

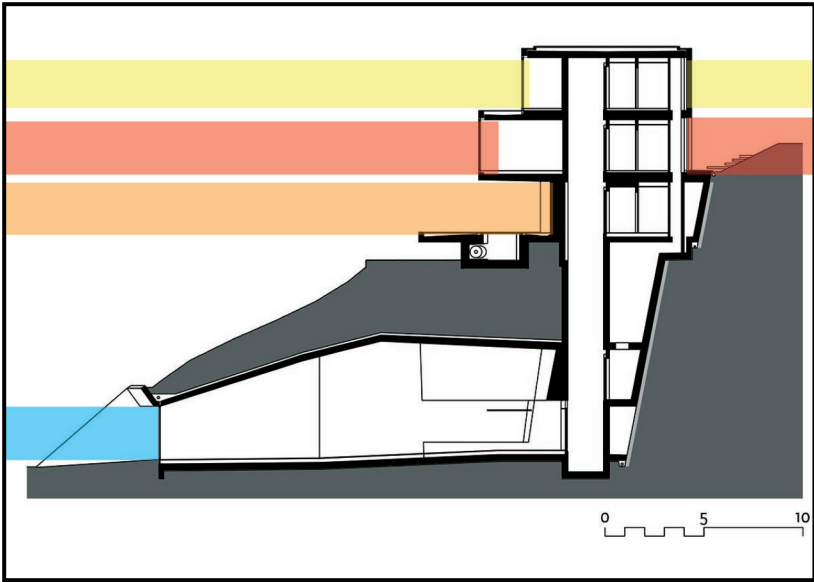
How does the verticality of a structure influence the placement of windows as well as connects the viewer with the environment?

Sam Goodwin

Villa Am See
Ungertreina



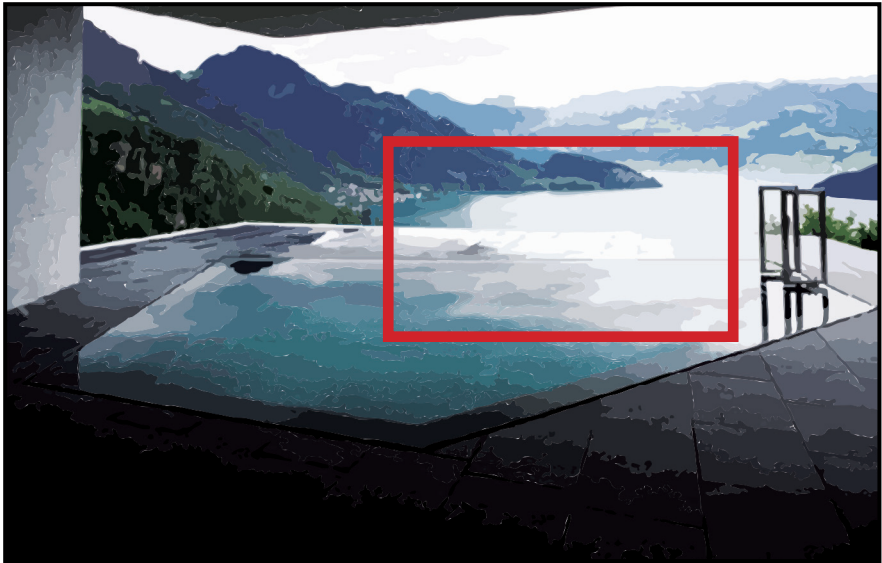
- Highest View
- Second to Highest View
- Middle View
- Second to Lowest View
- Lowest View



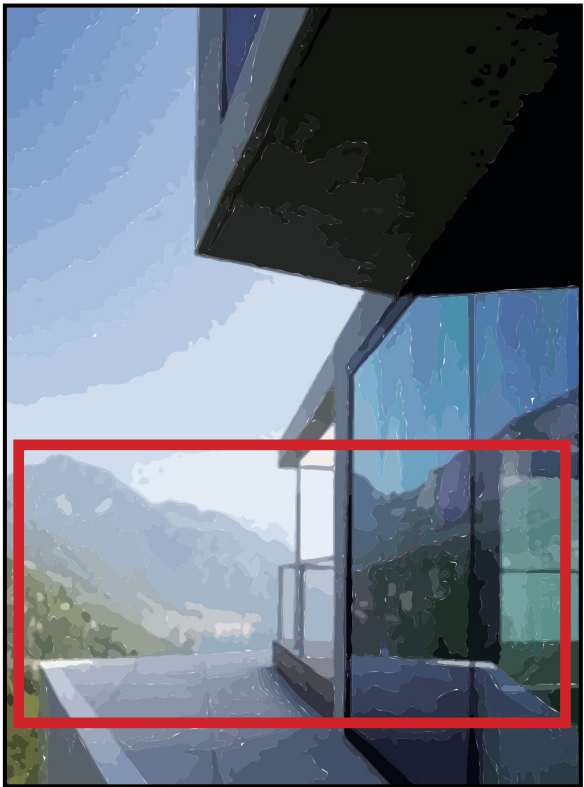
The verticality of Villa Am See affects the framing of specific moments in the landscape. The highest level is more of a spectator viewing of the landscape. As the levels continue to lower levels the viewer's correspondence with the environment turns into one of participation.



The image above shows the lowest viewing level. There is a direct connection with the landscape, specifically the water. This shows a relationship of the viewer having the opportunity to experience the tangible environment.



Above is shown from the middle viewing level. The pool at this level shows a distant, but active participation of the landscape. The pool is visual connection, an up-close continuation of the water far below it and offers the view to participate as well as observe the surrounding environment.



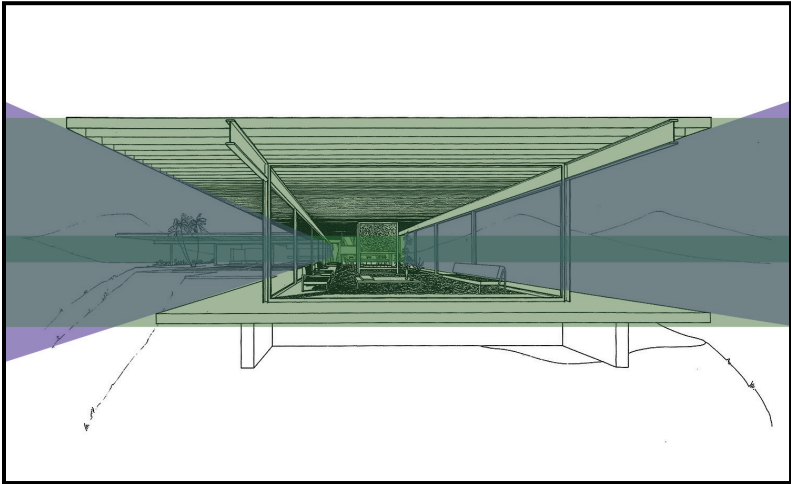
The image on the left is shown from the second to highest viewing level. The relationship with the water is somewhat lost but the attention is now directed to the surrounding mountains to form a new and different relationship with the landscape.

Conclusion: The different sections and heights of views gives the viewer the opportunity to observe the landscape from different perspectives. Each level offers a different hierarchy of viewing, the upper levels being more spectator-like while the lower levels provide a form of participation with the landscape.

Case Study 22
Pierre Koenig



In contrast to Villa Am See, both Case Study 22 and Farnsworth House are horizontal structures that have floor to ceiling windows as a barrier between the landscape and inside the building. However it instead blurs the boundary of outside and inside in different ways.



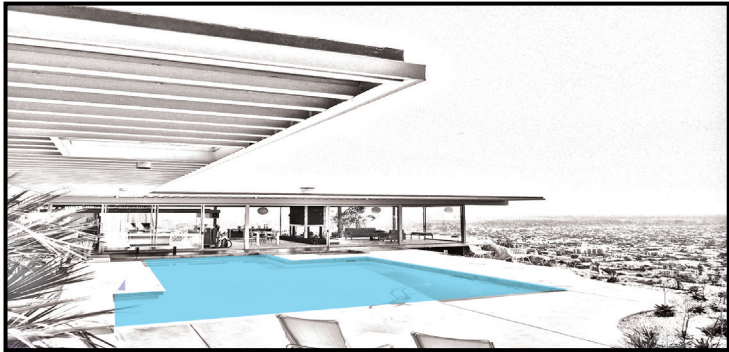
In Case Study 22, the axes overlap. In this space of overlap, there is a pool located. This is a space of participation in a structure that is mostly spectator-like. This transition from participation to observer is necessary for the viewer to connect to the environment.



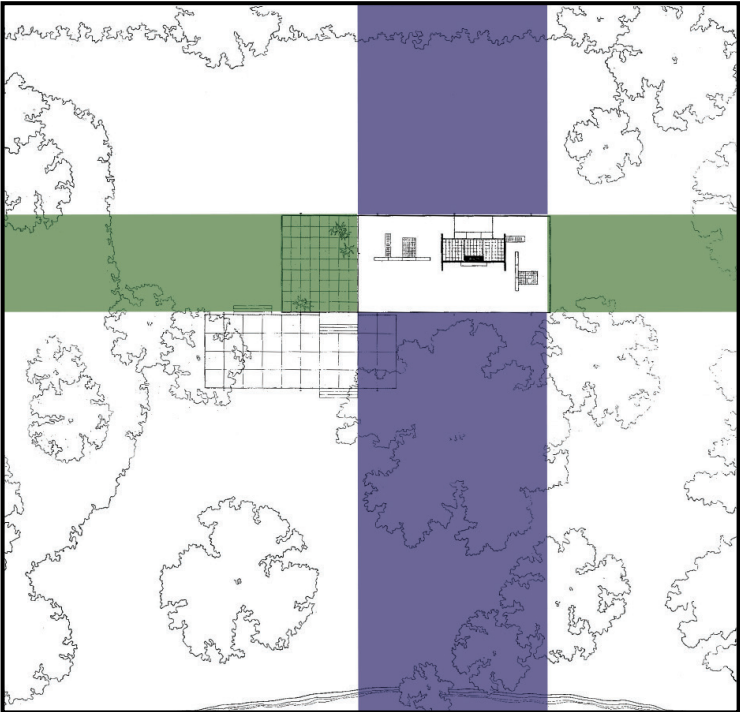
Shown on the left is from the interior of Case Study 22 as it looks out over the landscape. Compared to Farnsworth House on the right, Case Study 22 is a bird's eye-view of the landscape for watching. Farnsworth House is also viewpoint for observation, however it gives the viewer the option to experience the landscape physically as well.



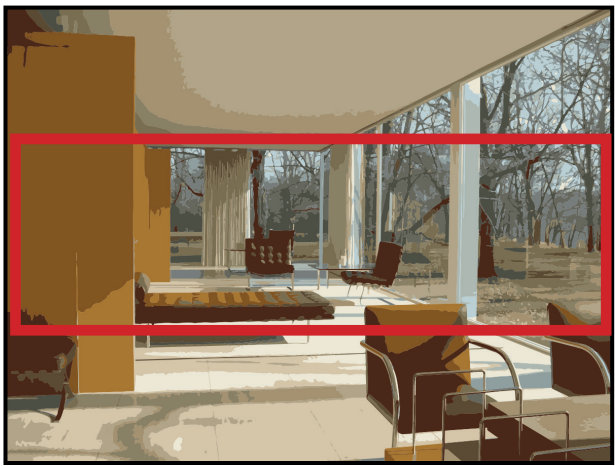
Case Study 22



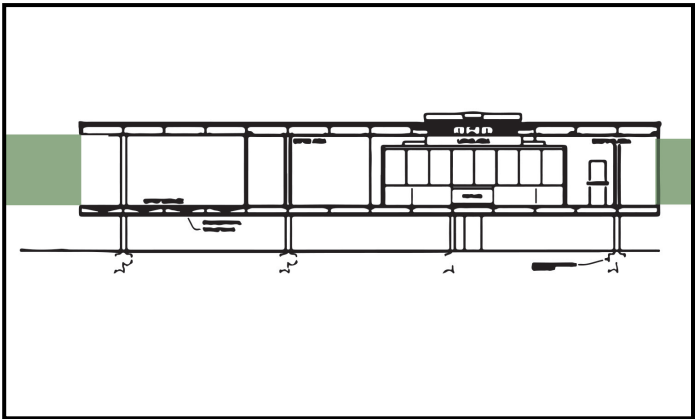
Farnsworth House
Mies van der Rohe



Farnsworth House



Conclusion: The horizontality of Case Study 22 and Farnsworth House call for a different style of window that connects the view to the landscape. These houses achieve qualities of views that Villa Am See has, only on a singular level. As shown in Case Study 22 and Farnsworth House, the horizontal nature of the structure mimics a panoramic view while in Villa Am See the verticality can only frame specific moments in the landscape.

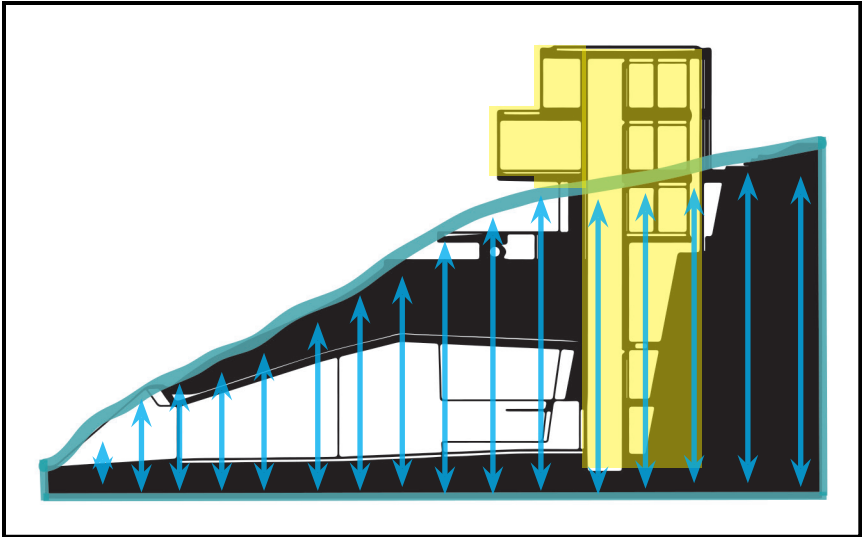


In Farnsworth House, the axes are independent of one another. In each direction the viewer is invited to observe the environment at close proximity while having the option to directly participate with the landscape.

How does the slope of the hill and surrounding landscape influence the geometry of the structure?

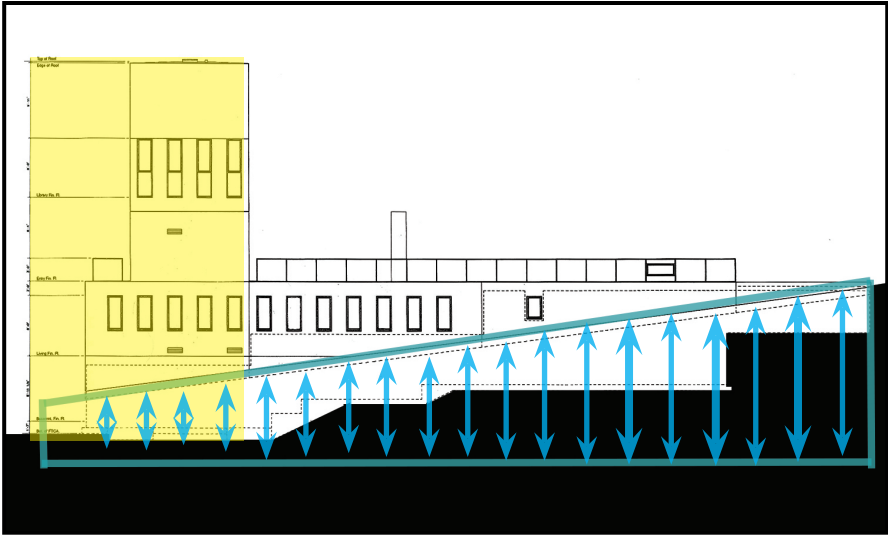
Sam Goodwin

Villa Am See
Ungertreina



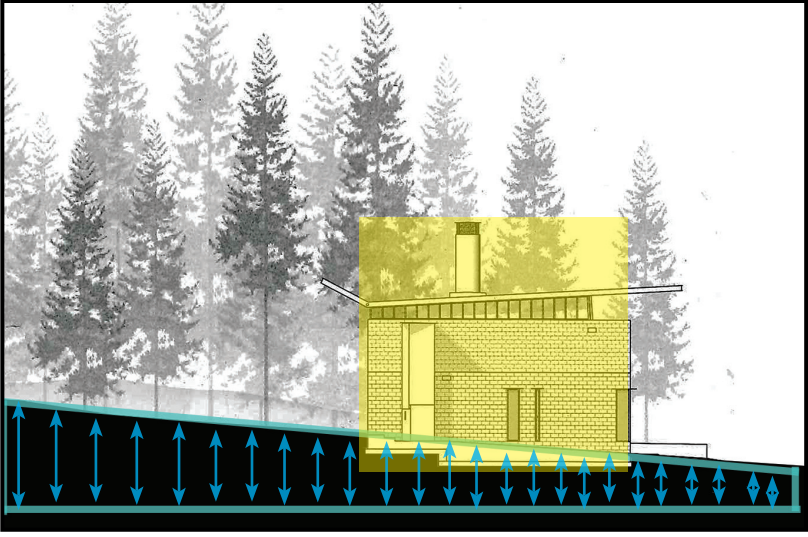
In Villa Am See, the slope is moderately steep. The y-axis of the landscape aligns with the y-axis of the building. This correlation results in the verticality of the structure as well as its shape. Above ground, the building is rectilinear to contrast the flow of nature yet oriented as to mimic its surrounding mountains. However, below the surface of the hill it takes on a unique form that responds to the descent of the slope.

T-House
Simon Ungers



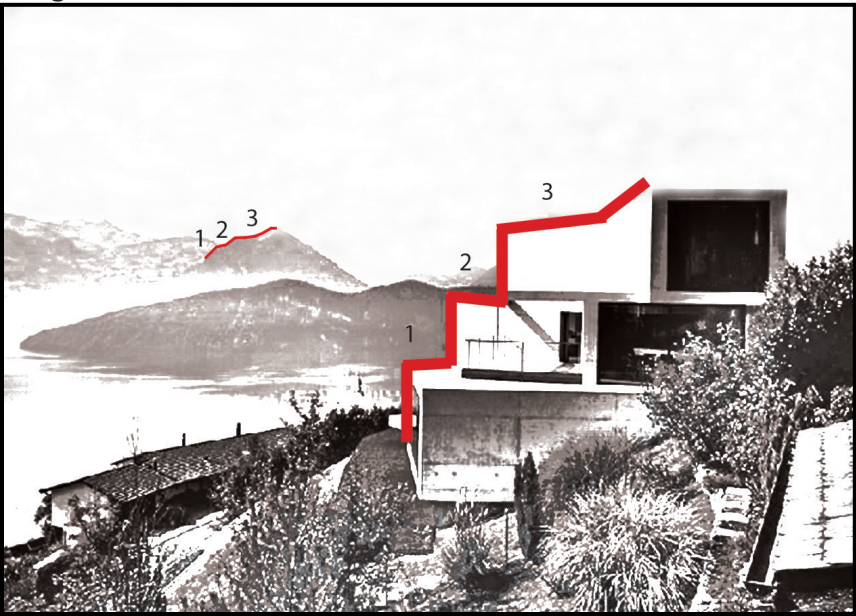
In the T-House, the slope is moderately shallow. The y-axis aligns with the verticality present at the the lower end of the slope. This is also similar to the tall trees that surround it. This inverse response to the slope gives the structure a fluid transition down the hill. Above the hill the building is rectilinear so as to contrast the flow of the landscape while the part submerged descends to follow the slope of the hill.

Chicken Point Cabin
Tom Kundig

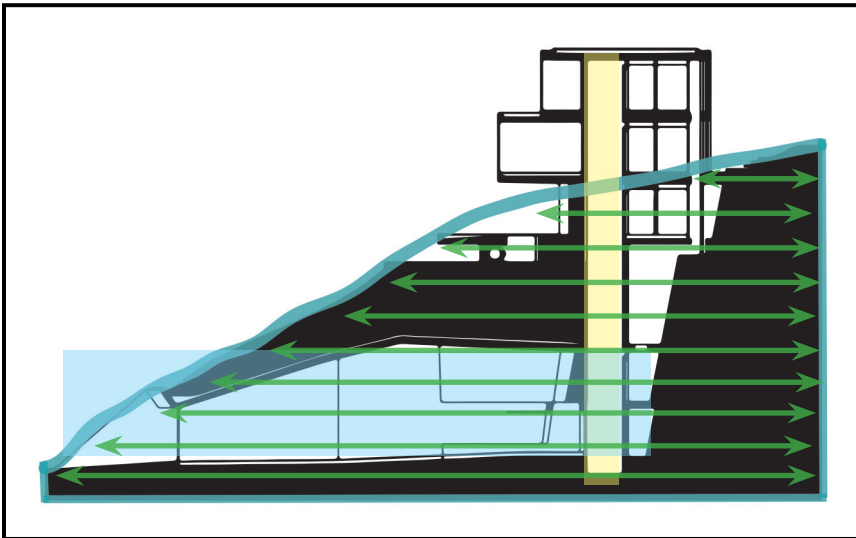


In Chicken Point Cabin, the slope is notably shallow. The y-axis aligns with the rectilinear qualities of the structure. The trees surrounding the structure are of great height, so in contrast, the building isn't very tall. Kundig creates a square building that simply contradicts the steady flow of the slope while the part submerged decends with the slope.

Villa Am See
Ungertreina



Above is demonstrated the faint imitation of the mountain rain in the geometry of the structure.

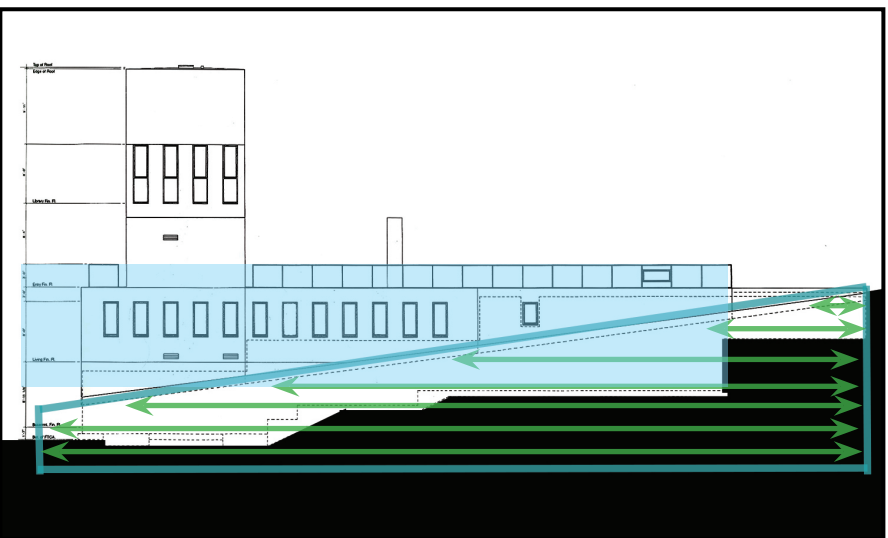


In Villa Am See, the x-axis of the slope and structure correlate to make the part above the hill rectilinear. Below the hill, the structure is elongated in response to the widening of the x-axis near the bottom of slope, while still retaining the central axis where the transition is made to above-ground.

T-House
Simon Ungers

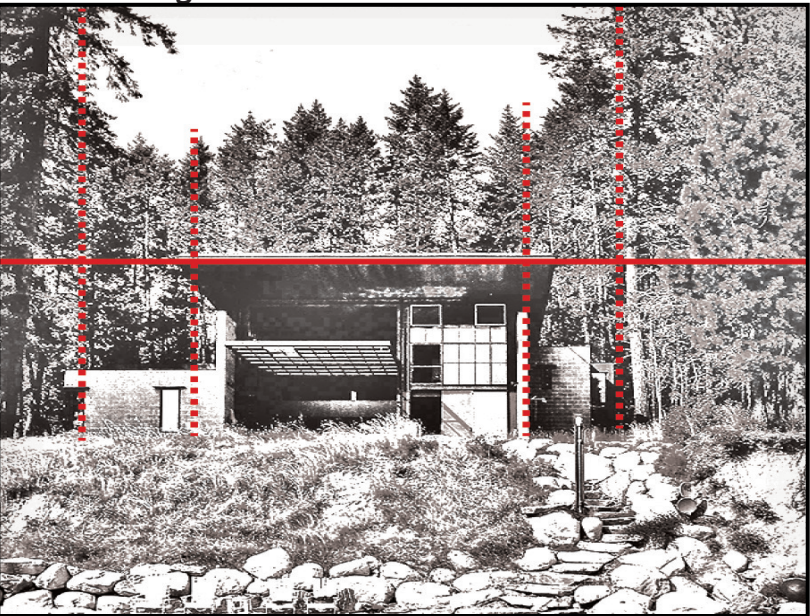


Above is shown the viewpoint at the highest point of the hill. The height of the structure is almost that of the trees.

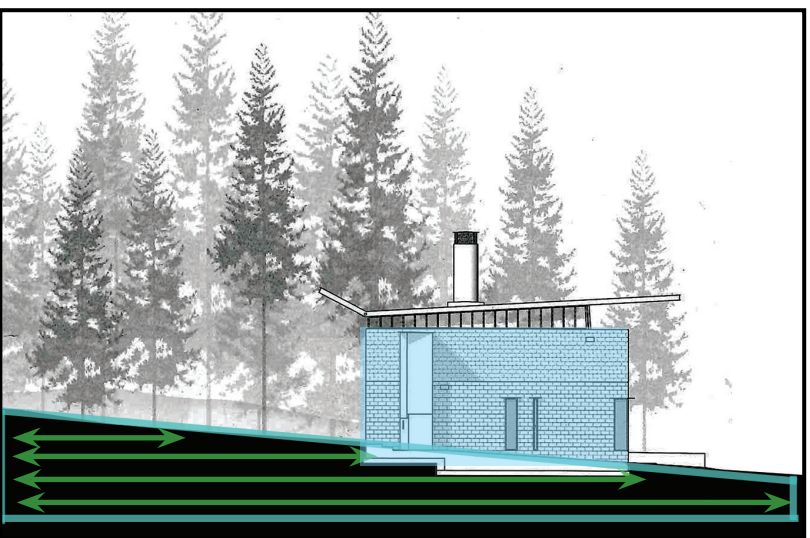


In the T-House, the x-axis is elongated in the structure as a response to the slope. This creates a rectilinear structure above-ground and follows the flow of the hill.

Chicken Point Cabin
Tom Kundig



Above exhibits the height of the structure as much lower than the trees surrounding it.



In Chicken Point Cabin, the x-axis follows the axis of the slope and therefore continues the procession down the hill smoothly.

Conclusion: Slope as well as the environment is very influential on the geometry of a structure in that it determines the height as well as shape

Overall Conclusions

Sam Goodwin

- Windows frame the views of the landscape as well as shape your perception of an environment.
- Views can relate to your interaction with the landscape, either physically or visually.
- Slope can determine the geometry of the structure due to its steepness, including the x-and-y axes, and the surrounding landscape.
- Above-Ground, rectilinear structures contrast the steady flow of the slope.

Questions for Design:

- How can you incorporate relationships of structure to environment? Can this be done through geometry and window placement or some other method?
- How can the slope influence the relationship of the structure to the landscape? Is there a way to not disturb the natural slope?