

McClung Residence

Berkeley, California 1992

description New Residence and Carriage House
size 2400SF

This new house replaces a 1950's vintage modernist box destroyed in the Oakland/Berkeley Fire of 1991. The owners and architect share a deep sympathy for the principles which animated the work of Berkeley architects such as Maybeck, Stielberg and Morgan - simplicity, solidity and a delight in the beauty of nature. The site enjoys views of the Bay Bridge arching toward San Francisco to the west, as well as more intimate vistas toward a wooded neighborhood common to the east. To the south is Maybeck's 1929 Pillsbury house (rebuilt per original plans) as well as other historically significant houses.

The house is a compact 2,300 square feet plus a separate carriage house. The plan is arranged to take advantage of the slope of the site and its principle focus, a south facing court at its center. The building is made of a simple palette of earthy and durable materials: integrally colored and stained concrete floors with radiant heating, acid washed natural stucco walls, slate roof with copper flashing and locally made redwood doors and windows.

