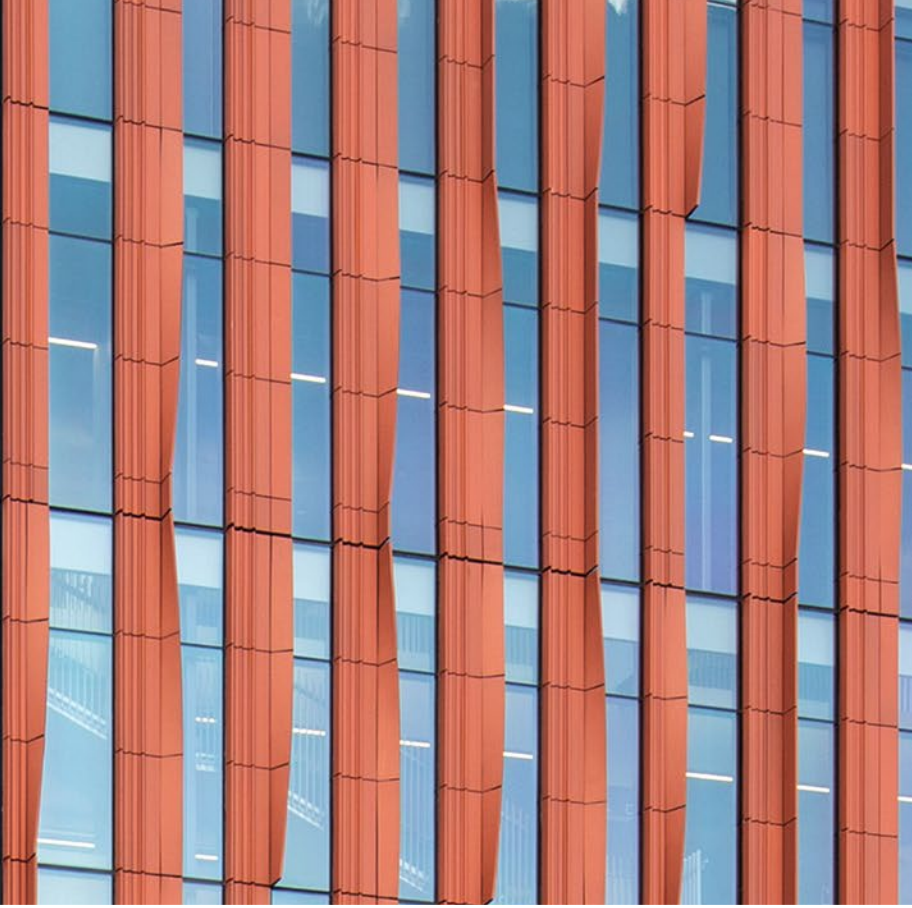
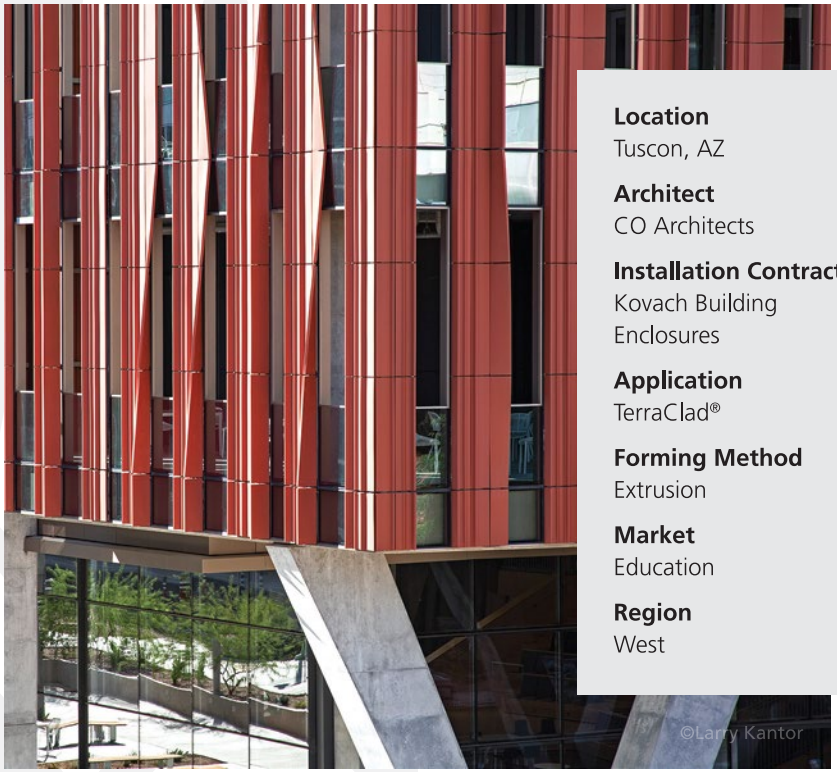


BOSTON VALLEY TERRA COTTA

University of Arizona Health and Sciences Innovation Building

The Health and Sciences Innovation Building (HSIB) is a new facility at the University of Arizona, designed by CO Architects and constructed by Kitchell of Phoenix. Boston Valley Terra Cotta manufactured the TerraClad® sunshade that is integrated into the glass curtainwall created by Kovach, the façade subcontractor for this project.

Kitchell of Phoenix and Kovach worked closely with Boston Valley to develop the custom terra cotta louvers and attachment system. In order to best prepare for the fabrication of a custom façade such as this, Kitchell and Kovach needed to learn more about terra cotta, developing a greater understanding of the way the medium functions and its potential limitations. Terra cotta is flexible when wet and durable when fired. These innate properties of the material should be considered in the design of profiles.



Location
Tuscon, AZ

Architect
CO Architects

Installation Contractor
Kovach Building Enclosures

Application
TerraClad®

Forming Method
Extrusion

Market
Education

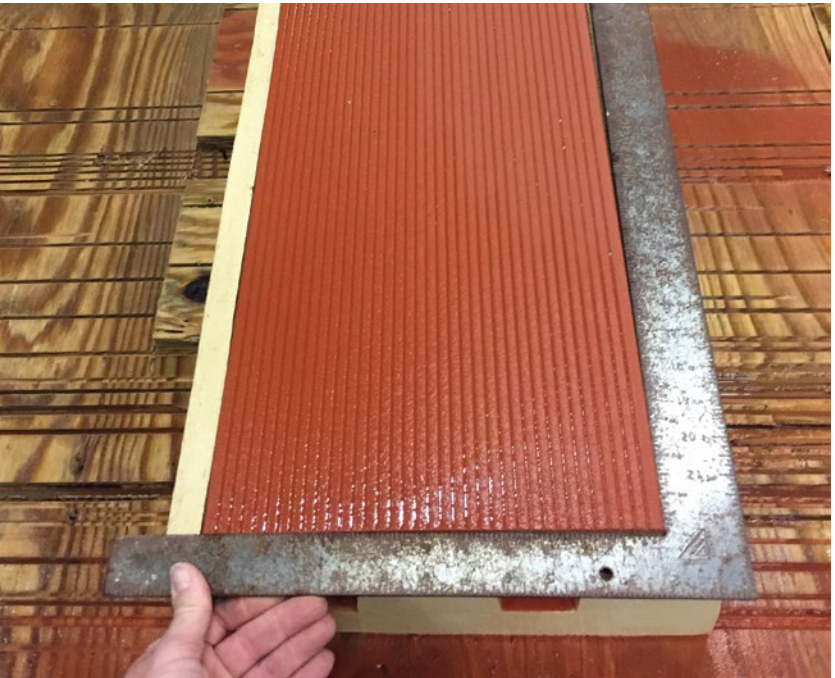
Region
West

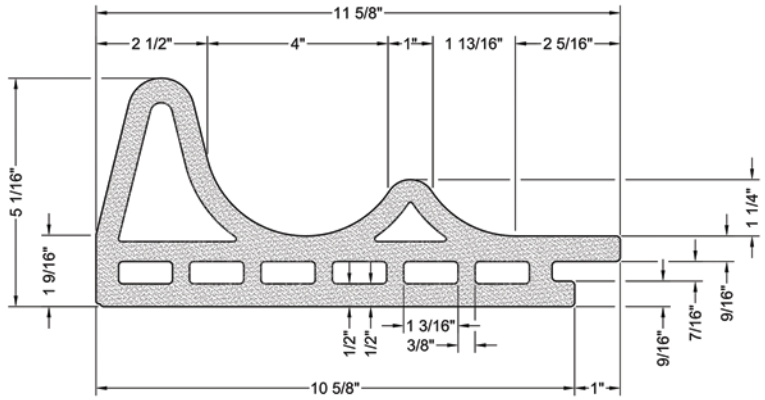
HSIB is a 9-story structure with a 220,000 square foot interior, providing world-class spaces for simulation, practice, learning, and community interaction. Located at the University of Arizona's Health and Sciences campus in Tuscon, HSIB was designed to enhance and unite healthcare disciplines by creating collaborative environments for professionals, students, and faculty. The facility provides flexible learning spaces suited for groups of all sizes, including clinical skill building and simulation centers for a variety of uses and applications.


©Larry Kantor

The façade developed for HSIB highlights the natural look of the terra cotta panels with its through-body color. A combination of clays, minerals, and stains were mixed with water and fired to form a permanent bond, resulting in the dark red adobe color of the twisted louvers. The HSIB's TerraClad® façade functions by blocking sunlight from entering the building through the eastern facing windows, therefore reducing glare in the facilities.

In order to achieve the signature 90° rotation on the HSIB terra cotta louvers, it was necessary to develop a special manufacturing technique. Boston Valley's capability as a manufacturer is measured by each successful collaboration. Working closely with the architects from the early stages of development aids in the process of translating the design into a working production method.





PANEL PROFILE P2

Twisted Terra Cotta Louvers

The 12"x 60" twisted terra cotta panels for HSIB were created using the extrusion forming method and feature a raked texture that was applied in the finishing department. The terra cotta louvers were manipulated post-extrusion to achieve the desired rotation while the clay was still pliable.

The highly customized terra cotta and glass façade on the Health and Sciences Innovation Building naturally required a custom attachment system. Most panel systems developed for new build architecture use Boston Valley's standard track and clip system, but in certain cases a new system has to be implemented. This does not necessarily mean cost increases; if there is full involvement from the beginning between all parties — architect, façade contractor, installation team, and manufacturer — the design can be managed early in production to keep expenses reasonable.

Boston Valley Terra Cotta is the leading manufacturer of custom architectural terra cotta for historic restorations and high performance building envelopes. With over 120 years in ceramic manufacturing, we have a proven commitment to quality and a history of unparalleled customer service.

We work hard to foster an atmosphere of collaboration with architects, owners and project stakeholders. Our collaborations — united with our longstanding history of craftsmanship and innovation in digital technologies — allow us to promptly rationalize designs for terra cotta fabrication, enhancing our ability to deliver exceptional products.

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