

NARI MINNESOTA - 2025 ROTY AWARDS

PROJECT: MIDWEST LAKE HOME

CATEGORY: ENTIRE HOUSE OVER \$1M

Our client wished to remodel this 1980 house to create a multigenerational home, lakeside retreat, and art gallery. Skylights were installed with exposed collar ties to create light wells and an airy space streaming in natural light. A translucent polycarbonate floor floats atop a slatted entry ceiling to hold a Fir-paneled meditation room that casts shadows as the sun passes. Our client's design skills contributed to multiple artistic features, both modest and eye-catching, that inspire subtle details throughout the home. A screen porch was added on the lakeside for plein air dining. New triple-pane windows flood the home with light and open views to the lake and trees on the wooded property. White Ash floors throughout, two built-in Basswood benches, and two free-standing Oak tables are an homage to the trees that had to be removed from the property. Hinoki shoji screens and a Japanese ofuro tub enhance the tranquil atmosphere in this space. This project is the culmination of architectural design, artistic vision, a distinctive zen aesthetic, and a collaborative approach to building that has created myriad spaces that will bring this family joy for generations to come.

CLIENT NEEDS:

- Maximizing views and natural light
- Aging in place
- Flexible spaces for hosting guests
- Earthy tones reflecting the property
- Sustainable materials and systems

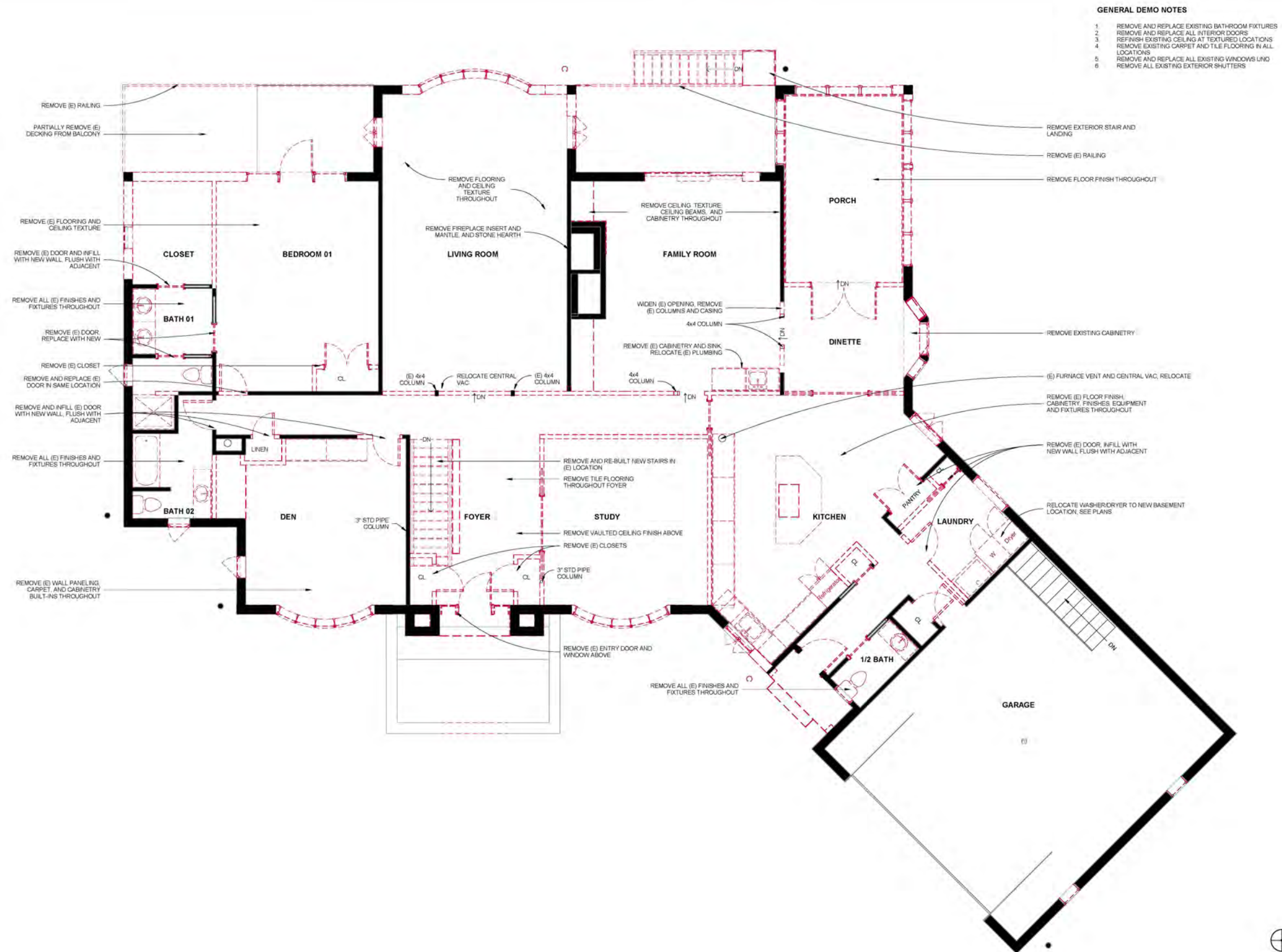


BEFORE PHOTOS

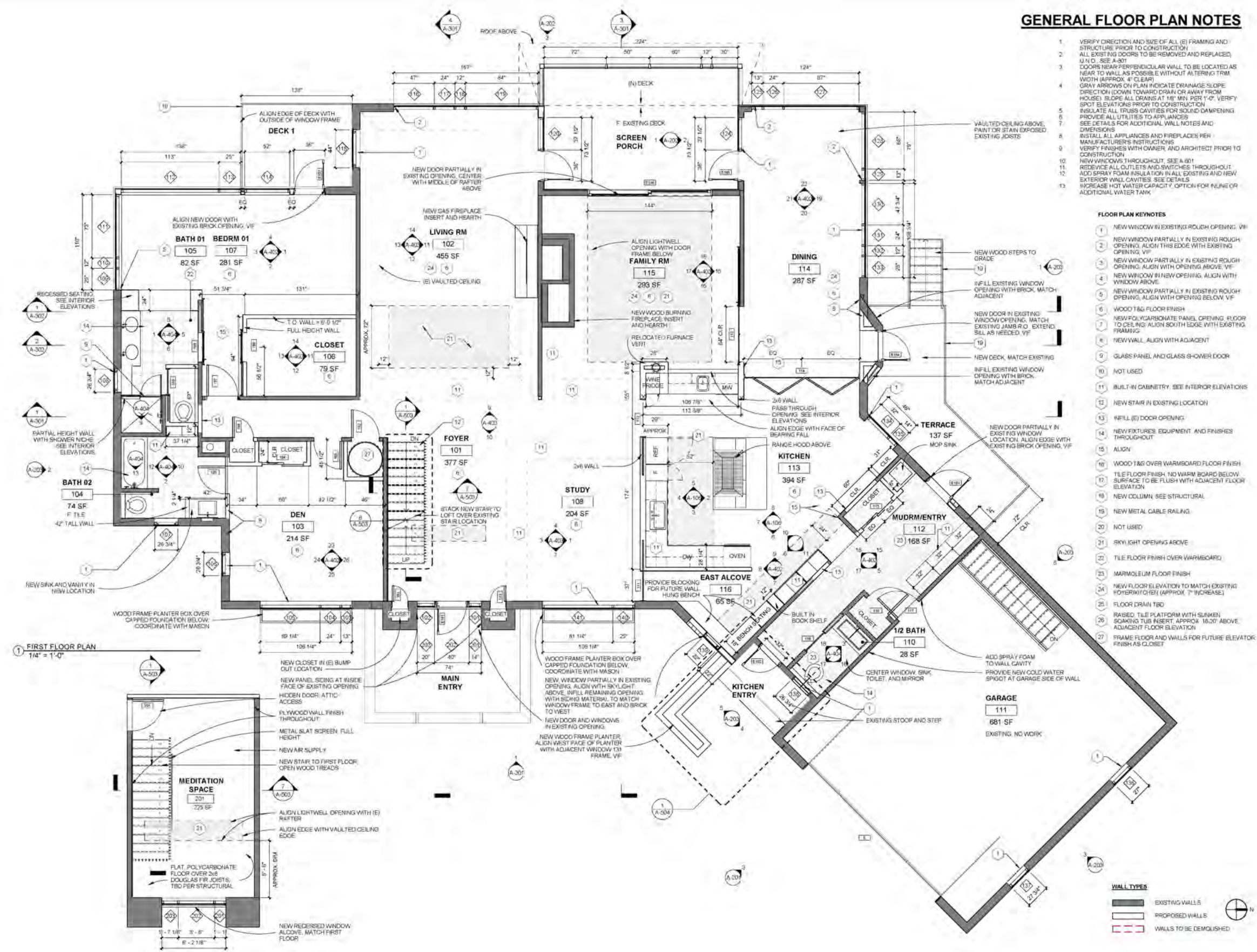


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MAIN LEVEL DEMO PLAN

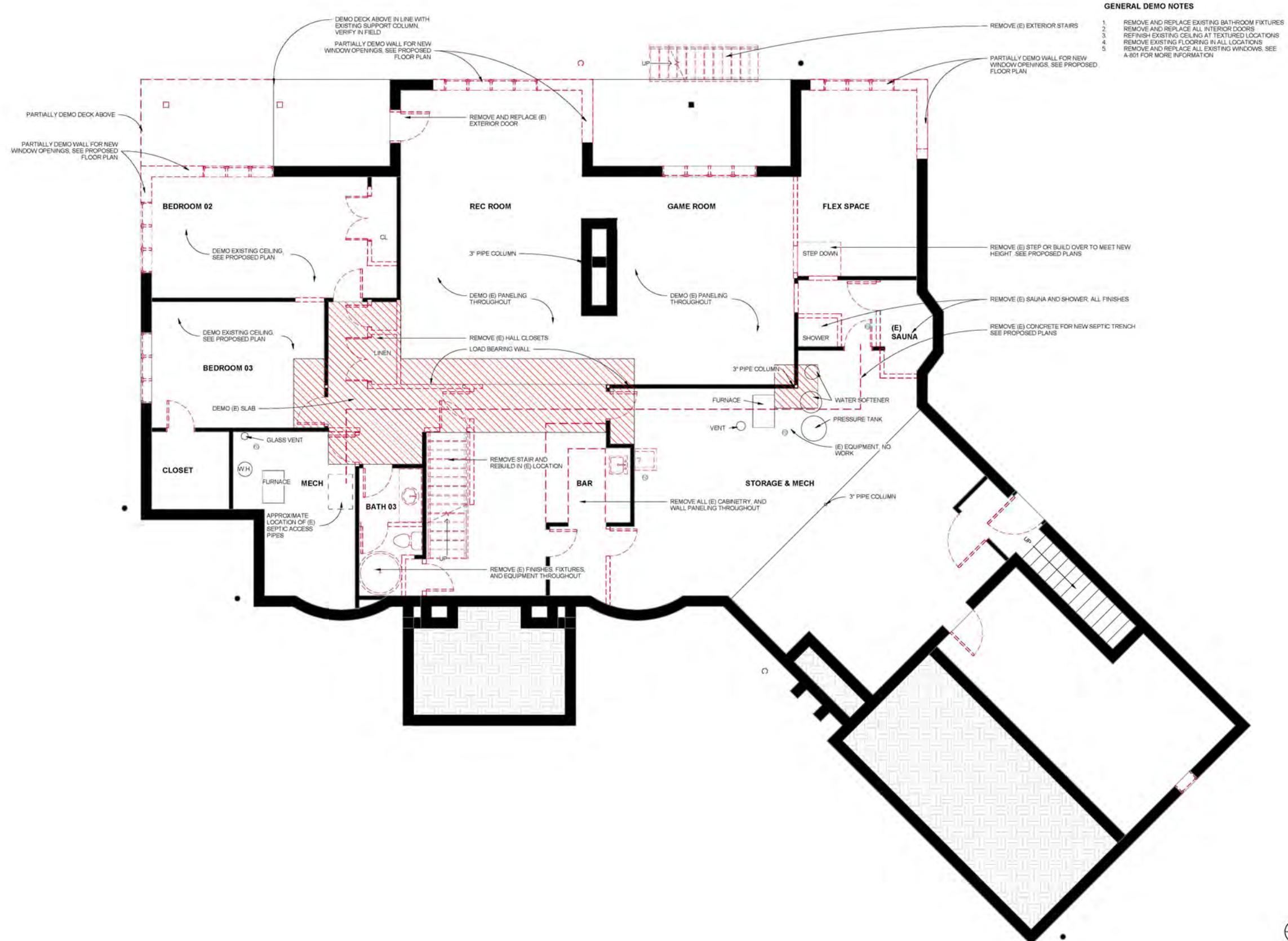


MAIN LEVEL FLOOR PLAN

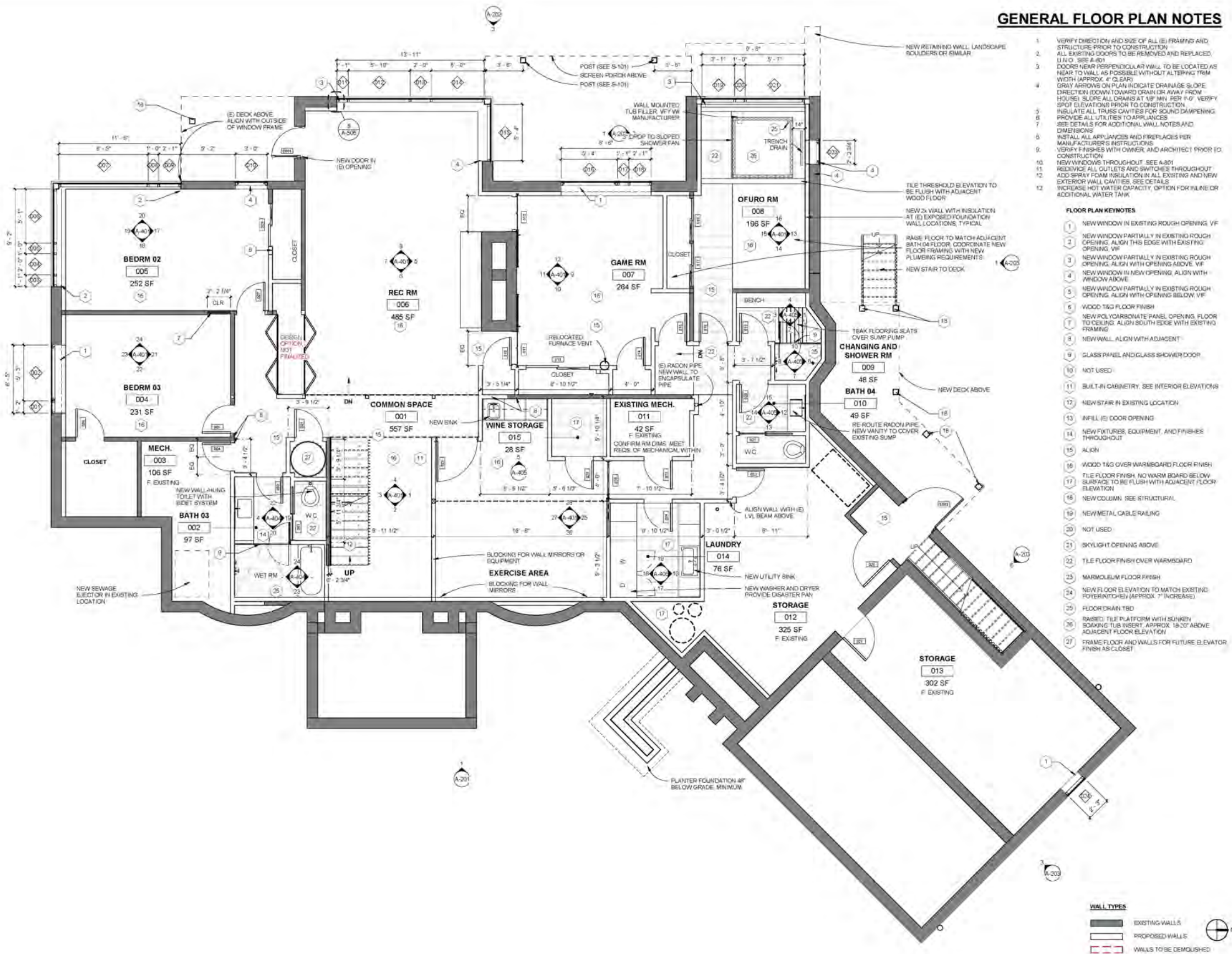


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LOWER LEVEL DEMO PLAN



LOWER LEVEL FLOOR PLAN



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BEFORE AND AFTER



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BEFORE AND AFTER



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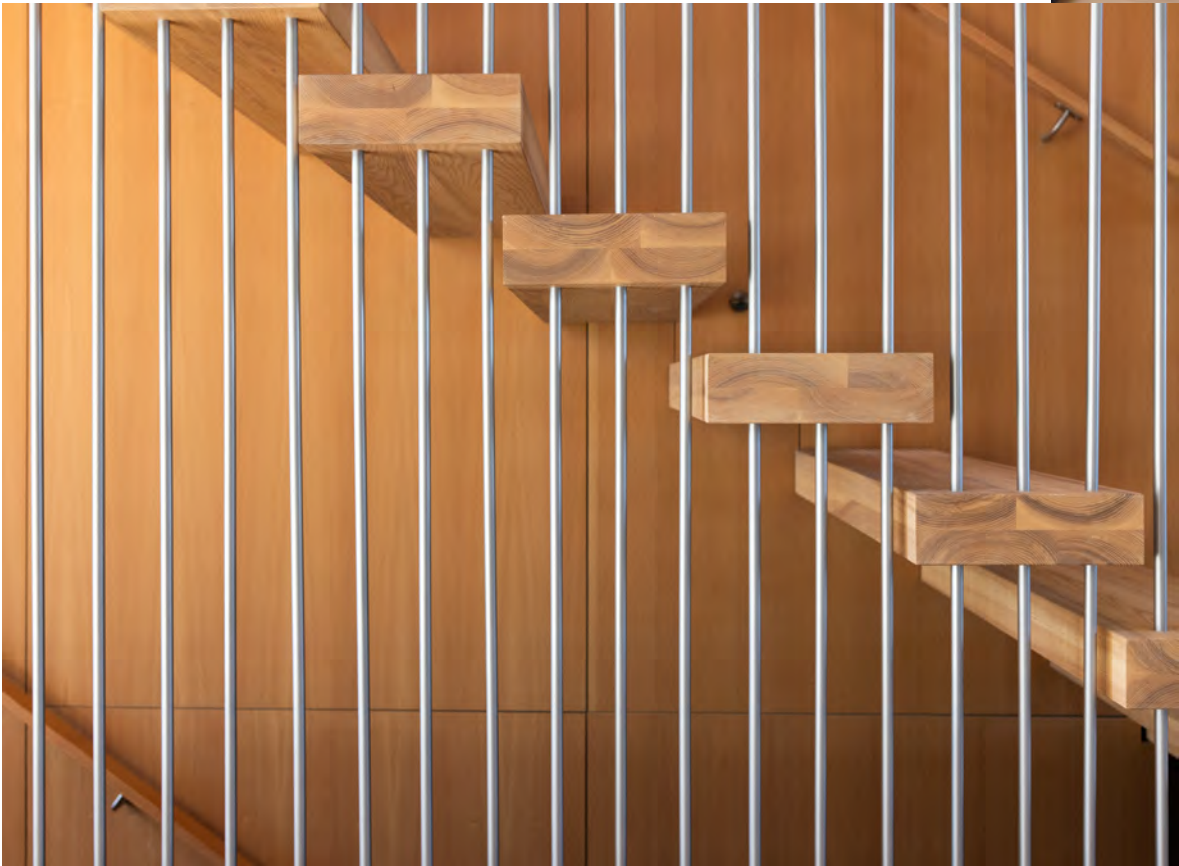
FUNCTIONALITY

- raise sunken floors in living and family rooms
- added elevator
- shoji screens provide flexibility for use of space
- added skylights with lightwells
- double dishwasher and sink for entertaining
- curbless shower in primary suite
- whole house lighting controls
- whole house sound system
- retractable screen in home theater
- heated floors throughout basement
- strip-lighting under stepdown into basement rec room



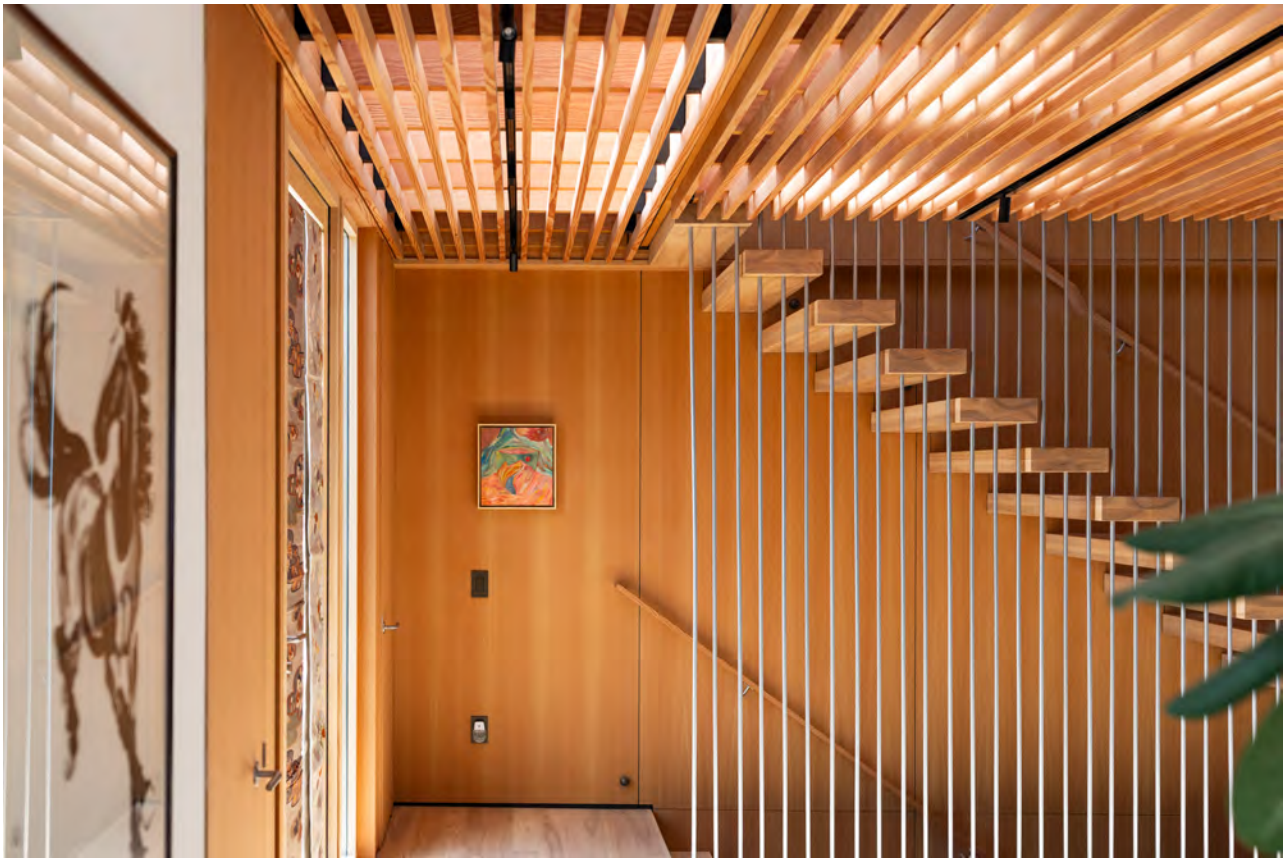
AESTHETICS

- flush headers at all interior doors
- trim-less millwork details
- vertical grain doug fir wall and ceiling finish
- floor to ceiling curtain walls
- light-wells with exposed framing
- moon chair
- custom steel floating stair system with white ash treads



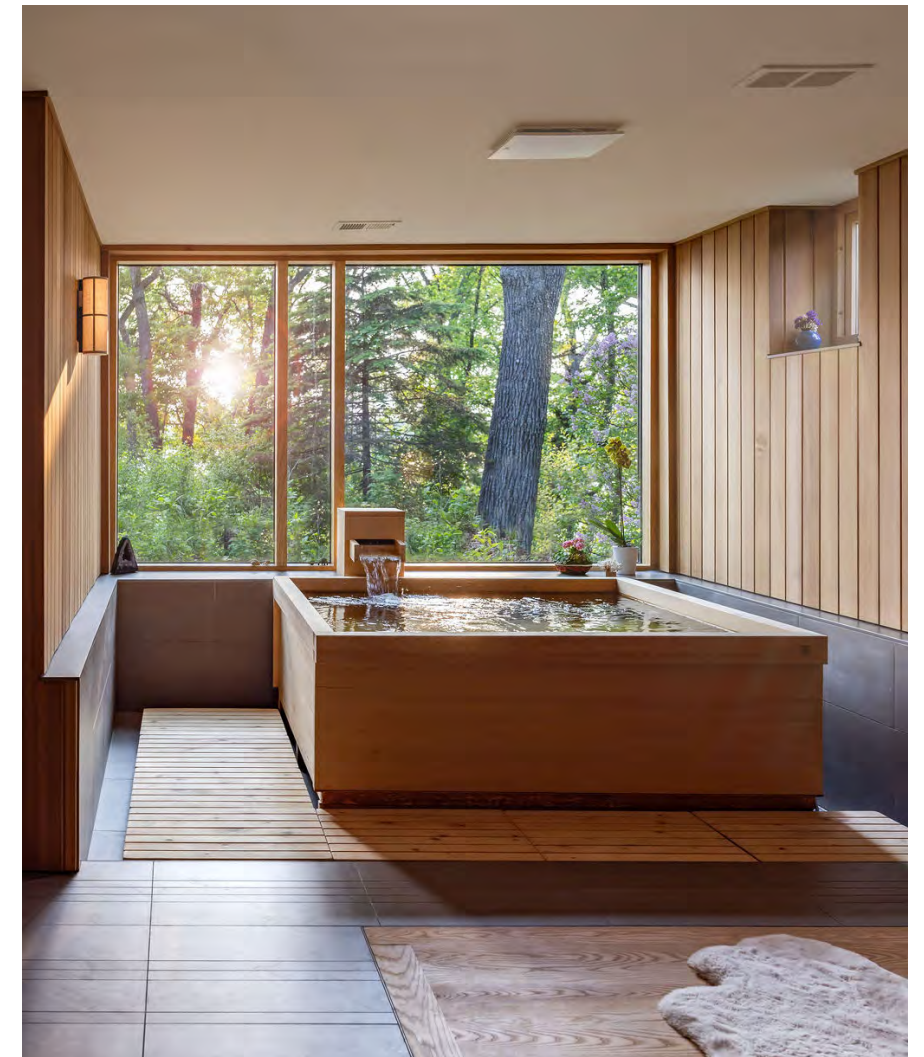
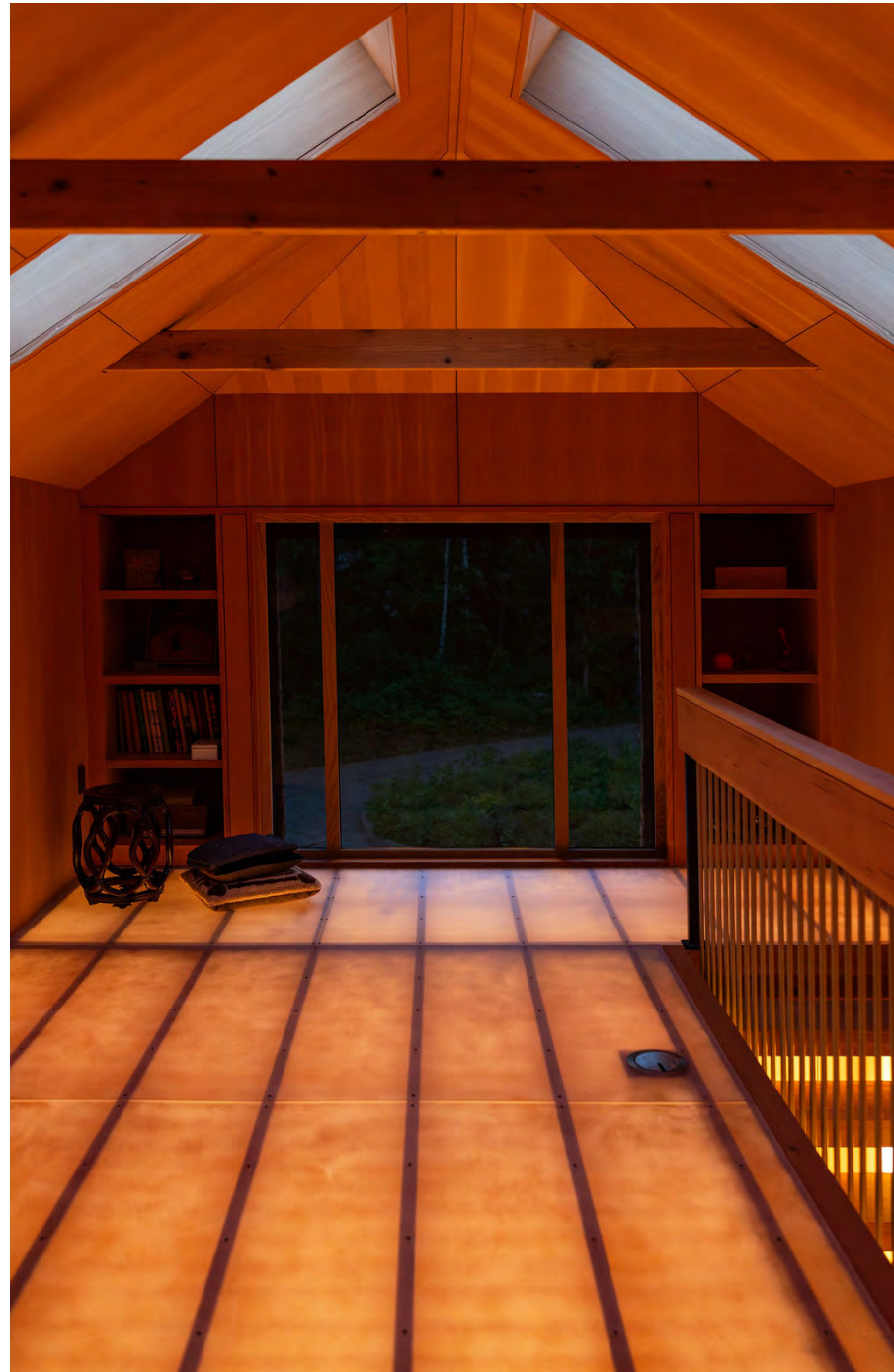
CRAFSTSMANSHIP

- finish for the moon chair and mini moon
- lantern ceiling in front entry
- live edge benches and shelving made from trees harvested on site
- Venetian plaster and Minnesota Kasota limestone fireplace details



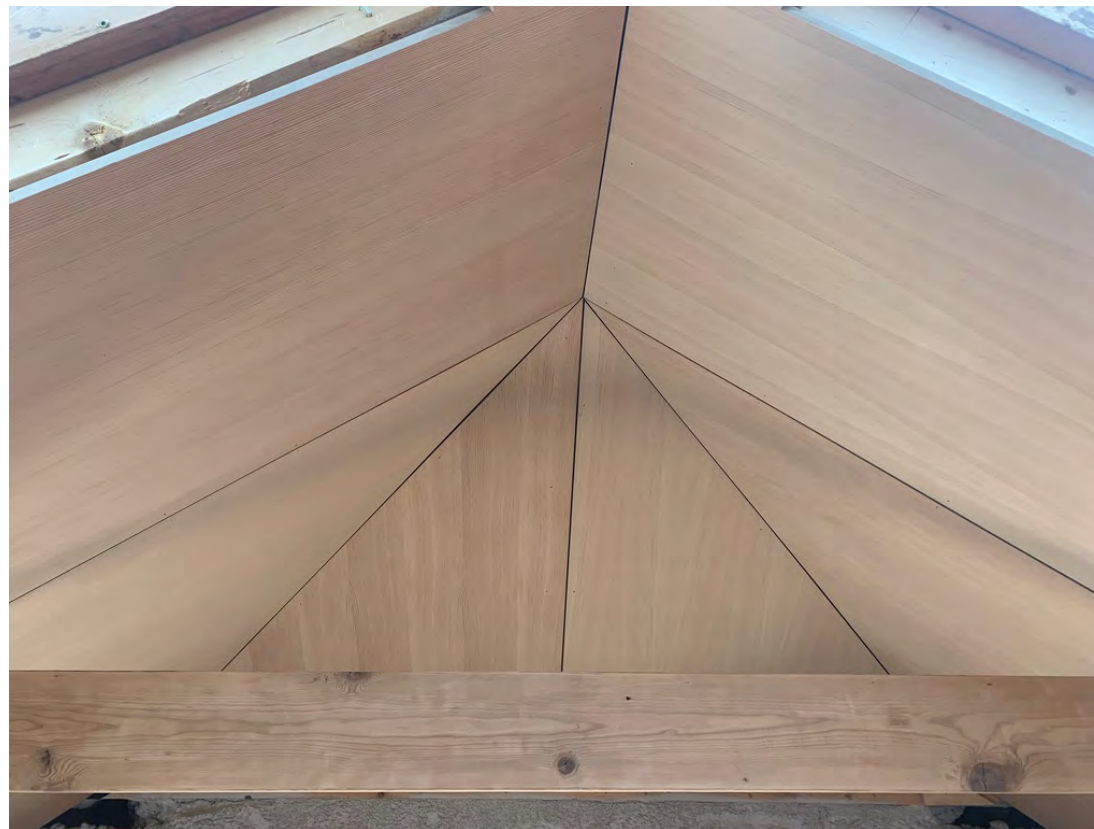
INNOVATION

- custom hinoki wood ofuro tub as spa system
- adapting custom shoji screens to function as pocket doors
- lantern floor design and implementation
- trapeze art lighting in dining room



PROJECT CHALLENGES

- building curtain wall windows on site
- site engineering and assembly of floating stairs
- Geometry of panelled ceiling in meditation space
- ofuro tub spa system
- lead time for internationally sourced materials
- real-time design collaboration with client



CONSTRUCTION PHOTOS



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