AIA Potomac Valley
Excellence in Design Awards
2015

Chalon Road House
Bethesda, MD

Single Family

SITE: A two-acre lot in the Bradley Woods section of Bethesda, MD, a close by
            suburb of Washington, DC. Developed in the late '60s, the neighborhood is
            the home to a range of house types - size, style and era. The neighborhood is
            completely residential yet lacks public spaces - sidewalks, public parks or play-
            grounds.

PROGRAM: This home is for a family of 10. In this era of "small is heroic" it's important to
            state it up front – this is a big house. Beyond the greater number of playrooms
            and bedrooms and typical spaces that serve non-typical numbers –dining table
            for 24, family room TV area for 12, basement playrooms that could support a
            day camp - the essential program is simple - living/dining, kitchen and breakfast
            room, family room, etc. Requirements not as common included a gym to be
            adjacent to the home-office and a study hall for the children.

SOLUTION: The sheer size of the project, over 20,000 sq. ft. brought into sharp relief the
            challenge of creating livable spaces with appropriate scale and warmth.
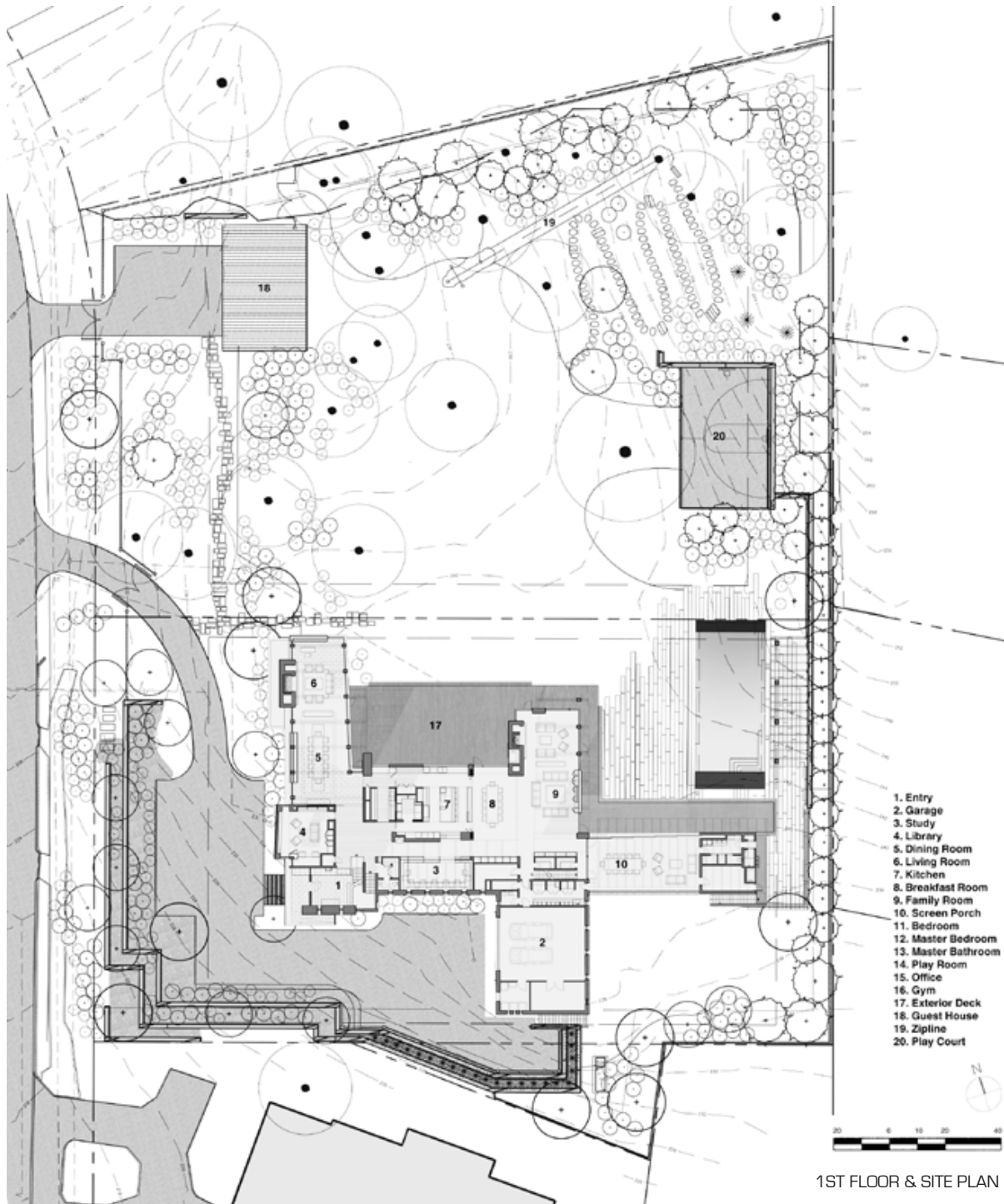
            From initial discussions and earliest sketches our design focused on the dual
            intentions of integrating building & landscape and developing an architecture
            that melds a tactile legibility with the abstractions of element and mass.

            Based on core architectural issues - solid/void, light/shadow, mass/span, our
            solution works to make clear the materiality and construction of the work and
            recognizes the importance of gravity and light in the making of architecture.

            A continuous wall of glass, interrupted by stone chimney masses and "floating"
            cabinets, which provide moments of closure and privacy to an otherwise open
            plan, separates indoor from out on the ground floor. The play of light, shadow,
            materiality, furniture, and section brings scale and intimacy to the spaces.

            Sited hard to the southern edge of the lot and organized along an east/west
            axis the house opens north to a lawn/play area and to the east to a terrace
            and pool.

1. Entry
2. Garage
3. Study
4. Library
5. Dining Room
6. Living Room
7. Kitchen
8. Breakfast Room
9. Family Room
10. Screen Porch
11. Bedroom
12. Master Bedroom
13. Master Bathroom
14. Play Room
15. Office
16. Gym
17. Exterior Deck
18. Guest House
19. Zipline
20. Play Court

1ST FLOOR & SITE PLAN

3RD FLOOR

2ND FLOOR

ENTRY FACADE

VIEW FROM GARDEN

VIEW ACROSS POOL TERRACE

BRIDGE

VIEW TOWARDS PERGOLA
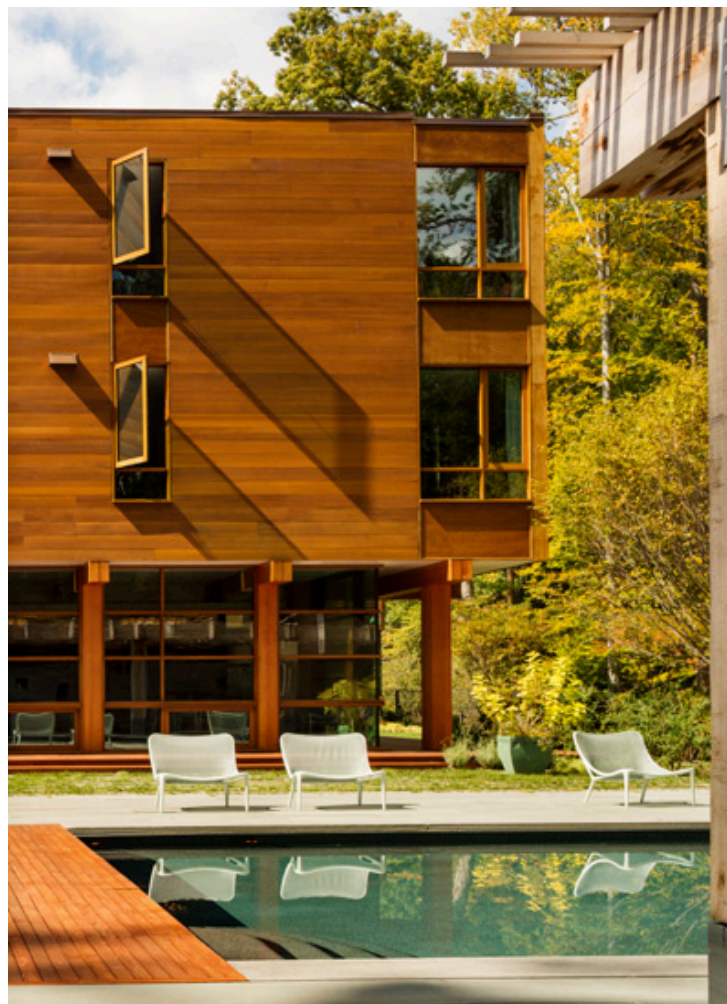
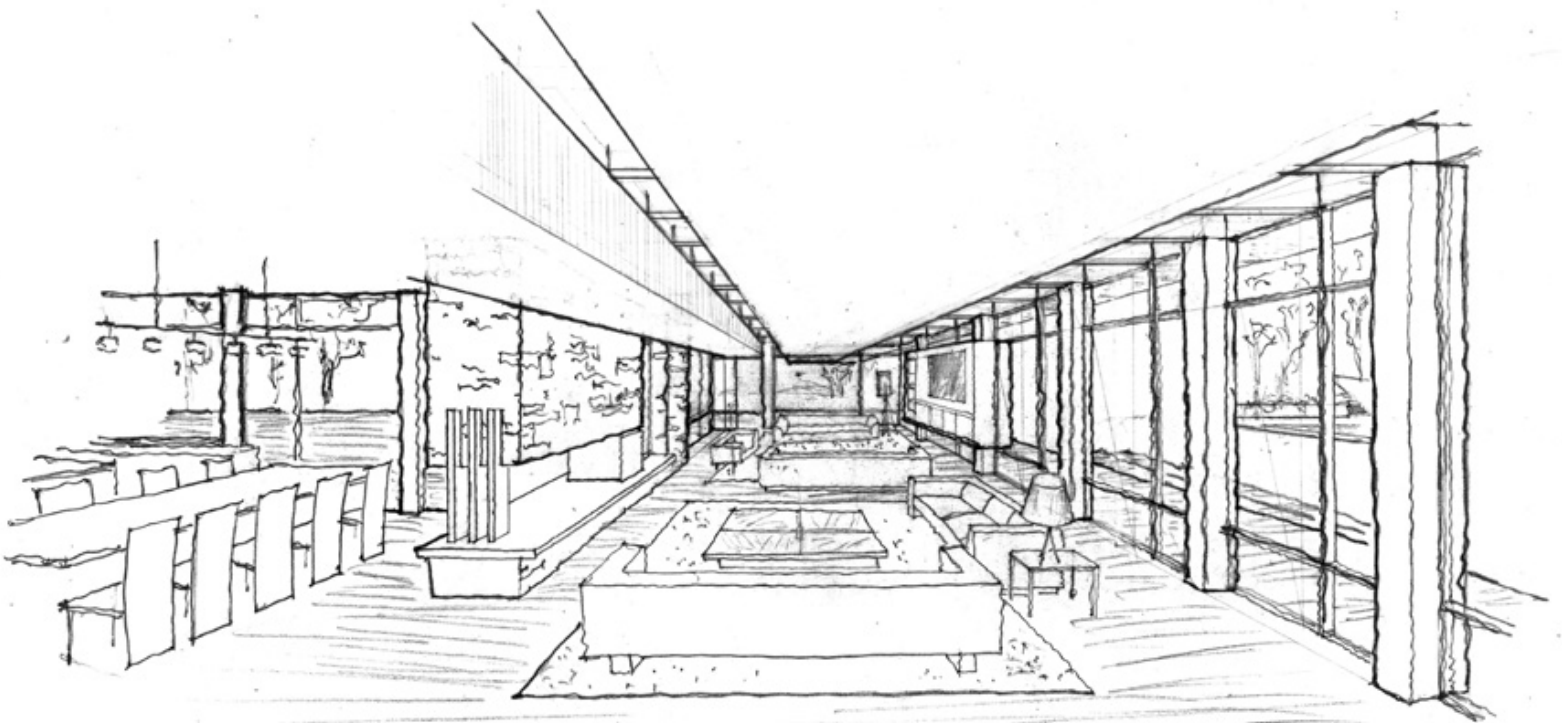DINING ROOM/LIVING ROOM

FAMILY ROOM

LIVING ROOM

KITCHEN

ENTRY/FRONT STAIR
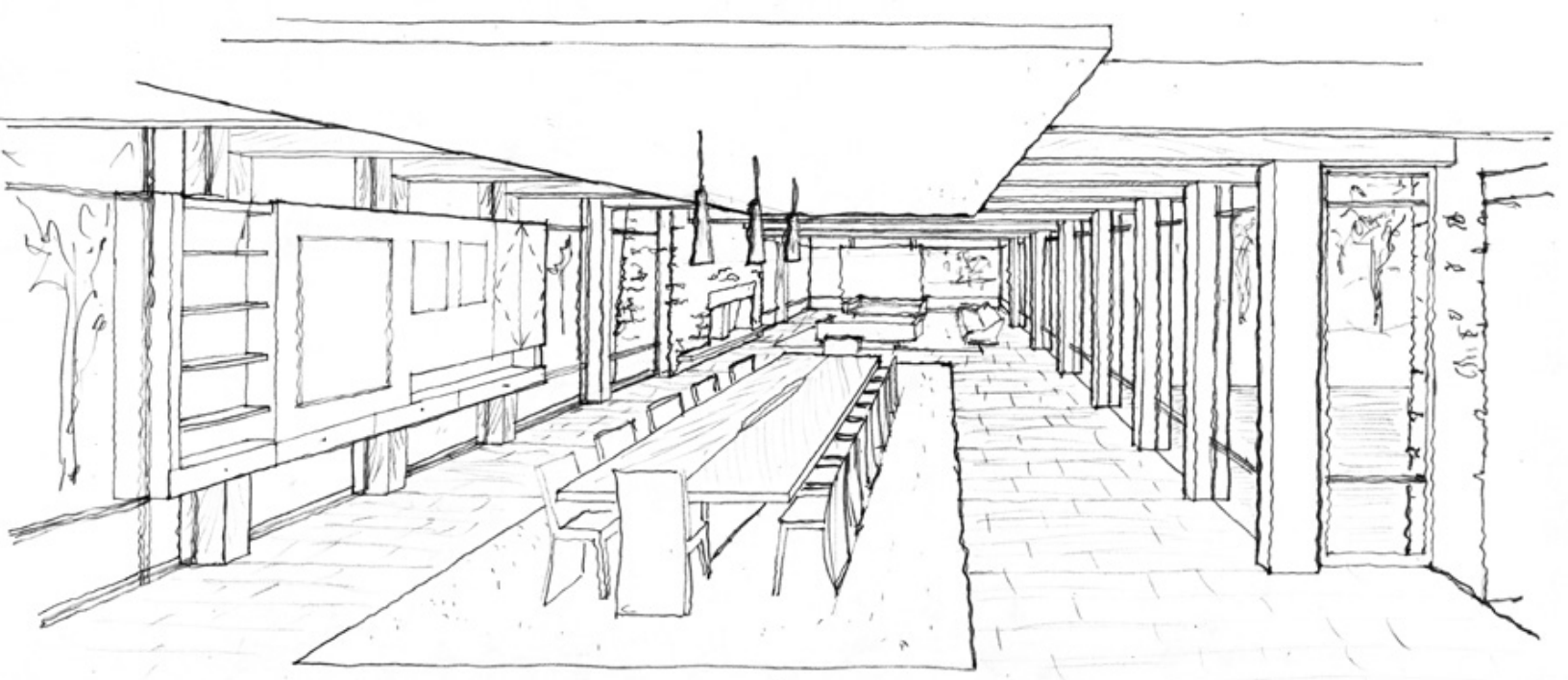
BACK STAIR

SKETCH OF ENTRY

PLAY ROOM

VIEW FROM LAWN