



work in progress

ambition - a house in a house in a ...

SET IN A RURAL AREA AROUND THE CITY OF HERENTALS, SURROUNDED BY FARMLANDS WITH GREAT VIEWS, THE HOUSE HAS A RECOGNIZABLE BARN-LIKE SHAPE, THE CHARACTER OF WHICH IS LARGELY DEFINED BY ITS TRADITIONAL ROOFS AND THE USE OF FLEMISH BRICKS.

THE ATYPICAL POSITIONING OF THE WINDOWS PREDICTS A RELATIVELY COMPLEX INNER ORGANIZATION AND AIMS TO GIVE THE OBJECT A SLIGHTLY MYSTERIOUS, YET CURIOUSLY FAMILIAR QUALITY.

A RECEDING WALL DIRECTS TO A SHELTERED ENTRANCE. ON ENTERING THE HOUSE ONE TURNS 90 DEGREES, THEN FOLLOWS A NARROWING CORRIDOR BEFORE ARRIVING IN THE SPACIOUS CENTRAL LIVING ROOM THAT DEFINES THE HEART OF THE BUILDING AND ITS DOMESTIC LIFE.

FROM THIS ENCLOSED SPACE A CANOPY FRAMES THE VIEW TO A QUIET GARDEN ON THE WEST. A FEW STEPS HIGHER THE SALON OFFERS A GENEROUS VIEW OF THE FIELDS. TO THE SOUTH THE LARGE KITCHEN WINDOWS OPEN UP TO THE GARDEN.

THERE IS ALSO A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UPPER FLOOR THROUGH A VIDE. FROM BELOW HOWEVER, THE ORGANISATION OF THE UPPER FLOOR REMAINS CONCEALED AS IF TO GIVE THE HOUSE THE KIND OF LABYRINTHIC QUALITY OF EDIFICES ONE CAN FIND IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

WALKING THROUGH THE ROOMS THERE IS A PROGRESSION OF LIGHT LEVEL CHANGES, SCALE ADJUSTMENTS, AND USE OF TACTILE MATERIALS. THIS ENCOURAGES A RICH SENSORIAL AWARENESS AND CONFRONTS THE INHABITANTS WITH THE REALITY OF CHANGING LIGHT THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND THE SEASONS.

A SECOND BUILDING (GARAGE AND STORAGE SPACE) IS POSITIONED IN THE BACK WITHOUT SACRIFICING ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MAIN BUILDING. IT DIVIDES THE GARDEN INTO 2 AREAS: AN OUTSIDE SPACE BETWEEN THE MAIN AND THE SECONDARY BUILDING (SIMILAR TO THE ONES IN OLD FARMS THAT CAN BE SEEN IN THE AREA) AND THE REMAINDER OF THE GARDEN, WHICH CAN BE DISCOVERED FURTHER DOWN THE PLOT.



farms in the neighbourhood

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