## SAMPLING FOR PEPTIDE BONDS & PROTEINS

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## Bill Weber – Forensic Construction Expert

### Background

- In the restoration business for 31 years
- Licensed General Contractor in California
- Certified Restorer
- Council-Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant
- Council-Certified Mold Remediation Supervisor
- Principal Consultant for AVELAR, a comprehensive forensic architectural, construction and reconstruction management and litigation support company for 5 years



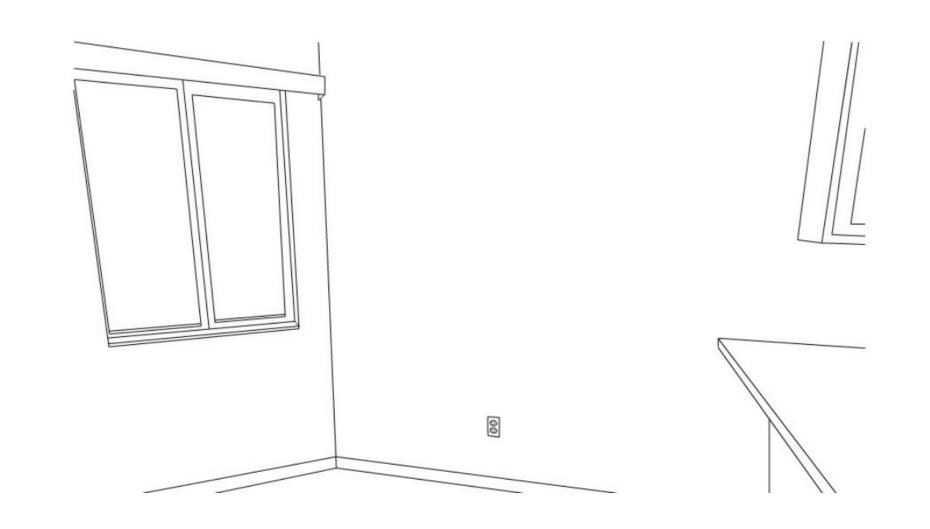
## John C. Banta - Certified Industrial Hygienist

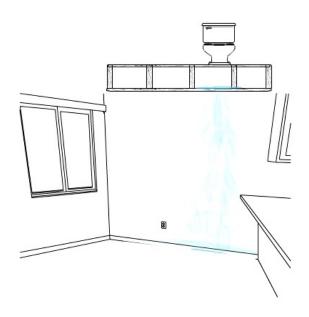
### John C. Banta, CIH - Background

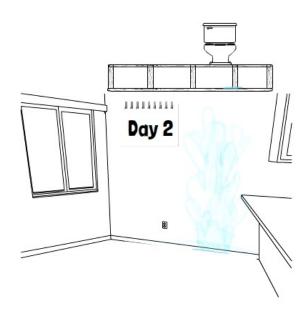
- 35 Years Indoor Environmental Professional
- 25 Years Emphasis on Water Damaged Environments
- 10 Years Focus on Medically Important Investigations
- Certified Industrial Hygienist
- Senior Environmental Consultant for RestCon Environmental
- Co-Author *Prescriptions for a Healthy House: A Practical Guide for Architects, Builders and Homeowners.* 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, April 2022

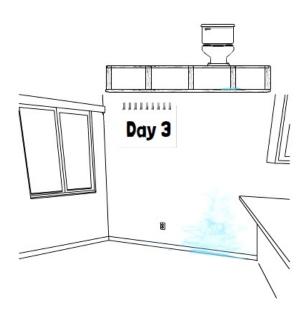


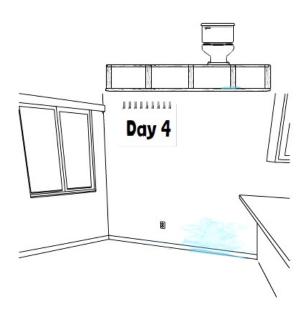


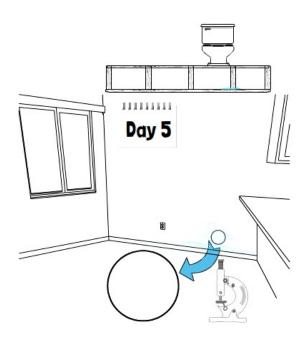


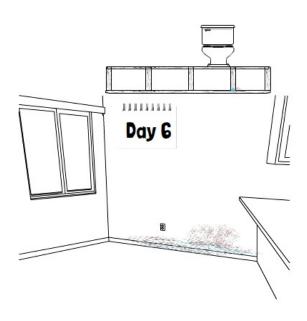


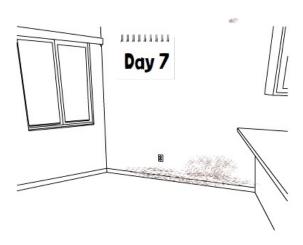




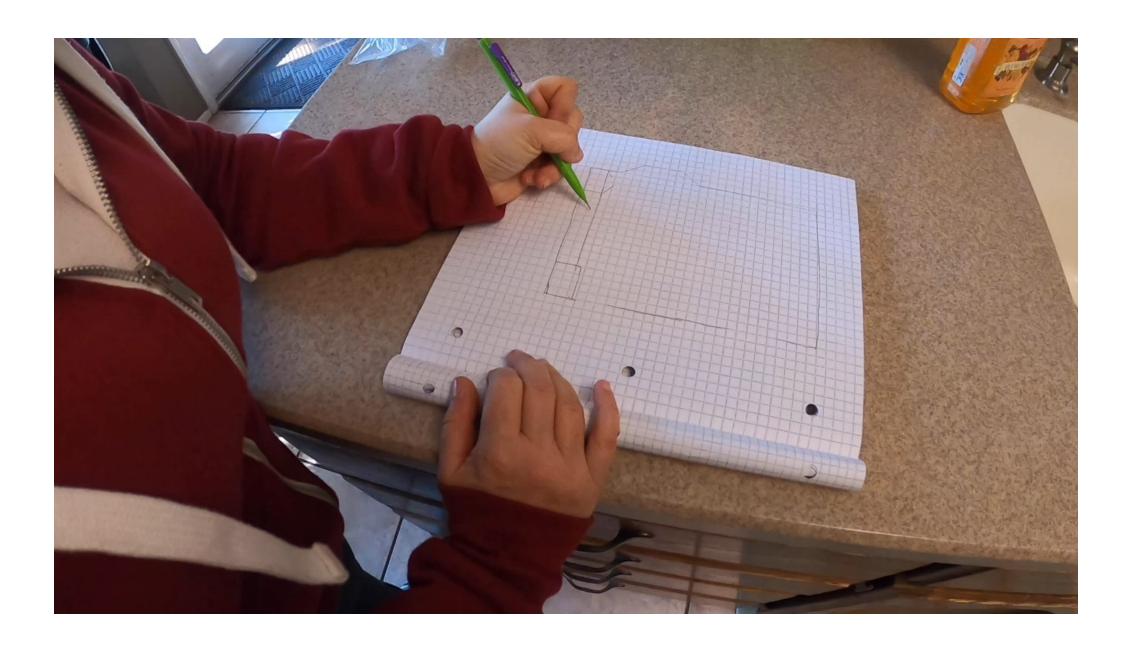






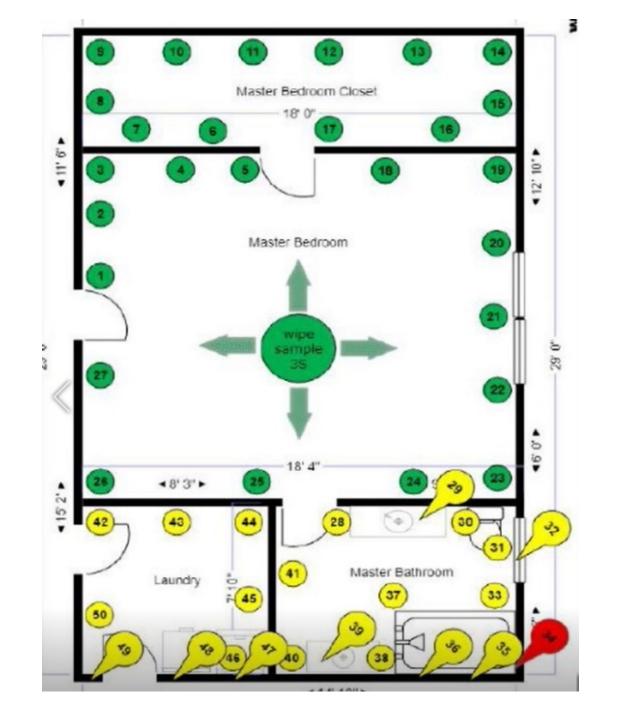


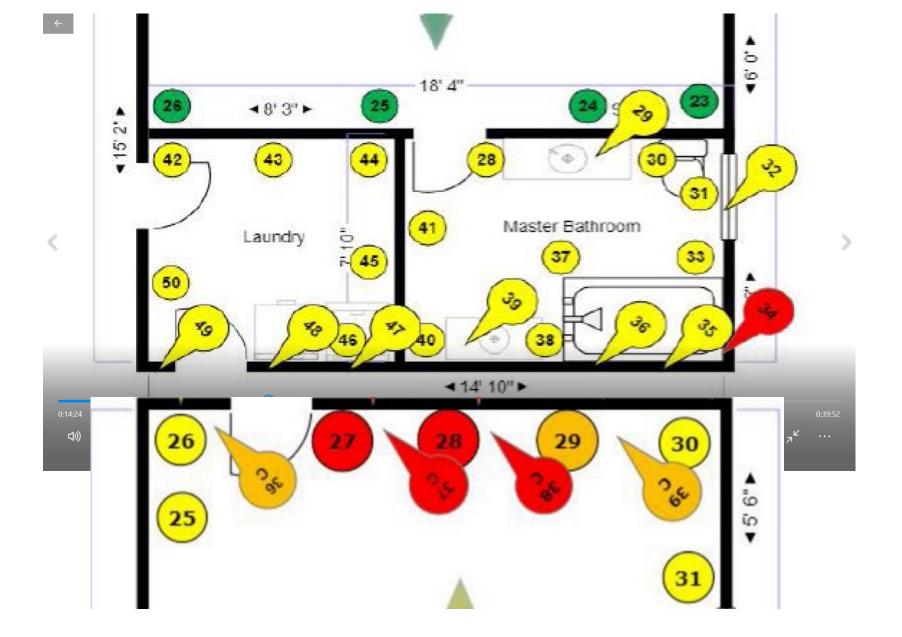




## Micrograms / sample

Green	0-75		
Yellow	76-225		
Orange	226 – 450		
Red	451->600		





## Case Study: San Francisco Home

Pathways Testing – Investigative Tool

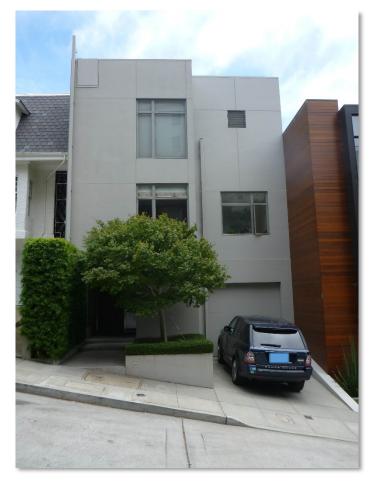
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## Project Overview

- Home Built in 1941 and extensively remodeled in 1980 and 2000.
- In 2000, the upper most floor was added and a sky deck installed.
- The remodeling contractor has worked on the house since the completion of the 2000 remodel.
- Mold Illness including symptoms of chronic fatigue and insomnia





## Project Overview



- Known knowns
  - Third floor window leak that impacted two rooms
- Unknowns discovered through the Mold and Moisture Investigation
  - The use of elastomeric paint coating
  - Condensation due to air leakage
  - Monolithic skylight leaks
  - Various door and window leaks due to product and installation issues
  - Water intrusion into the utility room
  - Waterproofing at parapets handrails and wind screens



## Findings - Water Testing Outside of Boiler Room Reveals Gross Amount of Water Intrusion







## Findings – Targeted Water Testing Reveals Intrusion into Various Doors and Windows

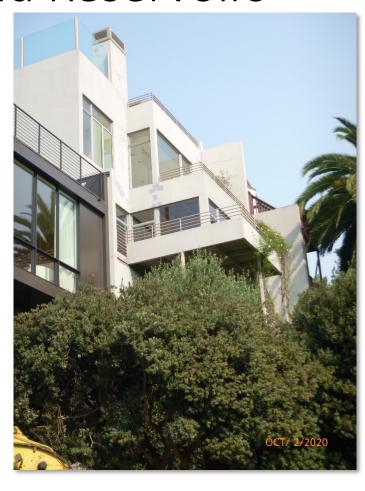






# Type of Construction and High-End Finishes Prohibit Ability to Locate Mold Reservoirs



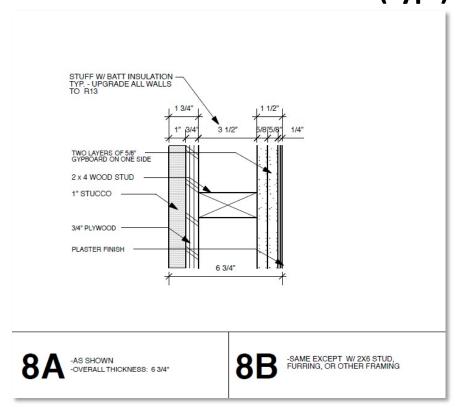




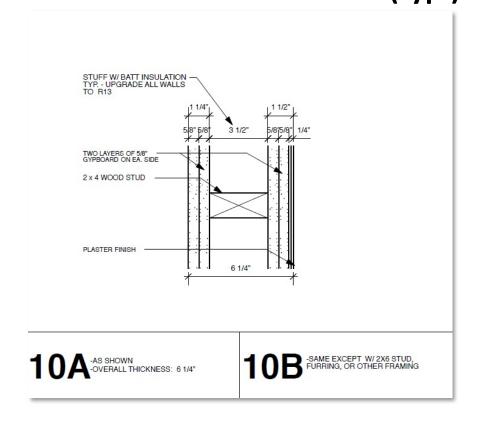
# Type of Construction and High-End Finishes Prohibit Ability to Locate Mold Reservoirs



#### **Exterior Wall Construction (typ.)**

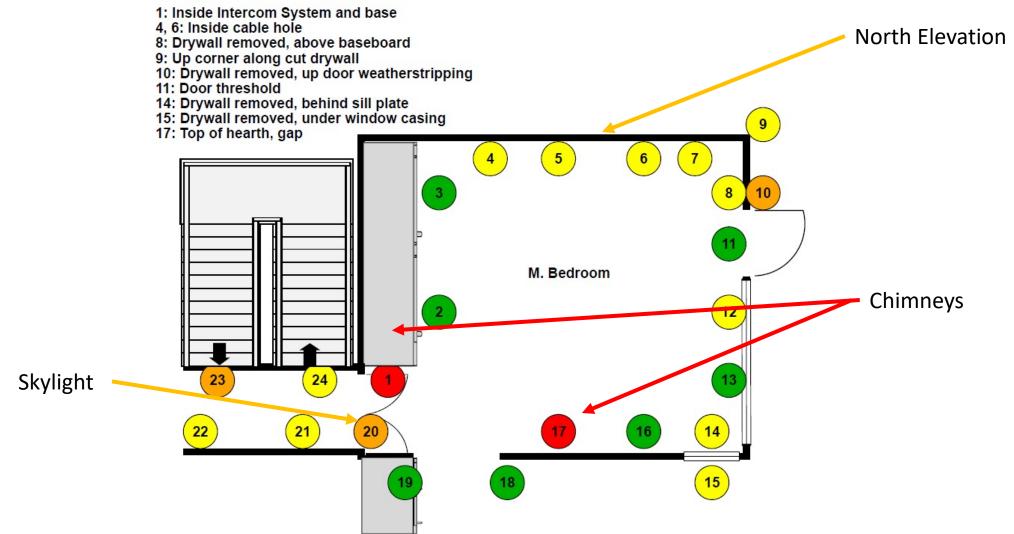


#### **Interior Wall Construction (typ.)**



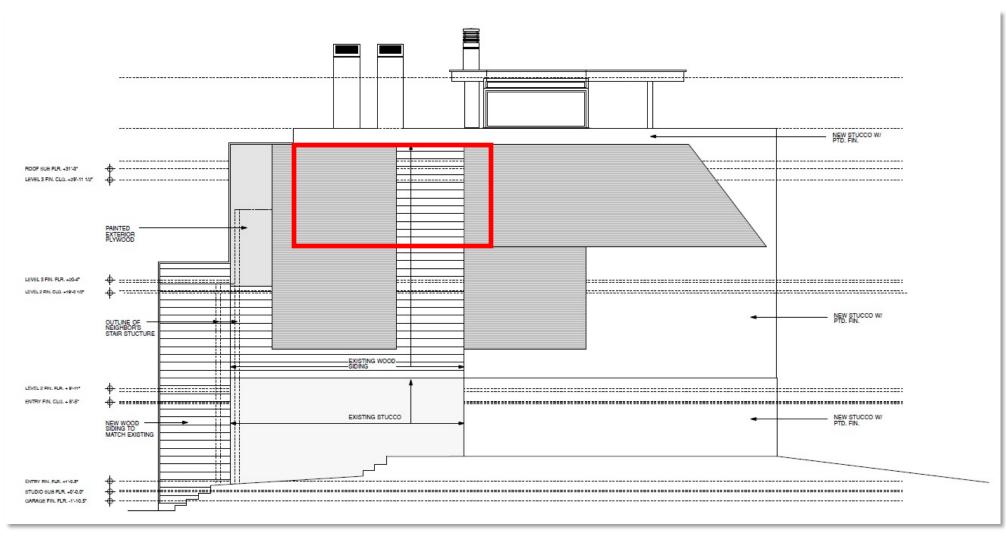
## Where are the Reservoirs we don't see? Pathways Testing





## North Elevation





## North Elevation – Yellow Areas

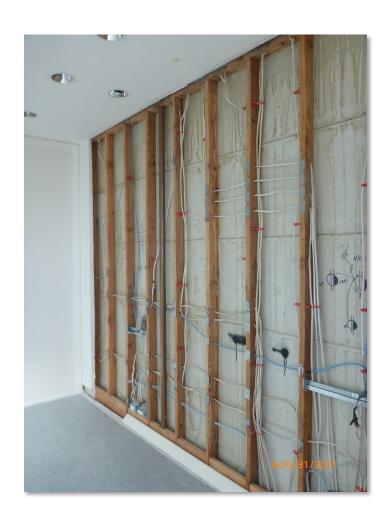






## North Elevation – Yellow Areas









## North Elevation Repairs



- Remediation Efforts
  - HEPA vacuum
  - 3-stage small particle cleaning
  - EcoSeal Plus (water-based elastomeric sealant fills joints and penetrations in the building enclosure)
  - Resample using Mycometer swabs and Pathways Testing



## North Elevation Prompts South Elevation Inspection







### Conclusion



- MSqPCR and Culturables revealed a problem somewhere
- Whole-Body exploratory surgery is hard to justify and so is removing finishes "willy-nilly" in an \$6+MM home
- The Pathways Testing was an extremely valuable tool during the investigation process to:
  - Indicate hidden reservoirs from original construction
  - Indicate hidden reservoirs from remodeled areas
  - Indicate hidden reservoirs behind layers of building materials
  - Indicate hidden damages including:
    - Exterior gypsum
    - Failed waterproofing at sky deck and other locations
    - Long-term water damage

## Case Study: Atherton Home

Pathways Testing – Post Remediation Verification (PRV)

Bill Weber, GC,CR,CIEC,CMRS



## Project Overview



- Home Built in 2005 following a fire that burned the existing house down
- The house is a "kit" house that was shipped from the east coast
- Husband assisted during construction process
- Widow with four grown children resides in home alone
- Mold Illness including symptoms of joint pain and sinus inflammation



## Project Overview



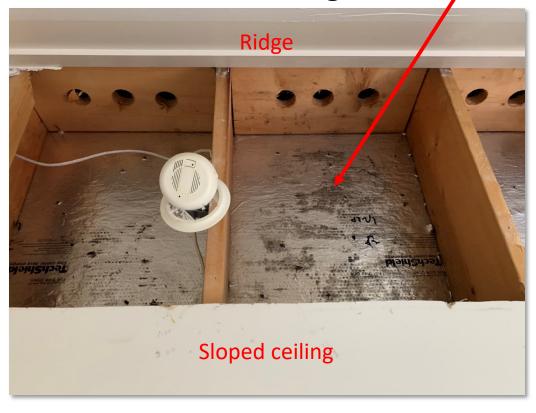
- Known knowns
  - Dishwasher leak in kitchen in 2013
  - Upstairs washing machine leak in 2013
  - Roofing area repaired in 2018
  - Solar installation leak above the garage
- Unknowns discovered through the Mold and Moisture Investigation
  - Unvented vaulted ceilings
  - Flooded crawlspace
  - Leaking skylights



## Major Findings

Background Debris	Miscellaneous Spores	Mold Growth*	Comments	General Impression
11173112520-	1 Sample Site: R	ight Front Slope		
Light	Very Few	2+ Cladosporium 2+ Penicillium/Aspergillus	None	Mold Growth
11173112520-2	2 Sample Site: R	ight Rear Slope		
Light	Very Few	3+ Cladosporium 2+ Ulocladium	None	Mold Growth

#### **Unvented Vaulted Ceilings**



#### [Regularly] Flooded Crawlspace



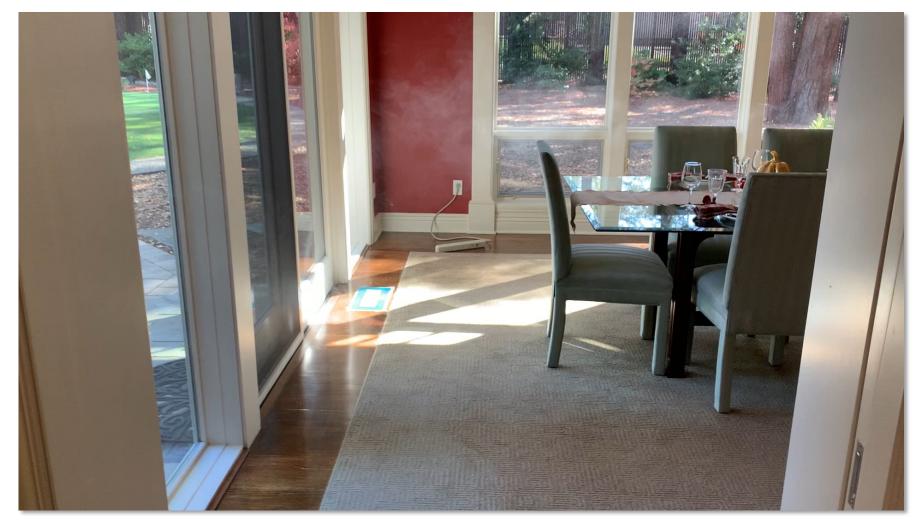
## Theatrical Fog Pathway Testing





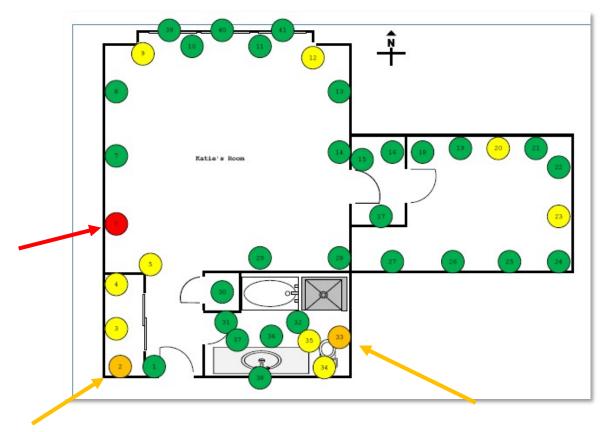
## Theatrical Fog Pathway Testing



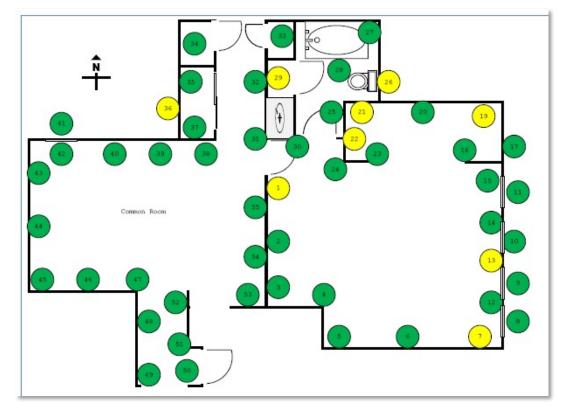


## High Degree of Confidence, but Client Wanted to Make Sure – Pathways Testing

#### **Potential Problematic Areas**



#### What We Like to See



## Katie's Room, Bathroom and Closet

#### **Bedroom wall (Red)**



#### **Water Intrusion from Roof Leak**



## Katie's Room, Bathroom and Closet

**Potential Problematic Areas** 

Bathroom wall (Orange)

Mold on Original Plywood



Plywood Identified by Pathways Testing

(9 Areas)

Plywood presumed wet during construction



Plywood not impacted during construction

# Katie's Room, Bathroom and Closet and Adjacent Areas

#### **Washing Machine Overflow from 2013**



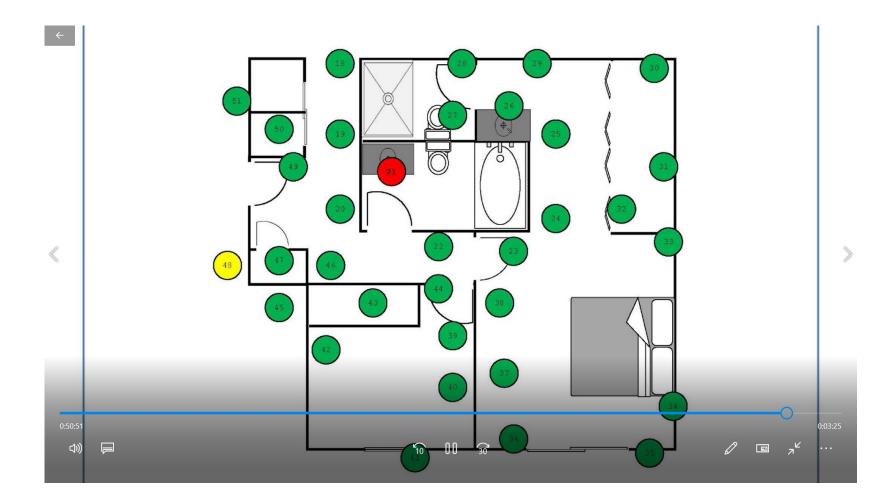


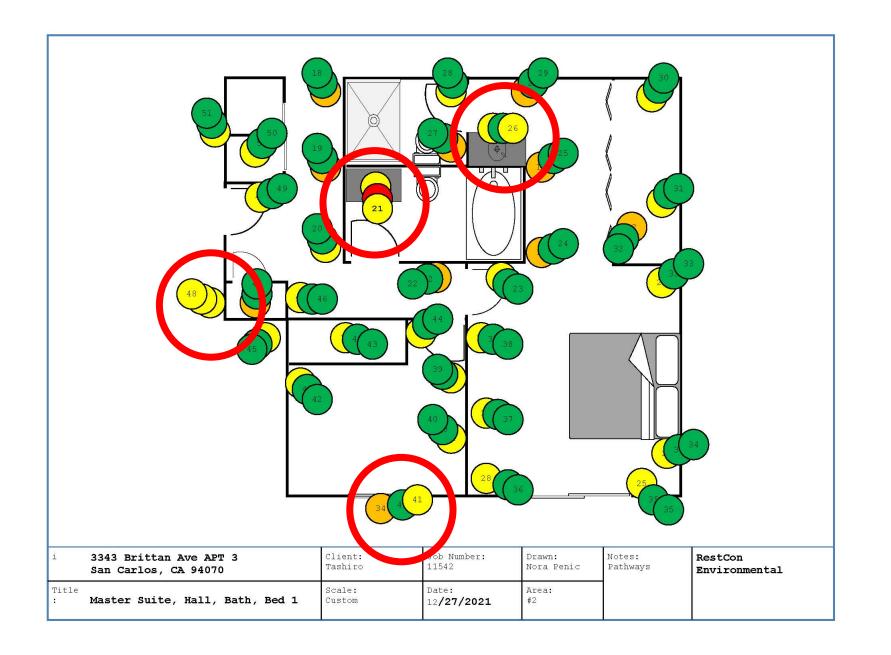
## Complete Project Success

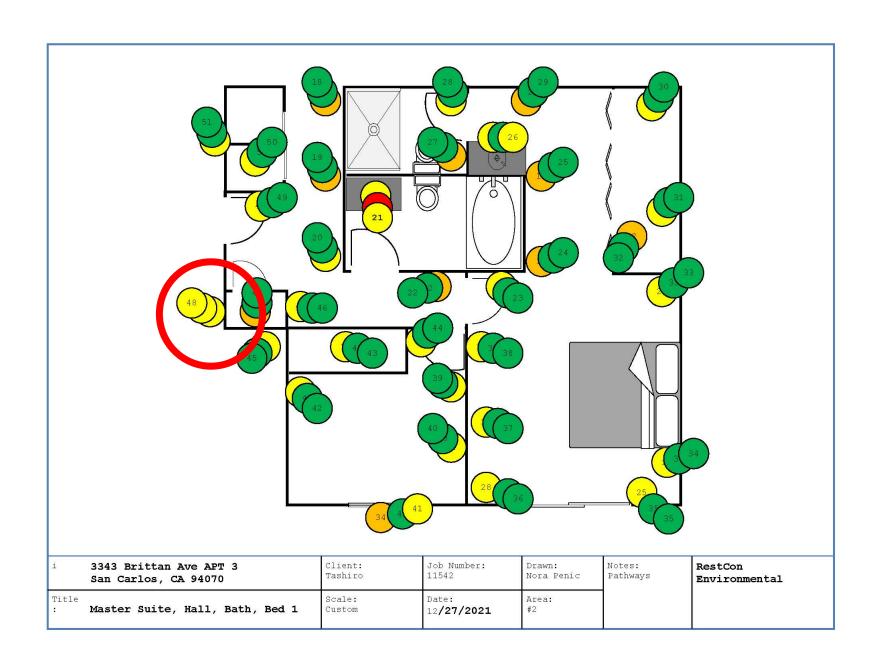


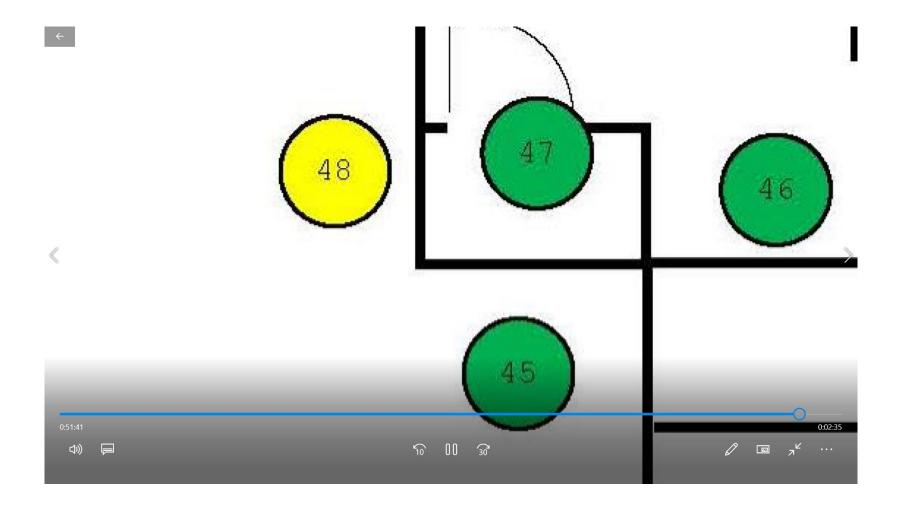
- Remediation Contractor was able to remediate the known knowns
- Forensic Building Consultant was able to locate and correct the issues in the unvented vaulted ceilings, the seasonal flooding in the crawlspace and the routes of entry from the crawlspace into the home as well as the skylight repairs
- The Pathways Testing was an extremely valuable tool during the post remediation verification process to locate additional unknowns
  - Revealed hidden water intrusion issues (historic roof leak)
  - Revealed hidden reservoirs from original construction (the bathroom plywood)
  - Revealed hidden reservoirs from water damages after 9 years (the washing machine overflow)

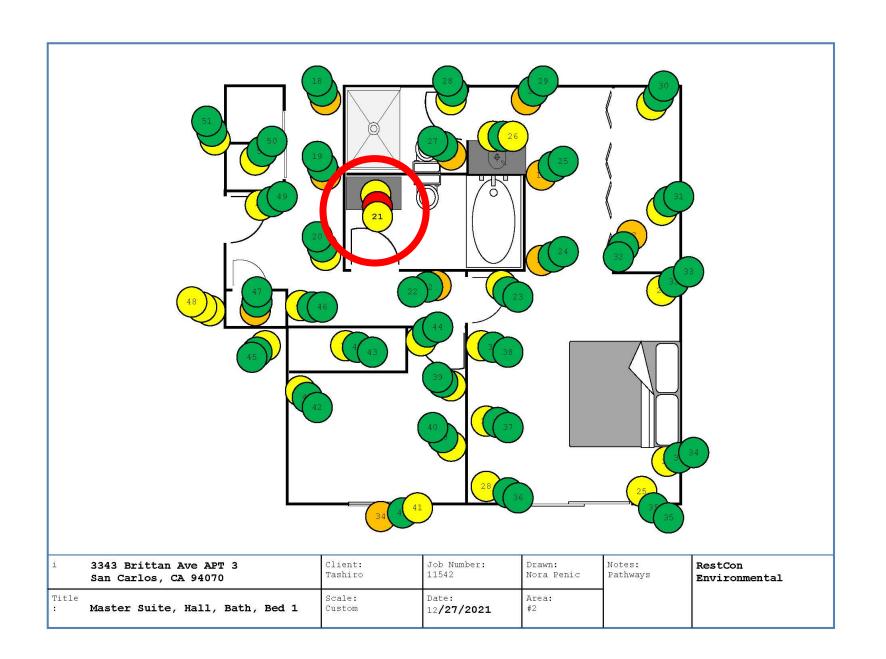


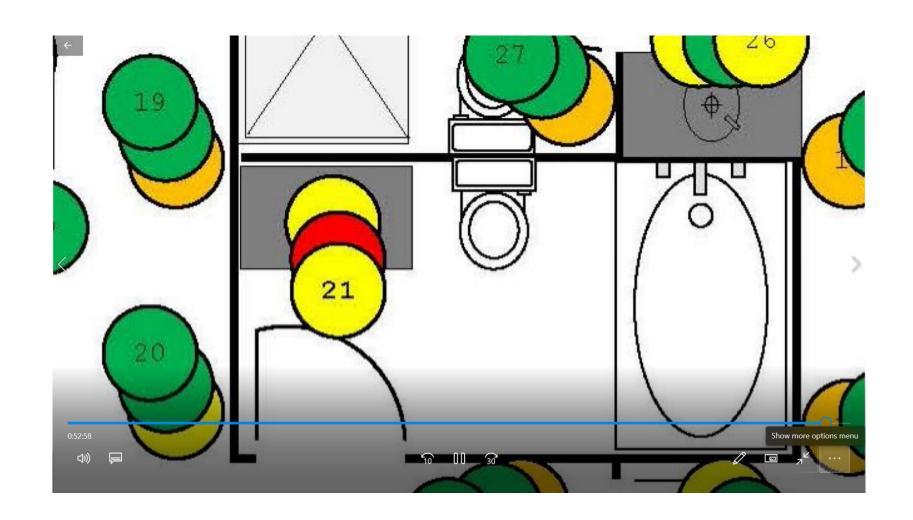


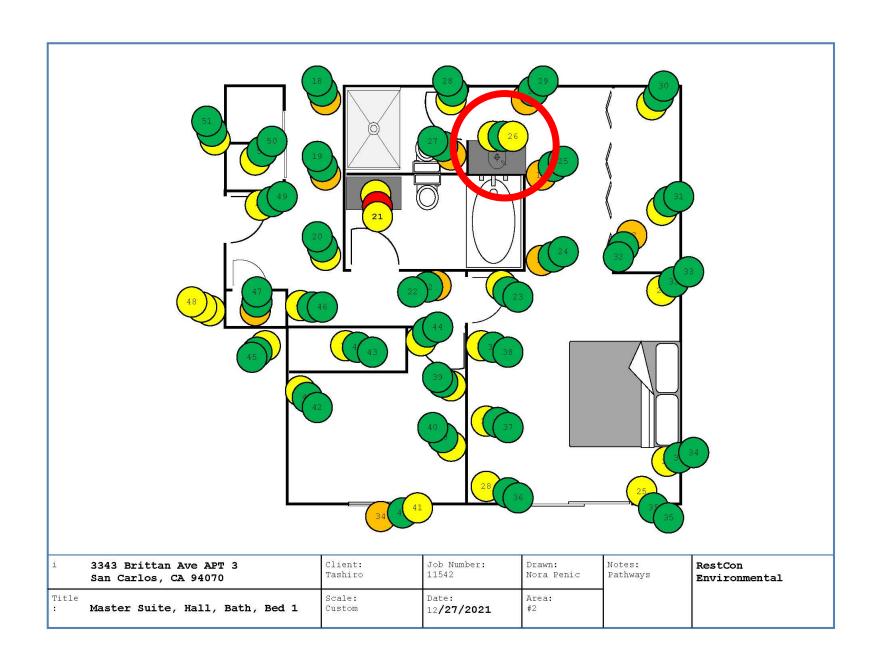


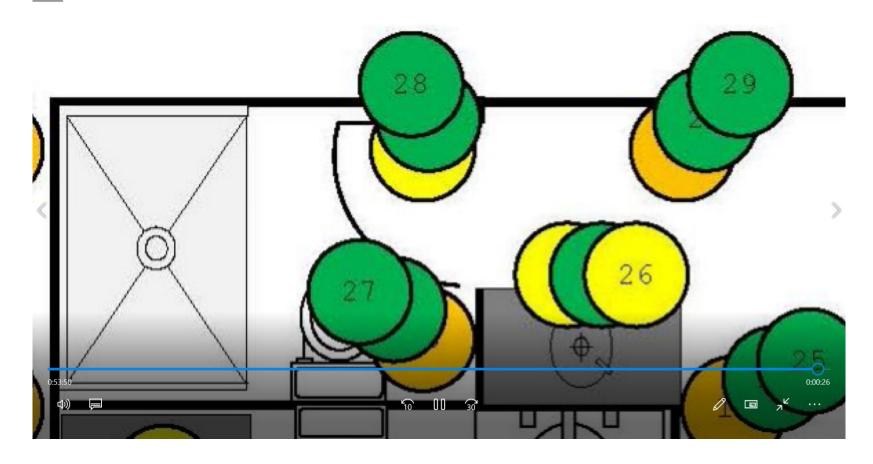


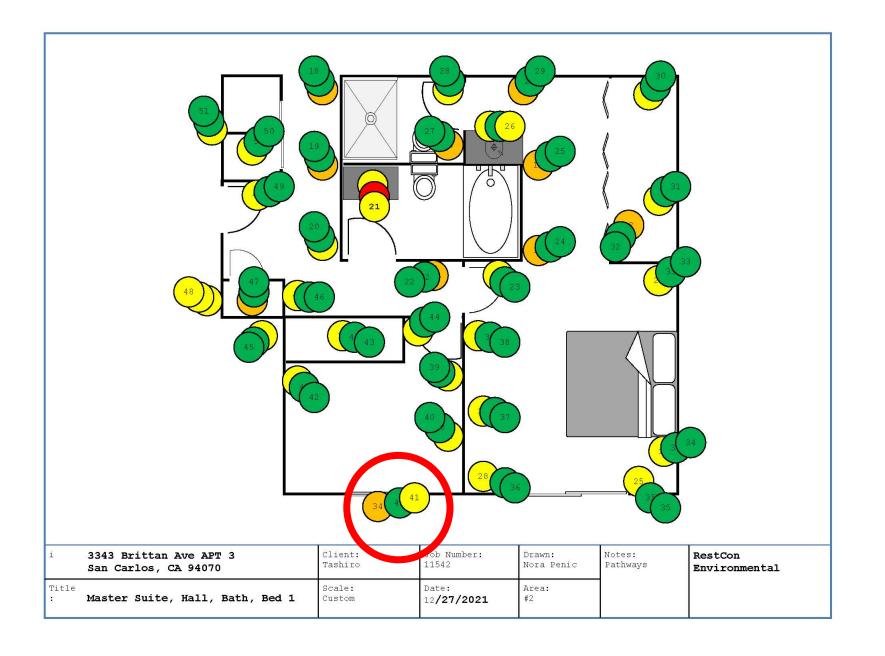


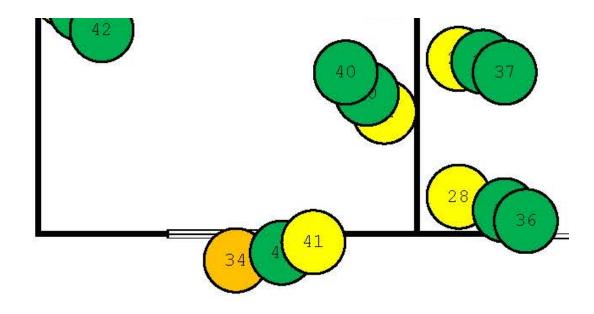












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