Residential Architecture

A VIRGINIA FARM HOUSE

Charlottesville, VA



PROGRAM

This project is a renovation of and addition to an existing farm house, and new Guest Cottage, Garage and Pool. The existing house is located on a 40 acre farm near Charlottesville, Virginia, with views of surrounding mountains.

This property belongs to a family who has visited the house on weekends and summers for many years. They desired a home that would provide space for all three generations to visit. It was essential to have a private space for an elderly parent that allowed one story living.

Programmatic requirements for the existing farm house included a new kitchen, mudroom and rear porch on the first floor, and a new second floor master bedroom suite.

The Guest Cottage was designed, with the elderly parent in mind, for accessibility, one story living and to be separated from the main house. The Cottage consists of a living room, two bedrooms and a kitchenette.

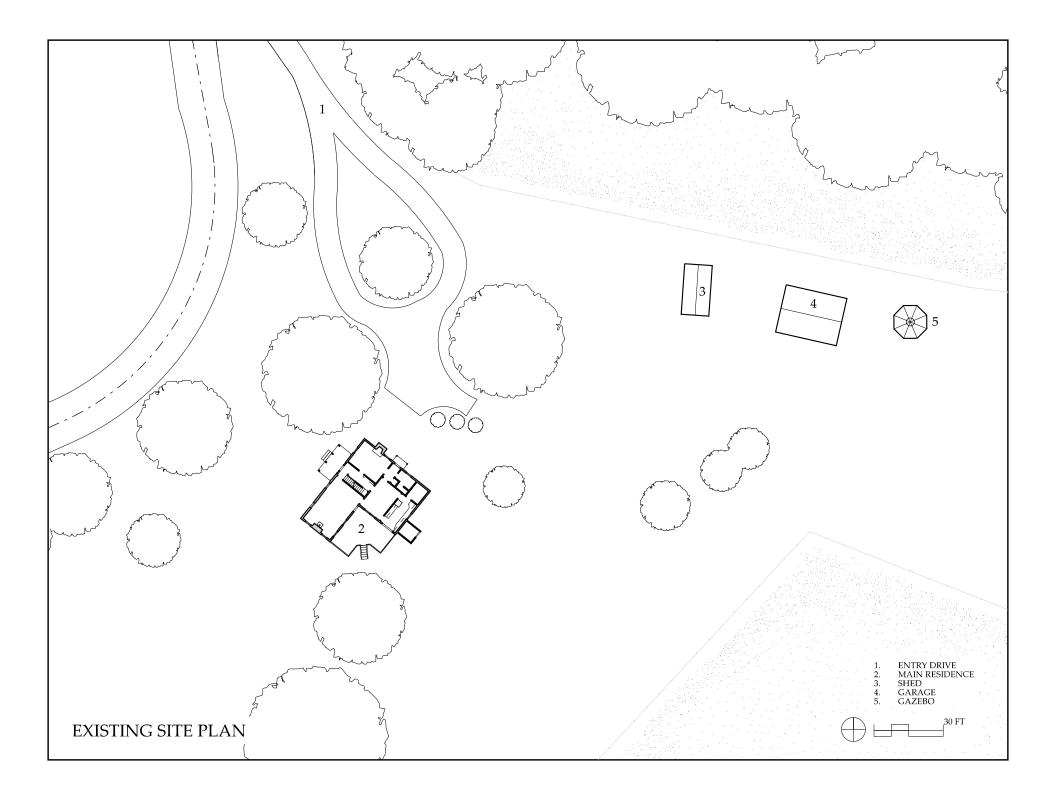
SOLUTION

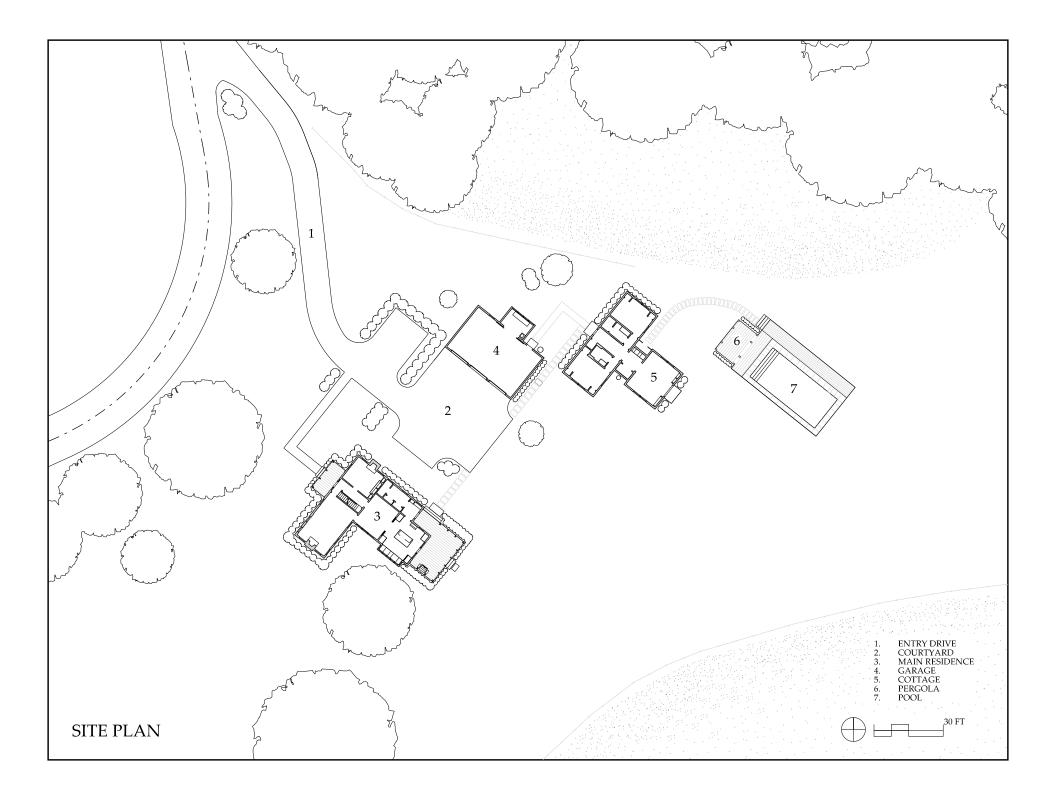
On this rural site, we organized the structures to create defined exterior spaces, as well as interior spaces. The new and renovated buildings were arranged to open themselves toward the surrounding mountains. Large windows, porches and terraces are used to frame the views.

The garage is placed opposite the main house to form a parking court. From the parking court a stone path creates an axis, connecting the rear entry of the main house and entry of the cottage. The front entry of the Guest Cottage is set behind the garage, making its location private and hidden from the entry drive, while maintaining a visual connection to the main house. Here the scale of exterior space is reduced, in contrast to the open vistas of the site, welcoming you into the intimate interior of the cottage. A pool and pavilion are set to the side of the Cottage, maintaining unobstructed views of the mountains from the cottage.

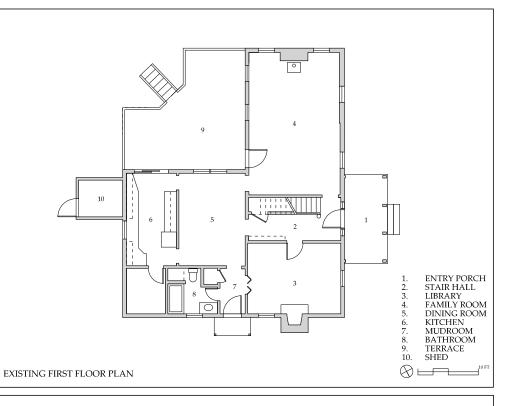
Stained cedar siding and a metal gable roof were used, drawing inspiration from the existing farm house and local vernacular materials.



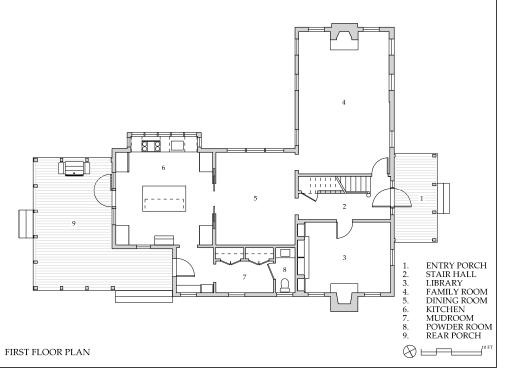








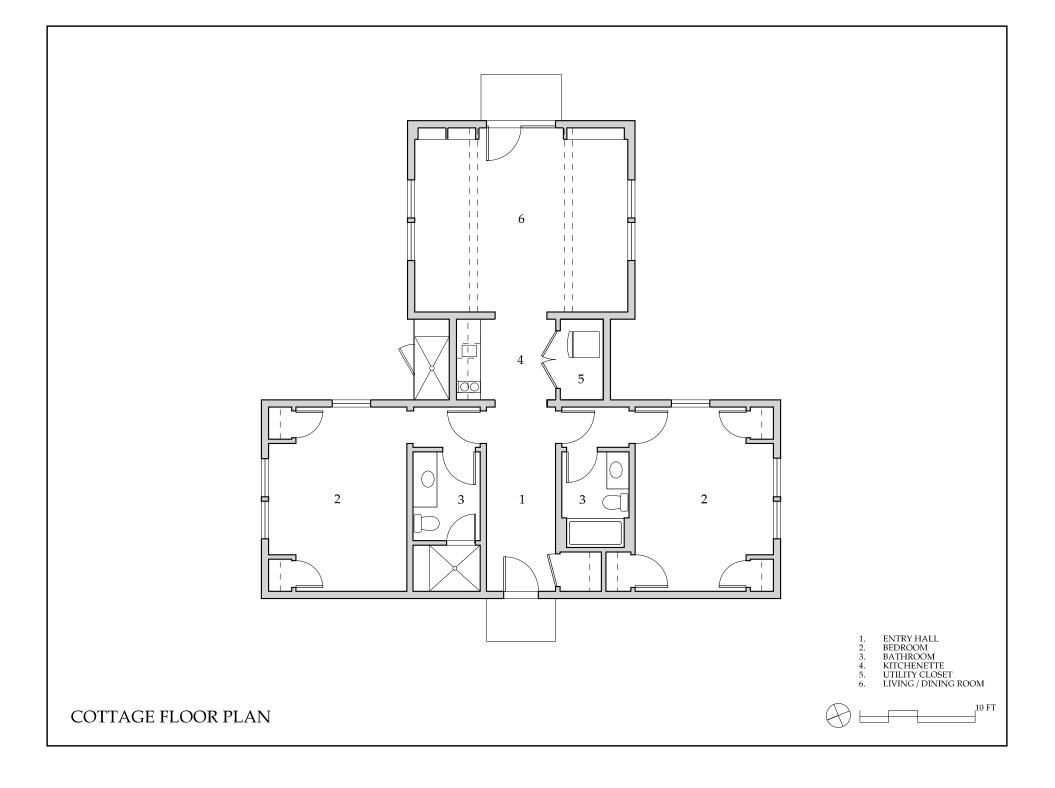




FARM HOUSE BEFORE AND AFTER









TOP: COTTAGE EAST FACADE | BOTTOM: COTTAGE LIVING/DINING ROOM

RIGHT: VIEW OF GARAGE AND FARM HOUSE FROM GUEST HOUSE ENTRY STOOP

