



AUTUMN 2005 ISSUE 01

DAYLIGHT & ARCHITECTURE MAGAZINE BY VELUX

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ISSN 1901-0982

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VELUX PANORAMA

Architecture with VELUX from all over the world.

LIGHT CATCHER HAUS WILLIMANN-LÖTSCHER IN SEVGEIN

Facts	
Location	Sevgein, Graubünden, CH
Building type	Single-family residence
Owner	Willimann-Lötscher family
Architect	Bearth & Deplazes Architekten AG, Chur, CH
Completion	1998

A clearing at the edge of Sevgein, a village with 220 inhabitants in the Swiss canton Graubünden, became the site of the new home for the five-member Willimann-Lötscher family. Seen from the side of the hill, the house, designed by architects Bearth & Deplazes, is narrow and tall like a tower. Further downhill, it becomes wider, opening up to the wild and ro-

mantic valley of the Vorderrhein. It is not until the observer walks around the building that its whole length becomes apparent. Each room has exactly one window, which allows the light to enter the house at a certain angle and, in the other direction, allows a framed view of the outside surroundings. In the living room, the whole façade window wall facing

towards the valley has a single undivided pane of glass, providing the occupiers with a breathtaking panoramic view. To keep construction costs low, the house was built as a wooden-frame structure made of prefabricated elements, in which the windows were already fitted. The owners attached the wooden planking of the façades themselves,

but according to the exact plans of the architect. Altogether, three plank widths were used, which lend structure to the outside of the building and give the house its own unique and special character.



1



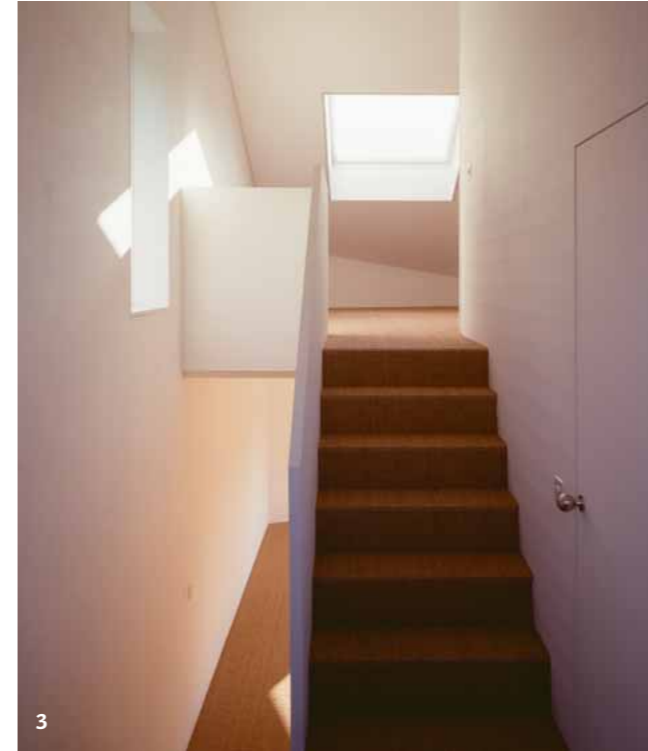
2

1. From the exterior, the panorama window of the living area seems like a supersized picture frame, catching the far view into the landscape. But the interior also becomes a "picture" for those viewing from the outside.

2. Towards the valley, the living room façade consists completely of glass, providing the inhabitants with a panorama view of the landscape of Graubünden.

3. A staircase located in the middle of the building provides access to the living floors, organized as split-levels. At the top of the staircase, a roof window opens the view towards the surrounding panorama of the Alps.

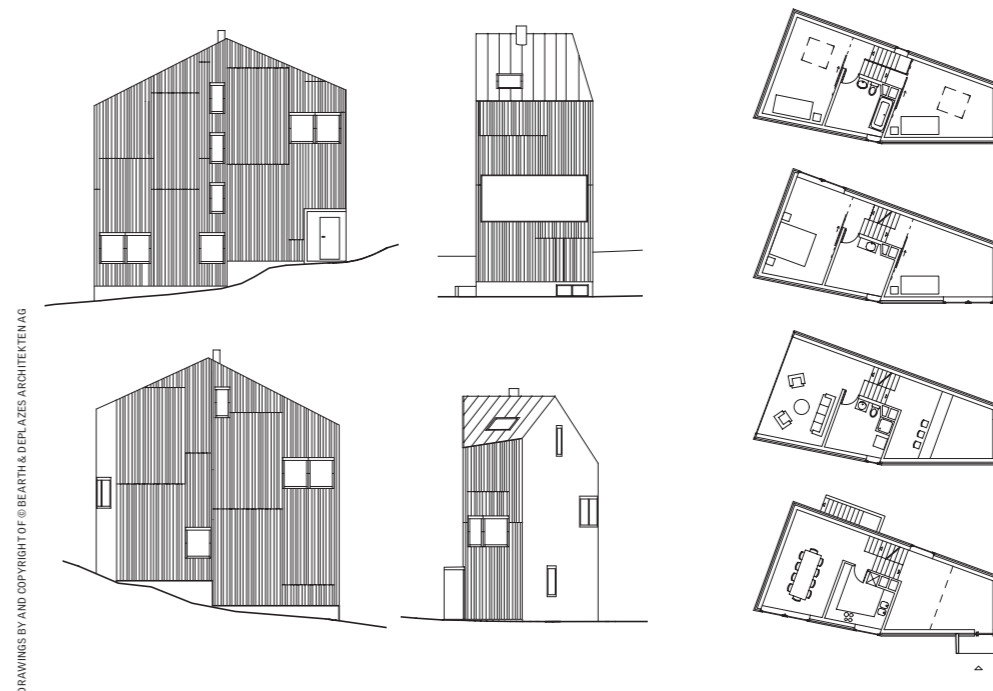
4. The façade of the house consists of vertical wood siding with dark varnish in three different widths. These were assembled into elements and especially provide those parts of the façade without windows with a unique and non-conventional design.



3



4



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Far left (clockwise from top left)
North façade
East façade
West façade
South façade

Left (top to bottom)
Floor 3
Floor 2
Floor 1
Ground floor