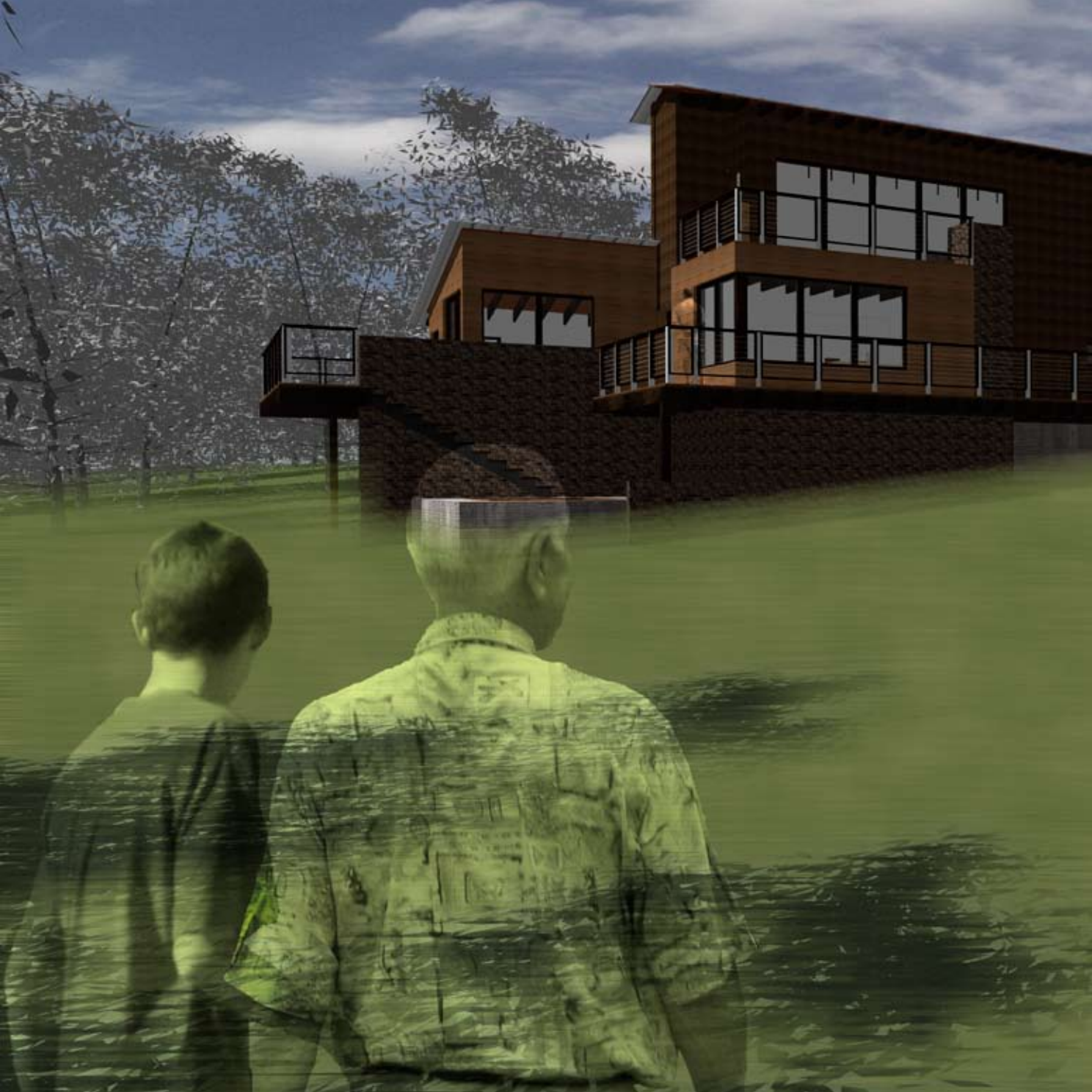


DUNN RESIDENCE LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA
The clients for this project wanted a small residence (3000SF) that would provide ample space for the large groups that would meet at their home, without compromising the intimacy of their home. Sloping steeply down to the Vermillion River, the site for this work offers beautiful views into one of the city's premier waterways.
APRIL 2005- SEPTEMBER 2006











Through operations such as siting, massing, and articulation, the proposed design works to pay homage to the distinct voice of this site, while remaining respectful to the larger concerns offered by the natural and cultural environment. For example, the orientation of the garage holds the far edge of the site, paying respect to the rather arbitrary grid of the subdivision, while providing an effective privacy screen for the clients. In addition, by holding this volume away from the northern edge of the site, sgsa+d maintained a view to the river from the street, effectively starting the procession into the home far outside the physical boundaries of the site. The main house rotates away from this grid slightly in order to capture the cross-breezes, light, and views offered by the site. The central spine of the building, which is modeled after the shotgun homes of South Louisiana, runs perpendicular to these views, thus becoming a procession of repeated snapshots onto the river. This experience is only intensified as the house moves toward the river and the simple, one-story structure at the western edge of the site unfolds to become a dramatic three-story residence offering beautiful exterior spaces and breathtaking views downriver.

This connection to the cultural and natural site of the work is further developed through the sensitive articulation of details and materials. At its northwestern edge, the house takes on the language of a simple agrarian building. Eave lines, which are designed to ensure minimum solar heat gain, are a direct translation of the traditional Acadian home. The corrugated metal roofing, staggered brick bond and timber construction of the home is similarly tied to issues of sustainability and cultural specificity as are the narrow footprint, breezeways, and ventilated clerestories. The crushed concrete bed that surrounds the home, which serves as both a mediator between the landscape and home and a rainwater collection system, offers a particularly compelling illustration regarding the home's holistic devotion to site.





