

Program Summary:

This rehabilitated residence restores key original design features and fulfills original plans for a master bedroom suite and large outdoor patios connecting all main rooms.

Program Statement:

Originally designed by a renowned New Orleans architecture firm and built in 1952, this project required a full rehabilitation after decades of neglect and modification. A key design feature restored to the residence was a deep mono-pitched roof overhang at the south façade of the building, extending the year-round livable area on the backyard patio. Restoring the overhang proved complicated, due to the 1990s renovation which fully enclosed the original covered space. Re-incorporating the overhang required that a completely new roof be designed and built, with a new steel structural system interwoven and concealed into the design. The south façade—water damaged beyond repair—was redesigned and composed entirely of floor-to-ceiling 7' X 9' sliding glass panels floating independent from columns or supporting walls. Interiors—including a fully custom kitchen and built-in furniture—are contemporary with clean, minimalist detailing trending towards mid century modernism.

Backyard patios were added to connect all major rooms below the rebuilt extended roof. These patios are divided for privacy by large, walnut-clad wing walls, treated with the Weldtex process originally used to striate plywood in the 1950s. Originally used on plywood panels in the residence, the process was re-imagined as an extra layer of texturing for the solid walnut siding. The patios connect directly to a combined saltwater pool, hot tub, and freshwater pond. The remainder of the backyard has been redesigned to include a private garden with outdoor shower and bath, and a cocktail fruit orchard.

RR105.01

Building Area: (sf)
2,300 sf

Cost per Square Foot:
Withheld

Construction Cost
Withheld

Date of Completion:
2016

RR105.02

The residence features a fully rebuilt south façade comprised entirely of oversized sliding glass panels.

The residence connects directly with the backyard through this façade, engaging with a newly added linear pool, hot-tub and freshwater pond via large outdoor covered patios.



RR105.03

Originally designed and built in 1952, the residence's original features included a deep mono-pitch roof overhang with two wing walls dividing outdoor patios for public and private functions. These design elements functioned as passive elements in a sustainable strategy providing shade to the residence's south façade.

A renovation of the residence undertaken in the 1990s removed these features and expanded the interior envelope of the building to include the previous patio spaces, completely demolishing the original south façade, replacing it with a poorly detailed modified copy.

A building once in harmony with nature was now fighting against it. Without passive shading a second HVAC system had to be added to keep a modest 2,300 Sf. home at a livable temperature



Original Condition, 1952



Previous Renovation and Addition, circa 1990s

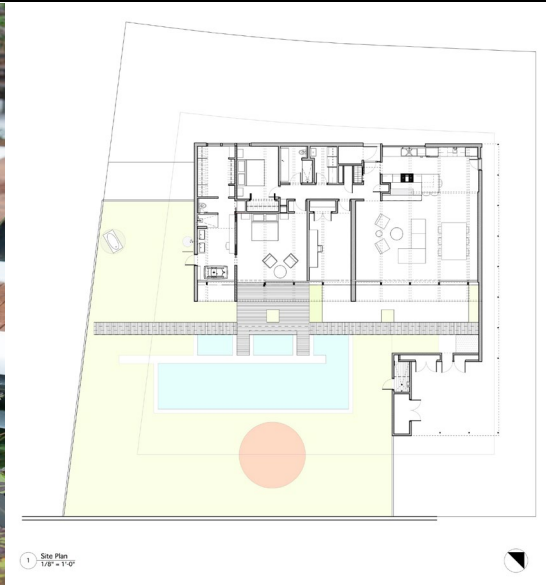


RR105.04

The current restoration completed in 2016 restores these iconic elements by extending out from the existing footprint. The restored overhanging roof and wing-walls return to work as both passive sustainability features and key elements in a spatial sequence of public and private spaces that merge the indoor and outdoor.

In combination with a new southern façade comprised of full height sliding glass panels, the new overhang blocks harsh summer sun while allowing for the sun to heat the residence passively throughout the winter.

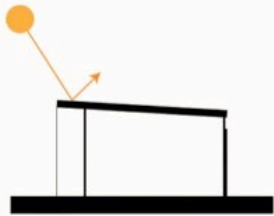
When needed, the residence now features a high efficiency HVAC system that is partially powered by solar panels located on the roof.



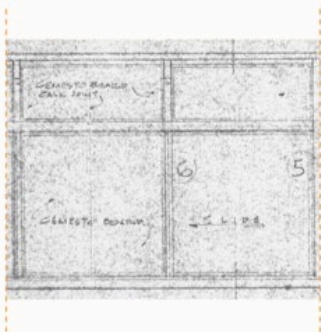
Original Design - 1952



Plan Diagram

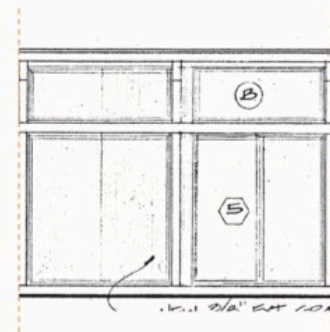
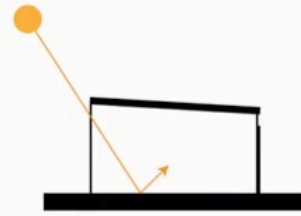


Section Diagram

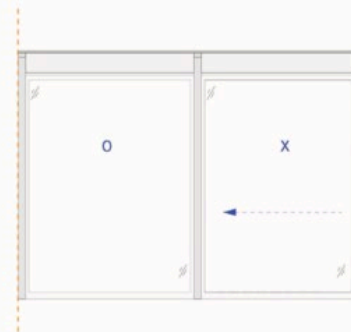
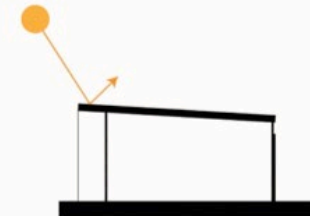


Facade Elevation Fragment

Previous Renovation - 1990s



Current Restoration - 2016

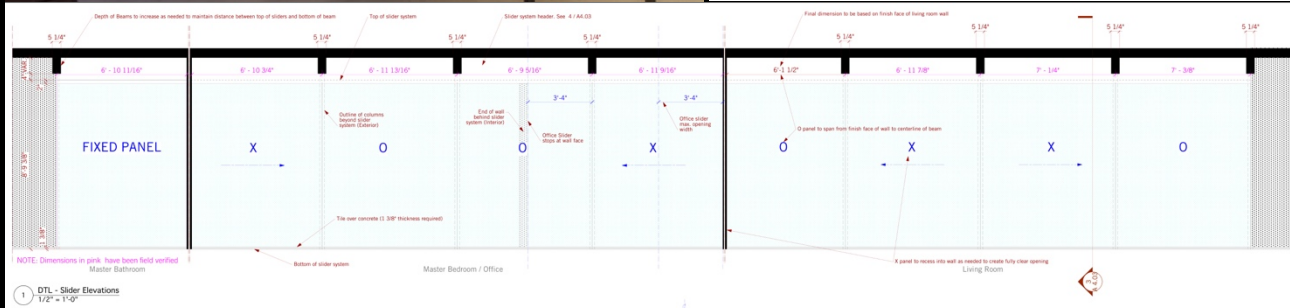
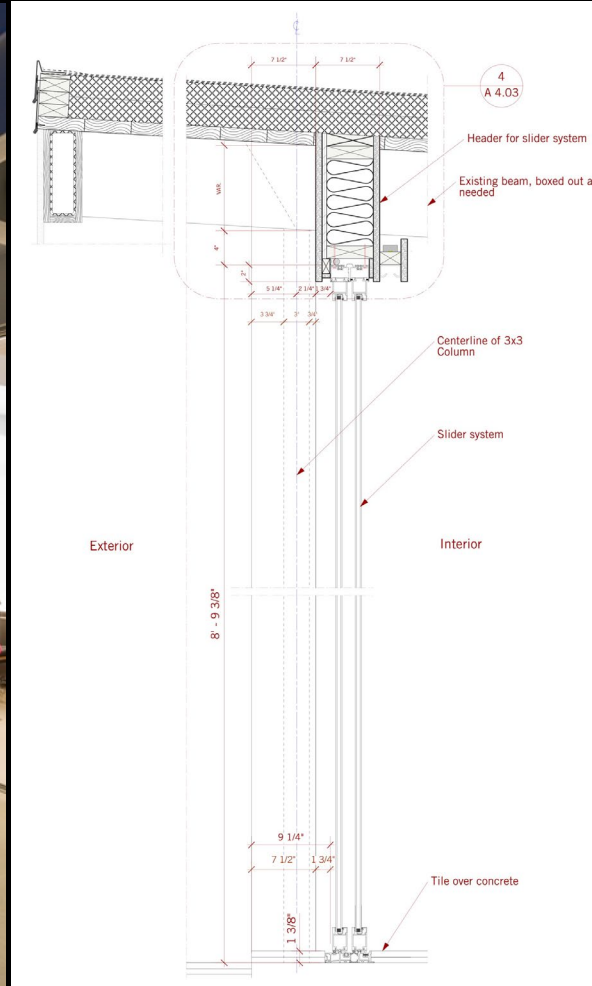


RR105.05

This diagram shows the extent to which the previous 1990s renovation and addition to the residence altered the original design and parti in plan, section, and detailing, resulting in a bulkier and less iconic residence that did not do justice to the architects' original vision.

The current restoration brings back the original design's iconic features while retaining the expanded interior area added previously.

As can be seen in the Façade Elevation Fragments, special attention was also paid to restoring the thin profiles used in the original design



RR105.06

The house is fully rehabilitated to high contemporary architectural standards in the spirit of the architects' pioneering embrace of the newest technologies and methods available in architecture at the time in their works.

In this spirit, the south façade, having already been entirely relocated and rebuilt in a previous renovation, and water damaged beyond repair after Hurricane Katrina, was redesigned to be composed entirely of floor-to-ceiling 7' x 9' sliding glass panels floating separately from any columns or supporting walls.

Bringing back the overhang as a design feature involved completely rebuilding the home's roof and further extending it past the previously relocated façade. The resulting overhang restores the original design intent and indoor-outdoor livability of the house while fully concealing the presence of a new steel structural system needed for its support.

RR105.07

Interior areas such as the living room shown here (with views to the kitchen bar) were fully redesigned to reflect a contemporary minimalist approach respectful and appreciative of mid-century modernism.



After renovation



Before renovation



Current renovation - 2016

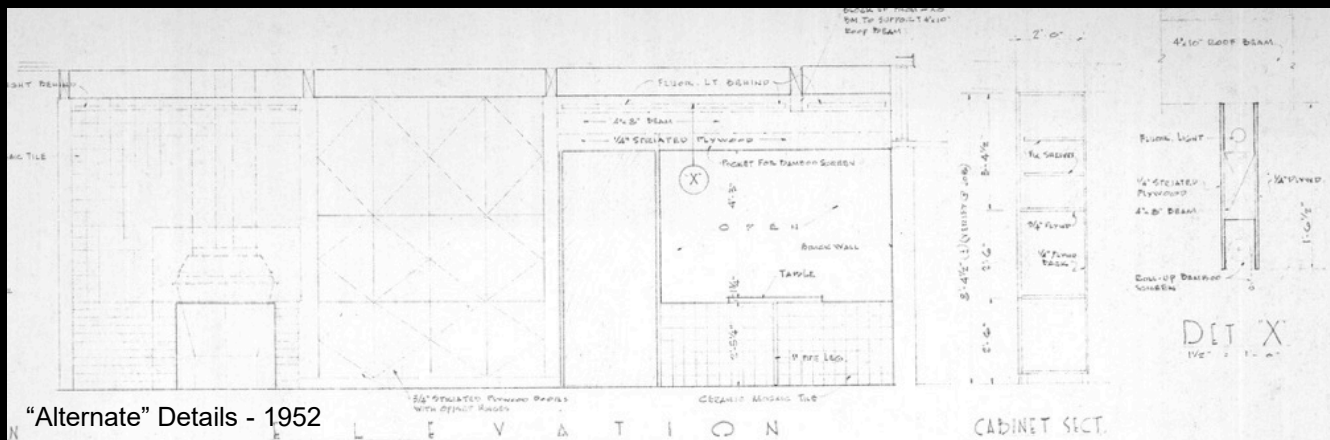
RR105.08

An up-lit beam gently divides the Living/Dining room from the Kitchen.

This detail is inspired by an alternate detail for the same location, originally included by the architects in their original construction documents.

With the light functioning as a room divider, the space is fully opened to allow for a more contemporary style of life.

Exterior brick walls are left exposed throughout the residence.



"Alternate" Details - 1952



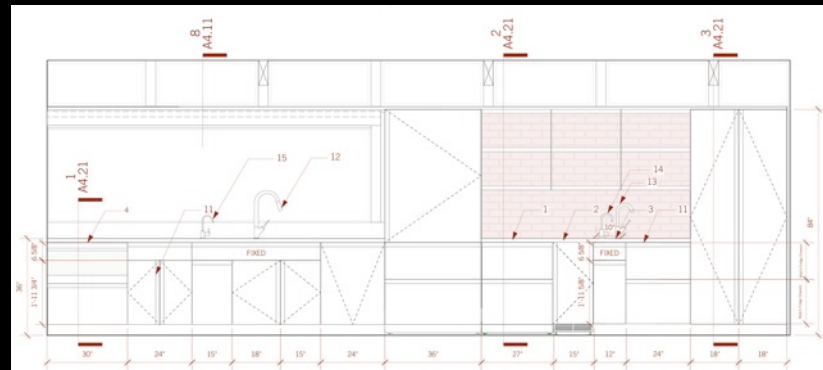
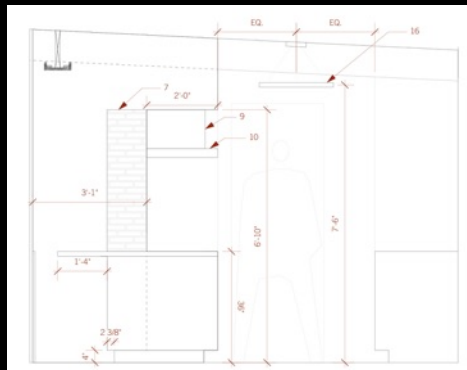
RR105.09

View of the Kitchen bar and peninsula.

Kitchen cabinets are fully custom millwork pieces designed by the architect. They are faced with Walnut veneered plywood and topped with white quartz countertops

The cabinetry fully conceals a refrigerator and freezer, standalone refrigerated drawers, an ice machine, and a dishwashing machine.

Circular halo pendant lighting is used in the kitchen to soften the space and further define it as separate from the Living/Dining room without physical separation.



Interior Elevations - 2016

After renovation



RR105.10

Prior to the current restoration the previous owner of the residence replaced all original finishes, cabinetry and equipment with low-quality items of questionable color, texture and styling.

In the current restoration, new finishes, lighting, equipment and millwork work together with a new design to restore the original modernist feel of the residence while embracing a contemporary minimalist aesthetic.



Before renovation



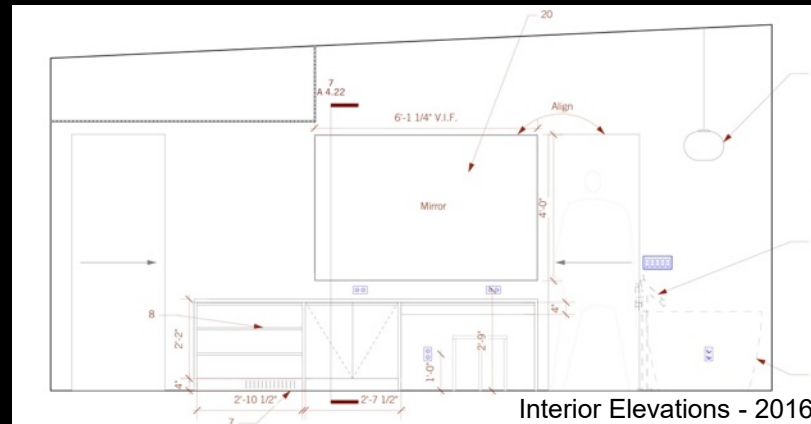
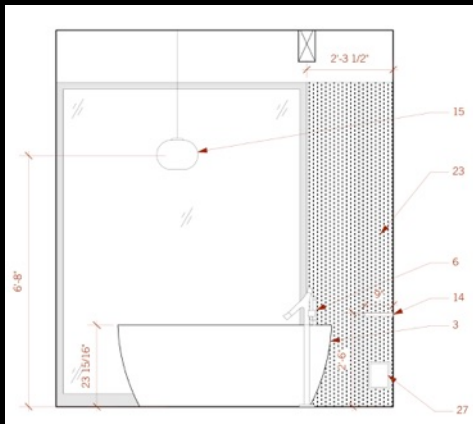
RR105.11

The same contemporary minimalist aesthetic continues throughout the house.

The master bathroom features two custom designed walnut clad vanities as well as a custom designed mirror and recessed mirrored and illuminated medicine cabinets.

A fully glazed door (obscured by curtains) leads to a private master garden with outdoor bathtub and shower on the side of the residence.

The repositioning of the Master suite to face into the backyard and engage the patios along the south façade fulfills the original master-planned intent for the residence.



RR105.12

View from the Master Bedroom to the backyard and private patio.

Glazed panels meet at each column centerline, and their profiles match the dimension of the column when closed.

This attention to detailing minimizes the visual impact of the profiles and columns on the expansive views.



RR105.13

Views of the seamless transition between public patio and living / dining room.

The newly built roof overhang re-emphasizes the sloped form of the original mono-pitch roof design and dramatic placement of clerestory windows with a restored solid wood clerestory end-piece now finished in Walnut.

A new Ipe wood deck marks the edge of the public patio and connects it with the private patio, pool, and yard.



Project Name:
Emerald Street Residence

Project Location:
566 Emerald Street,
New Orleans, Louisiana 70124

Owner/Client:
Maury Strong + Ron Caron

Architect(s) of Record:
(names and addresses)
studioWTA
7041 Canal Boulevard
New Orleans, LA 70124

Project Team:
Wayne Troyer, Architect / Design Director
Natan Diacon-Furtado, Project Manager / Designer
Michael Nunnink, Intern

Landscape Architect:
Evans + Lighter Landscape Architecture

Consultants:
Ashton Avegno – Structural Consultant

General Contractor:
Deltatech Construction LLC

Photographer(s):

Photos of 2016 Restoration
Slides 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Neil Alexander

Photos of Existing Conditions
Slides 3, 8, 11
studioWTA

Photo of Original Condition:
Slide 3
Architectural Record

RR105.x