

Program Summary:

Addition to a single-family residence located in uptown New Orleans. Project includes raised deck and pool, covered parking, and renovations to exterior rear openings.

Program Statement:

Undertaken by the owner to add living space off the back of her raised historic home, this project transforms an existing, at-grade driveway into an elevated, urban oasis for the family. The design is driven by a raised swimming pool—constructed of cast-in-place concrete and fully supported by timber pilings—situated along the rear of the property and partially enclosed by a privacy wall on two sides.

The deck connecting the pool to the house is a low-slope membrane roof with concrete and wood tiles on a pedestal system, finished on the underside with corrugated, perforated white metal backlit by LED strip lighting. A steel frame pergola with heat treated wood slats provides shade to an outdoor kitchen, with an extension connecting the pergola to the house shading the new glass sliders.

Further bespoke elements include stainless steel shelves for art on the concrete wall, steel frame dining table, and built-in bench seating at both the kitchen/dining and along the edge of the terrace. An outdoor shower is tucked around a corner behind the kitchen. Tropical landscaping softens the concrete and adds lushness.

R100.01

Building Area: (sf)
9,845 SF

Cost per Square Foot:
Witheld

Construction Cost
Witheld

Date of Completion:
February 2021



R100.02

Existing Conditions

A historic, raised home on a prominent street in Uptown New Orleans had undergone a significant renovation, in which front yard landscaping was a focus.

The rear, as seen in the top and bottom right photos, was kept as an at-grade driveway and access to the open garage.

The second floor living space overlooked this large expanse of concrete, and there was no connection to the outdoors from the kitchen/living room.





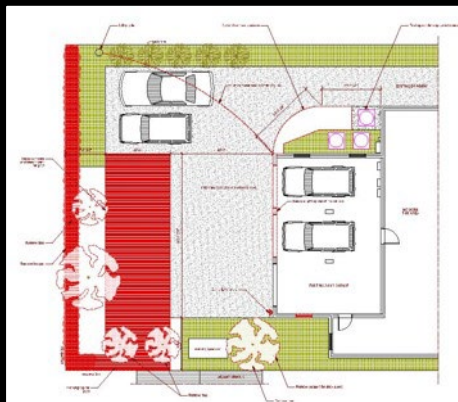
R100.03

Siting for Maximum Utility + Experience

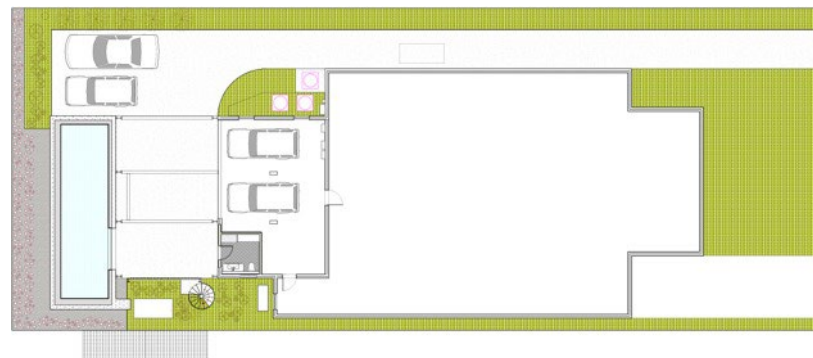
The Site Plan shows the location of the new pool, parking, and garage relative to the existing footprint of the house, as well as the driveway access from the street.

The owner's priority was to keep as much parking as possible, as there are frequently times five to six cars need to navigate this space.

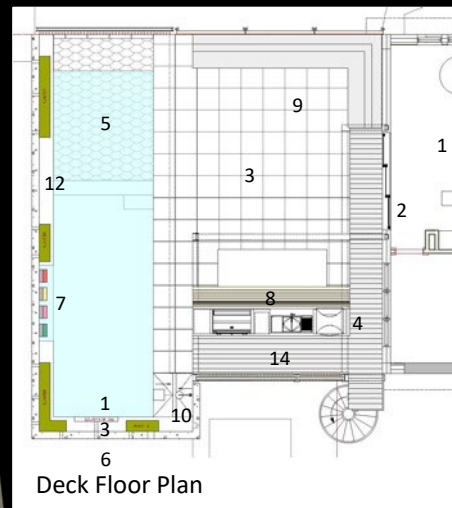
Raising the outdoor terrace allowed the house to maintain parking access while providing a direct connection between indoor and outdoor living space.



Demo Plan



Site Plan



R100.04

Above Deck

Design rendering showing intent of the project and distinguishing materials. The dappled sunlight through the pergola structure is a dramatically changing moment throughout the day.

Deck Plan

Enlarged Plan showing the new raised deck and pool.

1. Existing living room/interior
2. New multi-slide glass door
3. Ceramic deck tiles on pedestal system
4. Wood deck tiles on pedestal system help distinguish kitchen area and connection to the house
5. Tanning ledge with fishtail tile
6. Privacy wall on two sides of pool
7. Custom art installation
8. Custom dining table and built in bench seat
9. Built in bench seating
10. Outdoor shower
11. Spiral stair access to cabana bath + garage below
12. Concrete ledge with landscaping
13. Fountain
14. Wood slats match pergola design



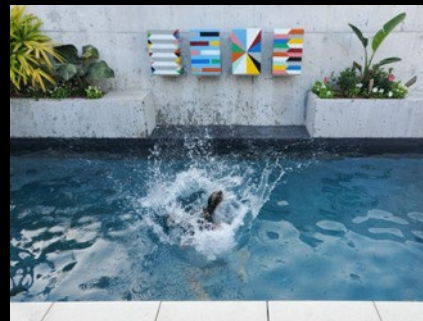
R100.05

Above Deck

The restrained modernity of the new pergola structure is set in contrast against the historic house. With a simple material palette and minimal intervention to the existing home, the addition is a respectful intervention in which the historic fabric is clearly understood.

Dramatic pendant lights in varied sizes provide ambient lighting as they sway in the breeze. LED strip lights are added to some rows of wood slats to accent those elements.

The underwater window to the garage below is visible in the pool.



R100.06

Cross Section

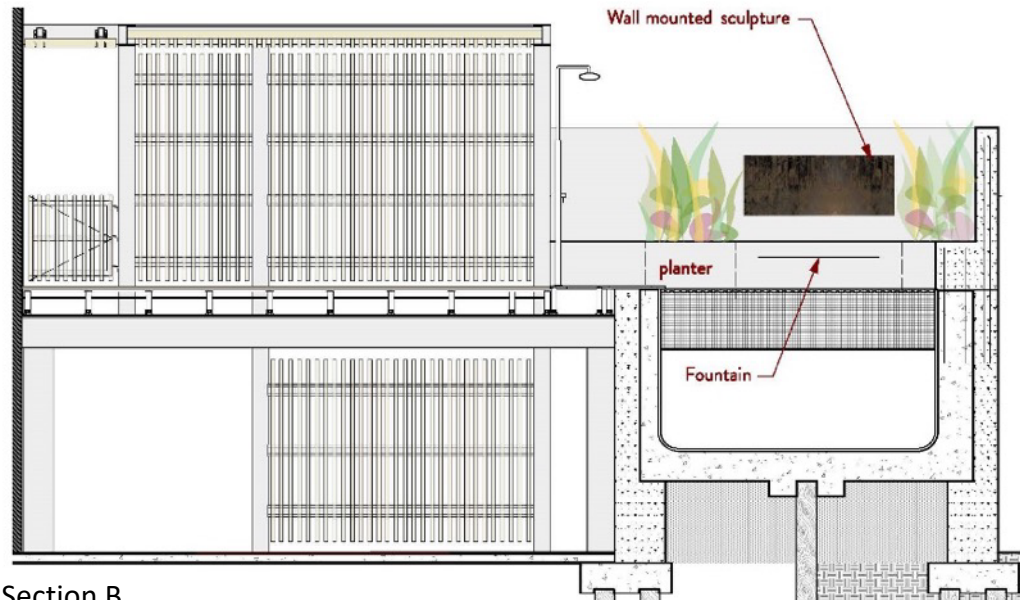
Complexity in section was a design driver in meeting the owner's goals of an outdoor space with direct connection to the interior and maintaining existing parking to the extent possible. This section shows the relationship between pool, deck + pergola, and existing house.

Also visible is the cabana bath in the garage below, which features custom millwork, towel hooks, and dark tile for a moody atmosphere.

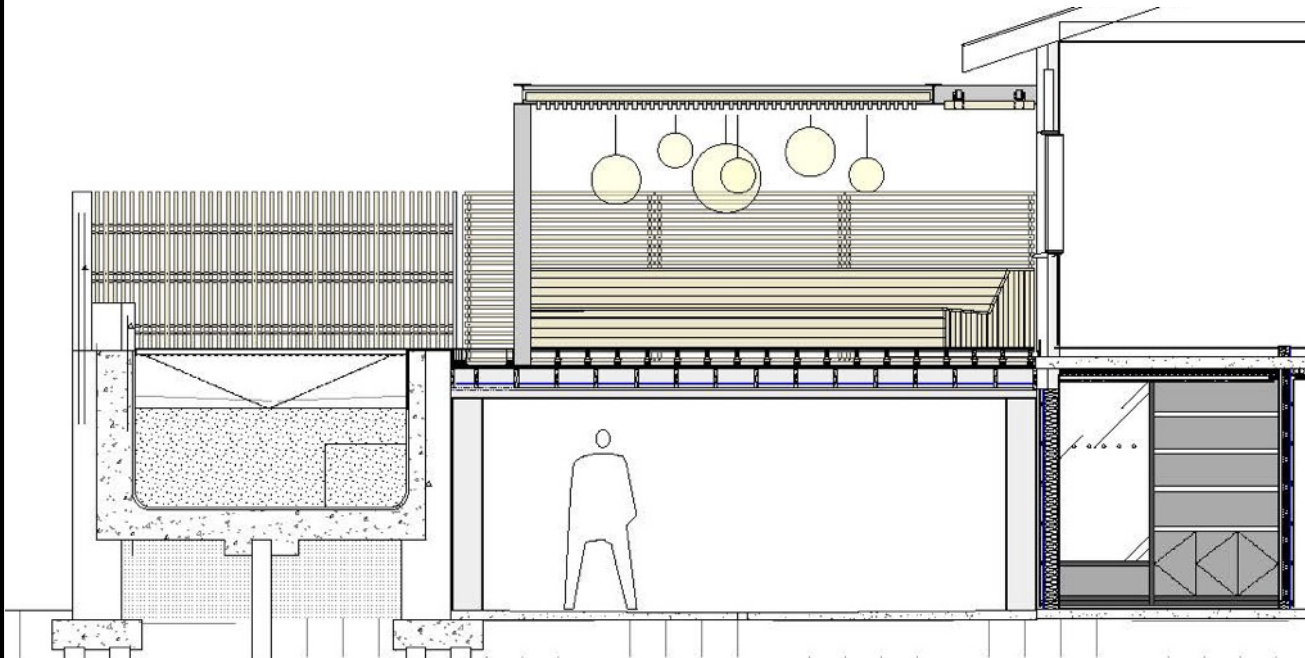
A cross section through the pool, deck, and existing house, looking toward the pergola and kitchen. Visible here is the fountain set into the concrete ledge at the end of the pool, and planning for a future outdoor art piece.

A slatted screen behind the kitchen provides privacy from neighbors, and continues at the ground floor to visually hide the pool equipment and a generator.

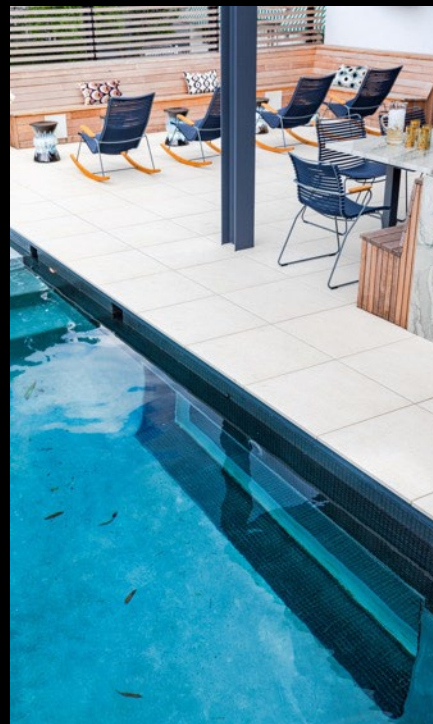
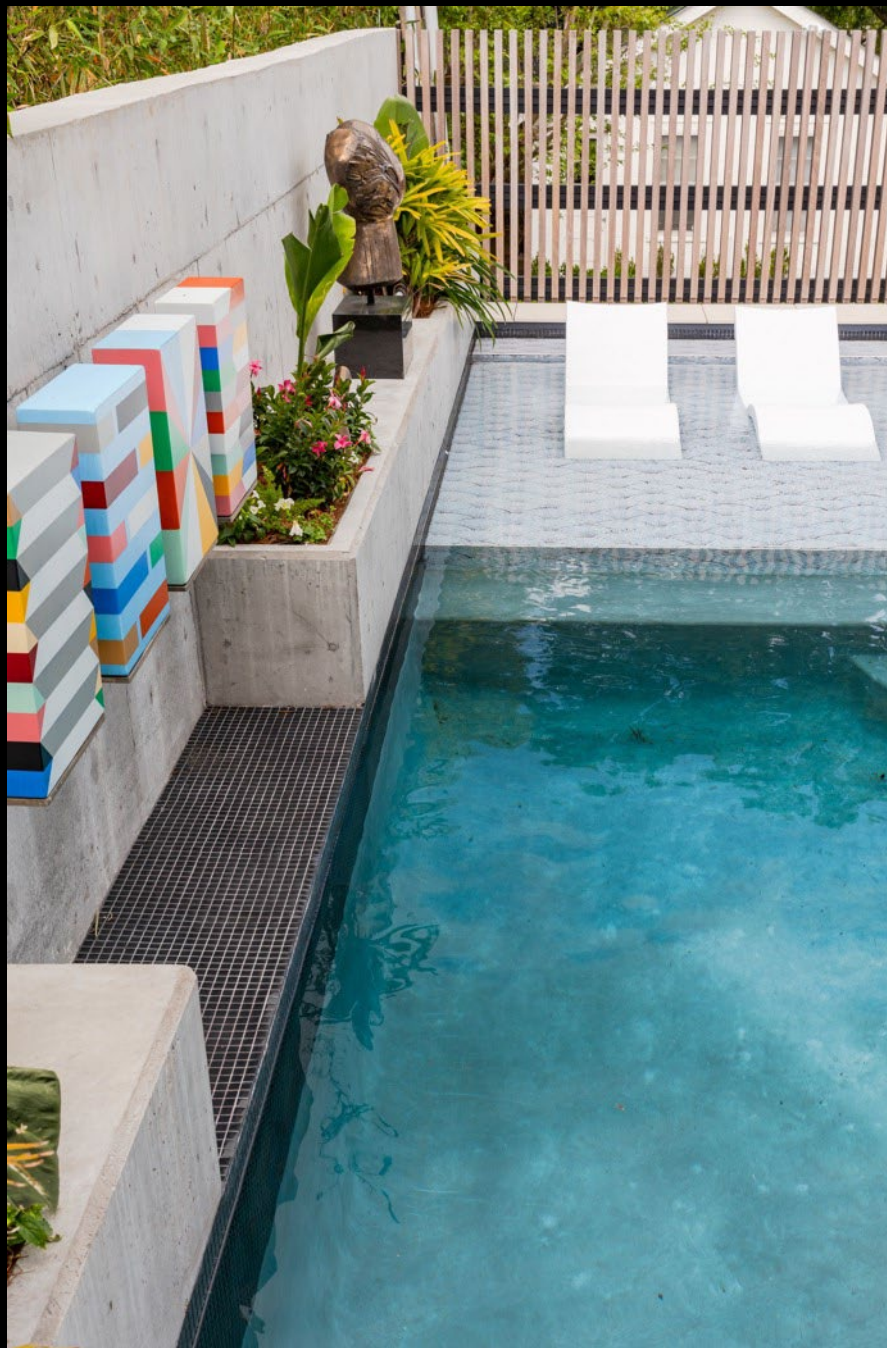
Not shown in this section is the spiral stair.



Section B



Section A



R100.07

Pool

The relationship between the pool, concrete ledge, landscaping, and artwork was carefully curated to create a movement of shapes and space that imbues the pool with a richness belied by its relatively small size.

In the lower right, the underwater window into the garage is visible, its frame filed to match the black glass waterline tile around the pool.

The window was engineered and installed by an aquarium company from Colorado, whose crew was delayed from flying in due to Covid restrictions on travel during construction.

R100.08

Pool Area

Bespoke detailing enhances the overall design in carefully planned moments.

The outdoor shower is tucked away behind the kitchen next to the pool, but isn't fully hidden.

The wrapping bench forms part of the deck edge, as well as tying the deck visually to the house. In both photos, fragments of the slatted screen elements can be seen—these are a strong visual component that repeats across the project.

Carrara marble fish scale/fan tiles on the pool's tanning ledge are enhanced by the dark grout used to tie these tiles back to the black glass mosaic waterline tiles. The cabana bath in the garage below also features fish scale tiles, but in a solid pattern.





R100.09

Kitchen

Dappled sunlight moving through the pergola creates patterns throughout the day.

The vertical wood slats behind the kitchen seen in the far right photo have been painted a vibrant ochre (matching the color of the owner's dining room, which features walls and trim in high gloss paint) on their interior sides, creating an unexpected moire effect.

White stainless steel cabinets and a quartzite top brighten up the kitchen area. The custom dining table has a steel frame painted to match the pergola, and a quartzite top to match the kitchen counter.

A built-in bench seat brings the wood into the kitchen element, along with wood decking that helps distinguish the kitchen area from the pool deck.



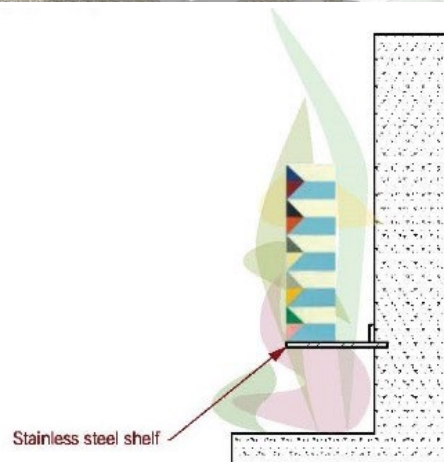
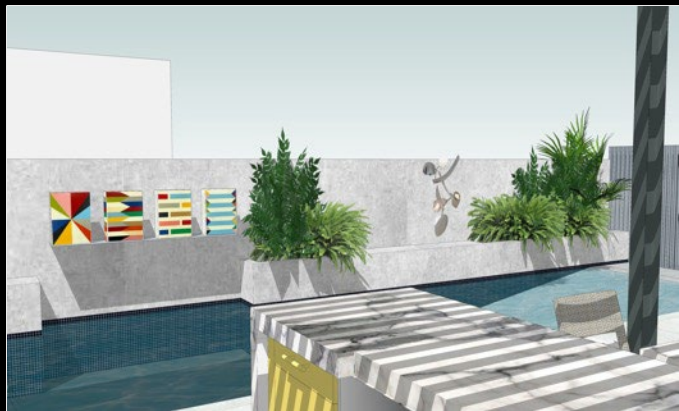
R100.10

Lighting

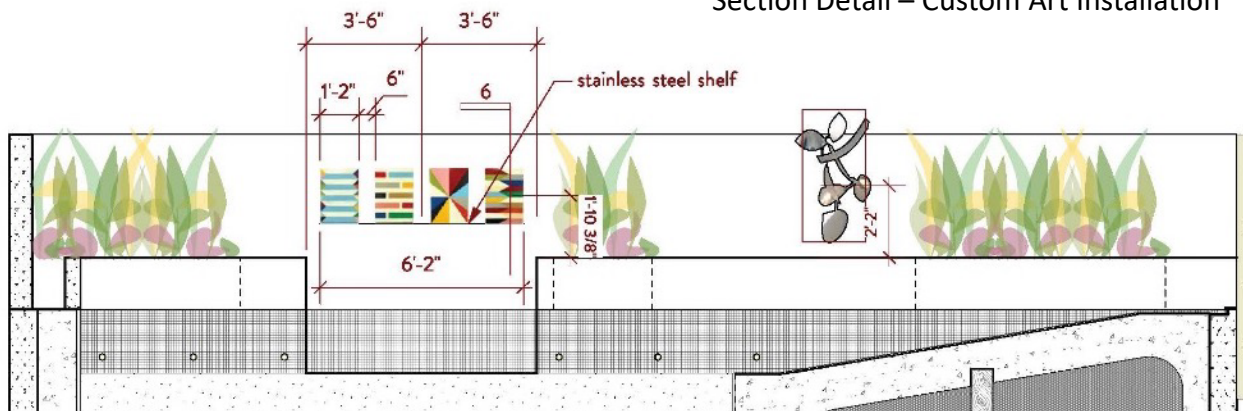
Atmospheric, dimmable LED lighting enhances the project as we move from daytime into evening and night. Hanging paper globe moon pendants in various sizes are suspended over the dining area, and can change color via mobile app. LED tape light strips in several of the pergola roof slats further enhance the geometry of those pieces.

The four contemporary painted metal Pard Morrison pieces on the concrete privacy wall are subtly backlit—these pieces are finished on four sides, so their installation needed to enhance that quality.

Other art accent lighting and landscape lighting around the pool further enhance the overall experience of the deck at night.



Section Detail – Custom Art Installation



Section Detail – Custom Art Installation

R100.11

Art

The owner's extensive art collection in her house naturally led to incorporation of new, outdoor pieces in the addition. Several sculptural pieces were contemplated, as were other flat work.

The four colorful pieces on the concrete wall by artist Pard Morrison are painted metal and finished on four sides. Displaying them so they start to be read "in the round" was the inspiration for the metal shelves designed and cast into the concrete wall.

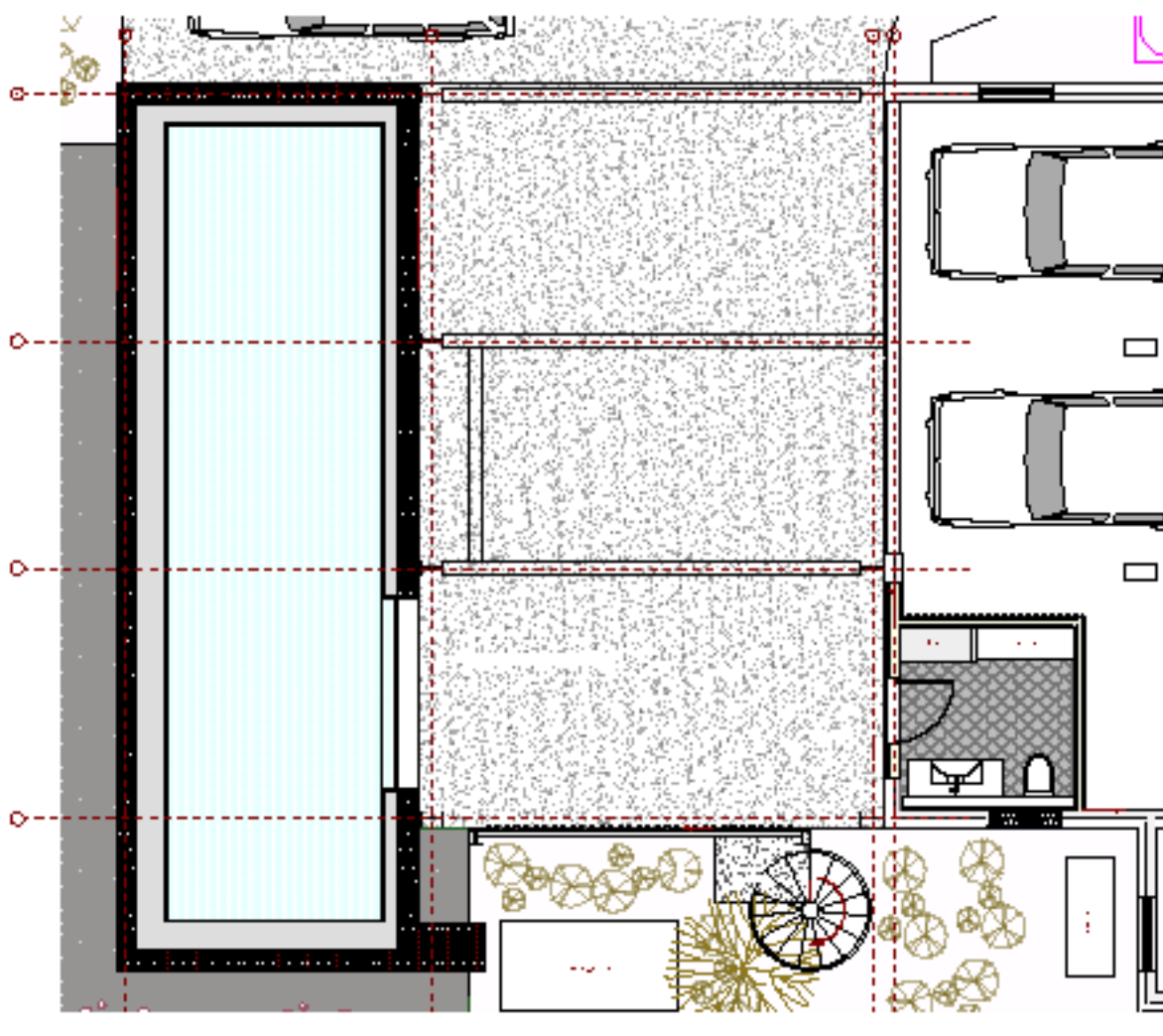
The Morrison pieces were drilled on the bottom to receive a threaded rod, which was then attached to the shelf. This detail created a gap under the piece that allows water to shed off instead of collecting around the artwork. The artist himself was impressed at the level of care taken with installation of these pieces.

R100.12

Below Deck

Detail plan of the ground floor, with existing garage shown on the right. The pool is easily seen, as is the custom peek-a-boo window into it from the covered parking area.

The modest cabana bath is tucked into a corner of the garage. Its interior is done in very dark colors, including fish scale tile (thematically carrying on the pool tile), and painted custom millwork for towel and sunblock storage. The door is a custom pivoting door of polycarbonate, and the bath is clad on the exterior with the same white perforated metal as the underside of the deck.



Below Deck Floor Plan



R100.13

Below Deck

One of the defining features of the project was the custom fabricated peek-a-boo window from the covered parking area into the pool, below the waterline. This oversized opening was formed into the concrete, and the window engineered and installed by an aquarium specialist from Colorado.

From the window, a hazy view of the tanning ledge, landscaping, and artwork is visible through the water, and its form anchors the corner of this parking area, creating space for hanging out away from the bustle of the deck above.

The slats to the left visually hide the pool equipment and generator.

Project Name:
Audubon Pool

Project Location:
New Orleans, LA

Owner/Client:
Shelly Pecot

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

Project Team:
Tracie Ashe
Alyce Deshotels

Landscape Architect:
Roussell Outdoors

Consultants:
Robert B. Anderson Consulting Engineers
LLC

General Contractor:
Yazoo Restorations

Photographer(s):
(please list which specific slides get credited to each
photographer(s) listed).

Photos of existing conditions
Slide 2
Owner

Photos of 2021 Addition & Renovations
Slides 3-13
Sara Essex Bradley

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Credit Slide