



## Chiles Residence

Built upon the steel frame of the previous home and a love of mid-century modern art and architecture, the Chiles Residence provides both open perches and quiet retreats on its wooded hill site. Using rusted steel panels and white painted steel beams, along with wood, aluminum, and glass the house frames both art and views of the landscape.

Our design solution was to expose two of the six cubes of space created by the steel structure. This expression is most apparent as one leaves the land and enters the house. The main form of the plan of the house is a 48' x 48' square. Skylights open space & views between floors, minimal partitions dissolve the perimeter of each of the main level public spaces, and a maximized balance of wall and glass at the house perimeter each contribute to a flowing space with even ambient light.

To contrast the main level of the house that is set within the canopy of mature beech trees, our clients asked for a space that offered more sky than tree; a place to heighten senses and feelings of height and expansion. The resulting roof garden combines sculptural elements that, both in form and reason, counter the clearly defined steel structure. To access the roof one must step off the steel structure into the forest, via a spiral stair, then step back on to the building where the structure and form shift in response to the existing structure of the house. The roof canopy is also meant to provide shade and give presence to the building as you approach.

The 1960s home was left in disrepair for 15 years after a strong & thoughtful beginning in interpreting modern architectural space. The original designer chose an open frame steel structure to allow for the house to change as the occupants changed their needs throughout their lives.

We found the house in terrible shape, but still strong in concept.

We feel that our interpretation of architecture for the house honors its beginning and history, as well as accomplishes the vision of its current owners.