Often times in the course of life, we lose sight of our inspirations, and slowly drift into a state of just “going through the motions,” and when this happens, we need a chance to refocus. The design goal of this cottage is to create a space in which the mental and emotional residues of a hectic life can be washed away, and one’s balance regained.

Two design elements contribute to this purpose:
- Views of the rhythmic and purifying scenery surrounding the cottage, and
- Intimate spaces for reflection and realignment of one’s energies.

The cottage’s views focus on the grass and on the waves, from which the inspiration came for this space. Just as the grass and waves rise and fall by the force of the wind, this cottage allows the inhabitant to feel at one moment swept away by the scenery, and at another safe and secure.

On its southern end, the cottage’s entry room is surrounded by large windows, allowing for such scenic views. The cottage then progressively encloses the individual, ending with a study in the Northwest corner, with a less imposing view and space for comfortable reading, writing, and reflection.
1. The entry room is open and has generous views of both the ocean and the dunes. The kitchen and dining area are in this space, and it serves well both for personal use and for hosting guests.

2. The bedroom is concealed from the entry room by a partition wall and offers an unimposing view of the dunes to the West.

3. The study is located furthest from the entrance, and has a very private view of the dunes, with natural light for reading and writing.
The general layout of the cottage remains the same between Scheme 1 and Scheme 2 of the design. Some subtle changes, however, improve the character of the rooms and make the division of space more functional.

Partition wall creates bedroom and allows for division of private/public space

Entry detail: stairs

Window mullions
Isometric Renderings

**Scheme 1**
- Roof angle and entry room windows modified

**Scheme 2**
- Bathroom and study roof heights adjusted and windows redesigned
- Window added at entry
- Stair at entry
The lighting study for both schemes showed that the desk in the study can get an abundance of light from its West-facing window, particularly in the afternoon, as shown. Concerns arose regarding contrast and glare on the writing surface, but were resolved by using window frame treatments with appropriate levels of reflectivity.
Section cut shows the entry, transition space, and public entry room, where kitchen and dining table are placed.
Rapid Prototype Model

A 3D-printed base and laser-cut model show detail and scale for an 8’ cubic section of the cottage entry.