



The Cook, the Gardeners and the Artist

Silver Spring, Maryland

#8 / Residential Architecture

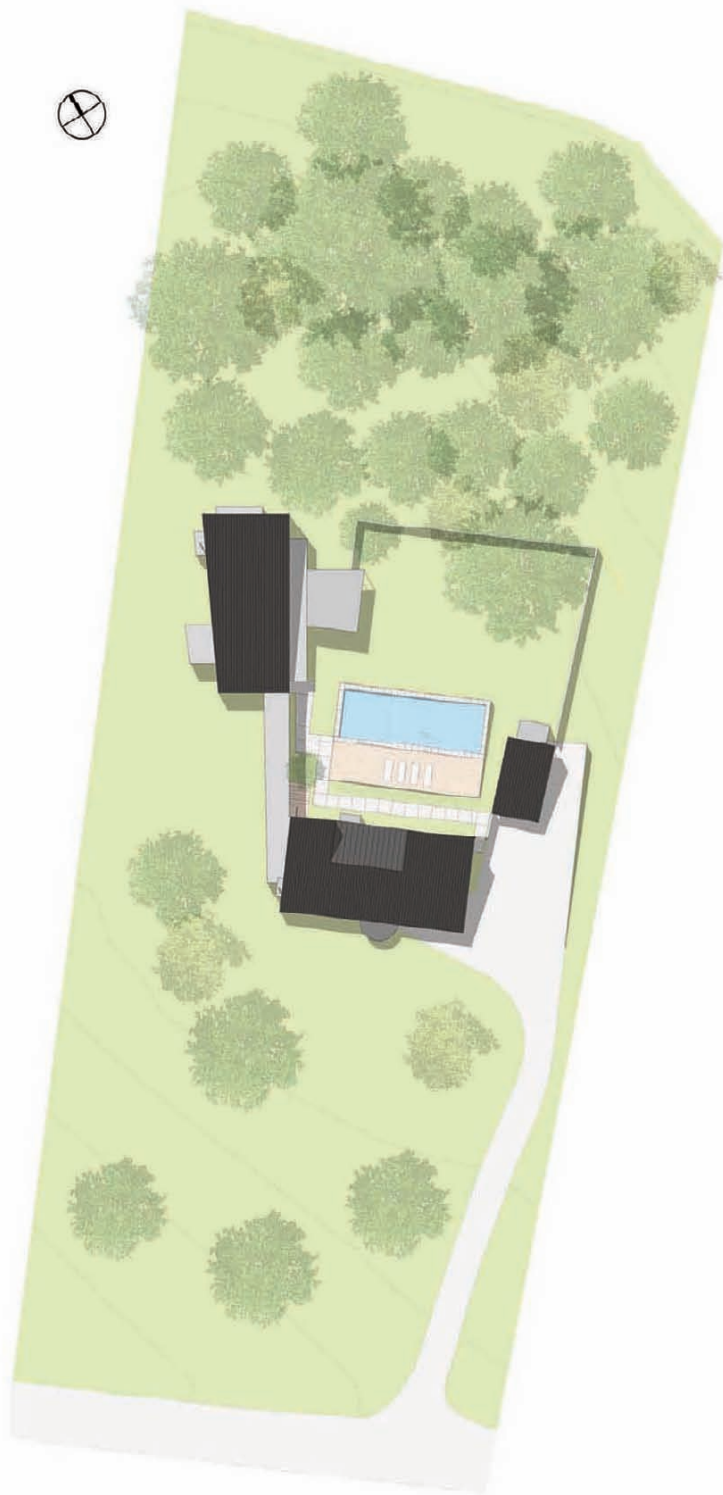
This house is about a courtyard in the woods. It organizes the various pieces of the house and carves out a deer-proof garden, while still connecting both to the rest of the forested site.

The owners, a chef and an artist/educator, asked for a substantial addition to their small house. We proposed leaving the old house largely as bedrooms and studio, and making a new wing that would contain open living areas for sitting, dining and, of course, cooking.

The old house and new wing form two sides of the courtyard. A carport makes the third, and a rusted steel wall the fourth. Within it is a pool, a protected garden and a screened porch. Connecting the old and new is a 45-foot-long passage that forms a gallery for some of their lively, and growing, collection of paintings.

A basket-like loft floats above the living spaces and creates a retreat with a view of the activity below.

Within this simple composition, the house and garden provide a variety of places from, and ways which, one can engage the remarkable site.



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