



## UNWINDING IN THE VERANDAH

Text : Team Design Detail / Photos: Bharat Aggarwal

This novel residence with a highly detailed and well executed design takes complete advantage of its pristine surroundings by weaving the interiors with the exterior. The rapid urbanisation comes at a cost and it was one of the reasons that prompted the Munshaw family, who lived in a Colonial-style house in a highly populated area of the Ahmedabad city, to move out to a quieter and picturesque place.

Their new home now sits on a four acre land, located in the idyllic outskirts of Ahmadabad, with lush greenery, natural ponds and an existing outhouse in vernacular style. Since the family members travel a lot, they wanted the house also to serve as a gallery to store their memorabilia, including paintings, artefacts, books, Persian rugs and their ancestral heirlooms.



Ar. Arpan Shah

## MODO

Modo Designs is an architecture firm based in Ahmedabad incepted in the year 2002. The name Modo comes from the Latin for of its time. The firm believes in participation based design where the client's desires, architects concepts, the characteristics of the site and its cultural and historical relevance comes into play. This forms the basis of an exploratory and research based design. The firm's vision is to develop innovative, imaginative and sensible design manifested in construction finesse.

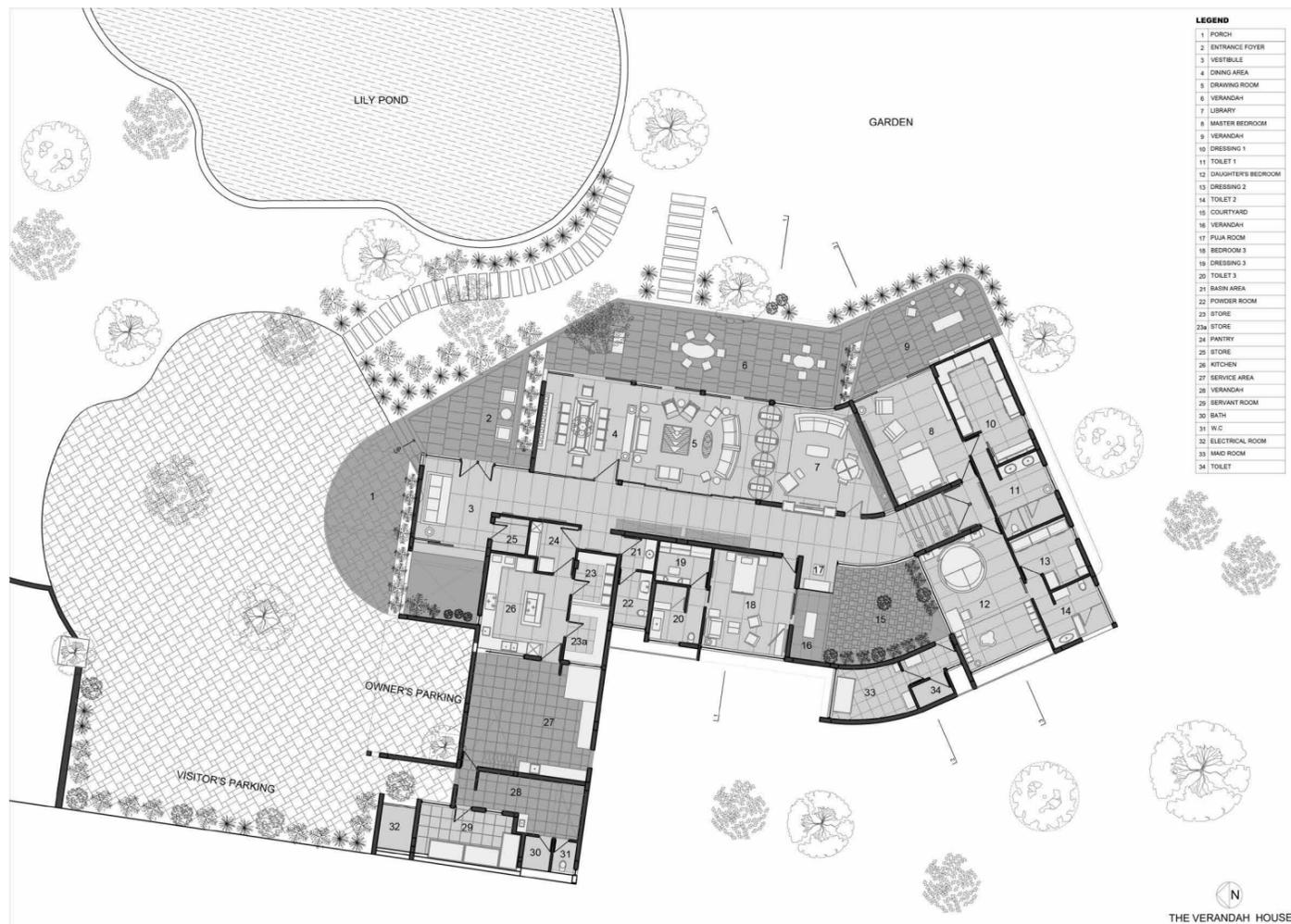


The client's brief for the new house was that it should not have a rigid, box-like orthogonal form. The architect used this as a cue for his curvilinear design, blending the inspiration from the site and the client's Colonial-style ancestral house. The culminating space is a continuum of the interiors and exteriors, combining opulence and earthiness. The design draws on the beautiful verdure of the site.

A large verandah was proposed with an extending 15-foot cantilevered eave that allows for uncompromising views of the scenery and overlooks the lily pond. The verandah is divided into levels according to the topography of the site. The long eave of the verandah ensures that the glazed partitions are not met with direct glare from the sun at any point of time. The public spaces like dining, living and library are arrayed along the verandah







- LEGEND**
- 1 PORCH
  - 2 ENTRANCE FOYER
  - 3 VESTIBULE
  - 4 DINING AREA
  - 5 DRAWING ROOM
  - 6 VERANDAH
  - 7 LIBRARY
  - 8 MASTER BEDROOM
  - 9 VERANDAH
  - 10 DRESSING 1
  - 11 TOILET 1
  - 12 DAUGHTER'S BEDROOM
  - 13 DRESSING 2
  - 14 TOILET 2
  - 15 COURTYARD
  - 16 VERANDAH
  - 17 PUA ROOM
  - 18 BEDROOM 3
  - 19 DRESSING 3
  - 20 TOILET 3
  - 21 BAIN AREA
  - 22 POWDER ROOM
  - 23 STORE
  - 23a STORE
  - 24 PANTRY
  - 25 STORE
  - 26 KITCHEN
  - 27 SERVICE AREA
  - 28 VERANDAH
  - 29 SERVANT ROOM
  - 30 BATH
  - 31 W.C.
  - 32 ELECTRICAL ROOM
  - 33 MAID ROOM
  - 34 TOILET

THE VERANDAH HOUSE

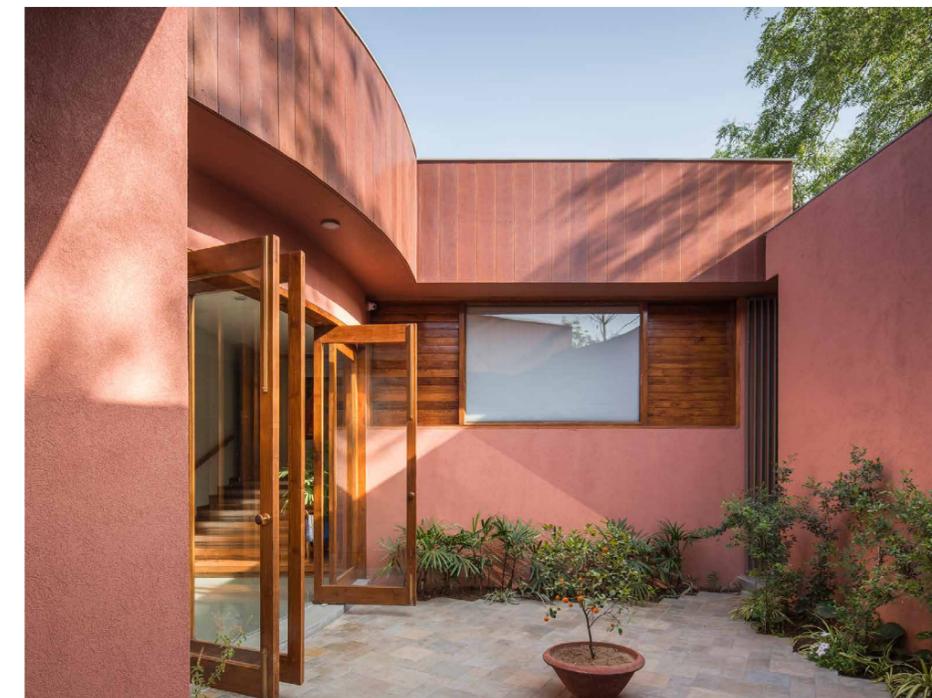
**FACT FILE**

PROJECT TITLE : VERANDAH HOUSE  
 LOCATION : RANCHODPURA, OUTSKIRTS OF AHMEDABAD, INDIA  
 PRACTICE : MODO DESIGNS  
 TYPOLOGY : RESIDENCE  
 ARCHITECT : ARPAN SHAH  
 CONSULTANTS : AMEE ASSOCIATES (STRUCTURAL CONSULTANT), PVDRS (INTERIOR DESIGN)  
 AREA : 6800 SQ. FT.  
 YEAR : 2018

to make use of the view. As it is hidden from the entryway, the visitor will get a pleasant surprise when welcomed into the interiors.

The continuous exterior wall that covers the entry ensures the privacy of the open interior spaces. A long hallway aligned north-south acts as the central spine of the house with the public quarters towards the east overlooking the lily pond and the private quarters such as the kitchen, service spaces and a bedroom towards the west. The hallway has skylights through which natural light streams inside. The master bedroom, associated spaces and the daughter's bedroom are located at the end of the hallway. A courtyard is also located where the hallway terminates.

The materiality compliments the theme of interlacing the exterior with the interior.



While Valsadi wood has been used for door panelling, the exterior finishes include natural jute panels for the curving cantilever, while the underside of it is polished concrete. The cantilever also has a niche for an existing tree.

The entry wall is a terracotta coloured textured surface and the interior walls are white with complimenting glazed Kota stone used for the floor. Meanwhile the stone's rough polished version is

used for the verandah. The interiors are also articulated using heirloom furniture and custom made modern furnishing. The book shelves in the library are set to revolve to enable the user to close off the area from the living room.

The architect combines careful material choices, innovative structural planning and a curvilinear form to create this space that seamlessly integrates the interior with the exterior.

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