

CS STUDIO ARCHITECTS

BLIKKIESDORP ON OCEAN VIEW

LOCATION: SEAPOINT, CAPE TOWN, WESTERN CAPE

BACKGROUND

Traditionally bungalows along the Atlantic Seaboard were constructed using light weight construction methods. The sadness today is that exactly the bungalows which gave this area its coastal charm is being eroded away and being replaced by monolithic concrete and glass boxes.

When we read Gawie Fagan's storey about the building of 'Die ES' in Campsbay we were inspired to do our own building work.

The old house built in the late 50's had a typical red tile roof. The roof had to come off and pre-cast concrete slabs were installed to span across the old house. All the timber from the roof structure was carefully removed and has been re-used to make staircases and furniture.

From the outset the neighbours blocked any plans which required departures. It was then decided to comply with all the set backs, which has provided a much richer architectural solution.

DESIGN

The use of corrugated iron as a building material is part of our architectural language which has been developed in our work over the past twenty years. When we designed one of our first buildings, the Ulwazi Youth Centre in Langa, we were challenged to understand the making of the building in relation to its context.

During this time we learned a lot and were inspired by the surrounding informal settlements. We used the corrugated iron to create a dialogue with the informal settlements in which the majority of urban dwelling South Africans are living in.

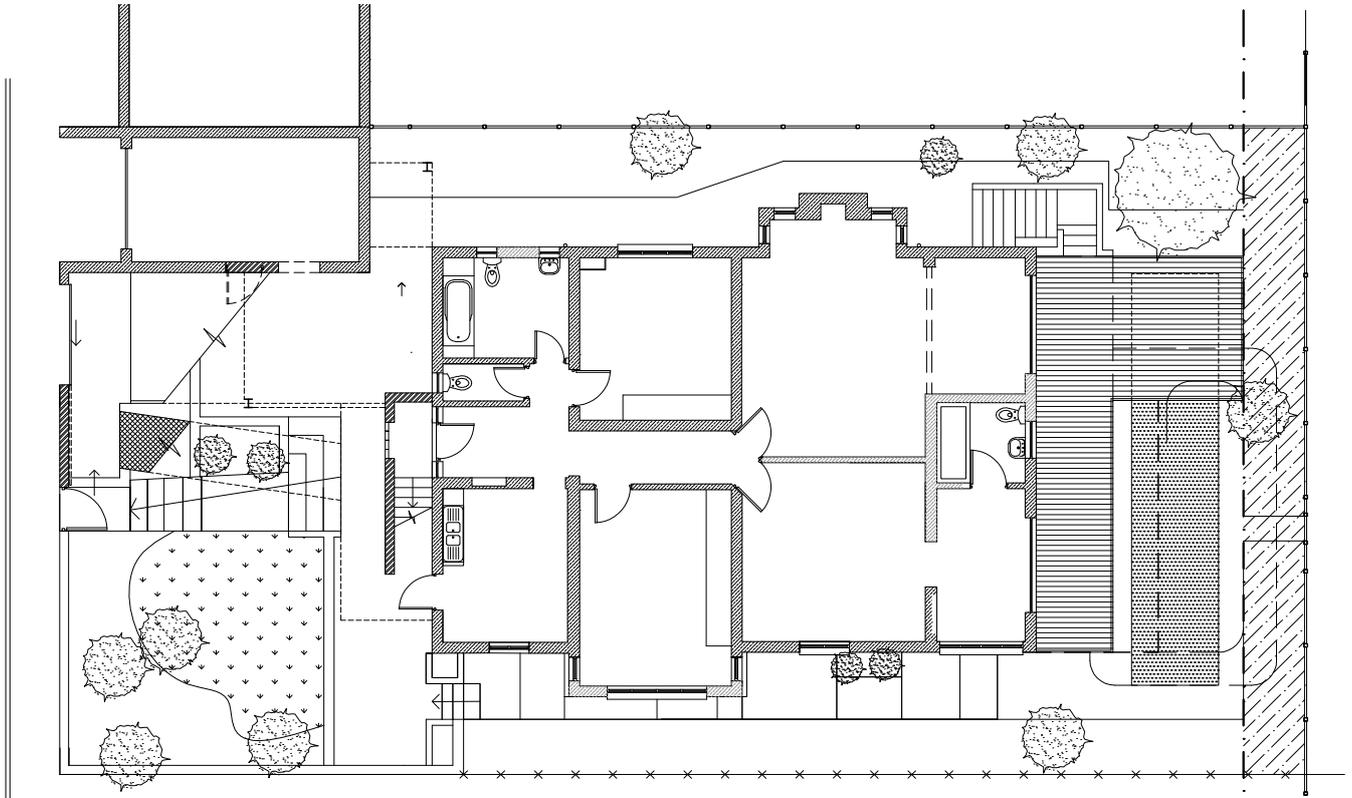
Once the corrugated cladding was completed, one of our neighbours sprayed graffiti "Blikkiesdorp on Ocean View" in bright red onto our boundary wall. It created more controversy and dialogue. After a local magazine mentioned that the graffiti was appreciated someone tried to graffiti it out with black spray paint the next day.

Another aspect which the neighbours were unhappy about was the industrial shapes. The interior space is double volume and has uninterrupted views over the sea which creates a beautiful work and living space.

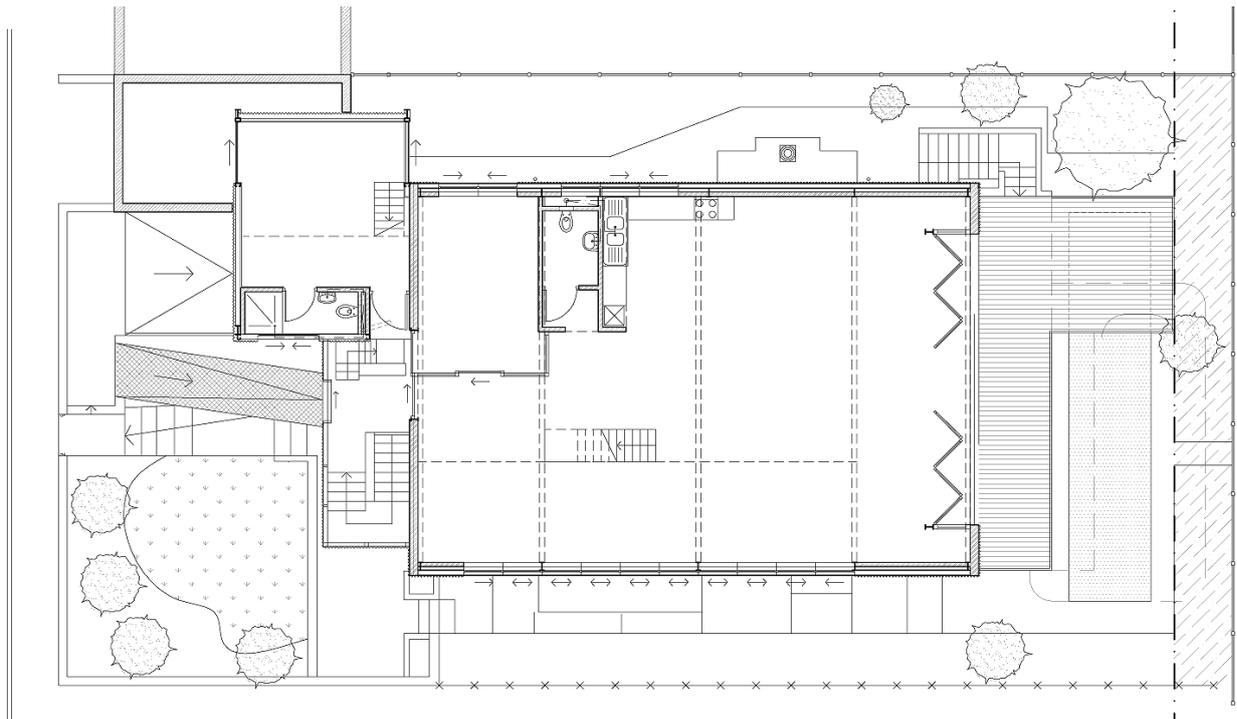
The two box shapes are placed with the larger rectangular one on top of the old house. It is cladded with Sandstone beige cladding. A smaller square box, on top of the old garage is of a Umhlanga wave colour to reflect the ocean.

The house is a work in progress and the next step is to install a full solar system with the assistance of the Energy Development Group in order to make the project sustainable.

CS STUDIO ARCHITECTS



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

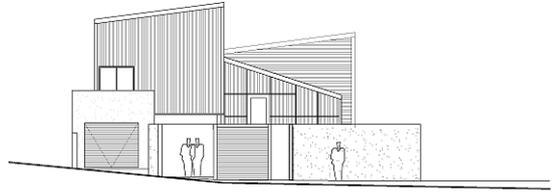


NEW FIRST FLOOR PLAN

CS STUDIO ARCHITECTS



NORTH WEST ELEVATION



SOUTH EAST ELEVATION



NORTH EAST ELEVATION



SECTION