TULANE URBANbuild 01

PROJECT DATA:

DESCRIPTION:
Tulane URBANbuild 01 places a particular emphasis on programmatic adaptability as well as the relationship between public and private in connection to the street. The building is elevated from the ground addressing flooding issues in the area, yet still maintains a good connection to the public street life. “In this project, the differentiation of public and private components is achieved by shifting the linear volumes of the typical symmetrical shotgun house into a new planimetric and section spatial asymmetry, enriching lateral communication across the site while maintaining the narrow building to lot relationships emblematic of the historic neighborhoods of the city.” (urbanbuild.net) This design is strong in keeping the traditional connection to the street while still allowing the primary living spaces to be elevated above the flood plain.

PROJECT TYPE: single family home
CONTEXT: prototype, New Orleans, LA, hot and humid climate
COMPLETION: 2006
ARCHITECT: Tulane URBANbuild
TOTAL SF: 1370
UNITS/ACRE: 1
UNIT BREAKDOWN: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen, living, and dining area

HOME QUALITIES:
The programmatic adaptability of URBANbuild 01 is an important home quality. It “...can be built with slight variations which produce a duplex scheme; accommodating multigenerational living, two family living, or a mixed use scenario in which part of the house can be used as an office or small commercial space. There is also a strong connection from the house to the porch (where it is traditional to spend time), to the street- while still being elevated to keep the home safe from future flooding. The interior spaces are dynamic and flow well, with maximum natural daylighting.

MATERIALS AND ASSEMBLIES:
wood frame- built on site, masonry piers, siding, operable low-e coated windows, ceiling fans, tin roof with a slight slope

SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES:
Appropriate placement of windows to allow maximum daylighting (minimal east and west glazing and optimum on the south side shaded by the porch roof). Ceiling fans and operable windows are used to take advantage of natural ventilation. The efficient floor plan minimizes circulation and therefore unnecessary square footage.