

Hozho House

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CONTEXT

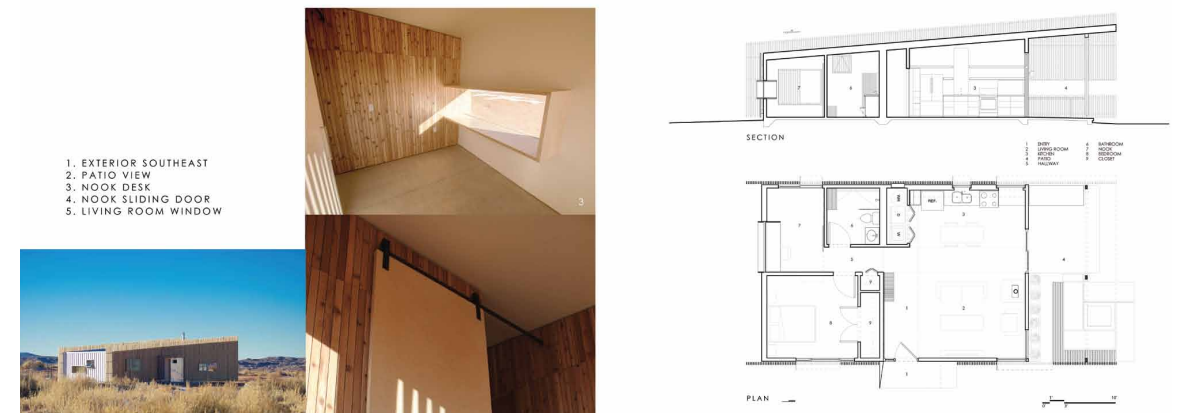
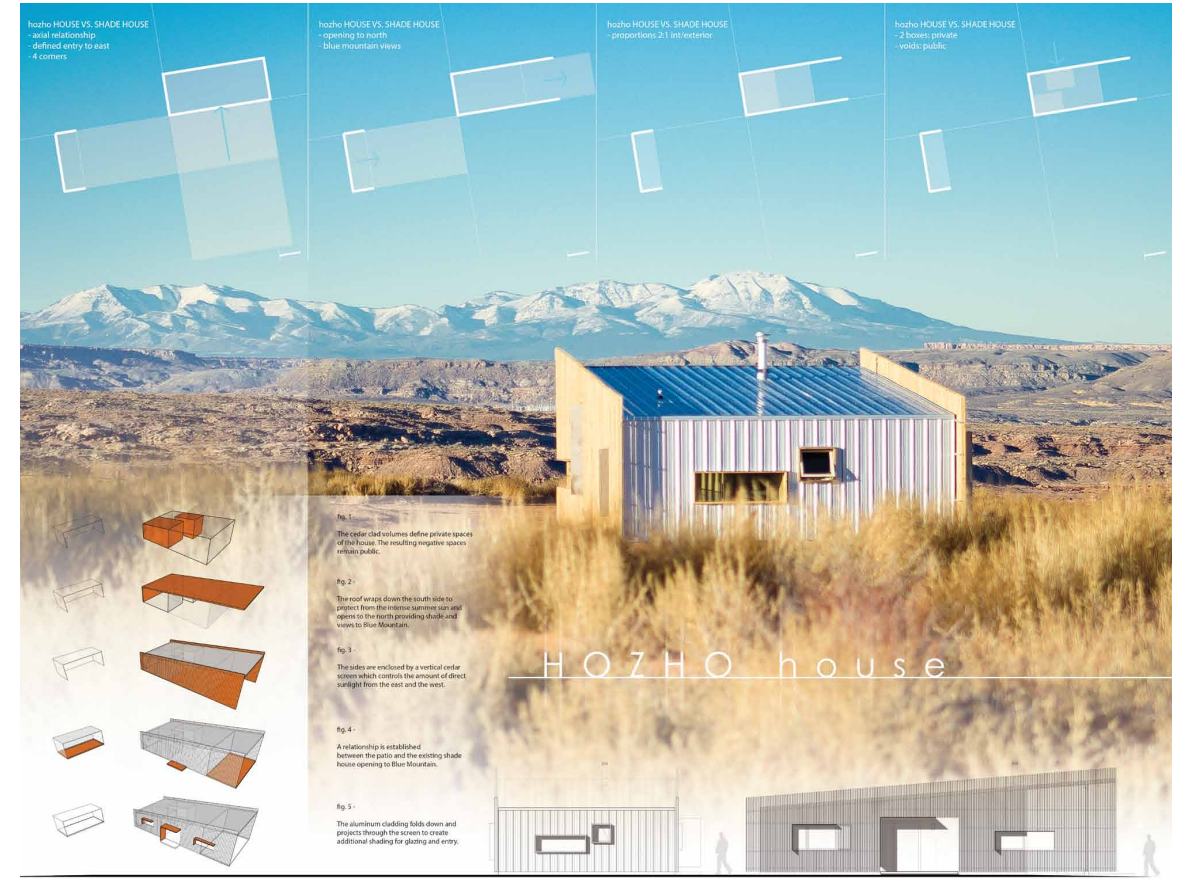
Harvey and Hilda, a soft spoken Navajo couple with a strong commitment to family and an intimate understanding of their environment, requested a home that could allow for their family gatherings while providing a private place of retreat. The student's response was a modest 800 square foot single pitched cedar clad house stitched into the landscape.

EXTERIOR

Consisting of cedar and aluminum, the exterior skin was designed to layer shadows and transparency. The recycled aluminum sheathing wraps the building, folding out from the facade and intersecting the cedar screen to create apertures and protection from the southern sun. The cedar, held off of the facade, provides a depth that creates a subtle dynamism of light and shadow. This vertical shading device reduces the heat load on the building by 66%. Through a deduction of the cedar screen and amplification to the aluminum folds, entry is defined. The cantilevered slab casts a soft shadow, clarifying the transition from the built to natural environment. The roof folds down the south elevation creating a ventilated double skin cavity wall. Hidden inside the wall is a gutter that collects rainwater in an underground cistern. The cistern is located at the base of two loan trees planted the year prior to construction by the client to create shade and a wind block.

INTERIOR

Two private volumes define the interior of the space. Clad in cedar, the volumes contrast with the white walls. Folding from the wall, the (nook) desk is a continuation of the volume. The extrusion provides a work surface while shading the window from the summer sun. The depth captures the southern view and light. The cedar, reclaimed and repurposed, has a 1/4" spacing providing a texture of shadows. The reclaimed cabinets and concrete countertop define the kitchen. The open floor plan allows the kitchen and living room to transition out towards the patio. Enclosed by the rainscreen, the patio's orientation is to the north and Blue Mountain. The rainscreen offers protection from the sun and wind while providing some transparency. This transparency projects a natural transition between the built and natural environment.



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PUBLIC The kitchen is defined by the reclaimed cabinets and concrete countertop. The open floor plan allows the kitchen and living room to transition out towards the patio. Enclosed by the rain screen, the patio's orientation is to the north and Blue Mountain. The rain screen offers protection from the sun and wind while providing for some transparency. This transparency projects a natural transition between the built and natural environment.

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