

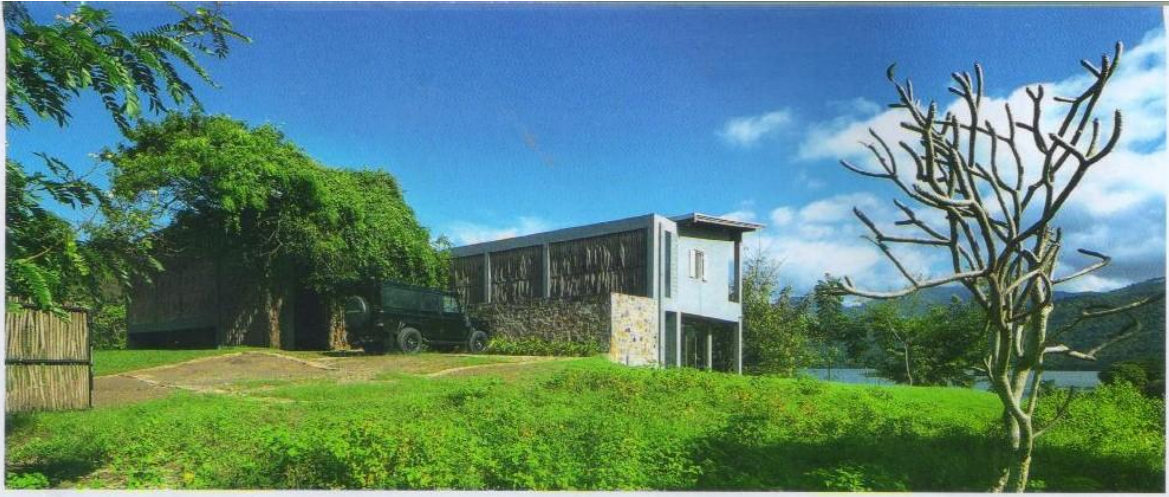


A place of refuge

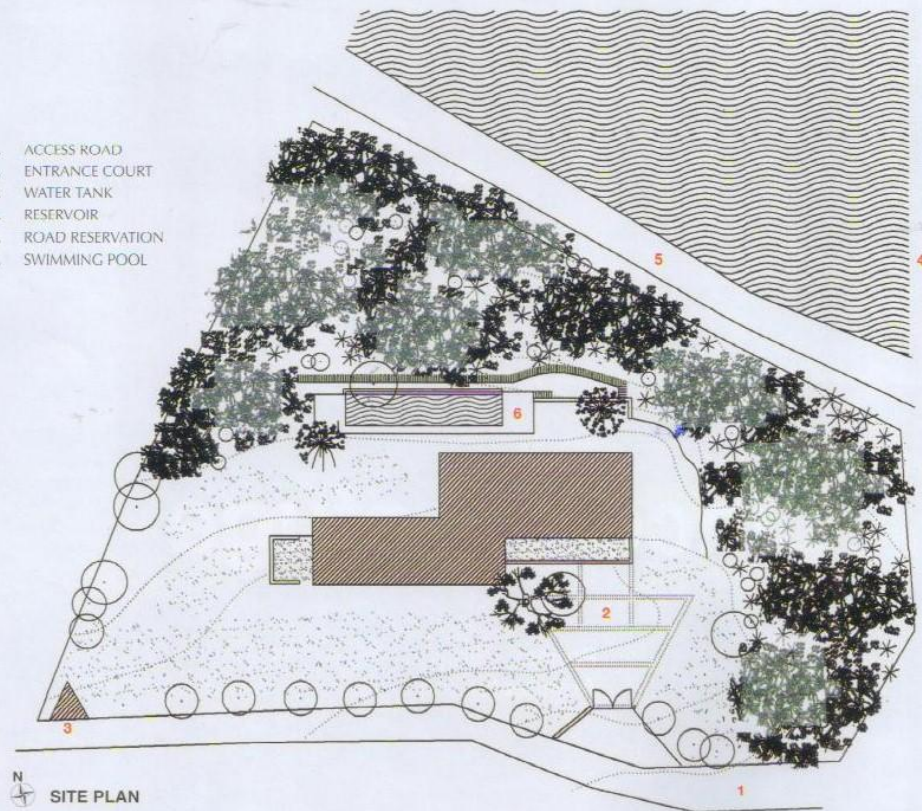
Project: Kurundu House, Sri Lanka
Architects: Zowa Architects, Sri Lanka



Pradeep Kodikara

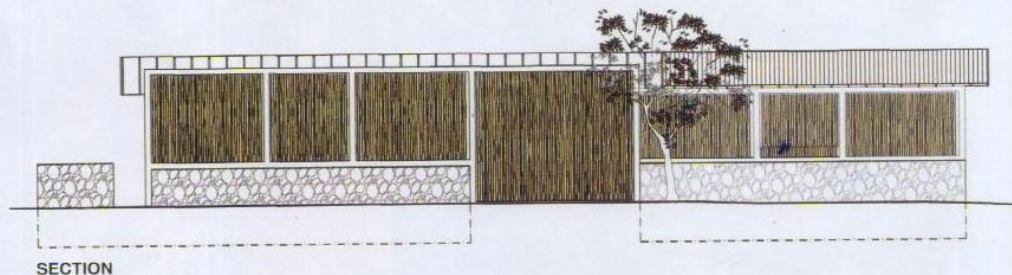


1. ACCESS ROAD
2. ENTRANCE COURT
3. WATER TANK
4. RESERVOIR
5. ROAD RESERVATION
6. SWIMMING POOL



Tucked away in a remote mountain side off the Digana golf club road is Kurundu house, a small four-bedroom retreat for a busy financial consultant and his family. The site is a 132-perch bare plot except for a lonely Kohomba tree. There is no visible habitation in its immediate environs and one is immediately aware of the openness and loneliness. To add further drama,

it overlooks a branch of the Victoria reservoir which fills up during the rainy season, and in the far distance is the Hunnsagiriya mountains. The approach from the main road is a rough track winding through small village huts, vegetable gardens and large Mara trees, and finally up a steep rocky lane that lands at the site. This is when one is confronted for the first time with the breathtaking view.



SECTION

stick façade gives access to the double height verandah. There is no front door.

The lower verandah gives to a third living space which is a closable glazed living room which can be air conditioned. This is a place of refuge when the lower verandah is not usable during thunderstorms or during the hot days of the year. The two solid blocks are treated simply, with lean roofs draining to a common concrete slab that gathers rain water. The walls are not plastered, painted brick work, and floors are cut cement in the rooms and rubble paved in the verandas. The spaces immediately in front and back of the building are grassed to give foreground to the building but the rest of the land will be left to stay wild. +

Factfile

Design team: Pradeep Kodikara

Consultants: Signet consultants (Structural), Thushara de Silva (Electrical), Pradeep Kodikara and Shilpa Perera (Interior), Channa Wickramasuriya (Landscape), Nimal Perera (Plumbing), Chula Jeewakaratna (Quantity surveyor)

Contractors: M Kalyanaratna

Built-up area: 4,300sq ft

Cost of project: 36.2 million LKR

Year of completion: 2015

Company names of products/materials used: Pool – Foster and Reed pvt ltd; Furniture – Lee furniture pvt ltd; Aluminium work – Alufitters ltd

Tropical Modernism

