Permanent Housing In the Central Highlands of Guatemala
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Abstract
This project is a design of permanent housing for the Quiché people in the central highlands of Guatemala. This area is faced with occasional earthquakes, high winds, and rain which are caused by the hurricanes that hit the coast of Guatemala.

Background
- Most Quiche families live in a family unit of four.
- They usually live in two room houses that develops as the family grows in status. They also usually have a corredor which is a porch/separate section where people cook.
- Running water and adequate sanitary facilities are lacking in most homes.
- The central highlands aren’t directly hit by hurricanes but instead tropical storms. Creating an extreme rainy season.

Design Concept
- A two foot overhang surrounds the house preventing water from running down the walls of the house.
- The roof is made of thatched leaves.
- The low pitched roof, with a slope of 6/12, allows wind to pass over the top with ease.

Case Study
- The Round structure of the house comes from the research done by Deltec Homes.
- Deltec Homes is a company that designs round homes which withstand some of the worst US hurricanes in Florida.
- Their housing design was our starting point for hurricane resistant housing.

References