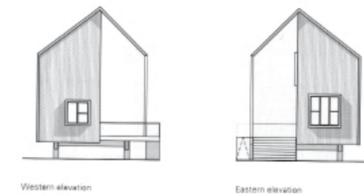


ELEMENTAL: New Orleans



PROJECT DATA:

DESCRIPTION:

The overall intention of the designer was to build a home that can be adaptable and expand based on the families physical as well as cultural needs. The structure for an addition is built during initial construction, allowing for simple future renovations. The house was designed with a “do it yourself concept,” prepared to change over time within a previously defined layout. “We just designed the most difficult part of a future 2,700 sqf house, so that expansions can be done in an easy, economical, quick and safe way. The scheme accommodates the required program in half of the maximum allowed volume. The other half is initially a big porch able to accommodate expansions of the original home or even a second house. This is the space for the expression of the families’ own cultural and living traditions, and ultimately increasing their assets thanks to a larger house or the additional income.”
Alejandro Aravena

- PROJECT TYPE: Single family home with possible expansions
- COMPLETION: 2009
- ARCHITECT: Elemental Architects, Santiago, Chile
- TOTAL SQUARE FEET: 1,800-2,700
- UNITS PER ACRE: 1-2
- COST PER SQUARE FOOT: not known
- UNIT BREAKDOWN: First floor contains 1 bedroom, 1 bath, kitchen, living, dining area – second floor has potential for 6 bedrooms, and 2 baths
- CLIENT: Make It Right Foundation

HOME QUALITIES:

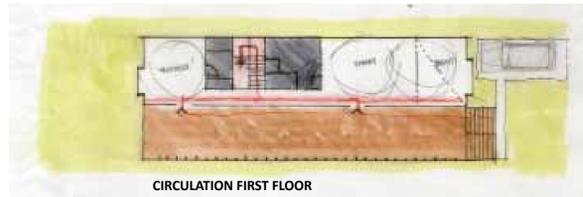
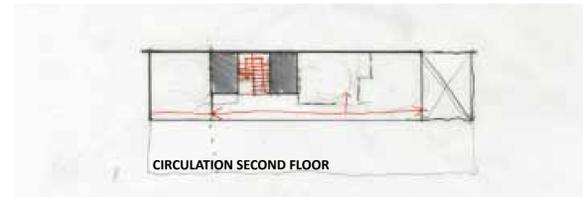
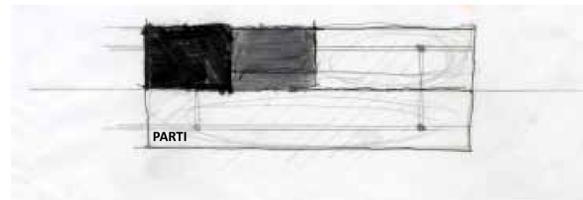
The most important quality of this home is its ability to adapt to the family’s needs. “This means that we have to create an open system rather than a closed design, a structural framework that is responsible for difficult, complex duties and operations, but that allows for personal interventions and customization.” The intention is that the difficult construction will be taken care of upon the first building of the house so that when the family needs more space, additions can easily be added. The home is thus easily adaptable to the needs and wants of the family, both physically and culturally.

MATERIALS AND ASSEMBLIES:

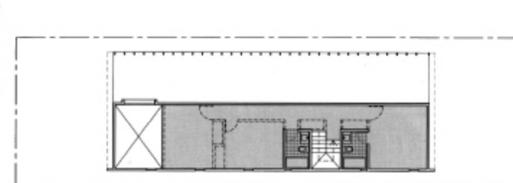
wood- stick built with a tin roof (steeply pitched), elevated on concrete piers, operable windows, flexibility with exterior materials- siding is likely, given the traditional context of the neighborhood

SUSTAINABILITY:

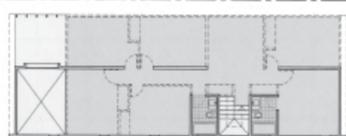
There are many windows to allow for maximum daylighting. These windows are shaded on the porch side of the original plan. The windows are also operable to take advantage of natural ventilation. The steep roof pitch provides for a naturally cooler room by drawing heat upward. Preparing the home for future additions during construction also keeps the family from having to tear out too many sections of the house for renovations.



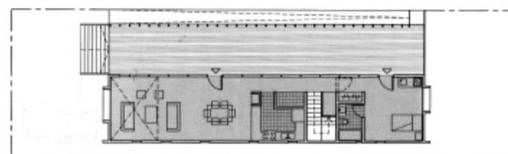
SOUTHERN ELEVATION



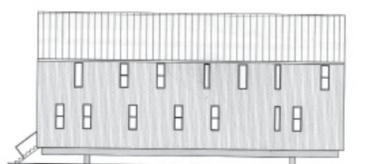
SECOND FLOOR - OPEN PLAN AND SELF-BUILT BEDROOMS



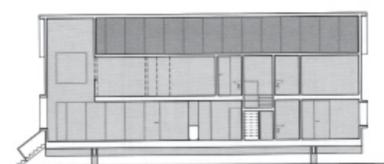
SECOND FLOOR + EXTENSION



FIRST FLOOR



NORTHERN ELEVATION



LONGITUDINAL SECTION

