

Metaphor on the Topography

Seeking a site with easy access from the city and abundant nature, the client found a sloping site with a view of the sea and forest to the east.

The site was expected to be costly due to the old building foundations, which remained abandoned for over 40 years, and the dense trees.

However, the site was designed to be a place for the owner to work as well as for vacations, so the topography was made visible and a place to stay was found by arranging the building without altering the sloping ground surface.

It is an attempt to take the topography as a metaphor and reinterpret it as a space.

The composition consists of two blocks joined together in a T-shape.

The first is a transparent space with a horizontal floor and roof, which is floated by steel columns to contrast with the slope. The public zone prioritizes openness through the sight lines and views.

The other is a sculptural volume with walls as its main elements, linked to the slope, and connected to the bedroom, guest room, and bathroom by a long staircase, aiming at the perception of the earth every time one goes up and down.

The private zone prioritizes grounding and a cozy feeling of enclosure.

The roof of the private zone is planned as a staircase terrace in the same way, and while it is extremely open, it is also a form that induces the act of sitting without the use of chairs, making it one of the options for a place to stay.

The unanticipated self-restraint caused by the Corona vortex has brought to light the stresses in the living space up to now.

The flat and homogeneous LDK layout must have had a significant impact on this background, and the influence of the LDK is no exception in the architecture of villas. If the villa is to be built with teleworking in mind, a new method that replaces the LDK will be necessary.

In other words, I believe that the actions of visualizing and reinterpreting the natural topography as a metaphor, which does not depend on human intervention, is an effective method to induce human behavior by creating differences in space that transcends time and can be freely chosen in a variety of ways.

Villa in Shizuoka, Japan /Completion Year : 2020/

Wooden framework structure, partly steel structure /

Building area 137.60㎡ / Site area 1,461.12㎡ /

Floor area 159.07㎡

