

Amenity in Urban Revival

Urban Dwell

Proxemics - Territoriality - Privacy

370



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House CM

Bruno Vanbesien + Christophe Meersman

This new house was built on an open lot in between two houses dating from the second half of the twentieth century. It is the result of the successful cooperation between the architect and the owner, an architect assistant himself.

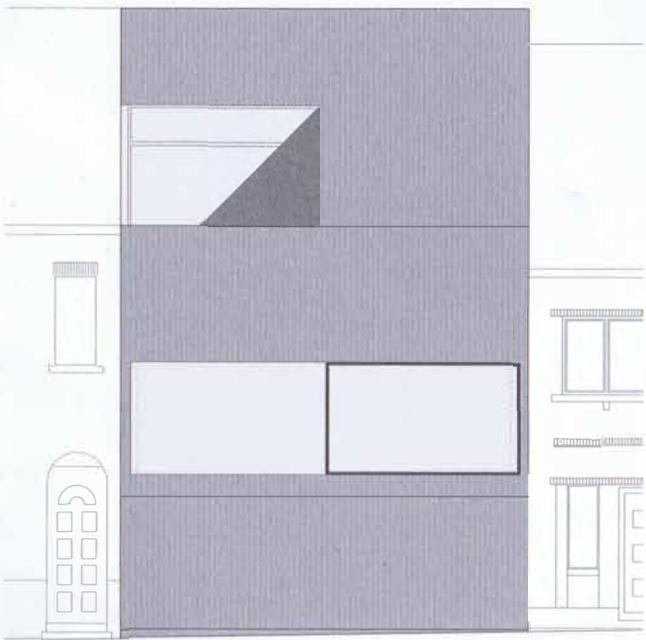
Although the facade seems to suggest that behind its Afromosia paneling only two floors are hidden, in reality this is a far bigger house. The big window in front, evenly balanced between the two ground floor and the first floor, complicates an unambiguous reading of the layout even more. From the start, the design-team opted for a discrete facade, harmoniously linked with the neighboring houses. This can further be seen in the camouflaging of both the front door and the garage. The placing of the front window proves to be more than an aesthetically pleasing solution. The large window placed on a pedestal brings the rooms on both ground and first floor a combination of much welcomed privacy and luxurious reclusion from the street.

The wooden paneling in tropical hardwood decorates the front facade but also covers the roof and the back of the house thus creating harmony and unity in the use of materials. The same discreetness and reservedness is not to be found in the back of the house. There the architect has chosen to pursue a maximum of transparency and flexibility and to give free expression to the personality of the owner. The large windows on the ground but also on the first floor can be opened up wide so that the transition between in/out becomes blurred. This playful treatment of in- and outside is best witnessed in the use of the terrace next to the bedroom on the second floor. There the glass door can slide away to make room for the bed which can be rolled outside to sleep under the stars. The natural stone floor composed of basalt tiles in the different rooms as well as the terraces outside maximize this effect even more.

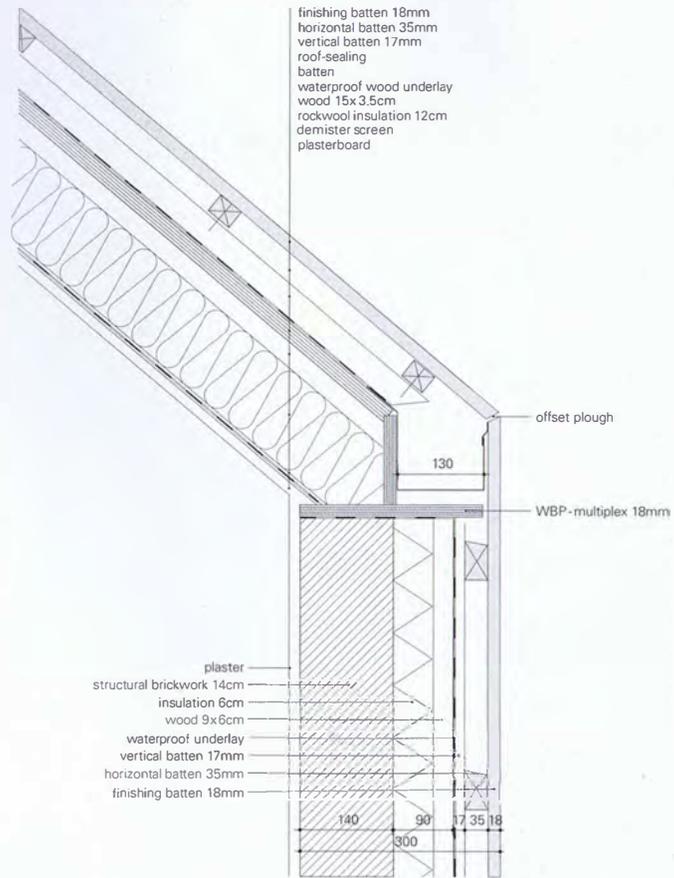
Inside one cannot but notice the metal staircase. Its construction is kept light to bring a maximum of light from the light shaft directly above the staircase to the stories below. The aluminum frame of the light shaft is hid between plaster so that only the glass remains visible making it a very decorative element in the house. All interior elements (kitchen, bathroom, lighting, furniture) were designed with the architecture in mind. The strict alignment of the furniture, the inventiveness of the design and the use of selected materials further accentuate the architecture and gives it extra luster.







south-east elevation



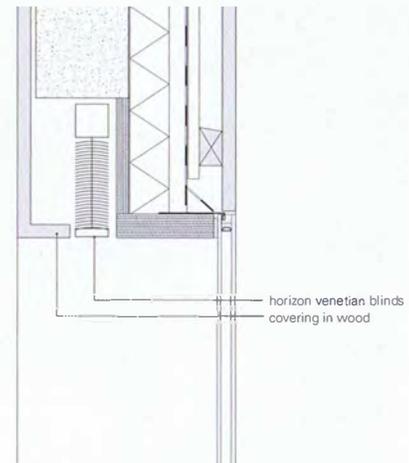
finishing batten 18mm
horizontal batten 35mm
vertical batten 17mm
roof-sealing
batten
waterproof wood underlay
wood 15x3.5cm
rockwool insulation 12cm
demister screen
plasterboard

offset plough

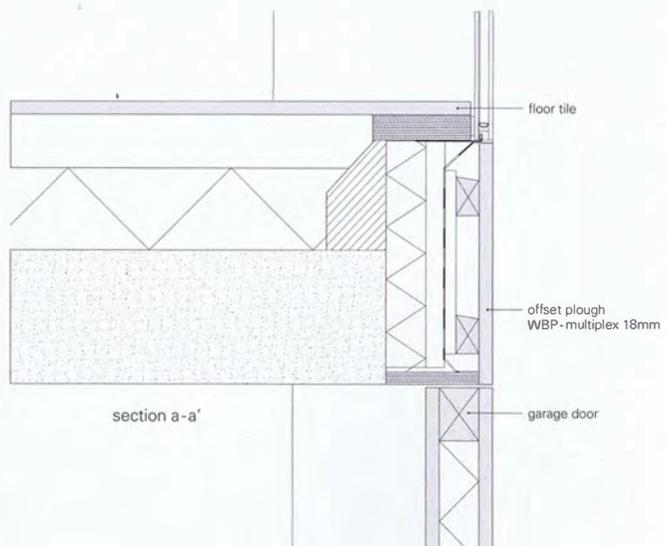
WBP-multiplex 18mm

plaster
structural brickwork 14cm
insulation 6cm
wood 9x6cm
waterproof underlay
vertical batten 17mm
horizontal batten 35mm
finishing batten 18mm

140 90 17 35 18
300



horizon venetian blinds
covering in wood



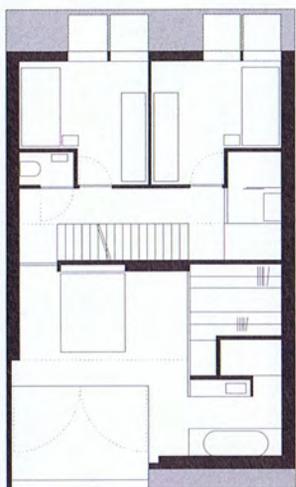
section a-a'

floor tile

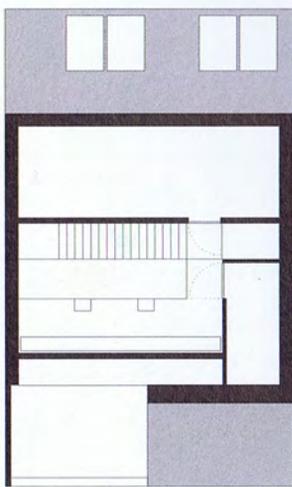
offset plough
WBP-multiplex 18mm

garage door



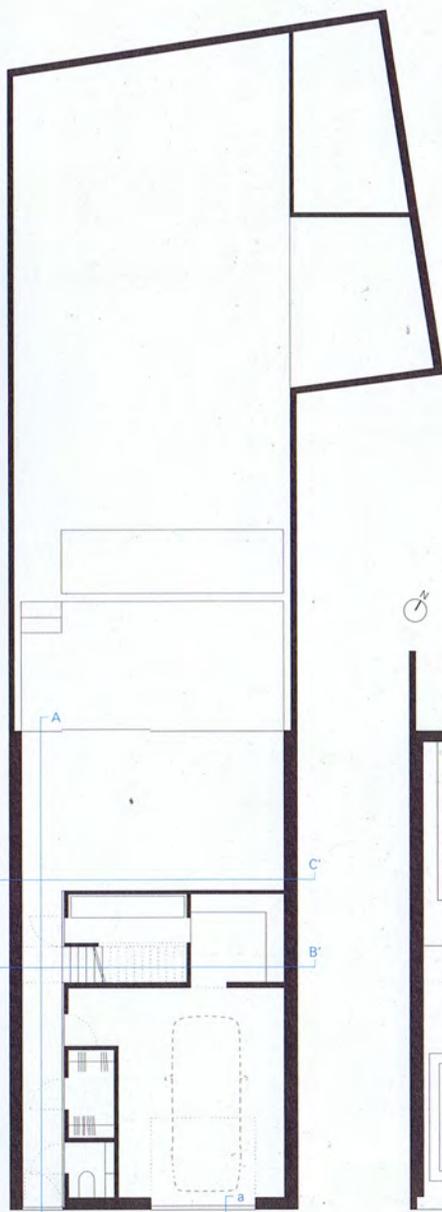


second floor

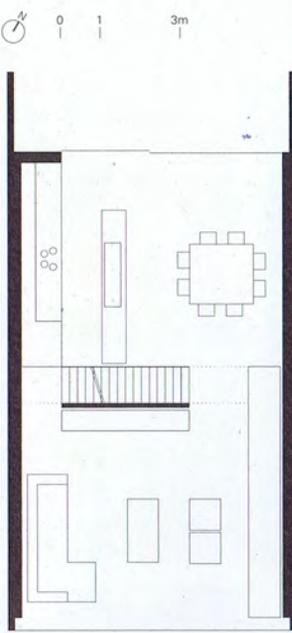


third floor

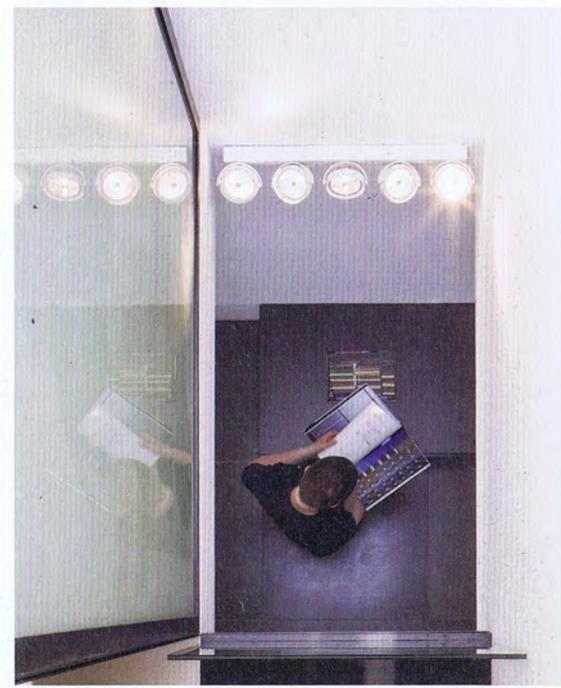
Project: House CM
Location: Zellik, Belgium
Architects: Bruno Vanbesien, Christophe Meersman
Project architect: Christophe Meersman
Site area: 220m²
Completion: 2011
Photograph: ©Tim Van de Velde (courtesy of the architect)



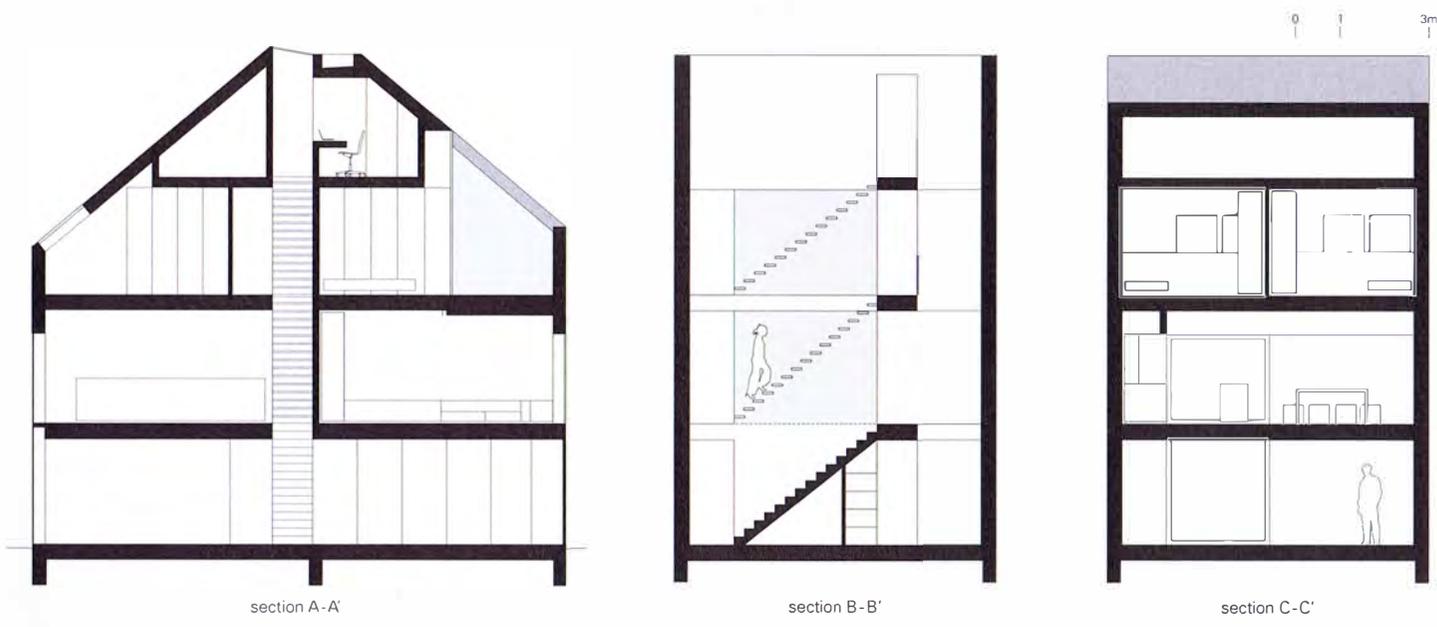
ground floor



first floor







section A-A'

section B-B'

section C-C'

CM 주택

벨기에 브뤼셀 인근에는 여러 집이 한 치의 틈도 없이 뽀뽀하게 늘어진 주택가가 있다. 이 중 20세기 후반에 지어진 건물들 사이에 새롭게 들어선 나무 주택이 유독 눈에 띈다. 사용된 자재는 다르지만, 기존 건물과 나름의 조화를 이루고자 한 모습이 돋보인다. 특히, 도로에 면한 부분은 보이는 형태와 크기, 그리고 풍기는 분위기마저 이웃과 함께해야 했다. 주변 건물의 높이의 맞춰 4층 규모로 계획했으며, 박공지붕 형태를 그대로 따른다. 대신 주변 건물의 가로 패턴 입면을 버리고 아프리카산 가구용 재목인 아프로모지아 판자로 세로 패턴 입면을 구성했다. 목재가 가지는 무늬와 색깔, 분위기 모두 차별하여 전혀 위화감이 없다. 대놓고 출입구를 드러내는 이웃집과는 달리 2층의 전면 창을 제외하고 모든 개구부를 감췄다. 입면과 같은 목재로 이루어진 정문과 차고 문은 마치 위장이라도 한 듯하다.

정면과 달리 배면에는 투명성과 유연성을 최대한으로 부여했다. 외부의 간섭없이 가족들만이 누릴 수 있는 마당과 마주하고 있기 때문이다. 2층 높이까지 전면이 유리로 되어있어 공간의 개방감이 더해진다. 2층을 제외하고 모든 층은 외부와 물리적으로 이어진다. 1층은 마당으로, 3층과 4층은 외부 테라스로 연결된다. 대신 2층은 정면과 배면 모두 열려있다. 하지만 어느 정도 높이가 있어 프라이버시가 침해에 관한 걱정은 전혀 필요가 없다. 중앙 계단실도 주목하지 않을 수 없다. 계단실 위에 천장을 내려 풍부한 채광이 이루어지도록 했으며, 맨 아래층까지 빛이 닿을 수 있도록 하기 위해 금속과 같이 최대한 단순하고 가벼운 구조를 택했다. 계단실을 포함해 실내를 구성하는 건축적인 요소는 하나같이 작품이 된다. 외부에서는 깔끔하게 유리면만 보이게끔 계획한 알루미늄 창틀과 독창적인 디자인의 가구, 조명 등은 모두 주택을 더욱 돋보이게 하는 요소다.



