

# 16

## A Tuscan Farmhouse

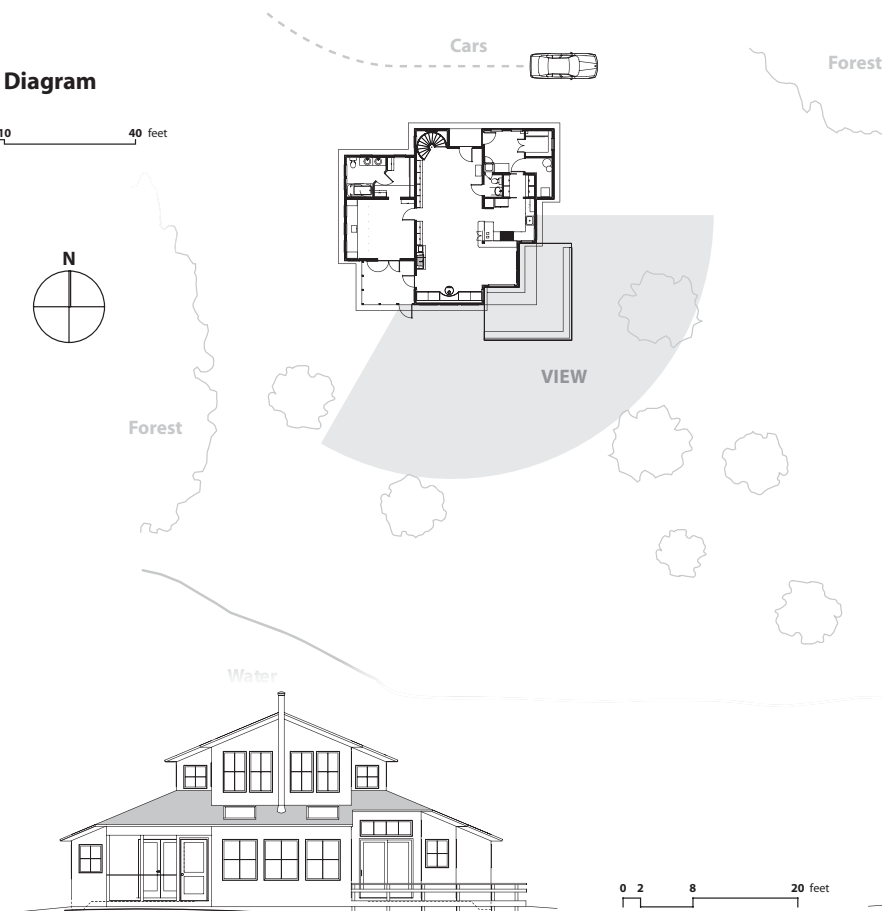
Heated sq. ft. .... 2,039  
 Adjusted sq. ft. .... 2,207  
 3 - Bedrooms  
 2½ - Bathrooms  
 Slab foundation



North



East



South



West

*This house needs a flat spot to sit in comfortably. It does especially well when approached from a higher elevation, because you can see it spreading out into its site. The living spaces open out to the east and south, and a great southwestern screened porch makes the downstairs master bedroom seem like it's outside.*

Here's a house for a couple of college professors that sits at the bottom of a hayfield that slopes down to the water. The house is set at the edge of the field where it starts to become wooded and looks out over the water.

It's a very gentle and refined site and I wanted to make sure the house would complement this landscape rather than competing with it.

The entry side faces north and is the most formally composed. You can see a number of volumes fitted together, and the stair tower to the second floor is the most prominent. Low-pitched hipped roofs allow the house to appear to be spreading out into the field and the second floor emerges from the center of the house, crouched under its own roof—and all of this faintly reminds me of farmhouses in Tuscany where I think a stuccoed version of this house might feel quite at home.

As you move around the house to the south side and the view to the water, everything opens up into glass and corners that let the light inside.

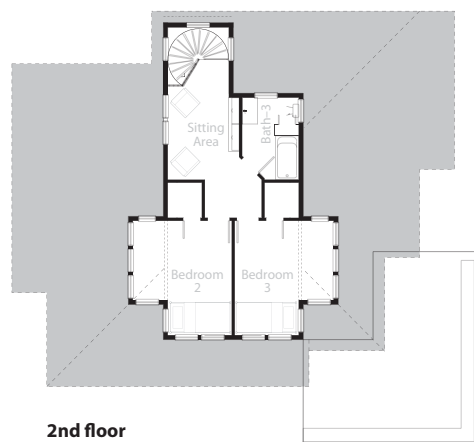
From the small entry porch you can either go right into the main space, or turn left and enter into a mud room/laundry that then leads through a pantry into the kitchen. The



1st floor

0 2 8 20 feet  
 1"=20'

in the center of their lives. As it works out, the piano creates a buffer between the front door and stairs to the upstairs and the more sedentary seating area around the wood stove



2nd floor

kitchen is perched on the shoulder of the main space and is command central.

A striking feature of this house is the long living room that stretches the full length of the house. We created this room to give a home to a concert grand piano that the clients own and use all the time. They didn't want a separate music room because they want the music

at the south end. If you aren't lucky enough to have a grand piano, this area of the living room could, with some furniture arranging, become another section of the living room devoted to more internal things like television watching.

The entire west side of the downstairs is a master bedroom suite. The bedroom itself is

### Site Diagram

0 10 40 feet  
 1"=40'



0 2 8 20 feet  
 1"=20'

big enough for a long office counter to be under the low western roof. This bedroom also opens out into the small screened porch, so in the summer time it feels almost like you're outside.

Upstairs the two girls each have their own almost identical rooms tucked under the eaves. They share their own bath and a sitting area out in the hall that can hold a TV or whatever.

This house is built on a slab to soak up the heat from the winter sun, so there is no basement. You would probably want to have an outbuilding of some type for the extra detritus of your

life that would normally find its way into a basement.

With a house that spreads out like this, you are bound to have at least one internal room—in this case the powder room. We include a skylight here, indeed a ventilating skylight, so when you come into the powder room instead of feeling like you are in a closet, there's daylight,

sometimes even a sunbeam, and nice contact with fresh air.

Although modest and compact, I have been in this house with gatherings of 30+ people, and because it's so easy to move around, in and out of the porches and to the outside, it feels as if it could handle twice that many. And get yourself a grand piano with the money you will save with this very efficient house.



### Dimensions

Foot Print <b>1,696</b> sq. ft.	<b>1st Floor</b>	<b>1st Floor (cont.)</b>
View Dimension <b>48'</b>	Living 16' x 36'	Entry Porch 7'-6" x 4'
Side Dimension <b>40'</b>	Dining 8' x 10'	Scr. Porch 12' x 10'
Height <b>21'-3"</b>	Kitchen 12' x 10'	Deck 20' x 22'
<b>Summary</b>	Bedroom-1 16'-6" x 14'	<b>2nd Floor</b>
<b>1st Floor 1,447</b> sq. ft.	Bath-1 9'-6" x 10'	Bedroom-2 12' x 14'
<b>2nd Floor 592</b> sq. ft.	Bath-2 5' x 4'	Bedroom-3 12' x 14'
		Bath-3 7' x 10'

### Working Drawings

- Schedules
- 1st flr. Plan
- 2nd flr. Plan
- Elevations
- Sections
- Details
- Interior Elevations
- Foundation Plan
- Framing
- Mechanical
- Electrical Plan

Working drawings provide you with the architectural documentation you (or your builder) need to build this house. Working drawing sets vary for each of the houses. The set for this house is listed at the left. Please see page 47 for information on ordering and prices.