



View of the Potomac River



Approaching Hawks Nest



View looking northwest

The client was drawn to the site, the top of a bluff of an abandoned limestone quarry in West Virginia with sweeping views of the Potomac River. The house and artist studio was sited at the edge of the 100 foot cliff to take full advantage of the magnificent view. In response to the client request that the house be “of the place”, concrete walls rise from limestone while leaving the rock-strewn landscape undisturbed. Anchored to the bedrock with caissons that extend down into fissures in the rock, the concrete walls support a cantilevered steel and glass structure above.



The design utilizes a material palette that reflects the casting and metal work of the client’s art while providing a framework to be inspired by nature. The Vierendeel steel truss framework provides for living and studio space with floor to ceiling windows that maximize north light and the views of the river. The narrow plan affords cross ventilation while a radiant heating system provides warmth. Ipe was used on rainscreen walls and balconies to provide a material counterpoint to the steel. The intent was to create a home that is both separate from and intertwined with the natural beauty of the site.



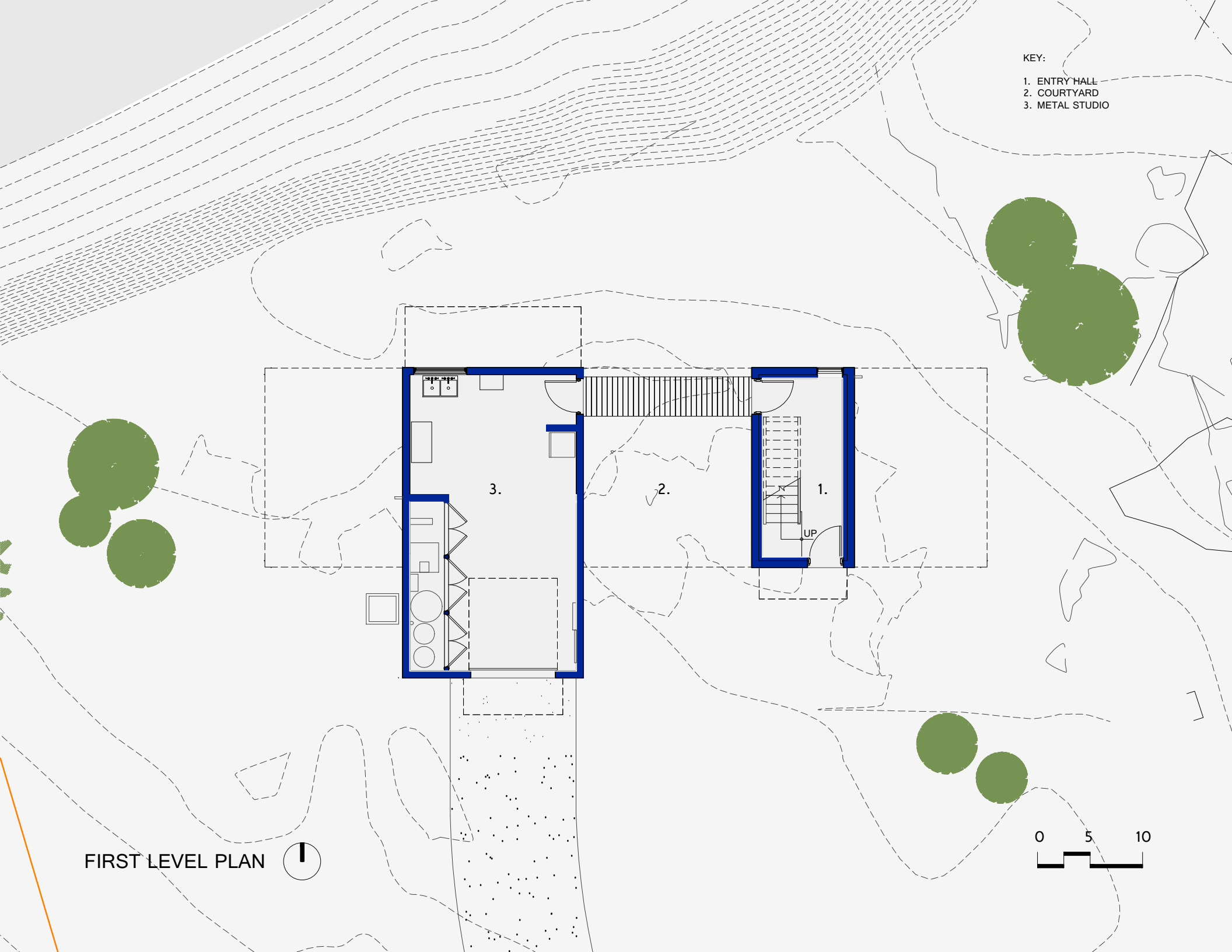
- KEY:
- 1. UPPER SITE
 - 2. LOWER SITE
 - 3. POTOMAC RIVER
 - 4. NEIGHBORING RESIDENCES

SITE PLAN



KEY:

- 1. ENTRY HALL
- 2. COURTYARD
- 3. METAL STUDIO

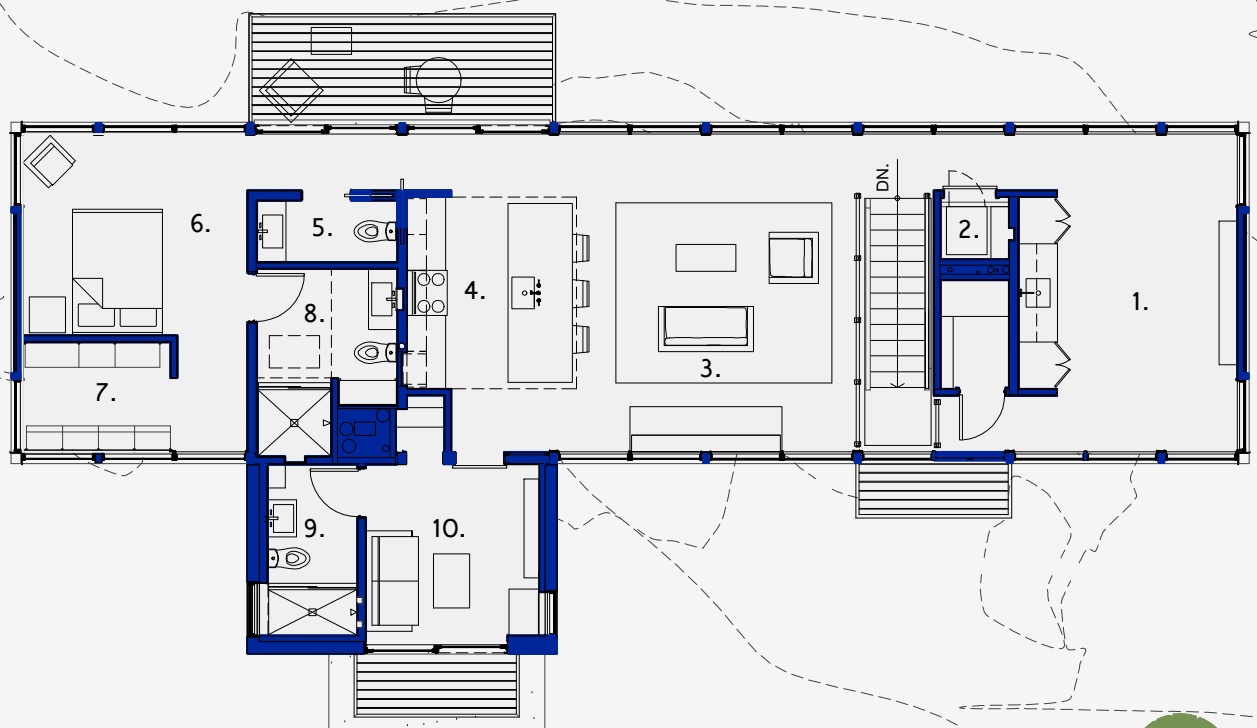


FIRST LEVEL PLAN



KEY:

- 1. ART STUDIO
- 2. LAUNDRY
- 3. LIVING/DINING
- 4. KITCHEN
- 5. POWDER ROOM
- 6. MASTER BEDROOM
- 7. MASTER CLOSET
- 8. MASTER BATH
- 9. GUEST BATH
- 10. GUEST BEDROOM



SECOND LEVEL PLAN

