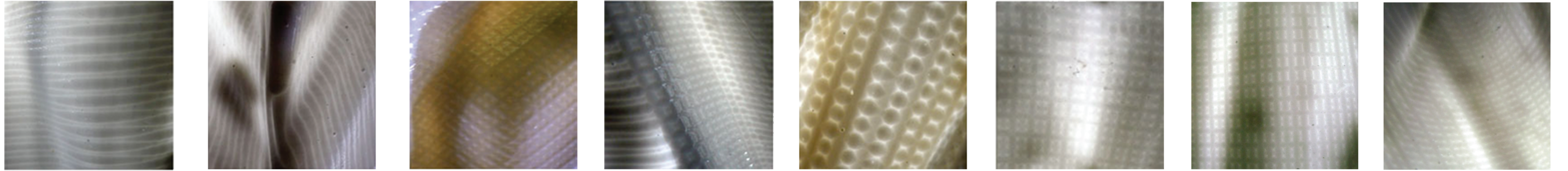


PORCELAIN TILES 1:2



THE NIGHT GARDEN

The Night Garden is a vertical landscape built of glowing porcelain tiles within a steel structure supporting translucent vessels designed to hold water and flowers such as evening primrose, moonflowers and brassavola. It is inspired by the historic Spanish courtyards of New Orleans that were built after the fires of the 1780's and 90's. Their construction was mandated to be constructed from ceramic masonry (brick) and include a water fountain that could be used to exterminate future fires. The use of ceramic masonry for construction meant that the courtyards would be safe havens and would not burn as they had in the past and the fountains offered water to extinguish a fire.

Project Date: 2009
 Project Team: Rael San Fratello Architects: Ronald Rael, Virginia San Fratello; University of California Architecture Graduate Students: Christopher Dehenzel, Yes Duffy, Natalia Echeverri, Magic Kwan, John Faichney, Timothy Kim, Kin Lam, Qingyue Li, Adriana Navarro-Sertich, Matthew Smith; Ceramics Lab Technician: Ehren Tool; Ceramics Professor: Richard Shaw; Architecture Shop Superintendent: Paul Morrison; Architecture Shop Technician: Chris Lesnett

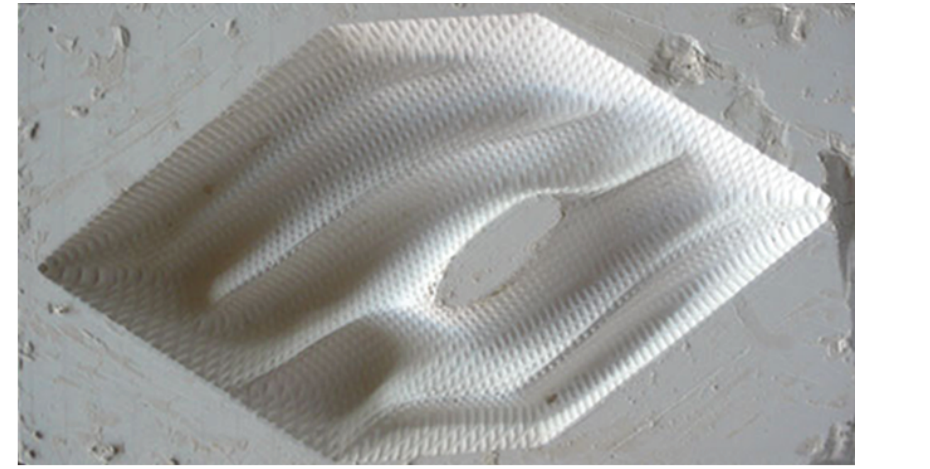
TILES

Within a laser cut steel frame were placed unique porcelain tiles designed by each student. The plaster molds used to slip cast the porcelain were designed with Modo, a robust 3D modeling program made by Luxology, and CNC milled.



DEVELOPMENT

The installation was developed and constructed in collaboration with graduate architecture students at the University of California at Berkeley in a seminar investigating the use of ceramics in architecture and with expertise and technical and facility assistance from the Ceramics Lab in the Department of Art Practice at Berkeley.

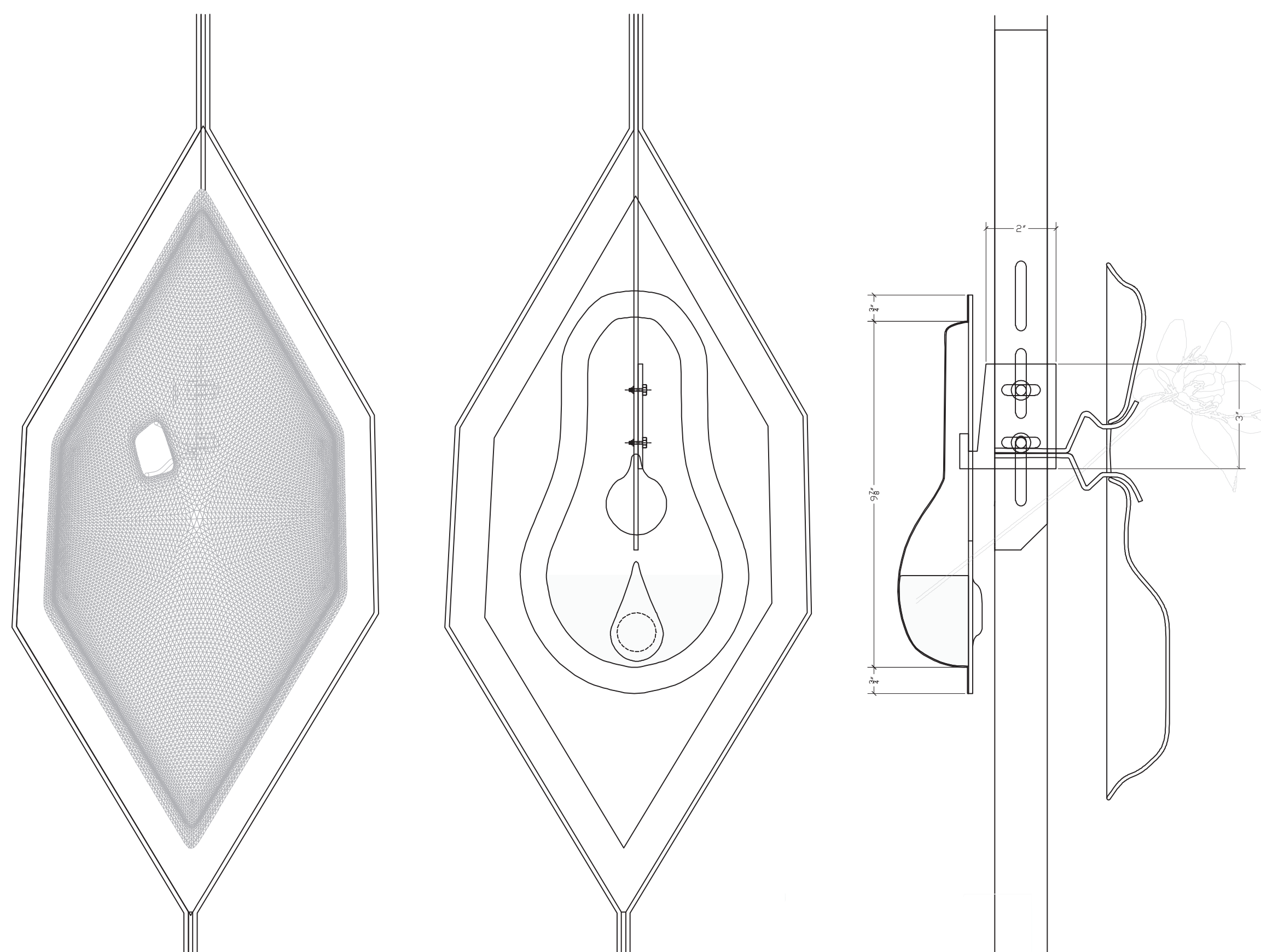
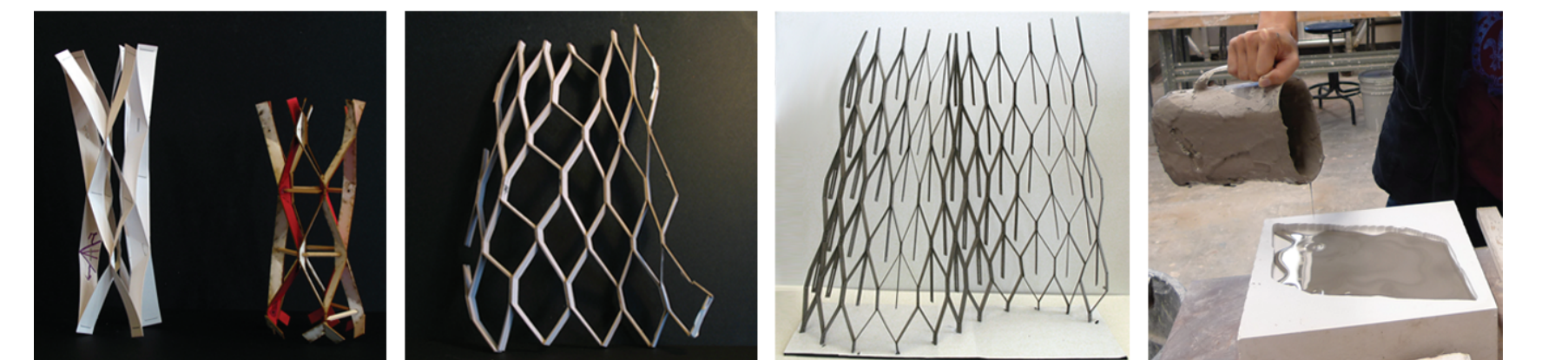


TEXTURE

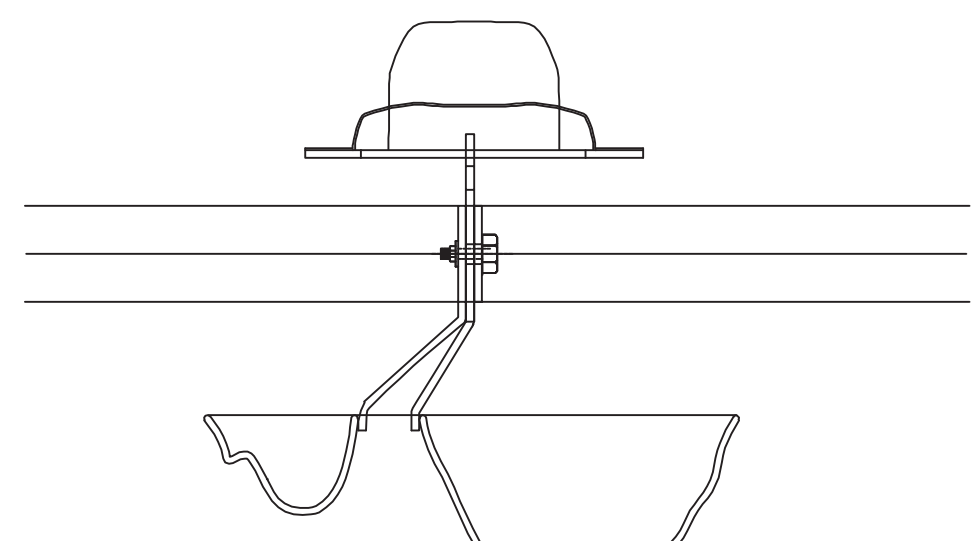
The expression of the tooling paths accentuated the translucent quality of porcelain. Distinctions between gas and electric kiln firing appear in the variations in color between amber and white.

MATERIALS

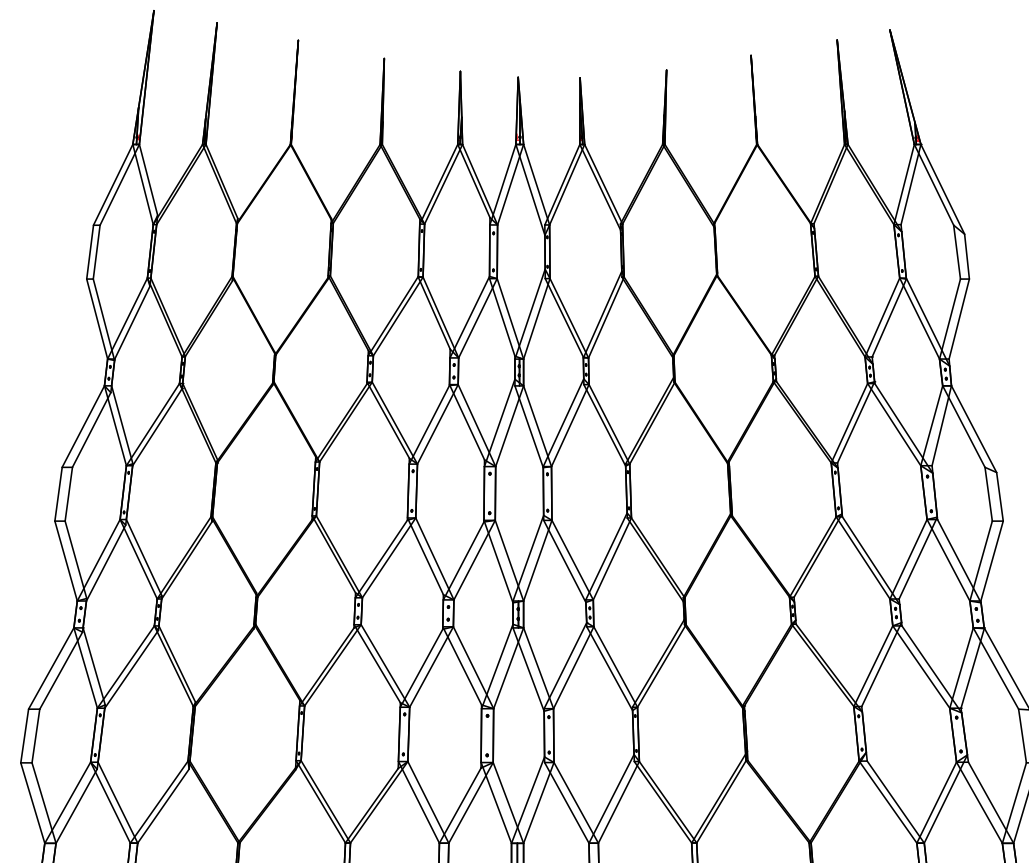
The installation references the traditional construction material, such as wrought iron, brick, tile, the intentional placement of water, and the historic relevance of fire, all while highlighting the exotic plant life of New Orleans. Vacuum-formed plastic vessels hold glowing-green water to support the flowers and to which are mounted an LED light.



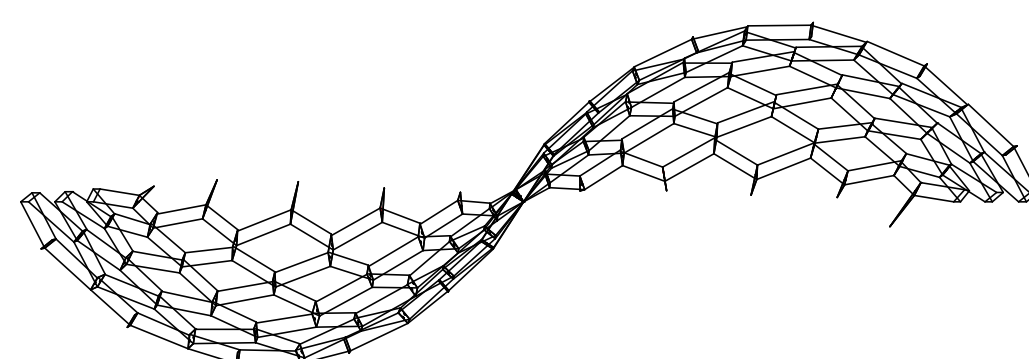
CONSTRUCTION DETAILS 1:3



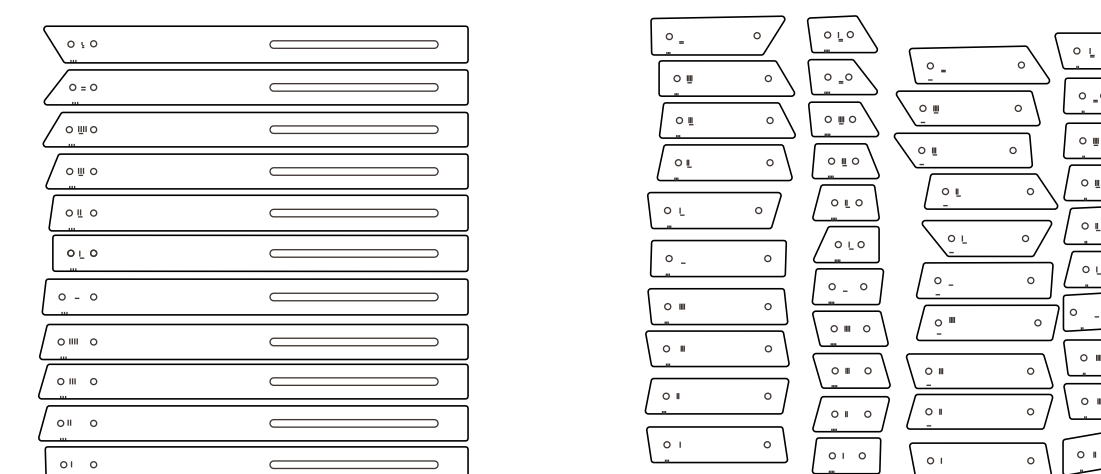
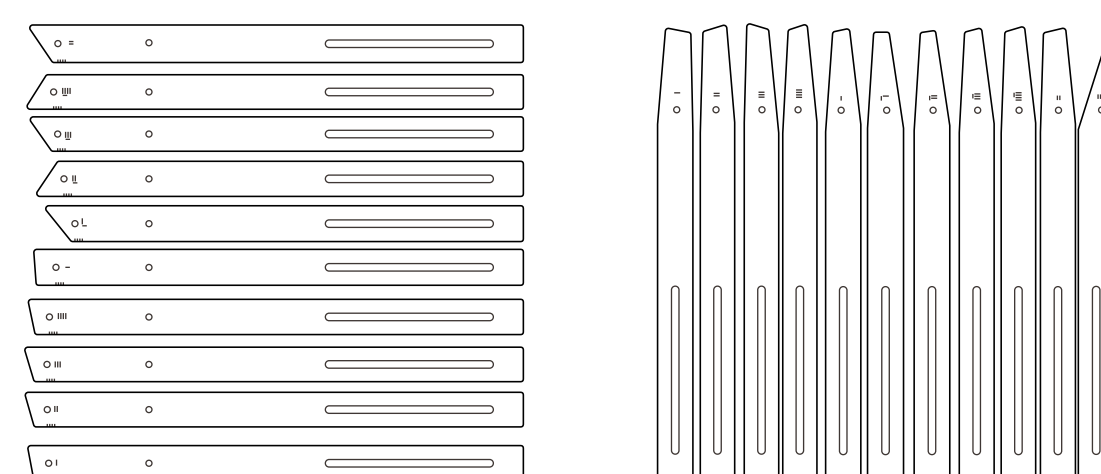
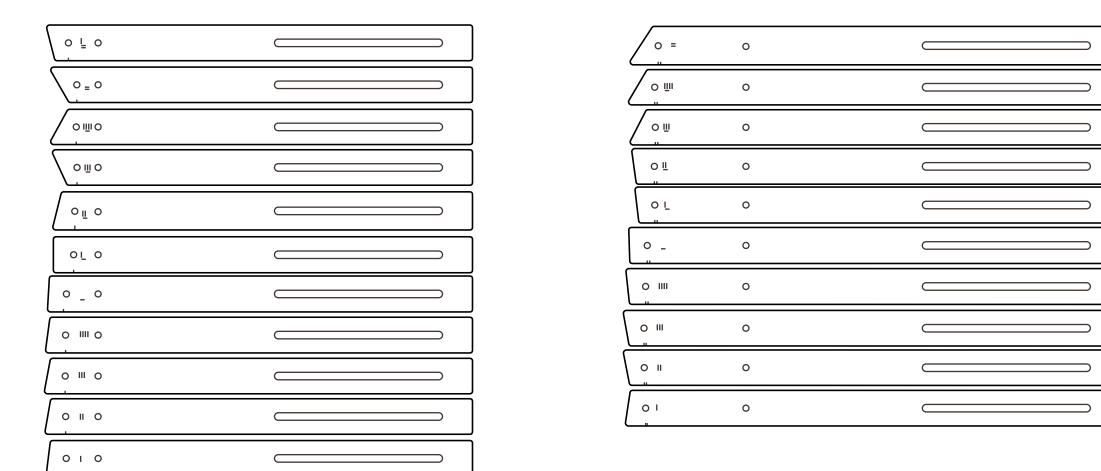
CONSTRUCTION DETAILS 1:3



STEEL FRAME ELEVATION 1:20



STEEL FRAME AERIAL VIEW 1:20



LASERCUT DRAWINGS 1:8

