Certain frog’s have the ability to **leap** in excess of fifty times their body length. They have camouflage skins that help keep them safe from predators’ eyes.

Buildings can learn from the frog’s ability to gain distance over space. The frog’s flexible skeletal frame, which can expand and compress, suggests an architecture that extends gracefully and expansively over a site. The frog’s skin suggests a building that blends quietly into its environment.
CONCEPTUAL SKETCH

LOOSE WRAPPING

A loosely wrapped skin acts as a naturally ventilated screen for a building. Strategically cutting away from this skin provides shade while still allowing light to penetrate throughout the interior. These openings break up the mass into private, public, indoor, and outdoor spaces.

MOVEMENT

Wrapping this glass box in a smooth skin enlivens its connection to the landscape and gives its facade the impression of movement.

GLASS BOX

The new design for 755 Union Avenue was created by simply extruding the site’s maximum allowable footprint of 30’ x 50’. Applying glass to the surfaces of this extrusion allows for optimum views, transparency and openness.
SITE PROPOSAL

- The slope of the roof is extended to direct water into planting beds and a French drain that follows the natural slope of the site.
- The beds are shaped to accommodate plants that are native to Colorado.
- A "grass-perv" drainage leads to a partially sunken pergola.
- Infrared heating coils will be installed to melt snow during the winter months. A built-in drainage system will redirect this water to the earth.
- Solar-powered lighting allows for safe evening circulation without creating energy.
- Circulation through the site is established via a "green-perv" walkway, a sunken-moderate feathery area; the pergola to the rear of the house, and the deck to the front with a private entrance to the home and leads to an existing inground pool. The orientation themselves serve as outdoor lounging spaces, because of their irregularly site.

FLOOR PLAN

scale: 1/4" - 1'

3 BEDROOM x 2 BATHROOM RESIDENCE
Living Space: 1,172 sq ft
Outdoor Living Space: 790 sq ft
Garage: 570 sq ft

- The living, kitchen, and family space are seamlessly integrated into a single space. The open floor plan allows for an intimate, family-oriented setting.
- The partially open kitchen allows for easy interaction with family members while cooking.
- The open floor plan and large windows allow for an abundance of natural light.
- A unique feature is the hybrid design that creates an abundance of both private and semi-private outdoor living spaces.
- An extension of this porch on the north facade adds a large outdoor living area.
ELEVATED LIVING

Elevating the building on posts above the earth lessens its impact on the environment, gives its residents lofting views to the surroundings and creates a new context of solids and voids for the street.

ELEVATIONS
SET THE STAGE

Exterior curtain walls break the barrier to the outdoors and give the home a stage-like quality. Solar powered integral blinds within these walls provide privacy, shade, and additional insulation.
TRANSPARENCY

Translucent walls and operable transom windows allow for a naturally lit and ventilated interior.