

VILLA OIVALA  
IOVA KALLIO

CHALMERS  
NORDIC ARCHITECTURE  
SPRING SEMESTER 2019

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## OIVA KALLIO

Oiva Sakari Kallio was one of Finland's leading architects of the early 1900s. He was born 23rd of July 1884 in Alaveteli and died in Helsinki in August 1964. From a young age it was clear that Kallio was gifted in the arts and would produce sketches and paintings proving it, with some kept available to view in archive. His future *Villa Oivala* would have similarities to the farmhouse he lived in, in the form of 'tupa'.

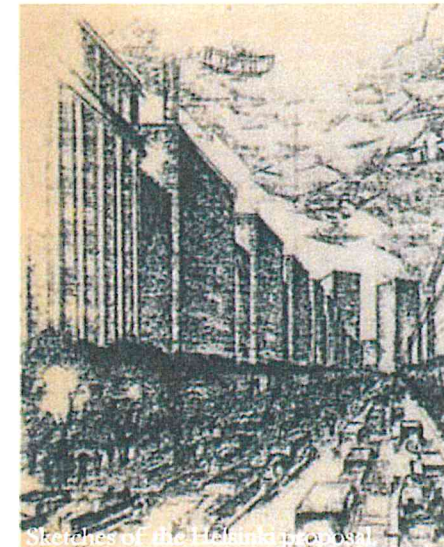
Kallio has been a huge influence in the Helsinki functionalism but his architectural style extends from baroque to classicism and modernism. Kallio qualified as an architect in 1908 and ran his own business from 1912 until the late 1950s. Perhaps his most visionary work is the proposal for the competition to design the city centre of Helsinki held in 1924, which he finalized some years later. In Kallio's proposal, Helsinki is seen as a monumental and cosmopolitan metropol. The proposal was never realised.

**OIVA KALLIO, ARCHITECT  
HELSINKI, FINLAND  
1884 - 1964**



## EDUCATION & EARLY

Kallio was a graduate of Polytechnic Coll where he attended from 1904 to 1908. He classed as a fine draftsman. He was also to have a key interest in residential architecture during his time at college. He entered Kulosaaren Villa competition in 1907 and finished in 5th place while he was still studying a domestic architecture project. As many graduated of Nordic architecture schools, at graduation Kallio travelled, however he finished his ventures across Northern Europe.



Sketches of the Helsinki proposal

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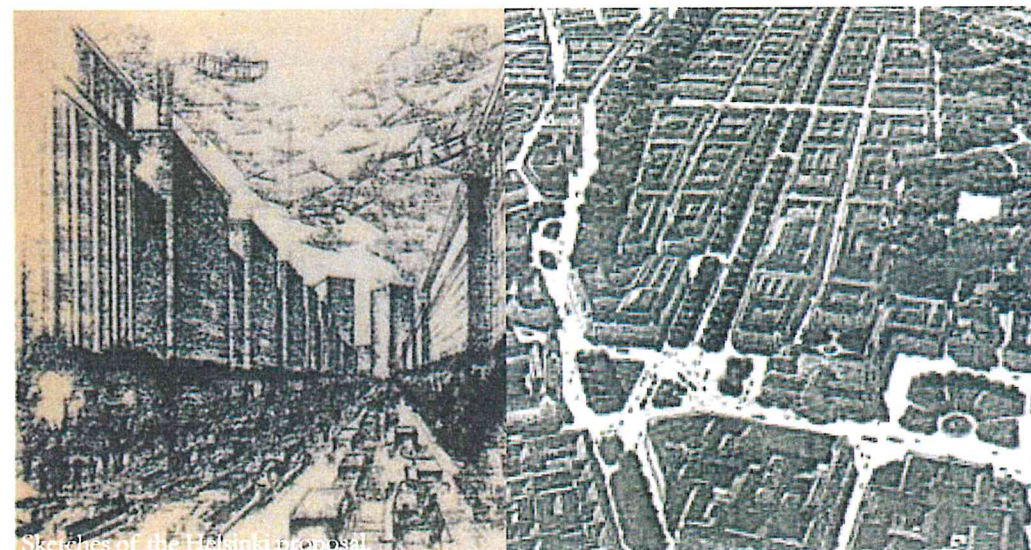
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## EDUCATION & EARLY CAREER

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had many study trips to neighbouring Nordic countries like Iceland, Norway and Sweden. From this time there is unfortunately only one sketchbook remaining from his visits, this does show his interest in the cityscape and especially focused on contemporary buildings. He produced detailed drawn views of Munich and Salzburg's views and some baroque church interiors.



Sketches of the Helsinki proposal

## PRACTICE

Kallio opened his own office in 1912 before *Karkeku church*, his first erected building, had been completed. Before that and throughout his career he also worked along with his elder brother in numerous projects. His sketching and drawing style were minimal, and he was a fan of refining his work to one single page. All the important drawings were confined to one page showing floor plans, facades and some technical detailing.

The style of the buildings designed by Kallio extends from a baroque castle – the main office of SOK in the centre of Helsinki – to classicism, functionalism and modernism. He has become famous for his skill of combining opposing materials into a unique, fascinating whole and became one of the early representatives of Finnish functionalism. His most famous functionalist building is the business building of Pohja in Kaisaniemi, Helsinki. His more classicistic *Villa Kallio* was also to become a model of relaxed country living for almost every future Scandinavian summer house of the twentieth century. The most famous competition Kallio has won is the Etu- Töölö Township Competition.



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**Karkku Church**  
1912  
Sastamala, Finland



**SOK head office**  
1918-1921  
Helsinki, Finland



**Aurejärvi Church**  
1921-1924  
Aurejärven, Finland

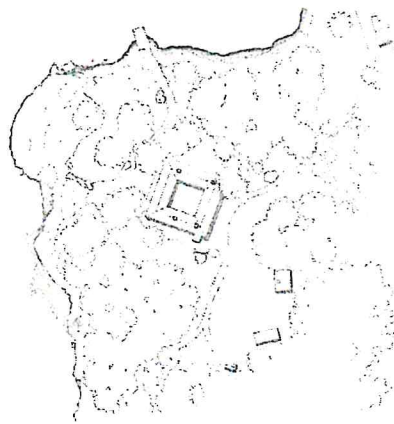


**Northern Ostrobothnia Museum**  
1931  
Uleåborg, Finland

## VILLA OIVALA

The trend of a 'summerhouse' is not only reserved for the warmer months, functional all year round as there is no restrictions against using it as a permanent home. A place of leisure and an escape from the city. The homes themselves tend to be built close to the waterfront and be surrounded by large gardens or woodlands. Similar to Sweden, in the Finnish culture it is normal to have access to a summerhouse. There are around 461,400 summerhouse in Finland, meaning that on average  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the population owns a second villa.

### VILLA OIVALA OIVA KALLIO 1924

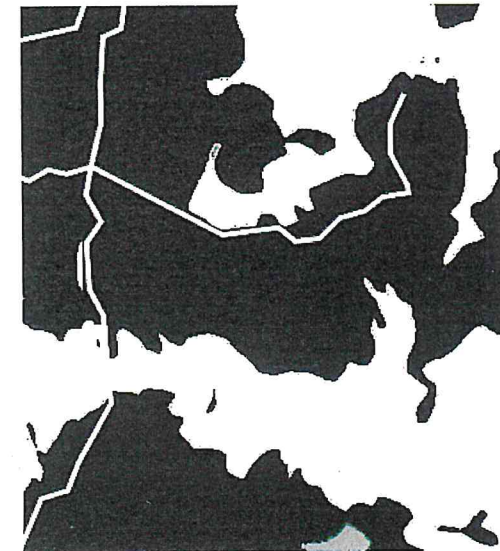


**Villa Oivala**, was Oiva Kallio's personal summer house for himself and family. On returning from a road trip to Italy, with his wife, he began the development of his villa. It would become Finland's first Atrium-type Villa. Kallio had purchased some land on an island off Helsinki, where he positioned his building within thick pinewoods, near a rocky water edge. With views of the forest and the sea it was a perfect location. Life at the villa for Kallio and his wife was simple, they would tend the garden, planting flowers. A natural and healthy lifestyle with use of the sauna, go for morning swims and take trips on his motorboat.

## THE LOCATION - VILLIN

The housing situation in Helsinki was very difficult in the early 20th century. In 1910 there was about 74% of houses that only have a single room, with 67% of the population being inhabited in these. The population was at around 157,000 by 1919 and approximately 96,000 of these people had only 1 or 2 room in their apartments.

**Villinki** is an island off Helsinki where Kallio purchases several acres of land to build his own summer house. The island has two fa-



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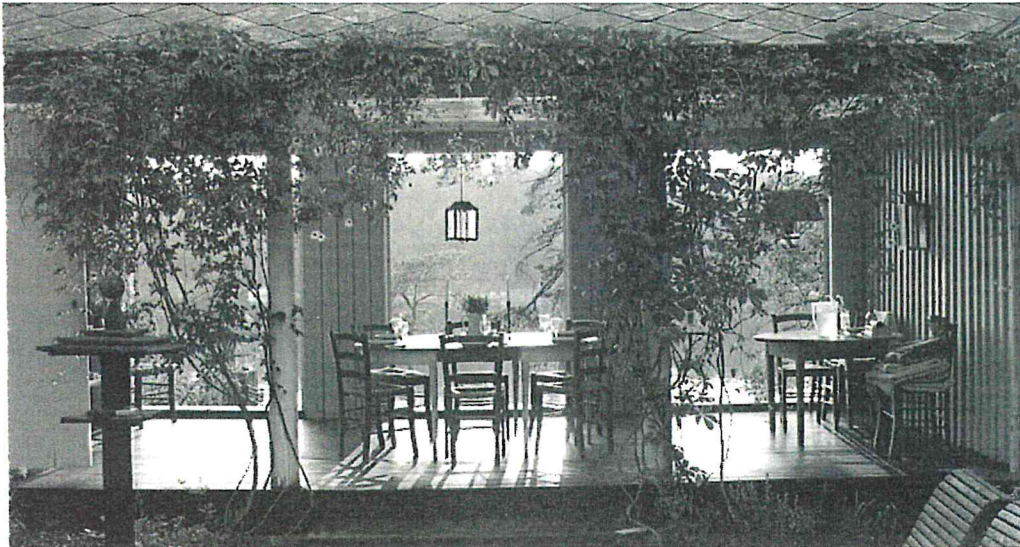
ces, the south, a wave-breaking rocky surface with open views to the sea, and a small forest that provided a sheltered cove. The island is small with on around 50 permanent residents. It was a fisherman village since the 18th century, however during the 19th century it became a spot for wealthy people to built villas and summerhouses. It was a South Province Island from the 1st of September 1997 to the 1st of January 2010. The island has many saunas and fireplace rooms across it.



## THE IDEA OF THE VILLA

This atrium villa has an enclosed courtyard, small rooms and a simple porch with columns. The atrium is the heart of the building and everything is centred around it, however the rooms are facing outwards. The rooms are on a smaller scale as the purpose of the villa is to spend time outdoors. The inner ceiling heights are only 2.33m. Kallio created an atrium that has a fresh and airy atmosphere, with column holding the roof over the terrace space, leaving the spaces semi-open to the atrium. The

atrium is a feature that is to be found within. Kallio has positioned it with the ability to have only brief sightings from the outside through the windows. Continuous views from one side of the villa to the other is a key feature the building has. The only thing separating the interior with the exterior are the boundaries of the walls, so the atrium provides as best of both worlds situations where the occupant can be covered but still outside, a very important feature to the summerhouse concept.



Atrium  
View toward



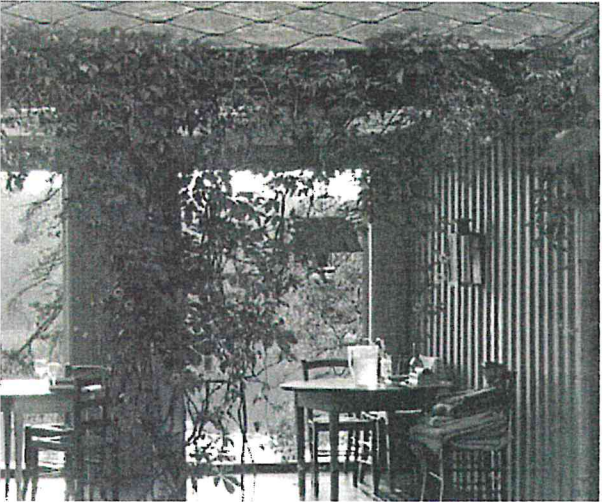
Detail  
Window



Detail  
Doors

A

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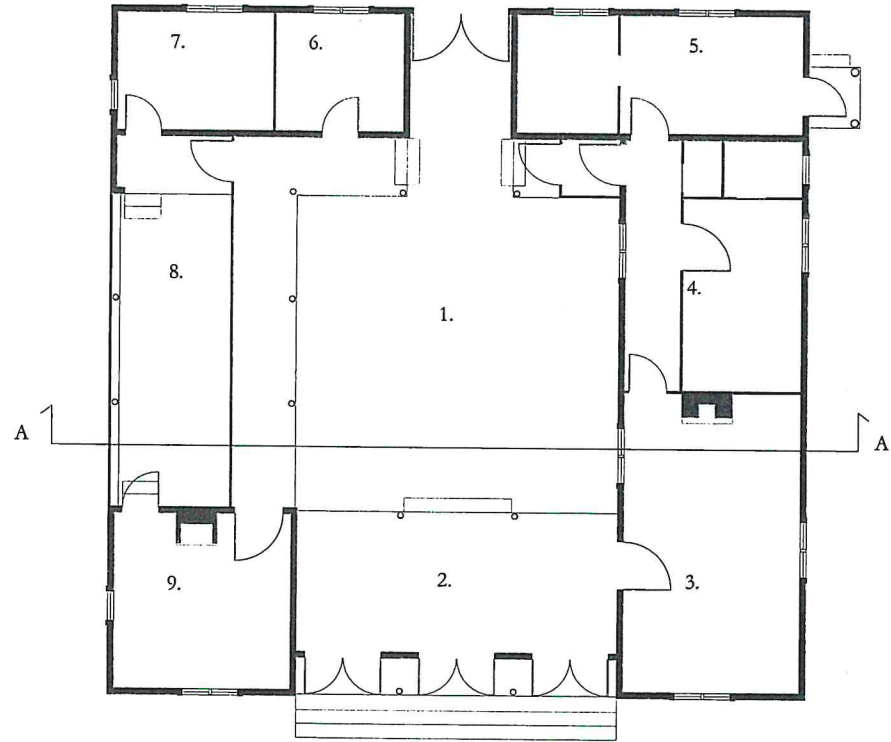


**Atrium**  
View towards porch

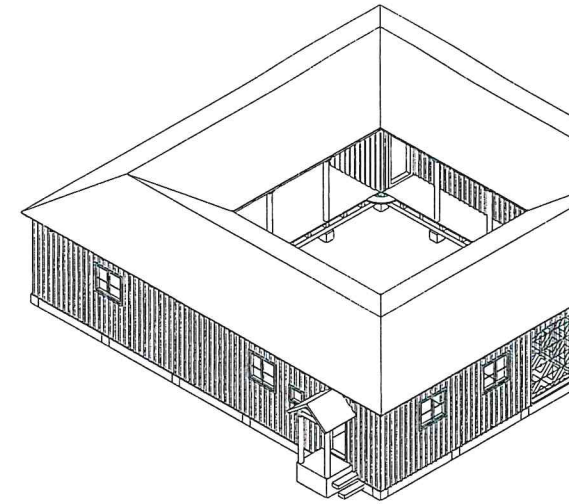


**Detail**  
Window





- |               |            |            |
|---------------|------------|------------|
| 1. Atrium     | 4. Bedroom | 7. Bedroom |
| 2. Terrass    | 5. Kitchen | 8. Garage  |
| 3. Livingroom | 6. Bedroom | 9. Bedroom |

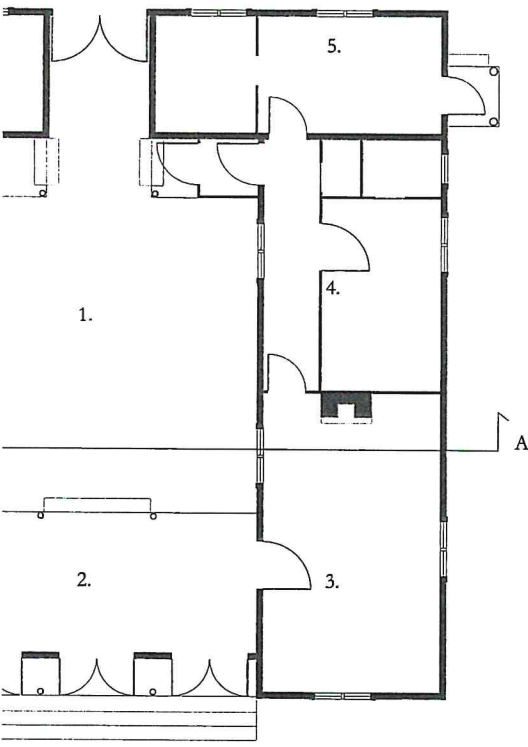


## THE PLAN DRAWING

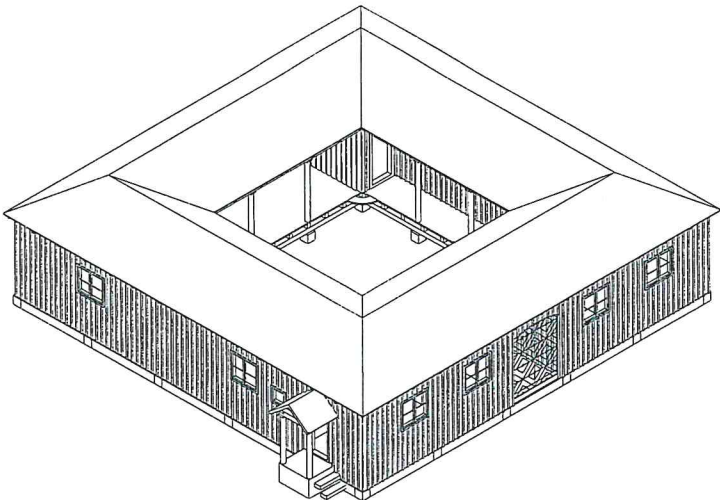
As a tradition Finnish Summerhouse, the rooms positions have been planned in detail with how the sun travels and where the light will be:

Living room and Workroom face the towards the bay for views and the evening sun. Sleeping alcoves are positioned facing the south west. The kitchen receives the sun in the morning from the east. Sheltered Terrace, bask in afternoon sun as it is towards the east of the yard, addition of a bench to relax in the

sun. The sun, with heat and the evening cold evening the outside



- 4. Bedroom
- 5. Kitchen
- 6. Bedroom
- 7. Bedroom
- 8. Garage
- 9. Bedroom

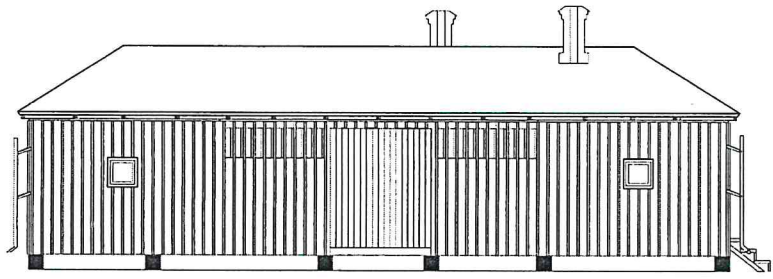


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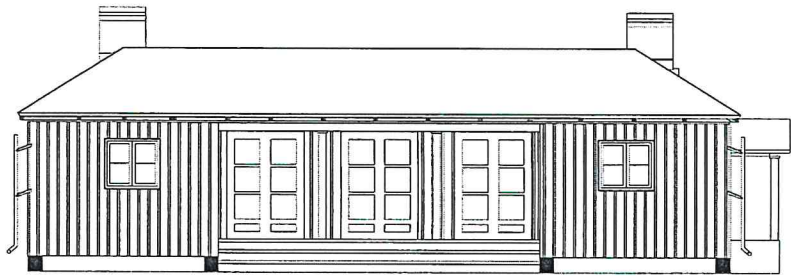
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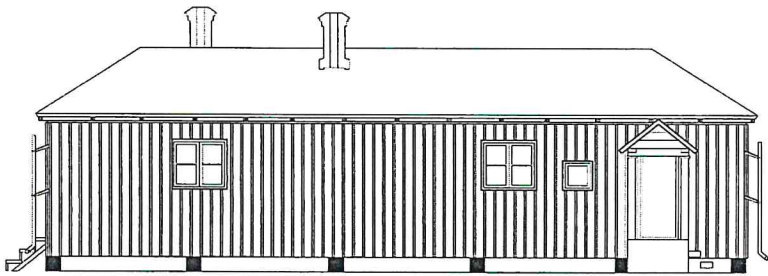
sun. The courtyard receives the early morning sun, with the veranda offering shade from the heat and then again gets the last rays of sun in the evening. Glass doors, shield you from the cold evenings but continues the connect with the outside



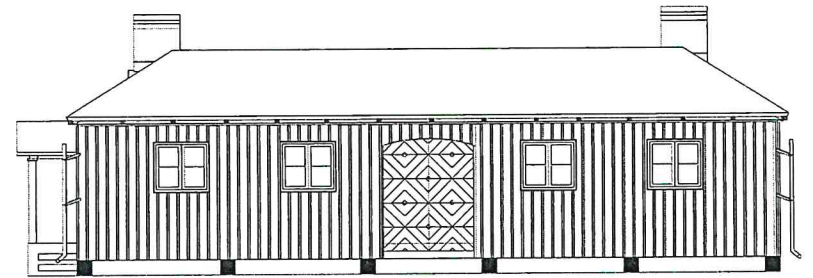
West Facade | Scale 1:150



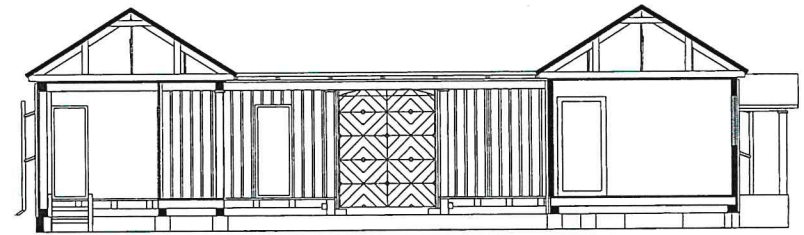
South Facade | Scale 1:150



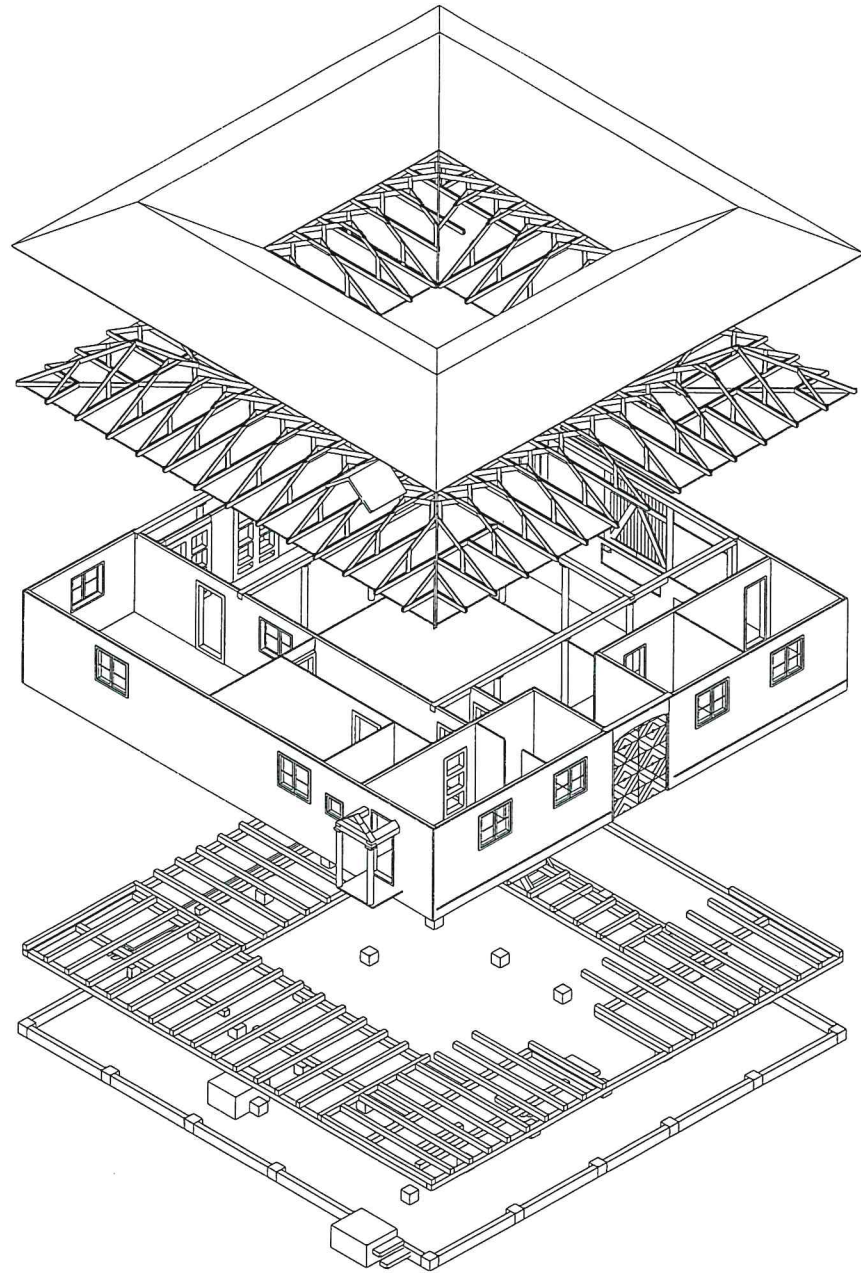
East Facade | Scale 1:150

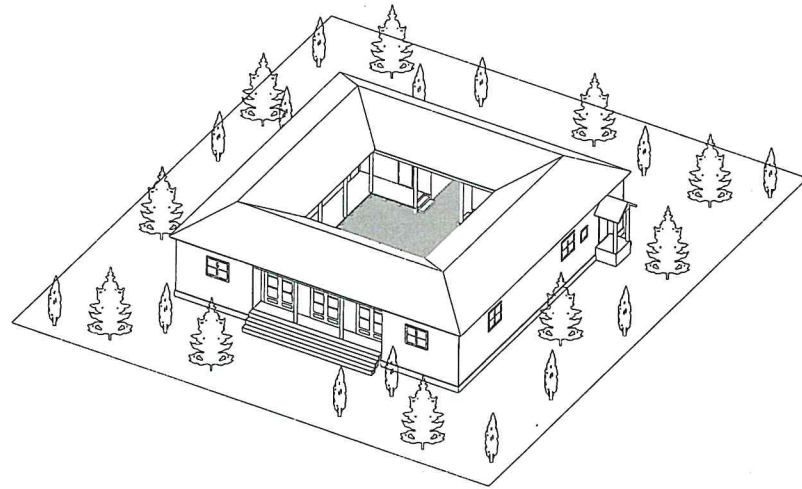


North Facade | Scale 1:150



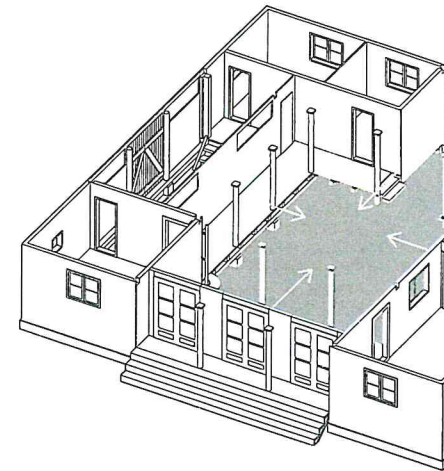
Section A-A | Scale 1:150



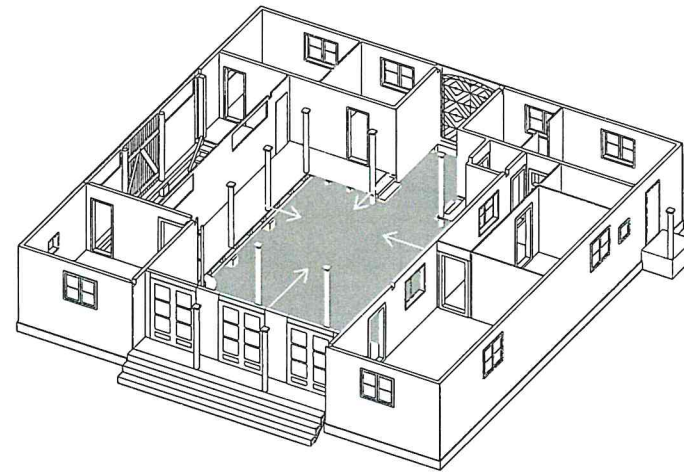
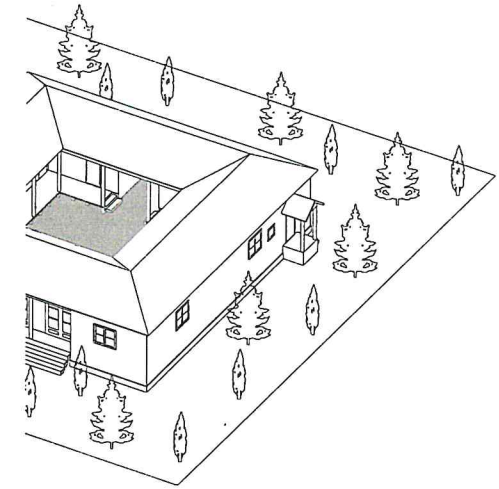


## 1 SITE

Villa Oivala is situated in the wild forest, framing an atrium where the nature is tamed and ordered.

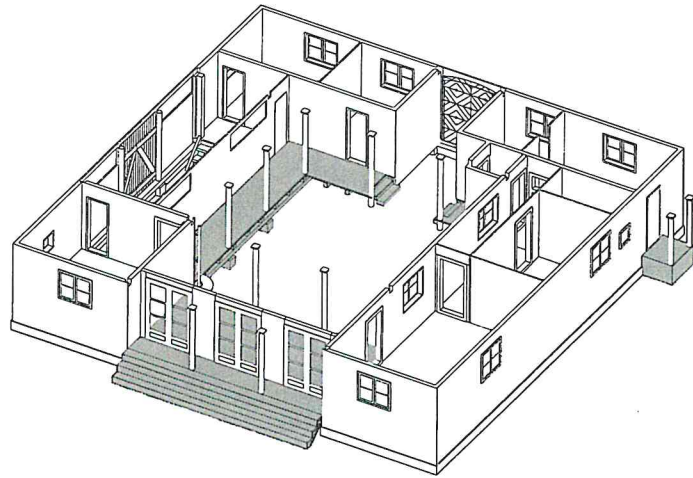


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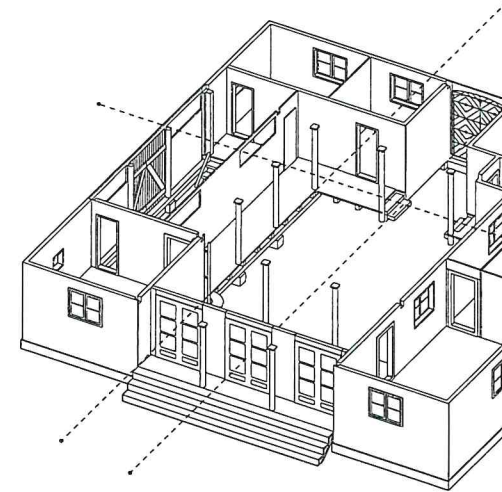
## 2 ATRIUM

The atrium is the heart and essence of the villa, the center everything is organized around. The whole villa seems to turn towards the atrium, making that the most important space of the building.

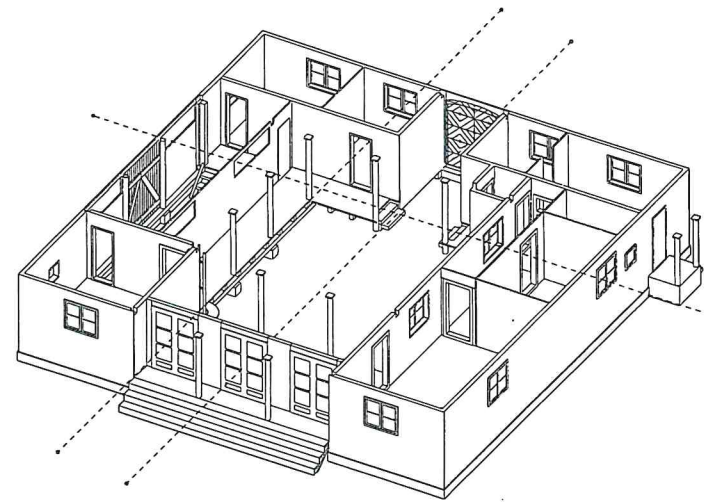
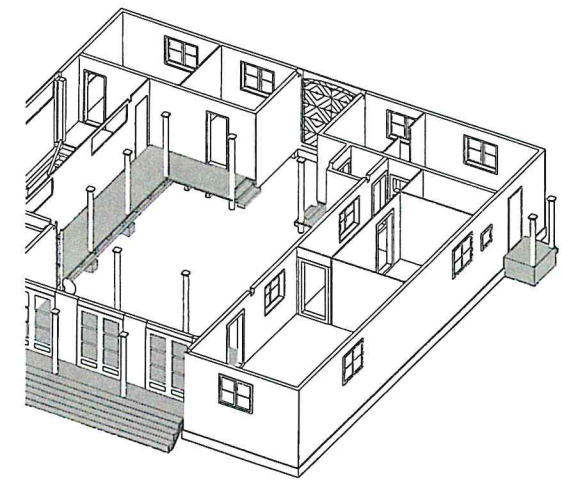


### 3 OUTDOOR GRADIANT

The form of the villa enclose anw atrium but also creates other outdoorspaces by opening it's self up in different places. By removing a wall and replacing it with columns intimate and protected outdoorspaces are created. These places works as an extension of the villa, erasing the border between outdoor and indoor.



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## 4 SIGHT LINES

The direct view to the lake from the entrance through the big doors on the terrass makes the villa monumental in it's placing and direction. It's an important sightline that charchterises the place and building. Other sightlines, shown in the diagram, runs through the whole building connecting the different spaces to oneanother.

