

A picture is something which requires as much leisure, trickery and deceit as the perpetration of a crime. Paint feebly, then add the accent of nature.
—Edgar Degas

The Bugle

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The Shape of a Barn, the Space of a Studio

Michael Haverland

NEW YORK — How does one combine two distinct architectural typologies into one cohesive whole? In this case, how does one fuse a conventional barn with an artist's studio, and a working farm with a campus, and retain the strength and attributes of each?

A studio is primarily about light; a barn is about shelter. Barns developed from practical considerations of access and weather, and evolved from the outside in. They are opaque. Artists' studios are typically about light and wall surface for art, and evolved from the inside out. A barn is typically an elemental structure.

In this case, a basic scissor truss structure was used: simple and not distracting, but beautiful. The form is based on historic barn construction, but incorporates modern technology, such

and radiant heat and geothermal heating and cooling.

Situating a barn typically does not regard the polar coordinates or any other site planning principle, beyond practical access. Situating a studio depends on light.

A farm was historically sited based on practical considerations and convenient adjacencies. Space between buildings can be seen not as residual, as in typical farms, but as part of a campus plan, with precise vistas and views for the approach and movement between buildings. In this case, two structures are placed at an angle to open up a long vista to the pond in the immediate landscape and capture south light: a poetic welcoming. The larger site plan creates large and small courtyards and sets of the structures for future additions that radiate into the landscape. ■