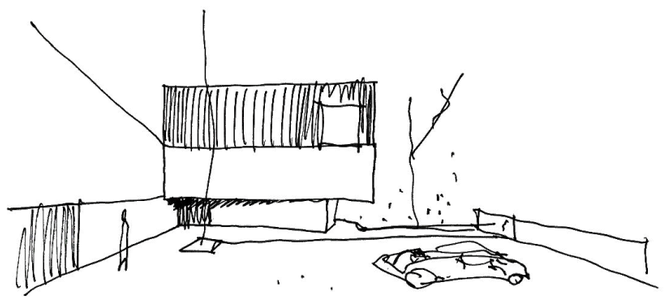
House in Avanca

The site

The lot, where the house is inserted, has a non-regular shape, perpendicular to the street Dr. Egas Moniz, Avanca - Portugal. The solar orientation (from the street to the interior) is North - South. Concerning the topography, the lot has a slope of 85cm, from the entrance. Inserted in a consolidated urban area, and to ensure the privacy, the program of the house was turned exclusively to the interior of the lot.

Formal and functional constraints

Being inserted in a planning with approved rules, the shape of the building was restricted by those rules and the main volume should have 9x9m and two floors. South of this volume lies another volume with 6m length and with only one floor. We start with a platform merged with the terrain, were the house was inserted. To avoid the massive effect of the building on the elevations, we designed a set of lines, merging the floors and establishing some rules on the windows and facade finishes. The result was the division of the elevations in three equal parts: S0+S1+S2 (2.1+2.1+2.1m) This rule allowed to create a recess, trough the rotation of the section S0, to emphasize the house entrance.

Program

Concerning the program of the house, the interior spacial distribution is separated by function and by floors. The social/service area, at the ground-floor, is composed by the entrance hall, the toilet, office/library, kitchen, dining/living room, garage and laundry. On the 1st floor, the private area, is composed by the rooms; toilet and the master suite. The master suite has a direct access to the exterior terrace at south. This last one with a exterior connection to the exterior swimming pool on the ground floor.