

CABAÑA LANALHUE

(LESS THAN ZERO)

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Contulmo, Chile
2014 - 2015



In this small summer house, completely built in an analogous way, the hand-drawn grid-sheet schemes replaced technical drawings and the conversation between architect and builder made specifications unnecessary, demonstrating that the common language of vernacular construction allows us to rethink current production processes in architecture.

KEYWORDS · wood, house, barn, analogous, minimal

“Nothing unusual”, was the premise for designing this cabin located on the banks of Lake Lanalhue. Realized in a completely analogous way, its execution depended mainly on one person and his empiric experience.

The project was defined by assuming the conventions, material availability, and feasibility of construction in the place including felling the non-native trees in the site. In general, products from the general market available in the nearby town were used only for technical aspects.

Instead of specifying a design, the concrete construction possibilities were agreed upon with a local builder (informal contractor), opting for a small barn-like dwelling. This resulted in an archetypal extruded section



Referencias del contexto / Reference images taken from the context © Juan Pablo Corvalán

«But this road doesn't go anywhere,» I told him.
 «That doesn't matter.»
 «What does?» I asked, after a little while.
 «Just that we're on it, dude,» he said.

(Ellis, 1985)

Arquitecto / Architect
 Juan Pablo Corvalán, Susuka

Ubicación / Location
 Lago Lanalhue, Las Quilas, Contulmo, Chile

Construcción / Building contractor
 Valentín Puente

Materiales / Materials
 madera / wood

Presupuesto / Cost
 USD\$260 / m²

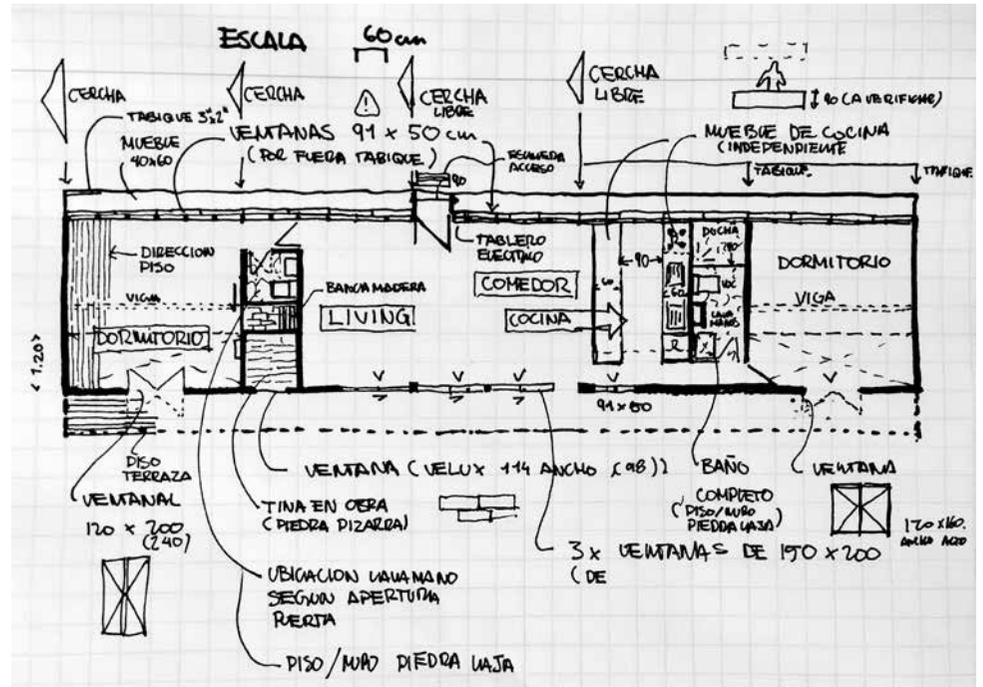
Superficie construida / Built area
 88 m²

Superficie terreno / Site area
 10.000 m²

Año de Proyecto / Project year
 2014 - 2015

Año de construcción / Construction year
 2014 - 2015

Planta de proyecto / Project's plan
 Escala / Scale: ver en dibujo / see drawing



BIBLIOGRAFÍA / BIBLIOGRAPHY

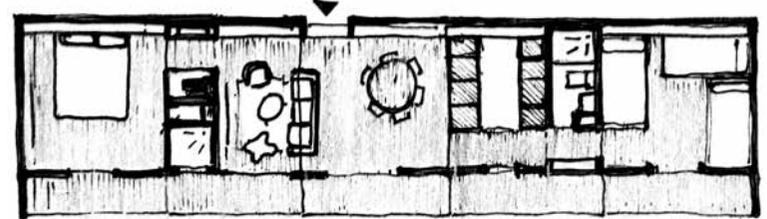
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JUAN PABLO CORVALÁN

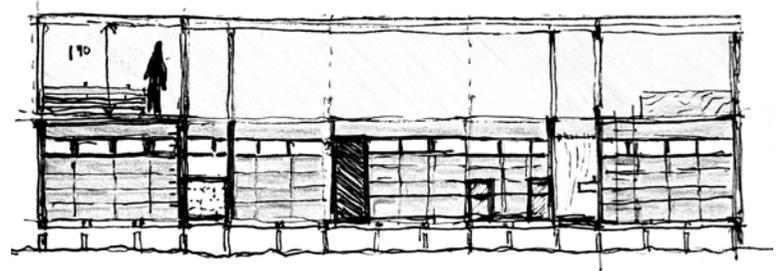
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Planta / Plan
 S. E. / N. S.

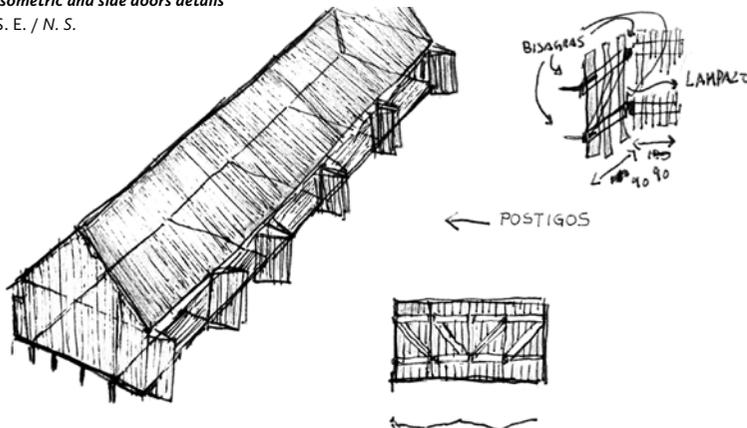


Corte longitudinal / Longitudinal section
 S. E. / N. S.

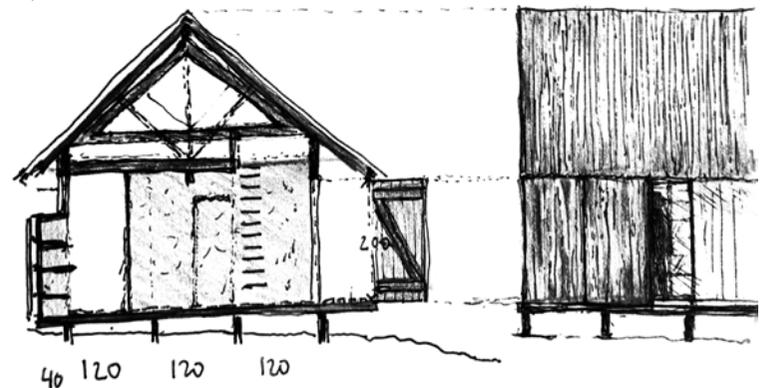


Isométrica y detalles de postigos / Isometric and side doors details

S. E. / N. S.



Corte transversal / Cross-section
 S. E. / N. S.





Vista exterior / Exterior view © Juan Pablo Corvalán



Vista exterior / Exterior view © Juan Pablo Corvalán



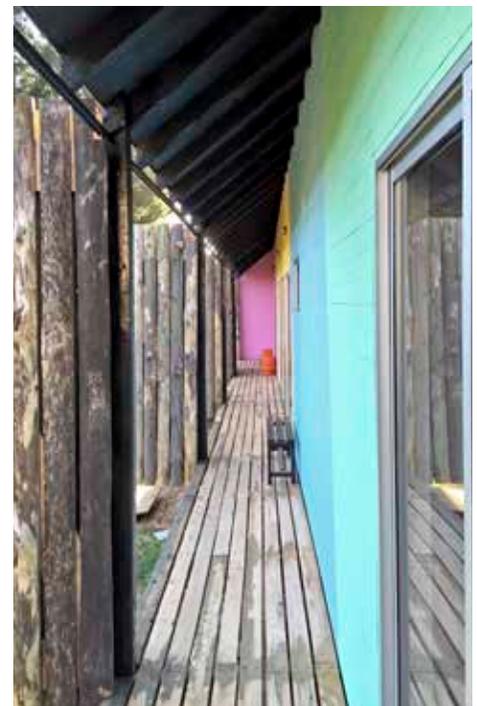
Vista interior / Interior view © Juan Pablo Corvalán



Vista exterior / Exterior view © Juan Pablo Corvalán



Vista interior / Interior view © Juan Pablo Corvalán



Corredor / Corridor © Juan Pablo Corvalán



Vista exterior / Exterior view © Juan Pablo Corvalán

that questions the existence of an architectural design, obeying rather the continuity of a local common building protocol.

The distribution of the house is organized around a central space designed to contain daily activities and leaving service areas and bedrooms at the sides. The compact volume, like an archetypal barn, allowed for a complete interior height that generated attics over the bedrooms. A terrace runs along the length of the volume towards the lake that generates a complimentary circulation that avoids the *cul de sac* in smaller areas, which are literally opened towards the view.

The wood structure is defined by a section of trusses, columns, and frames, and is exposed along one of the interior faces and offset from the facade line to allow for a ribbon window oriented towards the sun and a continuous shelf. The materiality optimized everything –from the use of the wood from the center of the trunk for structural elements to the bark in the totality of the exterior cladding as a ventilated envelope– with the exception of the standard, double-glazed windows and the pre-painted black zinc roof.

By shedding theoretical morphological prejudices and taking pragmatic possibilities to the extreme, this exercise erased authorship and replaced it for a common language that provides a new reading for the typical wood dwellings in the south of Chile. **ARQ**