

Felipe A. Ortiz

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EXPERIENCE

Consultation Services Natural Homes & Finishes, Costa Rica.

<https://ranchomastatal.com/madre-tierra>

September 2020 to present day

Virtual Consultation Services for the development of natural built homes and finishes in Costa Rica, alongside professional networking in the industry.

Some of the completed projects, consultations & workshops 2022-2020:

-Bioconstrucción Intensivo April 2022. *For description on activity look at page#3).

-Consultation services in the fields of Timber Framing and Wattle & Daub wall system during the design process of a residential home for Mr Ferdinand family. San Ramon, CR.

-Virtual consultation service for the technicalities of earthen walls and its plaster work for a residential home, Atenas, CR. September 2021

-Consultation service for the design aspect of an earthen floor, Finca Las Hormigas, Puerto Viejo, CR. September 2021

-Wattle & Daub workshop instructor at Orosi, Cartago, CR. Vipassana Costa Rica July 2021.

-Earth plaster renovation at Casa Mexicana, Playa Hermosa, CR. April 2021

-Consultation service for Cob wall renovation at Guanacaste, CR. For Mr. William Turley. December 2020

-Wattle&Daub wall construction 46 square meters at Buena Vista property, Parrita, CR. November 2020

SKILLS

I work well when allowed to go through an introduction phase to each new job. Skilled with trowels/hawks and a wide range of power tools. Easily learn new skills and methods, especially through hands on-practice. Focused on process-achievement.

Articles

[Rediscovering Lime in Costa Rica](#) collaboration and on ground researcher with Ryan Chivers in The Last Straw Journal, USA. 2014

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14RPV8YwrwhhH25pY9Mog3HntI679wGA/view?usp=sharing>

Interviews

For Econest Company in Oregon, USA.

<https://www.econesthomes.com/natural-building-resources/articles/meet-felipe/>

LANGUAGES

Fully Bilingual- read, write, speak in Spanish & English.

Sanctuary GambaGam Golfito, Costa Rica.

Co Founder/ owner and builder

<http://www.rainforestproperties.com/index.php?action=listingview&listingID=325>

<https://santuariogambagam.wixsite.com/gambagam>

March 2008 to the date

This role included: the purchase of the property and the on-site managing of the development of the building process of all infrastructure such as: water supplying systems, energy systems for building & operations, road access, hiking trails, agricultural area, accommodation/kitchen/storageroom/classroom/water toilets/composting toilet & alternate temporary structures.

The design phases were accomplished through simple pen and pencil drawings done on site by myself with feedback from the core team through a creative process.

The building process extended for several years and was accomplished through the supervision of hired skilled and unskilled labor along with personal hands on work.

Through the process the place started running as an off grid educational center focused on conservation and permaculture.

Currently I fulfill a position as founder and owner though I don't live on-site any more.

Site Job Assistant, Creative Touch Homes, Mandan ND, USA.

Full time

August 2022-Present

Assist the Owner/General Contractor in day to day operation of the business.

CSA at Commercial Desk Lowes, St. Charles IL, USA.

Full time

November 2021-July 2022

The commercial desk department is in charge of all business with industry professionals, those professional's accounts and customer service.

My role as a CSA includes, but is not limited to:

customer engagement for new account openings; followup to generate business; placing and processing orders; creation of quotes; & customer service.

Crew member at FG Home Improvement, St. Charles IL, USA.

Part-time

April 2022-July 2022

FG Improvement focuses mainly on home renovations.

My role as a crew member is to assist the head builder in each job site and execute duties such as, but not limited to;

tile installation, drywall, demolition, painting, organization-cleaning, etc.

Bioconstruccion Intensivo *Rancho Mastatal Educational Center, Puriscal, Costa Rica.*

Instructor

April 2022

My role as the instructor was to conduct and teach a 5-day workshop. This focused on building earthen walls with the wattle and daub technique and its natural plaster finishes such as: clay finishes and lime finishes including Tadelakt.

Also the creation of multiple earthen floor samples 4ft x 4 ft size and its finish.

The workshop was focused on building in the tropics with these techniques and gave special attention to the sourcing of materials and how these relate with each other.

We built the wattle and daub walls for a composting toilet and all the plastering sessions were held on the plastering practice panels.

The workshop had a total of 16 students.

Please inquire directly for pictures of the activity.

Earth & Lime plasterer *Econest Natural Building School, Ashland Oregon, USA.*

2017

<https://www.econesthomes.com/>

Job took about 1.5 month.

Under the supervision of Robert Laporte, Econest company owner, co-founder, builder.

It was a one person job.

My job was to execute the application of the interior earthen finish coat (American Clay product) at Roberts Laporte's building school woodshop (LSC wall infills) as well as sections of Lime plaster and other duties on site.

Earth & lime plasterer *Residential home Las Alturas de Coton San Vito, Costa Rica.*

2016

Job took about 2 months total.

Under the supervision of Robert Laporte EcoNest company.

My role included sourcing & logistics, on site preparation of mixes from scratch and application on Wattle & Daub walls.

The plastering was a lime trowel finish outside and an earthen finish inside.

Lime plasterer *Rancho Mastatal, Puriscal, CR.*

2015

Application of lime finishing coat & fresco painting on earthen walls for the structure called Bernies at the Rancho Mastatal center.

In collaboration with the core team.

My main role was the application process of the finish coat.

Plasterer intern; Lime plasterer Artesano Plasters, Boulder, Colorado, USA.

2014

Application of lime base coat over earthen scratch coat at Strawbale Residency.

Job was directed & supervised by Ryan Chivers, co-supervised by Frank Wetenkamp.

My role was to support the Head plasterer and application of lime base coat as well to perform other on-site duties.

TRAINING

Timber Frame workshop

1 week in June 2021

https://photos.google.com/u/2/share/AF1OipNJPtSEFdz_p9ilpV9XK24A_omYuPbd_uealXKz0XI1WkJDVza2_b1-WkqoQ44b1g

Workshop took place at Rancho Mastatal Costa Rica. Under the teaching of Master Nic Donati, a well known timber framer in the country.

I layout and cut a girt piece and cut a couple of common rafters.

Last day we did the raise.

Bamboo building workshop

2 weeks in April 2021

https://photos.google.com/u/2/share/AF1OipOcROZim_p2GgNugnHjigem7ncs5HEX82a3SpWf2CBTabqAAuGteFgMCsIXUz920A?key=OoFUekpQWW4oTDNBcVIQumFlZVN4MkNha1NXX1RB

Workshop took place at Rancho Mastatal, Costa Rica. Under the teaching of Master Martin Coto.

Workshop was hands-on and we built 3 trusses and 9 post nursery, with one pitch roof.

At the end of the workshop roofing was not completed and I returned with a crew of 3 people to finish the roofing.

Internship

August-mid November 2020

The program took place at the Sustainable Living Center Rancho Mastatal, Puriscal, Costa Rica. The program allowed me to focus on specific fields of work, in my case: natural building.

I worked on production and installation of systems such as: wattle & daub, adobe bricks, earthen floors, earth and lime plastering, harvesting and immunization of Bamboo (*Guadua* sp.) from field to storage, among other activities related to the field.

Six week apprenticeship

2016

The program was focused on the whole building process of a Econest Natural Home primarily on the Timber Frame component of the building, under the teaching of Master Robert Laportes and architect Paula Baker.

<https://www.econesthomes.com/>

Natural building & Plasters Intensive

2015

A training provided by Rancho Mastatal in collaboration with Master Benito Steen from the USA. A comprehensive and hands-on training on natural building techniques; earthen, floors, enclosing walls techniques, natural finishes and other.

Timber Frame workshop

2014

Workshop took place at Rancho Mastatal Costa Rica. Under the teaching of Master Nic Donati, a well known timber framer in the country.

Natural Plasters Intensive

2013

Under the teaching of Master Ryan Chivers from Limestrong USA and Master Liz Johndrow of Earthen Endeavor USA at Rancho Mastatal, CR. The workshop was a hands-on experience finishing earthen walls on structures such as; showers, rooms and indoor/outdoor earthen walls. With techniques such as: fresco, clay carving, limewash and tadelakt.

Internship

July 2012 -1 month

The program took place at the Sustainable Living Center Rancho Mastatal, Puriscal, Costa Rica. The program walked us through the different fields of work and trades at the center, motivating each individual to find and focus on its field of preference, mine was natural building.

EDUCATION

Universidad Interamericana, Heredia, Costa Rica.

2012-2013

Bachelors in Gastronomy as a Chef.

Universidad Interamericana, Heredia, Costa Rica.

2007-2009

Diplomacy in Gastronomy.

Panamerican High School, Belen, Costa Rica.

Senior Year graduation 2006 (bilingual spanish-english)

REFERENCES

-Ryan Chivers-LimeStrong USA Owner/Formulator 800-9172 414

<https://www.limestrongartisan.com/>

-Robert Laporte-Econest USA Owner/Builder 541-488 9508

<https://www.econesthomes.com/>

-Tim O'hara-Rancho Mastatal Founder/Director ranchomastatalinfo@gmail.com

+506 8539 1404

<https://ranchomastatal.com/>

-Jeremy Kukowski - Founder/Owner/GC <https://creativetouchhomesnd.com/about-us/>

-Lowe's Home Improvement, St. Charles, Illinois. 630 338 4000