

## Narrative

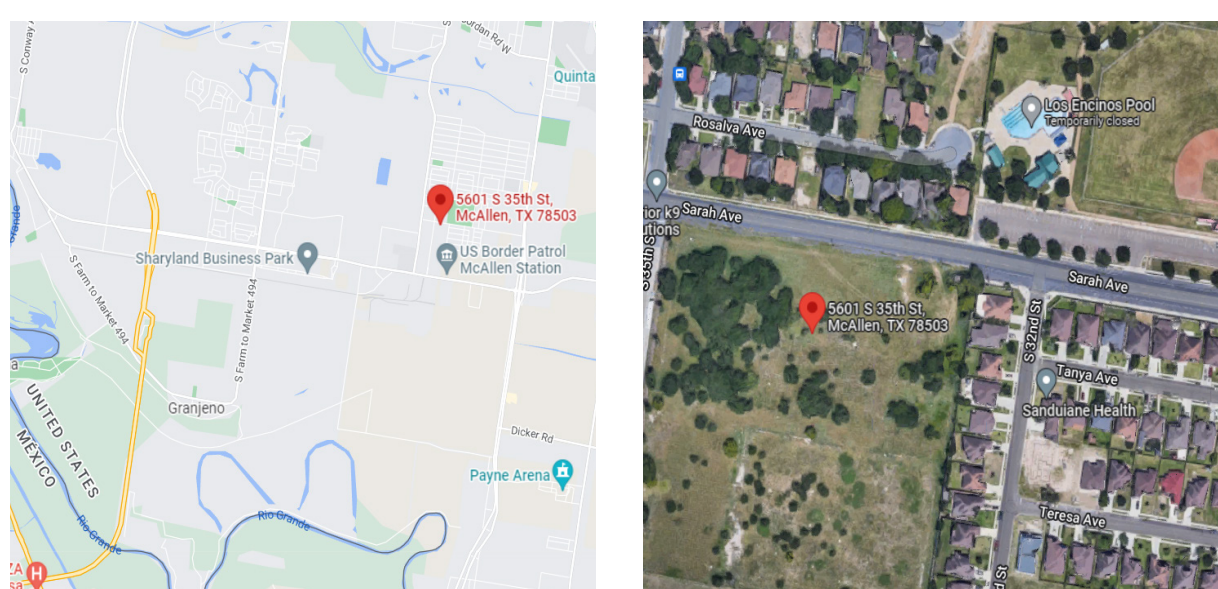
Honduras is in Central America where the primary economy is agriculture. According to the World Bank (2022), Honduras is one of the Western nations' poorest and most unequal countries. It is about 25.2% of people lived in extreme poverty in 2020. Natural disasters make poverty even worse. Hurricane Eta and Iota in November 2020 affected more than 4.5 million people in Honduras. In addition, with homicide levels in the regions, Honduras becomes one of the worst armed conflicts and criminal groups in Latin America (Nelson-Pollard, 2017). The impact of violence can be felt daily in Central American countries, especially the Northern Triangle area, which is Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. Violence is a major cause of displacement in that area (Nelson-Pollard, 2017).

Marvin Rojas, a Honduran, is 22 years old. He has left his home country and traveled to seek asylum in the U.S. in the past 3 months. This is his second try. He first tried to come to the U.S. 10 years ago with his mom, but they didn't make it since he fell from the train and his leg was broken. His mom and he returned to Honduras and waited to save money for the next try. This time, he himself left San Pedro Sula in Honduras, and north to the U.S., crossing Tenosique, Villahermosa, Coatzacoalcos, and Veracruz in Mexico by train and transmitting to bus at Tampico, ending in Reynosa, the city at the border of the Mexican side, and finally across the border from McAllen, Texas, standing on the land of the U.S. The U.S. Department of State in Texas is planning to provide an urgent and temporary home for Marvin's resettlement in McAllen, Texas, assisting with his basic needs.

## Journey Map



## Site Location

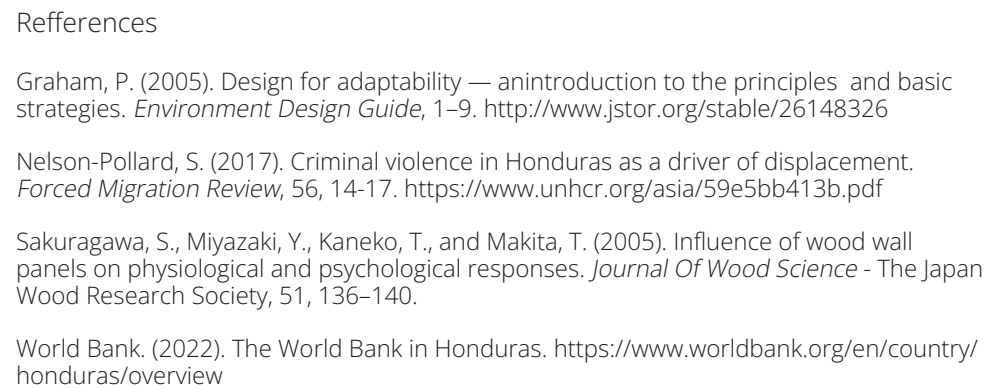


## Design Concept

Representing house, home, and hope, h Cubic (h<sup>3</sup>) is designated for a house to help Marvin Rojas while he waits for asylum in the U.S. It is a temporary but meaningful and functional environment fulfilling with sustainable and adaptable ideas. A shipping container is used for providing a living space as well as reducing the footprint. White oak wood is utilized to build flooring and casework. Besides the sleeping and eating area, an entertainment area, a kitchen, and a bathroom are also provided in the space, giving him a comfortable and belonging feeling, like home.

## Sustainability & Adaptability

- Local Materials**
  - White Oak
    - Grow in the northeast of Texas and in Mexico
    - Renewable
    - Reduce depressed feeling (Sukuragawa et al., 2005)
- Local Objects**
  - Used Shipping Containers
    - Cheap in price
    - Adaptable in use
    - Durable structure
    - Transportable easily
- Flexibility**
  - Function in use
  - People at different ages and levels of ability
  - Customizable in size



References  
 Graham, P. (2005). Design for adaptability — an introduction to the principles and basic strategies. *Environment Design Guide*, 1-9. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/26148326>  
 Nelson-Pollard, S. (2017). Criminal violence in Honduras as a driver of displacement. *Forced Migration Review*, 56, 14-17. <https://www.unhcr.org/asia/59e5bb413b.pdf>  
 Sukuragawa, S., Miyazaki, Y., Kaneko, T., and Makita, T. (2005). Influence of wood wall panels on physiological and psychological responses. *Journal Of Wood Science - The Japan Wood Research Society*, 51, 136-140.  
 World Bank. (2022). The World Bank in Honduras. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/honduras/overview>

