



AIA RICHMOND CHAPTER 2007 DESIGN AWARDS MERIT AWARD WINNER

THE PACK HOUSE (Un-built Work) Patrick County, Virginia Chris Rea, Assoc. AIA

A former storage building is the armature for a weekend retreat on a family's twelve acre home place in southwest Virginia. The existing out building is situated in Patrick Co., VA and is approximately 30 miles west of Martinsville, VA on US 58 West. Design was completed in December of 2006 and ground is expected to be broken in the summer of 2008.

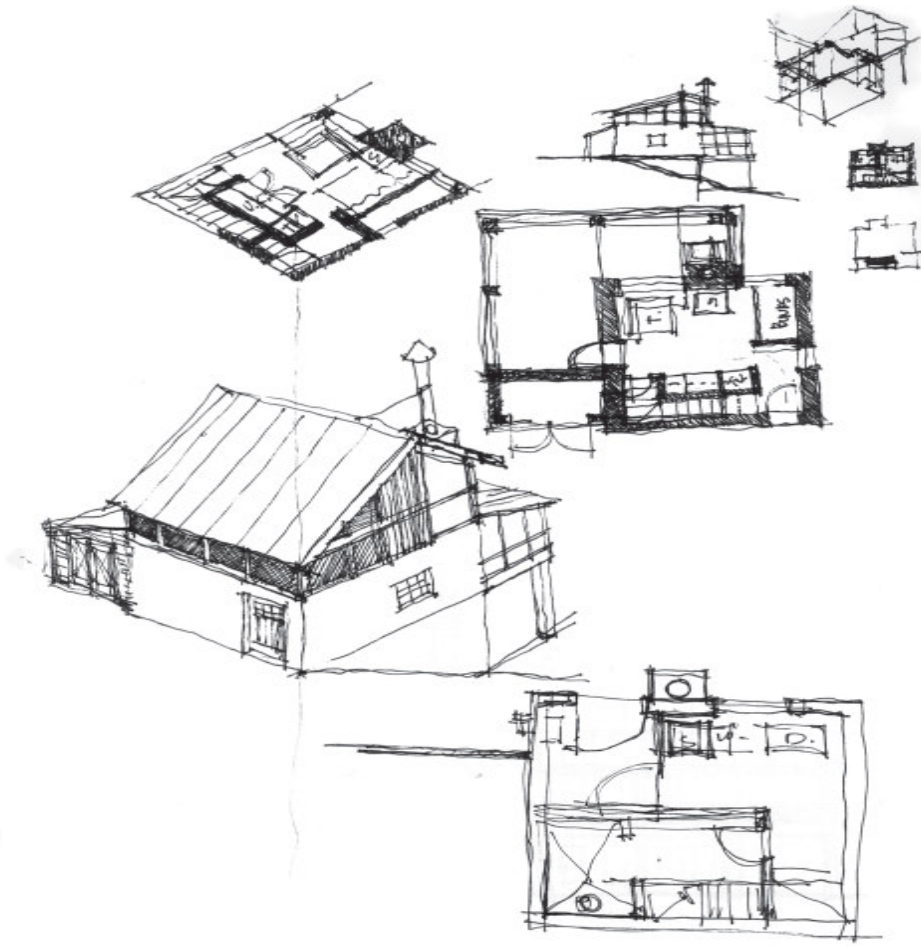
Previous uses of the structure are known to be tobacco storage and curing. Used dominantly as a storage building; this artifact is referred to as the "Pack House". Constructed of concrete masonry units some fifty years earlier the "Pack House" is planned for use as a two person vacation cottage for the owner.

Nestled in the crook of a sloping grassy meadow the plan contains 740 heated and cooled square feet on the main level and 450 square feet of storage and workshop on the lower level. The majority of the glazing faces north to capture a view of the existing meadow and provide consistent daylight throughout the interior. The small existing sixteen by sixteen foot building necessitated the use of an exterior communicating stair to the lower level. Other design features include exposed roof framing and a central masonry fireplace. Rain water is captured on the single plane standing seam metal roof and routed to an oversized gutter to the south. Rain water is then directed by a rain chain and collected in a reservoir for use in the surrounding landscape. The design is intended to be constructed primarily by the owners with assistance from local labor. Construction costs are anticipated to be between \$125,000 and \$150,000.

Existing Conditions



View from North



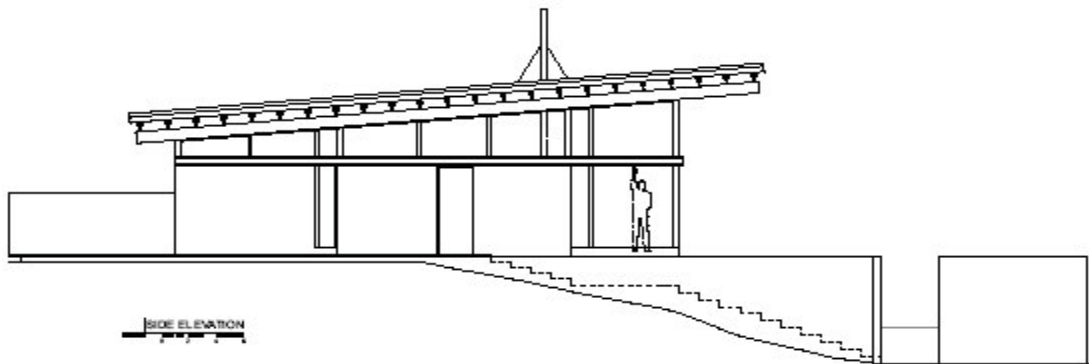
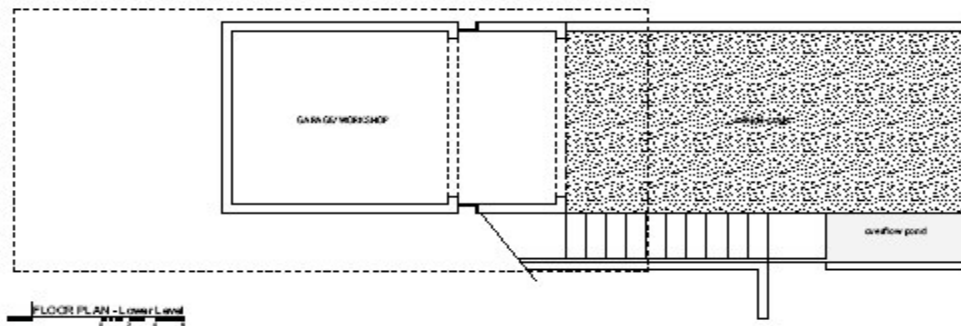
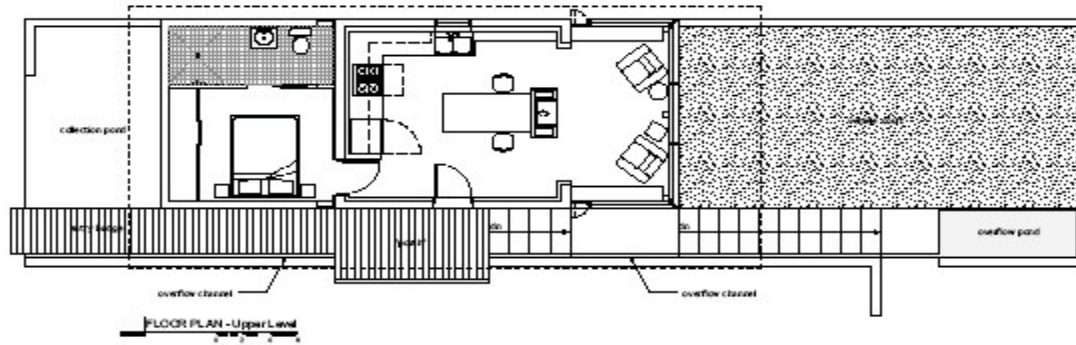
Study sketches



View from West



North elevation detail



Plans and Elevation

Courtesy of the Visual Arts Center of Richmond, Photography by David Stover

The jury had the following comments regarding the project:

“There is a strong presentation of this project, with a good depiction of the design process. The models are beautiful and lovingly made. The sequence of spaces and the development in section are exceptional. The framing in particular is very technically sound and clear.”