

FARNSWORTH HOUSE

LOCATION : PLANO, ILLINOIS

COMPLETED : 1951

ARCHITECT : MIES VAN DER ROHE

SQUARE FOOTAGE : 1500 SF



The Farnsworth House was designed and constructed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe between 1945-51. It was planned as a weekend retreat at the edge of the Fox River. The design consists of a rectangular steel structure. The finished floor is raised five feet above the ground which will keep the water away from the house when the river flooding occurs. The Farnsworth House is designed to satisfy client's hobbies and demands: A quiet and nice space where she can play music and enjoy the nature.

The visible materials of the house are: white painted steel, plate glass, travertine paving for terrace and house. The extraordinary precision of all aspects of this design is equalled in the quality of workmanship.



During his early career, Mies was influenced by German architects Peter Behrens and Karl Friedrich Schinkel. After he came to United States, Mies sought to establish a new architectural style that could represent modern times. He practiced modern materials such as industrial steel and plate glass in many of his projects. Throughout his career, he created an influential twentieth-century architectural style which still impacts architects in nowadays. Along with Le Corbusier, Walter Gropius and Frank Lloyd Wright, he is considered to be one of the pioneers of modern architecture.



Plan & Section

