

A few specific **case studies** will illustrate best practices in play

Design principles can give us a shared language to talk about our aspirations for our building and public spaces. But the best buildings are the result of a thoughtful process that engages a broad range of people. The following case studies highlight three successful processes that led to exemplary results.

These **case studies** represent pathways to design excellence

The Field School, Weston
designed by Jonathan Levi Architects



The Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, Boston
designed by Mecanoo Architecten with Sasaki



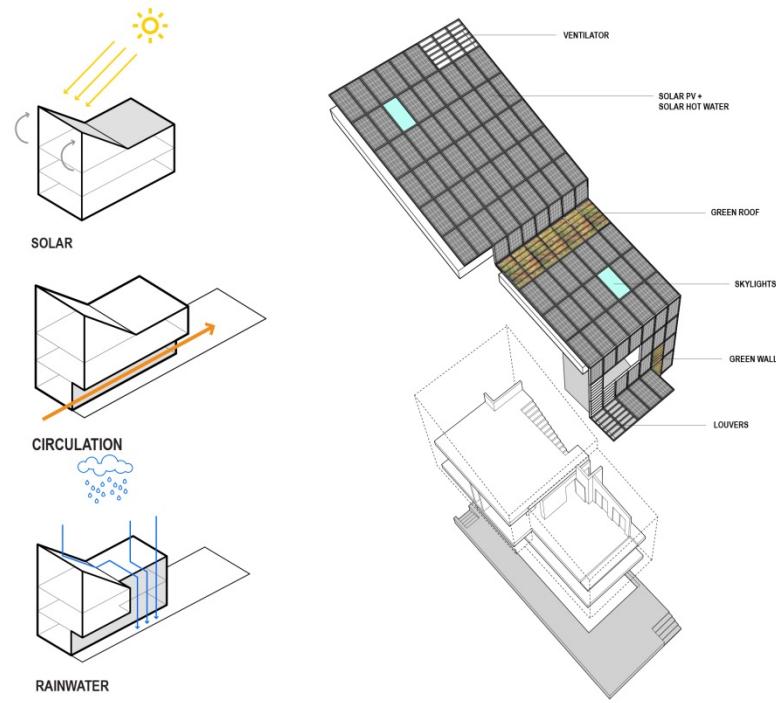
E+//226-232 Highland, Boston
designed by Interface Studio Architects with Urbanica Design





E+//226-232 Highland

designed by Interface Studio Architects with Urbanica Design



The City of Boston designated a small parcel of land for the development of net zero housing that would fit into the neighborhood and become a prototype for future development. The developer/architect team used conceptual diagrams to suggest ways to meet these goals.

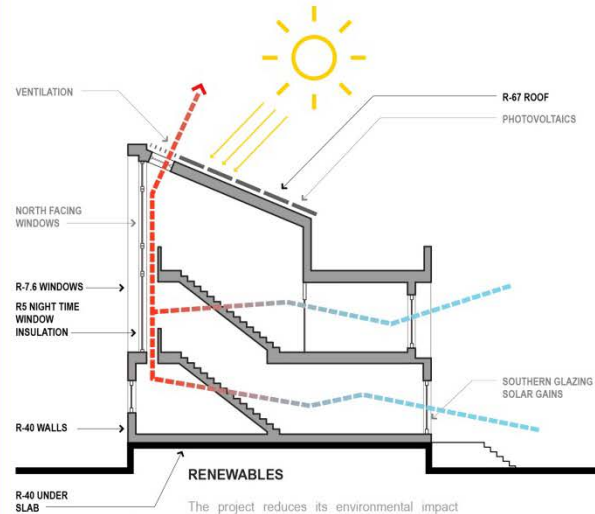
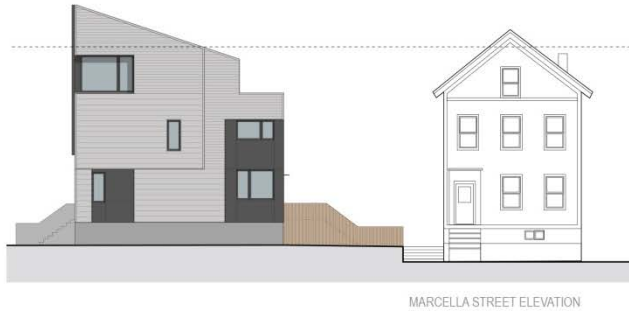
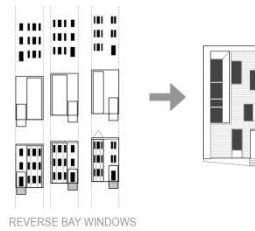


The roofs of the four row houses are oriented to the southern sun, and step down the hill to follow the topography. Open space is created toward the street, and private space toward the rear looking onto the adjacent park.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT

Roxbury is stylistically wide-ranging. Rich patterning through cladding components create unique textures and visual rhythms often presented in vibrant colors. Roof forms are varied and accompany a range of historical styles. Facades are equally complex with an array of bay window and other folding plane elements.

Our interpretation of these plastic facades incorporates a reverse bay window condition that pushes into the building, rather than out, as an expression of minimizing exposed perimeter to the elements.



RENEWABLES

The project reduces its environmental impact through a combination of active and passive energy strategies. The design incorporates on-site solar photovoltaic electricity production, natural day lighting, super insulated building envelope, passive ventilation, and site water management tactics.

Each home is equipped with 38 Solar PV panels and a solar thermal panel to provide energy and hot water for the house. The energy output is targeted to exceed the demands of the occupants, with surplus to be sold back to the grid.

The buildings are scaled to fit in with traditional houses around them, while meeting 21st century demands for energy efficiency. Windows and interior spaces are organized to maximize winter heat gain and for natural ventilation during the winter.



The front facades have an emphatic verticality—suggesting the tall bays and towers on older buildings. Changes in plane and in materials give the townhouses a hand crafted quality and residential scale.



New and old work together to create a comfortable community character and reinforce the fabric of the neighborhood. The striking composition highlights the development's innovations, that include a high level of energy efficiency.