

FLOWER HOUSE



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In a meadow, the Flower House cultivates panoramic views in every direction by interlocking six timber canopies in a continuous loop.

Each of the six petal-like pavilions is optimized for passive heating and cooling, solar access and natural ventilation, as well as the rituals of daily life. Engineered as a timber “umbrella” structure above a stepped concrete slab, the interior space achieves loft-like flexibility unencumbered by structural supports. Free-standing L- and T-shaped storage cores internally shape each pavilion to both minimize wasted space and guide circulation. Aggregating the exposed timber canopies into a honey-combed structure creates a central, hexagonal courtyard. This open-air garden captures summer breezes and winter sun for the interior, while its glass walls negotiate competing demands for east- and west-facing views of the landscape. This effect reaches maximum impact, for example, in the living room that re-

ceives direct views of the horizon from all cardinal directions.

Partially excavated into a gentle hillside, the Flower House is inseparable from the local ecology. The existing topography not only provides thermal insulation, but also modulates interior atmospheres along spectrums of open/closed, public/private, and above/below grade. At the peak moment of privacy, for example, the hillside swallows the structure; while at peak transparency, the timber canopies cantilever to offer shade. Uphill to the west, clerestory windows illuminate the near subterranean bedrooms and baths. Downhill to the east, the more public programs open to the surrounding landscape through floor-to-ceiling windows, which grow out of the site-responsive, glass and concrete perimeter envelope. Since the built form not only responds to the topography, but also embeds literally into the land, the resulting profile respectfully alters its context, and from a distance, reflects the undulating mountains along the horizon.



PROJECT
Private residence

SIZE
326 m² (3,512 ft²)

LOCATION
Egremont, MA

COLLABORATION
Quadresign Inc., Madden & Baughman Engineering, Inc., Patrick Cullina Horticultural Design

STATUS
Completed 2020

VALUE
\$ 2.6 million

KEY PERSON
Dana AIMathkoo, Maria Carriero, Yan Chen, Jennifer Diep, Sbrissa Eleonora, Andrew Heid, Yawen Jin, James Kubiniec, Chung Ming Lam, Jean Lien, Naifei Liu, Alberto Andrés Silva Olivo, Jie Xie, Jialin Yuan, Daniel Zuvia



1. View north. 2. View from living room. 3. View from kitchen.

IMAGE: IWAN BAAH/ NO ARCHITECTURE