

TUBE HOUSE

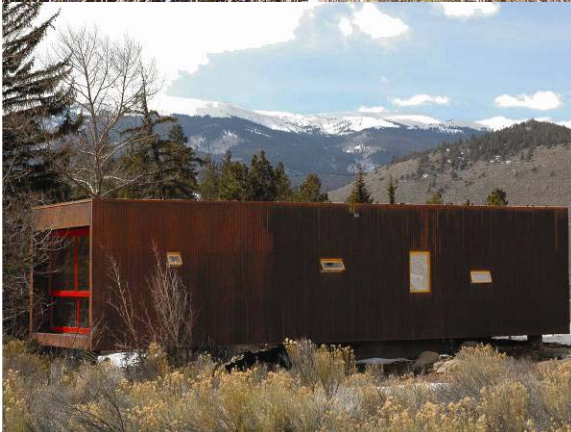
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The architecture of this weekend house defers to the richness of its adjacent landscape, a former silver mining claim on the Upper Arkansas River Valley near Granite, Colorado. The house cantilevers out over the river, projecting inhabitants towards commanding views and capturing cool river breezes. A primary view down river to kayakers below and the 14,000' Collegiate Peaks beyond dominates the building site. Breezes blow down the river in the morning and up the river in the

afternoon, typical of mountain river climates. Throughout, the house is designed to amplify and maximize encounters with the river microclimate and landscape. The architecture aims to engage, as simply and richly, its stunning site. The construction and material systems emphasize durability and ruggedness in response to the climate and remote location, 8,800 ft above sea level. The designer was also the builder of this project, built for Ron Mason.





A 12'X12' concrete foundation supports the 16'x 48' house. The house has a 24' cantilever over the riverbank. 2x6 wood framing fills a steel truss in each wall to support the long cantilever. The wood framing, along with plywood sheathing on each side of the wall, stiffens the truss and dampens vibrations. Wood framed floors and ceilings complete the frame. T&G wood clads all interior surfaces. Oxidized cold rolled steel clads the exterior. At the river end of the house, a 6'x16' operable window retracts down to open the house to the view and breezes. Other windows connect interior rooms to specific landscape features.

