

HOUSE ON SOLITUDE CREEK

ST. MICHAELS, MARYLAND RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE

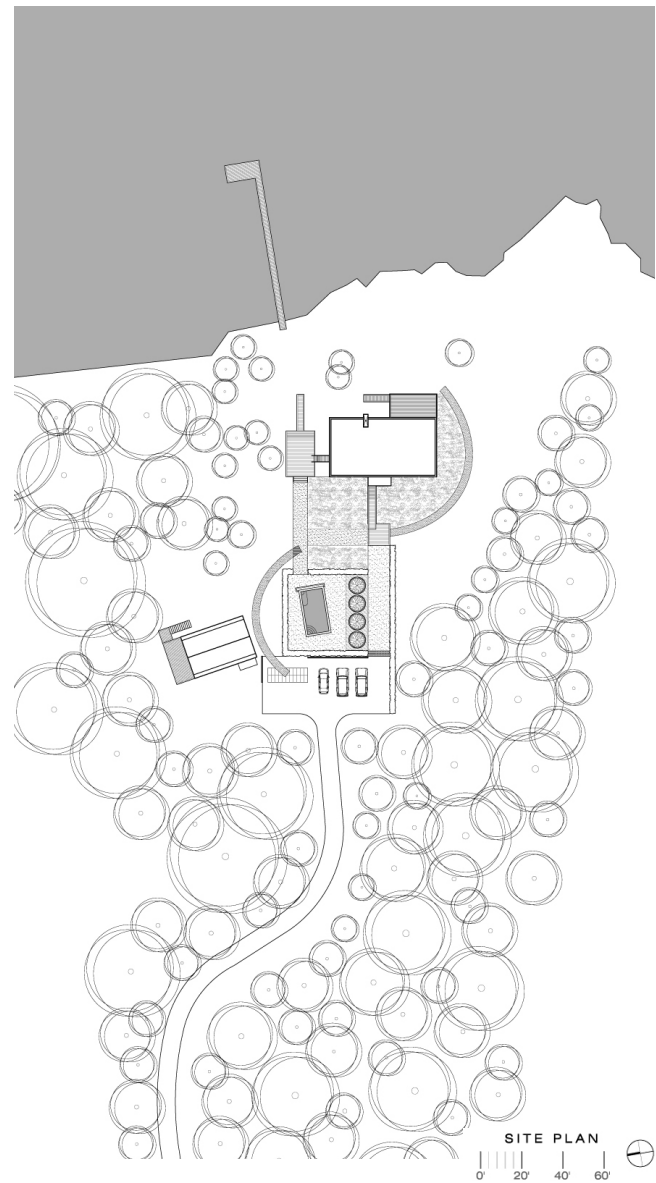
The design of this house in St. Michaels, Maryland was greatly influenced by environmental regulations, zoning requirements and restrictive building codes specific to this site. The existing house, built in 1989, was located within a One-Hundred Foot Buffer Zone on Solitude Creek, a small estuary in Maryland's Eastern Shore. A recently adopted ordinance mandated that no new structures be built within the Buffer Zone, and that all renovated or altered existing structures be updated to meet new zoning, building and environmental code requirements.

The existing house largely failed to take advantage of water views, the layout was not optimal, and as constructed, did not work programmatically for the new owners of this property. The existing structure was in poor condition, impacted by previous floods. The house did not meet many of the new code requirements; most notably that any habitable structure be located above the newly designated base flood elevation. To maintain the proximity to the water, and to avoid building a new house outside the Buffer Zone, it was decided to remove the existing structure to the foundation, increase the height of the foundation two feet, and build a new structure above this.

The goals of the project were to take advantage of water views and provide light filled spaces, while accommodating the owners' collection of modern art. In response to a relatively tight budget, the buildings' Massing and Materials are simple and straight forward. A combination of windows varying in size, shape and location animate the spaces, while providing controlled views of the water, pine forest and adjacent marshes.

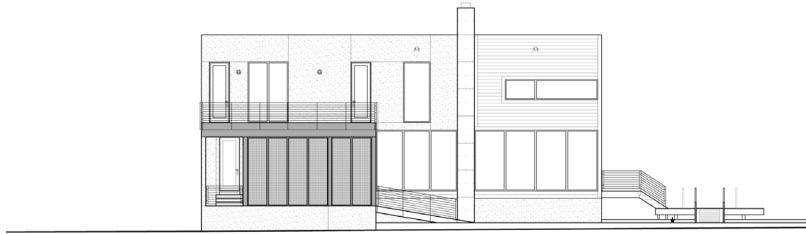




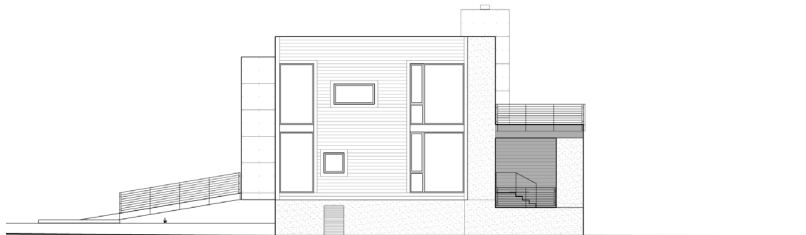




WEST ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION





