

Maine Home

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+ DESIGN



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ARCHITECTURE, PRAGMATIC & WISE

17 PROJECTS FOR HOW WE LIVE TODAY (OR MAY SOON...)



ARCHITECT: Van Dam Architecture & Design
BUILDER: Cold Mountain Builders
INTERIOR DESIGNER: Karin Thomas Interiors
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: Mohr & Seredin Landscape Architects
LIGHTING DESIGNER: J & M Lighting Design
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: M2 Structural Engineering
PHOTOGRAPHY: Rob Karosis

THE ART OF CONNECTED LIVING



The clients, a portrait painter and a professor of Japanese culture, wanted a house with traditional and modern Japanese associations made up of three distinct buildings: a residence, a screened pavilion for dining, and a building for painting, table tennis, and storage of boats and vehicles. The buildings define the outdoor spaces: a nuanced front entry sequence from the north with a traditional gate, a terrace on the water side for entertaining, a walking garden on the east, and a lawn for games on the west.

The lower level of the residence allows for separate guest living. The main level is a layered open area for gathering, with a library and bath that can be closed off with a sliding panel in case extra guests come to visit. The upper floor has a compact primary bedroom and bath on the west side. White stucco panels, sustainably harvested ribbed wood walls, and minimally pitched copper and composite roofs sloping in different directions mimic those common in rural Japanese villages. Openings of different sizes and proportions frame views of water features and carefully composed swaths of the bay, fields, and gardens.

A multizoned heat pump system with heat-recovery ventilation provides highly efficient heating and controls humid ocean air. Minimalist gas fireplaces provide radiant warmth and act as a backup for the heat pumps. Roofs were shaped to send water along rain chains to basins on the ground, some of which pass by windows for observation.