

**AGGREGATE**

Stones, pebbles, or colored gravel in cement, left untreated for texture or polished mirror-smooth, were used to surface walls, floors, and paving.

*Aggregate***ALUMINUM**

Aluminum was used to trim windows and doors, and for decorative grilles.

**BEANPOLES**

Thin metal rods used as decoration and for space modulation appeared in interior and exterior spaces. Often projecting from planters in all manner of balconies, lobbies, stairways, and porches.

*Bean Poles***BOXED WINDOWS**

Art Deco eyebrows were elongated into both horizontal and vertical decorative elements, often framing compositions of windows and slump brick panels. The boxes, or frames, were frequently flared or tapered for an aerodynamic effect.

*Boxed Windows***BRISE-SOLEILS**

Fixed concrete louvers were introduced as shading devices by Le Corbusier in his seminal residential towers.

**BUILT-IN PLANTERS**

Smaller planters at the bases of exterior walls and corners to anchor the structure to the landscape and create a graduation from the architectural to the natural.

*Brise-Soleil***CANTILEVER**

A beam or other protection that is unsupported at its projecting end.

*Built-in Planters, Cantilever***CANTED WINDOWS**

Tilted glass walls outward from the base, usually seen in motel lobbies, storefronts, gas stations, and restaurants.

**COMPRESSED ARCHES**

Vertically squeezed or horizontally squashed semicircular arches, forming roofs or canopies.

**CONCRETE BLOCK AND STUCCO**

Readily available, mass-produced concrete block became the standard South Florida building material from the 1920s onward. Stucco, an inexpensive fine plaster, was used to coat exterior block walls and was molded into decorative features.

**CONCRETE CANOPIES (PORT-COCHERE)**

Thin concrete roofs, which often projected outward toward a driveway, street, parking lot, were often used to shelter entrances.

**CRAB ORCHARD STONE**

Quarried in the Cumberland Plateau of eastern Tennessee, this hard sandstone became a defining decorative material in MiMo.

**CURTAIN WALL CONSTRUCTION**

A non-structural exterior wall, usually of glass, steel, or aluminum, that is hung on the structural frame.

**CUTOUTS**

The simple device of perforating eaves with circular or square openings. Roof cutouts were usually paired with a corresponding planter to allow plants to grow through the openings. A palm tree piercing a perforated eave is a classic MiMo touch.

**DECORATIVE RAILINGS**

Railings along catwalks in motels and motel-apartments were frequently among the few opportunities for ornamentation, and appeared in imaginative, abstract geometric and curvilinear compositions.



*Crab Orchard Stone*



*Concrete Canopy*



*Cutouts, Decorative Railing*



*Curtain Wall Construction*



**EGGCRATE FACADES**

The square or rectangular grid created by exposed edges of concrete floors and walls projecting outward from the building wall.

**EYEBROWS**

An Example of styling in MiMo architecture, cantilevered sunshades over individual windows and doors in 1930s Tropical Art Deco evolved into continuous horizontal cantilevers and vertical elements of varying depths.

**FLOATING STAIRCASES**

Flights of stairs without risers or sideboards, often cantilevered from a wall so that the treads seem to float without support.

**JALOUSIES**

Operable, narrow glass louvers were ubiquitous before air-conditioning, because of their ability to maintain ventilation during rainy weather. Jalousies of frosted glass simultaneously provided privacy and were used in a full range of sizes from small bathroom windows to long, floor-to-ceiling arrangements.

**KEYSTONE**

A form of oolitic limestone, or oolite, quarried in Florida's Middle Keys, hence its name. Readily available, easy to carve, and textured with fossilized sealife, Keystone was used extensively in Mediterranean Revival and Tropical Art Deco.

**MARINE IMAGERY**

Resort MiMo continued the Tropical Art Deco tradition of depicting aquatic images but in more abstract forms, like the graded shades of sea green tile representing the ocean's depths on the façade of the Eden Roc. Representations of sea life, such as mermaids, dolphins, sea horses, and seashells, were common in residential and Resort MiMo, as well as Motel Modern, especially in Fort Lauderdale.



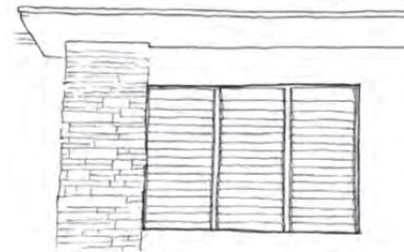
*Eggcrate Facade*



*Eyebrows*



*Floating Staircase*



*Jalousies*



*Keystone*



*Marine Imagery*



**METAL GRILLES**

Sometimes custom-made in an abundance of finely detailed designs, grilles were used in a similar manner as concrete brise-soleils and louvers to block sunlight. They were a ubiquitous feature of MiMo office buildings until they were made obsolete by reflective thermal glass. Metal grilles are sometimes used simply for decorative effect.

**RANDOM ASHLAR PATTERN**

Paving or masonry consisting of stones cut into squares and rectangles of various sizes, or a faux version of this.

**ROMAN BRICK**

Distinctively thinner and longer than conventional brick, roman brick was favored by Frank Lloyd Wright for its horizontality and fine texture, and became popular in the 1950s. Most roman brick in MiMo architecture is actually slumped brick.

**ROUNDED EAVES**

An easily distinguishable characteristic of MiMo apartment-hotels and houses, thick, rounded eaves were used to impart a sense of fullness to otherwise spare, rectilinear structures and to emphasize a sense of shelter.

**SCREEN BLOCK (BREEZE BLOCK)**

Mass-produced, cast-concrete block was used in an imaginative variety of geometric and organize patterns to create stunning abstract compositions.

**SCREENING**

Subtropical Modernists fully integrated mesh screening into their residential designs as they adapted the open Modernist houses of semi-arid California to humid, mosquito-ridden South Florida.



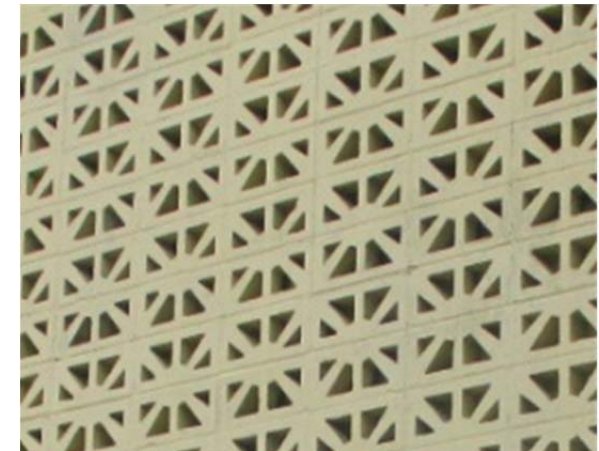
*Random Ashlar Pattern*



*Roman Brick*



*Rounded Eaves*



*Screen/Breeze Block*



*Metal Grille*

**SLUMPED BRICK**

Synthetic slumped brick was a ubiquitous decorative material in MiMo. The inexpensive concrete product came in a range of sizes, textures, and colors.

**TEXTURED STUCCO**

Inexpensive stucco lent itself to the creation of textures and abstract decorative relief in the abundant Miami sunshine.



*Slumped Brick*



*Textured Stucco*

**Resources:**

Nash, Eric P. and Robinson, Randall. *MiMo: Miami Modern Revealed*. San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 2004.\*

Post-War Modern/MiMo Design Guidelines. The City of Miami Beach Planning Department. <http://www.mimoonthebeach.com/MimoGuidelines.pdf>

MiMo Design Guidelines. City of Miami, Historic Preservation Office.

<http://historicpreservationmiami.com/designguide/MiMo%20Historic%20District%20Guidelines.pdf>

\*All definitions utilized above are taken from *MiMo: Miami Modern Revealed*.