

Maine Home

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A FARMHOUSE SPRINGS TO LIFE FOR A YOUNG FAMILY & THEIR MENAGERIE

Conceived of as a collection of farm-inspired buildings, the structures are positioned on the site relative to previously existing piled stone walls that knit the buildings into the landscape with a nod to the history of the area. The grouping includes a house, a garage, and a timber-frame barn. Individual structures are linked by a trellis: a series of rough wood bents that organize the circulation. Beneath the trellis runs a walkway that links multiple site levels with stone steps allowing access to each.

Elemental gable forms with minimal trim and roof overhangs are eroded at the corners with large sliding doors, allowing seamless living between indoors and outdoors, while solid wood doors on the barn and garage provide wide working access to the outbuildings. The main house is further subdivided into two discrete volumes connected by a low, flat-roof element that houses the entry. One area contains public spaces: kitchen, dining room, and living room. The other holds bedrooms, a mudroom, laundry, office, and a project room where kids rule supreme. A grid-tied photovoltaic array and solar thermal panels for domestic hot water extend along the entire south-facing roof of the two-story bedroom space. Heat is supplied by a high-efficiency wood pellet boiler, and a stone fireplace in the kitchen burns all winter long.



ARCHITECT: Elliott & Elliott Architecture
BUILDER: Cold Mountain Builders
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: Richardson & Associates
LIGHTING DESIGNER: Peter Knuppel
MECHANICAL SYSTEM DESIGN & INSTALLATION: Solartechnic Contractors
PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM DESIGN & INSTALLATION: ReVision Energy
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: Becker Structural Engineers
PHOTOGRAPHY: J.T. Loomis

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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.