Paramount’s unique external appearance is characterized by strips of local larch that were employed to produce an intertwining of ground and building and to tie the project into the landscape and make it read as a contemporary expansion of the vernacular timber typologies so common to this area. The lamellar morphology of this trellis layer was extruded along two three-dimensional spiralling paths: the first stretches across the site, picking up the topography on either end of the building and climbing to enclose a third story balcony. In front–towards the street–the edge skirts around the existing footprint, leaving corners exposed to acknowledge its presence.

A second path draws the timber skin up from behind, folding around the chimney to return to the ground. Interstitial spaces between the exterior walls and the wooden bands swell at ground level to offer sheltered outdoor living spaces.

The design team employed parametric modeling software to optimize the density of these timber strips and their metal substructure, balancing budget, aesthetics, privacy and views. This approach allowed for flexibility throughout the design phase and enabled as output the shop drawings for pre-fabricated elements.
The central circulation core becomes illuminated by a sculptural glass fissure with splintered views and light effects. This sculptural approach produced an interior for the upper two-sto-
ry’s family home that is characterized by 360-degree views. Whereas the South-facing side with its balcony has a horizontal aspect, emphasizing the panorama of the majestic Dolomites, the rear is even more spectacularly set in scene by an incision over the central stair. This opening delivers an immediate reading of exterior weather conditions, collecting precipitation and receiving direct sunlight.

The main living spaces are split over two floors with first floor bedrooms off a skylit corridor, and an open plan kitchen, dining and family room encircling a fireplace on the second floor. By grouping functional elements in orthogonal cores, the surrounding space is liberated. The exterior walls of the main living spaces collapse inwards to catch light, views and varying degrees of enclosure. All living spaces in the private residence have direct access to the outside through a series terraces or gardens.

As the extension sits within the steep topography, substructural elements were developed in reinforced concrete, while the super-structure was built from prefabricated cross-laminated timber (CLT) insulated with wood fiber and sealed with black bitumen. The outer skin in larch wood strips on a galvanized steel structure was determined according to cost and aesthetics by the aforementioned parametric model. A consistently limited color code was applied to the exterior, allowing the volume to dissolve into the surrounding hillside when viewed from afar.
The draping of the newly added enclosure as derived from the existing landscape shown in sequence.

2D data made by parametrical software to laser cut the railing-posts.
Through its use of form, materials and views, this newly completed addition coheres with its context at three levels:

- The first, and most immediate, with its host: as an addition to the existing guesthouse, it shares a newly renovated core, carrying the fractal geometry from the roof down to the orthogonal arrangement of the holiday apartments.

- The second, with its typological context: together with the neighboring hotel, this project expands the use of predominant but rather traditional and often stereotypical usage of timber towards the technological abilities of digital design and fabrication.

- And third, with its terrain: the sculptural addition acts as a mediator between the existing house and surrounding topography, extending from the landscape like a lichen.