

View from northwest.

## LONG WEEKEND HOUSE GINGIN, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Simon Anderson and Kate Hislop

The Long Weekend House is situated on a 1.3 hectare site in the town of Gingin (population 540), 85 kilometres north of Perth and 35 kilometres from the coast on the Dandaragan Plateau. The site has north and west distant views over gardens to the Beermullah and Swan Coastal Plains. It is designed to be used by the architects three days a week as a house/office/holiday house. It is the sort of house that cannot be readily accommodated in the city: expansive, pool, tennis court, gardens.

The House adjoins the town football and show ground and its nearest contemporary neighbours are the town Recreation and Community Centres, both built in the spreading Gingin vernacular of columned brick commanding lowly-elevated landscapes. The clients have spent many years working in the heavy and numerous colonnades of UWA and holidaying at Rottne Island in the columnated cottages of Henry Vincent (1840s) and R J Ferguson (1970s). Together local context and history conspired to produce a colonnade, in fact a double colonnade, here formally superior to the exigencies of the domestic programme, save for the removal of one column around the hearth.

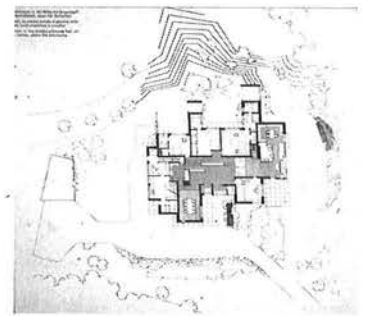
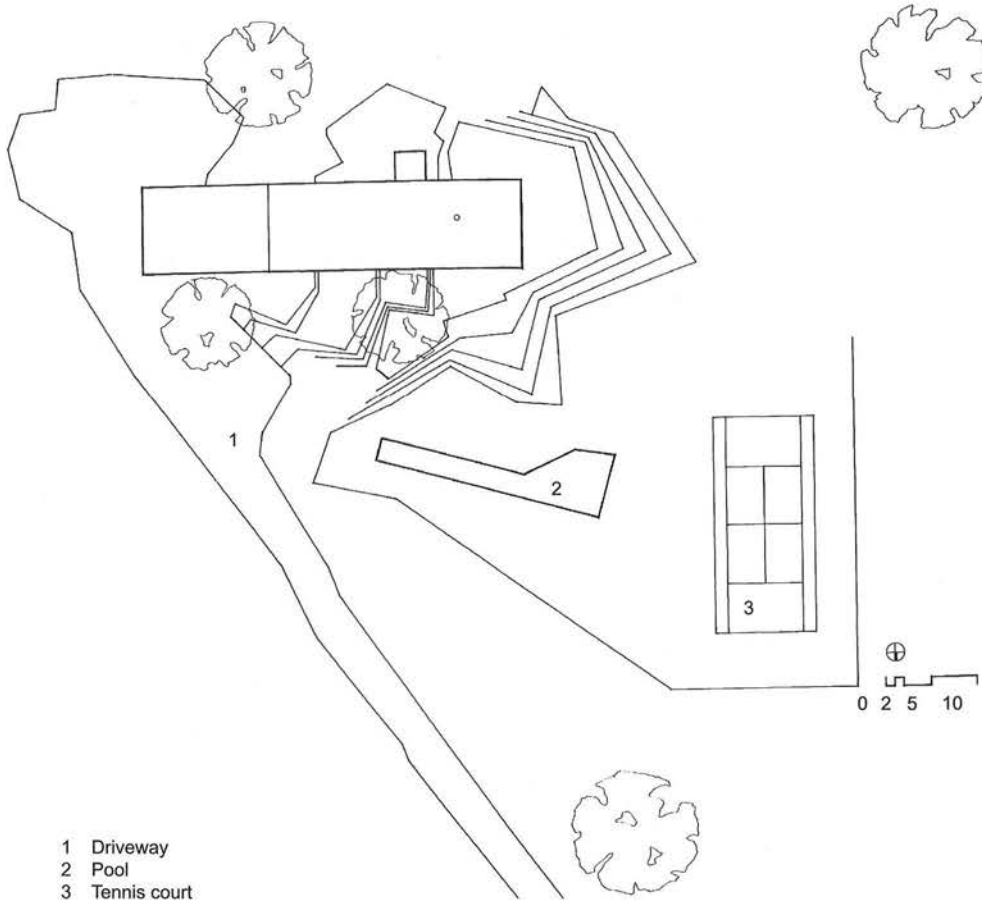
The plan owes its length and narrowness to the late Shingle Style houses of McKim, Mead & White (such as the Low, Appleton and Cowdin Houses), and its siting to John Horbury Hunt's Pittington Bungalow.

It is gabled form of the Low House made lower, inflected by Hunt. It is spread form from the rural sheds of "Belltrees" and the Swan Valley and it is the reverse timber frame of traditional construction, especially seen in Queensland. It is terraced from the Carré House of Alvar Aalto.

It is post-colonnade rather than post-colonial, post-modern rather than post-modern: a post-post house.



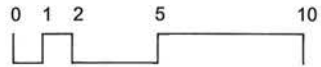
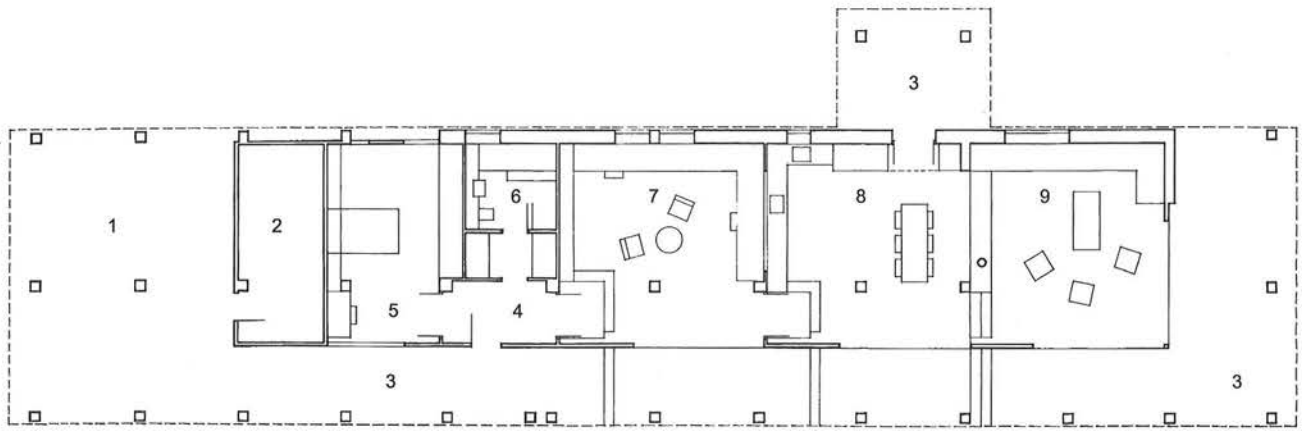
Granville Community Centre, Gingin WA.



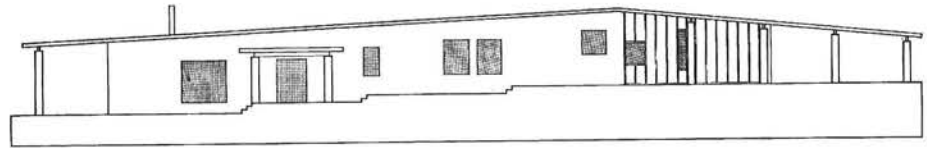
ALVAR AALTO. Carré House, Bazoches-sur-Guyonne, France.

Gingin Recreation Centre, Gingin WA.  
Cattle sheds, "Belltrees," Scone NSW.  
Shed, West Swan WA.

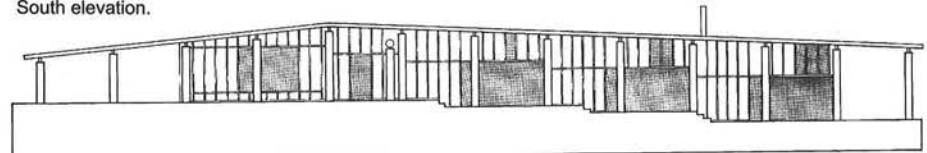




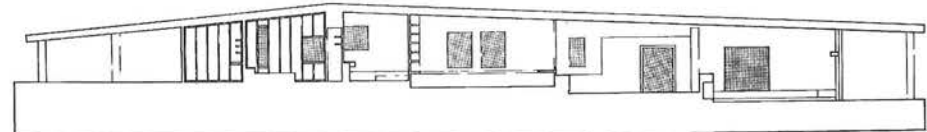
- 1 Carport
- 2 Store/workshop
- 3 Verandah
- 4 Entry
- 5 Bedroom
- 6 Bathroom
- 7 Study
- 8 Kitchen/dining
- 9 Living



South elevation.



North elevation.

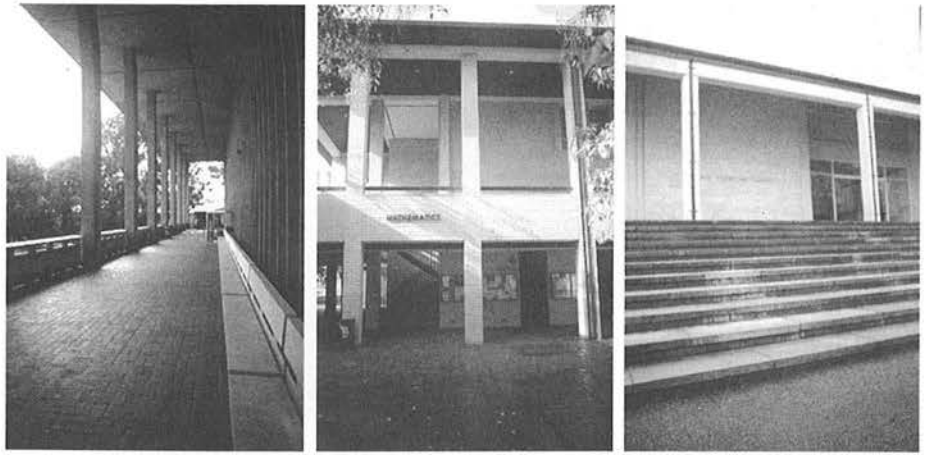


Longitudinal section looking south.

HENRY VINCENT. Superintendent's House, Rottnest WA, 1842.

RJ FERGUSON. Holiday cottage, Rottnest WA.

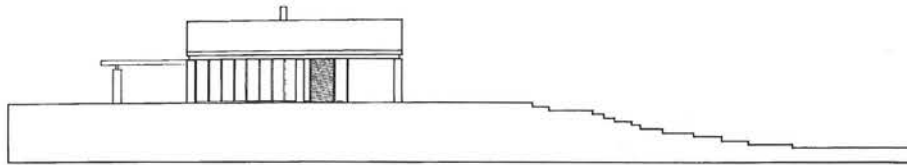




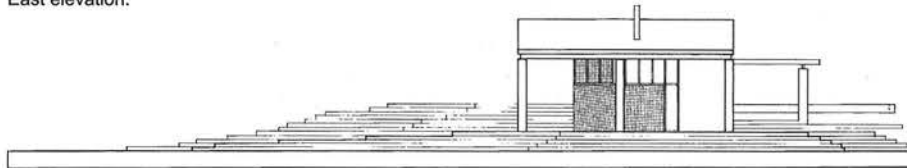
CAMERON CHISHOLM NICOL. Reid Library, The University of Western Australia.

FORBES & FITZHARDINGE. Mathematics Building, The University of Western Australia.

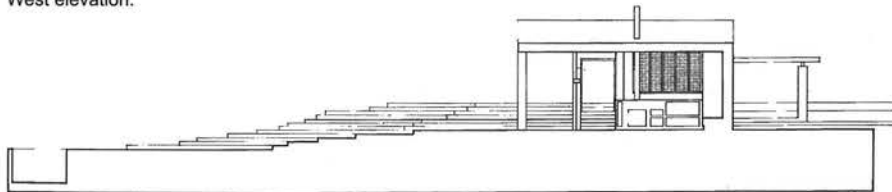
RJ FERGUSON. Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, The University of Western Australia.



East elevation.



West elevation.



Cross-section through living room looking east.

MCKIM, MEAD & WHITE. Low House, Bristol, Long Island USA.

JOHN HORBURY HUNT. Spurling House, Brighton Victoria.

JOHN HORBURY HUNT. Pittington Bungalow, Mt Victoria NSW.

