

# sunsetaddition

**BUILT:** 2003  
**COST:** \$320,000 (on budget)  
**CONTRACTOR:** James Gallagher

▼ View from the backyard shows the small masses engaging the landscape



## EXTERIOR

### COOL ROOF

This well insulated and all natural shingle roof will keep the house cool in summer and warm in winter. Since the material is natural, it will patina with age and not need to be painted or maintained. By avoiding toxic asphalt, the house could add a water catchment system from the roof in the future.

### CERTIFIED WOOD

It is no secret wood comes from trees. This wood is sustainably harvested and free of formaldehyde as found in most wood. It is treated with non-toxic sealants and is left exposed for looks and to avoid the need for painting. The warmth of the wood comes through.

### EXTERIOR FINISH

All natural and integrally colored stucco is durable and will never need painting. The stone base connects the house to the ground and complements the wood. The materials are shown in their honest form and reflect a desire for the natural.

### DIAMONDS

The clients had painted their living room in a diamond pattern, and the motif was carried through to the addition. These shapes influenced the plan, the shapes and the roof line.

### OUTDOOR ROOM

Rather than simply extending the existing house, the addition respectfully remains a single story and the masses are arranged around an outdoor room. This allows more light into the existing house.

## PASSIVE SOLAR

The masses of the house are oriented towards the sun, not the street. We know where the sun is at all times.

## INTERIOR DAYLIGHTING

The rooms are flooded with controlled, natural light. Not only does it reduce the need for electricity, but makes people happy too!

## NON-TOXIC

All of the paints, adhesives and finishes used in the home were selected for their low or zero toxic content. Vinyl was avoided to ensure a healthy and clean indoor air quality. Even the cleaning supplies were suggested to maintain the low toxins in the home.

## RECYCLED

Many of the finishes and fixtures contain a high recycled content. The windows and bathroom fixtures from the demolition were reused in the new addition. The floor is made from bamboo, a sustainable grass that avoids the need for using wood.

## INDOOR/OUTDOOR

Both rooms look out onto the outside and blur the line between inside and outside. The family can easily walk outside and back in again without effort. The windows are oriented for privacy. The decks are made from a recycled plastic and sawdust composite.

## OPEN STRUCTURE

By exposing the structure, the need for covering material is avoided. The beams extend past the walls to express the connection to the outside. The rhythm of the beams is carried down to the windows and doors in the walls. This geometry echoes throughout.

## PRIVACY

Clerestory windows allow natural light into the space while keeping the office private. The hallway beyond acts as a sun space whose entire roof is recycled plastic. The large window is raised for the desk and the deck is kept away from it for additional privacy.

▼ Outdoor room brings more light into existing house

▼ Master suite connects to backyard

▼ Office allows privacy with abundant natural light



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## Sun in the Fog Belt.

How do you add a master suite and office to the back of a house without cutting off the little bit of light currently coming in? Rather than extruding the existing house, a simple arrangement of one-story rooms creates a bright and open plan. Of course only natural, recycled and non toxic materials were used throughout the home.

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