

ARCHITECT'S PLAN



# FAR PAVILIONS

A series of structures linked by courtyards, this Hout Bay home was designed to make the most of its scenic environment



AT A GLANCE  
THE ARCHITECT AND CLIENT:

Paolo Deliperi of Paolo Deliperi Architect who lives here with his wife, Vicki, and their two children, Tia (6) and Matteo (3).

**THE BRIEF:**

A contemporary house with natural wood finishes that incorporates two home offices.

**THE HOUSE:**

A 375m<sup>2</sup> three-bedroom home made up of interconnected buildings with a separate loft studio and a good indoor-outdoor flow.



“We chose the site for its intimate nature, privacy and uninterrupted views of the mountain reserve,” says architect Paolo Deliperi of his house in Kenrock Country Estate in Hout Bay, which is set on the foothills of Table Mountain surrounded by wetlands and forest.

“We built the house before having children so we’ve done a few renovations over the years as our needs have changed,” he explains. “It was always my intention to have a separate home studio where I can run my practice, but also interact with my family on a daily basis.”

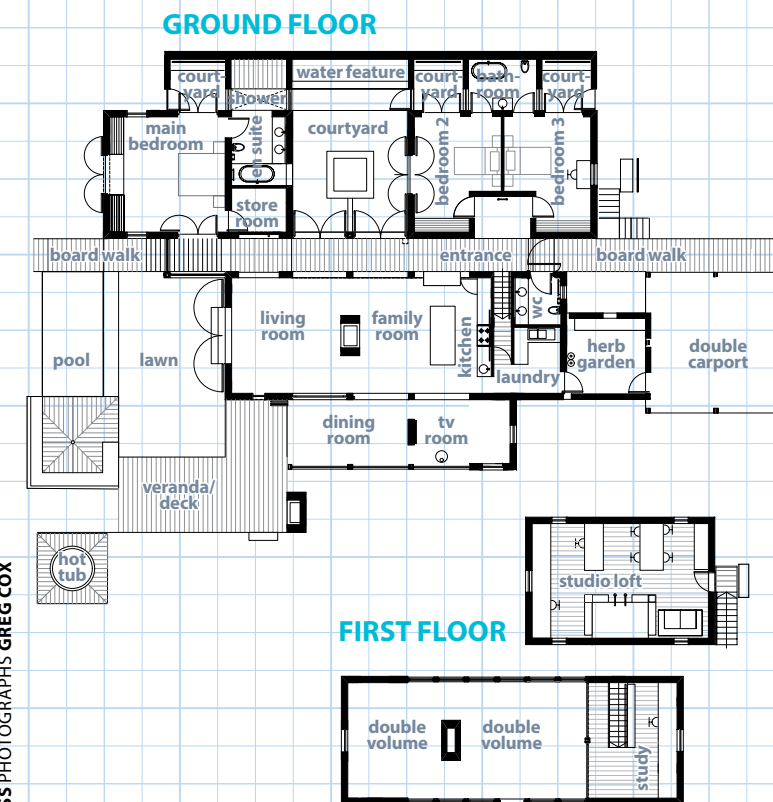
Paolo completed his undergraduate and postgraduate studies at UCT and spent his practical year working in Milan, where he completed his master’s degree. After working for Gregotti Associati in Milan and later with Louw Apostollelis Bergenthuin in Jo’burg, he returned to Cape Town in 1998 to start his own practice. “I run my studio as a solo practice and focus on residential, resorts and leisure architecture,” he says.

Paolo believes a building should always be relevant and appropriate to its setting. He designed his own house as a series of pavilions each with their own function. One houses the living rooms and kitchen, another the main bedroom with the children’s bedrooms in the third. They’re all linked by a covered boardwalk that acts as a central ‘spine’. A study is tucked under the roof above the kitchen while the studio is situated above the children’s bedrooms.

The house is on a fairly tight site, but Paolo was able to give the building an expansive, airy feeling by opening the bedrooms onto enclosed courtyards and the living areas onto the veranda. The decking that runs right through the house, visually dividing the living areas from the bedrooms, is repeated outdoors to link the interiors with the garden.

As each pavilion is one room wide, there’s good cross ventilation and they’re easy to heat and cool. The open courtyards between them bring in plenty of northern light reducing the need for artificial lighting.

“I enjoy working with timber, glass, steel, zinc, rammed earth and any material that ages gracefully,” says Paolo. This is certainly evident in the amount of natural finishes that give his house a timeless quality with loads of textural interest.



TEXT DIANA WEMYSS PHOTOGRAPHS GREG COX

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