

STUDIOAC
Bellwoods Residence
2026





Bellwoods Residence

The Bellwoods Residence in Toronto's West End is organized around an exploration of material contrast and the role of natural light in shaping spatial experience. The house is structured around a vertical light slot that slices through the building, bringing daylight from a second level roof into the ground floor. This central opening establishes a clear organizational spine through the home.

The ground floor is wrapped in wood, creating a singular enclosure that frames the primary living spaces. Concrete floors anchor the sunken living room and attempt to ground the space and connect it to a sunken exterior patio. The vertical light slot is flanked in white material, intentionally distinguished from the surrounding wood to emphasize the contrast between solid and void. As daylight moves through the opening, it animates the wood and concrete surfaces, producing shifting patterns of shadow and light.

A white metal stair descends from the second level through the light slot and is conceived as a sculptural object within the space. The stair saw-tooths into the wood guard below, expressing the intersection between the white, light-filled zone and the warmer material palette of the ground floor.

On the third level, the primary bedroom continues the language established below. A wood ceiling creates a sense of enclosure, while soft white curtains are draped along the perimeter to filter daylight and provide privacy. The result is an atmosphere that mirrors the ground floor experience—warm, tactile, and balanced by lighter elements.

The exterior of the residence is clad in brick, introducing another layer of material expression. Variations in brick orientation are used to accentuate the building's form as they relate to the interior spatial diagram and to create subtle shifts in texture and shadow across the façade. This rough brick material is carried into the primary bathroom, where it is juxtaposed with smooth, soft floors and countertops. A high triangular window brings daylight into the space, with a small window for fresh air and view is located at the tub.

A laneway house located at the rear of the property accompanies the main residence and reflects a related material and formal language. It employs brick in combination with sculptural massing, creating a visual and material dialogue between the two buildings. A garden wall that acts to conceal pool equipment provides a textural backdrop for swimming as it is washed in western sun.

StudioAC Team: Sarah Reid, Andrew Hill, Jennifer Kudlats

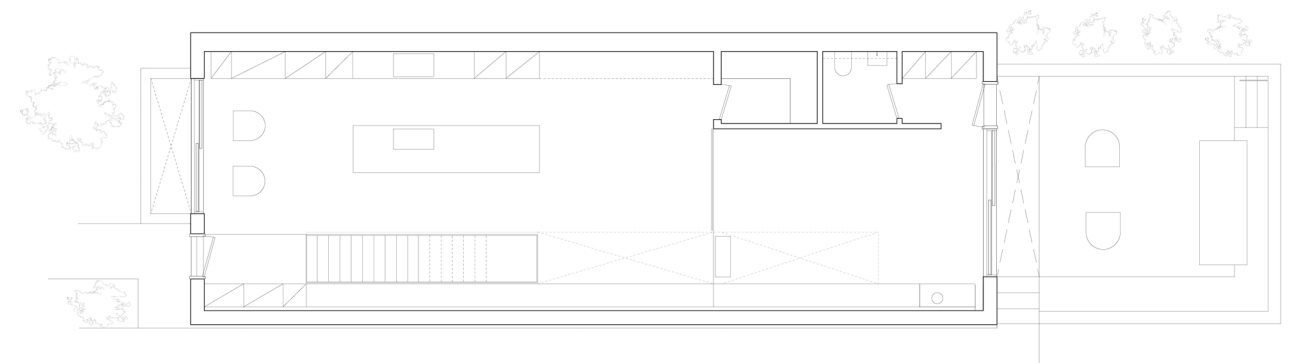
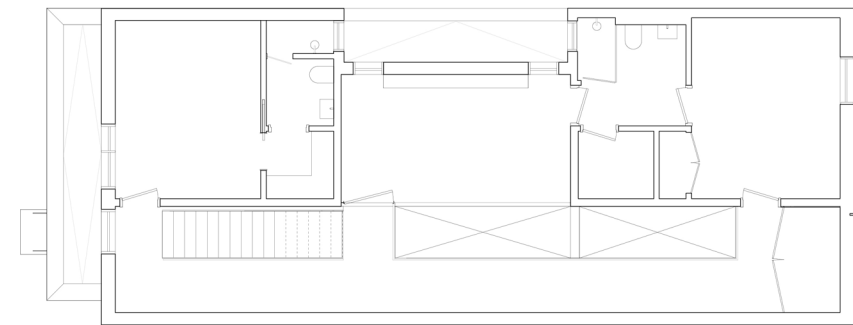
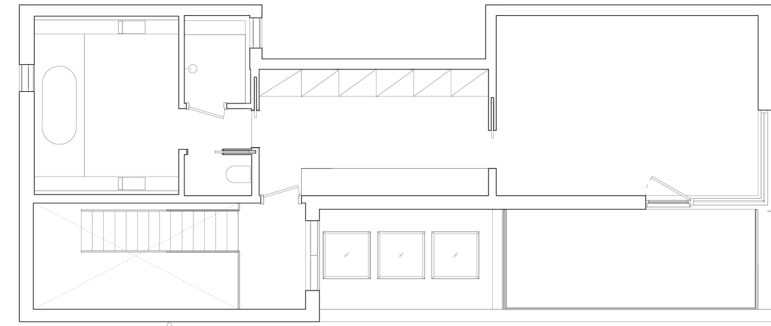
Build by Neauveau Property

Structural: Honeycomb

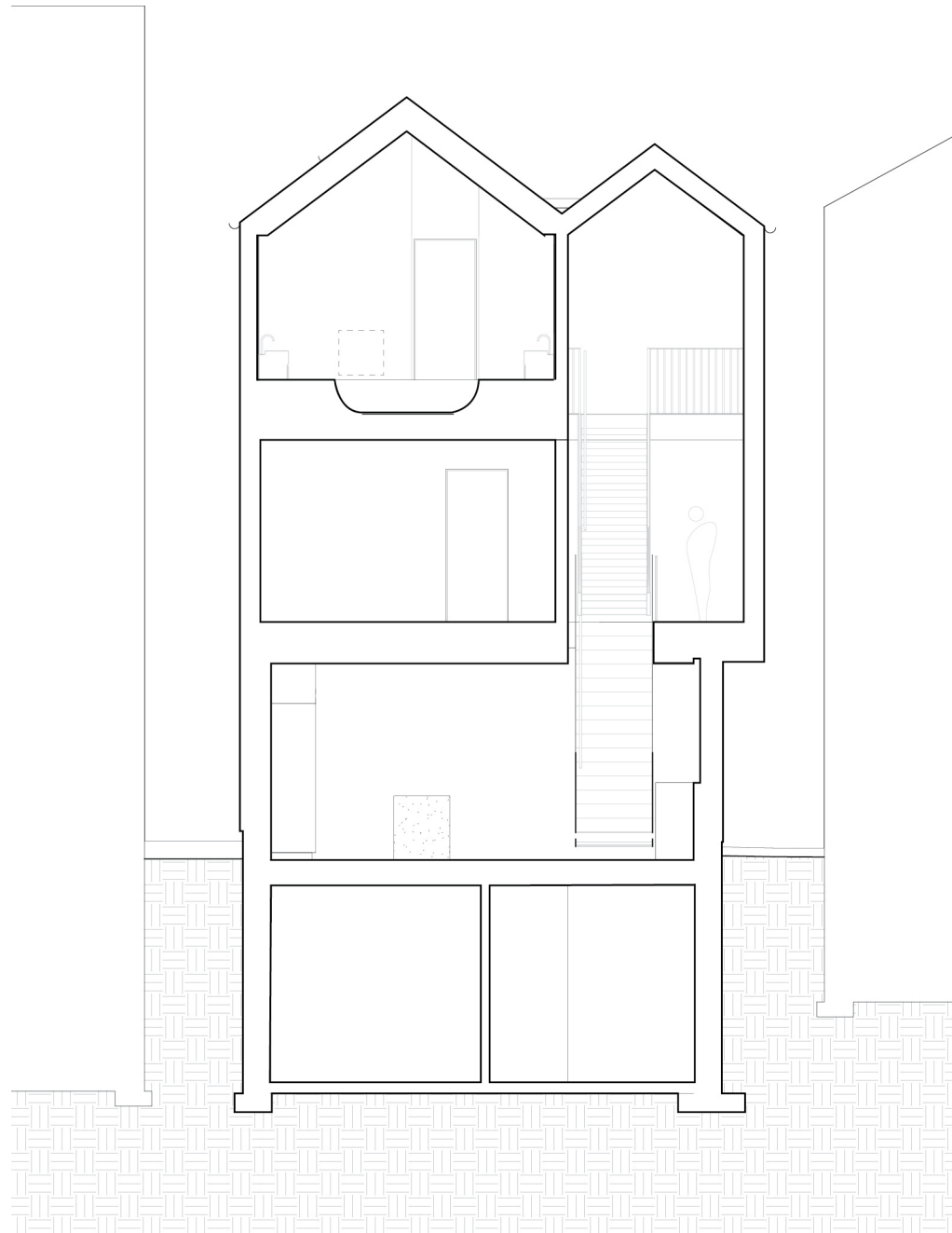
Images: Felix Michaud

Drawings: StudioAC















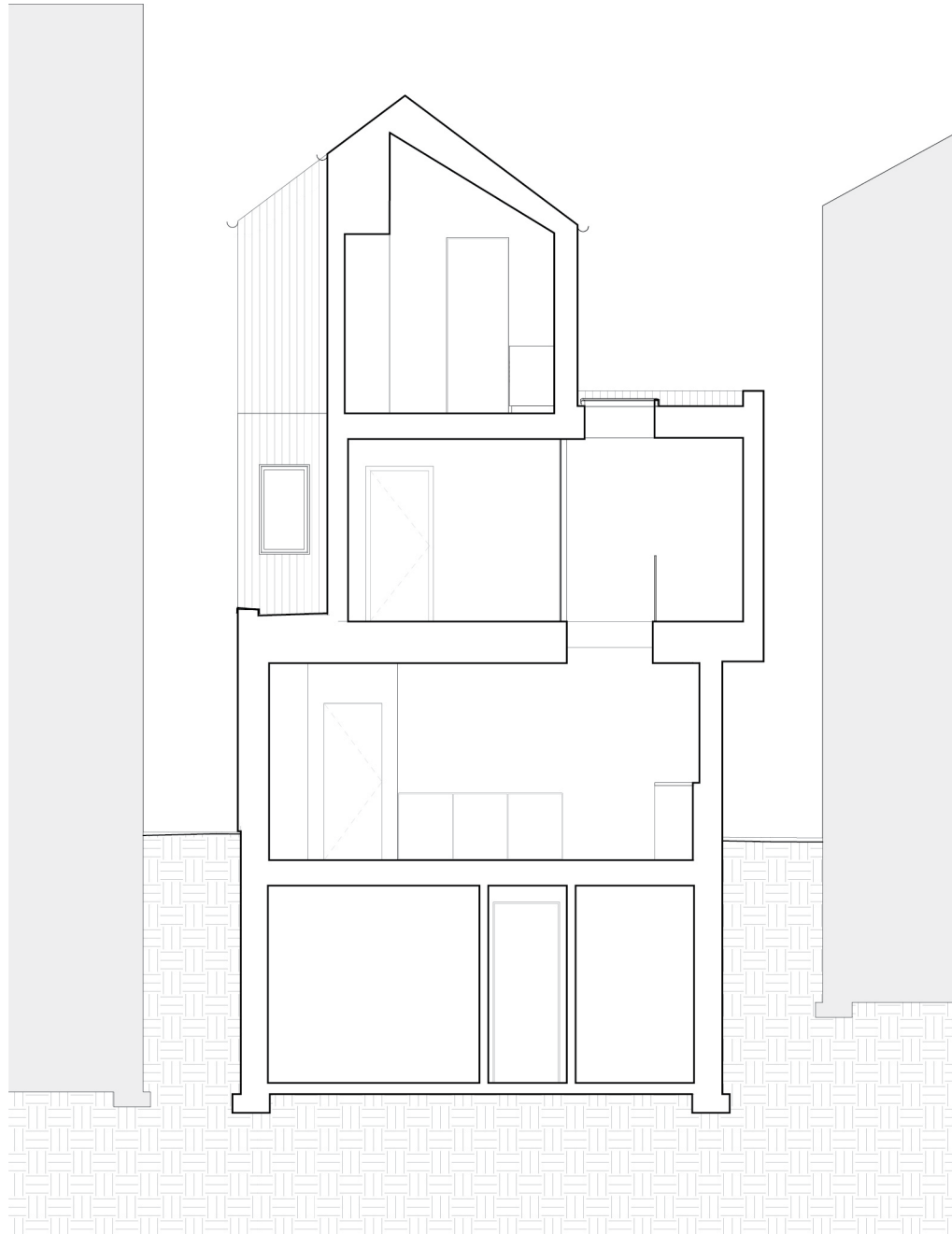
































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