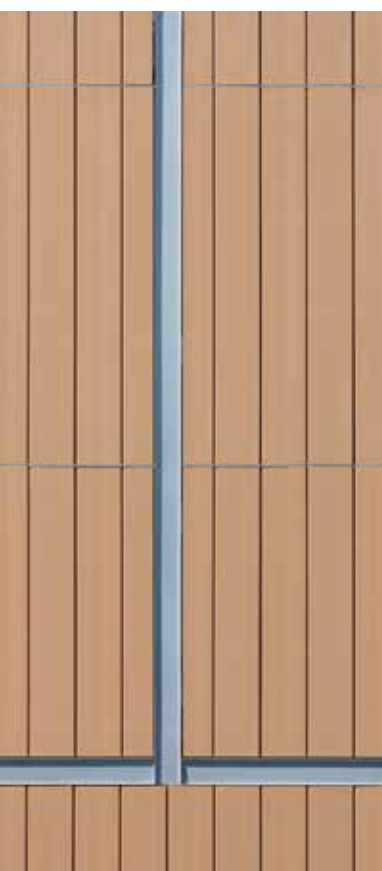


Four Applications, One Modern Space

Case Study in Ceramic
Round Rock Public Library
Round Rock, TX



AGROB BUCHTAL: Terracotta Façade System



The City of Round Rock's new 67,000-sf public library celebrates the city's reputation as a center for innovation while maintaining livability by employing a palette of modern materials that simultaneously respects the area's historic context.

The three story library and accompanying 300 car parking structure occupy a block on the edge of Round Rock's historic downtown. Outdoor patios and a central landscaped courtyard between the two structures create a strong indoor-outdoor connection.

Cladding this modern civic structure is a diverse but visually cohesive selection of materials. These include glass, metal accents, dark brick, and most notably, terracotta ceramic panels, whose use was instrumental in creating a warm modern architectural expression that harmonizes with the historic use of exterior limestone and tan brick prevalent in downtown Round Rock.

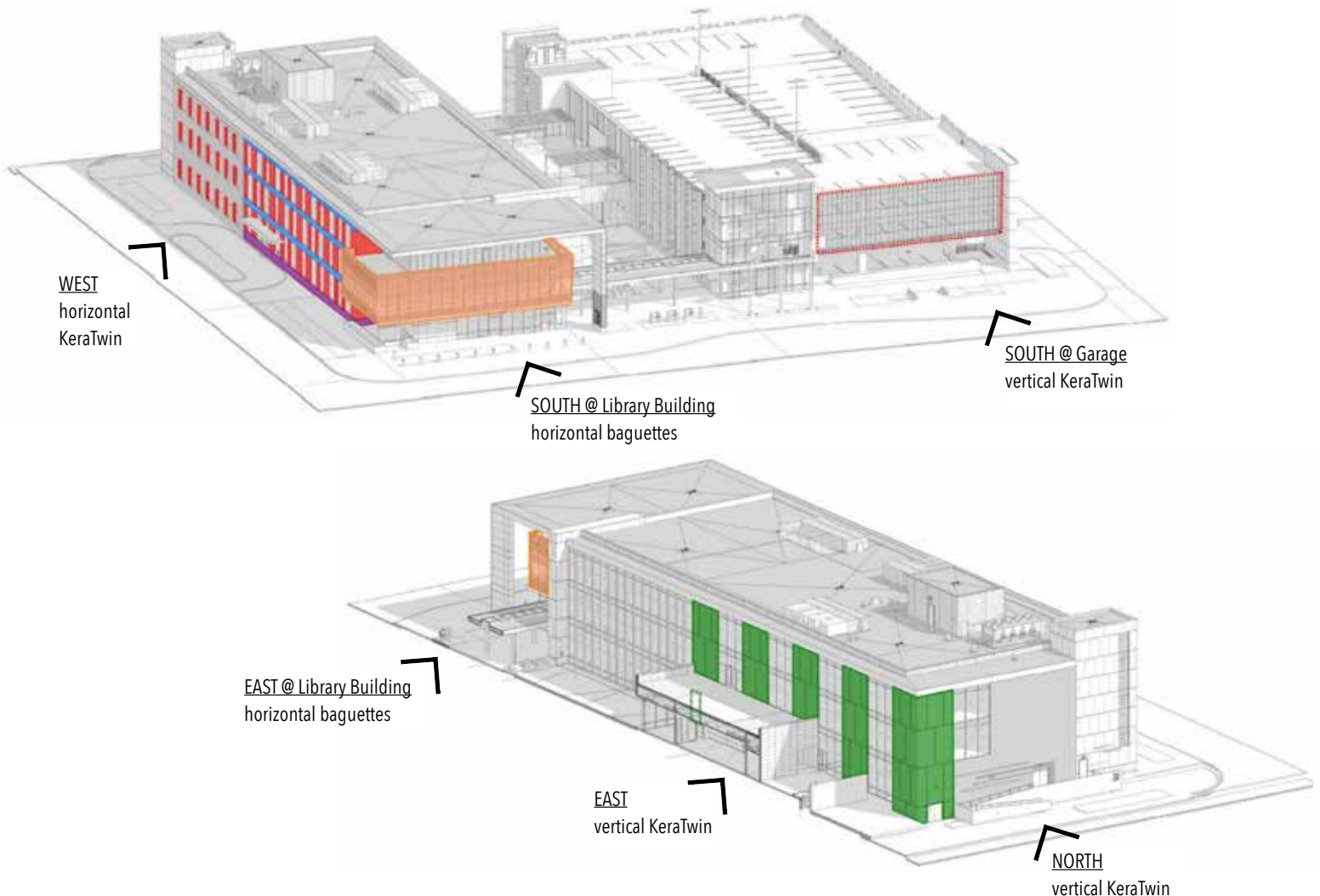
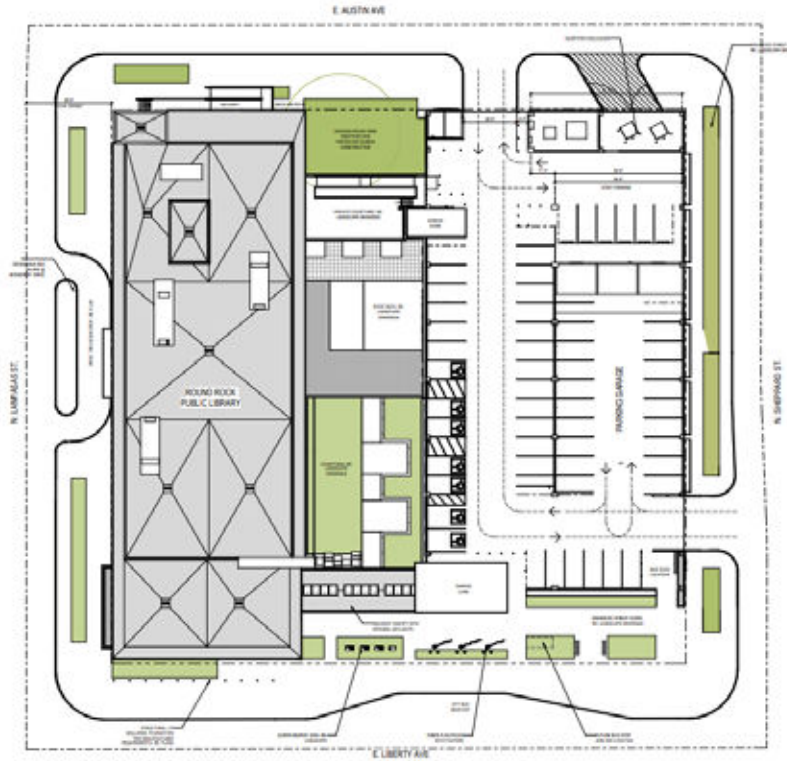
Acme Brick worked with German manufacturer AGROB BUCHTAL to supply the project with KeraTwin (plank) and KeraShape (extruded hollow tube or "baguette") ceramic products in the color Salmon from the Natura unglazed series.

Acme Brick's Innovative Building Products (IBP) arm prepared a detailed shop drawing set which illustrated numerous assemblies and profiles across four applications. IBP worked out numerous connection details with a range of furring, attachment rails and fasteners for each unique combination of wall type and ceramic application.

The four different exterior applications of Agrob Buchtal's terracotta used six different ceramic profiles on the project.

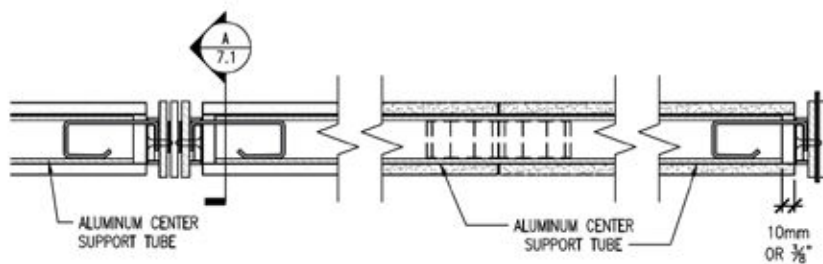
The exterior features 70,000 lbs of ceramic panels (3,700 sf horizontal and 3,000 sf vertical), 6,500 lbs (2,150 linear feet) of baguettes, and two tons of architectural aluminum framing.

SITE PLAN





APPLICATION 2: EXTRUDED BAGUETTES ON SOUTH ELEVATION



Ceramic material in the same color tone takes the form of a tubular baguette extrusion with a 60 x 60 mm cross-section, and varying, custom lengths. Incorporating an ingenious system of secure fasteners, Agrob Buchtal's KeraShape system provides interest and a sense of movement to the library's most prominent corner.





APPLICATION 3: VERTICAL PANELS ON EAST ELEVATION

Applying the ceramic panels vertically onto a grid of horizontal rails creates a distinctive look from within the central courtyard. Acme Brick separately sourced metal trim for this application to help the architects achieve the unique look. Acme's in-house technical team provided corner details, as well as training

guidelines for this and the other ceramic applications on the library's exterior.

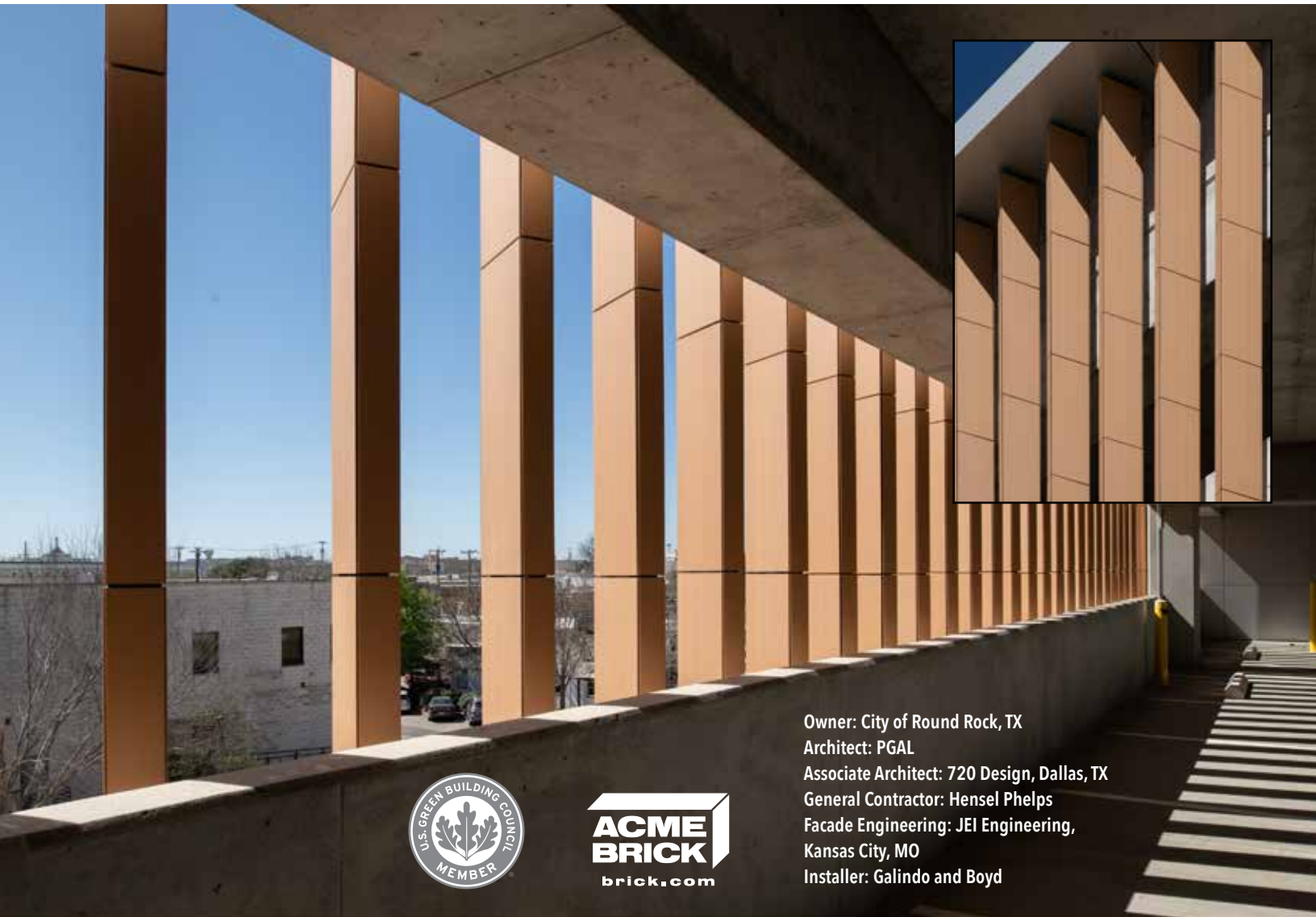
The panels were finished with AGROB BUCHTAL's Hytect photocatalytic coating which makes the panels self-cleaning and self-sanitizing through sunlight and rainfall exposure.



APPLICATION 4: PANELS OVER TUBULAR STRUCTURE ON PARKING GARAGE SOUTH ELEVATION

On the prominent South side of the accompanying parking structure, the architects employed vertical ceramic panels on a substructure of metal tubing. The 2 inch by 12 inch tubular steel structures were faced with ceramic on four sizes. This extremely custom

application was made possible by Acme's developing many of the details, procuring various parts and providing specialized training for the installer so that the ceramic system could be properly installed with the necessary tolerances.



Owner: City of Round Rock, TX
Architect: PGAL
Associate Architect: 720 Design, Dallas, TX
General Contractor: Hensel Phelps
Facade Engineering: JEI Engineering,
Kansas City, MO
Installer: Galindo and Boyd