



abaa2024

building
enclosure
conference

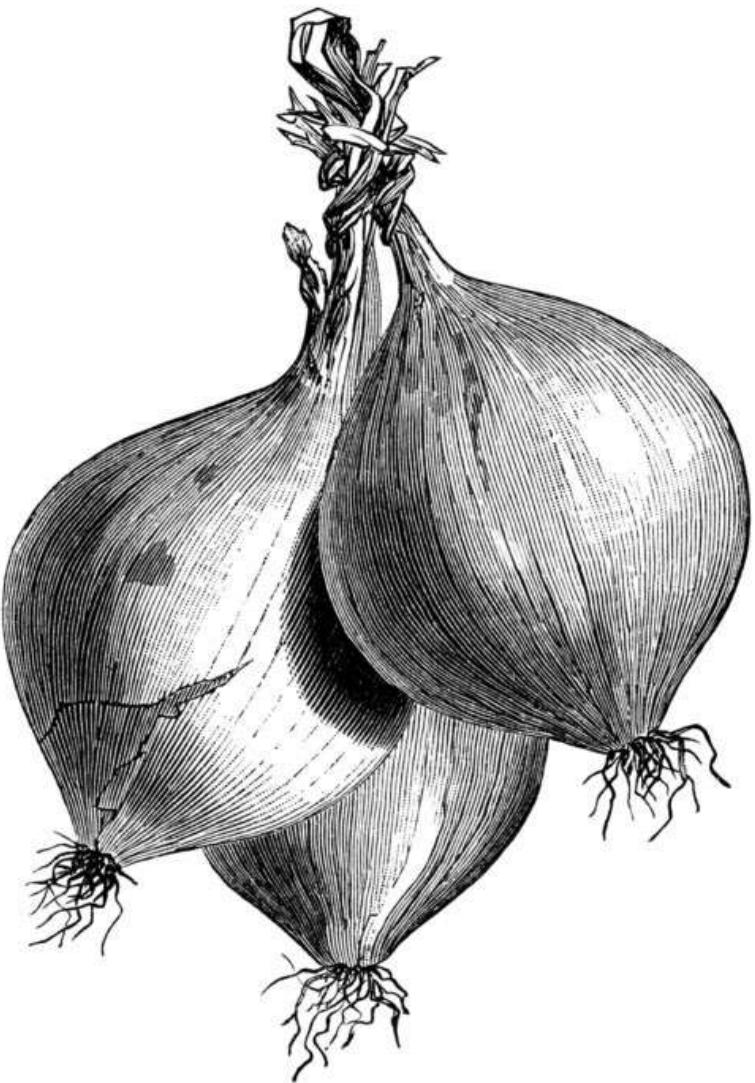
Peeling Back the Onion

Nathan O. Taylor, CSI, CDT

DTR Consulting Services

AIA
Continuing
Education
Provider





**Nathan O. Taylor,
CSI, CDT**



**Building Envelope
Consultant**

CA Phase Service

Building Forensics

Onion Gardener

Peeling Back the Onion

A forensic investigation that uncovered more than intended

Learning Objectives

Participants will examine the importance of regular on-site QA/QC observations during the construction process.

Participants will discuss the importance of well-planned and coordinated building maintenance plans in relation to an existing real-world project.

Participants will discuss the importance of continuity between air and water barrier systems and how lapping and transitions between adjacent systems are often incorrectly addressed.

Participants will acquire a better understanding of sequencing and constructability and how what is drawn relates to what is actually constructed.



ON THE
OUTSIDE...



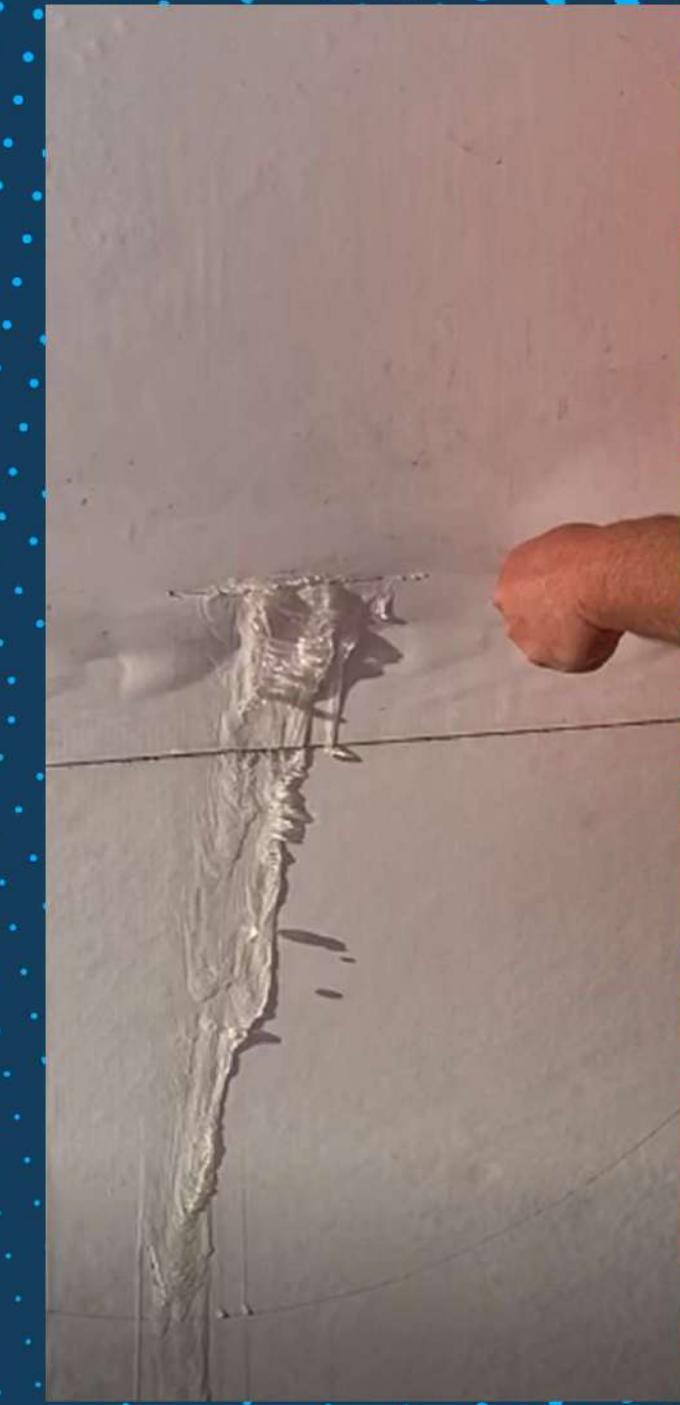




TIMELINE: OPENING THE FIRST LAYER

“Buildings are
like onions,
they have many
different layers.”

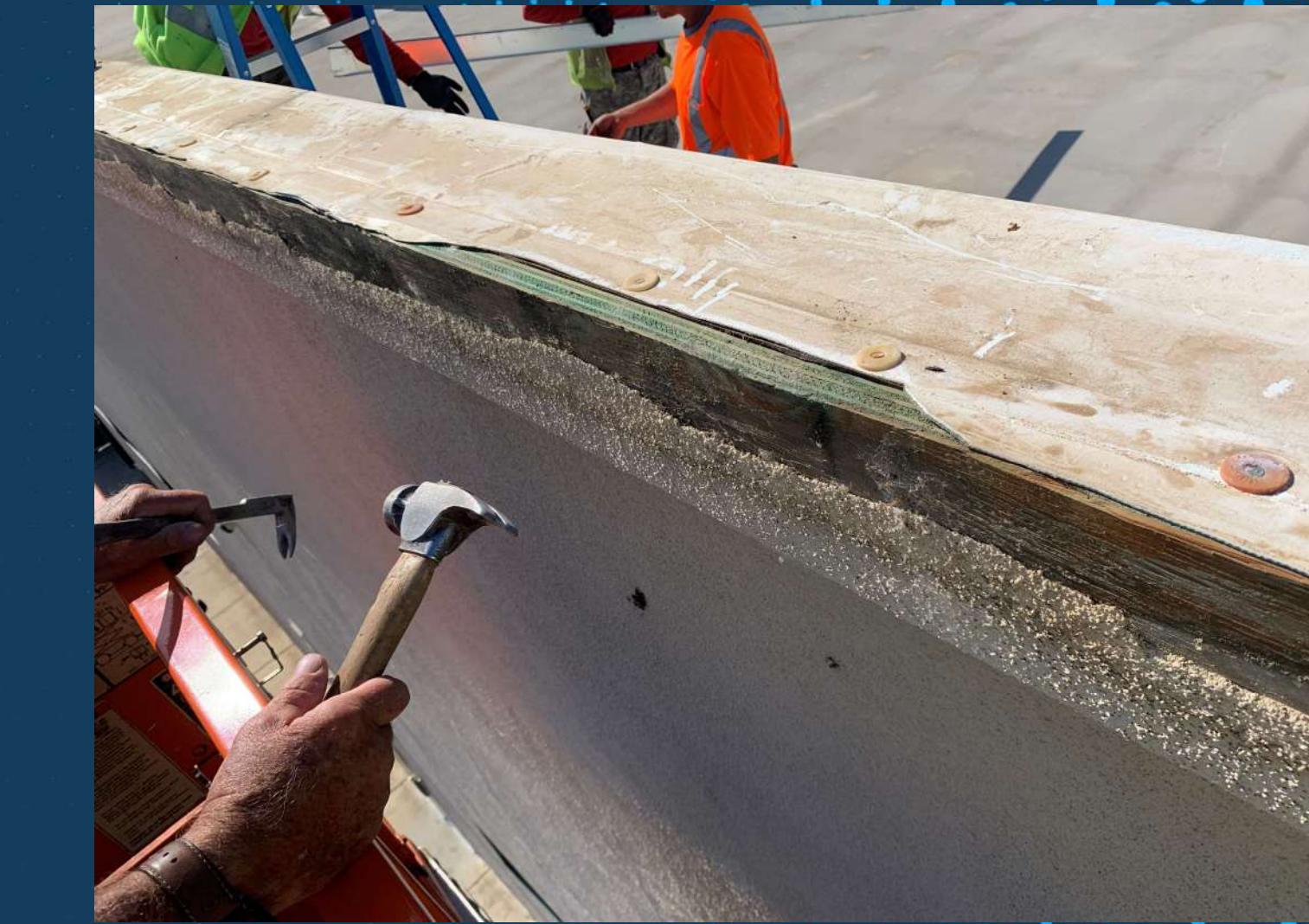


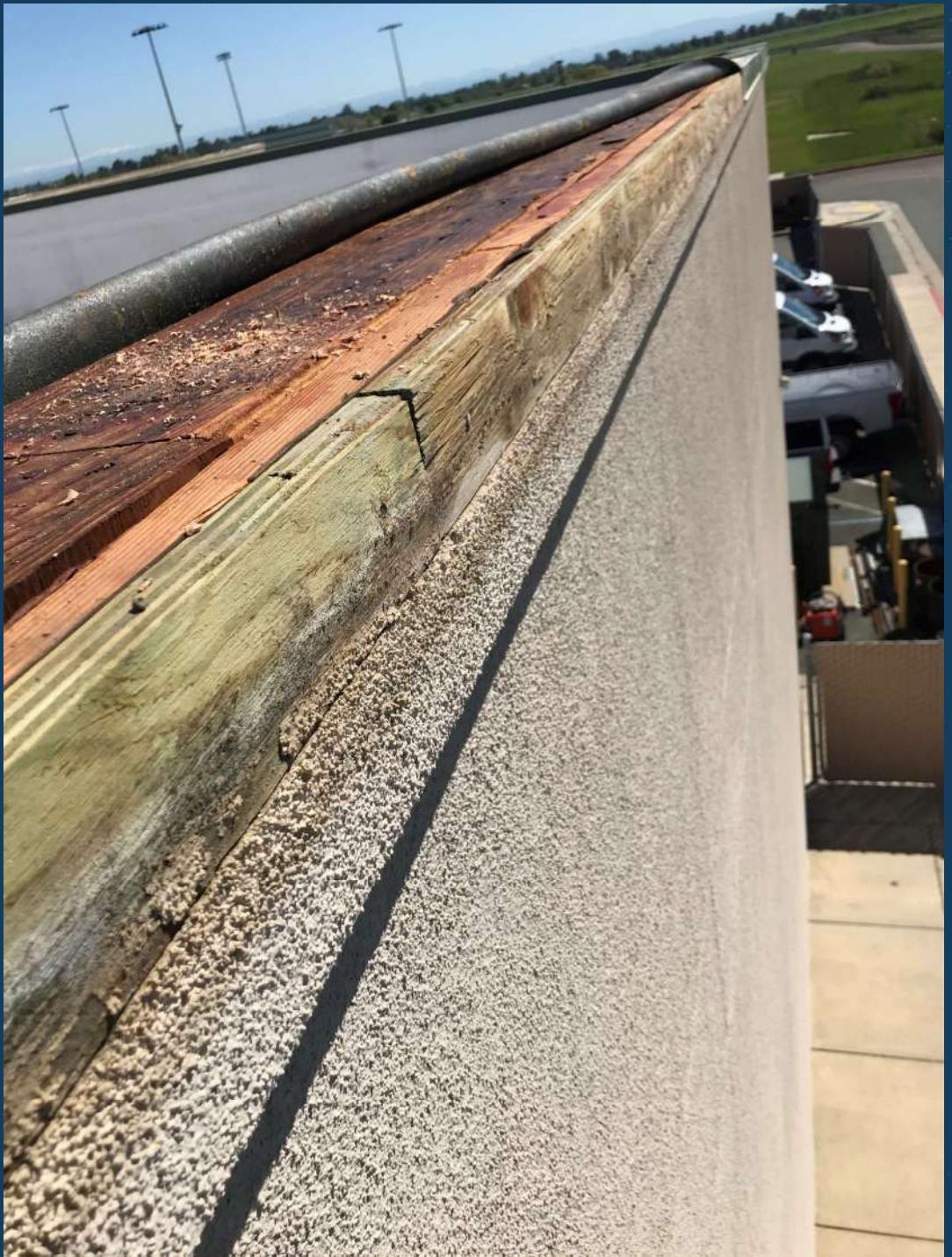


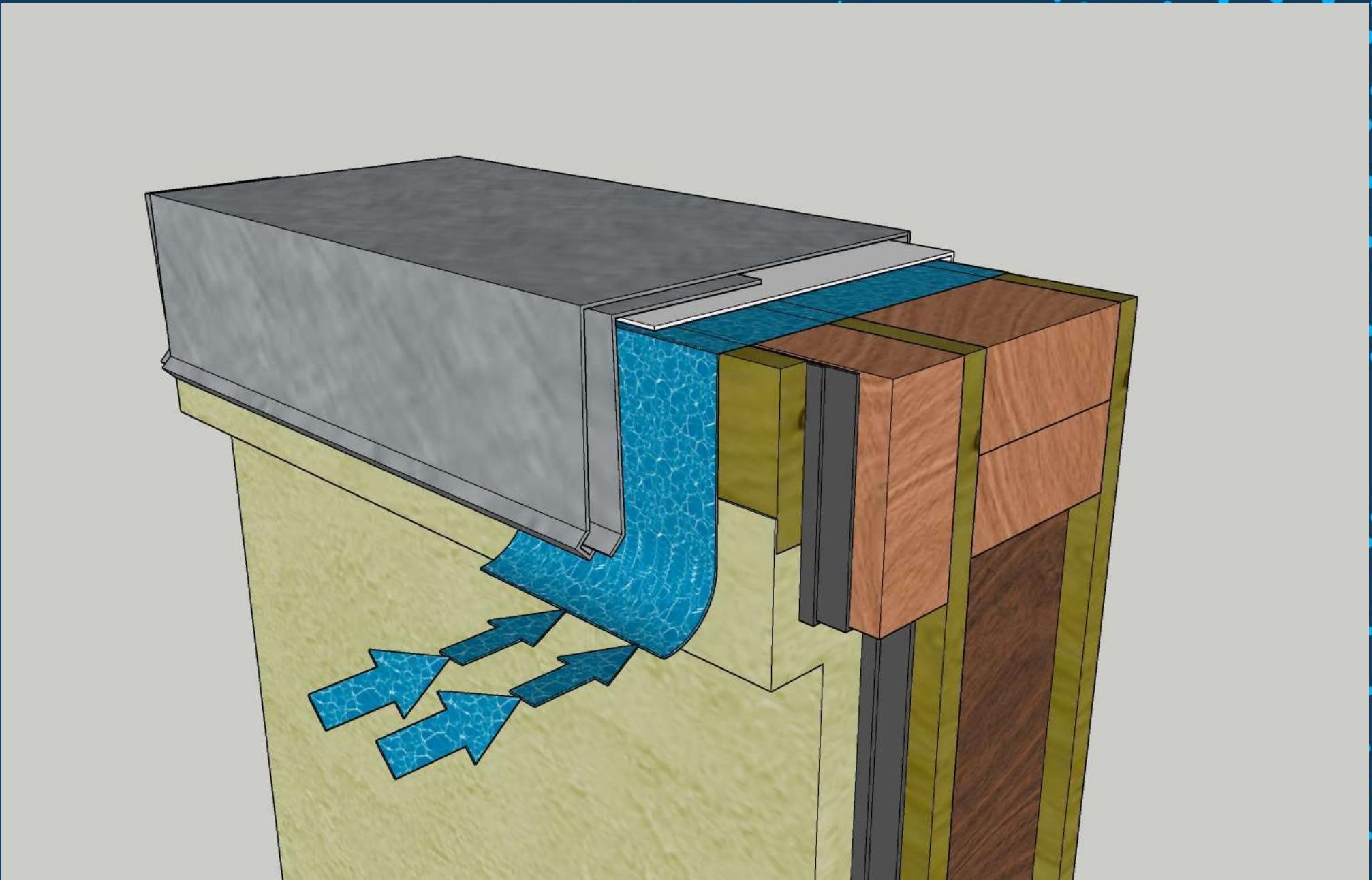














TIMELINE: PEELING BACK THE LAYERS

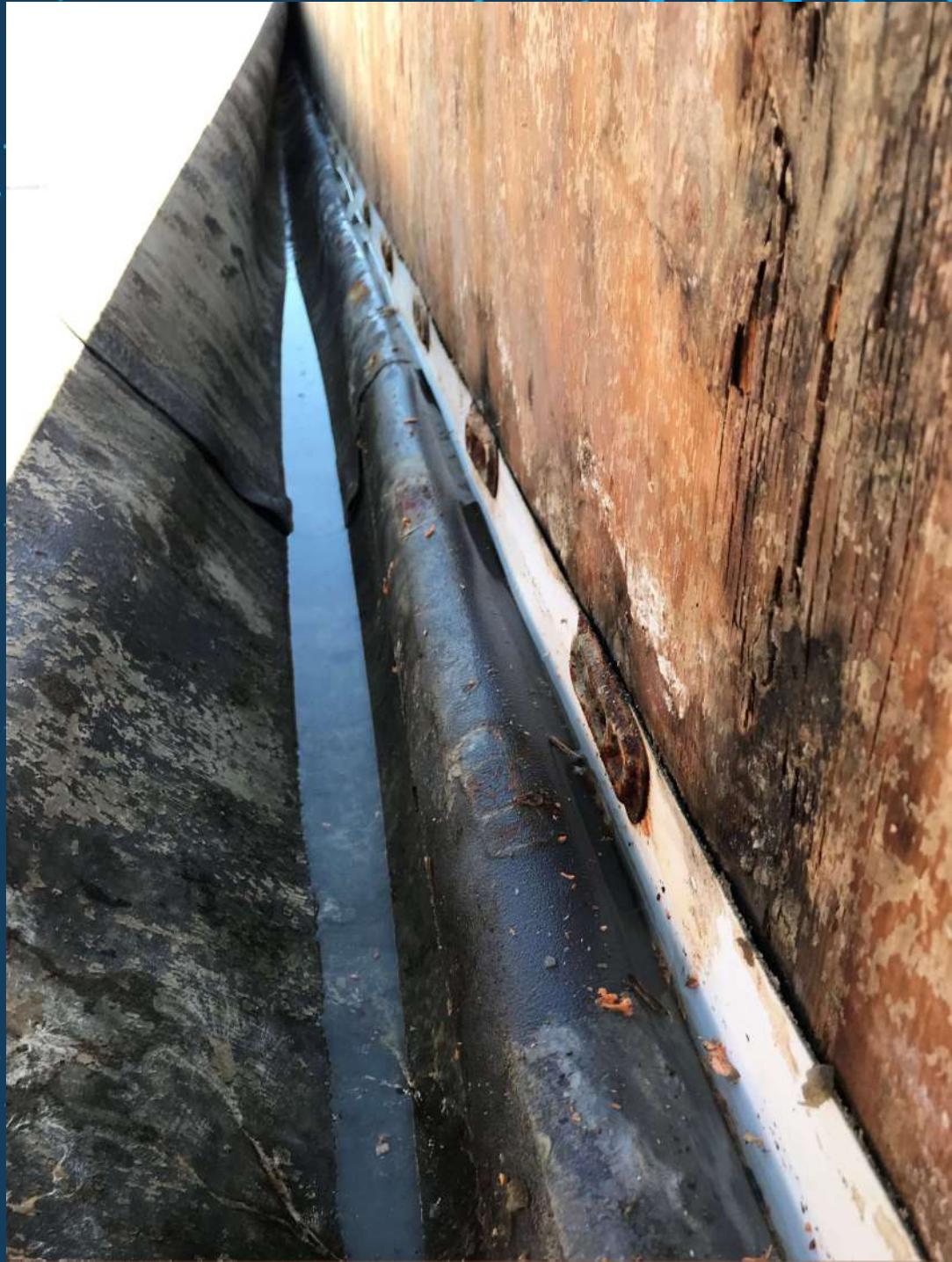
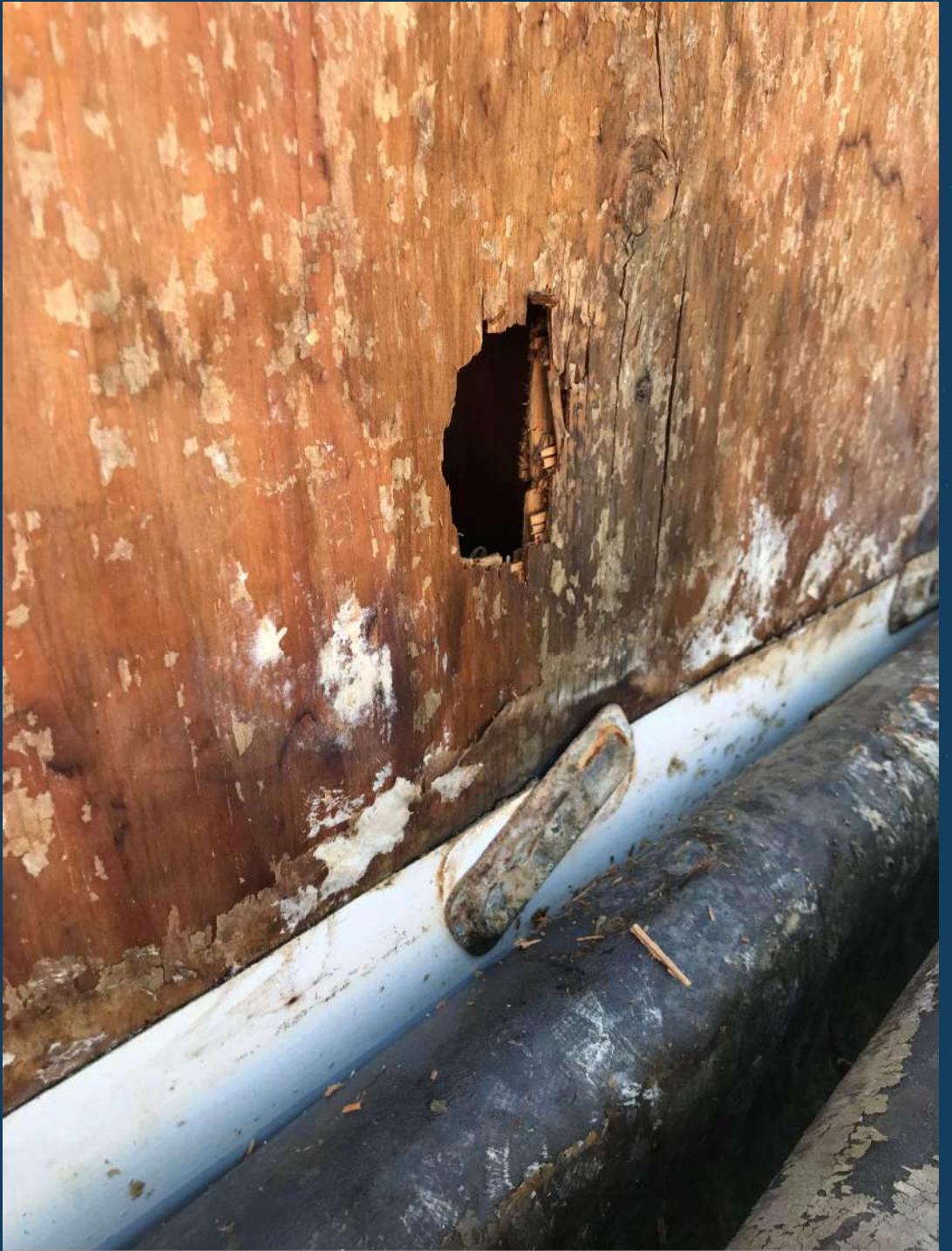
“LIFE IS LIKE AN
ONION. YOU PEEL IT
ONE LAYER AT A
TIME, AND
SOMETIMES IT
MAKES YOU CRY.”

-Carl Sandburg-















TIMELINE: PEELING BACK **ANOTHER** LAYER

“The Good Onion;
peel away all
the bad layers
until you get to the
good stuff.”



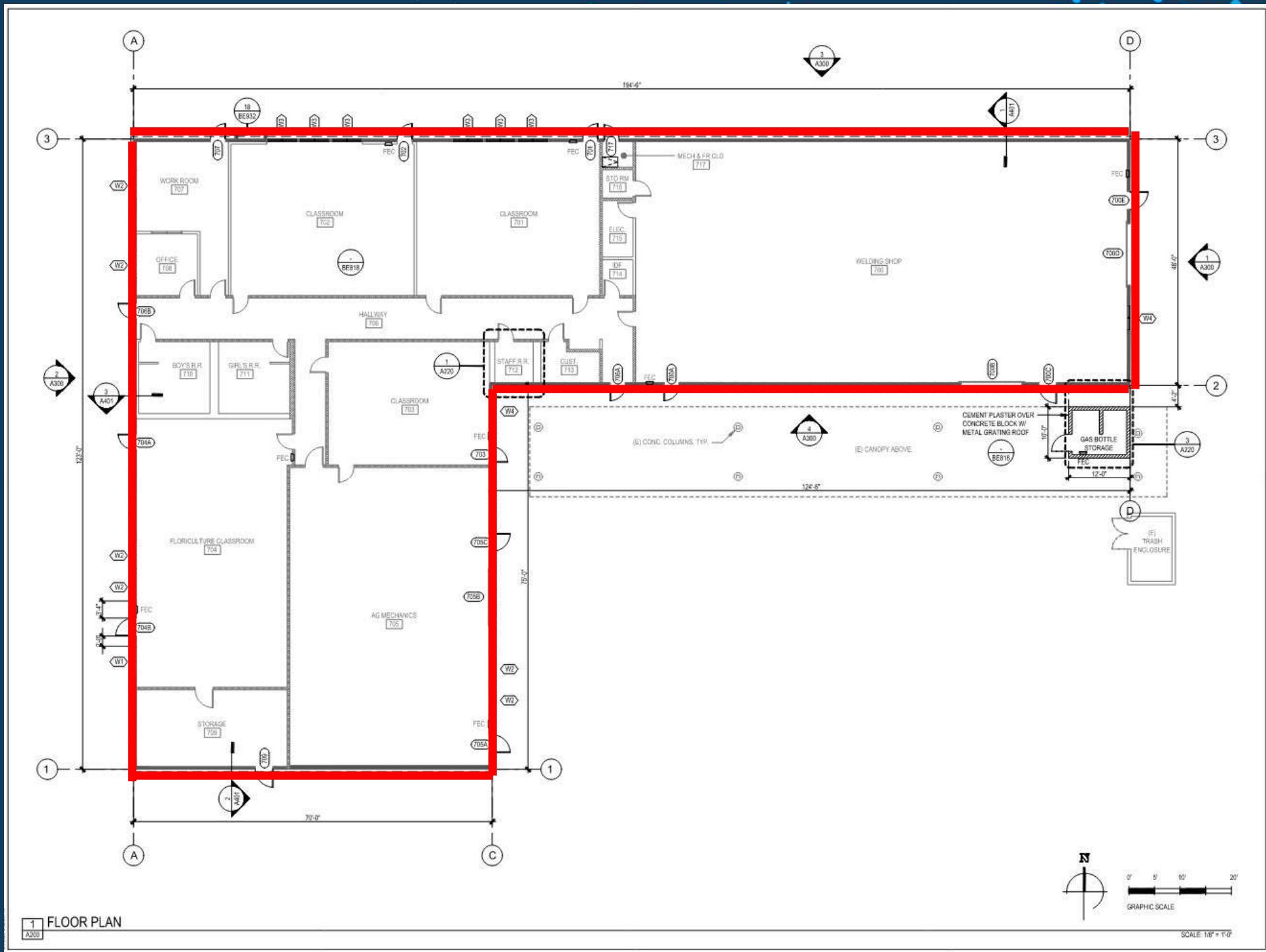














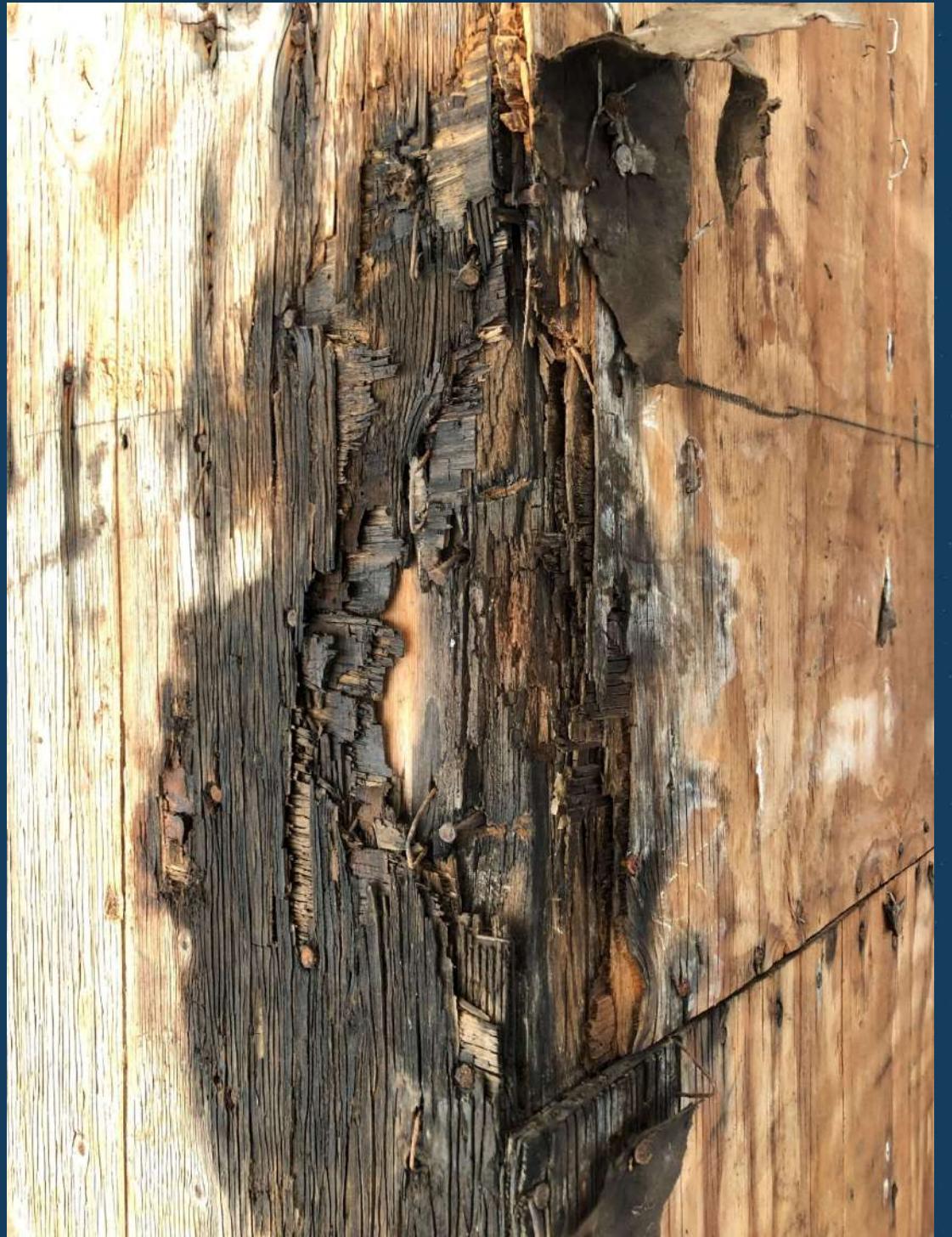
TIMELINE: THE CORE OF THE PROBLEM

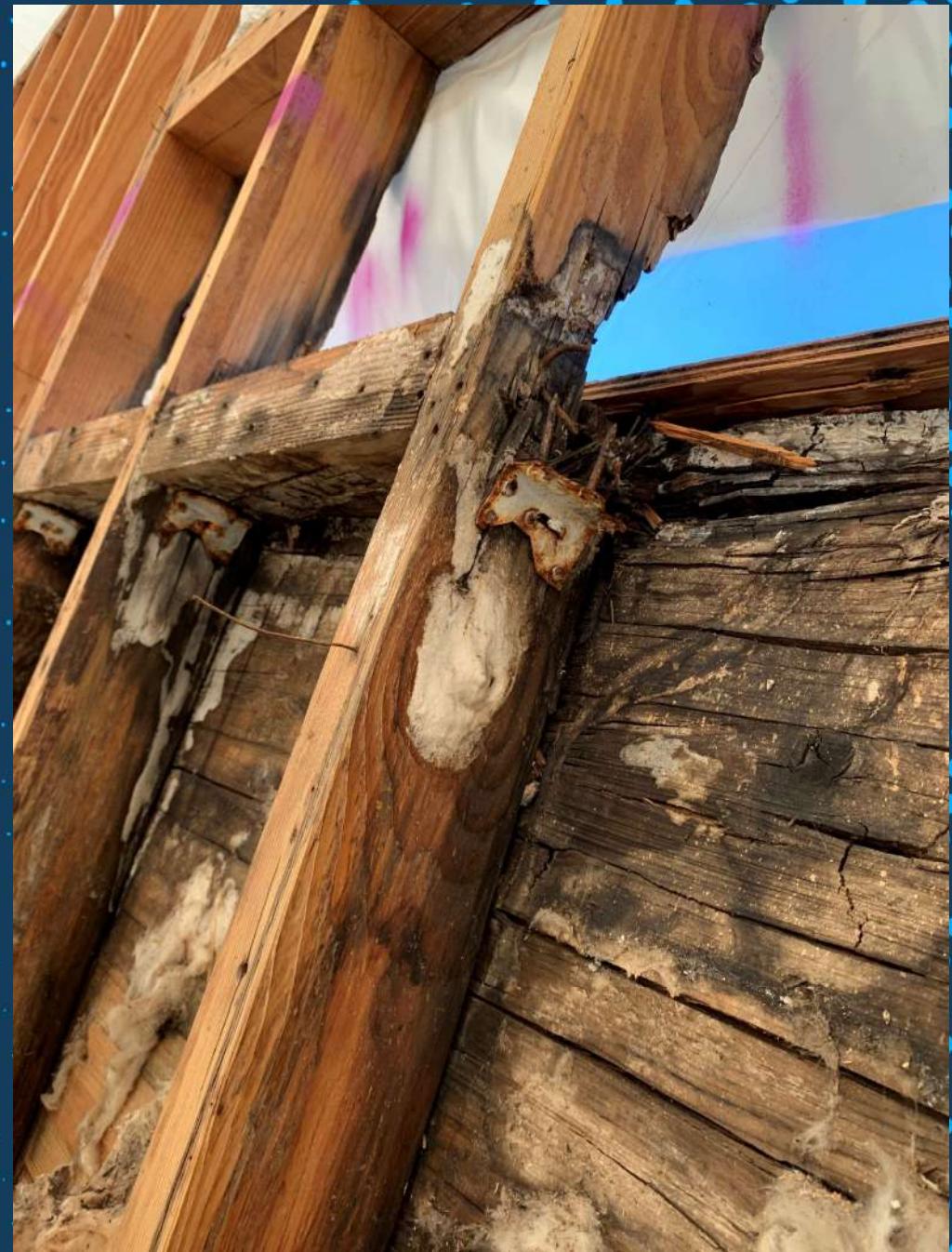
Onions contain
sulfenic acid and
can break down
rust...

(The break down of those acids is also
why onions make you cry)









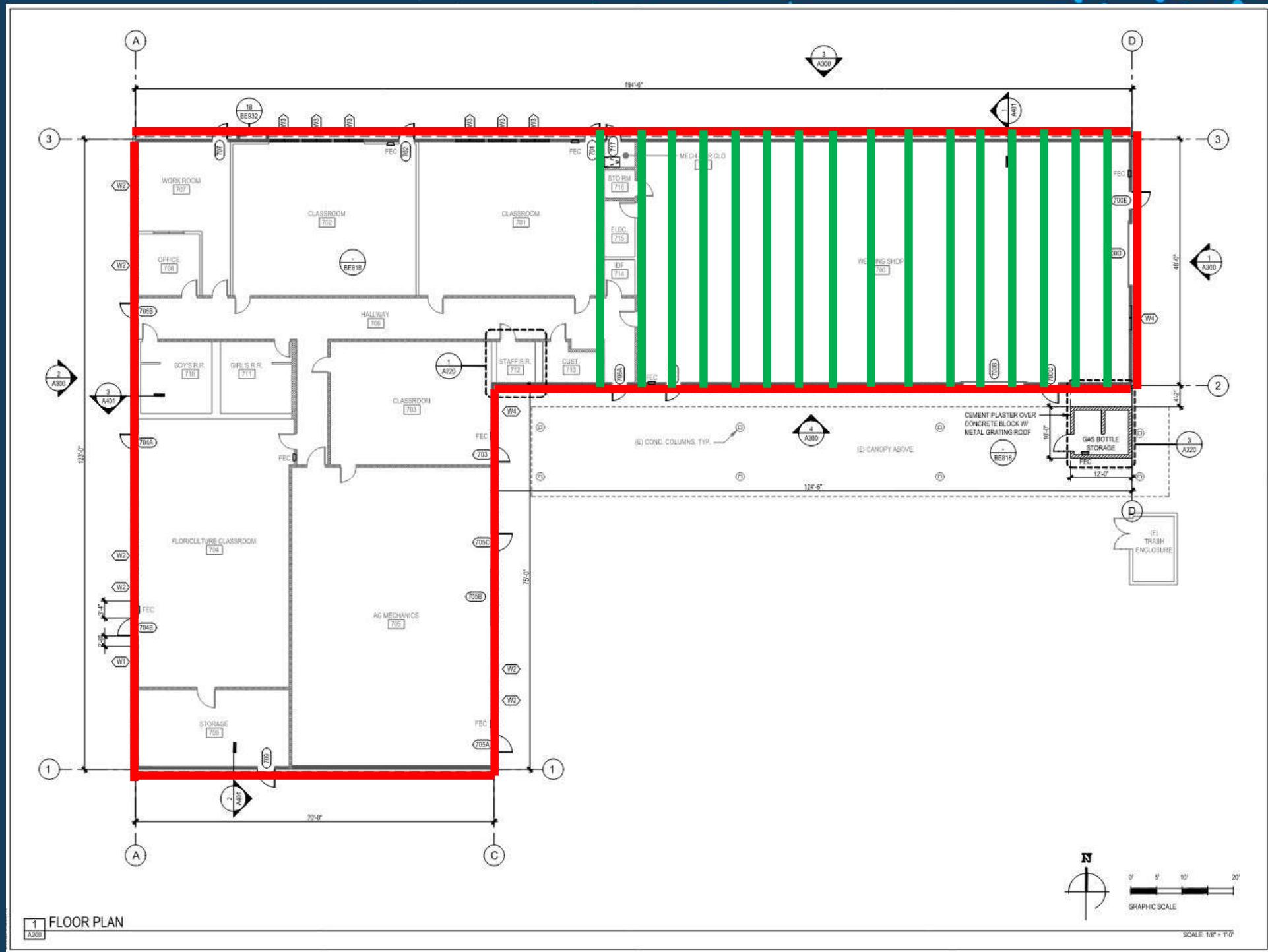










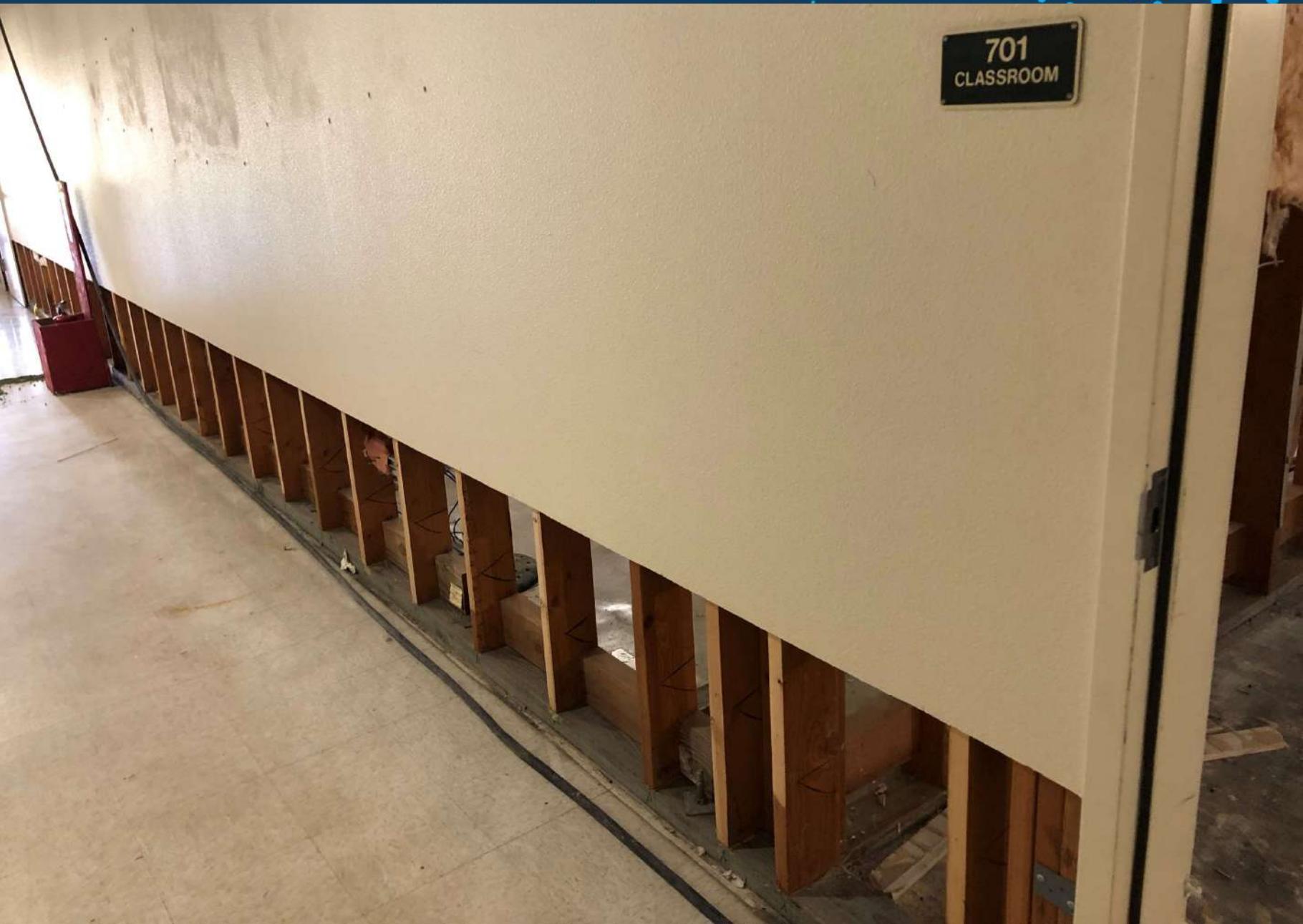


Onion Farmers have a saying... ‘the thicker an onion’s skin, the rougher the winter ahead will be’.





TIMELINE: ADDITIONAL LAYERS



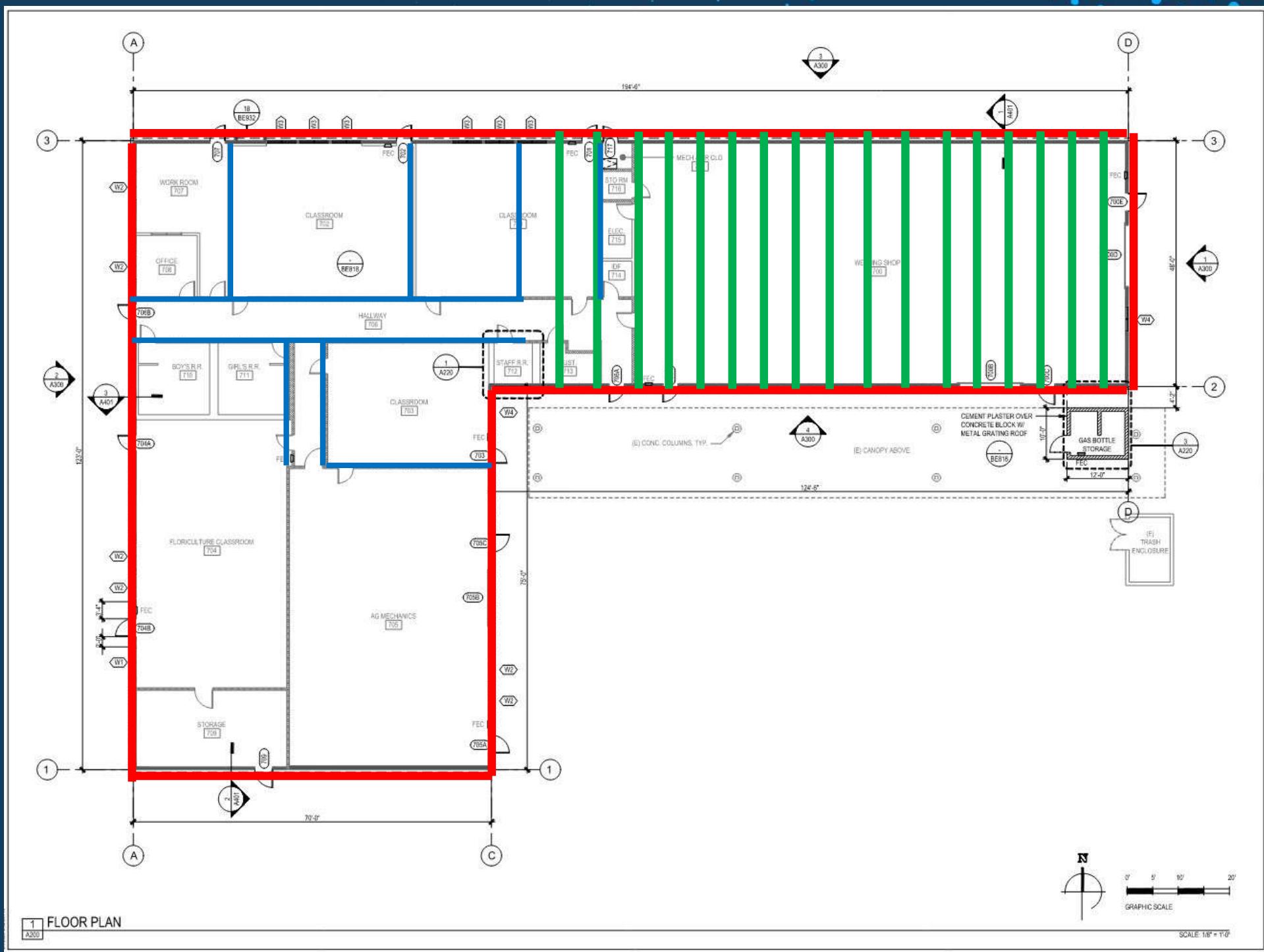






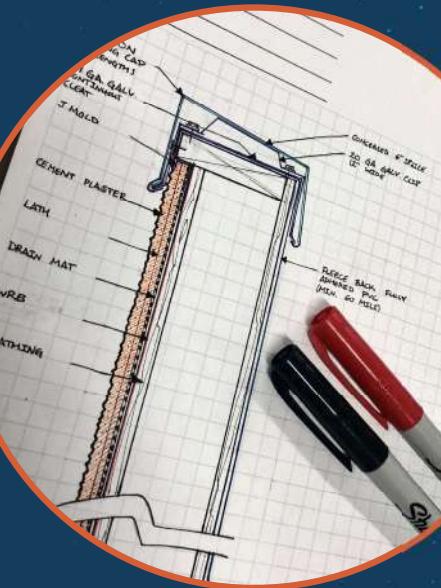




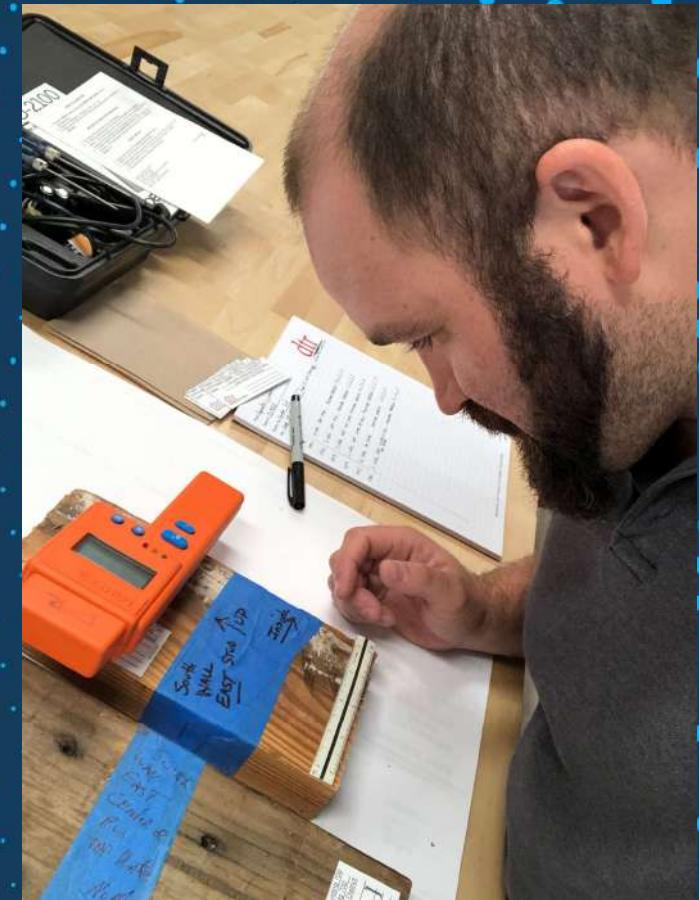
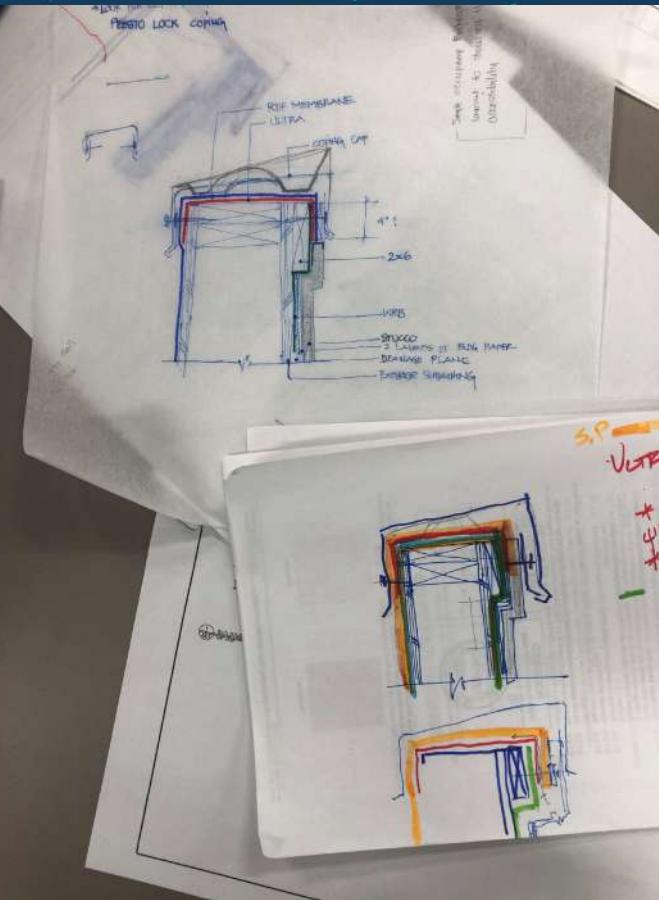


Onions were worshipped by ancient Egyptians, the concentric rings of onions indicated the circles of life.

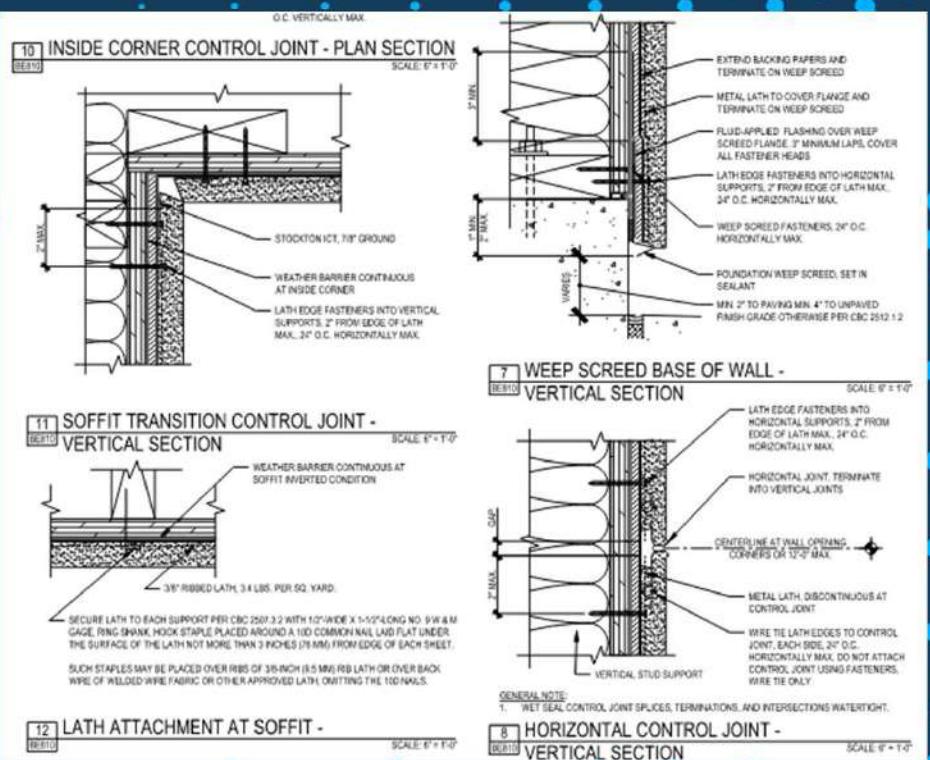
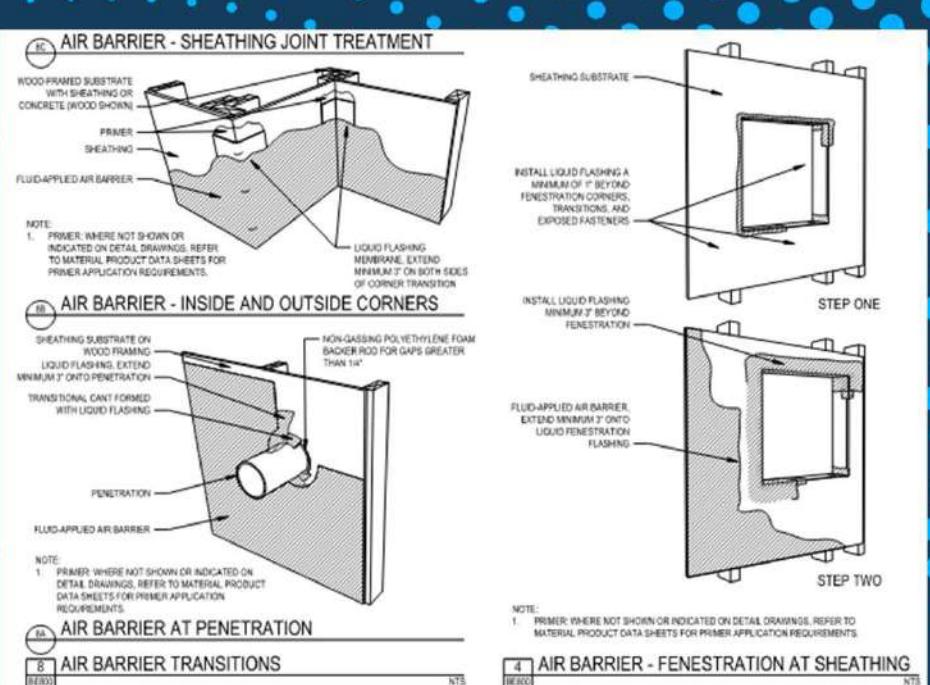




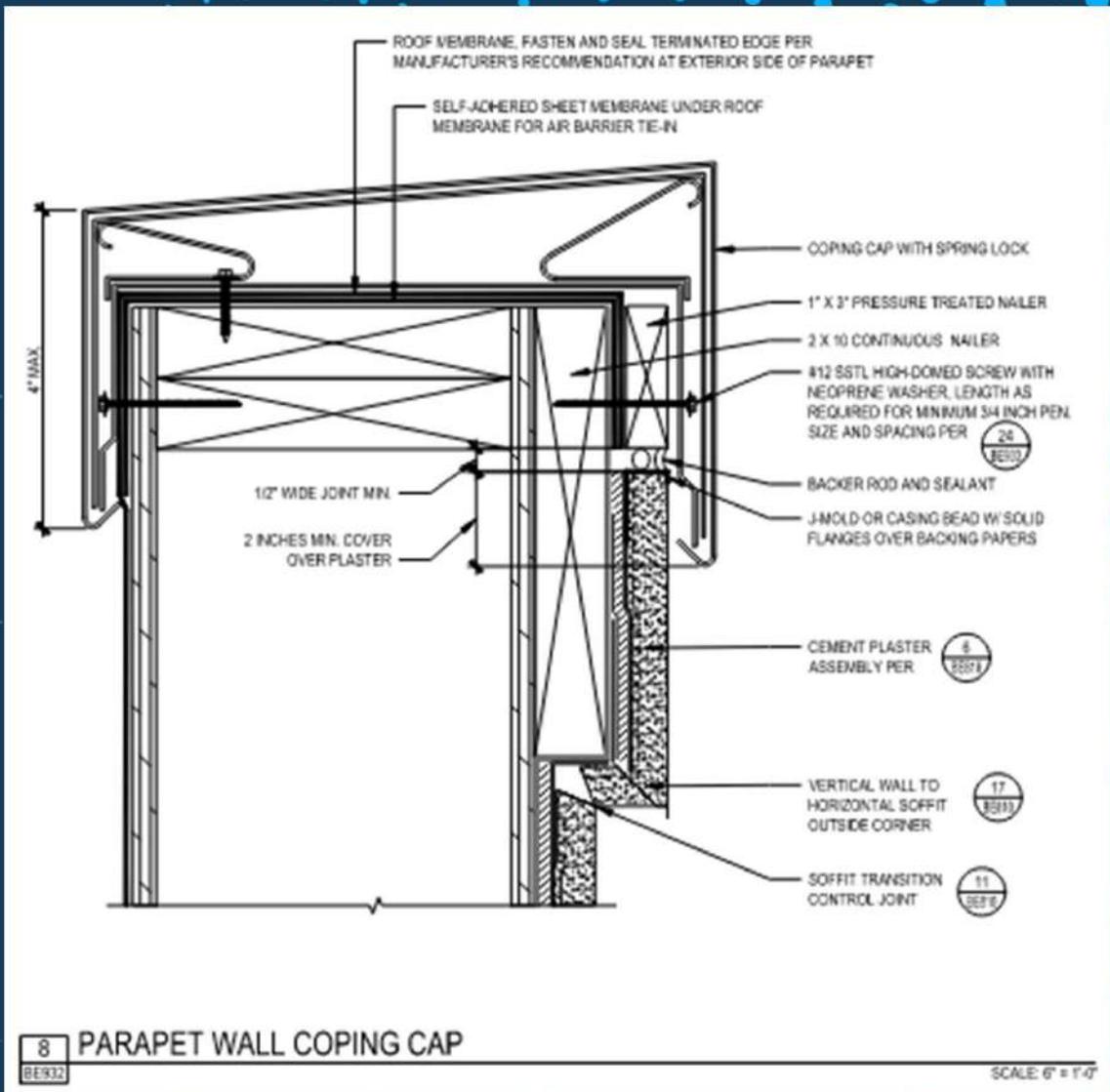
TIMELINE: REMEDIAL DESIGN



- New Cement Plaster System
- A liquid-applied WRB
- Full drainage plane
- More control joints
- Intermediate drainage (not just at the base of the wall)



- Redesigned parapet:
- Continuous nailer
- High-temperature underlayment
- Continuous and watertight termination of the roof membrane
- Continuous coping clip



“Onions are like my
wallet when I open it,
I cry!”





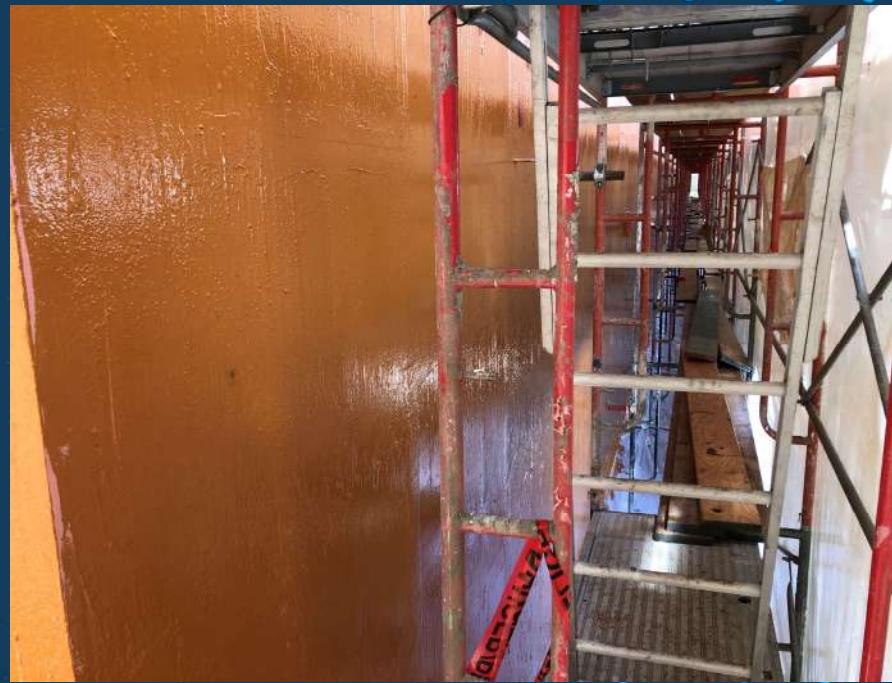
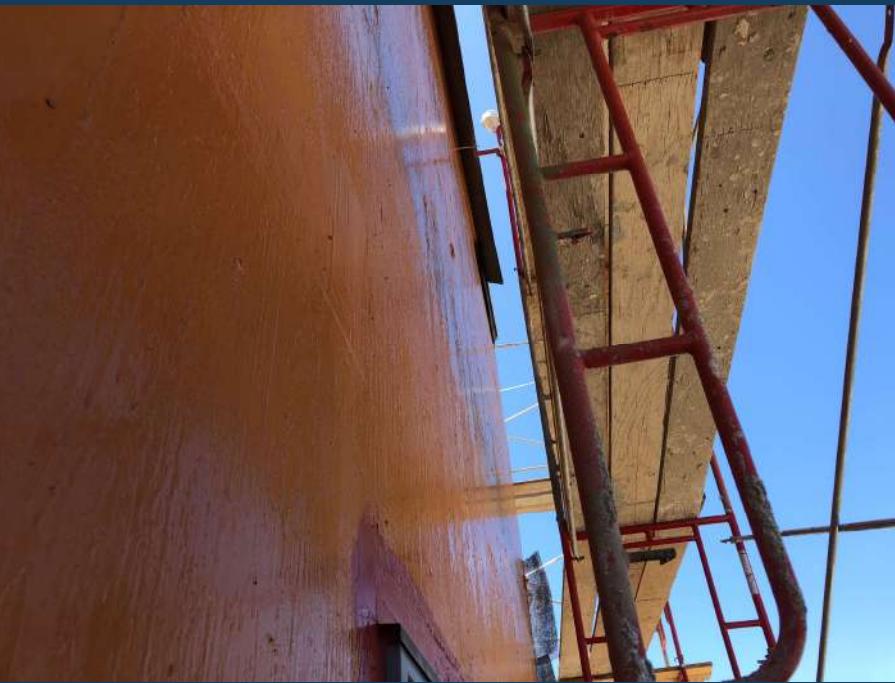
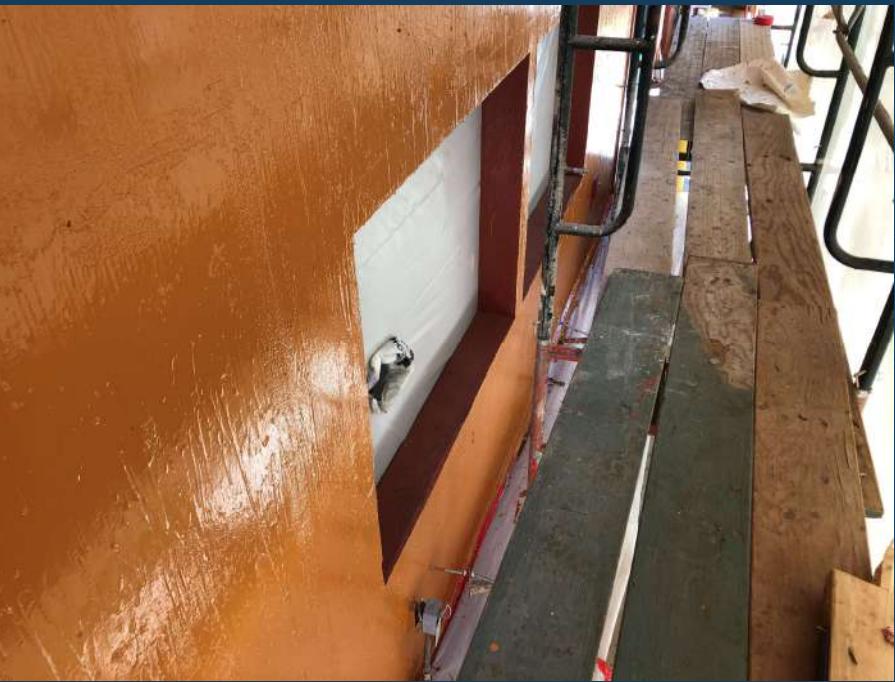
TIMELINE: REMEDIAL CONSTRUCTION

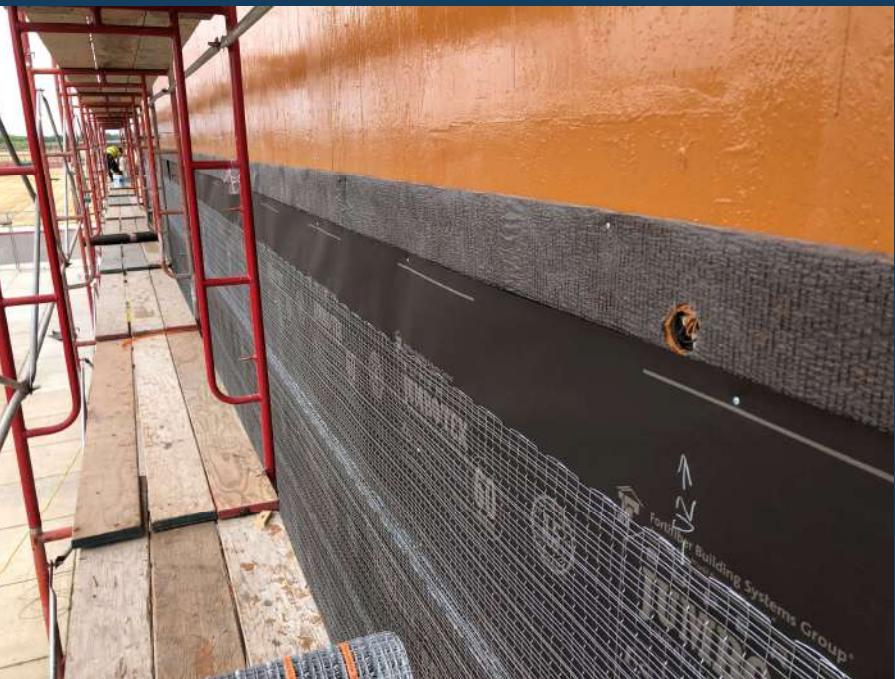
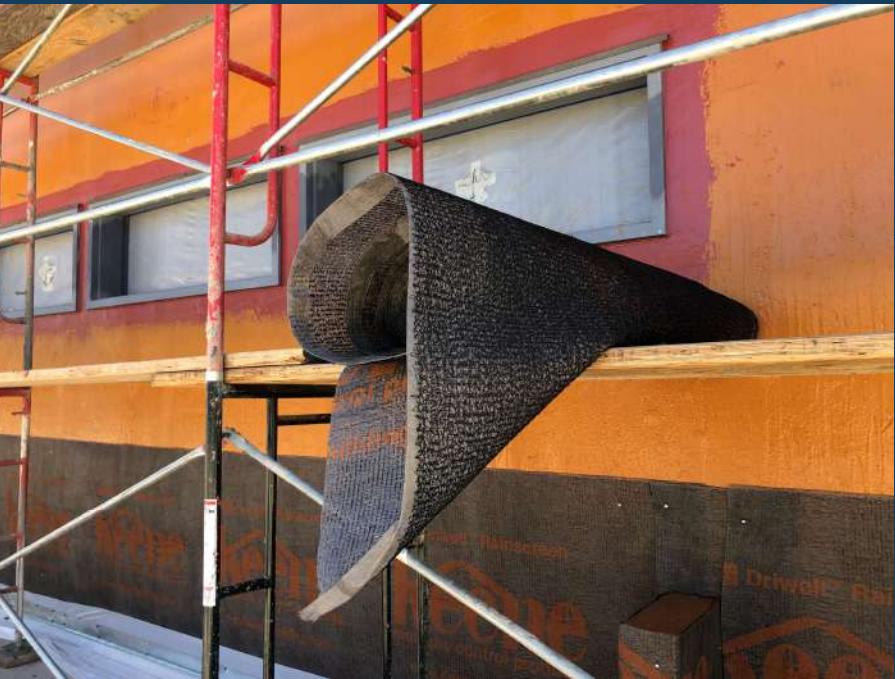


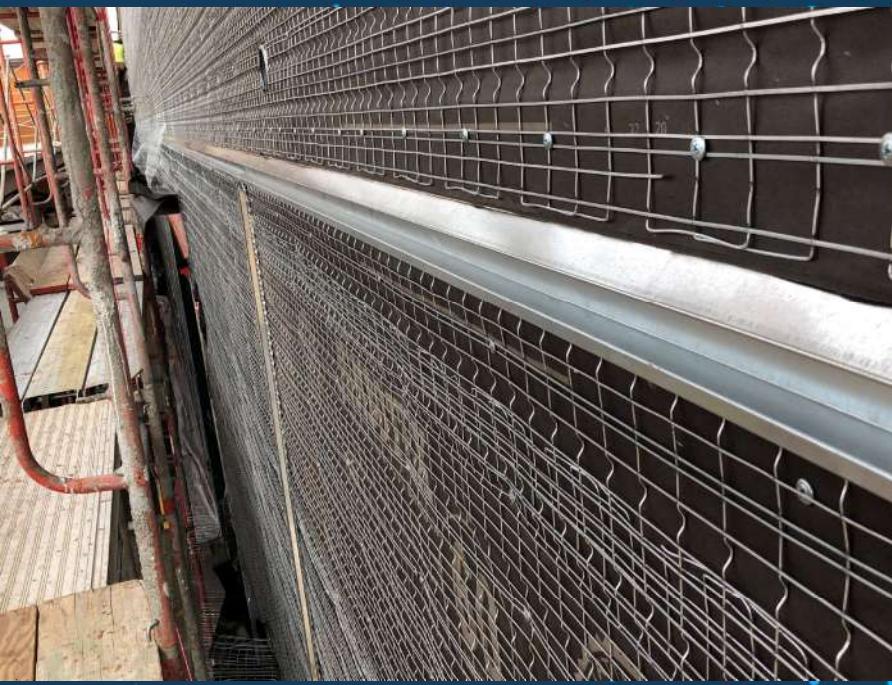
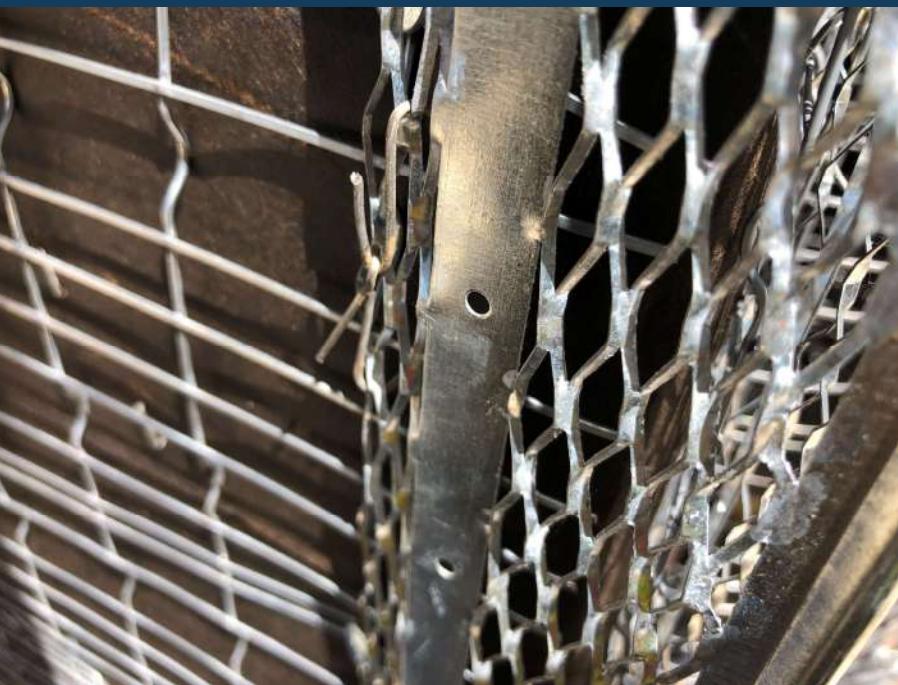
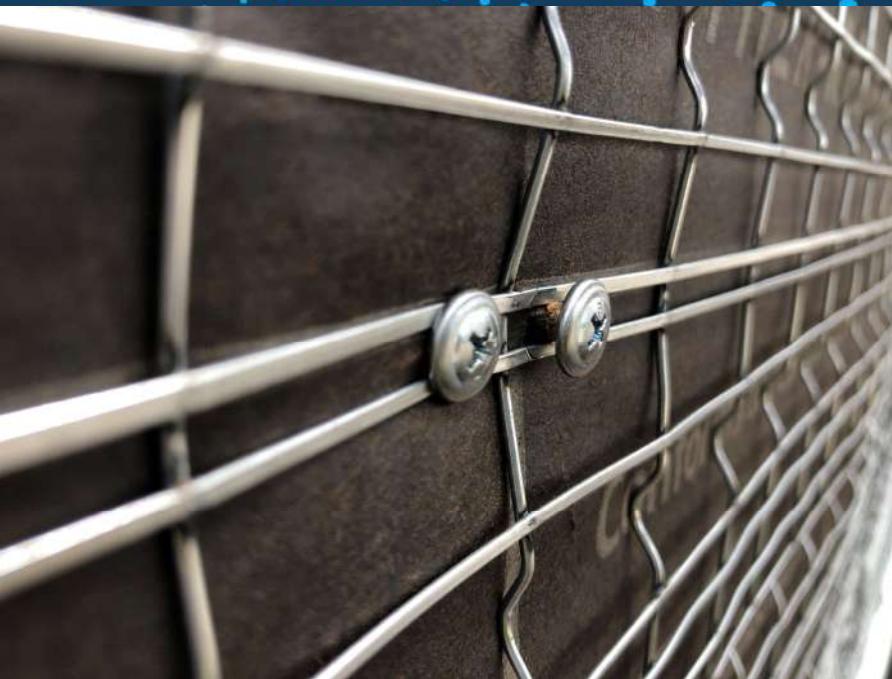


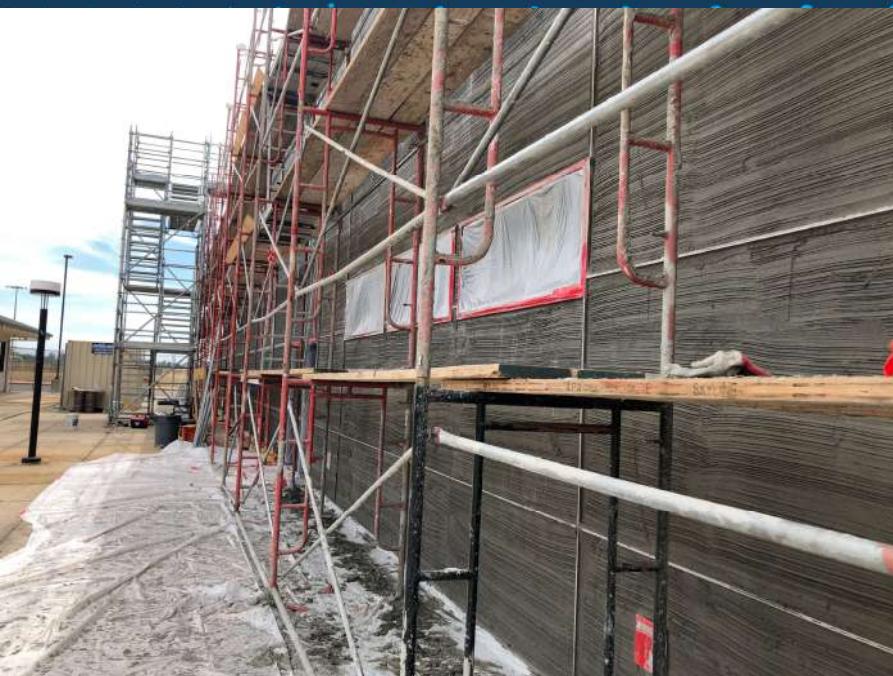


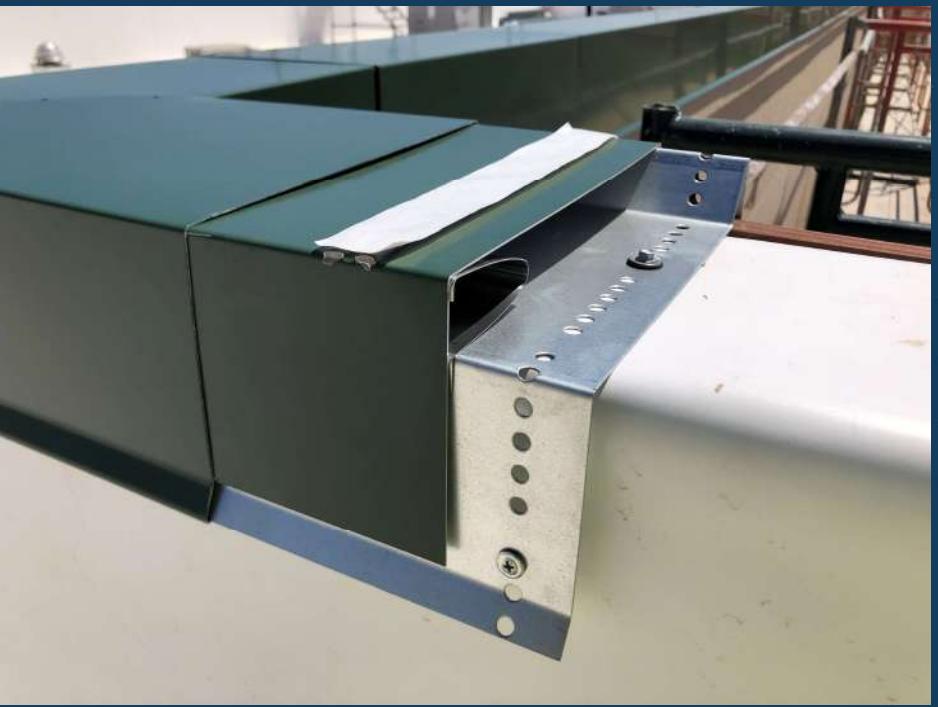














Onions scraps can
self-propagate,
if the roots
are left in place





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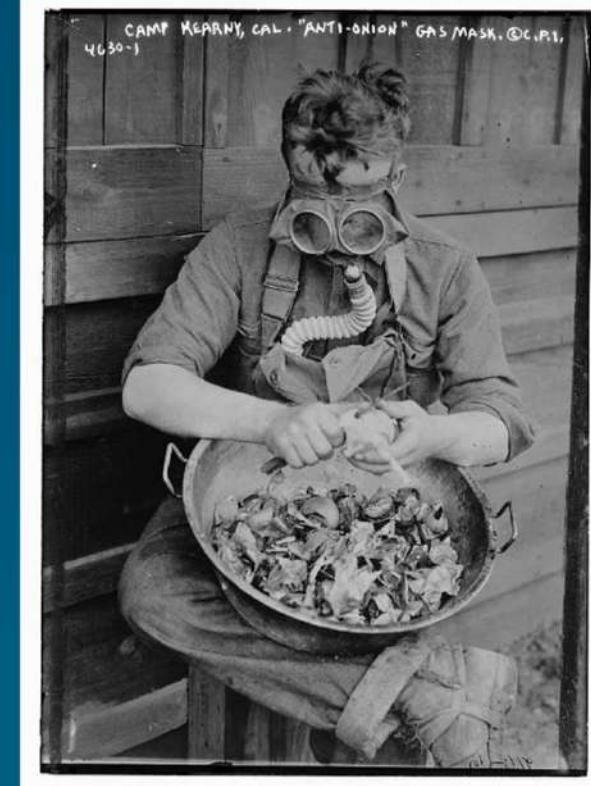
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THANK YOU
FOR ATTENDING
THIS
PRESENTATION



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building
enclosure
conference