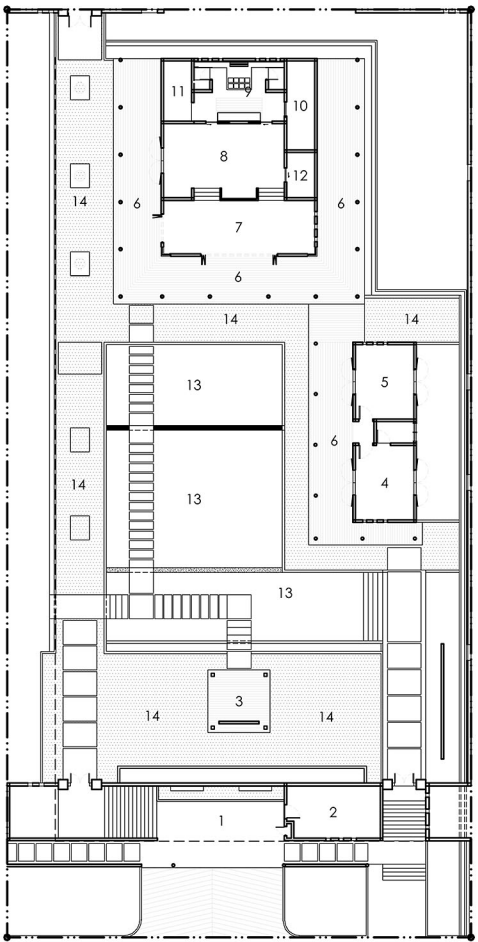


Baan Tara

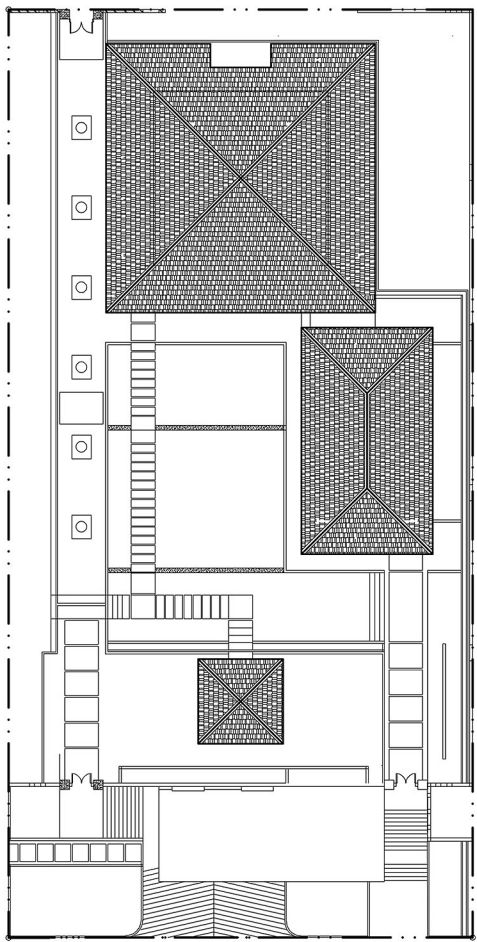
No. 26 Jalan Polo 2, Leisure Farm Resort 81560
Gelang Patah
Johor Bahru, Malaysia

Architects	Razin Architect Johor Bahru, Malaysia
Clients	Daniel Marie Ghislain Desbaillets Johor Bahru, Malaysia
Commission	2003
Design	2004
Construction	2004 - 2005
Occupancy	2006
Site	1,862 m ²
Ground floor	335 m ²
Total floor	335 m ²
Costs	328,072 USD

Programme In Thai ‘Baan Tara’ means ‘Water House’, and water is the unifying element that connects the different parts of this property. Three pavilions - one for living and sleeping, one for working and exercising, and a ‘sala’ or floating pavilion - are set around a central area of grass. This straightforward approach encourages the occupants to enjoy the simplest pleasures - the land, grass, the sky and, of course, the water, which is used to impart a sense of tranquillity. Natural materials such as chengal wood, black slate, bamboo and palm enhance an affinity with nature. A fortress-like boundary wall ensures privacy.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



ROOF PLAN

The 335-square metre house that spreads across 1,862 square metre piece of land comprises of three individual pavilions namely the living and bedroom, the office and gym, and the sala (Thai floating pavilion).

Water is the connector between the spaces and it imparts a zen-like tranquillity to the place. The water cascades down a 60m long black slate wall onto the edges of smooth river pebbles to emulate an effect of the rice fields for a calming effect.

Axis is an important factor, however, the entrance is not in the centre of the wall, as that would mean a lack of privacy for the owners' sleeping quarters that directly overlook the lawn and sala. Even the lone frangipani tree is planted to a side so as not to obstruct the views from the living area towards the sala.

Natural materials enhance the house's affinity with nature. The sala is crafted from Chengal wood and rests beside the wall with the entrances at both ends. Chengal is also used for the timber terraces, which contain 10,000 screws concealed with dowels made from the same wood to ensure a seamless finish.

The living room and home office are fitted with Egyptian yellow marble that imarts a luxurious effect, while Burmese teaks are used for the flooring of the bedroom and gym for a rustic look.

