Z HOUSE

Tarvisio • Udine
2016

geza

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Press contact

geza
Gri e Zucchi Architettura srl

Vicolo Pulesi 1
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Z House is an alpine house, a holiday home.
A place to live an intense relationship with nature and the mountains.

The site on which the house is placed is a complex place, with a steep slope, access uphill, a few buildings around and full of panoramic “frameworks”. The approach path is thus one of the key points of the project, the arrival is a precise and inevitable sequence: the road climbs steeply, the house shows itself from afar in the middle of other buildings, then hides and then reappears in a scenic perspective from the bottom where you can feel the whole size of the building. To enter inside, however, it is necessary to turn around with an obligatory, necessary path, in which the perception of the house gradually loses the built context and fits into the natural one. During this journey of “passage” it becomes gradually smaller, the scale is reduced and from a volume of three floors then you get to a small and solitary monopiano volume, framed only by the landscape.

The choice of orientation of the views determines the plan of the house: to the west there is the access, with all the service volumes, to the east a large living area that looks into the distance towards the point where the valley continues and offers bright panoramas.

The list of functions requested by the owners is rich and complex, and it is divided into a plant with two juxtaposed volumes that are divided into sections with different heights, which follow the conformation of the land.

The large living area is located at the entrance level, and combines the two volumes into a single fluid space, while the other functions are divided: the master bedroom area is on the upper floor, overlooking the double height, while the other bedrooms, the sauna and wellness area are located on the lower floor.

This section achieves two objectives: one external and one internal. From the outside the house seems to “slip” on the ground, the ground is inclined and fluid, the house is light and does not impose terraces or other violent works on the landscape. From the inside the volume of the living area is designed by an impressive exposed concrete roof, which follows the slanting of the two volumes with different heights. It seems to enter the mountain.

The materials that make up the project reflect the basic ideas. The construction is in concrete, but it is visible only inside. The exposed concrete floors and ceilings, suspended on glass façades, accentuate the lightness of the roof.

From the outside the house is characterized by an external “skin” made of wood, like many traditional alpine architecture. Today this facade loses the traditional functions related to agriculture and breeding, and becomes a sun breaker, a necessary element of solar control and energy-saving. A fundamental architectural occasion.

The theme of lightness is guided by the design of the external sunshade (made of vertical larch blades) that surrounds the whole building, regulates the relationship with the light and the panoramas, and invents a filter space between the internal (private) world and the outside world (public).

The wooden blades have different orientations, they are sometimes rotated, the spacing is not constant. They open up to let you see and they hide and hide. They condition the internal relationship between inside and outside, and so the light vibrates and changes constantly on the outer skin of the house. It is a subtle and iridescent vibration, with the light light of the Alps.

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Credits and dimensional data

Architecture design	GEZA - Gri e Zucchi Architetti Associati, arch. Stefano Gri, arch. Piero Zucchi with arch. Stefania Anzil
Team	arch. Tina Carletti, arch. Elisa Mansutti, arch. Marjana Dedaj
Structural design	Ing. Alessandro D'Agostino - Adastudio, Tolmezzo, Italia
Mechanical plants design	HT Engineering, Udine, Italia
Electrical plants design	Studio Battista
Supervision of works	Ing. Alessandro D'Agostino - Adastudio, Tolmezzo, Italia
Contractor	Impresa Edile Pellegrini & C
Mechanical plants	Astel Srl
Electrical plants	Elettronica Manzanese
Carpentry works	Malisan Franco & C s.n.c.
Furnitures and boiseries	Floreani Snc
Client	Private
Location	Tarvisio, Udine, Italia
Chronology	design phase: 2014 costruction: 2016
Data	area of intervention :933 sq m area: 195 sq m volume: 875 cubic m
Photographer	Gianni Antoniali

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Bio

Stefano Gri. Born in Udine in 1963, Stefano Gri graduated in architecture from IUAV University, Venice, in 1988. He has been registered with the Roll of Architects of Udine (Italy) since 1990. After a series of professional experiences in Italy, he moved to Barcelona, Spain, to work withe architects Tonet Sunyer + Jordi Badia in 1992. Since 2002 he has been Visiting Professor at IUAV of Venice, the University of Trieste/ Gorizia in Italy, at the TUE of Eindhoven in the Netherlands, and at the University of Lubiana, in Slovenia.

Piero Zucchi. Born in Udine in 1965, Piero Zucchi graduated in architecture from IUAV University, Venice, in 1992. He then studied at the ETSA in Seville, Spain, and attended a masterclass with Rem Koolhaas at BIA in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, in 1994. He has been registered with the roll of architects of Udine since 1993. Zucchi worked with Studio Valle Architetti Associati in Udine from 1993 to 1998. Since 2002 he has been Visiting Professor at IUAV of Venice, the University of Trieste/Gorizia in Italy, at the TUE of Eindhoven in the Netherlands, and at the University of Lubiana, in Slovenia.

In 1999 Stefano Gri and Piero Zucchi founded the architectural firm GEZA Gri and Zucchi Architetti Associati in Udine, that became GEZA Gri and Zucchi Architettura srl in 2018, with offices in Udine and Milan. They established a new partnership with CFK studio in Venice. Among the most important works, in addition to residential and housing realizations: Bosch / Freud Headquarters (2018, Udine), Faber Headquarters (2013, Cividale del Friuli), Pratic Headquarters and Production Complex (2011 and 2018 (enlargement) Fagagna), New Craft exhibition (2016, Fabbrica del Vapore, Triennale di Milano) and Casa della Musica (2010, Cervignano del Friuli). In 2017 the GEZA studio won the American Architecture Prize (Architectural Design / Industrial Buildings category) and the Architizer A + Awards Prize (Glazing Systems & Product category). In 2015 they obtained the Special Jury Award Italian Architect organized by the National Council of Architects. In 2012 the project won the Special Award for Private Customers - Gold Medal for Italian Architecture (Triennale di Milano). In the same year the project was present at the XIII Venice Biennale, in the exhibition curated by Luca Zevi.

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Images

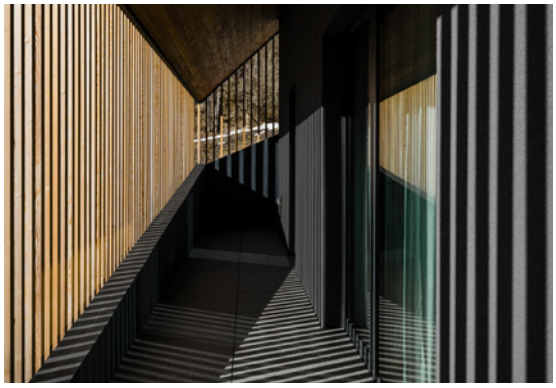
1. photo by Gianni Antoniali

2. photo by Gianni Antoniali

3. photo by Gianni Antoniali

4. photo by Gianni Antoniali

5. photo by Gianni Antoniali



6. photo by Gianni Antoniali

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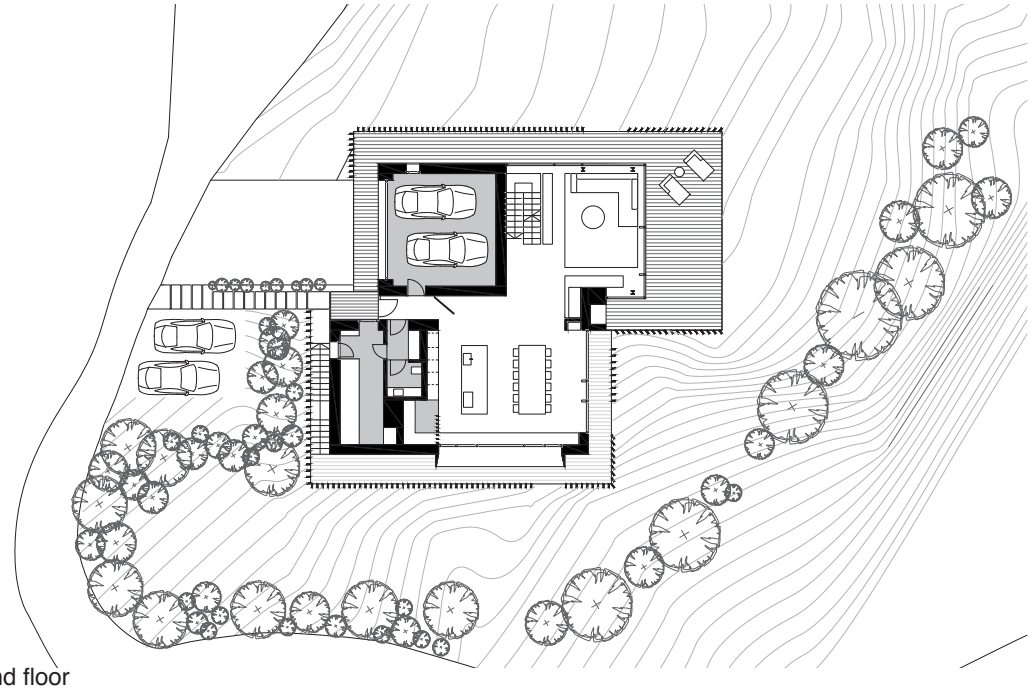
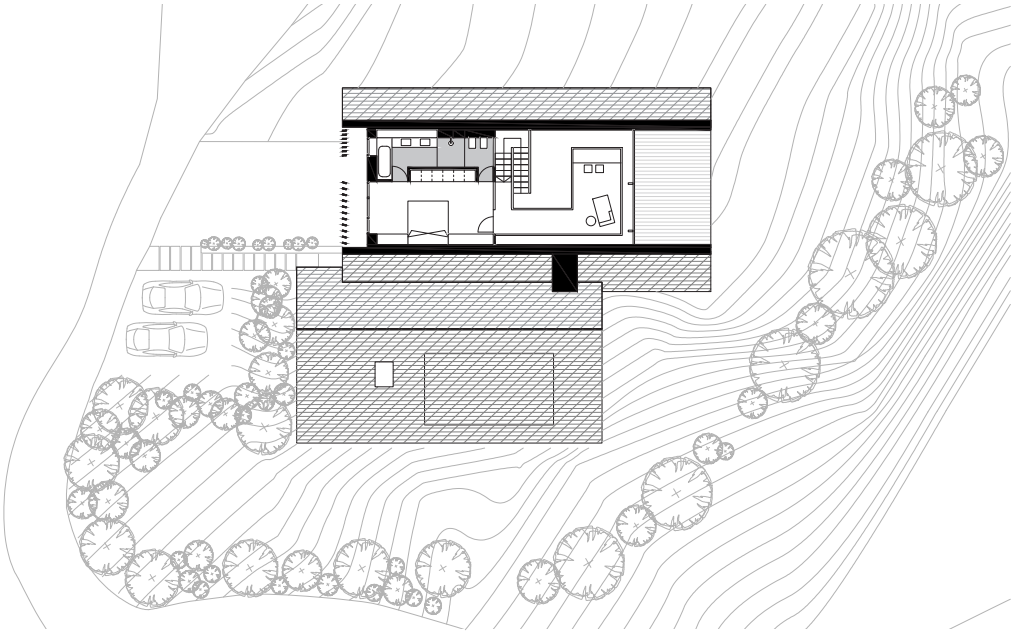
Drawings



23. Ground floor



24. First floor

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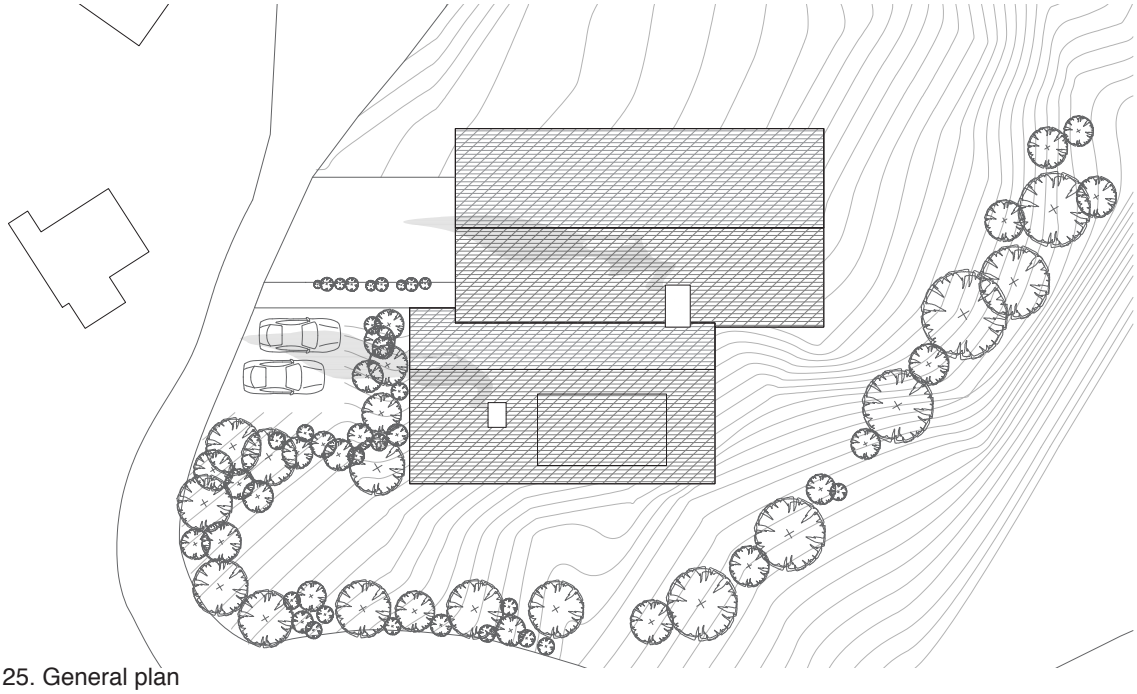
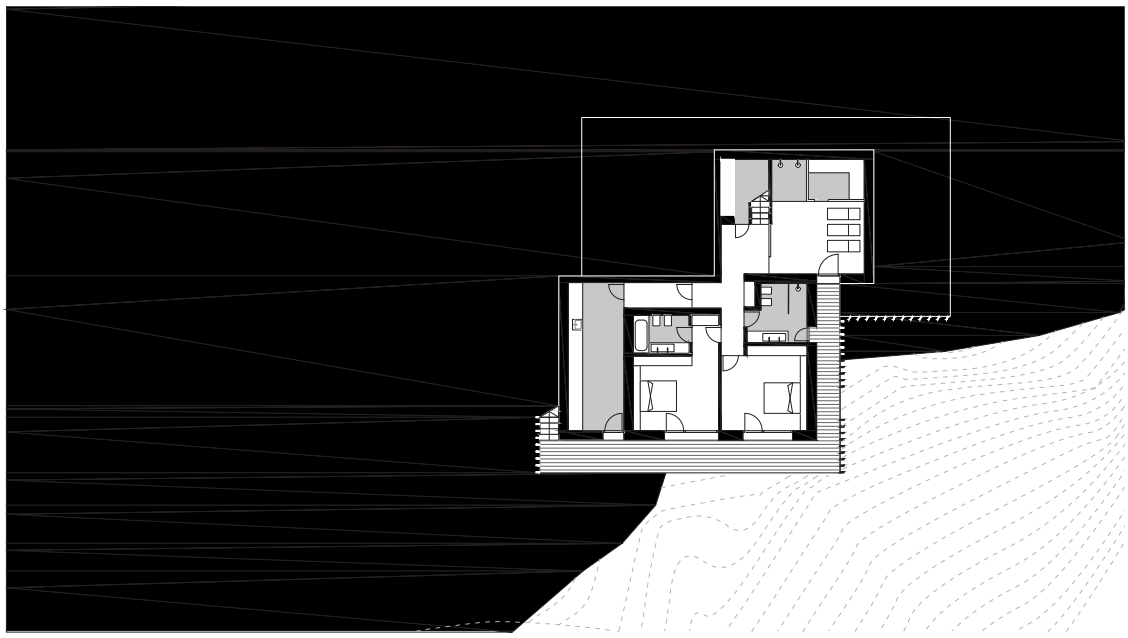


25. General plan



26. Underground plan

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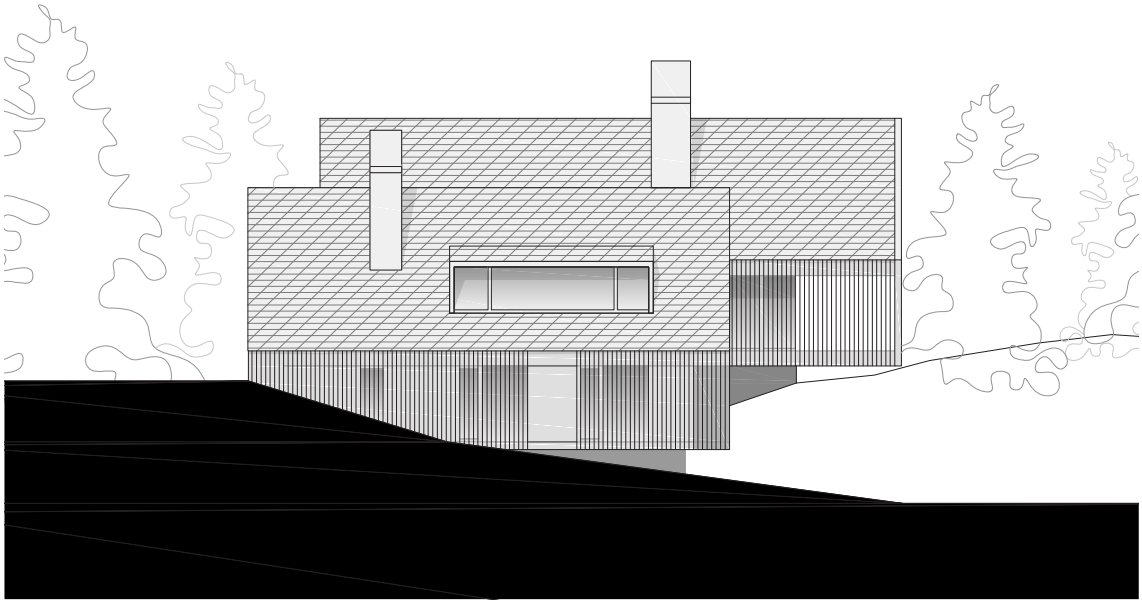
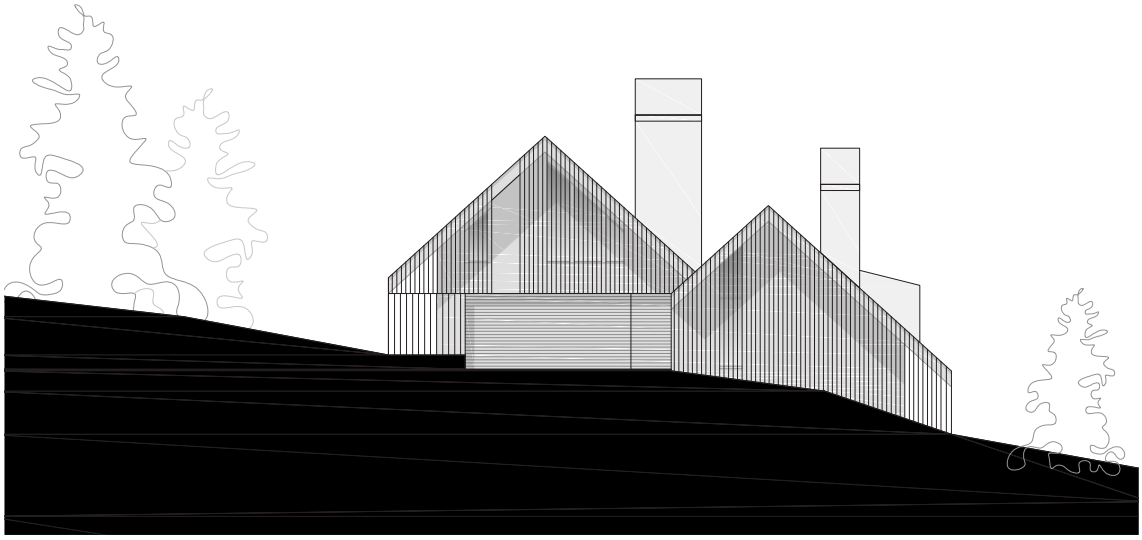


27. Western view



28. Northern view

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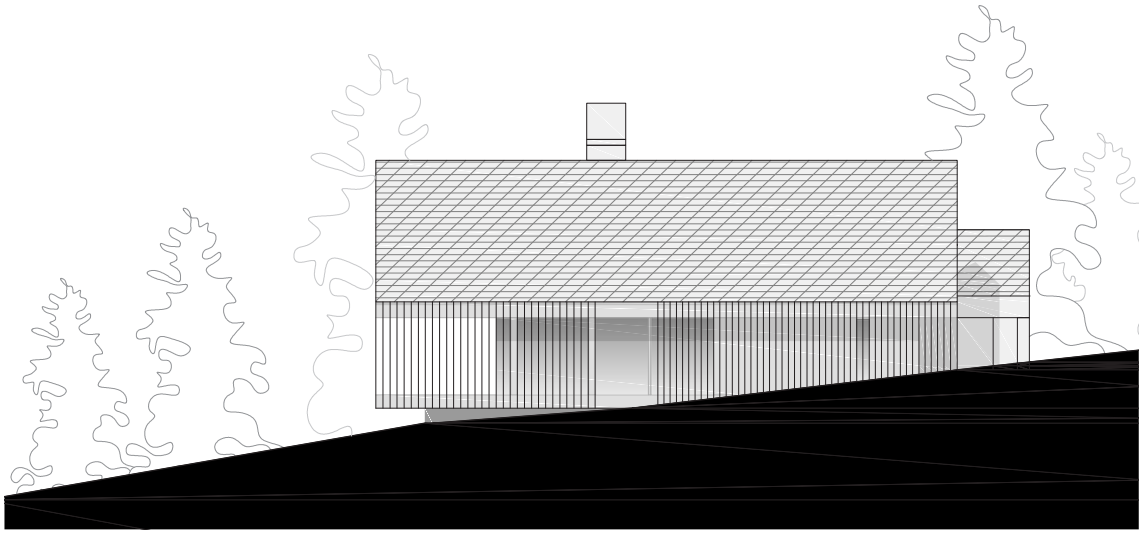
29. Southern view



30. Eastern view

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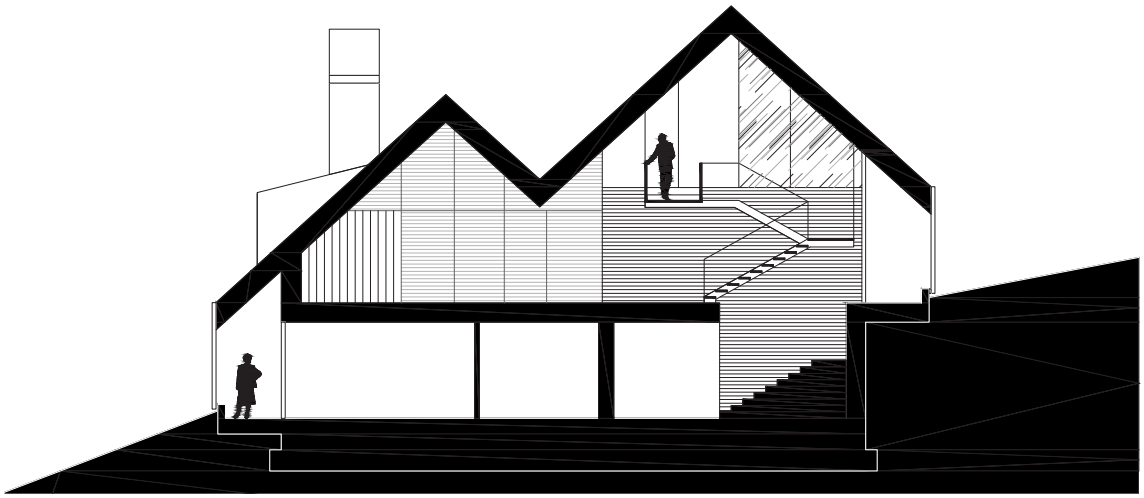
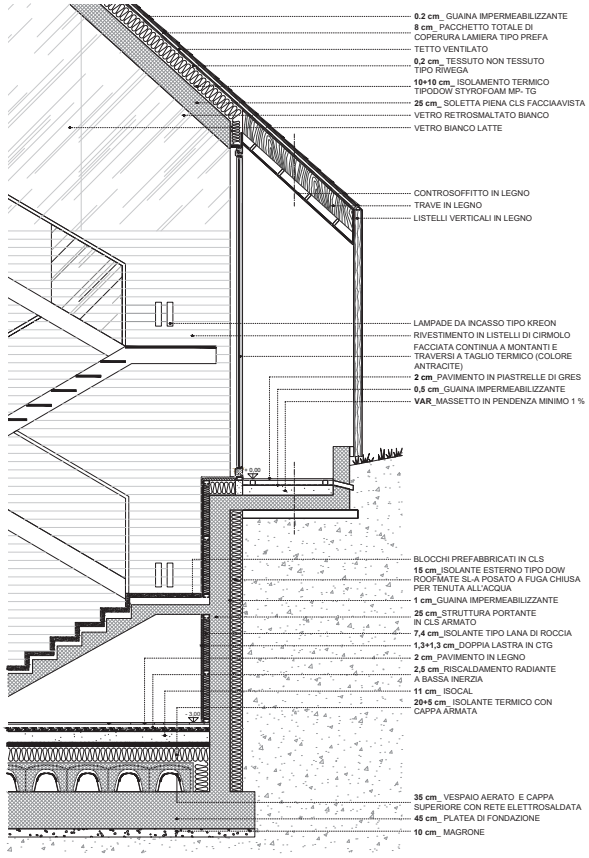


31. Section



32. Detail

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