HOUSES NOW
material style
Aware of the potential of a site in a prime location overlooking the skyline of the city, AGi architects’ client rebuilt their new home on the same site as their old home. The original house did not meet the aesthetic desires and needs of the owners, a large family with a close affinity to European and American cultures. Secret House was planned as an expression of their current conditions, but also as a space capable of accommodating their future desires.

Kuwaiti houses are built in close proximity to one another to help absorb the high heat and provide shade. As such, the new house is largely closed to the outside for reasons of privacy and security. This is further emphasised by its one street-facing facade. An elongated opening on the upper terrace, high above the street, helps bring the outside in, while ensuring a degree of separation.
The stark, subtle, minimalist exterior was designed to blend in with the streetscape, while the interior is textured, friendly, and undeniably stylish. The striking garden, which nestles into the structure and can be viewed via the interior-courtyard’s floor-to-ceiling windows, accentuates the elegance of the design, and the communication between interior and exterior. This well-designed garden provides a quiet, tranquil place for the family to relax, and aptly ties together the disparate elements of this complex design.