



Architect Influence

- Curved/disregarding the right angle
- Materials: concrete, strength, durability, aesthetically pleasing
- Colour palette: Whites and neutral colours (contrast with the dark colours of the surroundings, clean appearance, reflects light)
- Flat roofline: accentuates curves
- Minimalist lines, open plan living

CONCRETE = ROUGH & AESTHETIC

FLAT ROOF LINES COMBINE WITH CURVES

CURVES + INTEREST

WHITE = CLEAN & SIMPLISTIC

NATURAL CURVES CONCRETE, BY DESIGN

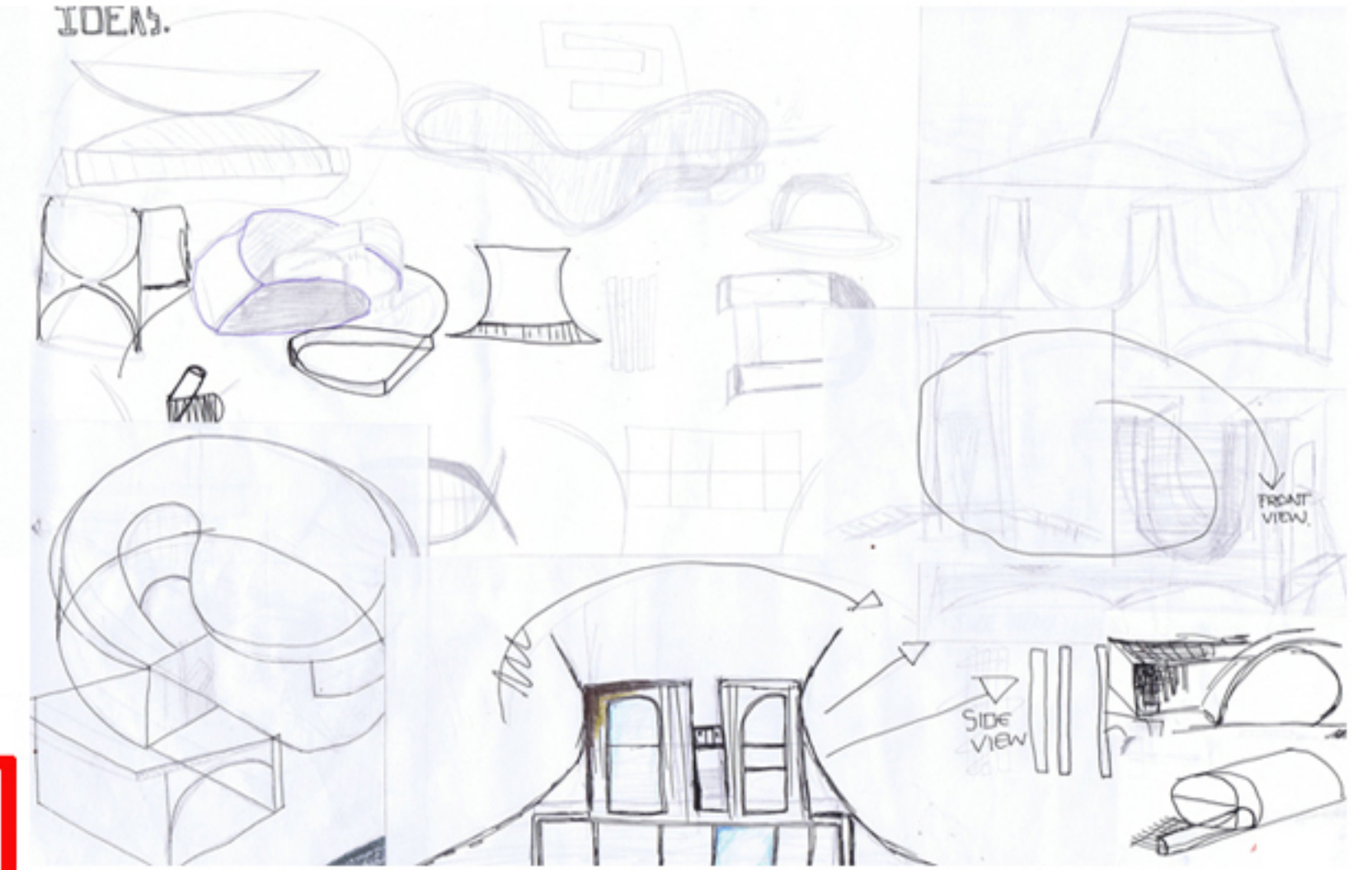
Climate Information

The climate in the Puketi Forest is relatively stable. The area doesn't undergo any extreme weather conditions. However the rainfall in the area can be heavy. Sunshine hours are high however this declines during the winter time. Because of the evergreen forest environment sunlight is filtered, thus the design needs to be able to capture and maximise the light available. The house site is situated on the north side of the Puketi Forest, outside the restoration area, this means that because of the elevated mountain range which runs through the middle of the area, the house site is sheltered from any southerly winds.

AREA MAP

SURROUNDING FOREST

LOCATION IN BAY OF ISLANDS



Concepts

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FLOOR PLAN

This design uses high arching windows to attract light into the building because its forest environment. This design consists of mostly curved lines to follow Niemeyer's style which is characterised by curved forms. However I feel that although curves are pleasant on the eye the functionality of the design can be compromised thus I feel that this design needs more straight lines.

This design shows relation to my designer, Niemeyer through its curved lines and the application of concrete as the main building material. However I feel that although the building has these elements it lacks the originality of Niemeyer's designs. If I was to develop this design I would like to make the building less symmetrical and create a focal point for it.

In this design I have used high arching lines which mirror Niemeyer's opinion of "disregarding the right angle", this is aesthetically pleasing to the chosen design environment because it creates a natural look to the design, which helps it settle into the forest environment. The forest environment tends to be damp and the lines of the roof of this design will allow water to flow off it easily and not sit on it as it would do for a flat roofed design.

I feel that the lines used in this design have created a flow to the design, meaning that the design relates to Niemeyer's philosophy of "form follows function". The idea of an internal courtyard with a retracting roof means that all rooms in the house would be well lit, all available light could be captured so that the rooms have a modern, airy feeling to them. This design feature would also mean that the house had a connection point and it would feel unified.

FLOOR PLAN

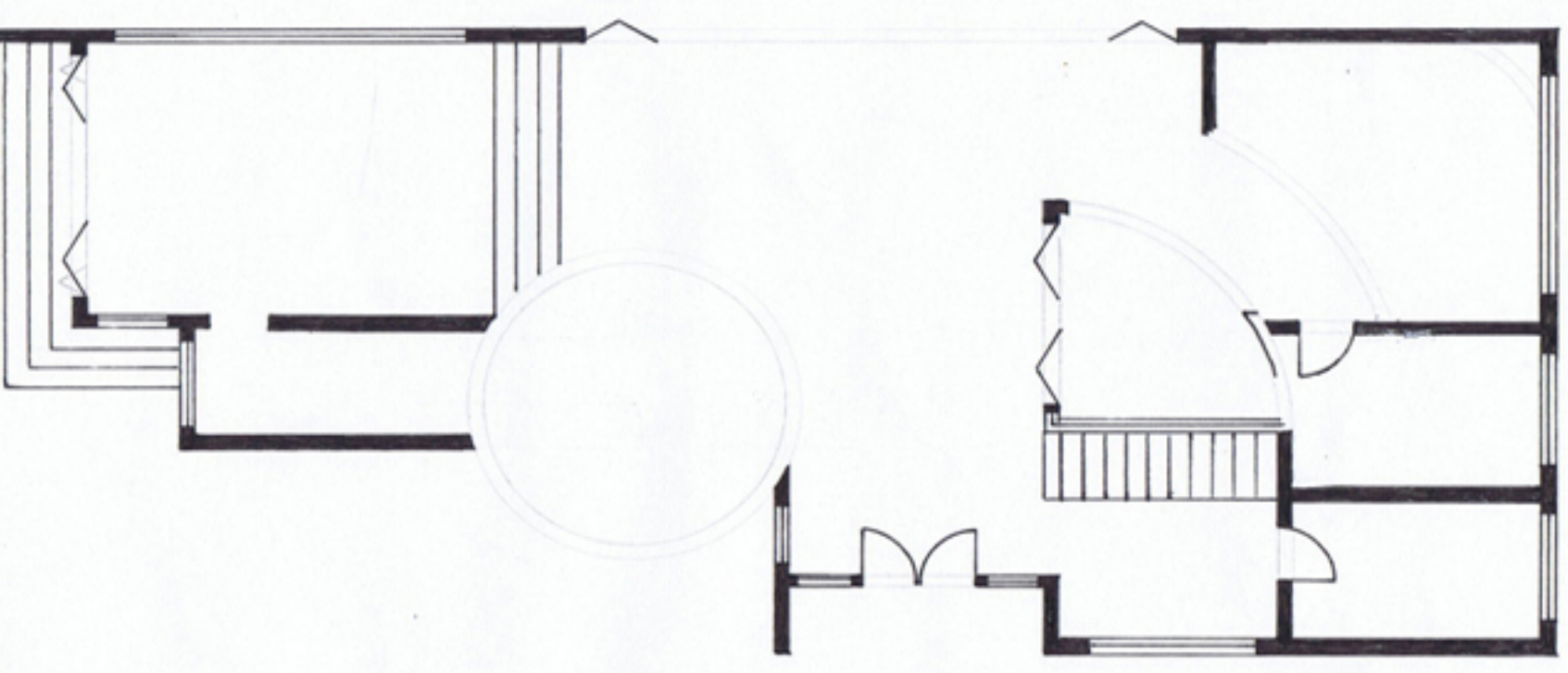
In this design I have integrated the social areas of the house with the outdoors, thus I have designed the house with large opening doors and glass windows which opens the house up to the outdoors bringing lightness and airiness into the house. The rooms visually connect and extend to the outdoors, even on rainy days. This emphasises the natural environment that the house is situated in and gives an alfresco feel to the house. The curves of the roof soften the design into the environment. The curved back wall enables the house to settle into the lush environment more easily and gives the house a natural appeal. This house has good circulation/ease of movement because the central area of the house is the living/dining area which is often considered the "heart" of the house.

ENTRANCE VIEW

In this design I have tried to create a feeling of extra space through open again the use of large glass panels, this pushes the boundaries of the home, giving a grander feel. Curving the living room into an open breezeway. Thus you feel simultaneously indoors and outdoors. This creates an environment which softens the outdoor weather in, in relation to Niemeyer I have rounded the corners of the courtyard which softens the impact of the house on approach. Also Niemeyer's traditionally allowed/rounded the environment which his buildings sit in to influence the style of the house, I have used this concept to influence the way the house incorporates the interior with the exterior, in this design, through the courtyard which makes the house feel more like a covered pavilion and extends the living area out.

ENTRANCE VIEW

In this design the large windows expand the visual space of the indoors opening up the views and bringing the outside in. Linking the two spaces with large windows adds/emphasises the feel of the outdoors being inside and the inside feeling like the outdoors. Blurring the line between the exterior and interior further. The curved lines of this design softens the buildings impact on the environment, it sits into its surroundings and echoes Niemeyer's design style. An interior courtyard located at the centre of the house allows light to penetrate into the house. Large glass panels allow the airiness and lightness of a planted courtyard to filter into the rest of the house added to that the bi-folding doors enables to courtyard to effectively join with the living area, again bringing the outdoors in. The fluidity of the design means that it is entertaining friendly and maximises light creating an airy light ambience in the house. However I feel that the upstairs rooms need to be developed as they are too small and cramped. I also haven't taken into account space for a garage and storage.



The mock-up I have produced relates to my designer because of the curves I have used throughout the design. The curves are representative of Oscar Niemeyer's design philosophy of "disregard(ing) the right angle and rationalist architecture designed with ruler and square to boldly enter the world of curves" I have also related my design to Niemeyer's work because his buildings are characterised as being 'spacious'. I feel that my design has flow in the bottom story, featuring a large open plan living area combined with the kitchen. However I feel that by placing the dining area with the living room I have made the space too informal, I think that the dining room should be moved so it's more in its own area and as one with the bedrooms are situated is too divided. I would like the rooms to be larger and more spacious thus echoing the rest of the house and Niemeyer's style. This design has good indoor outdoor flow, with big bi-folding doors and large windows which provides more than enough lighting into each room. Along with this the indoor courtyard means that the outdoor Puketi forest environment is effectively brought inside so that the house is more at one with its environment. Despite this I feel that to integrate with the forest environment better and to channel Niemeyer's style the house design should feature more curves.

Mock-up

CONCEPTS FOR RE-DESIGN - CYLINDER

I find this concept too generic. The half circle/curve doesn't add height or echo the shape and grandeur of the Kauri and grandeur of the Puketi forest which was my aim for this section of the design.



The shape of the cylinder design is unappealing, the idea was for it to accentuate the height of the building and make it appear grand following the lines of the kauri trees of Puketi forest. The cylinder design also would create a dark cramped corner that would be hard to use as an effective living space. The cylinder has not added any interest or aesthetically pleasing aspects to the design.

This concept is the one I will choose, the curve is natural and unique, it also adds height to the design which makes the design appear grand yet it fits in with the forest surrounds.

