Miami Daily News Tower. It is one of the most impressive landmarks of Miami's skyline. It was renamed the Freedom Tower in the 1960's when it served as the Cuban Refugee Emergency Center. Take notice of the stucco color walls cladding the building. Arches and a terra cotta roof are not seen on this building. This is one of the few high rise structures in Miami to be a Mediterranean style. Low rise construction of Mediterranean style is seen to include arches, terra cotta roofs, along with stucco walls. The freedom tower is similar in height the Northwest Science Building, and therefore was seen as a more appropriate comparison.

2. Art Deco Style of the 1920's - 1930's

This style originated from the 1925 Paris Exposition des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes. This was a design fair that celebrated the union of decorative arts and advancements in technology and industry.

Buildings expressing Art Deco Style are angular and clean, have stepped back facades, have symmetrical or asymmetrical massing, and also have strong vertical expressions. The architecture can be seen to include geometric patterns, natural forms, and industrial symbols. In Miami, natural themes of tropical flowers, palm trees, and flamingoes can be seen. Materials used to achieve these designs were stucco, etched glass, different metals, and cast concrete. Below is an image representation of an Art Deco style building.

Image 2: Park Central Hotel – Miami, FL



Image supplied by www.travelmuse.com

The type of architecture displayed in the above image of the Park Central Hotel dominates the Miami shoreline. The building image above contains vertical expressive blue stucco strips, vertical stacked windows, and octagonal shaped windows which are all significant to the Art Deco Style.

3. Streamline Modern Style of the 1930's-1950 (MiMo)

This style followed the Art Deco period and started as modern transportation and industrial design began to have a great impact on building construction. It is referred to as Miami Modern Style, also known as MiMo. The sleek character of automobiles, airplanes, trains, and buses motivated powerful horizontal design components. These horizontal displays are accented by prominent vertical features. Some examples include continuous stripe banding, radio tower-like spires, and deck railings. Smooth rounded corners also can be seen in this style. Below is an image of a Miami Modern Style building.

Image 3: US Bacardi Headquarters – Miami, FL



Image supplied by www.wikimedia.org

The US Bacardi Headquarters building depicted above is a great example of Miami's Modern Style Architecture blended with Art Deco Style. Notice the dominant vertical mullions on the large façade of the building (Streamline Modern Style), while the smaller area façade contains a natural theme of leaves (Art Deco). This building was chosen as an architectural example because it is very proportionally similar in dimensions (length, width, and height) to the Northwest Science Building.

Miami, FL Architectural Styles Applied to Northwest Science Building:

Several characteristics of the previously discussed architectural styles will be implemented into the redesign of the Northwest Science Building’s exterior appearance. The following characteristics were seen by the author to be both representative to Miami architecture and a possible complement to the existing Northwest Science Building.

- Geometric Patterns (Art Deco Style)
- Imitate Stucco Colored Walls (Mediterranean Revival Style)
- Powerful Horizontal and Vertical Components (MiMo Style)

These three characteristics will be used in the redesign of the exterior architecture of the Northwest Science Building for Miami, FL

Following are sketches for the exterior architectural appearance of the building. These sketches have brief descriptions. The images will progress from 2-D to 3-D views, showing how each façade is blended into one another.

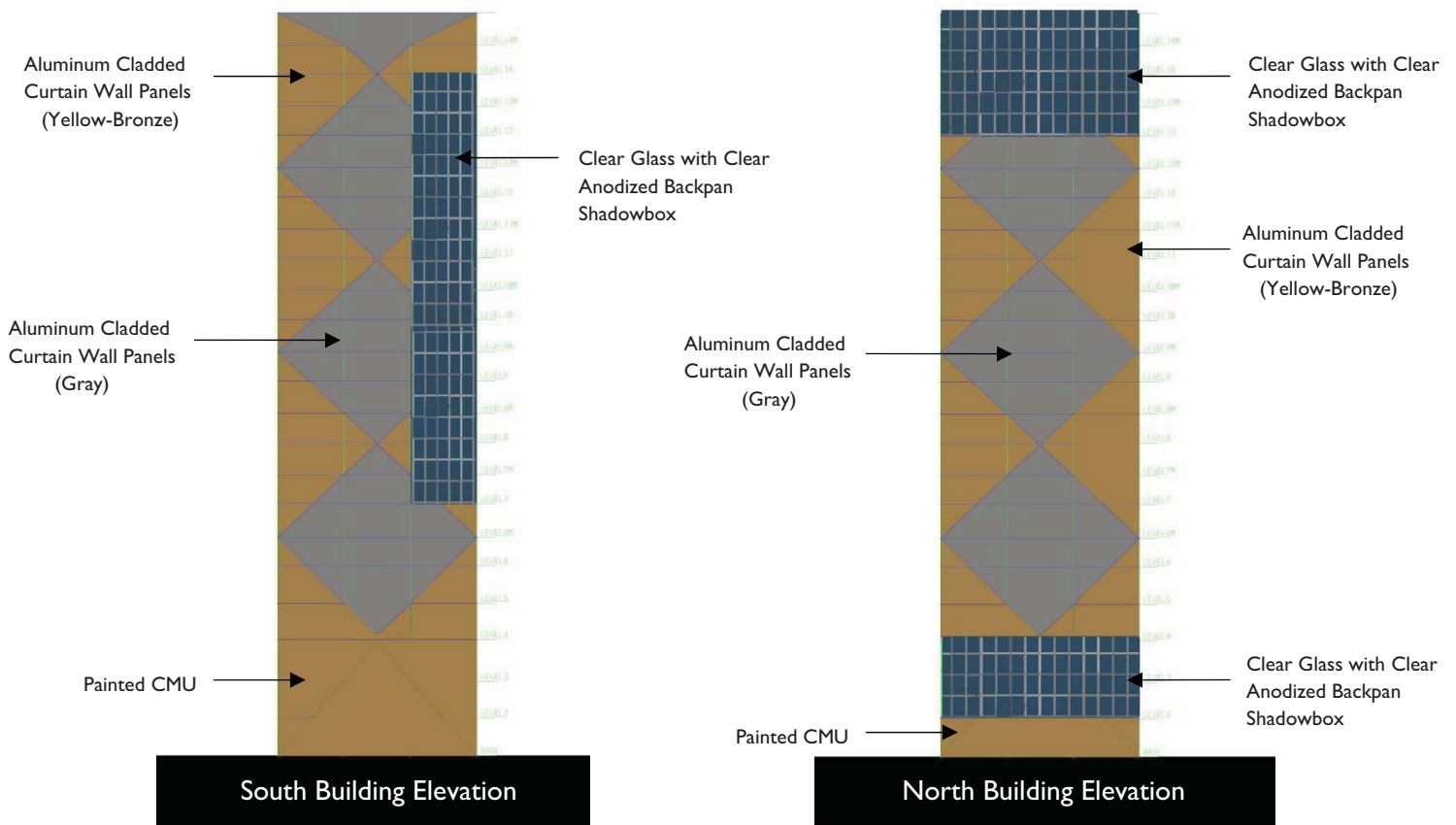


Image 4: Proposed South Façade

Image 5: Proposed North Façade

The proposed North and South facades on the previous page incorporate both gray and yellow-bronze colored aluminum cladding. This aluminum coloring provides three functions. These functions are listed below.

- The color cladding is a representative of the Mediterranean Revival Style stucco colored walls.
- The diamond shaped pattern exemplifies the lateral exterior frame structure.
- The diamond pattern also is representative of the Art Deco Style.

Below is an image of the proposed East façade, followed by the West façade on the following page.

Image 6: Proposed East Facade

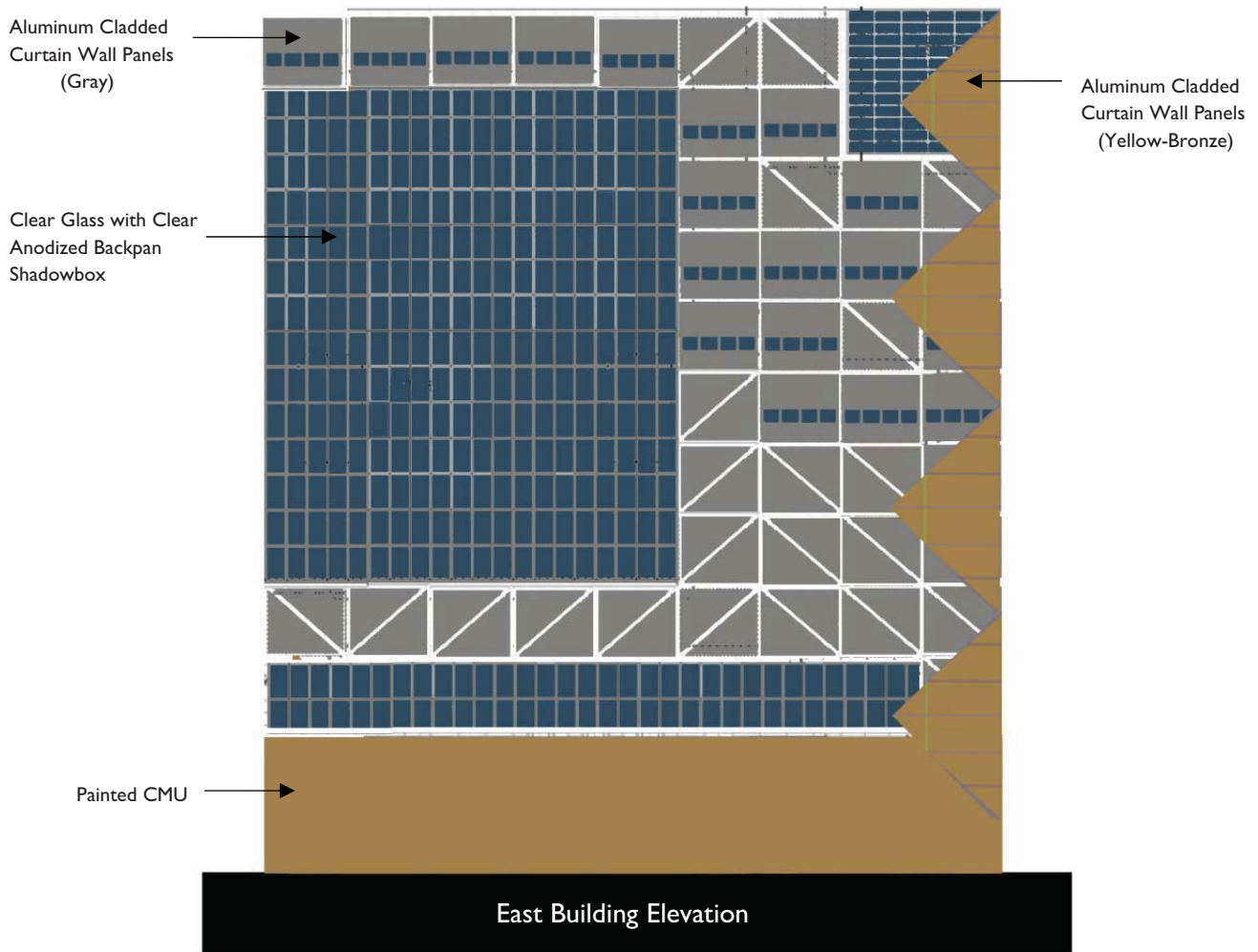
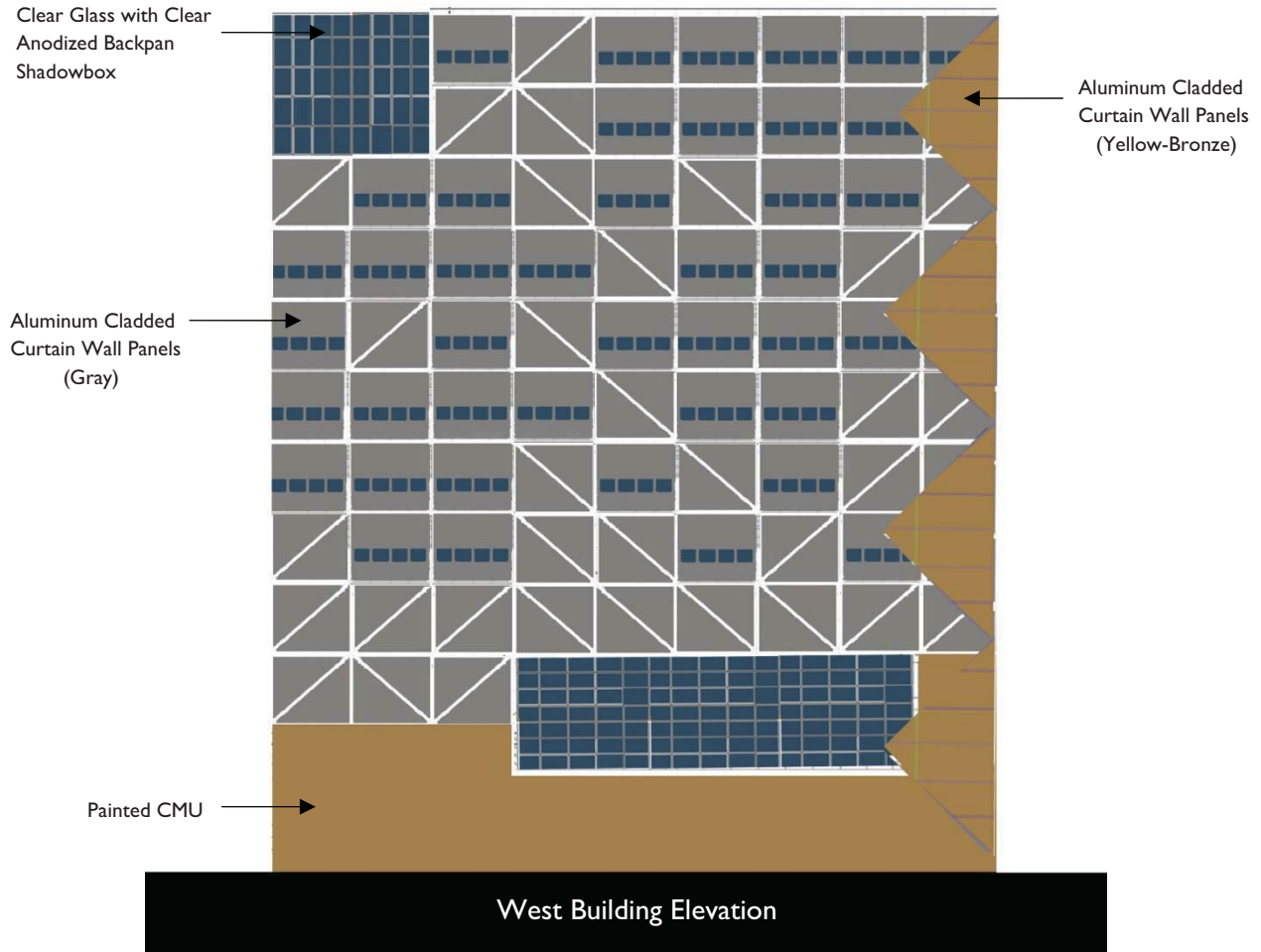


Image 7: Proposed West Facade



The structure of the East and West facades did not change the architectural aesthetics as seen with the North and South façade architectural changes. However, the author wanted to blend the architecture of the North and South facades in some way into the East and West facades. Therefore, the yellow-bronze aluminum cladding was “wrapped” around the corner of the building, as shown above. This architectural design serves two functions, which are listed below.

- The “wrapping” provides a blending technique, connecting each façade’s architecture.
- The East and West facades now symbolize a sailboat appearance, which is representative to Miami, FL culture.

Below is an image of the proposed building architectural envelope redesign. Please take note that this is a color rendering and textures are not shown. This rendering depicts the “wrapping technique” discussed previously by the author. The building was placed on a site within Miami, FL near several other University of Miami buildings. Since the building is academic, it was placed on campus on an empty lot at the corner of NW 12th Avenue and NW 19th Street of Miami, FL.

Image 8: South-West Architectural Rendering



Below is another image of the proposed building architectural envelope redesign. Please take note that this is a color rendering and textures are not shown.

Image 9: North-West Architectural Rendering

