

United States Department of the Interior
 National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Dr. Harvey and Rhoda Wasserman House

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

Mid-Twentieth-Century Modern Residences in Connecticut, 1930-1979

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 23 Huckleberry Lane

City or town: Weston State: CT County: Fairfield

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B XC ___D

_____ Signature of certifying official/Title:	_____ Date
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____ Signature of commenting official:	_____ Date
_____ Title :	
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD/Weatherboard; SYNTHETICS/Rubber

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Wasserman House in Weston, Fairfield County, Connecticut is a mid-twentieth-century Modern-style residence, designed in 1964 by architect John Fowler, a protege of Paul Rudolph, as a home for Dr. Harvey Wasserman and his family. (Fowler joined the faculty of the Yale School of Architecture in 1965, and worked with Rudolph, but sadly passed away in 1975, when he was just 41.) The house consists of three flat-roofed towers, constructed with wood platform framing and situated on a 2-acre sloping site overlooking the Saugatuck River. A central staircase connects the towers, with living spaces radiating out among 6 half-levels. The house retains most of its original design, including its narrow bridge entry, distinctive Western red cedar-clad interior paneling, masonry fireplace and conversation pit; large, fixed plate glass windows and specially formed copper rainwater gutters. A non-contributing bank barn built in 1980 is located on the property. An in-ground pool located behind the house is counted as a non-contributing structure.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

Narrative Description

Setting

The Wasserman House sits on two acres adjacent to the Saugatuck River, at 23 Huckleberry Lane, a narrow private road with about 10 homes off Weston Road (Figures 1 and 2). Half of the homes sit on the river, like the Wasserman house; half sit closer to Weston Road (Connecticut State Road 57). Much of the lane runs beneath a canopy of evergreens, and most homes sit on at least two acres, forming a serene neighborhood. Apart from the Wasserman House, most of the other homes are traditional in style (dating from the 1930s to 2000s), although its direct neighbor to the north is the Corwin House, designed by the notable modernist architect Richard Neutra (1955).

The plot is relatively flat right by Huckleberry Lane, slopes steeply toward the riverbank, then slopes gently as it reaches the river. The home sits in the woods, where the steep slope begins to moderate, staying high above the river (Photographs 1 and 2). A walk through the woods near the lane leads to a bridge spanning the steep slope to an entrance room; a driveway leads down the hill to an integrated carport (Photographs 3 to 5). A privacy fence constructed of wood posts and horizontal clapboard intended to match the house encloses the yard (filled with rock) at the southwest corner of the house and extends along the south side of the house. An identical fence extending from the east side of the house partially encloses the rear patio and in-ground pool (Photograph 6).

Exterior

The house has an additive sculptural form that consists of three adjacent, slender towers set at various locations down the slope, each radiating from a central staircase, which is part of a glass-walled core that also features a chimney of colorful Connecticut-quarried stone (Photographs 1-6) (Figure 3). The deconstruction of the mass solves a problem common to hillside homes, where large volumes require significant portions of the home to be built into the ground or require major volumes to be suspended above the ground. With three towers placed along the slope, the Wasserman House minimally disturbs the site, with a small footprint relative to its volume, and the lower-level rooms avoid an “underground” feel.

The pure verticality of the towers is varied by a series of cantilevered bays that extend the living space, providing additional room for functions like primary bedroom closets and an expanded kitchen. This play of horizontal and vertical lines is enhanced by the drainage system for the flat roofs/terraces, a series of rectangular copper gutters that extend far beyond the roofline (Photographs 7 and 8). The most prominent horizontal counterpoint is the iconic bridge that spans the steep slope to connect the land near the lane to the entrance and living room level of the home (Photograph 3).

The towers rise to different levels, leading to markedly different views of the home as one walks around the land. The levels broadly conform to the slope of the land, producing a stepped waterfall

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

of forms as the home progresses towards the river. Windows grace all sides, though predominant views are to the river below.

The structure is wood platform framing, with a steel Lally column in the carport. The exterior is clad with Western red cedar clapboard (now painted grey) and the roof is sheathed with 4-ply bituminous felt. The foundation is concrete. Windows are rectangular, usually close to square, and single pane. Long, thin hinged wooden panels open to provide ventilation through wire screens. Solid wood exterior doors are located at the bridge and carport entrances. The lowest level features two wood-framed glass doors that lead to the backyard/river.

Interior

The house contains 2,263 square feet, with a program that is divided amongst several levels (Figures 3 to 6). Above a mechanical room and crawl space in the full basement, there are six levels of living space, each arranged at a half-story interval off the central staircase, whose open treads allow views through to the landscape (Photograph 9). There is no elevator or secondary stairway in the house.

Level 1 contains a bedroom (originally designed as a playroom, when the Wasserman's children were young and shared a space upstairs) with a window wall overlooking the river; and a bathroom that overlooks a valley and the Neutra home to the north (Photograph 10).

Level 2 contains another bedroom (originally split into two rooms, shared by the Wasserman boys), and doorway to the carport (Photograph 11).

Level 3 contains the dining room (above the Level 1 bedroom) with a window wall facing the river; and kitchen (largely above the Level 1 bathroom) that includes a cantilevered bay, increasing space and offering another window to the river for those in the kitchen (Photographs 12 and 13).

Level 4 functions as the main level and is the largest of the floors. It includes the bridge entrance to a room, originally planned as an office, that sits above the Level 2 bedroom (Photograph 14). This entry room feeds into a conversation pit at the base of the stone fireplace; the floor of the pit matches the colorful stone of the fireplace (Photograph 15). Past the conversation pit is the home's primary living room (above the Level 2 carport), offering views of the river, and perspectives on other elements of the home's interior and its exterior (Photographs 16-18).

Level 5 includes a former terrace (later enclosed by the original owners) that sits above the dining room; and the home's second bathroom, which sits above the kitchen.

Level 6 contains the primary bedroom (situated above the Level 4 entry room), expanded with cantilevered bays that provide closets (Photographs 19 and 20). A glass wall separates the

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

bedroom from a terrace that overlooks the river. A ceiling hatch leads to the former rooftop terrace (enclosed into an attic by the original owners).

Floors are oak strip. Much of the interior wall space is covered by Western red cedar clapboarding, aligning exactly with the clapboarding outside. Most half levels offer views to other levels.

Ceiling heights are 7'2" in most rooms and rise to 11'3" in the main living room and the primary bedroom. The lower-ceilinged spaces and progression through the home reflect Frank Lloyd Wright's design principle of compression and release, as the cozier, more intimate spaces offer striking views of the natural landscape, or flow into the grander, high-ceilinged spaces. Sliding doors provide privacy to work and sleeping spaces.

Minimal changes to the interior have occurred since the completion of the house in 1964. The Wassermans updated the bathroom fixtures and tile in the 1970s and enclosed a couple of terraces – one atop the primary bedroom, to create an attic space, and the second above the dining room, at Level 5, to provide additional living space. A second owner updated the kitchen in the early 2000s through the replacement of the original appliances, including the removal of wall-hung GE cabinet-style refrigerator units.

Outbuildings

A 665 square-foot **Bank Barn (non-contributing building)** was constructed to the southeast, between the house and the river, in 1980 (Photograph 21). In 2005, a 20' x 20' in-ground **Pool (non-contributing structure)** and a flagstone patio were constructed to the east (rear) of the home. The stone of the patio matches the stone of the chimney, fireplace and conversation pit. Fencing was added where indicated by early Fowler drawings, and also to enclose the pools, which was constructed in 2004.

Integrity

The Wasserman House remains on its original site on a quiet private lane surrounded by woods and river frontage. The two terraces enclosed by the original owners do not materially impact the overall massing of the building or its plan. The vast majority of original interior and exterior features and materials remain intact, including its narrow bridge entry, distinctive Western red cedar-clad interior paneling, masonry fireplace and conversation pit; large, fixed, plate glass windows and specially formed copper rainwater gutters. The feeling of the house as a unique geometric Modern-style grouping of towers in the woods is clearly expressed.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1964

Significant Dates

1964: House constructed

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Fowler, John (architect)
Festa, Mae (interior)
Amato, Louis, Contemporary Inc. (builder)
Alteri, John, (mechanical engineer)

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Dr. Harvey and Rhoda Wasserman House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the category of Architecture at the local level. Under Criterion C, the building the building possesses significance as a primary work of New Haven architect John Fowler, who was associated with Connecticut's prolific network of modernists as an associate professor at the Yale School of Architecture. Fowler employed a similar vertically massed sculptural design in the Wasserman House that is present in Paul Rudolph's Yale Art and Architecture Building, which Rudolph designed in 1963 while Fowler was working in his practice.

The house won Fowler a 1968 Honor Award from the New England Regional Council of The American Institute of Architects, and a 1969 Honor Award from the Connecticut Society of Architects, a chapter of the AIA. The Wasserman House meets the requirements for listing under property type Number F.4 Sectional, as defined in the Mid-Twentieth-Century Modern Residences in Connecticut Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) and contributes to the Modern Architecture Movement in United States, 1920–1979 and Mid-Twentieth-Century Modern Residential Architecture in Connecticut, 1930–1979 historical context themes described in the MPDF. The period of significance is limited to 1964, when the building was constructed.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion C: Architecture

The Wasserman House meets Criterion C in the category of Architecture for its association with Connecticut's prolific network of modernists who continued to experiment with materials and structural capacities in the creation of increasingly sculptural buildings through the 1960s and 1970s. English-born New Haven architect, John Fowler (1934-1975) designed the house for Dr. Harvey and Mrs. (Rhoda) Wasserman and their two sons (ages 10 and 12 at the time). Construction began in 1963 and was completed in 1964. The building exhibits ideals of mid-twentieth-century Modern architecture through an exciting multi-level geometric form with a suspended 20-foot-long bridge entrance; natural materials; creative one-off solutions to ventilation and rainwater management; the division of private and public spaces; and the maximization of views to the landscape and throughout the house. The setting, on a dramatically sloping site, is typically naturalistic, with an emphasis on views towards the woods to the North and South, and the Saugatuck River to the East.

Fowler designed the Wasserman House in 1963 and incorporated a domestic version of features of Paul Rudolph's Yale Art and Architecture Building, finished at the same time (AIA 1970). Fowler earned an architectural degree from The London Polytechnic in 1957 and a Master of

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

Architecture from Columbia University in 1959, before working in Paul Rudolph's office on the design and construction phases of the Yale A+A building (now Paul Rudolph Hall). Rudolph (1918-1997) maintained a New Haven office and served as the Chair of the Yale Architecture School from 1957-1965. Fowler became an associate professor of architectural design at Yale in 1965, around the time that Rudolph left Yale and also taught at Cooper Union in New York City. He opened his own New Haven practice in 1966, two years after the completion of the Wasserman House (AIA 1970).

It is not yet known how the Wassermans initially connected with Fowler. However, the 1965 Progressive Architecture feature on the house included the statement that:

. . . there were no conflicts with this client, since the program 'was interpreted as immediately as possible.' The client accepted the appearance of the house 'after initial surprise, and now finds it most pleasing; its logic persists.' The architect admits that this house is not as dramatic a spatial object internally as other of his works, but feels that this is because the program did not permit it. Instead, 'what has evolved is a very exciting external relationship with the site, which develops as one moves around it.' Program, Fowler points out, 'is the basis of all organization and hence architecture, which in turn at its best should represent the clearest manifestation of the salient functions of the building.' (Progressive Architecture, May 1965: 134).

The national trend toward a freer and more sculptural orientation in design during the latter phases of the Modern Movement is displayed in the Wasserman House through its complex of vertical towers and balconies on seven half levels, organized around a central glass-enclosed stair, which Fowler planned to maintain a view of the river (Adams and Scofield et al, 2010). These elements echo Rudolph's deconstruction of the box, dramatic assemblage of solids and voids, and "pinwheel plan" produced in the Yale A+A (Figures 8 and 9) (Cunningham 2002). The façade is similarly disorganized, although Fowler avoided sacrificing utility in his creation of dramatic volumes. The main entrance, for example, is identifiable and opens to a full-size room, formerly used as the office. A 1969 AIA jury commented on the success of the form: "This house achieves a variety of outlook and an interesting play of interior space through the use of a few organizing principles. The use of materials is sure and the detailing is crisp and consistent. The external form seems at home among the trees." (*Connecticut Architect*, 1970: 10). Fowler called the central staircase with glass walls on the landings, "a very economical circulation system" (*Progressive Architecture*, 1965). As one ascends through the house, there is a progression of natural vistas, viewed from the ground-hugging playroom (later converted into a bedroom) on the first level to the treetop-skimming parents' room six half-levels above (Figures 10-12). From there, a ladder (since removed) affixed to the bedroom wall provided access to a rooftop terrace through a hatch.

Flexibility is built into the floor plan, in which Fowler incorporated modernist organizing principles such as a central utility core, separation of private and public spaces, and opportunity for changes in use (Figure 7). For example, the children had adjacent bedrooms and shared a playroom on another level. When they grew older, the wall between the bedrooms was removed to create a larger bedroom for one, and the playroom was converted into a bedroom. Several sets of sliding doors allow residents to partition open living space for privacy. One set of four sliding

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

doors can close off the living room from the entry studio room, which Dr. Wasserman used to see patients. One sliding door can close off the primary bedroom and bath levels from the main entertaining levels. Another sliding door can close off the kitchen, hiding the view of the kitchen from the living room, when desired.

The house also has creative one-off solutions, harkening to the experimental or progressive efforts of modernist architects to employ innovative technology and design. Ventilation is provided by narrow vertical hinged panels with brass latches that open to reveal built-in screens, placed near large, fixed glass windows. Specially formed elongated copper rain spouts extend four feet off of the house's flat roofs and discharge rainwater directly into the woodlands below. Lights are recessed in exterior soffits so the interior can be lit without the use of interior lights, and surrounding trees are floodlit from sources on the structure, further defining the building as an independent object on the site.

The success of Fowler's Wasserman House design was recognized in trade publications and popular media, including *Progressive Architecture*, the *New York Times Magazine*, *House and Garden*, and *American Builder* (featuring Fowler among a group of influential young architects including Robert Venturi, Albert Frey and Richard Meier). The home won Fowler a 1968 Honor Award from the New England Regional Council of The American Institute of Architects, and a 1969 Honor Award from the Connecticut Society of Architects, a chapter of the AIA. It was also highlighted in "Three Hundred Years of Connecticut Architecture" at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum in Hartford, Connecticut in 1970.

The Wasserman House is among Fowler's early and principle works. He employed a similar form for the Professor Ernest and Virginia Klema¹ House in Seal Harbor, Maine in 1968 (Figure 13). A vacation cottage sited atop the oceanfront Rhodes Cliff, the house is a slightly smaller, more cubic variant of the Wasserman House set on piers. It incorporates horizontal wood clapboard, a bridge entrance, interplay of solids and voids, and sculptural massing of cubes and towers. Openings on the façade (street-facing elevation) are limited to the main entrance, which is recessed within the volume. The building dramatically opens toward the waterfront, funneling views through plate-glass windows set within telescoped building sections. Fowler received a *Progressive Architecture* Design Award for the Klema House in 1969 and it was featured as the cover story of the magazine's May 1971 issue (MHPC 1986, *Progressive Architecture* 1971). He also received a New England Regional Council Honor Award for the house in 1970 (*New England Architect*, 1970). The house was sold and demolished in the late 1980s.

Fowler followed these residential designs with commissions for Yale. In 1970, he became one of the five finalists in the Yale Math Building Design Competition and completed the Freshman Commons Renovation at Bienecke Plaza. Fowler's "spectacular" cafe at the Yale Freshman Commons was named a winner of Architectural Record's second annual Interior Design Awards

¹ Dr. Ernest D. and Virginia Klema were both research scientists affiliated with several universities. Ernest Klema worked as a nuclear physicist and is noted as contributing to the development of the atomic bomb. He served as the Dean of the College of Engineering at Tufts University in Boston when the cottage was constructed. Virginia Klema worked as a research scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Collection: Ernest Klema Papers | Archives at Tufts.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

Program in 1971. Fowler's bright career was tragically cut short when he died in 1975 at age 41, of complications from pneumonia.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Adams, Virginia, Jenny Fields Scofield, Laura Kline, and Melissa Antonelli

2010 Mid-Twentieth-Century Modern Residences in Connecticut, 1930-1979, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. On file, Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, Hartford, CT.

American Builder

1966 "Are young architects designing prototypes of your future models?" *American Builder*, October 1966; 60-71.

American Institute of Architects (AIA)

1970 American Architects Directory, R.R. Bowker. New York, NY.

Architectural Design

1965 "Doctor's House, Conn. US." *Architectural Design*, August 1965; 410-412.

The Architectural Review

1966 "World Houses." *The Architectural Review*, February 1966; 89-90.

Connecticut Architect

1970 "1969 Connecticut Honor Awards." *Connecticut Architect*, January/February 1970; 7-11.

Cunningham, Jan

2002 Art & Architecture Building, Yale University, State Register of Historic Places Nomination Form. On file, State Historic Preservation Office, Hartford, CT.

Greenberg, Cara

2002 "up, up & away." *Modernism Magazine*. Winter 2002-03; 22-27.

House and Garden

1966 "New Shape For Houses." *House and Garden*, January 1966; 92-93.

Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC)

1986 Historic Properties Survey Form, Habido House, Seal Harbor, Maine. On file, Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Augusta, ME.

New England Architect

1970 "N. E. Regional Council Honor Awards Program". *New England Architect*, November 1970; 19. Accessed from usmodernist.org.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

The New York Times

1975 "Prof. John Fowler, 41, Taught Architecture Design at Yale." *The New York Times*; August 21, 1975. Accessed from usmodernist.org.

Progressive Architecture

1965 "Privacy at All Levels." *Progressive Architecture*, May 1965; 130-135. Accessed from usmodernist.org.

1971 "Habidu at Seal Harbor." *Progressive Architecture*, May 1971; 72-75. Accessed from usmodernist.org.

Sverbeyeff, Elizabeth

1965 "On the Up and Up." *The New York Times Magazine*, May 25, 1965.

Exhibitions

"Three hundred years of Connecticut architecture," Wadsworth Atheneum Museum, Hartford, Conn., 1971 Produced by the Connecticut Commission on the Arts and the University of Connecticut Museum of Art.

Westport Historical Society *Westport Modern: When Cool Was Hot*, 2009.

Awards/Honors

New England Regional Council of The American Institute of Architects (AIA) **Honor Award**, 1968.

Connecticut Society of Architects **Honor Award**, 1969.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

___ previously listed in the National Register

___ previously determined eligible by the National Register

___ designated a National Historic Landmark

___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

___ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.0 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 41.182989 | Longitude: -73.365454 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the nominated property are the limits of the property parcel identified as Map 31/Block 4/Lot 12 (Unique ID R03600) in the Town of Weston's assessment and geospatial data (2024). The boundary is shown on Figure 2.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the nominated property are consistent with the property parcel as it existed when the Wasserman House was completed in 1964.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Ashlea Ebeling (Edited by Jenny Scofield, CT SHPO)
organization: Homeowner
street & number: 23 Huckleberry Lane
city or town: Weston state: CT zip code: 06883
e-mail ebeling/bloom <eblingbloom@yahoo.com
telephone: _____
date: May 2, 2024

Additional Documentation

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Wasserman House

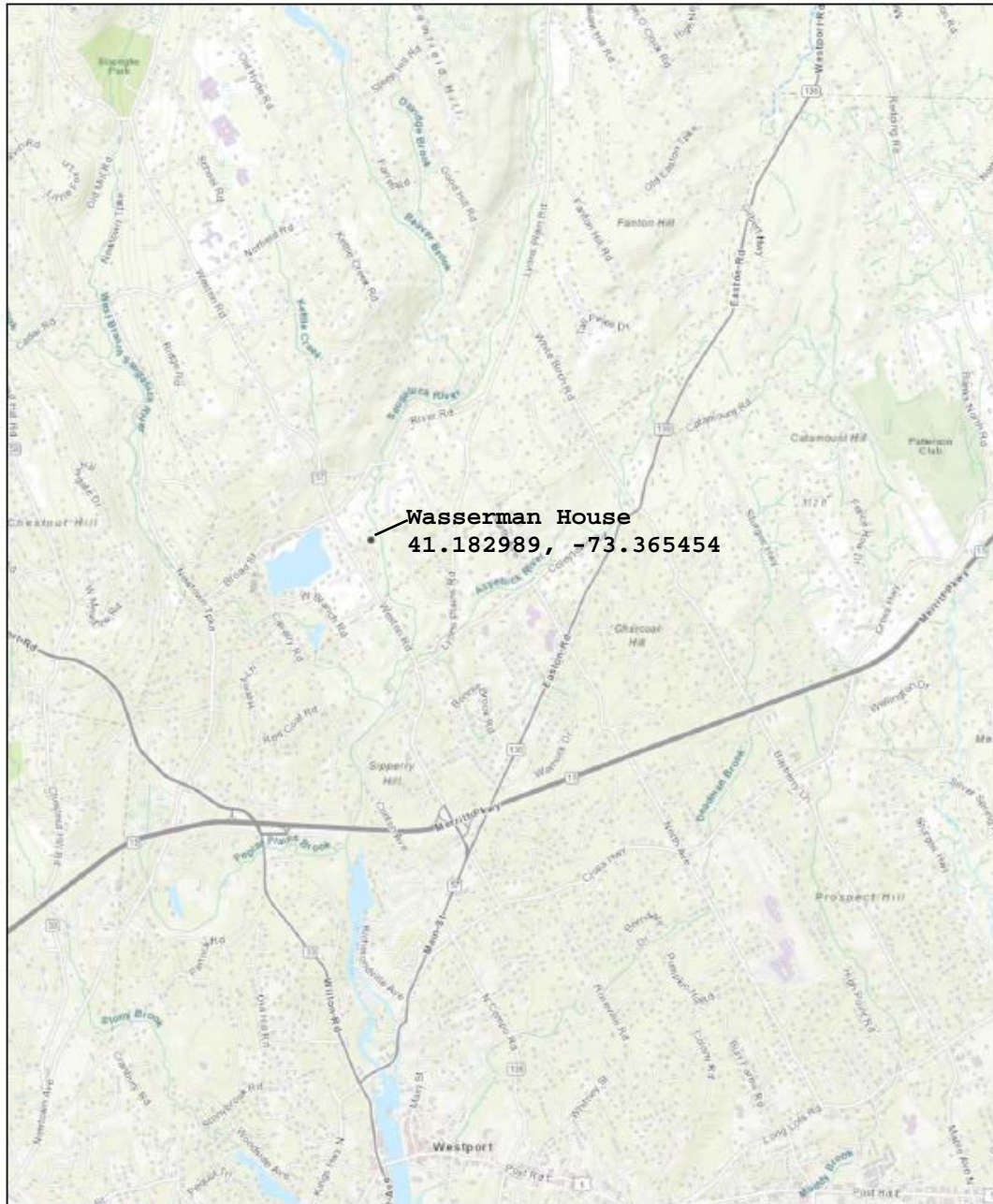
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

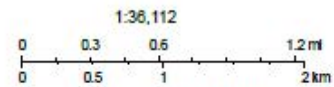
County and State

GRAPHICS

Wasserman House, Fairfield County, CT



5/7/2024, 11:23:34 AM



GBRC, Suffolk County, UConn/CTDEEP, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METINASA, EPA, USDA

Figure 1. Location Map. Wasserman House, 23 Huckleberry Lane, Weston, CT.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

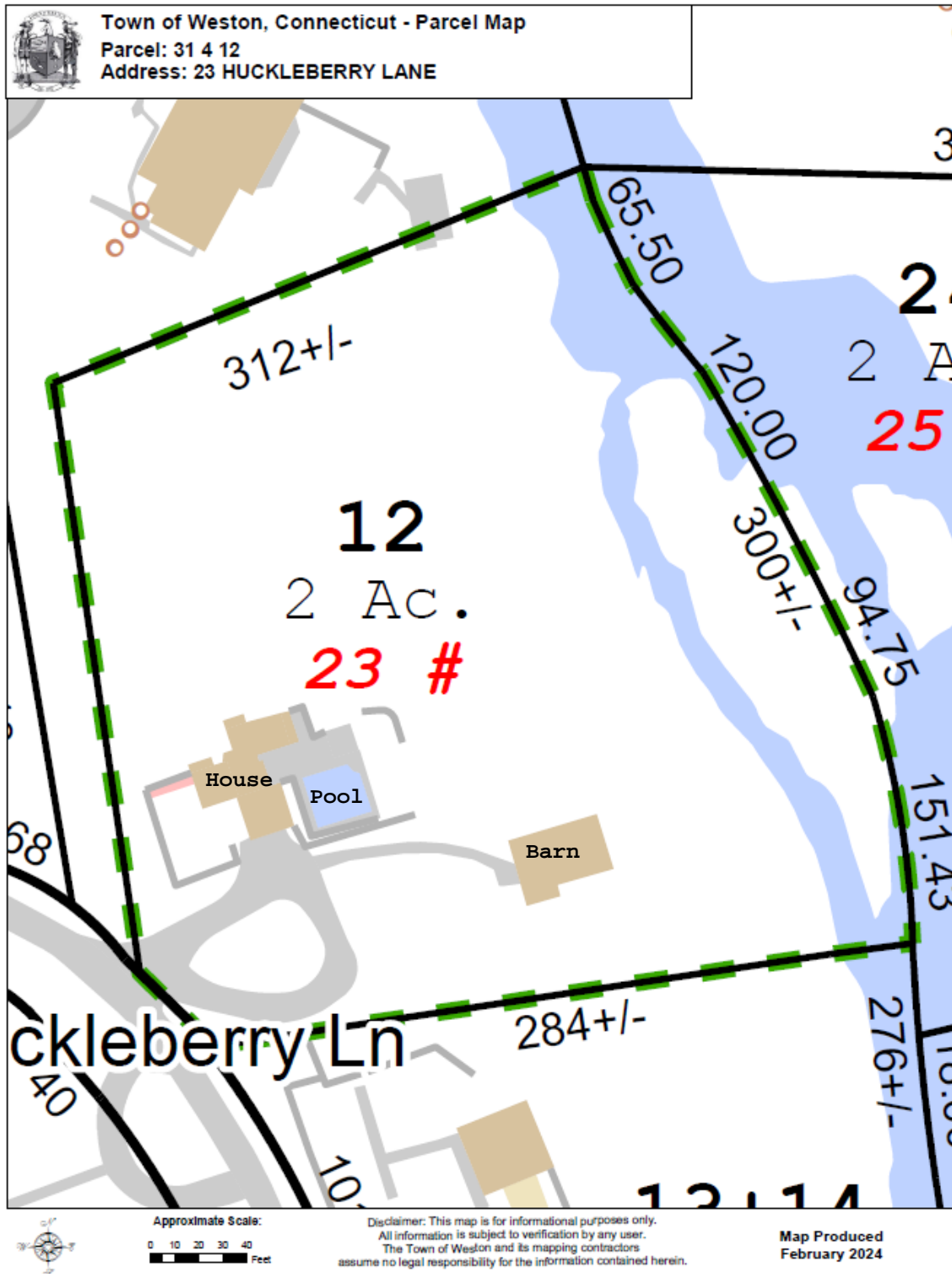


Figure 2. Property Map (parcel boundary shown in dashed line is the boundary of the nominated property). The pool and barn are non-contributing.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State



MULTILEVEL HOUSE—Central core is the staircase (seen through the vertical shaft of glass, center). Bridge, built over a dip in the land, leads to study and living room. Projections from the facade solve functional problems of kitchen and closets and provide terraces.

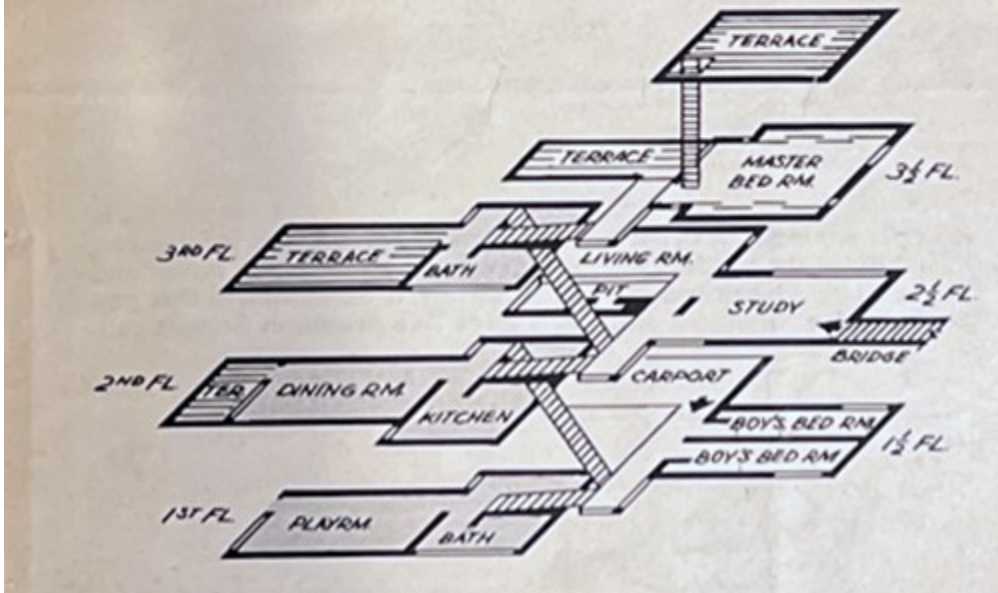


Figure 3. Wasserman House schematic and photo, featured in *The New York Times Magazine*, 1975.

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

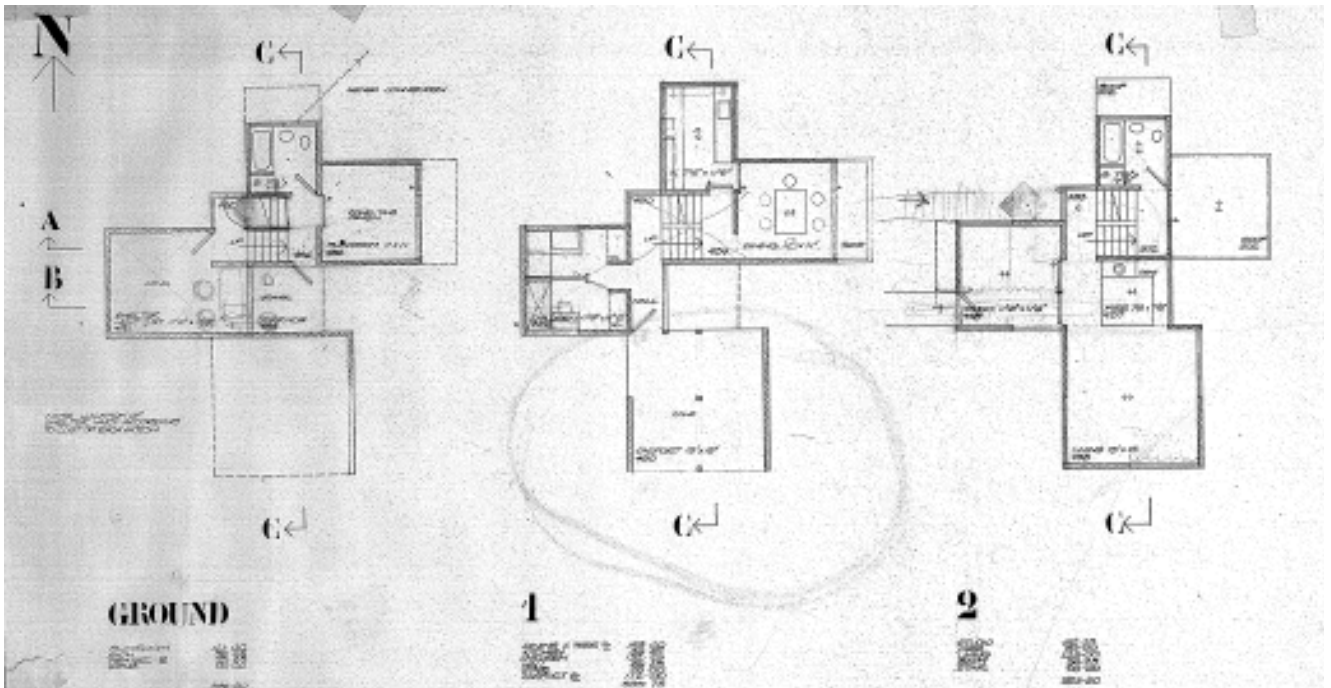


Figure 4. Wasserman House Floor Plans, John Fowler, 1963.

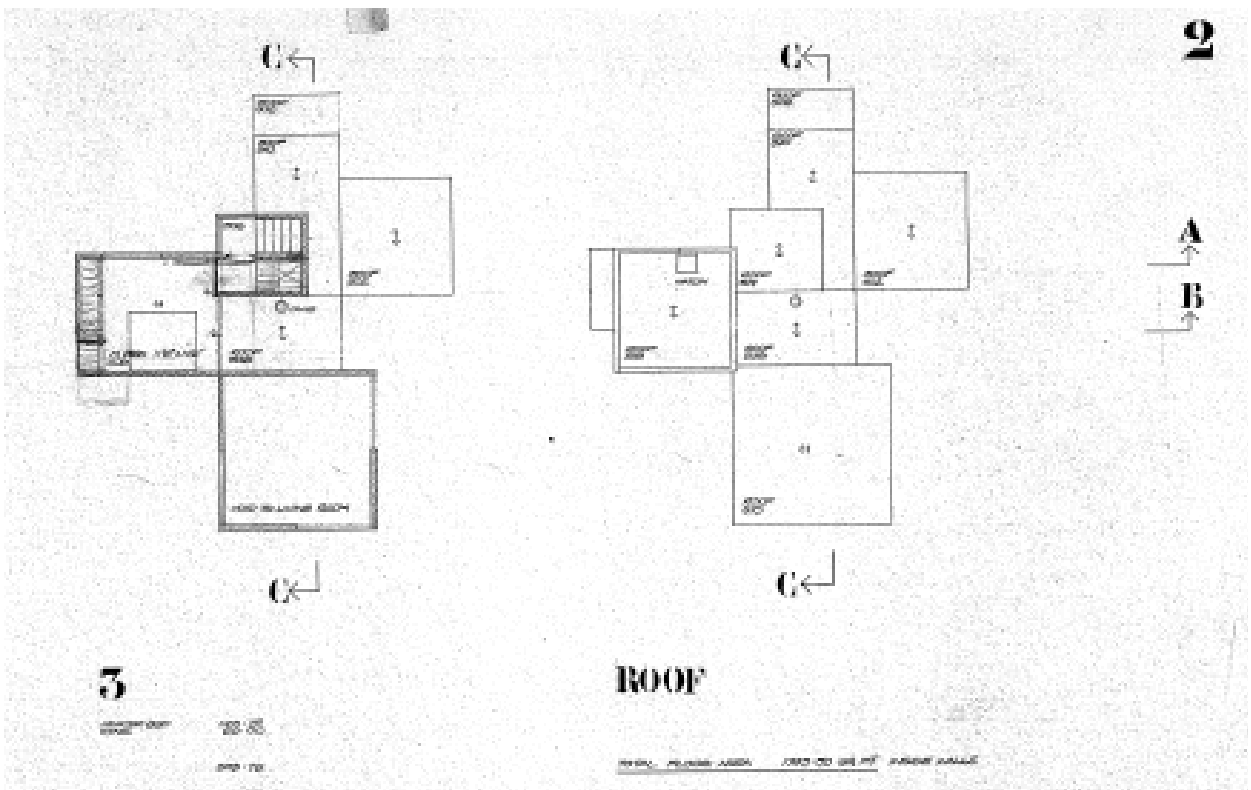


Figure 5. Wasserman House Floor Plans, John Fowler, 1963.

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

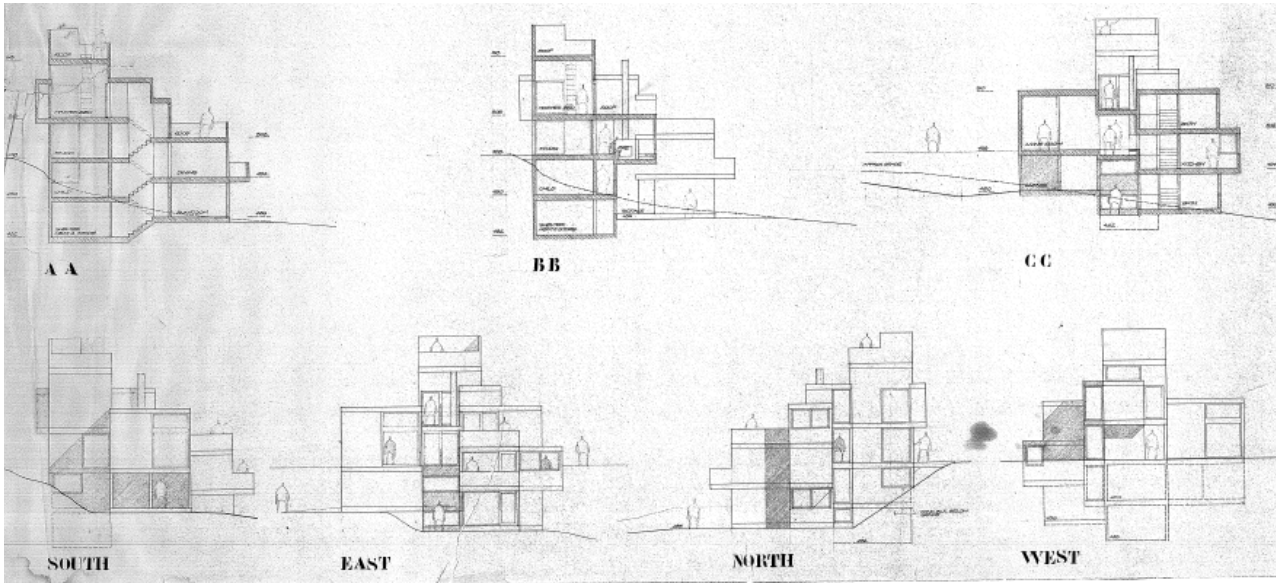


Figure 6. Wasserman House Section Drawings, John Fowler, 1963.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

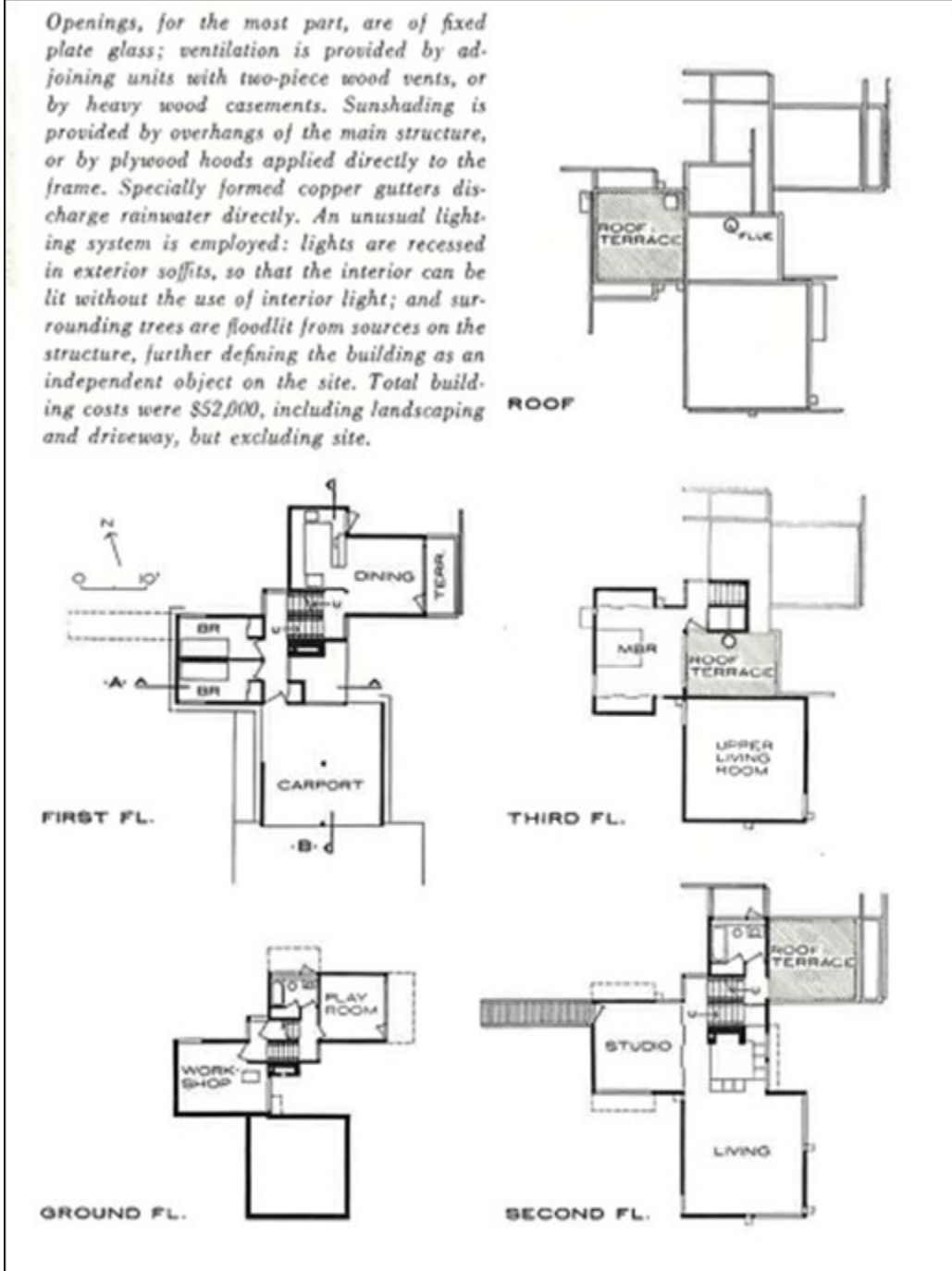


Figure 7. Excerpt from *Progressive Architecture*, May 1965, showing Wasserman House layout.

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State



Figure 8. View of northwest elevation showing bridge entry looking southeast. Source: David Hirsch, *Progressive Architecture*, May 1965.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State



Figure 9. View of southeast elevation looking northwest (left) and view of southwest elevation looking northeast (right). Source: David Hirsch, *Progressive Architecture*, May 1965.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

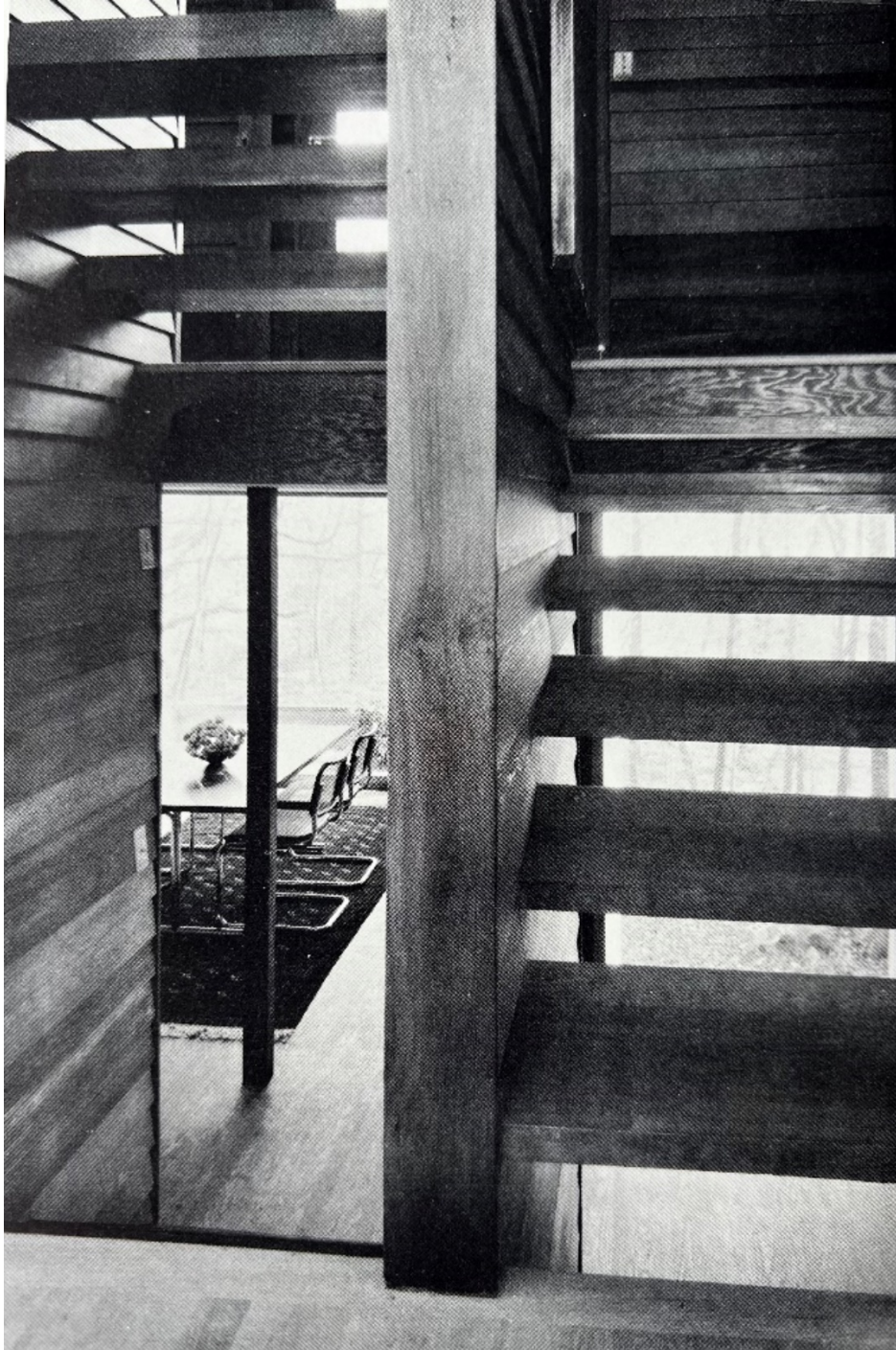


Figure 10. View of central stairs into dining room looking east. Source: David Hirsch, *Progressive Architecture*, May 1965.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State



Figure 11. View of living room and conversation pit looking northwest to studio and bridge entry. Source: David Hirsch, *Progressive Architecture*, May 1965.

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State



Figure 12. View of living room looking southeast. Source: David Hirsch, *Progressive Architecture*, May 1965.

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

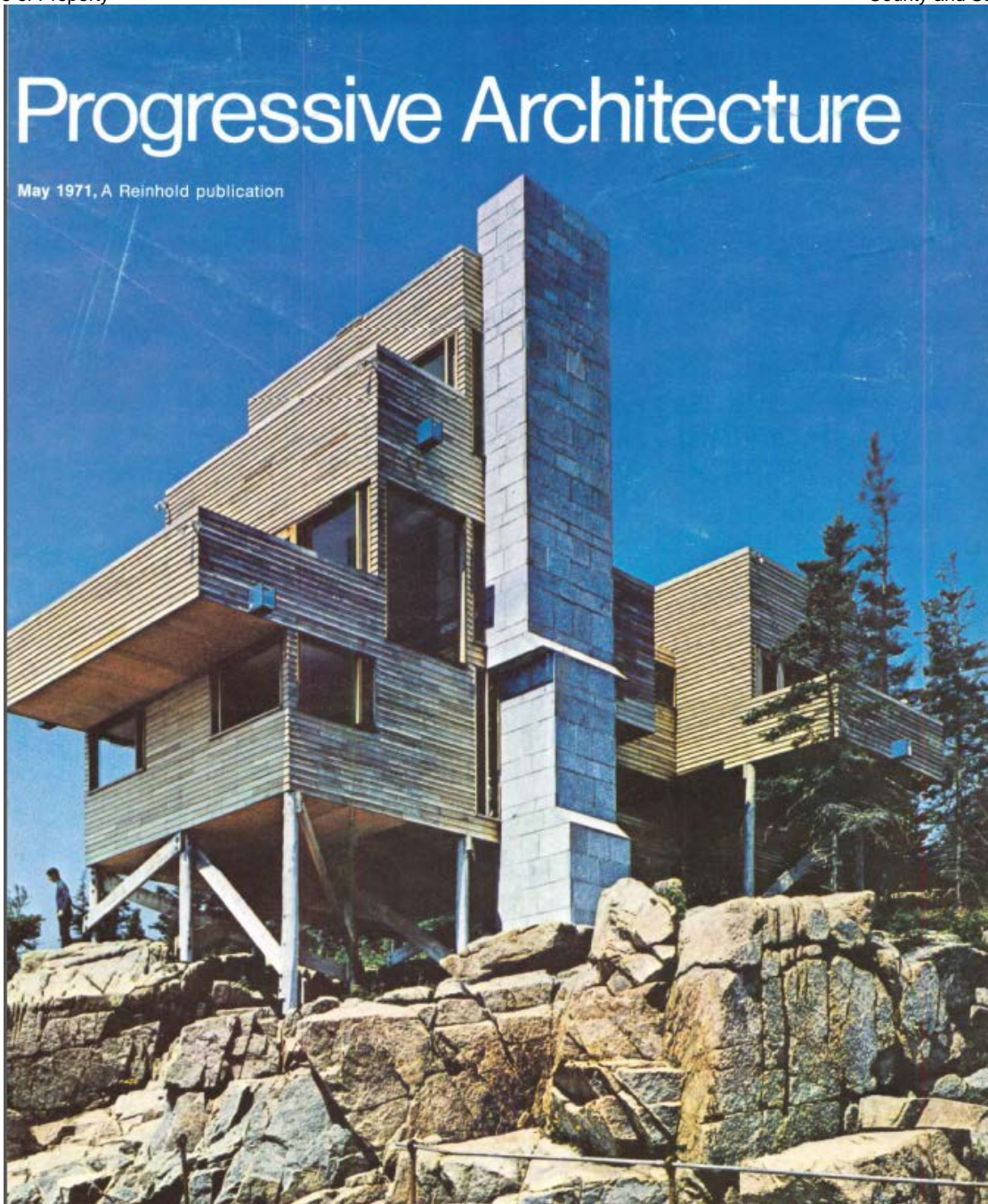


Figure 13. Cover of *Progressive Architecture*, May 1971, showing Klema House.

Wasserman House
Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT
County and State

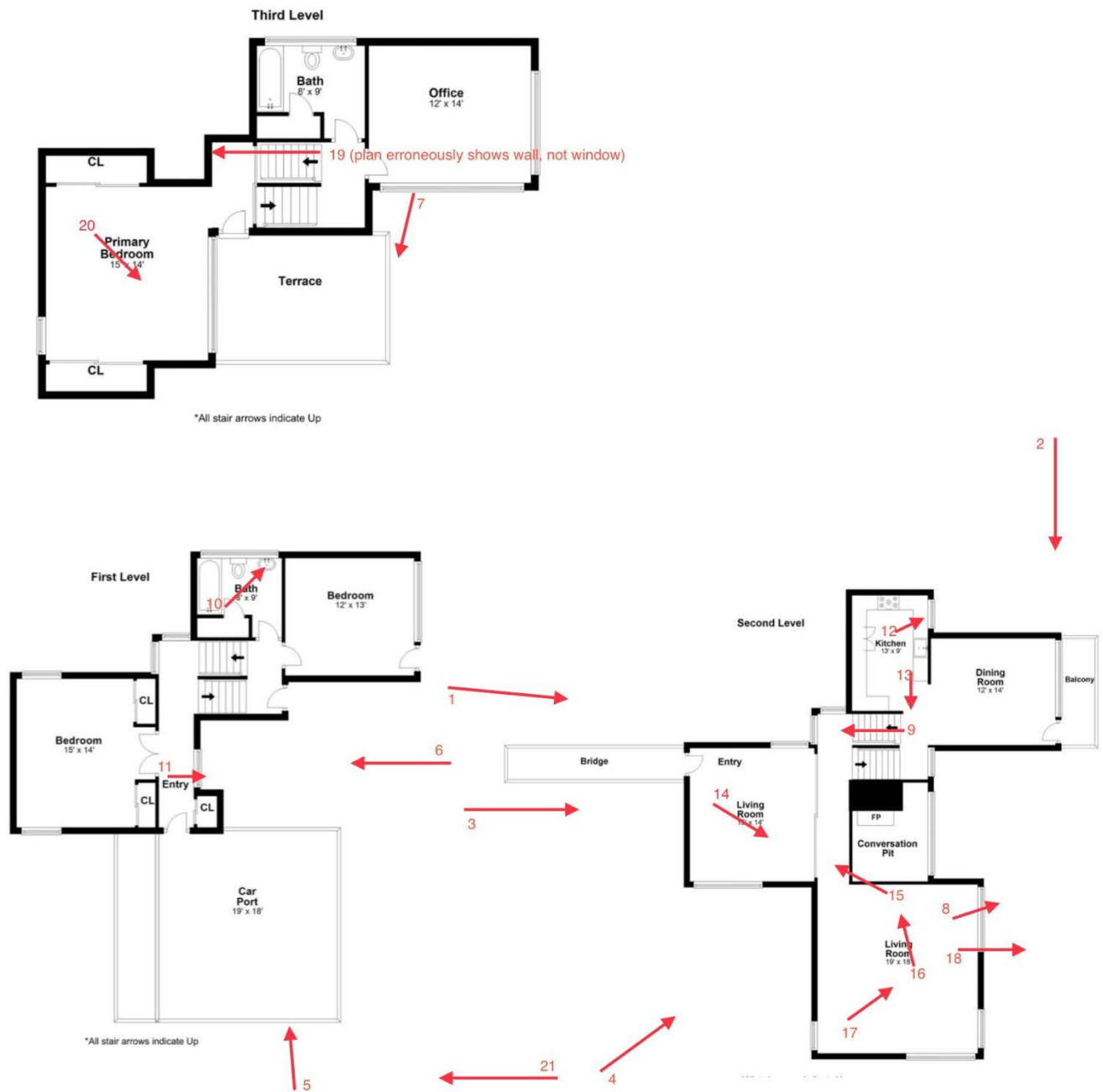


Figure 14. Wasserman House Photograph Key (number and direction shown in red).

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Dr. Harvey and Rhoda Wasserman House

City or Vicinity: Weston

County: Fairfield

State: Connecticut

Photographer: Craig Bloom

Date Photographed: March 2-3, 2024

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 21. Main tower and central staircase with glass landings, looking southeast.
- 2 of 21. North (side) elevation showing cantilevered kitchen and primary bedroom closet, looking south.
- 3 of 21. Front bridge entrance, looking east at façade (west elevation).
- 4 of 21. Southwest corner, looking northeast.
- 5 of 21. South (side) elevation, showing back entrance from carport, with living room above, looking north.
- 6 of 21. Rear (east) elevation showing three towers and new pool and patio, looking west.
- 7 of 21. Copper rainspouts off living room, looking south.
- 8 of 21. Copper rainspouts on rear (east) elevation, looking east.
- 9 of 21. Open central stairs from living room to 5th level, looking west.
- 10 of 21. Detail showing original remaining cedar paneling, windows and built-in medicine cabinet with mirror in bathroom, looking north. Level 1.

Wasserman House

Name of Property

Fairfield County, CT

County and State

- 11 of 21. Detail of chimney and interior cedar siding with vented radiator, facing south. Level 2.
- 12 of 21. Kitchen and dining room looking east. Level 3.
- 13 of 21. Sliding panel door in kitchen, looking south towards conversation pit and living room. Level 3.
- 14 of 21. Entrance room looking southeast into living room. Level 4.
- 15 of 21. Sliding door panels dividing entrance room, looking northwest. Level 4.
- 16 of 21. Living room, conversation pit, entrance room looking north into kitchen. Level 4.
- 17 of 21. Living room, looking east. Level 4.
- 18 of 21. Detail of ventilation panels in living room, looking south. Level 4.
- 19 of 21. Cantilevered primary bedroom closet, looking west. Level 6.
- 20 of 21. Primary bedroom and terrace, looking southeast. Level 6.
- 21 of 21. Non-contributing bank barn, in wetlands, with house in background, looking west.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

Wasserman House Photographs, March 2-3, 2024



1 of 21. Main tower and central staircase with glass landings, looking southeast.



2 of 21. North (side) elevation showing cantilevered kitchen and primary bedroom closet, looking south.



3 of 21. Front bridge entrance, looking east at façade (west elevation).



4 of 21. Southwest corner, looking northeast.



5 of 21. South (side) elevation, showing back entrance from carport, with living room above, looking north.



6 of 21. Rear (east) elevation showing three towers and new pool and patio, looking west.



7 of 21. Copper rainspouts off living room, looking south.



8 of 21. Copper rainspouts on rear (east) elevation, looking east.



9 of 21. Open central stairs from living room to 5th level, looking west.



10 of 21. Detail showing original remaining cedar paneling, windows and built-in medicine cabinet with mirror in bathroom, looking north. Level 1.



11 of 21. Detail of chimney and interior cedar siding with vented radiator, facing south. Level 2.



12 of 21. Kitchen and dining room looking east. Level 3.



13 of 21. Sliding panel door in kitchen, looking south towards conversation pit and living room. Level 3.



14 of 21. Entrance room looking southeast into living room. Level 4.



15 of 21. Sliding door panels dividing entrance room, looking northwest. Level 4.



16 of 21. Living room, conversation pit, entrance room looking north into kitchen. Level 4.



17 of 21. Living room, looking east. Level 4.



18 of 21. Detail of ventilation panels in living room, looking south. Level 4.



19 of 21. Cantilevered primary bedroom closet, looking west. Level 6.



20 of 21. Primary bedroom and terrace, looking southeast. Level 6.



21 of 21. Non-contributing bank barn, in wetlands, with house in background, looking west.