Loblolly House
Chesapeake Bay, Maryland
Architect: Kieran Timberlake

Timberlake wanted to tap into the primal instincts humans have. He thinks that as humans you get older and lose touch of them. With the loblolly house he wanted to create a tree house. Mimicking the instincts by putting the person in a command position (off the floor). The loblolly house is located in Chesapeake Bay, Maryland. The piles that were driven into the ground are purposely un-uniform to mimic the forest that stands behind it. Which gives it a floating effect when seeing it from a distance like a tree house. The 20x 31 house is entirely made out of loblolly pine which surrounds the house. The house has a curtain wall made of large acrylic panels that lifts up as if you’re opening a window which doubles up keeping the sun out. I think the client wanted a vacation home the house gives you a vast view of Chesapeake Bay, including a 800 ft drive just to get to the house it excludes you from main roads creating a sanctuary.

Closely studied before cutting the Loblolly house was built in weeks. Using pre-fabricated parts Timberlake managed to cut down the time in the job site and running into problems that occur at your usual job site. They aimed to create a house using only simple hand tools. Most parts were pre assembled off site like the bathrooms and kitchen and floor, they all came with wires and pipes installed. The conception and detailing revolved around four new elements of architecture. Scaffold, cartridges, blocks and equipment. They used high tolerance product like bosh aluminum strut to hold the house up. After the frame is assembled floor cartages are placed giving the simple installation of wires and pipes running throughout the house. The aluminum scaffold used in the building can actually be store bought. Which creates simplicity for any changes to the house.