

Architecture HONOR

Architect: Allied Works Architecture

Project: Guest House, Dutchess County, NY

Client: N/A

A couple who collects contemporary art wanted a weekend residence, a guest house, and a private art barn/gallery to be built on their 350-acre site in the Hudson River Valley. The 1,300-square-foot guest house is sited along an embankment overlooking a creek, within a grove of mature oak, hickory, and birch trees. Its articulated frame of blackened-steel square tubing establishes a field within the landscape that orders the placement of the principal one-story volumes and evokes the branching structure of the surrounding forest.



The sinuous configuration of this structural line pulls the landscape through the two-bedroom house and extends the interior space out onto the landscape. These spaces are defined by folded wood surfaces that partially occupy each structural bay and shift in relation to one another, creating moments of synchronicity and tension between the house and the forest beyond.

The frame adjoining the living/dining room floats above a sea of grasses and ferns, as does the cantilevered outdoor frame adjoining the master bedroom. The guest house is nearby yet far enough from the main house to give both a sense of privacy.



Jury: "The way it sits lightly on and nestles into the land drew our attention. The frame is a ghost of the house itself, extending into the landscape like unoccupied rooms. It reminded us of a Sol LeWitt sculpture. It's a beautiful little house."

Allied Works Architecture Team: Brad Cloepfil, AIA, Kyle Lommen, Aron Himmelfarb, John Clappi, Dori Raskin, Daniel Richmond, Glenn Tucker
Structural Engineer: Robert Silman Associates
MEP Engineer: Tucker Associates Consulting Engineers
Exterior Enclosure Consultant: R.A. Heintges & Associates
General Contractor: Berkshire Wilton Partners
Lighting Design Consultant: George Sexton Associates
Landscape Architect: Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates
Artist: Lawrence Welner

