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...
«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)

**BIBLIOGRAFÍA / BIBLIOGRAPHY**


**JUAN PABLO CORVALÁN**

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Architect, Ecole d’Ingénieurs de Genève, Switzerland (1996). Master of excellence in architecture, Berlage Insitute, Rotterdam, The Netherlands (2002). Candidate to the doctoral degree in geography, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Founder member of the architecture research group Supersudaca. He is part of the editorial board of Materia magazine. He currently works as architecture degree professor at the Universidad Finis Terrae, Santiago, Chile.

**ITO MRY CIVIL / Architet**

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

**Obra y Proyectos / Works and Projects**

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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